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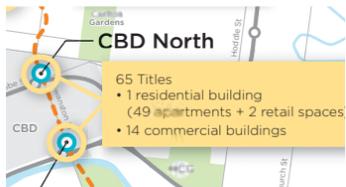
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Call for discretion in CBD planning

Urban experts predict unaffordable apartments if mandatory planning controls continue in the CBD.

Speaking at a Property Council seminar on October 8, Urbis director Sarah Horsfield said new mandatory Northbank shadowing provisions could halve the potential yield of some Flinders St properties.

And Plus Architects director Craig Yelland says the effect of mandatory setbacks and height controls could double the cost of apartment construction.

The CBD and Southbank are subject to mandatory controls for the next year while the State Government reviews and implements new planning rules.

Both experts argue that it's not the nature of the controls themselves that are the issue - it's that they are mandatory and discretion has been removed.

"I don't personally disagree with many aspects of the controls," Ms Horsfield said. "I think the plot ratios are reasonably generous, the setback controls make good sense for a lot of sites. The issue is that discretion has been removed."

Whereas previously developers were prevented from overshadowing the south bank of the river, the new rules protect areas 15 metres away from the north bank.

Ms Horsfield said she had modeled

Flinders St properties under the mandatory provisions and found that some had lost half of their commercial potential.

"There's an overnight contraction in yield that is very significant and starts to show the magnitude of impact of the controls. It highlights to me why the Northbank shadow controls probably need to be considered in a more sophisticated way," she said.

"While I accept that parts of the Northbank environment do warrant protection from additional shadowing, there are many parts that can only be described as very low amenity environments."

Ms Horsfield noted that 101 Collins St, Federation Square, Rialto and the Melbourne Aquarium would all be prohibited under the new rules.

"By applying mandatory controls, it drives a 'tick-a-box' type of approach to design and the real risk is that it can serve to put a handbrake on investment," she said.

Mr Yelland agreed, predicting that up to a third of potential development sites (smaller sites) would be unviable under the new mandatory setback and height regime.

He said this lack of supply would flow through in a number of years and result in prices equivalent to Sydney.

"Apartments here sell for \$8000 to \$10,000 per square metre. In Sydney, they're selling for \$15,000 to \$20,000 per square metre. We are heading down the line of unaffordability. That will be the end result in five year's time," he said.



Student talent on show

Words and photos by Katie Wong Hoy

Eight aspiring hairdressers from the Australian College of Hair Design and Beauty flaunted their skills at a fashion show on Wednesday, October 7.

The costumes, hairstyles and make-up were all designed and constructed by the students and presented in the Flinders Lane studio.

Lisa Nguyen, co-ordinator of the Australian College of Hair Design and Beauty, said more than 150 students and members of the general public came along to witness the hair creations.

She said the students were almost fully qualified and the fashion show was part of their course requirements.

"It's about eight months that they've been with us now so they're almost at the end of their course. This is one of the things they need to do as one of their unit competencies," Ms Nguyen said.

Nadia Smith is a student doing a certificate three in hairdressing at the college. She said her cohort took a different approach to the usual catwalk fashion show that students have performed in previous years.

"One of the first things we decided was we wanted to do pieces that were probably going to take quite a lot of time and detail.

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Closing the eye-health gap

Singer Christine Anu was in the city last month to raise funds to improve the eyesight of indigenous Australians.

Christine explained that Aboriginals were six times as likely to go blind as other Australians and 12 times more likely to develop cataracts.

She said she was right behind an initiative of Specsavers, which is donating \$25 from the sale of each limited edition "Fred Hollows" frames. The sunglasses are available in two different styles and feature artwork painted by Indigenous artist, Langgaliki Langgaliki.

Ms Anu said \$25 was enough in some countries to fund sight-saving cataract surgery.

"It's an avoidable problem that is sitting right here on our first-world doorstep," she said.

She said the prevalent dust in remote communities was a major contributor to poor indigenous eyesight. Her younger sister was eight years old before having her poor eyesight checked.

"There are no Specsavers in remote communities," she said.

The inaugural Fred Hollows limited edition frame launched in 2014, used Langgaliki's artwork *Nyinnga* and sold out in record time, raising \$62,500 for The Foundation's Trachoma Elimination Program in the Northern Territory.

Properties to be acquired for Metro Rail

The State Government will compulsorily acquire a CBD apartment building and 14 commercial buildings as part of the Melbourne Metro Rail project.

The Government is yet to identify the apartment building, which contains 49 apartments and two retail spaces or the commercial properties, saying owners were still being notified.

Alongside the CBD acquisitions, the State Government will also notify property owners in South Kensington, South Yarra and Parkville that their properties are required for the project.

In total 44 buildings across Melbourne will be acquired, affecting 94 titles.

These buildings include 29 commercial properties and 15 residential properties.

Minister for Public Transport Jacinta Allan described the acquisitions as a "difficult but important step in building and delivering the Melbourne Metro Rail Project."

She acknowledged the acquisitions would be a "difficult process", particularly for people who had been notified their properties would be acquired.

However, she said the Melbourne Metro Rail project was much needed for Melbourne and Victoria.

The acquisitions are concentrated around the stations and tunnel entrances.

Ms Allan said the current plan was for the required properties to be vacated in 2017 to allow construction to begin in 2018.

The Melbourne Metro Rail Authority will also soon begin engaging with people whose properties aren't required for the project, but will be affected by construction.



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Tick of approval for CBD school

Haileybury College will open a CBD-based campus, after Melbourne councillors last month unanimously approved its proposal for a vertical school.

The private school will open an early learning centre at the campus as early as next year and will cater for prep-to-year-12 students from 2017 and 2018.

The school will be a first for the city and comes as great relief to inner-city families lacking local schooling options.

The approval is particularly impressive considering the school proposal was initially met with 62 objections relating primarily to traffic and congestion concerns.

However, following a consultation session with objectors, by the time councillors considered the proposal at the September 6 Future Melbourne Committee Meeting not one objection remained.

This major turn-around was achieved after the private school agreed to drop the number of enrolled students from 1300 students by 2025 to 774 students.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle expressed his amazement at the turn of events, saying he had "never seen this before".

"I don't think we've ever seen an application where there were 62 objections and no objections on the night (the proposal was considered by council) because the applicant has been prepared to work with those objections, particularly around number of students and therefore traffic and I think that is a great credit to Haileybury," Cr

Doyle said.

Councillors were very supportive of the project but Cr Jackie Watts also commented on the need for public schooling in the city, saying: "I hope it will be complemented before too long with some state education."

The approved proposal will see an existing 10-storey vacant office tower on King St, just west of LaTrobe St, refurbished to cater for an early learning centre and a prep-to-year-12 school.

The school, which also has campuses in Keysborough, Brighton and Berwick, purchased the building from Singaporean developer Aspial Corporation last year for \$50 million.

Haileybury College principal Derek Scott said the school started to consider a CBD school six years ago and began closely analysing demographic data.

"It became clear about four years ago that trends were continuing and that the short-term trends and long-term demographic trends were in support of an inner-city school," Mr Scott said.

He said a KPMG study commissioned by the school supported the long-term trends over the next 30 years.

Mr Scott said the school hoped to begin refurbishment work in November.

Refurbishment plans include alterations to

the buildings exterior; outdoor play areas on the podium and building roofs and sports and indoor recreation facilities on the top floor.

The proposal also includes a plan to create a pick-up and drop-off area on the upper level of the basement to avoid traffic congestion on the street. School starting times will also be different for the junior, middle and senior schools to lessen the impact of students arriving and departing.

Mr Scott said the school didn't want to bring more cars into the city and would be covering the cost of public transport for staff.

"We think this should be an opportunity to provide an education facility that's sustainable and sees people walk, ride bikes and catch public transport in," Mr Scott said.

He said the school had already received an "extraordinary response" from the public with two-thirds of enquiries about plans for the school coming from within the City of Melbourne region.

Mr Scott said most of the enquiries had been received from the CBD, Docklands, Kensington and West Melbourne from people struggling to find spaces for their children in local schools.

The early learning centre component of the school could open as soon as next year, followed by prep through to year 10 in 2017. Years 11 and 12 would start in 2018.



Haileybury College principal Derek Scott.

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Free CBD WiFi is delayed

The roll out of the CBD's multi-million dollar free WiFi has stalled and it is unknown when the project will be implemented.

The State Government last year announced a \$6.7 million project comprising 1000 free WiFi hotspots in the Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo CBDs.

In Melbourne, a single free WiFi hotspot was established in the food court of the Queen Victoria Market but further announcements have not been made.

In January a spokesperson for the Digital Government section of the Department of Premier and Cabinet predicted the project would be completed by December.

"Further services are expected to be available on major streets, transport hubs and tourist precincts by mid-2015, with remaining coverage expected to be deployed by December 2015," the spokesperson told *CBD News*.

The Digital Government office no longer exists. In its place is an entity called Enterprise Solutions. Its website coyly refers to last year's change of government as: "In 2014, changes occurred within the Victorian Government. To reflect our new role and responsibilities, our name has been updated from Digital Government to Enterprise Solutions."

Since last year's announcement, the company contracted to roll out the "VicGovFree" project, iiNet, has been taken over by rival TPG in a \$1.56 billion deal, which was heavily scrutinised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

Before the takeover, iiNet was also expecting the project to be wrapped up by December.

The plan promised users a free 250Mb quota each day. Coverage was to include the City Circle Tram and City Loop train stations.

"Every student, professional, resident, tourist and business traveller can now enjoy 250 Mb of download daily," a Government promotional video says.

The City of Melbourne and the Victorian Government say that TPG is still committed to the deal.

The City of Melbourne told *CBD News*: "Progress continues on the Victorian Government's free public Wi-Fi pilot in the City of Melbourne."

"City of Melbourne is working closely with all stakeholders, namely TPG which recently acquired iiNet - the business contracted to deliver the pilot."

"The State Government is expected to make a public announcement on the status of the project in the coming weeks."

The State Government told *CBD News*: "iiNet, which is contracted to deliver the pilot, has recently been acquired by TPG. TPG is committed to the pilot and is working with the Government to explore how its involvement can add to the project. We will be making some more announcements regarding the pilot in the coming weeks."

Mobile phone coverage was extended to the City Loop last month.

On October 15 Public Transport Minister Jacinta Allan announced that passengers now have access to high-quality 3G voice and 4G data coverage throughout Melbourne's 12 kms of rail tunnels and underground stations.

The mobile coverage in the City Loop project is being delivered by Victorian rail asset owner VicTrack.

The Government says further work will be undertaken over the coming 12-18 months that will enhance 4G data services, increasing capacity and data speeds even further.

Ms Allan said: "This ends years of frustration for passengers, who would be in the middle of a conversation only for their phone to cut out when they entered the loop."



Unhappy with smoking ban

City Square trader Gerard Kelly is not happy with the City of Melbourne's open-area smoking ban, which enters its second month in November.

Mr Kelly says it's too early to tell how the ban is affecting his three hospitality businesses, but he has been told by some customers that they won't be back.

He said customers held the reasonable belief that they should be able to "go outside" to smoke. But from October 1, smoking is banned during the day in the

City Square.

"It's just too hard to police and govern," he said. "It would be OK if smoking was banned generally in public places. If the state legislated for the whole of Victoria, then people would understand it."

With massive disruption from the Metro Rail project looming, he said the council should have waited before introducing its first open-area smoking ban. He also questioned the council's pre-ban consultation.

"They claimed to have spoken to seven businesses. There are not seven businesses here. We are three businesses. Who else did they speak to?" he said.

"With some of our toughest trading conditions, this ban is just another obstacle we have to overcome."




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Tensions run hot on bicycle plan

A backlash against further advances towards Melbourne becoming more bicycle friendly was felt when Melbourne councillors discussed a new draft bicycle plan last month.

In a direct reflection of polarised community views about cyclists, some councillors expressed thinly veiled resentment that cyclists were again being given non-deserved privileges.

Councillors unanimously adopted for public consultation a Draft Bicycle Plan 2016-2020.

There was no argument about sustainability benefits or that improved safety and infrastructure should not be pursued. But underlying tension towards cyclists themselves bubbled to the surface.

Cr Ken Ong said of the plan: "It talks about education for children, parents and new residents. It doesn't talk about education for cyclists and behaviour of cyclists and the etiquette of cycling in the city - a built up, extremely busy city of 900,000 people a day."

Cr Ong was skeptical about the breakdown of the 7000 people who contributed to the plan.

"I do have a suspicion that a lot of them are cyclists who will be supporting this," he said. "There would be discussion at bicycle forums but guess who turns up at bicycle forums? Cyclists."

He encouraged council officers to specifically seek the views of non-cyclist residents who, he said, had issues with



Part of a "heat map" from the draft plan showing areas of concern to the cycling public.

speeding cyclists.

"I would like to see how we can encourage an education program ... to say 'there is a way to ride in the city,'" he said.

"If you go to Copenhagen and Amsterdam, you don't see a lot of people riding racing bikes in the middle of the city. I drive at 40km per hour and some of them overtake me. What is the rush in the city when we are telling everyone to slow down?"

"Many of us who walk in the city have had a number of near misses. I really need to get this off my chest."

"As a person who walks everywhere in the

city, it bugs me like hell," he said.

"Yes, when I look at all this, we are going to make the city better. But we're not Copenhagen. We're not Amsterdam. We're Melbourne!"

Cr Jackie Watts agreed that speeding cyclists were a problem.

"I have had many problems in parks, in having to leap away or bring my grandchildren out of the way of cyclists," she said.

"The problem we have in Melbourne I think is the tension between recreational cyclists and commuter cyclists."

Cr Rohan Leppert, however, pointed out that the draft plan did include actions to address cycle speed and education.

"There's a lot in here beside the general vibe that we're turning the city over to bikes," he said. "There's a lot of detail in here which goes into how we can make sure that those tensions which councillors have talked about tonight can be addressed through better infrastructure, through education and through better education."

"I do get increasingly frustrated that the very fact that we have a document before us called the bicycle plan has unleashed proxy debates about us being pro something, anti something and its all far more complicated than that."

"It's never so black or white. This isn't an anti-car council nor is it a pro-car council. It's all of those things, and none of those things at once."

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said: "Everyone wants access everywhere. That is not possible in a busy city with a million people coming in."

"It's our job to balance that, and that's what this plan does and it does it better than any other city that I know."



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Horse-drawn drama

By Jack Hayes

An incident on Grand Final Day aroused new tensions between the horse-drawn vehicle operators, Melbourne Against Horse-drawn Carriages activists and the City of Melbourne.

A teenager, who has since apologised for the incident, posted a video on social media of a horse lying on Swanston St, accusing its owner, Dean Chrichton, of neglect.

The teenager said he was too eager in posting the video and now recognised the animal had not been mistreated. Mr Chrichton explained the horse had been nipped on the neck by another horse causing it to fall.

The incident has reignited the debate between the three parties and has been heightened over the past weeks with the Melbourne Against Horse-drawn Carriage backers joining a "phone blockade" of the offices of Lord Mayor Robert Doyle – calling for a complete end to the trade.

There has been growing concern about horse-drawn carriages. The City of Melbourne says, even it wanted to, it was powerless to stop them because they were considered a vehicle by VicRoads.

The gathering momentum surrounding this divisive issue coincides with the start of Melbourne's famed spring racing carnival.

The anti-carriage movement, spear-headed by the Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses, will hold rallies on major carnival dates such as the Cox Plate, Derby Day and Melbourne Cup Day.



Festival kicks off with 'Tanderrum' ceremony

Words and photo by Katie Wong Hoy

Thousands flocked to Federation Square on Thursday, October 8 for "Tanderrum", the opening ceremony of the Melbourne Festival 2015.

Traditional indigenous chants, clap sticks and smoke filled the air, entrancing the crowd as the five clans of the Kulin Nation united for the ceremony.

Musical director of *Tanderrum* and Melbourne Festival ambassador, James Henry said it was satisfying to see the performance come together.

"To be able to show all that hard work to such a large, responsive audience in Melbourne, it just felt extra special," Mr Henry said.

"It was amazing to see everyone ... feeling very proud and confident to be able to put on their show for themselves and for the audience."

It was the third time *Tanderrum* has opened the Melbourne Festival, with preparations starting in June this year.

Josephine Ridge has been appointed creative director of the Melbourne Festival for the past three festivals. *Tanderrum* came about after a discussion she had in 2012 with Rachael Maza, the artistic director for Ilbjerri Theatre Company.

"When we held that (first *Tanderrum*) in October 2013, it was actually the first time since 1835 that all five clans had come together and done a joint ceremony in the City of Melbourne," Ms Ridge said.

The Melbourne Festival is in its 30th year and ran from October 8 to October 25.

Some highlights included a musical theatre performance of *The Rabbits*, a live adaptation of George Orwell's *1984* and the world premiere of the visual art exhibition *Secret Garden*.

When is a plan not a plan?

By Shane Scanlan

The City of Melbourne launched its draft Last Kilometre Freight Plan last month, but is it really a plan?

The council has expended a lot of time and effort (and money) getting parties together in search of innovative ideas around delivery of freight in the CBD.

The process threw up a few interesting ideas, as well as the expected impractical ones like using cargo bikes (try getting a van-load of goods into a cargo bike!), or the more fanciful use of "low impact vehicles" (whatever they are) and the introduction "quite loading dock technology" (another fantasy?).

Perhaps the council realised part-way through the process that it was more engaged in a workshop or a think-tank because, upon publishing the draft "plan", it admits that it has little jurisdiction.

Ultimately, the market determines how freight is delivered. The council is an interested by-stander.

In a preamble to introducing the draft for endorsement by councillors at their October 13 Future Melbourne Committee meeting, urban strategy manager Leanne Hodyl said: "The draft plan identifies that the private sector (deliverers and receivers of freight) have the greatest role in leading innovation in last kilometre freight. The council can play an important role in facilitating discussion and solutions, undertaking pilot programs, public leadership, communication and regulating the use of public space."

The "plan" makes interesting reading. But it's not a plan.

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The debate about density

With CBD planning under review for the next 12 months, we can expect to see public arguments develop both for and against mandatory density controls.

Speaking at separate forums in late September, influential planner Leanne Hodyl outlined a strong case for CBD density controls while Lord Mayor Robert Doyle spoke in favour of a more discretionary regime.

On September 24 Ms Hodyl told a Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) seminar that density controls were needed for a range of reasons.

The City of Melbourne planner said developers needed to have realistic expectations before buying land. She predicted poor apartment construction would continue without density controls.

"What we are seeing time and time again is developers coming in or, more to the point, it's often their architects coming in and often talking to us off-line saying 'we have been told we have to have this yield and it's actually not possible to deliver a good design outcome and that yield,'" Ms Hodyl said.

"So they're basically stuck. And that's where density does become critical in setting realistic expectations about what you can put on a site."

"We are getting some of those really bad design outcomes in those apartments because we are just jamming so many apartments onto a site. Yield comes first and then quality comes second," she said.

Speaking at a property forum hosted by CBRE Real Estate the following day, Cr Doyle said he preferred discretion in planning.

Cr Doyle said: "Mandated rules that are strict like that are probably not the way to go. But we do need some rules."

"I made the argument very strongly to the Minister that whatever you have, you must have discretion. Because if you simply bring in those rules, then some of the best developments wouldn't have happened."

"I believe there does need to be a discretionary power for the Minister to say 'you know what? This is a really good example of design, it makes a contribution to the city, it's respectful of the street. It might be higher than we might like but it is a better overall outcome.' And I would much rather see him doing that," Cr Doyle said.



(from left) Mark Wizel, Gary Morgan and Zelman Ainsworth listen to Cr Doyle at the September 25 forum.

Cr Doyle and Ms Hodyl are aligned on height not being, in itself, a problem.

At the PIA conference, Ms Hodyl said: "Height is not the problem. We've got to stop talking about height all of the time. I think we tend to have an emotional response to height, which is a bit irrational at times. I think you can have fantastic high-rise buildings. It's how they are delivered which is really key."

But, in arguing for mandatory density controls, she said: "There's no link at the moment about how many people are coming and the provision of community infrastructure. There's no certainty about how many people are coming. There's no ceiling on development and the Property

Council keeps telling us they want carrots and not sticks. But you can't give a carrot until there's a ceiling and at the moment they can go as high as they like," she said.

Cr Doyle said: "I think we've got to be ambitious for our city in the development we encourage, but we don't want to discourage development - a point I made to the Treasurer and was not lost on him."

"If you look at sales in retail, commercial and residential, it's \$3 billion each year over the last two years in the central city on a 10-year average of \$1 billion a year. Treasurers do their sums very quickly and work out what that means in stamp duty and land tax. And so a slow-down there is not what a state economy will want."

No action on motorcycle parking

Motorcycles parked on CBD footpaths will remain legal following investigation by the City of Melbourne.

Councillors in May asked officers to investigate whether motorcycles in narrow streets were impeding pedestrians.

Acting engineers services manager Michael Norton reported to the October 13 Future Melbourne Committee meeting that surveys were conducted in July, August and September but no real problem was found.

"Given that no inappropriate motorcycle parking was observed on the narrow footpaths in the little east-west streets, it is considered unnecessary to install signage prohibiting the parking of motorcycles on the narrow footpaths," Mr Norton's report reads.

"It is possible that motorcycles may sometimes be parked on the narrow footpaths, however there were no recorded observations of this during any of the survey periods," Mr Norton said.

Mr Norton's report said: "Motorcycles are a space saving, convenient and lower cost alternative to private cars, and are well suited to the city's inner urban areas."

"As such, motorcycling can play an important role in supporting the city's liveability by taking pressure off the road network and reducing congestion."

Transport chair Cr Cathy Oke appeared unconvinced and proposed a unanimously-successful motion which sends officers back to have another look at the narrow streets every six months.

The council will, by December, convert 20 car parking spaces into free motorcycle spaces at an estimated annual lost of parking revenue of \$108,000.

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0437 070 300
tim.last@cbre.com.au

It's now a tradition

These three mates (right) have met for breakfast every Friday for decades.

It started 40-years ago with business breakfast meetings and now continues into retirement. Graeme Brown, David Sinclair and Bob Hanton obviously love each others' company. For the last 10 years they have been meeting in Royal Arcade.



Thieves active

Local police have cautioned vigilance against theft.

Acting Sen Sgt Peter Robertson of Melbourne East Police Station says bag and phone theft is particularly prevalent around Melbourne Central and QV.

"Statistics from these areas show up every month, but increases in the number of people also means more opportunity for thieves," he said.

A unique CBD garden home

By Louis Blake

For caretaker John Haig, the Flagstaff Gardens are more than just a temporary escape. For John and his family, the gardens are his livelihood and a unique place to call home.

The gardens offer CBD locals a retreat from the hustle of urban city life. So it's easy to miss and even easier to assume that nobody lives there.

However, in the middle of the gardens lies a modest brick house. From the front veranda, a line of trees blocks the outside world.

And, if it weren't for the constant rumble of engines or the occasional blast of a horn it's easy to imagine that you're actually sitting in the middle of bush land, not in the urban heart of Melbourne. "It's absolutely a unique existence, it's definitely very special," John said. "I have a friend who's a real-estate agent. He's always telling me that I'm living in one of the best properties in the city. You just couldn't buy a place like this."

After living in Coburg for 17 years, John and his family were given the opportunity to live and work in one of the many gardens in the CBD when the contract for their

maintenance and upkeep changed hands.

"When we came to check the house out, it was actually my first time in the gardens. I just thought oh wow this is great. We couldn't really pass up living in a public park in one of the best cities in the world."

Until very recently the caretakers lodge didn't even have an official address. John said: "We couldn't hook up our phone line or internet because of it."

"We were a little concerned that we would feel like we were living in a fishbowl with people looking at us," John said.

John has found, however, that most people are going about their own business and it's much easier than he first imagined.

"We do get a fair few strange looks when we drive the family car through the gardens," he said.

Far from feeling ogled, John has come to love the community-feel that the gardens have. As he is a reliable fixture, there are plenty of regulars who now stop to talk as he goes about his duties.

As the gardens offer a retreat for many city-goers, so too John has been pleasantly surprised by how un-urbanised his life feels. "Yeah we're in the city, we're right beside Victoria Market and the legal district but we've got this awesome front yard, this buffer of trees and park," he said.

Some noise does filter in from the close

by bowling greens and netball courts but, according to John: "It's actually quite nice, you feel like you're in amongst a bit of life." Being a father, security was another concern for John when considering moving into such a public space.

"Most of the time it's felt pretty safe," John said. "We do get a few disadvantaged and homeless people who congregate in the park at night."

"People think that the homeless will be trouble. They very rarely are. In fact, they're probably vulnerable themselves."

"We have found someone's sleeping bag directly under our bedroom window. We've had people wondering around our garden. That can feel a little invasive. It's like any urban space you have to be careful."

Overall, John loves living in the green heart of Melbourne. He works in the gardens because he really wants people to enjoy them.

It's very easy to take for granted the expanses of green space that we have in Melbourne. It's so simple not to consider the time and effort it takes to maintain them.

John says he takes a lot of pride in his work. So next time you happen to pass through Flagstaff Gardens look out for John and thank him for his hard work.

Without the psychological benefits of Melbourne's green belts, we could just go a little insane.



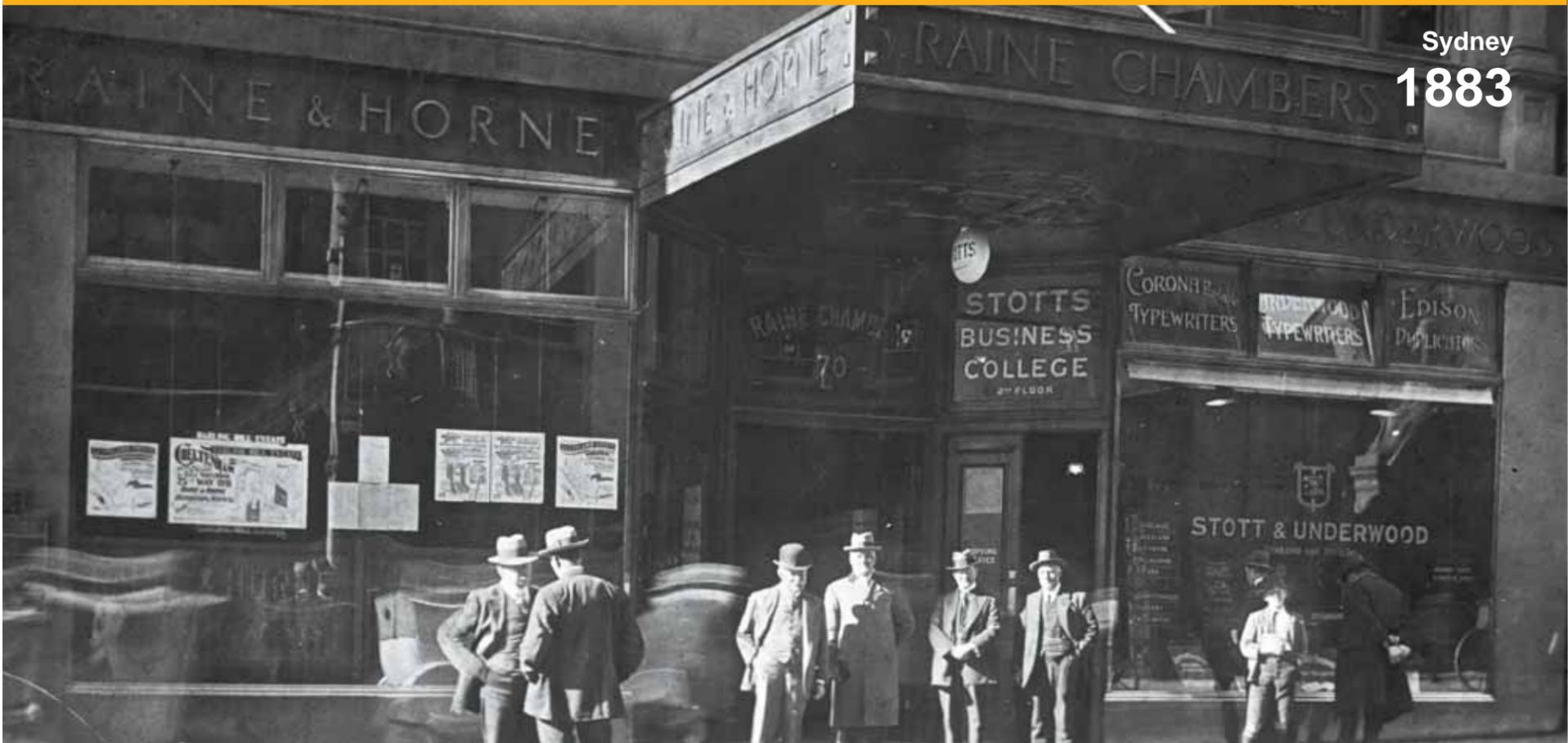
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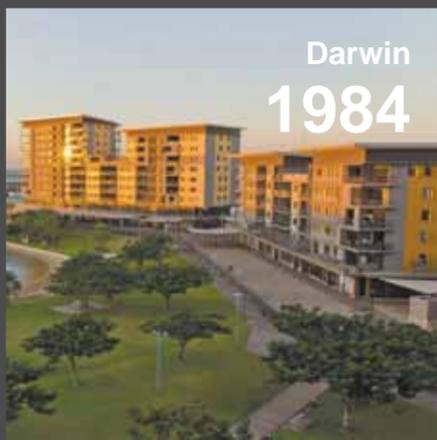


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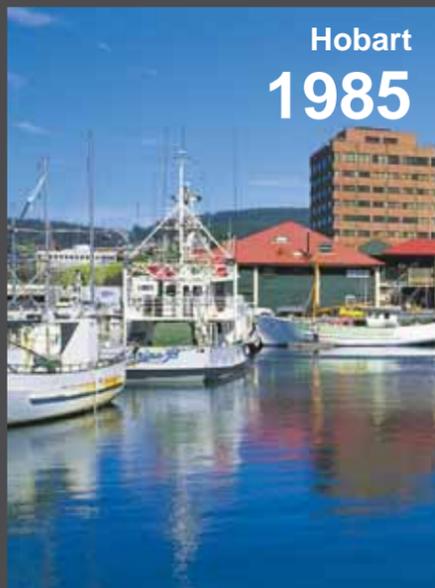
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1977



Darwin
1984



Hobart
1985



Perth
1987



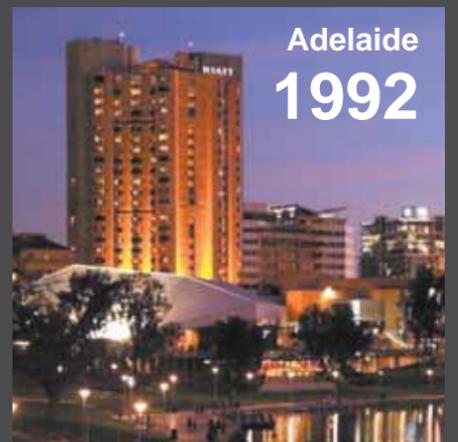
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1997



Hong Kong
1989



Malaysia
1998



Adelaide
1992



Beijing
2014



India
1999



Dubai
2015

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Safer tram barriers

Local police are happy with revised tram stop barriers similar to one which almost claimed the life of an officer earlier this year.

A 33-year-old senior constable came within millimetres of being killed in the early hours of June 16, when a pedestrian barrier pierced through his police van at the tram stop outside Federation Square.

Yarra Trams has since upgraded the barrier and in September also changed the barriers outside Southern Cross Station on Spencer St and outside Melbourne Central Station on Swanston St.

The new barriers are adorned with reflectors and are believed to be constructed in a more forgiving fashion.

Inspector Ian Geddes told *CBD News* police were consulted on the new designs.

Inspector Geddes also said the investigation into the crash was continuing.

Yarra Trams spokesperson Simon Murphy said: "Yarra Trams regularly liaises with all emergency services to ensure they are familiar with tram network infrastructure and specific discussions were held on the topic of central pedestrian barriers."



Student talent on show

From Page 1

"One of the first things we decided was we wanted to do pieces that were probably going to take quite a lot of time and detail. That's why we stuck with the three of us," Ms Smith said.

"We didn't really have too much of a theme other than art and we just wanted to create a mood more than anything ... we chose to do the gallery style presentation."

The eight students spent two intensive weeks planning the show, which involved organising a budget, shopping for materials, making the costumes, creating the hairstyles and make-up and performing the show.

When the day finally came around, the audience was suitably surprised at the unveiling of the creations.

"The reaction was shock and a feeling of anticipation and evoking sort of a mystery around it. What we pulled off, people weren't expecting," Ms Smith said.

"I think people were pretty impressed, which was great after all that two weeks of hard work."



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Melbourne CBD East: 100 Exhibition Street, 9650 2233.

Melbourne CBD West: 470 Collins Street, 9620 4944.

Melbourne Central: Lower Ground, near Lonsdale St exit, 9639 8277.

Little Collins Street Melbourne: 309 Little Collins St, 9654 7288.

Docklands: (Opposite Etihad Stadium Gate 2), 9670 7400.





Emily Siddons, Alistair McLean and Edd Fisher.



Theresa Verwegen, Ina Kuhu and Gabriele Urban.



Bryget Chrisfield, Patrick Donovan and Cara Williams.

Melbourne Music Week offers up the goods

Back for its sixth year, Melbourne Music Week (MMW) was launched on October 7, announcing a jam-packed program, with over 100 events held across the city from November 13 - 20.

For eight days and nights, MMW will pry open basement doors, activate laneways, light up the silver screen and shake up the dance floor at some of Melbourne's most iconic music venues.

Alongside an electric line-up of local and international acts, MMW's 2015 program will also feature a range of industry events, exhibitions, film screenings, workshops, panel discussions and more.

The 2015 MMW flagship venue will be the disused basement and adjoining rooms of

the Former Royal Women's Hospital (Cnr of Swanston and Grattan streets, Carlton). Labyrinthine music event Swell will reinvent 12 of the venue's forgotten rooms, with secret one-off performances that challenge the way punters experience live music.

The flagship venue will stage shows that feature artists Gypsy & The Cat, Monolake (Germany), Banoffee, Eric Duncan (USA) aka Dr Drunks, Public Opinion Six, PVT, Kenton Slash Demon (Denmark), The Harpoons, Cobblestone Jazz (Canada), DZ Deathrays and many more.

Business counts the cost of holiday

Local businesses are hoping that Premier Daniel Andrews can admit a mistake and withdraw the grand final holiday by next September.

Companies surveyed by *CBD News* were almost all universally damning of the holiday.

Only William St barber Ibrahim El Osman was mildly supportive. "City was quieter but we did OK," he said. "But there was less trade than a normal Friday as offices were closed."

At the other end of the scale was Lauren Bennett of Rare Steakhouse who said the holiday was "the worst idea ever".

"With any luck, they'll figure it out and cancel it for next year - not sure how they will do it and still save face," she said.

Ms Bennett said her Friday lunch trade dropped from 70 to just three people and, while Friday dinner was good, Saturday night trade was down by about half. She said a Monday holiday would be preferable.

"Friday is the busiest day of the week and is the bulk of a business's takings. If we closed, we would risk affecting our good will," she said. "The staff were kept as skeleton crew which could affect quality of service, so it really does not benefit staff either - they either lose a day's wages or are forced to come to work for a short shift."

Snap Printing's Simon Morcom said the holiday hurt his business.

"It created a terrible rushed disruption to the working week and coupled with school holidays seriously affected our turnover," Mr Morcom said.

Lawyer Glenn Harvey said: "All I can really say is that the holiday cost us lost income (as no productivity) and extra expense due to still having to pay staff (like most businesses) and we don't support it at all."

Corporate caterer Duncan Scudamore said: "We closed for the day as penalty rates would require us to almost double our sales on the

day to make it worthwhile to open."

"Our sales figure for the week was 30 per cent less than our normal weekly sales.

Our casual staff lost 35 per cent of their normal hours for the week - something they can ill afford."

"Clearly the State Government has no idea financially and is anti business."

"While the Government will talk about hotel occupancies improving over the holiday, restaurants being busier etc, they neglect to take into account the profitability of the operations on the public holidays."

"Due to public holiday loadings, most businesses are merely remaining open to pay the staff, not to make a profit on those public holidays - it's just not possible to make a profit when one of your major expense lines increases by 150 per cent."

Property Council executive director Jennifer Cunich said the holiday was an unnecessary cost burden on the Victorian economy.

"No government has ever created more jobs by increasing the cost burden on small business," Ms Cunich said.

"This additional public holiday has hurt Victoria's small business owners with many being forced to close or absorb losses on the day. While we recognise the value to families in the outer suburbs being able to venture into the city to participate in the Grand Final Parade, the price is simply too high."

Raine and Horne Victoria managing director Randolph Clements said: "Victoria is the land of entitlements and public holidays. It's the reason why India and China are overtaking the western world. It's the reason why the world can produce, manufacture and have the goods shipped or have air expressed across cheaper within days."

"We should have a public holiday for not only Melbourne Cup or Grand Final but as well the finals of the Australian Open Tennis and golf, NRL rugby, not to mention Australian Grand Prix (perhaps not, it's not been around as long)."

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Friday | Flinders St cheese burger with onion rings

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Melburnians blown away by the pipes of the Grand Organ

By Katie Wong Hoy

Seniors and students flocked to Melbourne Town Hall on Wednesday, October 7 to be serenaded by the glorious pipes of the Grand Organ.

The first concert was one of many events organised in the CBD as part of the Seniors Festival 2015.

German organist extraordinaire, Christian Schmitt, brought the magnificent organ to life blowing away those who were lucky to attend.

Audience member Frances Papp said she decided to do something for herself and attend the Town Hall Grand Organ recital.

“For the past quite a few number of years I was a carer for my husband and I’ve never really taken advantage of the Seniors Festival before,” Ms Papp said.

“I like the organ music because it is so dramatic in parts and I just love it when it nearly pulls the walls down! It was lovely. I enjoyed it very much.”

Chair of the City of Melbourne’s arts portfolio Cr Rohan Leppert said the concerts were a fantastic opportunity for Melbourne to feature the outstanding instrument.

“These performances promise to showcase the musical brilliance of the Grand Organ, Melbourne’s much loved instrument that attracts international artists and emerging talent alike,” Cr Leppert said.

The Grand Organ was played again later in the same day for a less traditional



Frances Papp after the show ... she's now inspired to explore more of the CBD.

concert called *dis-organ-eyes-d*, aimed at Melbourne’s youth. The music featured was composed by RMIT students and included interactive light projections.

Known for its culture, Melbourne’s CBD is a hub for musical events around Australia.

Senior Melbourne couple Joe and Dorothy Blitz also listened to the early concert and were impressed by Christian Schmitt’s performance. Mr Blitz moved to Australia from Holland and has lived in Melbourne ever since.

“I’ve been all over the place but Melbourne is the best place to go to and stay. I just love it!” Mr Blitz said.

Mrs Blitz said people were attracted to Melbourne for its big events including those on the cultural calendar.

“They’ve always got something on – theatre, shows, everything. People seem to come here for cultural things,” Mrs Blitz said.

With about 10,000 pipes, the Grand Organ is the largest instrument in the Southern Hemisphere. It was originally built in 1929 before being refurbished to its current beautiful state in 2001.

After losing her husband last year, Mrs Papp said her trip into the city had inspired her to rediscover Melbourne’s CBD.

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AN ARCHITECTURAL WONDER

Have you visited MPavilion yet?

MPavilion is a temporary pavilion located in Queen Victoria Gardens. The unique architecture commission was founded in 2014 by the Naomi Milgrom Foundation (with support from City of Melbourne and the Victorian State Government).

This year's MPavilion was designed by AL_A, the studio of award-winning architect Amanda Levete.

Ms Levete said their MPavilion was designed to create the sensation of a forest canopy. AL_A used the latest technology in nautical engineering to achieve this effect.

"By exploiting the temporary nature of the pavilion form, our design subverts the norms of immovable," Levete said.

"It embraces and amplifies such distinctions, so that it speaks in response to the weather, and moves with the wind rather than trying to keep it at bay."

MPavilion is also a central hub and meeting place for free events. There are numerous events taking place throughout November and here is a list of what's on at lunchtime.

A great place to start is the MPavilion Walk. Architecture fans are invited to walk between the 2014 MPavilion (designed by Sean Godsell and located at the Hellenic Museum, William St) and the MPavilion 2015. The Hellenic Museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-4pm.



If you're feeling a bit peckish, you can sample a variety of food and drinks at The Kiosk. There are specially designed picnic kits for lunch, first-class coffee and a mix of drinks at after-hours events. The Kiosk is at MPavilion.

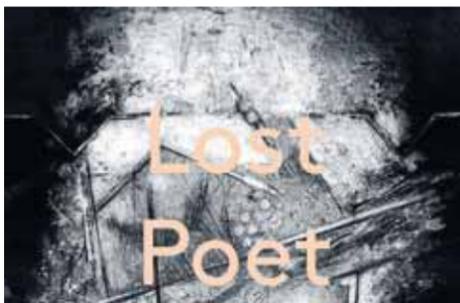
There is also an assortment of events on. Catie Gett (naturopath and owner of wholefoods emporium The Staple Store) is hosting a tea meet on Thursday, November 5 at 1pm. She will offer tips on how to craft your own signature blends and brew up her own selection of teas.

Belinda Evans (from the online store and label Alchemy) is offering a lesson on how to make your own smudge stick. This event is at 1pm-2pm on Thursday, November 12.

The School of Life is presenting *The Wisdom of Poetry* on Wednesday, November 18 from 1pm-2pm. Robert Wood will use interactive exercises to explore how key thinkers have shaped the world of poetry.

For more information about what's on in November at MPavilion, head to www.mpavilion.org/

HIGHLIGHTS



Lost Poet

Paintings and etchings by Margaret Dredge

October 1 - December 1, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
Vickery Room, Suite 207, The Nicholas Building, Swanson St



Brooches at Erika

Pick the perfect tree this Christmas, with our festive brooches in store now!

437 Little Collins St
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www.erikaboutique.com.au



The Crime and Justice Festival

A unique annual event that combines the crime fiction genre with discussions on the law, social justice, human rights and general social commentary.

Thursday, Nov 12 - Sunday, Nov 15
Reader's Feast Bookstore, 162 Collins St
www.crimeandjusticefestival.com



Melbourne Prize for Literature

The finalists for the Melbourne Prize for Literature have been announced, and you can cast your vote!

Monday, Nov 9 - Monday, Nov 23
Open all day
Federation Square
www.melbourneprize.org



Early Melbourne Paintings Tour

A private collection of stunning paintings from the 1840s to 1870s offers a glimpse into the beginnings of Melbourne.

11am-noon Friday, Nov 20
Old Treasury Building
20 Spring St
www.oldtreasurybuilding.org.au/events



Newsworthy

Explore the State Library's newspaper collection and learn how to search old papers for information.

10.15am-12.15pm Wednesday, Nov 25
State Library of Victoria
328 Swanston Street
www.slv.vic.gov.au/whats-on/newsworthy



A VERY CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

Head to the Rendezvous Hotel on Flinders St in November and December for a very, very Christmas function for your group.

The creative chefs at the Rendezvous Hotel have put together a mouth-watering lunch buffet running every Thursday and Friday between November 19 and December 18.

Packaged as the “12 Days of Christmas”, the team has pulled out all stops with soups, hot and cold selections, mezze platters, salads and desserts. All the favourites are there: roast meats and vegies, puddings, sauces, stuffings, pastries and tarts. And executive chef Anthony Johnson has added some contemporary surprises that are likely to cause considerable hesitation when filling your plate.

But don’t worry, the lunch runs from midday until 3pm, so take your time and graze the afternoon away.

Being a buffet, you eat what you like. You could indulge on the starters and mains, or go easy to leave plenty of room for desserts.

“12 Days of Christmas” is ideal for individuals or groups of up to 20 people.

The acclaimed Straits Café can comfortably seat 120 but, even so, it would be wise to book early. What a great option for small businesses wanting to end the year in style without the bother of having to organise something!

The Straits Café is currently ranked 25 out of 2942 Melbourne restaurants on Trip Adviser, with many reviewers praising the personable nature of restaurant managers Mishra and Alam.

Reviews like this recent one are common: “Superb built environment matched by service of the highest standards. So good that I had to compliment Mishra in hospitality as providing amongst the best service that I have experienced anywhere, anytime. Ditto too for the superb food created by chefs Saurabh (sous-chef) and Jose and the whole dining experience created by the Straits Café team. Congratulations on a wonderful venue that for people who like authentic restorations on a grand scale like I do, was superb. And

equalled by the high quality staff giving first class service.”

According to the Rendezvous’ Sara Regan, the high ranking is not an accident but, rather, the result of a lot of hard work from Anthony, sous chef Saurabh and their team.

“It’s remarkable how hard the guys have worked on the menus and on old-fashioned customer service,” she said. “The other chefs in the kitchen are just as committed to pleasing patrons too.”

The pair collaborate on the special occasion buffets and are particularly excited about this year’s “12 Days of Christmas” offering.

The restaurant will be tastefully themed and daily door prizes will add to the festive atmosphere.

The \$49 cost includes all food and a glass of wine. Book your place by ringing 9250 1888 or email reservations.melbourne@rendezvous-hotels.com. Straits Café is located at the Rendezvous Hotel, 328 Flinders St.

A MUSICAL NOVEMBER

Melbourne Music Week is returning for its sixth year

Melbourne Music Week is set to captivate audiences from November 13-20.

More than 100 events will take place over the six-day period. Half of the events are free, which makes it even better! The majority of the artists are also Victorian.

Here are some of the events that are taking place in inner-Melbourne:



Play it Safe

A debut film from writer/director Chris Pahlow that examines a generation with endless opportunities.

8.30pm-10.30pm
Thursday, November 19
Rooftop Cinema
Free

Amy

A film that investigates the life and death of Amy Winehouse.

8.30pm-10.30pm
Tuesday, November 17
Rooftop Cinema
Free

Straight Outta Compton

A film that explores the creation of early 1990s hip-hop.

8.30pm-10.30pm
Wednesday, November 18
Rooftop Cinema
Free

Launch of the Docks Exhibition

Melbourne Library Services presents the launch of The Docks Exhibition: Melbourne's Cultural Underground of the 90s.

6.30pm-8.30pm
Friday, November 13
Library at the Dock
Free but registration is required

Success: Liam Finn

Liam Finn will tackle the concept of success and all it entails.

7pm-8pm
Friday, November 20
Australian Centre for the Moving Image
Prices vary

Deep Leads: The Orbweavers

Deep Leads is a film presented by The Orbweavers and Berlin-based Australian artist Lucy Dyson.

7pm-8pm
Thursday, November 19
Australian Centre for the Moving Image
Prices vary

Women of Soul

Some of Australia's finest female vocalists and songwriters will open Federation Square's 2015 summer music series Fed Square Live.

5.30pm-7.30pm
Thursday, November 19
Federation Square
Free

Breakout

RMIT University and MMW have combined forces to present an eco-conscious performance with some of Melbourne's best emerging artists.

3pm-7pm
Friday, November 13
RMIT University Chambers Courtyard
Free

Interwoven

Woodes and Wona Bae will transform a church into an interactive installation.

This event will be open for the duration of the festival
The Church of Bang Bang Boogaloo
Free

Reimagined Jazz

Emerging musicians will present surprise performances throughout the festival.

A variety of dates and times
Emporium Melbourne
Free



> If you would like to find out about all of the great events that will be on during the Festival, visit thatsmelbourne.com.au/mmw

HIGHLIGHTS



Heartfulness Meditation

Learn how to meditate.

6pm-7pm
Every Tuesday
Melbourne Multicultural Hub
506 Elizabeth St
en.heartfulness.org



Stir Frydays at QVM

Friday 5pm witnesses the transformation of Queen Victoria Market into a fusion of Asian delights. Enjoy entertainment, bars and Asian street food.

5pm - 9pm
Every Friday until November 27
Queen Victoria Market
www.qvm.com.au/stir-frydays



Tango Classes

Learn how to tango for \$1.

6.30pm-7pm
Every Monday until 21 December
The Bull and Bear Tavern
347 Flinders Lane
www.facebook.com/groups/641930745855768



Rooftop Bar

Climb to the top of Curtin House to enjoy drinks with one of the best views over Melbourne. Open daily from noon.

Curtis House
252 Swanston St



WaterAid's It's No Joke Comedy

See some of Australia's favourite comedians at a fun-filled night and help raise money for WaterAid.

Tickets from \$38
7pm-9pm
Wednesday, November 18
Shebeen Bandroom, 36 Manchester Lane



Life With Paint

Host artists shows how to recreate a chosen artwork, before giving the audience the tools to let their creativity flow.

Tickets \$50
7pm - 9pm
Every Wednesday until December 30
Coopers Inn Pub, 282 Exhibition St
www.lifewithpaint.com

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The Interrobang

The Interrobang is a new and unusual Festival of Questions. It is a festival shaped entirely by the public and is looking for the best questions in the world.

Participants on the website are invited to post a question (if they have one), and vote for their favourite questions. The festival

takes place on November 27-28 when the most controversial, revealing, funny and insightful ideas will be presented to a panel for discussion.

For more information on tickets and locations (or to post a question), visit theinterrobang.wheelercentre.com



Mind Body Spirit Festival

The Mind Body Spirit Festival is Australia's largest health, well-being and natural therapies event. This year the festival is at Melbourne Exhibition Centre from November 20-22.

The festival focuses on empowering the mind, improving the body and exploring the spirit. There will be over 200 exhibitors and a variety of free inspirational seminars, performances and sessions.

It's a great way to discover the latest in natural health and well-being. Tickets cost \$16 to purchase online and \$20 at the door. For more information, head to www.mbsfestival.com.au



Other festivals to look out for!



The Polish Festival

A celebration of Polish culture is headed to Melbourne. The Polish Festival is hitting Federation Square from 10am-5pm on Sunday, November 15.

The festival will showcase the food, language and customs of Poland through a variety of activities and events. The day-long event attracts more than 50,000 visitors to sample the stalls or Polish wares and culinary treats, performances, art exhibitions and craft demonstrations.

This is a festival with something for everyone, including the children. And luckily, it's a free event.

To find out more, visit www.polishfestival.com.au



Thessaloniki and Melbourne Sister City Festival

The Thessaloniki Association annual festival in Melbourne celebrates the relationship between the two cities. But this is a festival that begins with a twist.

A parade of musicians and dancers will start the festivities in the centre of Melbourne and move on to Federation Square. Once the groups reach Federation Square, the festival officially begins!

The festival features a variety of performances, Greek food, a food exhibition and promises to be lots of fun. Businesses from both Greece and Melbourne will showcase their wares.

The festival will be held on Sunday, November 29, from 2pm until late. For more information, visit thessaloniki.org.au

HIGHLIGHTS



Now Open Saturdays

The recently refurbished Metropolitan Hotel is now open all day Saturdays for breakfast, lunch, dinner and drinks. Join us from 9 am!

The Metropolitan Hotel
263 William St
www.metropolitan.melbourne - 9670 1385



When I grow up

Comedy and cabaret for those who never really made the full leap into adulthood. With wine. Tickets from \$25

7pm - 8pm
Every Wednesday to Sunday until
November 29.
The Butterfly Club



Craft Pop-up Shop

Melbourne Town Hall transforms into a space for local crafts people to showcase their work, as well as opening up a dialogue between viewer and artist.

11am - 6pm
Every day until Saturday November 21
Melbourne Town Hall, 90-130 Swanston St



Impossible Occurrences

Award-winning magician Luke Hocking will intrigue and amaze you. Tickets from \$35

Two sessions every Friday until Dec 19
Marriott Hotel Melbourne
Lonsdale Street & Exhibition Street
www.impossibleoccurrences.com.au



LOL Fridays: Lip Sync Battle

Compete against other patrons without the fear of sounding off-key in this hilarious battle of lipsyncing. Entry \$5

10pm - late
Every Friday
La Di Da, 577 Little Bourke St



Signal Media Artist's workshops

Pop in to the lab-style sessions to learn about 3D printing, mechanisms and media art.

11am - 4pm
Every Saturday until June 30, 2016
Signal, Northbank
Flinders Walk

市中心免费上网推迟了

这项几百万澳元的市中心免费上网的项目已经搁浅，而且还不知道何时启动。

去年州政府公布了这个670万的项目，包括在墨尔本巴拉瑞特和本迪戈市中心建立1000个免费上网网点。

在墨尔本维多利亚女皇市场的美食广场已建立了一个免费上网网点，可是没有进一步建立其它网点的通告。

州长内阁事务厅的数码政府办公室的发言人在一月份预测了该项目将会在12月完成。

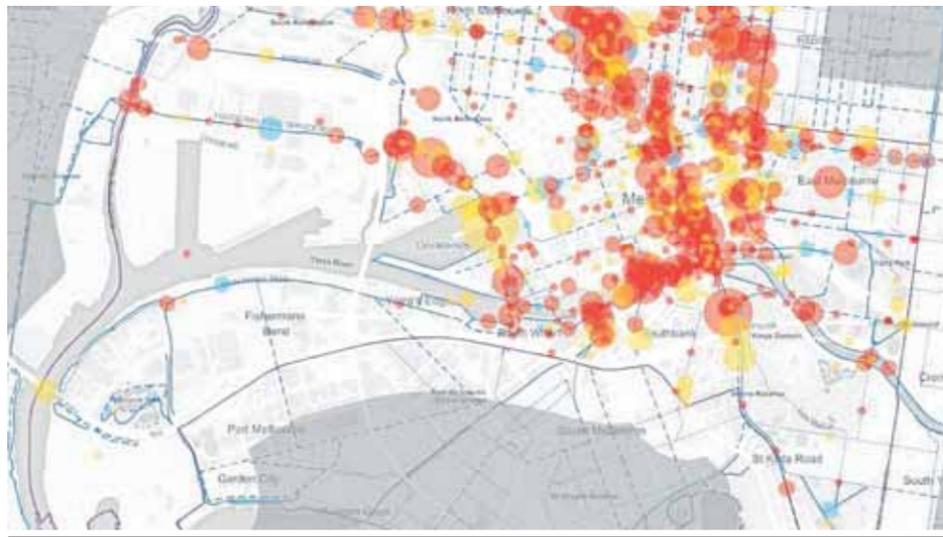
他对本报(CBD News)说：“到2015年年中，在主要街道、公交站和旅游景点将提供免费上网，市区其它地区的免费上网服务将在2015年12月实施。”

现在这个数码政府办公室不存在了，取而代之的部门叫“企业解决方法”办公室。该部门的网站也含蓄地写道：“2014年，维多利亚政府改选了，为了能反映新政府的新功能和责任，我们将原来的数码政府办公室改名为企业解决方法办公室。”

自去年州政府公布这个项目后，承包这个“州政府免费上网项目”(VicGovFree)的iiNet公司已被他的竞争对手TPG以15.6亿澳元的交易所取代，此交易已被澳大利亚公平竞争和消费者委员会严格审查。

iiNet公司在被取代前曾预期该项目将在12月完成。

墨尔本市政府和维多利亚州政府都表示TPG将仍然实施这个项目。



草案计划中所显示的是骑车者所担心的部分“热点区域”

自行车计划的争论升温

在上个月的墨尔本市政会议上，讨论了有关进一步把墨尔本市发展成对骑自行车更方便的新草案中，明显感到有反对的意见。

社区对骑自行车者给予绝然不同的反映意见，一些市政议员表示了路人皆知的不满，觉得又要给骑自行车者不该有的特权。

议员们一致通过，对2016-2020年自行车计划草案将进行公众意见征询。

在对自行车带来的可持续性益处或改善的安全没有任何异议，也不必增加有关基础设施。但是对骑自行车者本身的争议却浮出水面。

肯·温(Ken Ong)议员说：“该计划谈论的是对孩子，父母和新居民的教育，而不谈论对骑车者的教育，骑车者的行为以及在市中心骑车的礼仪。这是一个每天有90万人的极其繁忙的城市。”

肯·温议员对促成该计划的7000人的人员组合持怀疑态度。他说：“我怀疑他们大多数是支持这个计划的骑自行车者。”他还说：“此事会在自行车论坛上讨论，可参加论坛的又会是谁呢？骑车者。”

他鼓励市政府工作人员去特别征询那些非骑车的市区居民意见，因为他们对骑车者骑车过快有意见。

杰姬·瓦兹(Jackie Watts)议员也同意，觉得骑车过快是一个问题。

她说：“我在公园里就碰到很多这样的问题，我不得不跳开或者带着我的孙儿躲开骑车者。”

获准在市中心建立学校

黑利伯瑞(Haileybury)学校将在市中心建立一所分校。在上个月的墨尔本市政会议上，一致通过了该学校提议的建立一所立式分校。

这家私立学校将最早在明年建立该分校的幼儿教育中心并从2017年至2018年招收学前至十二年级的学生。

这所学校是第一家在市中心建校，这对居住在市中心的家庭来说是一个极大的欣慰，因为在这之前根本就没有市中心就学的选择。

这项提议的通过令人印象深刻，联想到学校的提议最初遇到了62个异议反对，主要涉及对交通和拥堵的担忧。

但是通过和反对者进行协商后，在9月6日举行的墨尔本未来委员会会议上，市政议员们考虑了该提议，却没有任何异议了。

该提议能够获得如此大的逆转，是由于该私校同意到2025年将学生招收人数由1300名减少到774名。

墨尔本市市长罗伯特·道尔(Robert Doyle)对此提议的变化表示了惊异，说：“以前从未见过。”

道尔市长说“像这样对提议原先有62项反对，(此提议要经过市政议会考量)到了那天晚上却一个反对都没有了，我从来没遇见过。主要是因为提议申请者已经做好与反对者进行协商的准备工作，尤其是在招收学生人数和交通方面，我觉得这方面黑利伯瑞学校做得很好。”

市政议员们对此项目非常支持，在市中心上学的需求上，杰姬·瓦兹(Jackie Watts)议员也评论说：“我希望在长久等待州公立教育之前，这会是一个很好的补充。”

这项批准的项目将建在LaTrobe街西面的King街上，对一座现有的10层办公楼进行改造，装修后将可容纳一个幼儿教育中心和一个从学前班到12年级的学校。

黑利伯瑞学校去年以5千万澳元从新加坡开发商手中收购了这个办公楼。该学校在Keysborough, Brighton 和 Berwick区都有分校。



黑利伯瑞(Haileybury)学校校长德里克·斯科特(Derek Scott)

呼吁建楼规划的自由裁量权

城市专家预测如果继续市中心强制性规划控制的话，那公寓楼就更负担不起了。

在10月8日的房产管理研讨会上，Urbis公司规划设计总监萨拉·霍斯菲尔德(Sarah Horsfield)表示，新的强制性北岸(Northbank)规划规定可能使Flinders街上一些物业的发展潜力减半。

此外主任建筑师克雷格·叶兰德(Craig Yelland)说，强制性的后置和高度限制规定可能造成公寓的建设成本翻一番。

明年市中心和南岸(Southbank)会受到强制性的规划控制，而州政府审查并同意了新的规划细则。

两位专家都认为，这不是控制本身有问题 - 而它们是强制性的，这样自由裁量权就被删除了。

而此前要求开发商不能对河南岸遮

影，新的规则对自北岸15米区域内加以遮影规定。

霍斯菲尔德女士说根据强制性规定，她曾模拟Flinders街上的一些物业，发现其中一些已经失去了一半的商业潜力。

叶兰德先生同意并预计有三分之一的有潜力开发地块(较小的地块)在新的强制性后置和高度限制规定下将失去其发展可行性。

他说这样的供应短缺将经历数年，并导致价格等同于悉尼。

他说：“这里的公寓售价为每平方米8千至1万澳元。而悉尼每平方米则卖到1万5千到2万澳元。我们正在往负担不起的方向走，这也是未来五年的最终结果。”

摩托车停车没有变动

经墨尔本市政府的调查，摩托车停在市中心人行道上仍属合法。

市政议员5月份要求市府工作人员实地考察摩托车在狭窄街道上停车是否影响行人。

在10月13日的墨尔本未来发展委员会会议上，工程服务代主管经理马克·诺腾(Michael Norton)汇报了在7月、8月和9月的调查，并没发现有什么实际问题。

诺腾先生在他的报告中说：“在东西方向的狭窄街道中，没有发现摩托车停在狭窄的人行道上，因此可以考虑不必安装禁止摩托车停在狭窄人行道上的标志牌。”

Hangin' with the HoMies

By Kara Bertoncini

In a fast-paced society it is humbling to know there are people like Nick Pearce taking the initiative to create awareness.

Mr Pearce is one of the co-founders of HoMie, a Melbourne-based social enterprise aimed at giving the homeless of Melbourne clothing and basic needs as they strive to find their place in this world.

"We call it the street store that gives. For every transaction that's made in store, we give an item of clothing to someone who is experiencing homelessness," Mr Pearce said.

HoMie has been open for a couple of months in Melbourne Central Shopping Centre and facilitates VIP shopping days with respective homeless services in the hope of reinvigorating the disadvantaged.

"It's not all about the clothing in a sense. It's about providing an experience and treating these people with the dignity and respect they deserve. It's all about creating a dignified shopping experience and providing a bit of a pick-me-up so hopefully they can walk out of the store and be taller in the streets," Mr Pearce said.

It is quite common for passers-by to assume the worst in homeless people and not give them a second thought. Mr Pearce is hoping to change people's views on this



Nick Pearce ... collaborating to help the homeless.

and really engage with the community about being open minded.

"For us, it was about providing an alternative perspective towards people that were experiencing homelessness. Even if you watch our videos and come into the store and see what we do, it can really change your perception of how you thought things were," he said.

The business model of such a social enterprise does encounter various challenges, such as remaining on trend, but with transparency as their main focus, it is reassuring for consumers to know that their contributions are making a difference.

"It was about making sure we could first and foremost build a business structure and model that could be emulated elsewhere and

be effective in the long run. It's been slow going but I think now people are starting to see the positive impact we're having."

"There's definitely scope for it to develop and I think what's so great about the model is that it's transparent. You see exactly where your contribution is going," he said.

The success of HoMie has far exceeded the expectations of Mr Pearce and his mates with demand now outweighing supply. For those wanting to contribute to this incredible initiative, he encourages making purchases as well as quite simply just starting the conversation.

"It's all about creating awareness and exposure, so maybe telling your friends about it, sharing a post, even just checking in with what we're doing every now and then and watching the videos we post," he said.

Raising \$15,000 by crowd funding and successfully obtaining a grant from Street Smart Australia, \$20,000 could be channelled into this project.

"It's a store by the people for the people. It's been a real community project and collaboration and I think that's the way going forward. Just meaningful and effective collaboration between like-minded services and people."

"It's nice to know we might have started something that can continue into the future. It's more about creating a movement and a shift in culture," Mr Pearce said.

To keep updated on the work these guys do, you can follow HoMie and Homeless of Melbourne on Facebook and Instagram.

WWW.CBDNEWS.COM.AU

YOUR MESSAGE HERE
YOUR TARGET IS OUR TARGET

LOCATION

14,000 into every available
CBD letterbox via Australia
Post unaddressed.

LOCATION

6000 into CBD restaurants,
cafes, bars, waiting rooms,
convenience stores, etc.

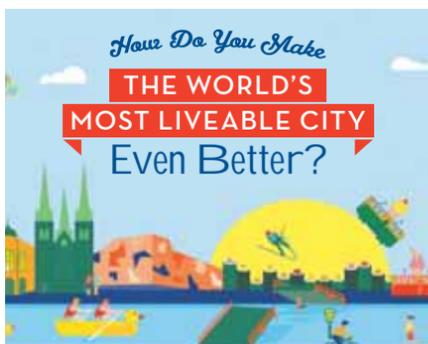
LOCATION

CBD Residents;
Workers;
and Visitors.

Talk to CBD News owner Shane Scanlan
T 0419 542 625 E shane@cbdnews.com.au
about how to customise your campaign
to our audience every month.

CBD  **NEWS**

WE THINK
INSIDE THE
GRID



Have your say on CBD

What's great and what's not about living in the CBD? Residents 3000 is finding out via a short online survey.

The residents group says it can better advocate on behalf of residents if it knows what issues are most important.

Residents 3000 president John Dall'Amico explained: "We want to properly represent the views of residents, so it is important that we know what the needs and priorities are."

"What do people feel is great about the city and what areas could be improved?" he said.

Mr Dall'Amico thanked real estate agency Hocking Stuart for providing the online platform.

Principal Scott McElroy said: "We would love to have as many involved as possible to generate maximum exposure for the Residents3000 initiative."

"The quick survey asks a small number of multiple choice questions - from likes and dislikes of the city to rating the importance of CBD issues. It also gives participants the opportunity to give your opinion on ideas for a better city," Mr McElroy said.

Residents have until November 13 to participate in the survey at www.bettermelbourne.com.au

The results will be published in the December/January edition of *CBD News*.

It's poppy time

Poppy Appeal volunteers are out and about in the city selling the much loved, iconic red poppy to raise funds for current and former servicemen and women in need.

Local RSL sub-branch president Mike Moroney said: "Year in, year out, our community rallies together to support the Poppy Appeal in the lead up to Remembrance Day."

You can purchase a poppy from your local Woolworths, Officeworks, RSL sub-branch or from volunteer collectors from late October. Or, donate at www.poppypeal.com.au "I would like to thank the local community from the very outset who support our Sub-Branch and wear their poppy with pride," Mr Moroney said.

CBD local



Melbourne architect loves her life in the CBD

By Katie Wong Hoy

Shelley Roberts extends her hand with a warm smile. She stands in her office, a picture of elegance in her black dress with matching glasses and high heels.

Looking at her perfectly co-ordinated accessories, it is no surprise that Shelley is an expert in the field of art and design.

Shelley is the principal of Shelley Roberts Architect and a CBD local of 20 years. Originally pursuing a career in fashion design, Shelley realised she also had a gift for designing and renovating buildings. Her architecture career started from the scent of sawdust.

"I was walking past a spot on Little Collins St on the corner of Little Collins and McKillop St, and I smelt sawdust. The smell of timber being sawn to make stud walls is for me intoxicating," Shelley said.

"I looked up and they were turning a commercial building into residential. I walked in there, asked to see the site foreman and did and they put me in contact

with the developers."

There was only one apartment left in the building going for sale for \$135,000.

"I said 'I will pay your price ... if you will build it to my design' and at that point I wasn't an architect ... they built what I designed, just a basic floor plan, and I got a really, really good apartment," she said.

At the age of 38, Shelley enrolled at RMIT and graduated in 2002 with a Bachelor of Architecture. She opened her own business six years later.

Shelley said being a CBD resident has helped her in her work as an architect. Living in an apartment herself, she is more aware of issues such as noise, light and air circulation. Her experience allows her to design and renovate to minimise these problems.

There are a lot of reasons why Shelley loves living in the city. She fondly recalls her time living at Hero Apartments, which had a café at the foot of the building. She says living in apartments creates a sense of community among the residents and the city is full of opportunities.

"One of the reasons I am still living in the city 20 plus years on is because of the sense of community that develops from living in apartment buildings," she said.

"Everything is at your fingertips and we have an opportunity to live sustainably ... I love being able to walk everywhere."

Shelley is now embarking on a new adventure, joining forces with Melbourne architect Paul Gleeson to create Gleeson Roberts Pty Ltd. Together they have designed their first apartment from scratch and are excited to see the finished product.

This talented architect has achieved a lot in her career so far and said the secret to her success is thinking creatively.

"It doesn't take much to turn something not so good into something good, it just takes an eye and a different way of thinking," Shelley said.



CBD Local

If you know someone who you think is a CBD Local let us know, news@cbdnews.com.au

Street Art

He's Kranky!

Kranky has a history with street art/graffiti that dates back to the late 1960s.

For it was then, as a young art student, sporting an Afro and all attitude and acne, he took to the walls of the CBD, railing against the major issues of the day: the Vietnam War, apartheid, the Berlin Wall, nuclear warheads and the Cold War.

This sense of injustice has never left him and as an older man he continues to use art as an outlet for his concerns. He finds the human condition interesting and this comes out in his work with the choice of subject matter. He wants people to think about social issues and his pieces demand a response!

Returning from overseas about two and a half years ago, he started putting work out on the street again. When most of his 3D pieces were quickly destroyed, he momentarily switched to paste-ups for his comeback.

"In the time that I've been part of the scene, I've seen street art grow as a movement that exhibits a lack of respect for architecture. The patina that used to be in Rutledge Lane was quickly erased by the 2013 'Baby Nursery Blue' buffing. The depth that was there no longer exists and the sense of an afterlife and history was totally blanketed out," he said.

A graphic designer and finished artist by education, Kranky is also a passionate photographer. He was hooked from the age of four when he took his first photograph with his father's Box Brownie. This he describes as a life-changing moment, for it was the creating of an image, that could be shown and shared.

As for the origin of the name Kranky, his street persona has undergone many changes. He's never sought to be recognised or published nor is he interested in gallery exposure. He does what he does because of a wicked sense of humour and for the sheer creativity of it!

From time to time, however despondent with the destruction of and lack of respect for his work, he has withdrawn from the street, only to re-emerge with a new name. Kranky came about when he took some teenagers to task over their attitude and willful destructions of others' work and was told to "shut-up you cranky old bastard!"

"That's me, I said!" And so Kranky was



born. "It's interesting as an 'older' creative person to see the development of street art. The expression of humanity, whether it's written, scribbled or scratched and later sprayed on a wall," he said.

"To me, it's become all the same. Whereas, a lot of people on the street today feel that if it's not aerosol then it's not legitimate, I don't subscribe to this and my work has been criticised for this reason."

Whilst Kranky pursued other things, he kept an eye on street art because it interested him as a communication medium – social issues and the human condition.

He always felt that the local art scene was limited by gallery space, with the collectors, patrons and gallery owners controlling and defining what was "in" and what was "out".

"It was a movement languishing on a gallery wall looking for a new canvas. I think this is why street art emerged. However, I feel that it has a long way to go before maturing," he said.

"So many are conforming to what

they perceive is the acceptable means of expression on the street. In their mind's-eye they are working within some very solid guidelines and if you don't do it within these guidelines, then you're not a 'street artist'."

"If you take my mini-3D installations for example, I get hit up on the street by artists who say that it's not 'street' and I shouldn't be here! I say any form of expression of humanity done on the street or in a public place is street art! There are no limitations! This can bring about quite a negative response and I get called all sorts of things."

"I would like to see these people who are spraying actually progress and to develop other forms of expression. To keep moving forward and evolving. To change by personal choice rather than to feel they are forced off the street by age or lack of skills. There is room for everyone in Melbourne and, compared to many other cities, nationally and internationally, it is a very tolerant environment that allows street art to exist."

"Many of our successful artists who now

reside elsewhere in the world, started here in Melbourne and it was this exposure on our streets that gave them immediate acceptance and recognition overseas."

So why 3D? "I like it because it has substance and that it can be looked at from many angles. This enables the viewer to sometimes see different things."

It's this difference, along with a quirky sense of humour that has become Kranky's trademark.

Recent weeks have seen Kranky mischievously shift his focus to "statue bombing" two of Melbourne's favourite Swanston St sculptures: *Larry LaTrobe* and *The Three Business Men*. These statues are placed where the public can easily interact with them.

"Larry is child-friendly and has a personality that is crying out for expression. So, I decided to explore his quirky side by replacing a bone with a 'Barbie'," he said.

"*The Three Business Men* are possibly the most 'selfied' sculpture in the CBD. I thought that I would like to 'selfie' them by placing mobile phones with their images around their necks. This meant that people were actually taking photos of themselves with the statues that had already been 'selfied'. It's a double/triple message!"

Kranky was quick to point out that these additions were non-intrusive, in no way harmful or permanent and respectful. Kranky, a prolific and generous artist is still maintaining the sense of injustice he felt as a younger man.

However, he stresses, he's not a conformist and doesn't want to be within the street culture.

"I'm just me, I do what I do. My enjoyment is gained from creating a piece, standing back, observing the response and then walking away and letting go," he said.

Long may he maintain his rage!



Lorraine Ellis

If you are interested in Melbourne street art there is more on my Facebook page, **StreetsmART**

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CBD NEWS



History



Female Confectioners' Union Victorian Branch: Eight Hours Day Float (Eight Hours Day Procession Melbourne), c.1925

The eight-hour day was achieved by stonemasons working on the University of Melbourne quadrangle in April 1856.

As other unions gained an eight-hour working day, this was celebrated by the labour movement each May with processions and at the later public holiday known as Eight Hour Day or Labour Day.

The Female Confectioners' Union was at the forefront of organised women's labour in Melbourne. These members in the photograph are employees of Sir Macpherson Robertson, the 'Old Gold' chocolate king.

Dressed immaculately in white, Robertson presided over his Great White City at Fitzroy, a complex of white-painted factories with several thousand white-uniformed employees. His delivery trucks drawn by prize grey draught horses, were readily lent for public processions and driven by himself on Eight Hours Day. Robertson looked benignly on unionism, encouraged by Female Confectioners' Union, and observed the closed shop from 1919.

Robertson carefully managed his image and his publication *A Young Man and a Nail Can* (1921) gave Melbourne an equivalent of the Dick Whittington legend.

Currently on display at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 239 A'Beckett St is a comprehensive exhibition about the life, business and philanthropic interests of Macpherson Robertson. Examples of original packaging, information about his sponsorship the Great Air Race and of course the Nail Can are on display.

The RHSV is open Monday to Thursday 10am-4pm and on Fridays 10am-3pm.

Further information:
www.historyvictoria.org.au



Kate Prinsley

Kate Prinsley is executive officer of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Pieces

Central city Pieces



the city's entertainment hubs for both tourist and Melburnians alike.

Connecting Swanston and Bourke streets, this mall not only show-cases some of the city's largest department stores and arcades, but also has a wide range of Melbourne's street talent.

From musicians to magicians, many buskers can be seen performing at all times of the day.

The Bourke Street Mall became so popular that in the 70s the catchphrase "Busier than Bourke Street" was coined.



Kalani Robinson

If you are interested in more pics check out Kalani's Instagram, [@Citylifeofpieces](#)

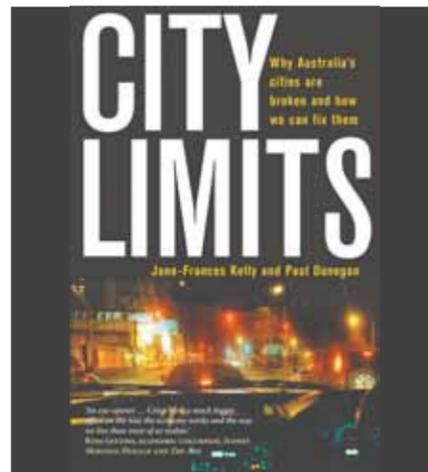
For this month's part of our tour, Pieces decided to hop in his car and take a drive down the Bourke St.

Located at the very centre of Melbourne's CBD, Bourke Street Mall is regarded as one of

Letters to the Editor

'City Limits': a different take

In the August 2015 issue of *CBD News*, Shane Scanlan, the editor, expressed considerable disappointment with the book *City Limits* by Grattan Institute academics Jane-Francis Kelly and Paul Donegan.



While some disappointment is justified, I think his judgement is too harsh. Perhaps the authors should not have made bold promises to explain "why Australia's cities are broken and how we can fix them". No single book can fulfil that expectation.

Chapter eight, which outlines proposed remedies, makes the opening point that all Australian cities are different, and each needs to look for an appropriate solution. The "remedies" are thus couched in general terms, and tackled under four general headings: decision-making; housing; transport; and how to pay for improvement.

True, these are predictable and somewhat familiar prescriptions, but they provide a reasonable starting point, and I believe that they have correctly given priority to improving decision-making by encouraging greater and better engagement with communities. But the question of how genuine community engagement can be put in place requires much more detailed development.

On housing, they rightly focus on the resident-unfriendly system of state and local government rules "that dictate where and how new housing gets built" (p. 162). "Dramatic simplification and streamlining", however, is too easily presented as a solution. Changes to the taxation and financing regimes are also needed, but again solutions for particular city/state/national government regimes are difficult to identify and generating political momentum for change is even more difficult.

Perhaps too many of the book's recommendations appear as exhortations for government to take action and to use successful reforms in other cities as a guide to reform. Only in the final paragraph do the authors say that "the challenge is not just one for governments ... our cities will only get better if we want them to, and act accordingly." How citizens should act, however, is not fully addressed. Even engagement with communities is presented as an issue to be initiated primarily by city governments.

These shortcomings are largely a consequence of the scope and ambition of the book. More positively, many of the book's general points can be taken up in

ways that relate to local needs.

In the case of Melbourne CBD, a number of existing residential groups are active and can play a vital role in working co-operatively with the City of Melbourne (CoM) to engage with the Melbourne City Council and Victorian Government. Some work in this direction has been initiated by members of EastEnders and Residents 3000. They will liaise closely with the CoM's current review of the current planning scheme as it applies to the CBD.

Specifically it is proposed to examine the application of 3D visualisation tools in a small area of the CBD with the aim of keeping neighbourhood citizens informed on the likely effects of all new planning applications and approved developments on building density, tower spacing, and streetscape, as well as likely impacts on traffic and service delivery, amenities of light and air, and heritage values – a stark contrast to the present building-by-building approach.

As *City Limits* points out, however, intensive community engagement is neither easy nor cheap (p.160). But they cite examples of where such an approach has led to very significant improvements both in establishing tangible progress and achieving majority agreement on the success of the community involvement process.

The other positive aspect of *City Limits* is that it presents a strong case for increasing investment in liveable city development across the country, and ultimately the globe.

Cities increasingly provide the potential for economic growth and social development for much of the world's population, but cities in Australia and elsewhere need to do a better job in making better linkages between citizens and government and connecting people and jobs.

We cannot expect the political and commercial environment to change dramatically or spontaneously in the short term. Community groups must directly tackle the serious problems of social connections and city development and kindle needed policy development by local, state and national government.

Country-wide, state and local governments must be encouraged to facilitate genuine involvement of residents and business and, in turn, citizens must be given genuine opportunities for constructive engagement.

While there are undoubted differences among Australian cities, there are also many problems that are comparable, and lessons learned should be shared. Case studies to establish modalities of engagement between residents and city management, such as that proposed for Melbourne CBD, should therefore be encouraged more widely.

Kelly and Donegan have mapped the territory and the main ridges to be crossed, but direct citizen action supported by government will be needed to make this increasingly necessary journey.

William Allan



STREET FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Melbourne

**Greta Hector, 20, Student,
Bourke Street Mall**

CAN YOU DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING? I'm wearing a dress turned into a skirt by Pinup Girl, a petticoat underneath, heels that my friend gave me, a cardigan from Pinup Girl Clothing as well and my sunglasses are vintage.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING? I have a sailor dress that I love.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE CBD? I'm meant to be going to class but I am running late as of now!

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE? Girly and classic.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT? I don't know. Confidence!

**Monica Chin, 39, Student,
Bourke St Mall**

CAN YOU DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING? LV bag, Samsung Note 3, a pair of poor jeans.

What is your favourite piece of clothing? Whatever is fashionable, I always love it.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE CBD? I came to have a meal and catch up with my friends because I'm leaving tomorrow. I am moving to Brisbane.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE? Just normal fashion. I'm pretty casual. I always like to wear jeans and sometimes flat shoes.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT? Exercise. I prefer swimming because you move your whole body.

Ben Mote, Flinders Lane

CAN YOU DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING? Casual.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING? Sneakers.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE CBD? I live right around the corner.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE? Street casual.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT? A good pair of sneakers.



Renting trumps retail

By Laura Timberlake

The festive season is fast approaching. The tail end of Spring Racing is coming up, only to be followed by numerous events leading up to Christmas.

What is a girl to do for clothing options? So many events require a lot of new outfits.

That's where renting comes in. The concept gained a lot of interest after Carrie Bradshaw's assistant Louise claimed her bag was rented from Bag Borrow or Steal, in the first *Sex in the City* movie.

Luckily for us, Melbourne has its own versions of Bag Borrow or Steal.

Her Wardrobe offers both clothing and accessories, and was founded by Alexandra Osmond. She started the business in 2014 when she realised that she owned 46 dresses, most of which she had only worn once.

Alexandra believes that renting a dress is a financially viable way to have a high-end designer experience without paying the inflated prices. She purchases Her Wardrobe's dresses, millinery and bags wholesale from designers.

The fees range from \$50-\$249 for a dress, or you can hire an entire outfit. The outfit will arrive on the day the rental period begins, and all you have to do is pop it into the pre-paid return envelope after the event. (All dry cleaning costs are covered.)

Her Wardrobe has had a fantastic response since it launched last year, particularly for Spring Racing.

"I was surprised when girls emailed me at the beginning of August asking when our new hats would arrive," Alexandra said.

Emily Collie, editor of *Melbourne Girl*, has been a long time customer at GlamCorner.

GlamCorner is another rental company that offers designer dresses for all occasions. Glam Corner also lists the retail value of the dress you hire, so you know what bang you're getting for your buck.

"These days, we have so many events to go to, like fashion week, weddings and Spring Carnival - what ever the occasion may be, we never want to be seen in the same dress twice," Emily said.

"The concept of renting a dress for the fraction of the price of buying one is just too good not to try."

But if accessories are more your thing, check out Love Me and Leave Me.

Love Me and Leave Me offer a rent or buy option, or a Wear Now Pay Later Plan (this requires weekly or monthly payments for a bag once your application is approved).

The bags can be rented weekly or monthly. It's a better deal if you rent by the month though (like buying in bulk).

Karaoke bar extends licence hours

By Kara Bertoncini

The Future Melbourne Committee last month voted to extend the liquor licence hours of Jankara Karaoke Bar on Russell St.

The request for a letter of support from the council is a first and Jankara Karaoke Bar will now be able to increase its trading hours until 5am on Fridays and Saturdays and until

1am on Sundays over the weekends.

The two additional hours of liquor consumption was not seen as detrimental to the community due to the small size of the premises and its clean track record.

Cr Leppert said it was important to allow small licensed premises this privilege in order to keep the vitality of the city alive.

"It's important to the vitality of the central city as a 24-hour city. This is a business that's been in operation for 15 years, which is no

small feat in itself, and it has had no track record of any issues," he said.

Victoria Police is also in favour of the liquor licence extension.

"This is a good first test of the new State Government's new policies in this area, so I think this is an intelligent outcome and I hope to see more small bars with a really good track record being granted the same sort of discretion that we see here," Cr Leppert said.

Planning



Council is where the action is

With the industry still coming to terms with the new planning controls within the central city the spate of applications has subsided somewhat. The main point of interest lies with the City of Melbourne's Future Melbourne (Planning) Committee who convened to consider the merits of five applications – four of which were referred to them by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

The applications were for Haileybury College's city campus at 383-405 King St, a 55-storey tower at 65-71 Haig St, a 56-storey tower at 32-44 Flinders St and twin 79-storey towers at 346-376 Queen St.

Haileybury College's plans gained support from council with the committee resolving to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant Permit. The application lodged in June sought approval for refurbishment works to the existing building for use as an education centre, comprising of an Early Learning Facility (ages 3 and 4), Junior School (Years Prep to Year 4) and Senior School (Years 9 to 12).

The application received 62 objections during the advertising period relating predominantly to traffic concerns, with council citing key issues for consideration such as the appropriateness of the proposed use in its location, proposed student numbers, potential amenity impacts for residents, proposed signage and car parking, traffic and access arrangements.

65-71 Haig St is a project that was covered by Urban Melbourne in April. The 55-storey 142 metre tower designed by Fender Katsalidis and abutting the West Gate Freeway has received a mixed review from council which is concerned about the appropriateness of its height and the layout of some apartments.

Despite this council was of the view that their concerns could be addressed via conditions of permit to reduce the overall height to a maximum of 125 metres and via an improved internal layout to selected apartments within the tower.

With 32-44 Flinders St already reduced down to 56 levels and 181 metres - down from an initial height of 65-storeys and 212 meters - the planning officer's report to the Future Melbourne Committee recommends that council object to the proposal on the grounds of height, plot ratio, setbacks and internal amenity to apartments and that the proposal represents an over development of the site.

This is based on a plot ratio of 30:1 across the site, despite the application not being affected by Amendment C262 which calls for a plot ratio of 24:1 and setbacks of five metres to street frontages, or the proposal sitting within a height control area. 32-44

Flinders Street's overshadowing of Birrarung Marr is also a cause of concern to council.

And finally, the twin tower proposal at 346-376, known as Queens Place has been designed as dual schemes - an OLS (Obstacle Limitation Surface) conforming scheme of 68-storeys (206 and 209 metres respectively) and an alternate non-conforming scheme of 79-storeys (246 and 249 metres). The applicants submitted revised designs on September 3 with the following key changes:

- Minimum five metre setbacks provided from the proposed towers to all street frontages;
- The core of Tower 1 has shifted approximately four metres to the east;
- Ground level escalators have shifted to allow for improved public realm outcomes;
- Increase in active uses adjacent to LaTrobe St;
- Revision of A'Beckett Street connection to plaza and shifting of airlock location; and
- Increase chamfered setback to LaTrobe St podium at levels 3 and 4 to open views to Welsh Church.

The proposal received a unanimous vote of support from the City of Melbourne, with the final decision to be made by the Planning Minister. An application to penetrate the OLS will need to be made to aviation authorities in order to proceed with the 79-storey twin design.



Laurence Dragomir

Laurence is an Urban Melbourne director with expertise in the CBD urbanmelbourne.info

Away From The Desk

Seeking out soulful

I learned three things about myself on the tram this morning.

I am naturally curious about life and that I'm actually getting more curious as I get older. This, combined with a natural tendency I have to second guess everything about me, and to question the whole basis of my existence on a regular basis, means that I will keep growing and evolving throughout my life. Yep. No rest for me ...

I read a marvellous article commenting on the new Meryl Streep film, *Suffragette*, and came across a wonderful woman - a champion of women's rights - called ... wait for it ... Sojourner Truth. Can you think of a more fabulous name?

Naturally I Googled her. Sojourner Truth was an African-American abolitionist and women's rights activist. Truth was born into slavery in Swartekill, Ulster County, New York, but escaped with her infant daughter to freedom in 1826. After going to court to recover her son, in 1828 she became the first black woman to win such a case against a white man.

Whilst I like nothing better than a bit of fluff reading on my commute, (and before bed, and at key times during the day when I actually should be doing something), my brain does like to be stimulated, challenged and sometimes even confounded by analysis, opinion and facts from people who know more than I do on a number of subjects. This morning it was feminism and the interaction between race, class and gender ...

I hate having to put my runners on at tram stops and will forego a morning stroll through the Treasury Gardens if it means I have to do so. Ah, self-awareness, it's a wonderful thing.

Meandering in one's brain is a wonderful way to spend time away from one's desk, as is seeking out one's own favourite haunts ... what I would call "soulful places" where one feels at home.

Wonderfully, I've managed to find a place that combines soulful with the idea of growth - where the coffee is fine, deep bodied and vaguely liquorice-scented, the brownies are velvety and chocolatey. This place gives vulnerable young people the opportunity to grow, develop new skills and get that elusive thing - self-confidence - that enables each of us to forge our own way through life.

I've been going there for months, and I've seen the effect that consistent, gentle training can have on people who start out on things like operating the till with a kind of lovely, honest diffidence, to complete mastery over a matter of months. (Wish I could operate a till ... or even count!)

So, if you're ever at the top end of



Little Lonsdale, you may find the Ways and Means to get there for yourself. Until next time. Maria XX

WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | **NOV** | DEC | JAN



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Meeting on selected dates and various locations, IMLAC takes in the city's parks, its culture, fabulous eating options as well as festivals, galleries and concerts.

www.life.org.au/imlac
or call Carolyn on 9696 1090



First Thursday of Each Month, 10am @ The Docklands Library SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

Probus Clubs for over 50's. Keep your mind active, meet new friends, share interests and enjoy activities.

Contact Sue on 0418 562 181 or weddsuzanne@gmail.com

October 10 - Two Workshops
414 La Trobe St, Melbourne

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Ph: 1300 761 667



7.30am - 8.30am Tuesdays @ Fed Square

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rotaryclubcentralmelbourne.org.au

5:30-7pm Wednesdays @ Flinders St
Ampitheatre, Fed Square

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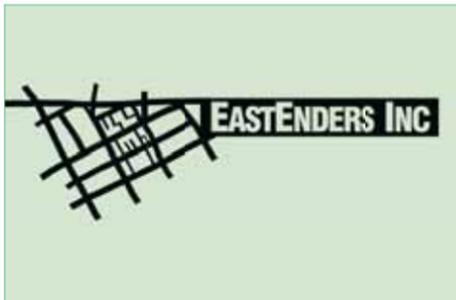
Nike+ Run Club is one of the largest free training run clubs held globally.



Third Tuesday of Each Month
EASTENDERS COFFEE CLUB

Come along and join the company of friends and neighbours. Meet new people and be informed. 10m, Pomodoro Sardo Restaurant, Cnr Lonsdale St and Jone Ln.

eastendersinc@gmail.com



Meets Second Tuesday of the Month
7pm - 8pm, Boyd Centre,
207 City Rd, Southbank

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Ph: 9525-9929

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Hoyts Cinemas, Melbourne Central

Collins Street Baptist Church

174 Collins St

Ph: 9650 1180

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Hillsong City Youth

Krimper Cafe, 20 Guildford Lane, Melbourne

- Every Friday 7pm-9pm

Holy Cross Orthodox Mission

261/265 Spring St

www.australianorthodox.org

Scots' Church

156, Collins St

Ph: 9650 9903

Sundays 10:30 am (Indonesian), 11:00 am (Traditional) and 5:00 pm (Contemporary)

St Francis' Church

326 Lonsdale St | 9663 2495

Sunday: 7am, 8am, 9:30am, 11am (St Francis' Choir) and 12.30, 1.30, 4.30, 6.00 pm
Filipino Community Mass: Second Sunday of the month at 2.30pm

Indonesian Community Mass: Third Sunday of the month at 2.30pm

St Paul's Cathedral

Cnr Flinders and Swanston Streets

Ph: 9653 4333

Sundays: 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am, 6.00pm (Choral Evensong)

St. Augustine's Catholic Church

631 Bourke St. Melb

Ph: 9614 1722

Sundays Mass: 10.30am & 8.00pm

Mon-Fri: Mass 1.05pm

Mon - Fri Confessions: 12.30pm

Second Wednesday of each Month: Mass 6.30pm (Feb - Oct only).

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