

Madeleine  
de Proust  
patisserie

Harmony Day  
celebrations  
to take over  
Carlton

# NEWS



## Father Bob Maguire Foundation CEO honoured with Australia Day award



Paul Brophy, CEO of the Father Bob Maguire Foundation, has been awarded a prestigious award in the 2024 Australia Day honours.



WORDS BY  
BRENDAN REES



While humbled to receive a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), Mr Brophy, an East Melbourne resident, wasted no time in emphasising that his mission remained unchanged and there was still much work to be done.

"There's a job to do ... you've got to make people feel they've got a life worth living," he said, noting the collec-

tive effort of the foundation's volunteers helped make a difference to people's lives.

"Our team is the community, that's what it's about for me."

The OAM recognised Mr Brophy's "service to aged welfare, and to the community".

The award is bestowed upon an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding service or achievement.

Mr Brophy has been the CEO of the Father Bob Maguire Foundation since 2018, a not-for-profit organisation that is dedicated to helping the disadvantaged through food relief, social inclusion, and advocacy programs at 204 Gladstone St, South Melbourne.

He continues to honour the legacy of the late Father Bob Maguire, a well-known and respected Catholic priest, who established the foundation in 2003.

Father Bob, who died aged 88 last April, was known for his wicked sense of humour and tireless efforts in leaving "no-one behind".

Father Bob was posthumously made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished service to the community in the 2024 Australia Day honours.

"Everybody got the same treatment, there was nobody better than another," Mr Brophy said.

"If we had a chap come to the office and he was in trouble with the law, he got the same treatment. He [Father Bob] treated people with respect and the dignity they deserved."

Mr Brophy said he didn't see himself as a CEO but as part of a team and lived by Father Bob's efforts of promoting their services through the media.

Continued on page 2.



HEALTH, PAGE 07

## Urgent care clinic opens in Carlton

Inner-city locals now have greater access to the healthcare they need with the opening of the Inner Melbourne Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (Medicare UCC) on Drummond St in Carlton.

## Wish your inbox was more local?

Visit our website to subscribe to our emails: [innercitynews.com.au](http://innercitynews.com.au)





# HYPERLOCAL

NEWS

**CONTACT**

Suite 208, 198 Harbour Esplanade  
Docklands 3008  
innercitynews.com.au  
Tel: 8689 7980

**EDITOR**

Sean Car

**PUBLISHER**

Hyperlocal News Pty Ltd  
ABN: 57 623 558 725

**ADVERTISING**

Hyper-local print works for advertisers in our digital world because local people are interested in local news.

To sell to the inner-city community, contact Jack Hayes on 0401 031 236 or jack@hyperlocalnews.com.au

Reader contributions are welcome. Send letters, articles and images to: brendan@hyperlocalnews.com.au

**The deadline for the March edition is February 22**

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the publisher.

hyperlocalnews.com.au  
admin@hyperlocalnews.com.au

Follow us on social media by searching @innercity\_news



# Making a lot of noise over aircraft

The East Melbourne Group (EMG) has a very loud bee in its bonnet. In fact, it has been buzzing for some time.

**OPINION BY**  
CHRISTOPHER BANTICK



As was reported in the December 2023/January 2024 issue of *Inner City News* the buzz has reached Canberra with the Federal Member for Melbourne Adam Bandt asking questions as to what can be done to allay the noise of overflying aircraft.

I am a resident of East Melbourne, and I am stung not by the aircraft noise but the assumption of the EMG that this is a general concern. It actually isn't.

Aircraft noise in East Melbourne is a parish pump issue. It is really about a small group of people who want change. This has been done without substantial residential consultation.

But the matter has wider consequences than a minority group of annoyed residents agitating for a desired result.

East Melbourne is one of the smallest identifiable suburbs in Melbourne. It is not a hive of activity. People like it that way and they want to keep the status of being Melbourne's "most liveable suburb." It's good for real estate and marketing. It's good for snobby bragging rights.

The EMG make it sound like aircraft are constantly overflying the suburb. This is straight hyperbole and is simply wrong. Moreover, if size matters, any aircraft are across the suburb in seconds. That is apparently too long.

The noise is hardly intrusive or persistent. It



is not 24/7 by any stretch. The calls for change from EMG to Canberra are really about a few people holding disproportionate influence. Do I catch a whiff of political opportunism in future voters?

Where are the research findings of decibel levels harmful to human health? Where are the flight schedules at night, for example? If something annoys, irritates, or frustrates a few, that is no reason to assume others feel the same unless there is a survey of residents' responses. I have seen no survey.

This has left the EMG to be seen as a coterie of self-centred individuals and a display of remarkable NIMBYism.

Aircraft overfly East Melbourne because of weather, wind, vision, and the safest approach to the airports. The EMG has appeared to not consider adequately, if at all, the safety matter.

This is cause for concern. It is not just passenger jet aircraft either. Light planes may fly over East Melbourne and it is difficult to see how this is deleterious to health. Sleep is not

interrupted as they rarely fly at night.

What about the fly pasts for commemorative services at the Shrine of Remembrance? Will they, if the EMG gets its way, not be able to turn over East Melbourne?

Then there are police helicopters, media helicopters, and the air ambulance from the Royal Melbourne Hospital. If the EMG say they are too noisy, they will all have to skirt the suburb and thereby lose time when an emergency or significant public disturbance requires a direct flight response. This also appears to not be front of mind for the EMG.

Aircraft noise in East Melbourne is not an issue of substance. To say so is a step away from reality and a gross exaggeration. It behoves residents to ask the question as to whether they are content to have decisions made and actions taken without consultation. I am not.

*Christopher Bantick is a Melbourne journalist who has lived in East Melbourne for a decade. ●*

# Father Bob Maguire Foundation CEO honoured with Australia Day award

Continued from page 1.

"I want promotion about what we do. Father Bob's most recent phrase was care, commonsense, and compassion equal community not society. It's about community."

"When people come in to get their food at our pantry, I want them to walk out with a happy mind; they'll feel good about themselves and have a reason to get up in the morning."

"You don't do it for reward, you do it because you can help and that's all it is."

Mr Brophy, who was raised in Port Fairy, said his passion for

helping others began when he worked with the Brotherhood of Saint Laurence at the Sambell Lodge aged care facility, where he stayed for 27 years.

"It wasn't a job, it's almost like they're your family."

One of his successes was organising a "Celebration of Life Music and Dancing Events" for up to 20 aged care homes.

"It was great because I'm passionate about not having aged care people stuck with a tray table in front of them. Get them out, even if they have varying degrees of dementia. They still reminisce about music. Music is the common

denominator with them all."

Mr Brophy said he remained committed to transforming the lives of others, noting the contribution of the foundation's 80 active volunteers was "immeasurable."

Asked why they do it, he said: "It's the delight on people's faces. We give them this food and honestly, you'd think they'd won Tattsлото."

► Paul Brophy, CEO of the Father Bob Maguire Foundation. Photo: Hanna Komissarova.



# EAT YOUR HEART OUT

**Fine dining requires sharp knives!**

6 - 17 MARCH 2024

Director Peter Houghton Writer Angela Buckingham  
Starring Carolyn Bock, Helen Hopkins and Clare Bartholomew



"Better than a fresh husband!" – Zsa Zsa Gabor "Totally F\*cking EDIBLE!" – Gorden Ramsey  
"Their audacity is the ultimate fashion accessory!" – Coco Chanel "The full bling!" – Liberace  
"Riotous! Makes the Patriarchy look like pussies." – Margaret Thatcher

(No celebrities were harmed in the collecting of these quotes...)

Bookings: [www.lamama.com.au](http://www.lamama.com.au)



Produced by The Shift Theatre  
Presented by La Mama





## LYGON LOCAL

# Madeleine de Proust: a feast for the eyes and stomach

Specialising in the art of madeleines, Lygon St's newest patisserie Madeleine de Proust is one of Melbourne's most unique culinary offerings.

WORDS BY  
GEORGIE ATKINS



Co-founded by Hyoju Park (former Attica head pastry chef) and her chef-partner Rong Yao Soh, Madeleine de Proust bakes one thing, and bakes it well.

Hyoju's fascination with madeleines began at the age of 14 during a baking class at her school, with madeleines being the first week's lesson.

"At the same time, there was also a soap opera on TV and the female actress was a pastry chef who described the madeleine as a 'sexy cookie' – it made me feel like the madeleine was this amazing thing and I've always had a good image of them."

While Rong's cooking background is in savoury cuisine, he "fell in love with pastry" over lockdown, paving the way for the idea to open their own patisserie together.

"At first, we were thinking to have a Korean-influenced patisserie, but our design company came up with the name Madeleine de Proust so we thought, 'Ok, if the name is madeleine, then we should make madeleines'", Hyoju told *Inner City News*.

Is a madeleine a cookie or a cake?

According to Hyoju and Rong, a madeleine is both cookie and cake; "crispy on the outside and fluffy on the inside", baked in a special tin that gives them their shell-like shape.

Utilising traditional French patisserie techniques, the pair masterfully combines Australian and Asian-fusion flavours to create an elegant and delightful bite.

Their monthly rotating flavours are a testament to their creativity, with each madeleine linked to a "nostalgic memory" and reflected in the shop's name, Madeleine de Proust; a French expression used to describe senses such as smell and taste that are reminiscent of childhood.

One of their most popular flavours on the current menu is the Corn madeleine, inspired by a Korean ice-cream that Hyoju grew up eating.

"We cook the corn and mix in cream cheese for the filling, then we make a popcorn ganache and pipe the kernels one by one, freeze it, spray a chocolate layer, then it needs to freeze again – it's a three-day process," she said.

The menu also pays homage to Rong's Malaysian background with the Pandan and Coconut madeleine, while the Gold Nugget takes its inspiration from Australia's gold-mining history.

Alongside their regular selection, Madeleine de Proust also bakes fresh madeleines as a weekend special for curious locals to try a simpler version of the pastry, as well as

specialty flavours for festive occasions such as their upcoming Valentine's Day-themed madeleines.

Although having just opened in December, Hyoju said that locals had responded well to the not-so-traditional Lygon St offering, and were enjoying "learning about madeleines". "I love Carlton, it's such a fun vibe and there are lots of good places for food and wine – I've always had a great memory of the area, so I think it was the best location for us."

**Madeleine de Proust is located at 253 Lygon St and is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm. ●**



DANIELLA PAIDI  
AND ASSOCIATES

Welcome to Daniella Paidi & Associates.

**We are your local legal advisors for property, conveyancing, wills and estates.**

Committed to excellence | Client-focused | Passionate about people

- Pre-contractual advice - Contract of sale & domestic building
- Conveyancing Law – Property sale, purchase & transfer
- Property development & subdivision
- Property dispute resolution
- Wills & Estates
- Guarantee advice and solicitor certificates

## Get in touch

Email  
info@dpaa.au

Phone  
(03) 9994 1215

Website  
www.dpaa.au



# DIVE INTO WELLBEING

Make it a stronger and healthier year with an Active Melbourne membership. Swim, skate, play a team sport, join a group fitness class or work out in our state-of-the-art gyms – there's something for everyone.

It's a great way to enjoy the summer sunshine or shelter from extreme weather with unlimited access to activities and facilities at Melbourne City Baths, Carlton Baths and North Melbourne Recreation Centre.



Find out how to move it your way in your neighbourhood at [melbourne.vic.gov.au/activemelbourne](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/activemelbourne)

**ACTIVE  
MELBOURNE**





## Could Pelham St be the key to unlocking more events at Argyle Square?

Carlton is home to many beautiful green public squares, with its four most prominent spaces connected via one of the suburb's lesser-known streets.

WORDS BY  
SEAN CAR



From the World Heritage-Listed Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens, a walk along Pelham St joins pedestrians to Lygon St's renowned Argyle Square, and Lincoln Square on Swanston St, before eventually ending at University Square.

As part of its master planning for a revitalised University Square, the City of Melbourne has identified Pelham St as a "park front and biodiversity corridor" with a desire to create a stronger association between Lincoln and Argyle Squares.

In its most recent Carlton Urban Forest Plan (2017-2023), the council also identified Pelham St as a key "connector" and earmarks opportunities for increased

permeability and open space.

"Pelham St in the city's north is brimming with opportunities to create more green and open space for Melburnians to enjoy," Lord Mayor Sally Capp told *Inner City News*.

"We're delivering on our plans to improve pedestrian amenity and biodiversity in this pocket of Carlton – connecting Lincoln and Argyle Squares."

But while more recent efforts appear focused on Carlton's western end around the University of Melbourne and the new Parkville Station Metro Station at Grattan St, Lygon St traders and Carlton locals have long lamented the decline in activity surrounding Argyle Square.

While plans to revitalise Pelham St west of Argyle Square are expected to aid in drawing more traffic from the university precinct, questions have been raised regarding the stretch linking it to Carlton Gardens.

Brunetti Classico owner Fabio Angele is among those who support the idea of creating a linear park between the two spaces, suggesting it could be just what's needed to revitalise the events calendar at Argyle Square and bring more life back to Lygon St.

Mr Angele said he was first part of discussions with the council about the idea decades ago, but that plans had remained on the shelf.

"That piazza [Argyle Square], it's never used," he said.

"The idea around 20 to 30 years ago when we had a meeting with the council was to link the museum through Pelham St and that would lead people through to this hub. And that was the idea, to create a park and all that, but it never went ahead."

The president of local traders' association Carlton Inc. Sergio Alderuccio agreed, saying it could help draw more traffic from major events including the recent Italian Festa, which was previously held at Argyle Square, as well as the Melbourne Flower and Garden Show.

"A better link between Lygon St and Carlton Gardens should help draw more people to Lygon St, especially when there are major events at the Royal Exhibition Buildings and Carlton Gardens," he said.

The Carlton Residents' Association (CRA) has also backed the idea, with its vice-president Martin Brennan stating that it was supportive of any initiative which sought to green the suburb and improve mobility.



"The CRA Mobility Policy is supportive of initiatives that will green our suburb and city and provide mobility options that provide increasing opportunities for walking and cycling," Mr Brennan said.

"The revitalisation of Argyle Square by linking with Carlton Gardens as a destination for residents and visitors will hopefully give life to Lygon St, the activity spine of our suburb."

The council said it was currently in the process of updating its Carlton Urban Forest Precinct Plan to cover the next 10 years of tree planting, presenting an opportunity to investigate additional greening along the adjacent sections of Pelham St. ●



## Eat Your Heart Out at La Mama

*Eat Your Heart Out* is a new comedy coming to La Mama Courthouse Theatre in March 2024. This may be the perfect play for our buzzing neighbourhood of restaurants and cafes.

The story is about fine dining or, more specifically, two wealthy sisters who meet regularly, once a week, for lunch. Until misfortune strikes – catapulting them on a chaotic quest to find the meaning of life.

Their interrogation of existence results in religious revelations, attempted revolution, cannibalistic fantasies and an anaphylactic reaction to paprika. Something more than most lunch time conversations on Lygon St.

The show is written by local writer Angela Buckingham, who said it was sure to be a fun night out for everyone who "occasionally berates themselves for drinking bottled water, feels a little guilty while pretending to be too busy to even see the charity representatives on street corners or really wants to be a generous, bike-riding vegan but finds themselves yelling at their kids while stuck in the drive-through queue".

It is directed by well-known comedy director, Peter Houghton, who bought us the much loved *The Heartbreak Choir* for MTC's 2022 season.

He said he took on *Eat Your Heart Out*

because he "loved the freshness and freedom in the language, the speed of thought and ease of both characters. It has dazzle".

We are promised a stellar cast including versatile actors, Carolyn Bock and Helen Hopkins, a great duo, who regularly work together.

The waiter is played by Clare Bartholomew, "one of Melbourne's premier clowns" (it's thrilling to hear that Melbourne has premier clowns).

The production team behind this comedy is The Shift Theatre. They are regulars at La Mama and bought us the sell-out show, *Garage Girls* – a co-production with Three Birds Theatre in 2023, and the much darker but critically acclaimed *#NoExemptions* in 2022.

This year marks the 15th anniversary for The Shift Theatre, an impressive record in the brutal but exciting world of Melbourne independent theatre. In this cultural scene, it is not surprising that this production has some strong language. ●

# BEUYS

joseph beuys cafe  
melbourne

## Joseph Beuys Cafe

Joseph Beuys Cafe is a small Melbourne gallery presenting changing exhibitions of work by internationally acclaimed German artist Joseph Beuys.

Open Wednesday 11am to 4pm, otherwise by appointment.

Room 313, Nicholas Building  
37 Swanston Street Melbourne Vic

josephbeuyscafe.com

+61 3 9052 5055

@josephbeuyscafe

SHOP  
LOCAL

Flinders Lane

Degraves St

Royston Pl

Scott Al

Cockler Al

Swanston St

Flinders

BEUYS  
joseph beuys cafe  
melbourne

Supporting  
business



Construction partner:  
Design & Construction

CYP-BS000393



INNER CITY LOCAL

# Carlton psychologist releases new book to improve mental wellness

Carlton-based psychologist and acclaimed author, Dr Ahona Guha, has just released her second book, titled *Life Skills for a Broken World*, offering a practical framework for cultivating “good mental health”.

WORDS BY  
GEORGIE ATKINS



Currently practising as a clinical and forensic psychologist, Dr Guha specialises in the field of complex trauma, with her work also extending to patients with mood issues, anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, perfectionism, and individuals facing bullying.

Following the success of her first book, *Reclaim: Understanding complex trauma and those who abuse*, which focused on victims and perpetrators of abuse, *Life Skills for a Broken World* takes a broader approach; centering around “mental well-being” and how to harness skills to navigate life’s challenges.

“It was designed to be beautiful, short, sharp and punchy – something that’s useful to dip in and out of when you’re struggling,” Dr Guha said.

“It covers quite a wide range of skills that you can use to apply to some of the more complex situations that we are faced with, whether it’s accepting change, navigating times when you’re disliked by people, or understanding how to manage heartbreak.”

Dr Guha began writing the book at the end of 2021 as Melbourne had started coming out of lockdowns, where she noticed heightened levels of anger and “geopolitical strife”.

“It became quite apparent that it wasn’t just about the lockdowns, it wasn’t that we were suddenly mentally unwell – it was that there was a lot that was broken in the world, and it felt important to address that,” she said.

“Not just from an individualistic framework, but also in terms of understanding the structures that we built around us and how we’ve really failed each other – I wanted to present a different way of living where we have different expectations and different

ideas about why we’re here and how we can live that out.”

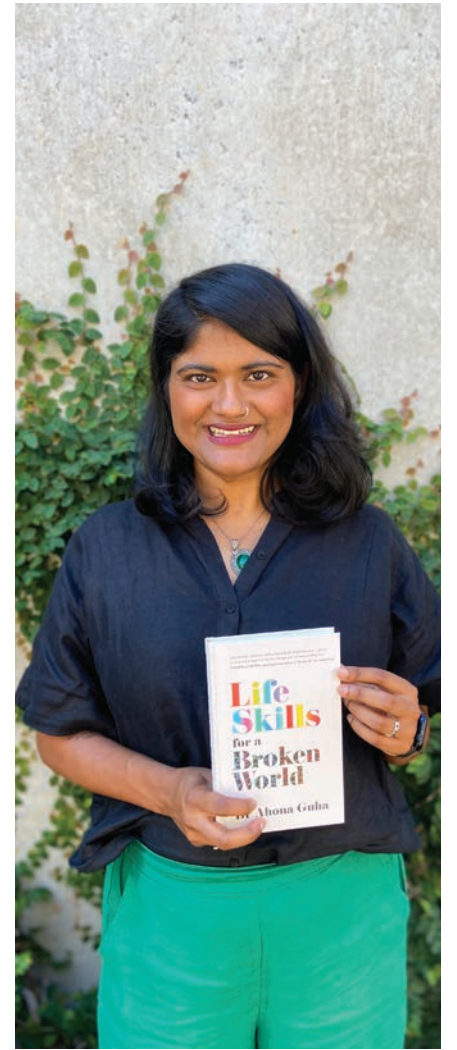
Covering around 40 skills in the book, Dr Guha hopes that readers will be inspired to “find hope” and understand that achieving good mental health doesn’t necessarily require a complete lifestyle overhaul.

“You can start to make changes in small ways, and I hope readers will see that these small changes can really pay off,” she said.

While it is currently available to purchase online and in selected stores, *Life Skills for a Broken World* will be officially launched on February 18 at Northside Wines in Thornbury, with all proceeds from the ticketed event going to greyhound rescue. ●



SCAN TO BUY A TICKET



# New bike lanes set to be rolled out in Grattan St

The City of Melbourne will soon begin works to install new protected bike lanes on Grattan St, Carlton, as part of its transport plan to expand the area’s cycling network.

WORDS BY  
BRENDAN REES



The state government gave its tick of approval for the project, which will comprise 1.3km of kerbside lanes behind protective kerbs and parking bays, (650 metres in each direction) from Bouverie St to Rathdowne St at the Carlton Gardens.

It will also connect new protected bike lanes being delivered between Bouverie St and Royal Parade as part of the Metro Tunnel Project.

New vehicle hook turns will be installed at Cardigan, Lygon and Drummond streets as part of the project, while a new bus stop will be built between Bouverie and Swanston streets.

A total of 68 car parking bays are to be kept, however 18 car parks will be removed to make way for the new bike lanes, which

would see a reduction in traffic lanes at midblock sections and intersections.

The project is expected to be completed in the middle of the year.

According to the council, it received “minimal feedback” for the new bike lanes after conducting community engagement three times between 2021 and 2022.

However, resident Tim Swain, who expressed his concerns last year to *Inner City News*, said the “project cannot be justified in any way”, saying it would cause “massive disruption and congestion the length of this thoroughfare”.

“It will permanently damage one of Carlton’s most historic and graceful streets, cause enormous disruption to residents and businesses, and likely to be used by just a handful of cyclists,” he said.

“Given the City of Melbourne’s record in wasting ratepayers’ money on meaningless works and implementing such ill-conceived and dangerous schemes as the e-bike and e-scooter programs, this latest activity will become yet another folly.”

Grattan St connects to the University of Melbourne Parkville campus, the nation’s largest medical precinct, and the future Metro underground Parkville Station.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the new bike

lanes would improve a safer, better connected cycling network.

“With thousands of extra people expected to move through the area every single day, it’s important we deliver a safer route for riders, pedestrians and drivers,” she said.

“Works will soon start to improve the journey into the city for riders from the north, with upgrades on Grattan St connecting to the popular Canning and Rathdowne streets routes.”

Carlton Inc. president Sergio Alderuccio said while he acknowledged bike lanes were a contentious topic, he personally supported it.

“Traffic congestion is growing all the time so more people are finding cycling is a more attractive mode of transport, especially commuting to the city” he said.

“I’m both a cyclist and a driver and I plan my journeys according to what’s going to be the best route.”

The Bicycle Network said, “the move signals a reborn eagerness by the City of Melbourne to get on with its city-shaping bike lane program”.

Under the plan, pedestrian, car, and bike access on Grattan St will be maintained during the works.

Carlton Residents’ Association (CRA) said



it also supported the changes to Grattan St, including for kerbside bicycle lanes.

“Grattan St is a local street and not designated for through traffic. One lane each way will provide ample access for private and public transport, contribute to the bicycle network, and contribute to pedestrian and cyclist safety while allowing for adequate local traffic,” a CRA spokesperson said. ●

**Brendan Rees**

JOURNALIST

BRENDAN@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU



Proudly representing the community in inner Melbourne



Evan MULHOLLAND MP  
MEMBER FOR NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

- Unit 10, 2 Graystone Court Epping Vic 3076
- 03 9651 8242 | evan.mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au
- EvanMulholland.com.au | EvanMulhollandMP
- @evmulholland





# Medicare urgent care clinic opens in Carlton

Inner-city locals now have greater access to the healthcare they need with the opening of the Inner Melbourne Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (Medicare UCC).

The Carlton Medical and Urgent Care Clinic has been established as the Inner Melbourne Medicare UCC and started seeing patients from December 15 at 2/221 Drummond St, Carlton.

The new clinic, made possible thanks to the Federal Government, will be open for extended hours, seven days a week, and offer walk-in care that is fully bulk-billed.

This Medicare UCC has been established in Carlton to allow locals to get the urgent treatment they need from highly qualified doctors and nurses while taking pressure off the nearby Royal Melbourne Hospital.

What is the difference between urgent and emergency care?

More than a third of presentations to the Royal Melbourne Hospital are for non-urgent or semi-urgent care, and these sorts of patients will now be able to alternatively present to this new Medicare UCC.



While the emergency room is for serious health issues which may be considered a medical emergency, urgent care is for injuries or illnesses that are non-life-threatening.

Federal Health Minister Mark Butler said the Carlton clinic would mean people in the

community who needed urgent but not acute care could get it quickly even if it was outside standard hours, and all they'd need was their Medicare card.

"This clinic will ease pressure on the Royal Melbourne Hospital, allowing them to

concentrate on higher priority emergencies," Minister Butler said.

"The Albanese Government is committed to strengthening Medicare and making it easier and cheaper to get quality healthcare, by tripling the bulk billing incentive and making medicines cheaper."

The clinic was officially unveiled on December 19 by Assistant Minister for Health Ged Kearney and Senator Jess Walsh.

"Whether it's a minor burn, cut or infection, this Medicare UCC is going to make a big difference for families in Melbourne's inner-north," Ged Kearney said.

"As a nurse, I would see families spending hours waiting in the ED for minor injuries just because they had nowhere else to go. Not only will this UCC make it easier for Melburnians to get the care they need but it will ease pressure on hospitals."

The Inner Melbourne clinic will join nine clinics already operational in Victoria located in Ballarat, Frankston, Geelong, Heidelberg, Narre Warren, Shepparton, Werribee, South Melbourne, and Sunbury.

The Australian Government has said it will continue to work closely with the Victorian Government and Primary Health Networks to support Medicare UCCs in Victoria. ●

## PET'S CORNER

### Tucker wins the hearts of locals

Tucker, the loveable purebred Border Collie, has effortlessly embraced the inner-city life.

WORDS BY  
BRENDAN REES

His friendly demeanour and stunning brown and white coat have also made Tucker a popular furry friend "and great connector" in the Carlton and surrounding area.

"We have a lot of social housing, and we have a lot of people that are disadvantaged, and he seems to have an uncanny sense that when somebody could do with a hug, he literally puts his paws around their legs and hugs them," his owner Ronnie said.

"I've had people say, 'this dog has made my day.'"

During his outings, the two-year-old loves a walk at the Carlton Gardens, while beach runs at Sorrento at the Mornington Peninsula are another favourite pastime.

"If he's got a ball there's nothing will deter his focus."

While he may be full of energy, Ronnie said Tucker was great for her own health and wellbeing, adding "there's no question we do our 10,000 plus steps with him."

And why the name Tucker you may ask?

"The breeder gave him the name and it turns out that it's perfect because he loves his tucker, he loves to eat. He also loves to exercise until he's totally tuckered out." ●



# Volunteers needed!

Interested in teaching young people how to drive?  
Become a Drive for Life Volunteer Mentor!

Drive for Life mentors:

- » Provide supervised driving lessons
- » Deliver constructive feedback
- » Role model positive relationships
- » Provide ongoing support and mentorship to participants



Register now!



0477 408 533

driveforlifel2p@salvationarmy.org.au



METRO MELBOURNE



Department of Transport and Planning





# LEADING WITH LOVE: KON KARAPANAGIOTIDIS OAM NAMED MELBURNIAN OF THE YEAR



Kon Karapanagiotidis OAM, founder and CEO of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre and Melburnian of the Year for 2023

**Melburnian of the Year Kon Karapanagiotidis OAM, inspires us all to build a more compassionate Australia, where everyone has a seat at the table.**

From a Greek-Australian child experiencing racism in a country town to CEO and founder of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, Kon has turned trauma into action that positively impacts countless lives.

As a human rights lawyer, social worker, Children's Ground board member, philanthropist, masseur, and cooking enthusiast, Kon is both a passionate advocate for people in need and a voracious learner.

"Education is power – the power to do good, and the power to influence and change things for the better. Thanks to my parents' legacy, I get to live this dream. I can't waste that opportunity," Kon said.

## FAMILY VALUES

Kon's grandparents came to Australia as refugees, and his parents made great sacrifices for their children.

His dad spent humiliating and gruelling years working on a tobacco farm to support the family, and his mum never fulfilled her dream of being a maths teacher. Kon was the first in his family to complete high school.

Kon and his sister, Her Honour Nola Karapanagiotidis, who was the first Greek-Australian woman to be appointed a judge in the County Court of Victoria – remain ever grateful for these sacrifices, and their family's strong Greek values.

"The Greek term 'philoxenia' means to welcome the stranger, or to love the stranger. 'Philotimo', too, means being a servant to love. These values are like breathing for Greeks," Kon said.

"Society so often forgets it, but everyone deserves to be seen and valued. After all, with a change of the wind we could be the ones in search of safety and welcome."

## A Seat At My Table: Philoxenia

Kon's strong family values have made their way into the title of his Greek cookbook. Created with his mother Sia, *A Seat At My Table: Philoxenia* includes 100 vegan and vegetarian recipes. Proceeds have raised more than \$200,000 for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

## THE POWER OF COMPASSION

Motivated by generational tenacity and a conscious decision to "lead with love", Kon's journey has seen him support the most vulnerable people in our communities.

Among Kon's many roles, he has worked the midnight shift on a crisis line, run support groups for male survivors of incest, promoted safety for sex workers on the streets of St Kilda, and provided massage clinics for men experiencing homelessness.

"I was working with men sleeping rough – tough guys who'd been in prison – and they'd be like little lambs. They told me it was the first time they'd been touched without being harmed. We don't often think about that, with men," Kon said.

"People we turn our backs on have trauma at the heart of their journey. That's the common thread. Whether it be displacement, abuse, serious health issues, bereavement or family breakdown, trauma is the universal story. Intergenerational trauma, in particular, places people at the margins.

"Everyone is worthy – there's no such thing as a broken person. Most

Australians are just a step away from being on the streets, so we need to show each other compassion."

## A CHARITY BEGINS

At 28, Kon founded the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre with TAFE students he was teaching to become welfare workers. Their first task was to provide meals for refugees who couldn't find food in Melbourne.

"The TAFE students were migrants, refugees and lots of Australian mums in their 40s and 50s returning to studies – they were people about whom the world had low expectations," Kon said.

"This project taught them that they could make a difference and change the world for the better – all you need is the intention, passion and ideals to do so. There's not much more to it than that."

The eight-week TAFE project became a charity, and thousands of people began to volunteer and donate in the wake of the Tampa affair.

## ASTONISHING IMPACT

Twenty-two years later, the non-profit has made a huge impact – supporting 30,000 people in need, raising a quarter of a billion dollars and saving thousands of lives. This success was based on three core principles:

"I decided that the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre would never take money from the Australian government, that we would be outspoken and fearless, and that we would never turn anyone away in need," Kon said.

Today, 200 staff members and 1000 volunteers deliver English classes, a full-scale legal service, an incubator for refugee-led businesses, two social-enterprise cafes, numerous programs



in health, education, housing, meals, financial aid and women's empowerment, and much more.

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre has also worked tirelessly to support and evacuate refugees from Nauru and Papua New Guinea. The organisation is training the next generation of advocates as Australia's largest investor in refugee leadership.

"We are Australia's most influential and effective refugee organisation when it comes to creating change," Kon said.

## HOW TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

For people seeking to follow in Kon's change-making footsteps, he has some encouraging advice:

"Be proud of where you come from, work hard, remain humble and make a difference. Everything you build, you build through your own hard work," Kon said.

"There is a long way to go, and the work is ahead of us, but we cannot despair. Despair is not a strategy. We've got to come back and be prepared, and more compassionate."

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre website offers a wealth of information about how to support refugees, from volunteering to booking catering with social impact. To learn more, visit [asrc.org.au](http://asrc.org.au)

## ABOUT THE MELBOURNE AWARDS

The Melbourne Awards are the City of Melbourne's highest accolade, recognising the people and organisations who make a significant impact on community life.

"I'm surprised, humbled and very grateful to be recognised in the Melbourne Awards," Kon said.

For more information visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards)





The new narm ngarrgu Library and Family Services centre

**Browse 30,000 books, use high-tech creative gadgets or bliss out on the rooftop terrace while your children play at narm ngarrgu, the City of Melbourne's new flagship library and family services centre.**

narm ngarrgu is on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, and we have worked closely with Elders, artists and community members to bring this warm, welcoming space to life by drawing on deep knowledge systems.

The name, materials, artworks – even the design of the carpet – honour and celebrate the First Nations community. narm ngarrgu means 'Melbourne Knowledge' in Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language.

Spanning three levels and 3000 sqm, narm ngarrgu is an urban oasis for families designed so everyone in our diverse community can explore their interests, learn something new and access integrated family support.

It's also our first new library in almost a decade.

The project is part of the broader Queen Victoria Market precinct transformation and the \$1.7 billion Gurrwa Place development, with support from the Victorian Government, the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and Changing Places.

#### **Welcoming, accessible spaces**

The entryways to narm ngarrgu set the scene for a very special library experience.

The front counter is staffed with caring workers who ensure everyone visiting the library feels welcome. Community outreach, social work, digital literacy and Aboriginal liaison staff members support this commitment to inclusivity across the library.

Venture further inside to discover lofty spaces for reading and study that transform into grand event spaces with retractable tiered seating.

Around the corner there's a computer lab where training and digital literacy workshops will be held, and lockers with laptops you can borrow to use throughout the library.

The library also offers many different spaces you can use for events and meetings. These spaces are low-cost to book, and free for First Nations people.

For library users who need mobility support, narm ngarrgu offers a state-of-the-art bathroom fitted with a hoist and full-size change table.

Last but not least, help yourself to water or a cuppa from the stations dotted throughout narm ngarrgu. We want you to feel at home.

#### **Aboriginal artwork**

Maree Clarke, a Mutti Mutti / Yorta Yorta and Wemba Wemba / Boon Wurrung artist from north-western Victoria, collaborated with other creatives and designers to shape immersive spaces that tell the stories of the site and its context.

Designed to invite reflection, learning, ceremony and play – the artworks at narm ngarrgu celebrate the rich contribution First Nations people make to the life of the city, share stories of Country and speak to the impact of colonisation.

Maree described the expansive library space as a super-giant blank canvas.

"In the Children's Library, I've designed the carpet to represent the seven seasons of the Kulin nation through plants and animals," Maree said.

"And I've also designed the forest on the mirrored glass that's down the passageway, so children again will be able to see themselves reflected in the forest on the way to the beautiful library.

"Through the main library carpet – with the beautiful watercolour and the maps over the top – people will get to learn about the five clans of the Kulin nation. And what better place to learn about it than in a library."

#### **Books and collections**

The library has more than 30,000 books – 22,000 for adults and 8000 for children. There are books in a variety of languages including Chinese, Japanese and Korean. narm ngarrgu also offers an English as an Additional Language collection.

When you return books inside the new library, pause at the window above the slot and watch – like a child at a chocolate factory – as a state-of-the-art machine automatically sorts the titles into their correct categories.

#### **Children's library**



On the way to the dedicated bubup wilam Children's Library, follow a trail of blue ants that weave among images of native animals and plants, including sugar gliders, koalas and golden billy-buttons.

Grab a colourful cushion from the stack and make yourself comfortable with books from local and international authors, in multiple languages.

The bubup wilam Children's Library features stories galore, access to a play area on the secure terrace and a large space that will host storytime, craft sessions, book clubs and more.

The library also hosts a social work outreach program, which provides support and referrals to families in need.

#### **Family services centre**

Our family services centre offers a generous playroom, outdoor play area and accessible parent room.

The dynamic space is also home to a holistic range of services, including maternal and child health services, parenting services, immunisation, family support and counselling.

#### **Creative makerspace and sound studios**

Explore your passions or start a new creative side-hustle in our decked-out makerspace. Think 3D printers, laser cutters, sewing and embroidery machines, airbrushing, electronics, sound studios and much more.

Expert support is on hand to help you learn how to use all of the equipment.

#### **Rooftop terrace**

When you reach the spectacular rooftop terrace, crawl through the giant eel trap, breathe in the native plants and pause to reflect by a coolamon cast from a giant eucalyptus burl by Wurundjeri Elders, which will be used for smoking ceremonies.

The rooftop terrace also features an outdoor play area and a water-play space for the warmer months.



#### **More library locations**

The opening of narm ngarrgu Library and Family Services adds to our five neighbourhood libraries, City Library, plus the Mel-Van mobile library service.

You can find narm ngarrgu at 141 Therry Street, Melbourne, just across the road from Queen Victoria Market.

To learn more, visit  
[melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries)

## KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne News* at

[news.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://news.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

#### Connect with us

[/cityofmelbourne](https://www.facebook.com/cityofmelbourne)  
[@cityofmelbourne](https://www.instagram.com/cityofmelbourne)  
[@cityofmelbourne](https://www.twitter.com/cityofmelbourne)



CITY OF MELBOURNE





QUESTION:  
What's your New Year's resolution?

# Faces of the Inner City



**LARRY**  
To be a better grandfather and be more patient.



**MIMI**  
To let go of fear and embrace peace and joy.



**NICK**  
To win the lottery.



**TOM**  
To realise my dream of being a professional guitar player.



## Public housing tenants take legal action to stop the demolition of their homes

Public housing tenants living in 44 high-rise buildings across Melbourne have taken action in the Victorian Supreme Court to halt plans to demolish their homes.



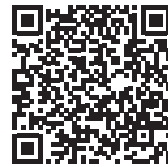
Inner Melbourne Community Legal (IMCL) is acting for the residents. IMCL's CEO Elisa Buggy said the way the Victorian Government made its decision was also incompatible with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

"IMCL is calling on the Victorian Government to pause and reconsider its relocation plan. Public housing residents have human rights, too – the right to live free from arbitrary or unlawful interference with home and with family, the right to have families protected, the right to have the best interests of children be protected, property rights, and the right to security," Ms Buggy said. The towers in Flemington, North Melbourne and Carlton are the first scheduled for demolition. The lead plaintiff, Barry Berih, is one of the residents that will be impacted by the plan. "The decision has taken an emotional and physical toll on me and my community. The government didn't consult with us or tell us about the decision. We found out from the media," Mr Berih said. The full list of high-rise buildings under threat of demolition can be seen at this link: [homes.vic.gov.au/high-rise-victoria-which-towers](https://homes.vic.gov.au/high-rise-victoria-which-towers) The Victorian Ombudsman

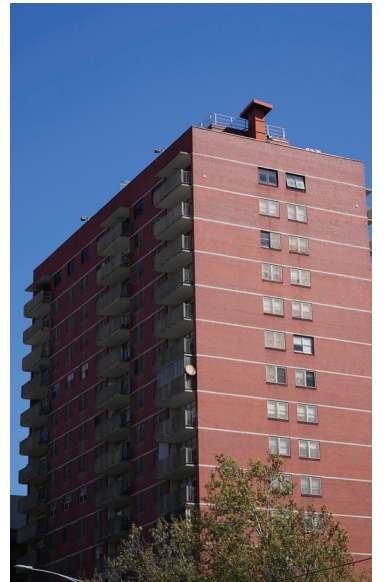
Deborah Glass – who leaves her position on March 29 this year – found that the Victorian Government breached public housing tenants' human rights with their COVID-19 lockdowns. I hope the Supreme Court will do the same.

**Albanese has made personal tax cuts fairer – he can do the same to make housing affordable**  
The PM has had the courage to change unfair tax cuts legislated by the former Morrison government. Albanese's government will stare down Dutton's outrage and they can now go further. Housing costs, both rents and home purchases, are major contributors to inflation. Howard Liberal National governments handed private investors new wealth opportunities when it reduced capital gains taxes by 50 per cent on dwellings bought and sold by them. The changes fuelled a huge increase in dwelling prices

as investors bought and sold existing and new dwellings to simply get rich, not provide affordable housing!  
The latest estimates are that \$147 billion will be gifted to them over 10 years from 2022/23.



This money could build up to 500,000 new public homes over the same period if the tax changes were removed. Instead of demolishing public housing it can be renovated and added to with new construction. The construction union CFMEU has also demanded the introduction of a tax on the super profits of mining exports to fund public housing construction.



More public housing will halt spiralling rents and reduce inflation in the years ahead. ●

Prepared with the assistance of the Save Public Housing Collective

**Cory Memery**  
CITY OF MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY  
CHAMPION 2020



**CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS**

Carlton **CAN** is a thoughtful, lively and welcoming worshipping community, with a strong heart for creating a just and inclusive local community.

[carltonunitingchurch.org.au](https://carltonunitingchurch.org.au)  
180 Palmerston St, Carlton 9347 7077

**FIT FOR A KING:**  
VINCENT JENDEN REIMAGINES  
THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

28 FEBRUARY – 25 AUGUST 2024

East Melbourne's best-kept secret: explore exquisite fine and decorative arts in an historic townhouse.

[JOHNSTONCOLLECTION.ORG](https://JOHNSTONCOLLECTION.ORG) | BOOK ONLINE





## Celebrating Harmony Day at Carlton's "heart"

Carlton will be awash with a festival of multicultural celebration this March with the return of Harmony Day at Carlton Primary School.

WORDS BY  
JACK HAYES



Running from 2pm to 5pm on Saturday, March 23, Harmony Day sees more than 15 stakeholders combine in uniting Carlton's public housing residents and the wider community in a day filled with music, dance, food, and fun.

Khadra Omar, community facilitator at Our Place, a not-for-profit organisation that partners with local education stakeholders to provide services to families, told *Inner City News* Harmony Day was a great opportunity to bring the two sides of Carlton together.

"It feels like there can often be a hidden divide between the families we work with and the other areas of Carlton," Ms Omar said. "Seeing the two communities together, it is just beautiful."

"We will have food from over six different countries, community stalls providing information and services for families, live music and performances, and spaces for attendees to relax and enjoy the day."

"It is a place where we try to make all services available for families, we have school information on site, we have early learning, we have immunisation, we have social workers ... this community hub is the heart of Carlton."

Among the stakeholders responsible for bringing Harmony Day to Carlton is Our Place, Brotherhood of St

Laurence, Drummond St Services, Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, cohealth, City of Melbourne, La Mama Theatre, The University of Melbourne, and Church of All Nations.

The day of celebration will also include a particular focus on First Nations culture and storytelling, which, according to special projects officer at Drummond Street Services Helen Remington, was particularly poignant following 2023's failed Voice to Parliament referendum.

"We wanted to make Indigenous arts, culture and human rights a theme for this year," she said. "There will be a chance for kids to learn about different cultures and cultural art workshops."

"It [Harmony Day] is a chance for public housing residents to showcase their cultures and gifts and get to know the other residents of Carlton. They play the host, and it is lovely to see the response from the general community. Equality for all is a good thing."

A group of University of Melbourne Executive Master of Arts students will return as project managers for the event, organising the event in partnership with local stakeholders.

University of Melbourne lecturer Dr Anna Kosovac said with many of her students studying in Australia from overseas, the event "provides a great chance to learn about the community from the ground up".

"Understanding the issues experienced by public housing residents and understanding Australia in terms of its history and the issues that has brought to our Indigenous population has been incredibly important," Dr Kosovac said.

"It's also a great opportunity for the University to do more with the local community and recognising their importance as our neighbour." •

For more information: [ourplace.org.au/our-sites/carlton](http://ourplace.org.au/our-sites/carlton)

## Prayer and wellbeing centre opens at RMIT's city campus

RMIT University has opened a multi-faith and wellbeing centre at its Carlton campus to help support and connect students of different faiths, cultures, and backgrounds.

WORDS BY  
BRENDAN REES



The centre, which was officially opened by the Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney on November 22, features dedicated spaces for prayer, ablution, private consultation with the university's chaplains, and other wellbeing activities.

Ms Tierney was joined by RMIT Vice-Chancellor and president Professor Alec Cameron, and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education Professor Sherman Young in touring the new facility during the official opening, which was also attended by government, external partners, staff, and students.

Mr Cameron said supporting and growing the university's diversity and inclusive ways of working and learning was a key priority.

"Our community is a broad range of backgrounds and beliefs, and our multi-faith centre will provide a vital space for that to be respected and celebrated," he said.

The multi-faith and wellbeing centre will connect diverse student groups to support services, community networks and multi-cultural facilities such as prayer rooms.

A multipurpose space also features on

the top floor of the centre, which can be used by student groups for wellbeing activities like dance and Taekwondo.

Emily Nguyen, a second year Bachelor of Social Work and Social Science student, said she was grateful to have a sacred space to connect with her faith.

"My family is Buddhist and I have been surrounded by Buddhist practices as long as I can remember. I will use this space to meditate to access a peaceful mind when met with stressful periods in uni."

The centre was established as part of the state government's \$14.3 million investment into RMIT's campus activation project through the Victorian Higher Education State Investment Fund.

Ms Tierney said it was essential that students from all faiths and all walks of life felt supported at university and "this new centre will help RMIT's students to find community and connection where they spend a lot of their time". •



## BE STRONG NOT TIRED

Melbourne's only over 40's personal training studio based right here in Carlton

"I'm probably stronger at 50 than I was at 30. If you want excellent results Prime40 will help you achieve them" **Shirley S**

📍 1/164 Cardigan street, Carlton 3053  
🌐 [www.prime40personaltraining.com.au](http://www.prime40personaltraining.com.au)



PRIME  
40



# When police cars first got radios



▲ The first radio-equipped police car in Melbourne. Part of the radio receiver is sitting on the "running board" of the car, along with the police dog. The rest of the set is on the back seat. Photo: Victorian Collections.



In the 19th and early 20th centuries, a policeman patrolling the inner suburbs of Melbourne could only call for assistance or report a crime if he could reach a telephone or call-box.



Signalling to other officers nearby could only be done by shouting or using a whistle.

By the time of the First World War, the Victoria Police had access to patrol cars, but these were few in number, only operated at night, and initially were not equipped with radios. It was not until around 1923 that the first police car in Melbourne was equipped with a radio receiver (see photo).

This was the latest in police technology – a patrolling car able to receive messages from headquarters while roaming the streets at night.

A radio receiver in those days was a bulky piece of equipment and took up considerable space in the back seat of the car. It could only receive messages (in Morse code) but not send them.

A newspaper report of the time described how it worked:

"A powerful touring car slips along decorously in the early morning quiet of Melbourne. Externally it is the property of some eminently respectable suburbanite homeward-bound. Inside it, beside the driver, are a dog and four men, one of whom wears a leather helmet and wireless headgear. The headgear buzzes. Dot — Dash — Dash — Dot. 'Thieves in warehouse, Lygon St, Carlton', the operator reads. At a word the driver accelerates, and the rest of the message is taken at 50 miles an hour. The wireless police patrol, which nightly guards thousands of lives and millions of pounds worth of property, is on the job."

The article informed us that the average time taken by the "night

wireless patrol" as it was called, to get to the scene of a crime was only four-and-a-half minutes, and speed limits were no problem as the patrol car was allowed to break them.

Because they were so bulky and heavy, these early police radio systems could only be used in cars and in buildings. Officers patrolling the streets on foot still had to rely on telephones and call boxes. However, by the 1960s the technology had improved to the extent that all officers could be provided with small and light portable radios. ●

**Jeff Atkinson**

PRESIDENT  
JEFFANN@BIGPOND.  
NET.AU



## Getting stronger for life at Prime40

Kane Hamilton from Prime40 Personal Training has a simple maxim by which he guides his clients: "be strong, not tired."

WORDS BY  
JACK HAYES



It's a motto that underpins his business and training program that specialises in getting his clients of all ages off the couch and back doing the things they love.

"I'm very big on people pursuing a range of activities and hobbies. We'll always be there for someone who wants to enjoy a new hobby or get back into something they used to enjoy," he said. "If that's tennis, running, hiking, basketball or golf, we put you in the best position to achieve your goals."

"Whether you have never tried sport or a certain activity, or you

think the hill is too big to climb to get back into something you once loved. You just need to take the first step. There is no downside to being stronger, there are only benefits."

"People are becoming more educated with the benefits of strength training, and we want to provide a comfortable and welcoming platform for people to get off the couch and moving."

While catering for all ages, Mr Hamilton, who has recently taken he keys to a new studio which will open on February 10 at 1/164 Cardigan St, Carlton, has specifically designed programs to build strength and conditioning for middle aged locals.

The new studio allows him to

put more emphasis on cardio and conditioning, allowing him to train the "heart and develop greater longevity" for his clients.

"I wanted to create a program for locals who are over 60, which is very different to the programs I run for the over 40s. A bigger space and new studio will allow us to do that."

"You don't train to get better at exercise, you train to get better at life. To improve the quality of life for all my clients."

"The more you put in the more you get out. It's a lifetime commitment, rather than just a week, a month, or a year." ●

For more information: [prime-40personaltraining.com.au](http://prime-40personaltraining.com.au)



## La Mama Theatre presents Midsummica

In collaboration with Midsumma Pathways, La Mama Theatre is set to host the second annual Midsummica event on February 5; a celebration of LGBTQIA+ identities, disabled, and neurodiverse performers.

WORDS BY  
GEORGIE ATKINS



The event will showcase a range of performances from theatre and music, to spoken word and dance, featuring six talented alumni from the Midsumma Pathways Program in a single, dynamic night of artistic expression.

"A lot of the feedback that we were getting from artists in Midsumma Pathways was that not everybody wants to put on a full scale work – not everybody wants to do a whole season," Midsumma Festival's artist development



manager, Harriet Devlin said.

"We started to think about what would be a useful format for artists and audiences, where a number of artists could test their work in a group setting."

The program for Midsummica has been codesigned by Harriet and Midsumma Pathways coordinator, Ebony Rattle, and the La Mama team.

Harriet says that audiences can expect "a bit of a rollercoaster" of independent ideas and "raw storytelling".

"It really is a partnership between Midsumma Pathways and La Mama to support independent, emerging artists who are at that intersectional identity of LGBTQIA+, disabled, deaf and neurodiverse," Harriet told *Inner City News*.

One of the six performances will include Sam Martin and Nathan Borg's *Bump Into You*, an adaptation of their show *Deaf Enough*, which premiered at Melbourne Fringe Festival in 2023.

"*Bump Into You* is a creative

exploration based on the experiences of deaf people meeting each other – in our performance, we explore how two characters bond despite their differences," Sam and Nathan said.

"We want to highlight that there is no one way to be deaf, we all have choices on how to live our life - choices are fluid and there are no wrong options."

While all Midsummica performances will be Auslan-interpreted, *Bump Into You* uniquely combines Sam's signing with Nathan's spoken words.

"We hope that audiences, both deaf and hearing, will come away from our performance with an understanding and impactful reminder that deaf people, regardless of identity, culture and language, can connect no matter what," the pair said.

"We may live different lives, but we are more similar than different – let's embrace our differences and choices and choose to unite over our shared experiences."

Having met for the first time at La Mama for Sam's Melbourne

debut of the one-person show, *Sam I Am*, the two share a close relationship both "as friends and artistic collaborators".

"For us, this is definitely a full-circle moment, and this performance is an insight into an updated time capsule of us together in 2024."

Beyond Midsummica, the broader Midsumma Festival running from January 21 to February 11, promises a diverse array of performances across Melbourne, where Harriet hopes individuals will be able to "express themselves to the fullest extent".

"I hope that people can be loud and proud if that's what they want to do, or that they can go to a library and have a quiet interaction or listen to a panel talk if that's what interesting to them," Harriet said.

"I would hope that queer communities and their allies can find an experience that feels welcoming for them."

Midsummica will play at La Mama Theatre on February 5, and will be available to livestream. ●



# The Salvation Army is calling out for driving instructors

The freedom and independence of driving is something most of us take for granted, but many young people struggle to get their licence if they don't have access to a supervising driver or vehicle.

Not having a driver's licence can limit a young person's goals for work, study, and housing, so the Salvation Army is making learning to drive more equitable through its Drive for Life TAC L2P program in the City of Melbourne.

The inclusive program is funded by TAC and matches learner drivers aged 16 to 21 with volunteer mentors who can help them achieve their licence and reach their full potential.

Stephen Harvy, program manager (and volunteer mentor), is seeking new mentors to help more young people achieve their licence, and their dreams.

"We take family for granted. Not everyone is able to ask mum or dad to take them out in the car. Volunteers power the Drive for Life TAC L2P program," Mr Harvy said.

"Some young people really don't have any other way to get their licence and it's a really big thing in their lives if you can help them achieve that goal. If you have some spare time, becoming a Drive for Life TAC L2P program mentor is a really worthwhile and rewarding way to spend it."

"We welcomed and provided training for our latest intake of volunteers in December (pictured) readying them for matching with learner drivers in the year ahead but are



always seeking to attract and recruit more volunteer mentors."

To be eligible, you need a current unrestricted driver's licence, maturity to bring to a mentoring relationship with a young person, a desire to improve road safety, and just two hours per fortnight or month.

Learners must be aged 16 to 21, with a current learner's permit, and without access to a vehicle, a supervising driver, or both.

To apply to be a mentor or learner, visit [salvationarmy.org.au/driveforlife](http://salvationarmy.org.au/driveforlife), phone 0477 408 533, or email [driveforlifelp@salvationarmy.org.au](mailto:driveforlifelp@salvationarmy.org.au)

## PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION

# Happy New Year from Parkville

In this column I am focusing on two matters discussed at length in articles published by *The Age* this month.

Firstly, the City of Melbourne's Royal Park Masterplan. This has been a very lengthy process and as with all discussions, rumours fly, most of which are not factual.

From the Parkville Association's perspective, we love it the way it is! In the council's 2021 lighting strategy it stated that Royal Park should be treated as a "dark space" this was because it is the city's only wild park and that it contains large areas of landscape of a natural condition.

There is a push by some to have lighting across areas of the park. This will affect birds' behaviour as well as the thriving biodiversity and human health and wellbeing. The issue is apparently safety, yet why do people have to walk in certain areas of the park at night-time?

There are well lit roads (Flemington and Gatehouse) and trams run down Royal Parade and Flemington Rd arriving outside the Royal Children's! The few that feel a need to walk through the park with lighting are probably more identifiable as bushes are either side of the track.

There has also been talk of additional playing fields yet again in the "circle" which has had a major programme over the past 15 years to develop native grassland.

Walking through the park it is wonderful to breathe the air and look at the amazing native vegetation. Groups like the Royal Park Protection Group and Friends of Royal Park have worked tirelessly to conduct plantings and revegetate key areas. Playing fields, of course, also require extensive parking!

As Victorians and residents, we should applaud the council for the work done and enjoy one of Australia's major parks. During COVID lockdowns the park helped many residents and visitors enjoy a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

It is important we all let the council know our views and the link below will let us all register them. There will be decisions made and we need to protect our park!



The second published article concerned the flow-on issues that will arise when the Westgate Tunnel opens.

North Melbourne residents aired their concerns about the amount of traffic likely to come out of the tunnel and flow through their suburb. This has been a discussion that Rob Krelle and I have had with senior council employees for some time.

The North Melbourne group are of the opinion that when opened it will result in an additional 1500 vehicles per day driving through Gatehouse St. If so, that will increase the volume to 5000 vehicles per day along a single lane road that on one side is next to Victorian terrace houses a little back from the road. This is totally unacceptable and affects the lifestyles of residents and their health.

The council has been very sympathetic however wants to wait until it opens to see the results. Sadly, we know what they will be and this needs to be addressed urgently, now, before the tunnel opens.

As many know, the council was against the project where a tunnel being built will deliver thousands of vehicles into a city that cannot handle them! We need to add grist to our mill and there will be a meeting for all in February to meet the council's engineers to discuss "rat running" and this other matter. Again, please let me know your views by email to [presidentparkvilleassociation@gmail.com](mailto:presidentparkvilleassociation@gmail.com)



While I can alert and work with the council we have an opportunity this year prior to elections to get your views and to ask candidates their positions on these matters. Parkville, while a small suburb, is large in population and should have the views of residents listened to!

Many thanks to the nine new members of the Parkville Association who joined following our call to arms, we look forward to welcoming them officially soon!

Finally, congratulations to local residents Felix Behan AM and Nicola Kilpatrick AM on their Australia Day Honours – well-deserved and Parkvillians are very proud! ●

**Rob Moore**  
PRESIDENT  
PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION



### INNER CITY NEWS

# Wish your inbox was more local?



Scan the QR to sign up to our Newsletter



Quiz



1. Axl Rose cameoed as a musician in which 1988 film alongside Clint Eastwood?
2. What was the name of Blackbeard's ship?
3. Where is Brunetti's new concept store (pictured) located?
4. What issue affecting East Melbourne residents was raised at Parliament House in Canberra?
5. What did the British design and install in their tanks after World War II?
6. Who won the LGBTIQ+ award at the 2023 Melbourne Awards in November?
7. Why are bananas curved?
8. How many of the six scarred trees in the City of Melbourne are found in Yarra Park?
9. Who played the lead character, Tony Soprano, in the hit TV series *The Sopranos*?
10. What is the official national sport of Australia?
11. What is the name of the biggest independent cinema in the southern hemisphere?
12. Which band wrote a song about Carlton's famous Lygon Street?

QUIZ SOLUTIONS

1. *The Dead Pool* 2. *Queen Anne's Revenge* 3. Drummond St 4. Aircraft noise 5. Special tea kettles 6. The Melbourne Sexual Health Centre 7. They grow towards the sun 8. Three 9. James Gandolfini 10. Cricket 11. Cinema Nova 12. Skyhooks

5x5

No.033

Insert the missing letters to make 10 words – five reading across the grid and five reading down.

B		S		L
	M		T	
A		N		A
	L		M	
T		R		E

SOLUTIONS

BASIL, EMOTE, APNEA, SLAMS, TERSE

PUZZLES AND PAGINATION  
©PAGEMASTERS PTY LTD  
PAGEMASTERS.COM February, 2024

Sudoku

No.032

Fill in the blank cells using the numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block

EASY

			6				2	3
				7	2	1		
6	4		1					8
		4	9					7
	5		8	6	4			1
	9				1	6		
	3				7		6	8
		5	3	8				
8	1				5			

HARD

6	3		1				9	
2								
1					4	7	2	
5					6			
		3	5		8	1		
			2					7
	4	5	7					8
								9
		8			2	3	5	

SOLUTIONS

EASY

7	3	2	5	6	4	9	7	8
2	2	7	9	8	3	5	2	1
8	6	3	6	2	1	7	5	4
4	4	8	7	2	2	1	6	5
4	7	9	7	2	2	1	6	5
2	5	7	7	8	8	4	3	1
6	1	2	2	4	4	3	8	7
2	2	2	2	4	4	9	5	8
5	6	8	8	6	9	5	8	7
5	6	8	8	6	9	5	8	7
1	5	4	2	1	3	9	7	8
2	8	3	5	7	2	1	4	6
3	7	1	6	4	8	9	2	5

HARD

7	1	8	6	8	7	1	3	2
3	2	2	5	8	5	1	4	6
6	7	1	4	1	5	8	2	2
8	1	1	2	2	3	9	7	1
8	6	3	9	5	4	7	2	2
8	6	1	2	2	2	3	8	3
4	6	8	7	1	7	2	3	6
4	6	8	7	1	7	2	3	6
5	6	8	6	9	5	8	7	1
5	6	8	6	9	5	8	7	1
1	5	4	2	1	3	9	7	8
2	8	3	5	7	2	1	4	6
3	7	1	6	4	8	9	2	5

Wordfind

Theme: Rodents

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

E	H	A	M	S	T	E	R	A	O	G
S	L	P	A	L	R	L	S	L	P	N
U	L	O	O	E	A	W	W	L	O	I
O	A	E	M	R	C	I	A	I	S	W
M	M	N	A	R	C	T	P	H	S	A
R	M	I	R	I	O	U	A	C	U	N
O	A	R	M	U	O	O	P	N	M	G
D	M	U	O	Q	N	G	Y	I	S	N
I	B	M	T	S	R	A	T	H	N	B
K	N	U	M	P	I	H	C	C	L	E
I	N	C	A	P	Y	B	A	R	A	G

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| AGOUTI     | MOLE      |
| CAPYBARA   | MURINE    |
| CHINCHILLA | POSSUM    |
| CHIPMUNK   | PAWS      |
| DORMOUSE   | PORCUPINE |
| GNAWING    | RACCOON   |
| HAMSTER    | RAT       |
| MAMMAL     | SQUIRREL  |
| MARMOT     |           |

Secret message: Always nibbling

Crossword

No.032

ACROSS

- 1 Solid geometric figure (5)
- 4 Thwart (9)
- 9 Energy (11)
- 10 Ovum (3)
- 11 Presented for the first time (10) 12 Free from danger (4)
- 14 Looked at (8) 15 Modern (6)
- 18 Strand (6)
- 20 Drink (8)
- 23 Conceal (4)
- 24 Perks (10)
- 26 Nothing (3)
- 27 Coiffeur (11) 28 Jocks, etc. (9) 29 Flanks (5)

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9												10		
11												12		
												13		
14														16
18		19						20					21	
23														
26														
28														29

DOWN

- 1 Head of state (9)
- 2 Passivity (7)
- 3 Systematic (10)
- 4 Losers (8)
- 5 As one (6)
- 6 Playthings (4) 7 Mean (7)
- 8 Bird of prey (5)
- 13 Inexorable (10)
- 16 Prized items (9)
- 17 Protector (8)
- 19 Filled (with holes, e.g.) (7)
- 21 Recommended; guided (7)
- 22 Imprudent (6)
- 23 Vishnu worshipper (5)
- 25 Scorch (4)

SOLUTION

S	E	D	I	S	H	V	E	M	H	R	E	D	N	A
E	S	S	E	S	Y	E	O							
H	E	S	S	E	H	O	B	I	L	I	N			
N	I	T	N	M	C	O	D	I						
S	E	A	I	N	E	O	N	I	E	D	I			
V	O	N	E	N	T	I								
E	D	V	H	E	A	E	E	O	V	E	R	H	I	
H														
I	N	E	D	E	R	O	S	C	O					
I	N	E	D	E	R	O	S	C	O					
I	N	E	D	E	R	O	S	C	O					
E	J	V	S	O	S	O	G	I						
E	J	V	S	O	S	O	G	I						
T	H	S	A	T	H	R	S							
D	E	E	A	L	I	C	O							
V	A	O	N	V	E	N	H							
E	I	V	E	R	S	I	S							

Codeword

No.032

4	18	9	24	19	T	7	19	6		2	20	22	
24		24		23		10		19		19		3	
1	20	18	22	T	24	10	6	22		T	19	21	
20		W				16		7		18		20	
18	19	22	18	4		18	6	9	18	4	10	2	
20				10		11		24		4			
21	18	15	15	19	18		5	4	18	19	9	18	
		18			T	12		4				6	
14	19	6	22	7	18	18		18	8	19	4	T	
19		18		22		2				17		21	
6	10	21		10	T	7	18	21	W	24	22	18	
13		19		17		3		20		6		18	
10	24	4			18	15	21	18	15	24	10	20	22

SOLUTIONS

B	G	K	M	E	A	U	R	S	E	I	W	L	
18	19	22	18	4		18	6	9	18	4	10	2	
14	19	6	22	7	18	18		18	8	19	4	T	
19		18		22		2				17		21	
6	10	21		10	T	7	18	21	W	24	22	18	
13		19		17		3		20		6		18	
10	24	4			18	15	21	18	15	24	10	20	22

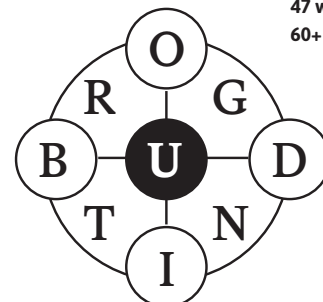
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

9-Letter

No.032

Today's Focus:  
30 words: Good  
47 words: Very good  
60+ words: Excellent

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".



SOLUTIONS

Reference: Collins Concise English



# WHAT'S ON February



The weather is getting warmer and Melbourne's events season is just getting started. Here's our list of the best community events this month.



### DON'T THANK ME, SPANK ME

Don't Thank Me, Spank Me are a two-piece girl odyssey made up of best friends Nitida Atkinson (vocals and guitar) and Esther Henderson (vocals and bass).

The Motley Bauhaus, 118 Elgin St, Carlton  
midsumma.org.au/whats-on

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 8PM - 11.30PM



### DOLPHIN AND GRACE: THE EXHIBITION

A joint exhibition by two Melbourne artists contrasts striking naturalistic portraits from Dolph Jones with the gentle flowing abstracts of Wendy Grace.

Life's Too Short Bar - Shop 2/412 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

UNTIL FEBRUARY 4, 3PM - 11PM



### SUMMER SOCIAL TENNIS - PARKVILLE TENNIS CLUB

Summer evenings of social tennis are back on at Parkville Tennis Club. Bring your friends. No heels, flat soled clay court syle shoes mandatory.

0412 279 156

FEBRUARY 6 + 20, MARCH 12 + 26, 6PM



### LARA PROKOP

Naarm-based songwriter/musician Lara Prokop is revisiting their jazz-folk, alternative roots in a stripped-back fashion.

The Motley Bauhaus, 118 Elgin St, Carlton  
midsumma.org.au/whats-on

FEBRUARY 9, 6PM - 8PM



### BRINGING THE TASTES OF TURKIYE TO MELBOURNE

The Turkish Pazar Festival will take place on 2 and 3 March, 2024 at the Queen Victoria Market when the market will be transformed into a vibrant Turkish street market.

Queen Victoria Market

MARCH 2 + 3, 10AM - 4PM



### CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON WITH A LION DANCE

Welcome in the Year of the Dragon with the colourful drama of a Lion Dance. Carissa Hu will be performing the traditional Chinese musical instrument, Guzheng (Chinese zither).

East Melbourne Library, 122 George St

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 11AM - 1PM



### JANE WALKER: A RETROSPECTIVE

The family of the late Jane Walker invite you to attend a celebration of her remarkable career.

Victorian Artists Society - 430 Albert St, East Melbourne  
vasgallery.org.au

FEBRUARY 8 - 19



### COOK TO CONNECT

Join a dietician in these sessions to learn new tips and tricks for cooking healthy and delicious meals. Even without all the bells and whistles of a full kitchen it is still possible to make nutritious food.

Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre  
251 Faraday St, Carlton

EVERY TUESDAY, UNTIL DECEMBER 17, 11AM - 1PM



### LOCAL LUNCH CLUB

At the Local Lunch Club, a delicious free vegetarian lunch will be cooked on-site by Open Table using diverted surplus food that otherwise would have gone to waste.

Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre  
251 Faraday St, Carlton

FEBRUARY 17 - AUGUST 17, 12PM - 2PM



### BELONGINGS: OBJECTS AND FAMILY LIFE

The exhibition ranges in time from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day, a period that has seen many changes in the idea, size, and shape of the family.

Old Treasury Building, 20 Spring Street  
oldtreasurybuilding.org.au

SUNDAY - FRIDAY, 10AM - 4PM (UNTIL DEC '24)



### HARMONY DAY 2024

Gather with the Carlton community to celebrate diversity and neighbourhood at the Harmony Festival. This is a fun, free, family-friendly event.

Carlton Primary School - 150 Palmerston St, Carlton

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2PM - 5PM

## Business Directory

### HEALTH & BEAUTY



women's health matters

Telephone (03) 9132 9644  
www.numbertwomenshealth.com  
no1womenshealth

BE STRONG NOT TIRED

PRIME 40

13 Hyam pl, Carlton 3053  
www.prime40personaltraining.com.au

### POLITICIAN

Proudly representing the community in inner Melbourne

LIBERAL VICTORIA

Evan MULHOLLAND MP  
MEMBER FOR THE NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

evan.mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au

### REAL ESTATE

DONAZZAN REALTY

Contact our team

Gina Donazzan 0412 430 326  
Kim Davey 0418 924 324  
Suzie Inglis 0416 671 572  
Will Caldwell 0419 010 270

Melbourne's Finest donazzanboutiqueproperty.com.au



# TRANSFORM YOUR DREAM INTO REALITY

Start your journey  
towards parenthood.

At N°1 Fertility, we believe in the  
power of science.

Our experienced and  
compassionate fertility experts  
are dedicated to helping you  
realise your dream of  
parenthood by supporting and  
guiding you at every step of  
your journey.

Specialising in IVF, egg and  
sperm freezing, donor and  
surrogacy, and genetic testing,  
N°1 Fertility's holistic approach  
delivers the highest quality of  
inclusive care.

**TAKE THE FIRST STEP  
TOWARD YOUR DREAM.**

Contact us for a confidential  
consultation to explore your  
fertiity options.



**N°1 FERTILITY**

(03) 9132 9600

NUMBER1FERTILITY.COM

 NO1FERTILITY

