



Carlton Inc. launches egg-citing Easter event

The Carlton Inc. team and local traders are gearing up to bring the first Easter Egg Hunt to the precinct on April 17, aiming to attract families and boost local trade. More on page 8. Photo: Hanna Komissarova.

Residents ramp up efforts to stop the Police Association’s “unreasonable” proposal

Residents of East Melbourne have stepped up their campaign to stop the Victorian Police Association from securing a planning permit that would see the operating hours extended for their newly-constructed rooftop bar on Jolimont St.

WORDS BY
JON FLEETWOOD



The planning permit application, which was rejected by the City of Melbourne in December last year, would have allowed the premises to operate until 2am indoors and 11pm outdoors on Friday and Saturday nights, with a capacity of 320 people using the space. However, members of the East Melbourne Group (EMG) are preparing to object to the Victorian Police Association’s decision to appeal the rejection of the permit bid at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) in April this year.

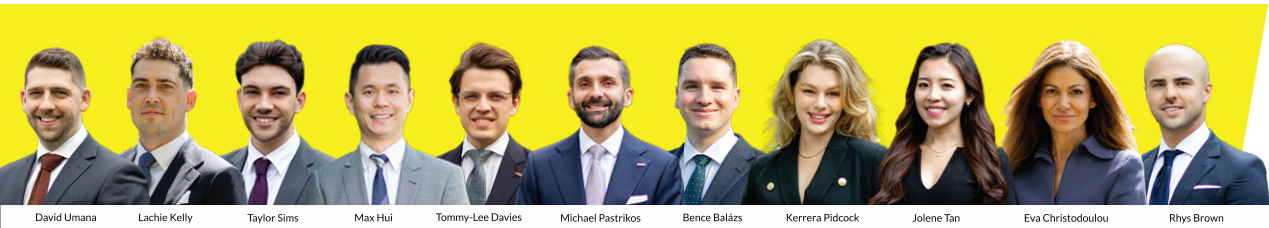
The Police Association has recently moved into its redeveloped headquarters at 70-73 Jolimont St, but its appeal would need to be successful for the union to maximise the use of its new rooftop entertaining space, which features an indoor bar, terrace, and barbecue area on level five. EMG president Greg Bisinella told *Inner City News* that while residents were concerned about the proposal, they were open to reaching a compromise that was reasonable and respectful of neighbouring residents. However, while the future of the site’s operating hours remains uncertain, Mr Bisinella and concerned residents, who recently discussed the issue with Lord Mayor Nick Reece at the EMG’s AGM on March 17, will continue to push for more reasonable operating hours. Given the number of residential dwellings in the area and the limited number of venues permitted to operate late into the night, Mr Bisinella believes the proposal is not in line with the current standards in East Melbourne. Dr Cameron Lewis, a resident who lives close to the MCG, believes the proposal is “unethical.” “All venues in our area, which is predominantly residential, must cease operations at 11 pm due to noise and residential disturbance,” he told *Inner City News*. “For the Police Association to secure approval for a venue operating until 2am is out of line with the current standards.” Dr Lewis said he would support a venue operation that respects residential standards and closes at 11pm. ●

ENVIRONMENT, PAGE 3
Councillors divided on parking as urban forest plans for Carlton and East Melbourne approved
LOCAL NEWS, PAGE 7
East Melbourne’s fighting spirit on show at 72nd AGM



New hospitality venture aims to nurture emerging culinary talent

A new hospitality project in Parkville is setting out to redefine the city’s dining landscape by providing a platform for emerging chefs to showcase their talents in a high-profile setting.



Buy, Sell, Rent
Speak to our team today

8102 0200 | raywhitesouthbank.com.au

RayWhite

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 Sean Car on 0460 896 115 or
sean@hyperlocalnews.com.au

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

**The deadline for the May
edition is April 24**

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



Council’s commits to a scaled-back pool splash

The City of Melbourne will be bringing back a scaled-down version of Lord Mayor Nick Reece’s election promise to make swimming pool entry more affordable across the city, following a successful trial of the initiative.

WORDS BY
JON FLEETWOOD



Cr Reece had initially promised throughout his campaign to provide \$2 pool entry and 50,000 free beginner swimming lessons. However, at the Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting on March 18, the council voted to provide 3000 free swimming lessons and limit \$2 pool entry to weekdays throughout the 2025–26 summer. This follows the council’s trial of the initiative in January this year, which offered \$2 pool entry for any City of Melbourne resident at Carlton Baths and North Melbourne Outdoor Pool. Four-hundred free intensive swimming lessons were also available to residents at Melbourne City Baths. While the trial was not as extensive as Cr Reece had initially promised, he was confident at the meeting that it had been a success, describing the results as a “beautiful set of numbers”. Council data revealed that the cheaper swim entry initiative led to a 38 per cent increase in visitation, with 57 per cent of surveyed visitors attributing their attendance to the reduced entry cost. Additionally, 93 per cent of participants in the Free Swimming Lessons program



reported a significant improvement in their swimming ability and confidence. Cr Reece said the initiatives had put a “spotlight” on Melbourne’s pools in a way he had not seen during his time on council, with thousands of residents enjoying a “happier” and “healthier” summer. The council’s portfolio head for community and city services Cr Gladys Liu noted that the next iteration of the initiative would include targeted promotion for concession card holders, children, families, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. According to a report tabled at the FMC meeting on March 18, offering 400 swimming lesson enrolments at Melbourne City Baths in 2025 created some operational

challenges, particularly in coordinating available pool space, which required additional staffing and resourcing. However, the increased lead time to plan and deliver the program in January 2026 will allow for better preparation, program evaluation, and improved rostering of staff, the report stated. A feasibility study will also be conducted later in the year to determine whether the soon-to-be-completed Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre can be included in the initiative. The proposed 2025–26 budget for the two programs is \$59,000, with the cost of this year’s trial amounting to \$26,000, despite nearly \$100,000 being allocated for the program’s delivery. ●

READY YOUR EARS

April 2025 at Melbourne Recital Centre



**Matthias Goerne sings Winterreise
with Daniil Trifonov**
7.30pm Tuesday 1 April

These titans of the classical world present an unforgettable rendition of Schubert’s masterpiece.



The Old Rugged Cross
7.30pm Wednesday 2 April
Acclaimed vocalist Emma Donovan unites with pianist and composer Paul Grabowsky.



Katie Noonan and Karin Schaupp
7.30pm Friday 4 April
With a 20+ year creative history together, Katie and Karin share their latest co-creation.



Allison Russell
7.30pm Tuesday 15 April
GRAMMY® Award-winner Allison Russell presents an evening of soulful, genre-defying music.



Claire Chase – Sex Magic
6pm Wednesday 16 & Thursday 17 April
A riot of flutes, electronics, and kinetic percussion with Brooklyn-based instrumentalist Claire Chase.



GIFT: Eiko Ishibashi x Ryusuke Hamaguchi
7.30pm Monday 28 April
An expansive live cinematic experience with instrumentalist Eiko Ishibashi and Academy Award-winning filmmaker Ryusuke Hamaguchi.

Find us at Corner Southbank Boulevard and Sturt St, Southbank
MELBOURNERECITAL.COM.AU

CREATIVE VICTORIA

MELBOURNE
RECITAL CENTRE

Councillors divided on parking as urban forest plans for Carlton and East Melbourne approved

“

Plans for increased greening and tree canopy in four inner-city suburbs have been adopted by the City of Melbourne despite some councillors opposing them due to concerns surrounding the potential loss of car parking.

”

WORDS BY
SEAN CAR



Seven councillors voted in favour of adopting final Urban Forest Precinct Plans for the CBD, East Melbourne, Carlton and South Yarra at the March 18 Future Committee meeting, which set out 10-year plans for street tree planting.

Tree planting for East Melbourne has been prioritised in different streets, based on where trees are needed most, with staged plantings mooted for sections of Spring St, Wellington Parade, Clarendon St, Powlett St and Grey St.

Together with new planting opportunities, the program also seeks to grow and care for the area's existing trees, with the council adding that new prospects for streetscape improvements not shown in the plan may also provide extra planting options.

The plans seek to achieve “urban forest diversity” with a range of different tree species, including deciduous trees that lose all their leaves for parts of the year, allowing for shade during summer and sunlight during winter, as well as autumn colours.

Around 36 per cent of the street trees in the municipality is made up of eucalypt, plane and elm trees, and East Melbourne is dominated by these species. Other prominent species in the neighbourhood include maples and oak trees.

The report highlighted that sycamore lace bug and elm leaf beetle infestations presented “a high risk for East Melbourne”.

“If we have streets with a mix of different tree species (while maintaining local character) that will reduce this pest and pathogen risk. It is also important to establish isolated groups of elm and plane trees, so

that different populations of these species can be protected if a large-scale pest or pathogen outbreak were to occur,” the report stated.

The council will also look to implement new “insect pollinators” along the southern end of Simpson St and the eastern end of Hotham St in response to calls from the community to establish more biodiversity corridors.

As for Carlton, new plantings are mooted for large sections of Swanston, Victoria, Bouverie and Station streets, while the entirety of Pelham St, which has previously been the subject of a proposal for a new biodiversity corridor, will also be a major focus.

The program for Carlton also seeks to care for existing biodiversity corridors surrounding Argyle and Lincoln Squares, while

creating a new insect pollinator along Princes Park Drive.

In its response to the plans, the Carlton Residents' Association congratulated the council on its strategy, but said more work was needed to collect data on tree maintenance and tree replacement.

It also added that the council's own thermal modelling revealed a greater role for Homes Victoria surrounding its properties on Lygon and Drummond streets, as well as for future redevelopment of public housing towers.

Despite the plans being voted through on March 18, four councillors – Phil Le Liu, Owen Guest, Gladys Liu and Rafael Camillo – opposed them after raising questions regarding how the plans might impact car parking across the four areas.

Cr Le Liu asked the council's management how many parks would be lost under the plans, arguing that too many had already been lost in the CBD under previous greening plans that resulted in revenue “suffering very, very heavily”.

A council officer responded by saying that any loss of car parking wouldn't be known until the next stage when street greening designs were finalised, but that these would go through their own process of community consultation.

Cr Le Liu urged the council's parking team and parks and gardens team “to talk to each other” and said he had been assured no further car parks would be lost as part of recent parking and kerbside management plans across the city.

The council's CEO Alison Leighton stressed that both council branches did engage closely on the urban forest plans, and that any information relating to parking would be presented to the council at a later date as part of detailed designs. ●



MARRIOTT
MELBOURNE DOCKLANDS

Members get Even More with a Choice of Double Rewards!

Double the Member Discount
Up to 10% off Master Billed Rooms



YOUR CHOICE OF TWO:

Double the 'Points'
Double Marriott
Bonvoy Points

Double the 'Comfort'
Upgrade 2x passes to our
exclusive MClub Lounge

Double the 'Flavour'
A second sweet or savoury
item with entrée or dessert

Double the 'Package'
Additional tea break item

JOIN MARRIOTT BONVOY FOR FREE & ENQUIRE TODAY
sales.docklands@marriott.com | 03 8638 6000

Double Rewards
Exceptional Experiences

Terms & Conditions: This offer is valid for new bookings made before 30 June 2025 and held between 1 April 2025 and 30 September 2025. A minimum of 20 actualized peak rooms is required to receive 10% off, and a minimum \$6,000 spend on Food & Beverage applies to qualify for two event promotions. Offer is subject to availability and cannot be combined with any other promotion. Additional conditions may apply.

MARRIOTT BONVOY™
EVENTS

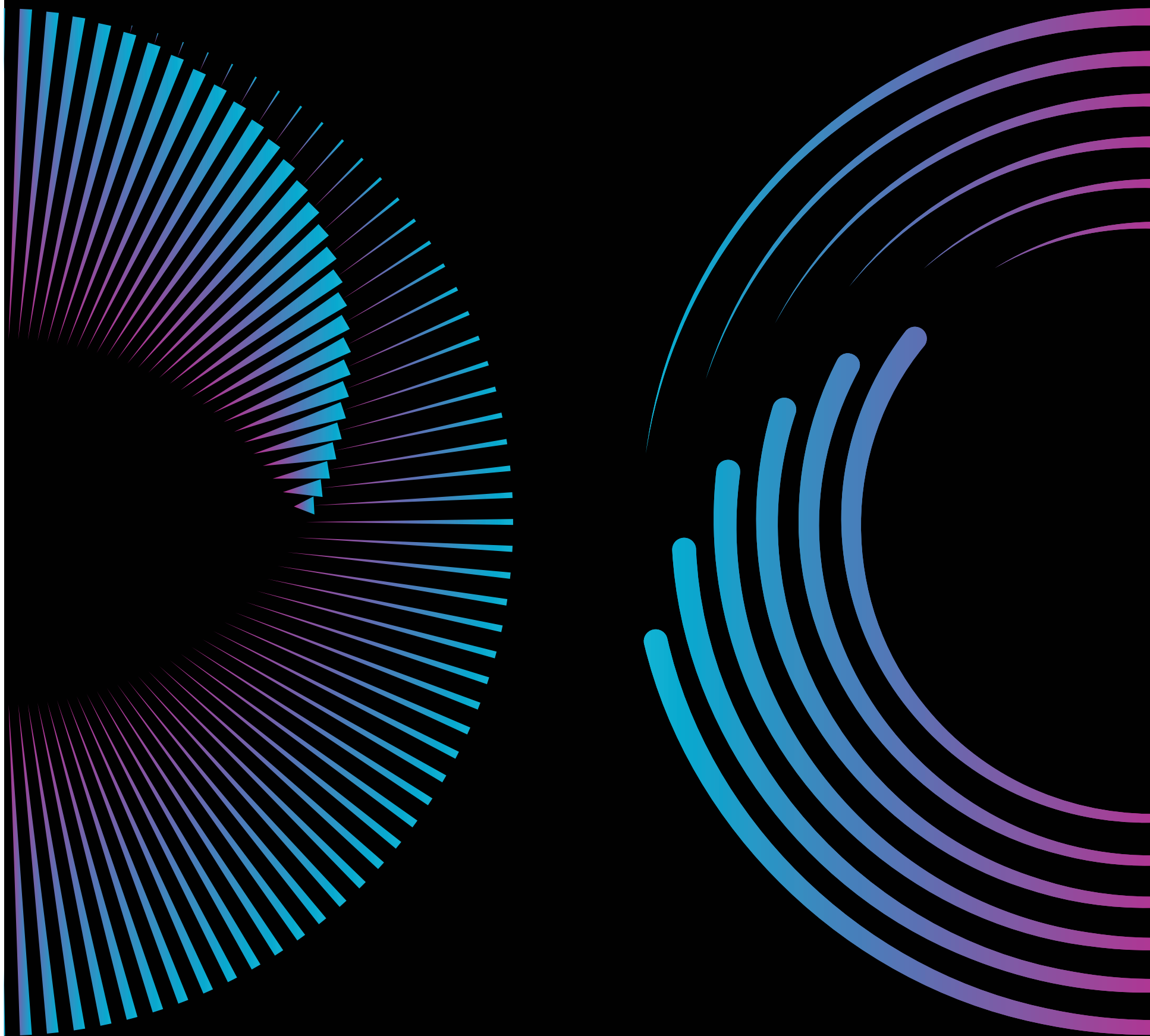
Scan QR Code for
Virtual Tour



We're planning for the future of Melbourne.

Help shape the kind of city we want to be by 2050.

ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne community update



To have your say, join the conversation in May. Scan the QR code for more information or visit **participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/m2050-vision**



Heart of Carlton owners remain positive in the face of repeated attacks

Following a series of attacks against beloved café The Heart of Carlton, owners Michael and Nadeen Kelly are hopeful for the future of the café and say the community support received has been “incredible”.

WORDS BY
ALEXANDRA RANDALL



Tucked along Elgin St, the Kellys' cafe is at the “heart” of Carlton in more than just name. A well-loved haunt of many locals, the café provides an affordable, delicious and community-minded experience. However, “darkness” has rocked this café, with Mr Kelly telling *Inner City News* how a spate of five separate attacks over the past two months has left many residents shocked. Despite this, the owners remain positive, with Mr Kelly choosing to focus on the outpouring of support from the local community, rather than the “darkness” of the vandalism. “The reaction from locals has been really positive, like nothing I’ve ever experienced in my life,” Mr Kelly said.



The café, known for its cheap prices and emphasis on the importance of community connection, has a distinct way of appealing to locals. University student and resident of Carlton Erica Tuesley said the café was “fantastic”. “I love it. It’s cheap, the food’s good. It helps me out on the weeks when I’m running a bit short on cash,” she said. “Everything’s so expensive now, and places like this are not very common

anywhere anymore. But it’s not just about the money. There’s something special about it, it’s a really unique place.” Mr Kelly said the reasons underlying the vandalism could be linked back to larger societal issues. “It’s apathy. People don’t care about other people. The connection just isn’t there,” he said, however he added that the overwhelmingly supportive community response had “changed my view on the world.”

“Something like this makes you realise that people have 10 times more appreciation for you than you thought,” Mr Kelly said. “There’s goodness in people, and lots of people want to get to that goodness but sometimes something needs to spark it. Never in my wildest dreams would I have guessed this would be what unlocked it.” This is testament to not just locals’ love for the establishment, but to a desire within Carlton’s community to give back where they can, starting with small actions taken within their own community. “I’m lucky to have a suburb like Carlton. So, I should do my best to contribute to this area, give back where I can. I care, so others care, and people support each other through this,” he said. During the seven years they’ve operated The Heart of Carlton, the couple has have created strong community ties, and Mr Kelly said many locals felt that an attack against the cafe was “also an attack on them”. “When I first started this café, I thought, I’m just going to try and be nice to everyone and see what happens. It built community and helped me connect with people,” he said. “Then, this dark attack came into the café, but it sort of worked to shed light on strength of my community.” A GoFundMe has been set up to help restore The Heart of Carlton’s shopfront, which can be found here. [gofundme.com/f/help-restore-the-heart-of-carlton](https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-restore-the-heart-of-carlton) ●

Olympic star power and Master Chefs for Gluten Free Lifestyle Show

A delectable array of culinary and nutritional experts is set to headline a unique foodie event at Moonee Valley Racecourse this May, and you can be sure that everything will be gluten free.

WORDS BY
DAVID ALLEN



Organisers are expecting more than 10,000 people to attend the Gluten Free Lifestyle Show on the weekend of May 3. The two-day event will be headlined by four-time Olympic gold medallist swimmer Arianne Titmus, and celebrity chef Luke Hines. The show will bring more than 50 local gluten free vendors and a dozen dining outlets together across a market hall and food truck park. A vast array of cultural cuisine vendors including Spanish and Italian will rub

shoulders with local fudge producers and coffee experts, spice merchants and the producers of gluten free doughnuts and many sweet treats. Participating businesses will showcase produce from as near to home as Parkville, Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and Collingwood, and across regional Victoria. Kitchen sponsor Smeg is constructing three specialist stages, with areas seating 450 people, to host the presentations, demonstrations and surprise gluten free cooking challenges. A total of 14 presenters, including recipe creators, nutritionists, dieticians and veteran chefs will appear across more than 12 hours of planned programming. Celebrity guests Ms Titmus and Mr Hines will be joined by Master Chef contestants Hoda Hannaway, Juan De La Cruz and Stephen Dennis, and comedian Hannah Sainty. Organisers told *Inner City News* that the event had been meticulously planned to give visitors the chance to attend as many stages and meet as many of the presenters as possible. Ms Titmus, as an ambassador for local health brand GluteGuard, will give a talk



about living a gluten free lifestyle while competing as a top-level athlete. Luke Hines, currently the host of Channel 10’s *Cook with Luke* and Channel 7’s *The House of Wellness* and the author of a whopping 15 books, will talk about the art of making healthy, gluten free versions of our everyday favourites, so we don’t have to miss out. Sunday will feature a Gluten Free Family Day with entertainment and performances to engage the entire family. Tickets are \$30 per person, children

under the age of 12 enter free. Parking at Moonee Valley Racecourse will be free for ticketholders. Both days’ programs begin at 10am and conclude at 5pm, with tickets available for entry at 10am, noon and 2pm. The first 1000 guests for each entry time will receive a Gluten Free Cook Gift Bag. The Gluten Free Lifestyle Show is presented by Gluten Free Cook and sponsored by major partner GluteGuard, Smeg and KIIS 101.1 ●



GLUTEN FREE Lifestyle SHOW

3-4 May 2025

Moonee Valley Racecourse

An event dedicated to showcasing Gluten Free Vendors, featuring a vibrant Market Hall filled with dining options, live cooking demonstrations, informative seminars led by health experts...**16 Presenters and 3 Stages!**

Meet **celebrity chefs Luke Hines, Juan de la Cruz**, 4x Olympic Gold Medal Champion Swimmer, GluteGuard ambassador **Arianne Titmus**.

Presentations by: **Hoda Hannaway** and **Stephen Dennis** former MasterChef Contestants.

Buy tickets at :
glutenfreeshow.com.au

Scan me!



Our Partners





WE LOVE A CLEAN CITY

Look out for our waste-removal trucks around the city

Keeping the city clean is a major focus for the City of Melbourne.

We take pride in our city, and keeping it clean is an important way we look after our community.

We know this is a top priority for our residents, businesses and visitors, too.

So, let's work together to keep our city sparkling.

Report issues to our clean team

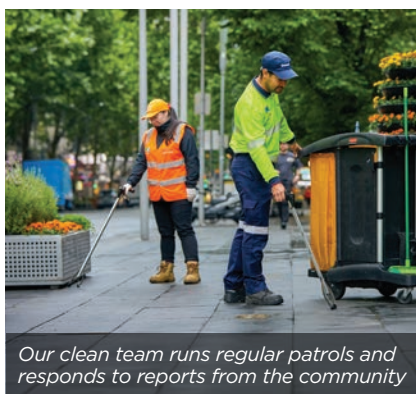
When you see graffiti, report it online so our Rapid Response Clean Team can respond. You can also report dumped waste, public bin issues and litter for removal.

Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/pay-report-request

You Spray, You Pay

City of Melbourne councillors recently endorsed a range of new measures to crack down on illegal graffiti offenders. These include:

- introducing a 'You Spray, You Pay' policy to help recover the cost of damage to property and save ratepayers money
- partnering with neighbouring councils to ensure graffiti is removed along shared boundary roads
- advocating for Victorian Government agencies to adopt a consistent set of standards for graffiti removal.



Our clean team runs regular patrols and responds to reports from the community

Cleaning up a city icon

As well as regular patrols and responding to reports from the community, we're collaborating with building owners across the city to tackle bigger cleaning projects. Late last year, for example, we embarked on our largest ever graffiti-removal project – to clean up a well-known facade near Flinders Street Station.

This involved pressure-washing and cleaning more than 4000 sqm of graffiti to restore 555 Flinders Street to its former glory.

For more information, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/street-cleaning-and-maintenance

HOW TO DEAL WITH HOUSEHOLD WASTE

Here are some simple actions you can take to manage household waste and declutter mindfully:

- Learn what goes in what bin by browsing our A to Z guide to recycling and waste.
- Turn your food scraps into rich compost for our parks and gardens through our food and garden organics collection.
- Book a free hard waste, e-waste or garden waste collection.
- Drop off recyclables, green waste and e-waste at the Dynon Road Waste and Recycling Centre.
- Browse e-waste drop-off locations across Melbourne. If you're a business owner, explore our commercial waste and recycling services.

To learn more, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/waste



YIRRAMBOI FESTIVAL RETURNS

1 to 11 May 2025

YIRRAMBOI will feature more than 400 First Nations creatives across 180 performances at more than 40 venues in May – cracking open the heart of Narm and revealing the hum of Country beneath.

A 10-day feast of mediums spanning the breadth of artistic expression, YIRRAMBOI is to set to return for its fifth iteration, breaking new ground as it takes centre stage in Narm's arts precinct.

This year's festival explores four powerful anchors – Legacy, Joy, Reclamation, and Akin – that form the foundation of its most ambitious program to date.

Deeply rooted in purpose, YIRRAMBOI is a platform for expressions of culture, identity, unity and truth through evolutionary and experimental art practices – breaking away from preconceived ideas of First Nations art.

YIRRAMBOI provides a stage for First Nations voices to be heard, for stories to reverberate through generations, to drive change and create a future where First Peoples are rightly celebrated.

Browse the festival program at yirramboi.com.au

DID YOU KNOW

YIRRAMBOI means "tomorrow" in the languages of the Boon Wurrung and Woi Wurrung peoples.



A leafy spot in the City of Melbourne

HELP US PLAN OUR URBAN FORESTS

Urban forests are vital for the wellbeing of our community, now and into the future.

Share your thoughts through our online survey or join us at one of our upcoming community workshops:

- **Southbank**
Boyd Community Hub
Saturday 10 May, 10am to 2pm
- **Parkville**
State Netball Hockey Centre
Saturday 31 May, 10am to 2pm

For more information, visit participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/urban-forest-precinct-plans

East Melbourne's fighting spirit on show at 72nd AGM

The East Melbourne Group's 72nd annual general meeting on Monday, March 17 was anything but dull.

WORDS BY
JESSICA AGOSTON CLEARY



With a packed room at the East Melbourne Community Library, a touch of theatrical flair, and a few superhero references, the evening was a reminder that East Melbourne is no ordinary suburb – it's a community with a cause.

President Greg Bisinella set the tone with a warm welcome, likening the EMG's work to a well-rehearsed dance. He paid tribute to the tireless efforts of committee members and acknowledged the East Melbourne Neighbour Network, including the well-deserved Order of Merit awarded to community stalwart Sue Henderson.

There was also a moment of reflection, with respects paid to members who had passed, including a generous bequest from the late John Berry. Greg took a moment to urge members to check in on each other – a poignant reminder that community is not just about advocacy but about connection.

"We don't shy away from standing up for noble pursuits," he declared. "And if you want to live a longer, healthier life, the key is to be connected to your community, which is exactly what we do here."

The dynamic duo take the stage

With formalities out of the way, Mr Bisinella introduced the night's guest speakers – Melbourne's Lord Mayor Nick Reece and Deputy Lord Mayor Roshena Campbell. In a nod to their civic leadership, he painted Cr Reece as a caped crusader, "one almost expects to see him flying over Melbourne with a large 'S' on his chest or driving through the streets in a Batmobile."

Cr Campbell was first to take the mic, reaffirming the council's commitment to working closely with the community. "This is an area that every Melburnian, every Victorian, is proud of," she said.

She touched on key priorities – city safety, cleanliness, and the importance of open space. Graffiti, she assured residents, is now removed within an hour of being reported, and the council welcomes feedback.

"Make sure you tell us if something falls through the cracks. We are always delighted to hear from you," she said.

She also highlighted the city's commitment to green spaces. "These are one of the things that make Melbourne so special and liveable," she said. "We need to balance the pressure to build more housing with the importance of open space."



Then it was over to Cr Reece, who made no secret of his admiration for East Melbourne.

"I live in Carlton, and we dream of moving to East Melbourne," he admitted. "Arguably, you've got the best example of Victorian residential architecture anywhere in the world ... it's fair to say you've got something worth fighting for here."

That fighting spirit, he noted, has deep roots. The EMG's origins can be traced back to the 1950s, when residents chained themselves to elm trees on George St to prevent their removal.

"In America, they say, 'don't mess with Texas.' At Melbourne City Hall, we say 'Don't mess with East Melbourne.'"

Heritage, parking, and a missing head

Cr Reece outlined the council's ongoing heritage review, incorporating new research by Lovell Chen to deepen understanding of East Melbourne's Victorian and Indigenous history. He also shared an update on Fitzroy Gardens' soon-to-open pavilion, led by Vue de Monde's Hugh Allen. "What he has planned is incredible," he teased.

Shifting gears, Cr Reece addressed recent vandalism of the Captain Cook statue, standing firm on the city's response.

"You can never have a situation where you reward illegal behaviour ... I don't think those attacking Cook based on Indigenous issues understand Australian history."

He also put out a request for the missing head of King George, which has been mysteriously appearing at various gatherings – including, somewhat bizarrely, on a bar-becue. "If you know where it is, please let us know!"

Parking, always a hot-button issue, also got its moment in the spotlight. The council received 120 separate submissions on East Melbourne's parking woes, and Cr Reece assured residents that he was personally committed to improving the situation. "It seems to have gotten worse, and I don't want that to happen on my watch."

The evening ended with questions from the floor, covering everything from the visibility of street numbers (an audit is already under way) to parking inspectors' focus on residents rather than event-day visitors. Cr Reece quipped that perhaps if inspectors were more active, they could generate enough revenue to fund more green spaces.

A stronger, greener, safer East Melbourne

The council's focus on city safety and cleanliness was reiterated. "Nothing annoys me more than potholes and long grass when you drive around Melbourne," Cr Reece said. "If there's something you see that needs fixing, call the council. And if they don't fix it, call me."

The development at 179-181 Hotham St sparked concern, with residents lamenting the loss of a potential family home and the developer's direct appeal to VCAT. "We will fight very, very hard to ensure developers do not overstep planning controls, and to support the special character of East Melbourne," Cr Reece assured.

Finally, on the topic of street signage, he struck a balance between function and aesthetics. "I don't want to see excessive visual clutter. I do support slowing cars down – 40km in residential neighbourhoods solves a number of potential problems, including



visual clutter and safety."

With a final round of applause and a heartfelt thanks to the speakers, the night wrapped up with a well-earned cup of tea and delicious biscuits baked by members of the community – the perfect ending for an AGM that highlighted community spirit in action. ●

ADAM BANDT

FEDERAL MP FOR MELBOURNE

142 Johnston Street, Fitzroy
adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au
(03) 9417 0772 AdamBandt.com

Authorised by J. McColl, 142 Johnston St, Fitzroy VIC 3065



TOGETHER WE'VE ACHIEVED:

- ⚡ \$13 billion for clean energy
- 🏠 \$3.5 billion for public and community housing
- ✚ Dental into Medicare for kids



“Helping people is in my DNA”: Gladys Liu’s community-driven vision for Melbourne

“The City of Melbourne has welcomed another new face to Town Hall, with Gladys Liu stepping into her role as a newly-elected councillor.”

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



A former federal MP, as well as a businesswoman and speech pathologist, Cr Liu brings a diverse background and a passion for community service to the position.

Reflecting on her campaign success having won election via Lord Mayoral candidate Anthony Koutafides’ councillor ticket, Cr Liu shared her enthusiasm for engaging with residents and businesses.

“During the campaign, I got the chance to meet with so many wonderful people and hear about what matters to them,” she said.

“I feel that has prepared me very well for the job that I am now so lucky to do.”

Cr Liu’s journey to the council has been shaped both personally and professionally by her experiences as a young migrant having fostered a deep understanding of the challenges faced by international

students and newcomers to Melbourne.

“I came here as an international student. I still remember I had no family, no friends, no money, and I spoke very little English at the time,” she said.

“I can understand what young people are going through, and I’m very glad that the City of Melbourne warmly welcomes international students, and we are fully behind them.”

Cr Liu’s career has spanned speech pathology, business ownership and politics, including her tenure as the federal member for Chisholm from 2019 to 2022.

“After being elected as a federal member of parliament in 2019, that gave me the chance to understand even more about the running of government, and that prepared me for the role that I have today,” Cr Liu told *Inner City News*.

Despite her experience in federal politics, Cr Liu finds local government to be uniquely fulfilling.

“A lot of people see a federal member of parliament as higher up or more powerful, but at the end of the day, I find that people care more about the environment around them and whether they have enough things like parks and transport,” she said.

“These are the things that people are concerned about, more than the big topics that you and I may hear [about] in the news.”

Cr Liu is also a passionate advocate for accessibility and inclusion, having lived with hearing loss for most of her life.

“I’m totally deaf in my left ear. That made me humble and able to relate to people living with a disability.”

As deputy head of the Disability Advisory Committee and head of the Community Health and City Services portfolio, she



COUNCILLOR PROFILE

hopes to improve services for people with disabilities and those experiencing social isolation.

“Loneliness is quite a big issue, especially in the City of Melbourne, where we have the highest number of people living on their own,” she said.

Cr Liu’s commitment to health and well-being extends beyond politics, becoming a certified fitness instructor last year.

“A lot of people my age say, ‘I’m too old, I

can’t move,’ but I wanted to set an example and help those who don’t believe they can do it.”

As she settles into her new role, Cr Liu is optimistic about the future of the City of Melbourne and her contributions to the community.

“I want people to know that I am accessible. If anyone feels that they have an issue, a question, or something to share, please get in touch.” ●



Carlton Inc. launches egg-citing Easter event

Local traders’ association Carlton Inc. is gearing up to bring its inaugural Easter Egg Hunt to the precinct, aiming to attract families and boost local trade.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



The event will take place on April 17 from 3pm to 6pm, ahead of Good Friday.

“We’ve got some really great board members on, and they’re looking at bringing more people to the precinct,” Carlton Inc. executive officer Phil Mansour told *Inner City News*.

The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at the Carlton Newsagency on Lygon St, where families can gather before exploring participating businesses to collect their Easter treats.

In addition to the hunt, children can look forward to a range of activities, with a potential visit from the Easter Bunny on the cards.

Carlton Inc. has previously hosted successful Christmas events, which inspired it to introduce an Easter celebration for the first time.

“We haven’t really done anything like this before with Easter,” Mr Mansour said.

“We’ve done it with Christmas, and we found that it works really well with the families in the area. So, we thought this should be something that we should be doing on an ongoing basis.”

Local businesses are encouraged to participate by signing up with Carlton Inc. to be included in the Easter Egg Hunt map.

“If they want to be part of it, they can contact us at the association directly,” Mr Mansour said.

Traders who opt in will be provided with Easter eggs to distribute, as well as promotional materials like window posters and festive stickers.

“We’re trying to activate the precinct, bring people in, and have a joyful time,” he said.

Businesses interested in joining can reach out via info@carltoninc.org.au. ●

WOMINJEKA

Festeggiate con noi

Hãy đến cùng chung vui với chúng tôi

Getin Kartamalarımıza

Siz de Karılın

NŌO IMAW ŌO NAGALA DAYIRCAL DAMAASHAADKEENA

COME JOIN OUR CELEBRATION

Venga a participar en nuestras celebraciones

شارك معنا احتفالاتنا

請來參加我們的慶祝活動

CARLTON HARMONY DAY 2025

FOOD, MUSIC, ACTIVITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT

MAKE OUR WORLD A BETTER PLACE

TIME + DATE: 1:30PM - 4:30PM SATURDAY 12TH APRIL

LOCATION: CARLTON PRIMARY CORNER OF RATHDOWNE & PALMERSTON STREETS

Sponsored by

CARLTON COMMUNITY NETWORK

carlton neighbourhood learning centre inc

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Brotherhood of St Laurence Working for an Australia free of poverty WORK AND LEARNING

VicHealth

VICTORIA State Government

Please support our advertisers because without them we would have no Inner City News



Royal Park master plan needs reviewing

On Saturday, March 22 more than 40 people attended a meeting addressed by Ron Jones who along with the late Brian Stafford co-authored the winning entry in the 1984 Royal Park Master Plan Design competition.

Brian and Ron, supported by a team of sub-contractors, wrote the 1985 Landscape Development Plan.

After Brian's involvement with the park stopped, Ron worked closely with members of the City of Melbourne's parks and recreations team and consultants from Chris Dance Land Design to prepare for the updated 1987 master plan.

Ron gave some perspective of the original master plan and what has been missed in the recently proposed update.

Clearly there was no involvement from the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects who in their submission talked about the lack of their involvement and the need for a balanced review of the plan.

Strong discussions took place where all attendees were very upset about the lack of a professional group in the process. All groups and associations there agreed there is an urgent need to have landscape architects involved and will be coming up with a united strategy.

It is sad that groups including the Parkville Association, which is nearly 60 years old, are not heavily involved in the process and effectively speak mainly through their submissions. Neighbours are key and should have been officially part of the process.

On that note to the north, Brunswick West and Carlton North residents use the park

constantly given their proximity to it. Short of on-site surveys, how have those park users been advised of the plan?

Other associations, including the Carlton Residents' Association and North West Melbourne Association together with our key partners being Friends of Royal Park, Royal Park Protection Group and the Protectors of Public Land, have also joined us.

The fight will continue!

The Parkville Association is again pushing traffic and engineering at the council regarding plans for safety in Parkville which were promised for early 2024.

Rat running, speeding and serious vehicle numbers continue and at this stage there is no resolution.

As I stated at VCAT during the hearing on 35-39 Royal Parade, Parkville is a village and we have an amazingly tight community. We deserve more and urgent attention to serious matters.

As this goes to print new traffic surveys are being conducted! The process is finally starting!

Enough for this month as clearly Royal Park is our major focus. We need to preserve the beauty of our city's only "bush park" and as the surveys have shown a place where we enjoy "passive relaxation".

Got to go now for my daily walk around our special place in Melbourne. ●

Rob Moore

PRESIDENT

PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION



Grattan St site earmarked for housing amid government's latest wave of changes

“As part of the state government's new development strategy for Victoria, it plans to unlock more homes by establishing two new activity centres in inner Melbourne and unlocking government land for development.”

WORDS BY
JON FLEETWOOD



Melbourne, which Lord Mayor Nick Reece said highlighted opportunities for additional housing in inner-city municipalities.

“We welcome the Victorian Government's plan to build more homes close to transport, jobs, and services,” Cr Reece said.

However, RMIT University Emeritus Professor of Environment and Planning Michael Buxton believes that the activity centres will reduce the power of local councils and diminish residents' rights.

Prof. Buxton told *Inner City News* that the state government's focus on changing planning controls to unlock more homes presented a “false narrative” to justify “deregulation”.

“There are better ways to do it, and councils have been doing it pretty well up until the government jumped in and threw everything away,” Prof. Buxton said.

He noted that the “fast-tracking” of developments, particularly the Development Facilitation Program (DFP), is depriving residents of their right to “object” and “appeal”.

The program is an accelerated assessment pathway for projects that invest in the Victorian economy, support jobs, and create homes, including streamlining the planning process for residential developments that deliver at least 10 per cent affordable housing.

However, Prof. Buxton believes that mandated affordable housing targets and stricter planning rules would be more effective than the current deregulatory approach.

According to Prof. Buxton, the planning system has become a scapegoat, with the state government using it to justify the lack of housing in the city while failing to adequately address other contributing factors such as the taxation system and building costs.

“The government refuses to bring in more certainty through mandatory rules,” he said. “That's been the problem, and the government blames the planning system without identifying the real issue.”

Lord Mayor Cr Nick Reece said, “We urge the Victorian Government to set a clear target for affordable housing to ensure Melbourne remains the best and fairest city.”

“The city has a shortfall of at least 6,000 affordable rental homes, and if we do nothing, this will almost quadruple to more than 23,000 by 2036.”

To date, the only council land earmarked for development into affordable housing is a car park at 325-341 Victoria Street, West Melbourne, with a second site in North Melbourne deferred until the impacts of the first development are assessed.

A structure plan for urban renewal in Arden was also approved in 2022 without any affordable housing targets, which former City of Melbourne councillor Rohan Leppert described at the time as “outrageous”. ●

However, experts are calling for the government to reconsider its deregulatory approach, and the recent decision to sell accommodation owned by the Royal Women's Hospital has been questioned by the medical community.

The accommodation service on Grattan St, Carlton, was available for patients from regional Victoria who had to travel long distances to Melbourne for specialised care, with most able to stay free of charge.

However, it will instead be demolished and replaced with housing, with patients expected to book hotels using a \$45 per night accommodation allowance from the Victorian Patient Transport Assistance Scheme.

The hospital-owned site is one of six public land parcels that will be sold by the Allan government under its Small Sites program, which forms part of its recent housing statement.

As reported in *The Age*, hospital staff conceded the flats were rundown, but it was a mistake to offer no alternative.

In addition to the unlocking of government land, as a part of the housing statement, new activity centres will be established in the Cities of Yarra and Melbourne, focusing on increasing developments around train and tram corridors, upzoning strategic sites, introducing new planning controls, and fast-tracking specific site developments.

To achieve this, the government has announced its intention to work alongside both the City of Melbourne and the City of Yarra councils, stating that “nothing is off the table” to help unlock more homes.

In the recently released Plan for Victoria, the state government has set a target of 119,500 new homes by 2051 for the City of

Time Out

Sunny days linger as Melbourne embraces the change of seasons, change of colours and a joyous vibe. And Fed Square comes alive... Time to savour Autumn where Melbourne continues to play, day and night! City workers enjoy an after-work wind-down with colleagues. Visitors soak up the buzz of the city. Everybody comes for cocktails and Timeout is your perfect place to meet.

Federation Square
St Paul's Court No. 2 Swanston St

timeoutfedsq
03 9671 3855

Supporting business

SUPPORT LOCAL



Construction partner:
Design & Construction

CYP-BS00436

LYGON LOCAL

New hospitality venture aims to nurture emerging culinary talent

“A new hospitality project in Parkville is setting out to redefine the city’s dining landscape by providing a platform for emerging chefs to showcase their talents in a high-profile setting.”

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



The brainchild of hospitality veterans Nathen Doyle (Sunhands, Heartattack and Vine, Wide Open Road) and Cameron Earl (Carlton Wine Room, Embla, ST. ALi), Residence will operate as a restaurant with a rotating lineup of chefs-in-residence.

This innovative model offers rising culinary talents the rare opportunity to lead their own kitchen, honing their skills and creative vision without the financial risks typically associated with restaurant ownership.

The idea for Residence was born out of Nathen and Cameron’s shared passion for fostering growth within the industry.

The two, who met as neighbours in Carlton, quickly bonded over their mutual love for hospitality and their desire to see young professionals thrive in a notoriously challenging field.

“We were just two guys who loved what we do,” Cameron said.

“We’d always catch up and talk about restaurants, food, service, and eventually, this idea just started to form.”

“I really wanted someone with a higher level of service expertise to help build out the next iteration of what we’re doing,” Nathen added.



Cameron Earl and Nathen Doyle
Photo: Hayden Dib.

“I asked Cam for recommendations, and he basically said, ‘what about me?’, and that was it. We were off and running.”

Their shared vision soon took shape into a concept designed to break down barriers for up-and-coming chefs.

“There are glass ceilings in hospitality where people reach a certain level but don’t necessarily know how to take the next step toward opening their own restaurant,” Nathen said.

“This is about providing that stepping-stone.”

Cameron elaborated on the philosophy behind the initiative, emphasising the importance of creating career pathways for talented chefs who might otherwise be stuck in the same role for years.

“I’ve seen it time and time again – someone is incredible at what they do, but they’re too valuable to their employer to be let go. That means they never get the chance to really push themselves. We’re trying to

change that.”

The concept is already generating significant interest, with a flood of applications from chefs eager to take part.

“We’ve had some absolutely mind-blowing resumes come through. It’s already clear that there’s a real appetite for this kind of opportunity,” Nathen told *Inner City News*.

As for the cuisine, the duo is keeping an open mind.

“It could be Greek, Italian, Vietnamese, or something totally unique. We’re not prescribing a particular style – it’s about letting chefs express themselves,” Nathen added.

Beyond the food, Residence aims to cultivate a strong sense of community.

“Hospitality, for me, has always been about making people feel at home. We want this to be a place where chefs can grow, but also where guests feel like they’re being welcomed into something special,” Cameron said.

The venture is set to launch in partnership

with the University of Melbourne’s Ian Potter Museum of Art, further embedding it within the city’s cultural fabric.

“They’re pushing boundaries in art and culture, and we want to do the same in hospitality. It’s the perfect fit,” Nathen said.

In a further effort to demystify the restaurant industry, Nathen and Cameron are documenting their journey on a YouTube channel, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the highs and lows of launching a hospitality business.

“We’re not experts at this – we’re figuring it out as we go. But we’re excited to take that leap and see what happens.”

For Melbourne’s dining scene, Residence represents more than just another restaurant opening – it’s a bold experiment in mentorship, creativity, and the future of hospitality.

The inaugural Chef in Residence will be announced on April 15, with Residence set to open in winter 2025. ●

Carlton community comes together for Harmony Day celebrations

Students from the University of Melbourne are once again taking the lead in organising Carlton Harmony Day on April 12 at Carlton Primary School, an annual celebration of community and cultural diversity.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



Now in its third year of, the event fosters collaboration between university students and the local Carlton community.

Padmini Sebastian, director of engagement and partnerships at the University of Melbourne, highlighted the significance of the event and its deep-rooted ties to the community.

“It’s really exciting that students, once again, for the third year in a row, are working with the Carlton Community Network to project manage Harmony Day,” she said.

“We have Master of Arts students doing

this as part of their subjects, so it’s embedded in the curriculum, and they’re being guided by their lecturer.”

This year’s Harmony Day promises a vibrant mix of performances and community engagement activities.

“We’ve got music students who have formed the Chinese Music Ensemble, and they’ll be performing. We also have oral health, speech pathology, audiology, and optometry students providing information to young kids and families about taking care of their health,” Ms Sebastian said.

“It’s a really lovely blend of students studying different subjects and doing different courses, coming together in the neighbourhood to celebrate the extraordinary diversity of Carlton.”

For students involved, the event is not just about celebration but also about valuable skill-building.

One of the student organisers who serves as the communications team leader, Can Wang, shared how the experience has shaped their professional development.

“What I enjoy most about the event is the valuable opportunity to collaborate with both my team and the broader community to create something meaningful. This experience has helped me develop key skills



that will benefit my future career, such as teamwork, communication, and strategic marketing,” Can told *Inner City News*.

“Leading social media promotion on platforms like Facebook, Rednote, TikTok, and Instagram gave me practical experience in digital promotion. Working directly with the community, especially through flyer distribution and weekly meetings, has allowed me to engage with diverse organisations. Most importantly, I learned how to understand different perspectives.”

Ms Sebastian emphasised that the

University of Melbourne sees itself as an integral part of the Carlton community, and values active participation in events like Harmony Day.

“We want to be active, and there’s no better way than being part of the Carlton Harmony Day because it really brings us all together. It reminds us that we’re part of a connected community that cares.”

With a program full of cultural performances and community activities, this year’s Harmony Day is set to be another enriching and unifying celebration. ●



Memories That Make Us: A multimedia exploration of the post-war Italian migrant experience

The Italian Assistance Association has launched its latest exhibition, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the hundreds of thousands of people who migrated to Australia from Italy after World War Two.

WORDS BY
JON FLEETWOOD



The exhibition takes its inspiration from *Memories That Make Us*, a documentary directed by Martin Potter and shares the same name. Many of the stories featured in the film are reimagined and presented in a new way as part of the exhibition.

Mr Potter is also one of the exhibition's

co-curators, alongside artist Toija Cinque, exhibition producer Pip Minney, and emerging creative Carla Maggio De Leo.

Running from March 10 to May 16 at CO.AS.IT on Faraday St, the exhibition features artworks, photographic timelines, and moving visuals created by Italian migrants and their descendants.

It is part of CO.AS.IT's cultural program and has emerged from a long-term research project conducted by Associate Professor Potter, Associate Professor Cinque, and Professor Sean Redmond from the School of Communication and Creative Arts at Deakin University.

CO.AS.IT's cultural program manager, Paolo Baracchi, told *Inner City News* that "this project, from day one, has been about intergenerational sharing of stories within our community and, crucially, sharing these stories beyond the Italian community."

"Communication with other Australian communities, we believe, is a significant part of Australian history," he said. ●

Public housing tower demolition hits at the heart of our community

In Melbourne there's not enough affordable housing.

But with news that the State Government is demolishing our inner-city public housing towers, and with Labor confirming there will be no public housing rebuilt on the land at Flemington and North Melbourne after the towers are demolished, the problem is only going to get worse.

We can see the housing crisis everywhere we look. More and more people are sleeping rough.

Renters are making more and more sacrifices, while they worry about the arrival of an email from the real estate agency announcing the latest increase in the rent.

For people who are trying to buy their own home, the realisation that they don't stand a chance continues to rise.

House prices have soared and RealEstate.com is suggesting that rents could rise 20 per cent next year. Over the past three years in Melbourne, the rents on apartments in the CBD have already increased by 14 per cent.

Wages aren't keeping up. The housing market is cooked, which is why it's so hard to understand why the Victorian Labor government recently sent residents of the public housing towers in Flemington and North Melbourne a letter telling them that time is up, they'll have to go.

While the writing was on the wall, we had been hoping that there would be a reprieve, and that people would get to stay in their homes and not be forced to pack up and try and find somewhere to live.

This is not going to be easy, with public housing disappearing and rents increasing. Ripping down people's homes, handing



off the land to private developers and pushing people out into the cold, is heartless.

People have lived in these places for years, building friendships, families and communities.

They've played sport together, shared meals, dealt with COVID lockdowns, fallen in love and found friends to rely on, but now their communities are being torn apart.

We need more public housing, not less. But Labor is washing its hands of the people who live in public housing.

Labor and the Liberals are funded by big banks and the property industry profiting from the housing crisis.

They both support unlimited rent increases and they're giving \$176 billion in tax handouts to wealthy property investors that deny renters the chance to buy their first home.

The Greens will keep fighting to stop the demolitions and build more public housing. In a wealthy country like ours, everyone deserves an affordable place to live. ●

Council to begin works on Lygon St footpath upgrades

The City of Melbourne will soon begin upgrading Lygon St's tired footpaths with new bluestone between Queensberry and Elgin streets to improve safety and amenity.

The council says works would begin in mid-March and be completed by mid-2025 and be delivered in sections, with the first taking place on the eastern side of Lygon St between Queensberry and Pelham streets.

The upgrades will include:

- replacing the current asphalt footpaths with bluestone pavers
- replacing the kerb
- upgrading the street furniture
- enlarging the tree plots and replacing the porous paving at the base of the trees
- rebuilding access ramps.

The council said works would occur Monday to Friday between 7am and 5.30pm and begin at the Pelham St end, adding that "every measure" would be "taken to minimise disruption."

However, it noted that outdoor dining permits would be suspended for the

duration of the project, with outdoor dining to resume once the works have moved beyond the immediate vicinity of affected businesses.

Having hosted a trader information session at Argyle Square on March 6, the council said it would continue to keep the local community informed about future works along Lygon St, "with timings subject to funding". ●

For more information:
melbourne.vic.gov.au/footpath-improvement-program



Are you a small business having a big impact in Melbourne?



Apply now for the Lord Mayor's Small Business Awards, celebrating small businesses and the people behind them.

Applications close **Friday 9 May 2025**.

Scan the QR code or visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/smallbusinessawards



**LORD MAYOR'S
SMALL BUSINESS
AWARDS**

EVENT PARTNER

**3AW
MELBOURNE**



CITY OF MELBOURNE

QUESTION:
What do you do on ANZAC Day?

Faces of the Inner City



Eddie
I haven't actually been to the Dawn Service, but I often go to some kind of service. It's just a day of remembering.



Echo
I was a Guide as a kid, so I was participating in the marches but it's not something I feel particularly strongly about, so I'll probably be studying.



Kai
I'm a Reservist, so generally we do a service at Melbourne Uni in the morning then go and have some fun. To me it's just about showing some respect to people who have sacrificed a lot.



Kenny
I will go to the park and juggle and listen to some good music.



PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS' NETWORK

Flemington public housing tenants on notice for eviction

The Victorian Government is pressing on with demolishing two more towers at the Flemington estate.

Two were previously demolished under the Ground Lease Model (GLM) program, with the vacant land being handed over to a "special purpose vehicle" called "Building Communities (Vic) Ltd" set up by state government-registered housing provider Community Housing (Vic) Ltd (CHVL). Building Communities (Vic) Ltd has been a separately registered not-for-profit, community housing provider since 2021.

The GLM1 project – and now its expansion – has a majority of "affordable" and market rent housing over community housing. The CHVL is managing all three tenures.

There has been zero provision of public information on the costs to government and what justified the adding on of the two additional towers to the existing contract.

RMIT housing researchers have assessed the two GLM projects awarded to this same consortium. Using Homes Victoria's own published contract detail, they calculated the cost to the current and future state governments as being: \$901,667,000 for GLM1 and GLM2, \$1.108 Billion.

GLM1 includes two other estates: Bangs St, Prahran, which had stood vacant for more than a decade after a proposed National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) project of the Rudd/Gillard federal government fell over; and New St, Brighton. GLM2 includes demolished estates at Barak Beacon, Port Melbourne; Horrace Petty Prahran low rise; Essex St, Prahran; and Bluff Rd, Hampton East.

What is Building Communities (Vic) Ltd?

The state government's register for community housing providers provides no detail on who exactly is involved in its management, beyond nominating CHVL's CEO. The GLM1 contract document does, though, name the following organisations: Icon Kajima Construction, Citta Property Group, Tetris Capital and CHVL as the contracted consortium. Tetris spruik the Prahran and Brighton estates on their.

Special purpose vehicles

The final report of the Social Housing Regulation Review (SHRR) recommended, at Section 5.1, that new regulations for consortia like this include: public, continuous disclosure requirements, salaries and executives' remuneration; and full visibility of relationships and the transactions between the parties involved.

The SHRR also recommended the regulation of "affordable" housing in Section 5.2.

The following is the government's response to these two recommendations:

- 5.1 – enable effective regulation in an environment that is increasing in complexity: support in principle
- 5.2 – regulation of affordable housing: not support

The Victorian Government is pressing ahead with a program of demolitions. Not just towers but walk-up estates as well, with no transparent regulation of parties ending up with new dwellings.

Repair, retain and reinvest

The decision by Heritage Victoria's executive director to exclude the towers on Elgin and Nicholson streets in Carlton from heritage protection advised that when all 47 towers were built five decades ago, they had an accommodation capacity of 24,000-plus adults and children (Report RX1011, 5/9/24, pages 13 and 14).

Discounting the three already demolished there is, therefore, a potential to have accommodation for more than 22,000 adults and children: twice as many as 11,000 the government advised would result from demolitions and building community housing.

This can be done at a fraction of the cost to the state government of demolition and redevelopment.

Prepared with the assistance of the Save Public Housing Collective •

Cory Memery

CITY OF MELBOURNE
COMMUNITY CHAMPION 2020



Your forever home awaits in the heart of Melbourne

640 Bourke Street is the quintessential Melbourne address, where heritage and modernity converge in a landmark development designed for contemporary living.

Anchored by the historic Eliza Tinsley building, an elegantly sculpted 68-storey tower rises, offering a refined collection of one-, two- and three-bedroom residences that speak to Melbourne's timeless character.

Designed by Rothelowman, each residence is purposefully crafted with generous floor plans, curated finishes, and an intelligent approach to spatial design. Inspired by the best in global apartment living, these homes offer a rare level of sophistication, balancing functionality with an eclectic design aesthetic. From the reimagined kitchen island and dining table to intricate art deco-inspired tiling, every detail has been considered.

Across 3000 square metres of amenities,

residents can curate their own daily rhythm. The Social House fosters connection with a whisky lounge, billiard room, and discreet speakeasy, while The Wellness House offers a fully equipped gym and restorative bathhouse. For select residents, Eliza Tinsley House provides an intimate retreat, complete with a cinema, art therapy room, and mindfulness lounge.

At street level, a new public plaza and boutique retail precinct create a vibrant city hub. Moreover, 640 Bourke Street offers breathtaking views of the city, with higher floors providing unobstructed panoramas of Melbourne's skyline, Port Phillip Bay, and beyond.

Positioned in the heart of Melbourne's most storied boulevard, residents are steps from Flagstaff Gardens, Queen Victoria Market, luxury shopping, and iconic laneways. With tram and train connectivity at the doorstep and arterial routes nearby, the entire city is within easy reach.

With residences from \$640,000 to \$3,950,000 and off-the-plan stamp duty savings available until October 2025, 640 Bourke Street presents a rare opportunity to secure a forever home in the heart of Melbourne. The Display Gallery opens late February, offering an exclusive preview before construction begins.

640bourkest.com.au •

CARLTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



Takes the cake ...

Carlton has its icons, but Brunetti's must take the cake for providing us with an Italian icon in an ever-changing Lygon St. It holds its own in the street as a reflection of a past and a preparedness to grapple with the challenges of the future.

WORDS BY
MARTIN BRENNAN



A recent *Carlton Conversations* evening with owner of Brunetti Classico Fabio Angele was personable, enjoyable and informative. Fabio traversed the history of his family living in Italy to the '56 Melbourne Olympics where his father was a member of the Italian Team. No, not as an athlete, but a chef.

The Italian team bought with them food from home wary of what was on offer here in Melbourne. They were rightly prepared. And like the Angele family many stayed! The rest is a culinary history of the Angele family's contribution to coffee, cakes and Italian fare here in Carlton and across Melbourne.

Carlton was the beneficiary of the Angele family, the Brunetti trade name and the coffee, cakes and Italian fare served in Brunetti Classico in Lygon St. It was an evening of roaming through Fabio's life with tales and photos of the family, times back home and times here in Melbourne and in Carlton.

We sat in the Brunetti Classico dining room and were treated to antipasto, cakes and with wine supplied by the Carlton Residents' Association (CRA). The *Carlton Conversations* is a feature of the CRA's

contribution to the past and current life and times of Lygon St and its future.

And the intention is clear; to rejuvenate Lygon St as a destination for not only Carlton but the people of Melbourne and beyond. The convivial evening concluded with many questions and a commitment to join with the CRA and Carlton Inc in developing a "2035 Vision for Lygon St".

We need to reflect on Lygon St's past and plan for its future as a destination for residents and visitors alike. We need a 24/7 street and not be beholden to a night-time economy only. We need diversity in the street that recognises the needs of residents and the interests of visitors both day and night.

The CRA has made a start in the conversation with the recently released draft plan for the rejuvenation of Lygon St by committee member Peter Sanders. The aim would be to create a vibrant, sustainable and accessible retail and entertainment spine for Carlton.

The plan would include a reduction in the speed limit to 30km/h, extensions to the footpath to allow for dining and seating, and a reduction in traffic flows to one way each way. But the conversation needs not to end there but to start now.

And that conversation should include the continuation of the bluestone paving beyond the east side of Lygon St between Queensberry and Pelham streets that is expected to commence this month.

While the council has committed funds for this section of bluestone paving there is no guarantee of funding for the paving of the remainder of the street. A patchwork approach will not lead to the rejuvenation of our iconic Lygon St.

We need a collaborative and comprehensive plan. That would certainly take the cake! ●

Pet's Corner



Meet Milly the Groodle

Local Groodle Milly happily accepts pats from anyone willing to give them while walking around Carlton.

WORDS BY
RICKY SPOULE



She is a very friendly and energetic six-year-old medium-sized Groodle.

Owners Anna and Jaime got Milly as a puppy. Anna told *Inner City News* that she was very friendly and energetic, and particularly loved going on long runs with Jaime and playing catch in the park.

According to Anna, Milly was a bit of a handful when she was younger. A noted escape artist,

Milly had to be collected from Johnston Street Vet a few times after being picked up by good Samaritans.

Anna added that she seemed to have left her instinct for escaping behind as she had grown up.

Milly loves water, and especially loves chasing ducks, something owner Jaime learnt the hard way once when running along the Yarra River with her.

Milly darted into the water after some ducks and began to get taken away by the current. Jaime jumped into the water after her and helped her get back to the riverbank. She is no longer allowed off lead anywhere near water.

Milly has adapted well to sharing her home with a newborn baby and 20-month-old toddler Quinn. Anna says she is just happy to be close to the family.

When asked about Millie, Quinn said, "woooof!" ●



CARLTON HISTORY GROUP

Memorial drinking fountains

In earlier times, it was possible for a Melbourne City councillor to erect monuments to himself and members of his family in public places.

Prime examples of this are the memorial drinking fountains erected by Councillor George Levers (1845-1921) in various parts of Carlton and Parkville.

Members of the Levers family represented Smith Ward on the Melbourne City Council for 40 years. The first member of the family to gain that position was George's brother William, who was elected in 1881. He unfortunately died in a rowing accident in 1901.

The vacant position on the council created by his death was contested and won by his father William Senior, who held it until his death in 1901. It was then filled by second son George until his death in 1921.

In 1915 George had a memorial drinking fountain erected in Rathdowne St, Carlton,

at Macarthur Square, dedicated to his deceased brother. The following year he had a similar fountain erected at the corner of Royal Parade and Gatehouse St in Parkville, presented by him to the citizens of Smith Ward for having returned him unopposed as their representative since 1901. In 1919 he had a third memorial fountain erected in Argyle Square, Carlton, dedicated to the memory of his father (see photo).

Apart from these three drinking fountains, the family also left their mark on Carlton and Parkville in the form of an Levers Street, Levers Place and Levers Terrace. There was also a Mount Levers, the substantial home of George's parents in Royal Parade, Parkville (which was demolished in the mid-1970s).

George Levers was a prominent local citizen, a justice of the peace, and on the board of a number of charitable organisations. He was also a long-time member of the Carlton Football Club, and in 1918 presented the club with a memento commemorating his



50 years as a member of the club. This was a photograph of himself and the words of six of the songs that he had written about the Carlton club over the years.

He is also recorded as having performed a song that he had written at the Patriotic Welcome Home Concert in the Carlton Hall in December 1900 for men from Carlton who had recently returned from the Boer War in South Africa.

In July 1921, George Levers collapsed during a heated debate in the Melbourne council chambers over the banning of the St Patrick's Day and Eight Hour Day procession. Five days later he died, aged 76. ●

Jeff Atkinson

PRESIDENT

JEFFANN@BIGPOND.NET.AU





1. How old is Carlton's youngest author, Emma Xu?
2. Where is Carlton's new vintage photobooth located?
3. How is Carlton-based studio Knovus transforming the knitwear industry?
4. What was Royal Park used for during World War I and II?
5. Which animal is the smallest primate in the world?
6. James Marsden (pictured) starred alongside Katherine Heigl in which 2008 rom-com?
7. The tallest tree in Australia is nicknamed what?
8. Which popular holiday destination is a coast overlooking the Gulf of Salerno?
9. Carambola is a fruit also known by what other shape-themed name?
10. Which Australian television drama series stars Jodie Whittaker, Nicole da Silva and Yael Stone?
11. How many new councillors are there on the current council?
12. When will be the 2025 Melbourne International Comedy Festival be held?

1. Eight years old 2. Lygon Court 3. With cutting-edge 3D technology 4. A military camp 5. Pygmy mouse lemur 6. 27 *Dresses* 7. Centurion 8. Amalfi Coast 9. Star fruit 10. *One Night* 11. Five 12. March 26 to April 20

No. 311

F		A		E
	E		O	
A		B		T
	U		S	
S		E		R

FRAME, LEMON, ABBOT, PULSE, STEER

Apr. 2025

No. 046

EASY

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

HARD

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

SOLUTIONS

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

[illegible]

Theme: Blacksmith

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

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

ANVIL
APRON
AXE
BELLOV
BLADE
COAL
FORGE
HAMMI
HEAT
IRON
KNIFE

OIL
QUENCH
SHAPING
SMITHY
SMOKE
SOOT
SPARKS
STEEL
SWORD
TEMPER
WROUGHT

Secret message: Working not metal

No. 046

ACROSS

- 1 Variety of nut (9)
6 Boss (4)
10 Tavern (3)
11 Confusing (10)
12 A rectangle
halved from
diagonal
corners (8)
13 Special
abilities (6)
14 Objurgation (4)
15 Group of
organisms (7)
20 Obliterated (7)
21 Circle of light (4)
25 Spectacles (6)
26 Rocky (8)
28 Impregnating (11)
29 Biological
blueprint (1,1,1)
30 Calm (4)
31 Worsen (9)

DOWN

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Office machines (8) | 7 | Treble (6) |
| 2 | Conscious (8) | 8 | Abstract (6) |
| 3 | Western Australian port city (6) | 9 | Book of the Old Testament (7) |
| | | 16 | Purifying (9) |
| 4 | Crow (coll) (6,3) | 17 | Non-specific (7) |
| | | 18 | Asian country (8) |

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
									9					
10				11										
12								13						
14					15			16						
				17								18		19
			20							21				
22		23								24				
25						26								
					27									
28												29		
30						31								

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| 5 | Musical instrument (4) | 19 | Temper (8) |
| 7 | Treble (6) | 22 | Employable (6) |
| 8 | Abstract (6) | 23 | Car fuel (6) |
| 9 | Book of the Old Testament (7) | 24 | Brand (6) |
| 16 | Purifying (9) | 27 | Middle <i>Simpsons</i> child (4) |
| 17 | Non-specific (7) | | |
| 18 | Asian country (8) | | |

SOLUTION

[illegible]

No. 046

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

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

SOLUTIONS

H	L	U	O	J	V	B	N	A	G	T	E	F
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
P	C	D	R	I	K	S	Y	Z	M	X	Q	W
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

No. 046

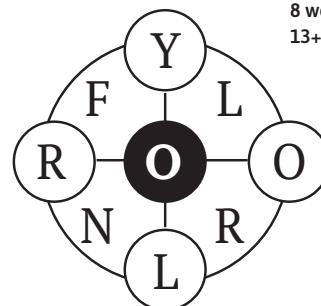
Today's Focus:

7 words: Good

8 words: Very good

13+ 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"



Reference:

Collins Concise
English Dictionary

SOLUTIONS

floor, folly, fool, forlorn, FORLORNLY, loon, loony, lorn, lorry, lory, only, orlon, orly, oroll, roof

WHAT'S ON
April

Experience the inner city buzz this month with festivals, markets, exhibitions and more.

CARLTON HARMONY DAY
Come along to Carlton Harmony Day for some free family fun with activities, food and music. On the day, there will be face painting, coffee and ice-cream, music performances, kids craft zone and more!
Carlton Primary School
SATURDAY 12 APRIL , 1.30PM – 4.30PM

IMPRINT: WORD PLAY IN ART SPACE
Imprint – a storytelling event – that combines art, word and song through a program of exhibitions, events, workshops, and a symposium, running over four weeks.
Victorian Artists Society, East Melbourne
16 APRIL – 11 MAY

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL
Comedy is taking over the streets of Melbourne, with laughs around every corner! There's something for everyone.
Melbourne Town Hall, 90/130 Swanston St
UNTIL 20 APRIL

CELEBRATE EASTER IN CARLTON
Celebrate Easter in Carlton with a free Easter Egg hunt for the kids and a visit from the Easter Bunny, plus kids Easter activities. Don't forget to bring your Easter basket to collect your eggs.
Meeting Point: Carlton Newsagency
THURSDAY 17 APRIL, 3PM – 6PM

THE LYGON STREET MARKET
Experience the vibrant Lygon Street Market, a bustling showcase of local artisans, designers, and gourmet food makers. Browse handmade crafts, unique fashion, homewares and art.
Piazza Italia, Lygon St, Carlton
UNTIL 4 MAY, 10AM – 3PM

KOOL KIDS EASTER WONDERLAND
Easter Wonderland, the ultimate family celebration this Easter. Highlights include live performances by the Easter Bunny, Bluey, Paw Patrol, and Frozen. Easter egg hunt, Easter-themed crafts and DIY fun.
Royal Melbourne Hotel, Melbourne
SATURDAY 12 APRIL, 10AM – 1PM

SPACE QUEST: HOLIDAY PROGRAM
An inspiring school holiday program for young creative writers and storytellers. A day of cosmic creativity as you craft crews and blast them beyond the firmament toward the final frontier.
Story Studios Australia, Carlton
THURSDAY 17TH APRIL, 9AM – 3PM

DEEP TIME REAL TIME
The 2025 Alastair Swain Legacy Exhibition explores design's relationship to planetary systems through two opposing time scales – deep time and real-time.
RMIT Design Hub Gallery Level 2, Building 100, RMIT University, Carlton
UNTIL 12 APRIL

QUEER STITCH MEETUP
Bring a project, ask for guidance or start something new. Whether you want to learn, share your skills, or share a room with crafty folks, all skill levels welcome. Donated supplies are free to use.
Kathleen Syme Library, Carlton
UNTIL 21 DECEMBER

ACCA FAMILY ART DAY
A free art-making program for children aged 3–10 and families. Create artwork to take home and contribute to a large-scale artwork inspired by ACCA's new exhibition Tina Stefanou: You Can't See Speed!
Australian Centre for Contemporary Art
TUESDAY 15 APRIL, 10AM – 1PM

CELEBRATE MEXICO: TEQUILA VS MEZCAL
Join Chief Distiller, Antony Anderson, and celebrate Mexico's national day by learning about the agave-based spirits, tequila and mezcal.
Life's Too Short Bar, Shop 2/412 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne
UNTIL 21 JUNE, 2PM – 5PM

Business Directory

CABINET MAKERS

Specializing in kitchen, laundry, vanity, wardrobe, storage

Free quote, free design

Showroom and factory at
4 Henderson Street
Sunshine North VIC 3020
Jenny 0423 595 388
sales@lnkitchens.com.au

HEALTH & BEAUTY

women's health matters

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

BE STRONG NOT TIRED

PRIME 40

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

HEALTH & BEAUTY

Proudly representing the community in inner Melbourne

Evan MULHOLLAND MP
NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

evan.mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au



6 4 0
B O U
R K E
S T .
MELBOURNE



Live in the Heart of Melbourne

Inspired by the best of apartment living worldwide, these are forever homes within the city.
Here contemporary design combines with art deco touches, celebrating the building's
heritage while offering every modern amenity.

RESIDENCES FROM \$640,000 TO \$3,950,000

DISPLAY GALLERY NOW OPEN WITH
THREE FULLY BUILT APARTMENTS

OFF-THE-PLAN STAMP DUTY CONCESSIONS APPLY



YPM AVANTI

640BOURKEST.COM.AU

Images include artist's impressions