

The voice of postcode 3000

主要新闻摘要 见 29 页

FREE

# CBD NEWS

**BOND FOR RICHARD FOSTER**

- page 3 -



**QVM PROJECT AT A CROSSROAD**

- page 4 -



**RENTS FORCE TOY SHOP OUT**

- page 8 -



**FORM GUIDE TO CANDIDATES**

- page 16-17



## Conservative locals to be set adrift

*Conservative voters in the CBD are likely to be set adrift by the Liberal Party State Council when it considers on April 28 whether to run a candidate in Melbourne at the November state election.*

The state seat of Melbourne is one of a number of inner city seats the party is considering abandoning. The idea is motivated by a desire to concentrate its resources on seats it has a realistic chance of winning.

But City of Melbourne's only Liberal councillor Philip Le Liu argues such a move would remove all the gains and progress the Liberal party has made within Melbourne.

Cr Le Liu said the demographic was changing rapidly, with more professional residents and retirees choosing to live in the city after downsizing in the suburbs. It is also noted that the city has a big Chinese community which tends to vote conservatively.

"While the strategy might work in other areas, to abandon Melbourne when the Liberal Party vote has increased would be disastrous and undo years of hard work." Cr Le Liu said. "The Liberal vote, in my opinion, will continue to grow as young professionals move to take advantage of central city apartment living."

In the 2016 federal election, Cr Le Liu was the Liberal Party candidate and he out-pollied the Labor Party for the first time in 100+ years (check number), picking up 25.5 per cent of the primary vote. In the 2014 state election, Liberal Party candidate Ed Huntington attracted 24 per cent of the primary vote (8913 votes).

Cr Le Liu said ultimately it will be up to the party to decide its course of action but warned that if the Liberals vacated the city, generations would pass before they could attempt to return. He also warned such a policy would affect the party's chances in the Northern Metro Legislative Council as well as cost the party vital electoral funds.

Labor candidate Jennifer Kanis said if the Liberals failed to contest the seat it would prove "that Matthew Guy does not want to represent all Victorians".

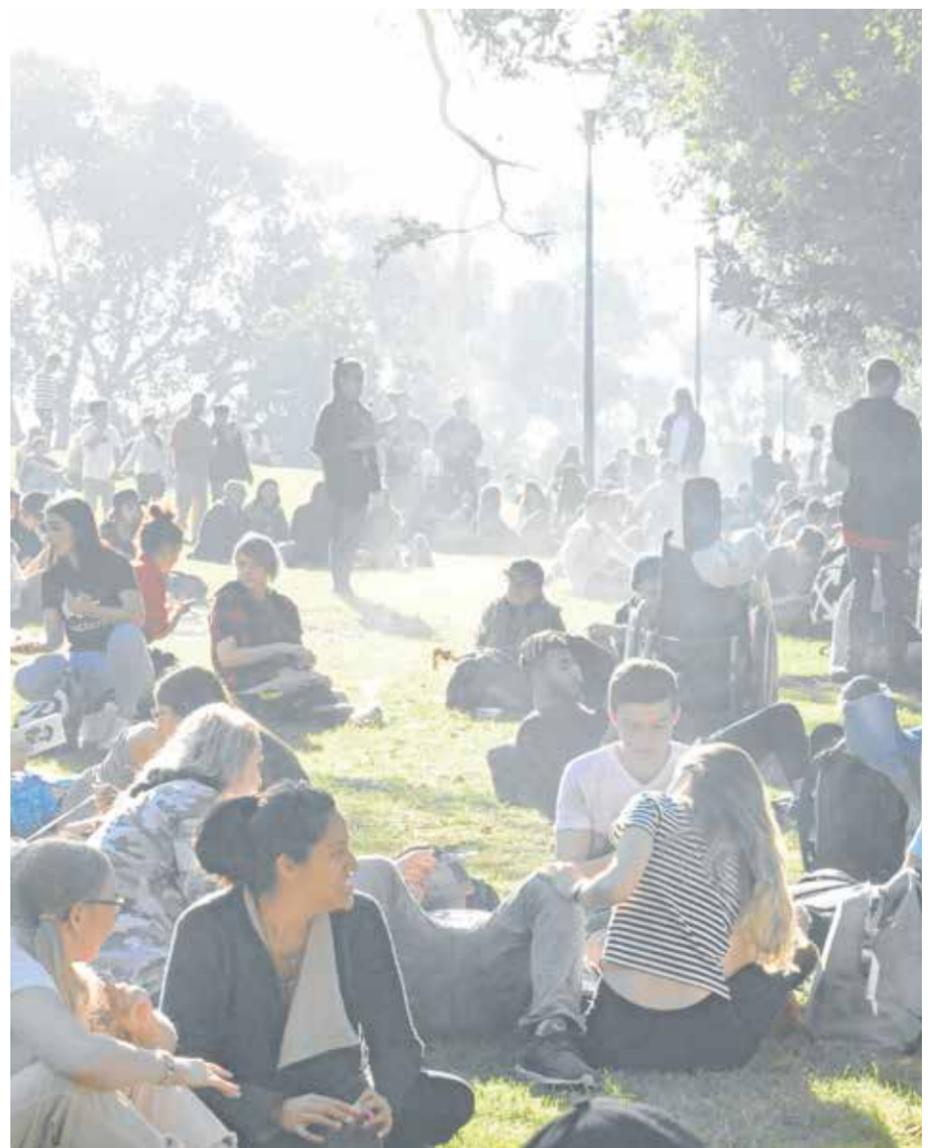
But, she said, it was a matter for the Liberal Party to manage.

Sitting member and Greens candidate, Ellen Sandell, said: "I'm sure Melbourne residents will be disappointed that, yet again, one of the old parties is ignoring them."

"These political games from the old parties show why we need a strong, independent voice here in Melbourne advocating for the issues that affect us and that's exactly what I'm doing."

"I'm focused on delivering good policy for local residents - from more affordable housing and getting developer donations out of politics to better climate change policies and public transport and I'll continue to do that regardless of what Liberal and Labor do."

"I'm aiming to win a majority here in Melbourne regardless of the games Liberal and Labor may play."



## A puff in the park

*Pro-marijuana protesters gathered at Flagstaff Gardens for their annual "smoking ceremony" on April 20.*

Hundreds converged at this CBD park to show their love for weed and call for cannabis to be legalised.

Flagstaff Gardens was covered in smoke for the entire day while onlookers and police officers watched participants puff away.

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Melbourne's CBD each month. *CBD  
News* works for advertisers because  
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in their neighbourhood.

*Views expressed by contributors are not  
those of the publishers.*



Many residents attended the "meet the candidates" night hosted by Residents 3000.

## Candidates face CBD residents

*Thanks to Residents 3000's "meet the candidates" forum on April 5, locals got a good idea about which lord mayoral candidates have an understanding and appreciation of CBD issues.*

Although nominations were yet to close for the lord mayoral by-election, six candidates attended the session held at the Kelvin Club. They were: Sally Capp, Luke Downing, Ken Ong, Rohan Leppert, Sally Warhaft and Jennifer Yang.

On the higher-level matters like homelessness and rough sleeping, all candidates were comfortable to share their knowledge and vision of an issue that goes way beyond the borders of postcode 3000.

Candidates had plenty to say about the Queen Victoria Market redevelopment too.

But once the questioning descended into the nitty-gritty of local life, such as third-party planning appeal rights, short-stay apartments in residential towers and commercial garbage collection policy, a knowledge gap rapidly opened up.

Sitting and former councillors were naturally advantaged at these moments. Less experienced candidates had an opportunity

to either admit their ignorance and profess a desire to learn or bluff their way through.

It's fair to say that a fair bit of bluffing was attempted – not a wise strategy in front of a well-informed audience.

Attendees will rate all candidates when ballot papers are filled in and returned via post by May 11. Ballots will be mailed to enrolled voters between April 23 and April 26.

## Don't underestimate the high value rental market



Sam Nathan  
Managing Director

There is a fast emerging segment of our city not getting the awareness it should - the high value rental market.

The increased activity in the high end rental market (which we would generally class as any long term occupancy (as opposed to a short term or corporate stay) commencing from circa \$1,000 per week) can be attributed to many factors. However, it has arisen fundamentally from a deepening in demand from a growing numbers of individuals, couples and families with the required means, and the emergence of a greater number of buildings containing apartments of suitable character to support higher end tenant requirements.

The former is a natural consequence of a growing city and economic base, the later of a gradually maturing apartment market. They are coming together to drive increased demand from a tightly defined, well informed, sophisticated cohort of tenants seeking accommodation within premiere buildings.

Interesting, but not unsurprisingly, higher value tenants seek security of tenure. Accordingly, the proportion of leases executed for terms of two years or longer is significantly higher than across the broader market, often negotiated with specific conditions and clauses reflecting the commercial nature of both the landlord and tenants, together with the circumstances and objectives of all parties.

Our exposure to high calibre buildings across the central city and city fringe provides a direct representation of the deepening demand within this shifting segment, with over 40 apartments leased in excess of \$1,000 per week over the past 12 months, and some select residences leasing at in excess of \$3,000 per week for between two and five year lease terms.

Our objective in assisting both sides of a transaction is to ensure all requirements and considerations are met.

One theme is of paramount importance at this level of the market ... the requirement for the agent to understand that the tenant is a custodian of a significant asset, not a cashbox, and for the agent to be of the required experience and awareness to act as a key advisor to all sides of the transaction given the context of the properties and capital sums involved.

This is an emerging market segment but is gaining momentum rapidly. The depth of tenants with the required financial capacity, changing nature of demographic composition, lifestyle trends and housing/lifestyle preferences, and increased delivery of suitable apartment supply will only drive this activity further.

To discuss this emerging market or how we can provide guidance in relation to your high-calibre investment property, feel free to make contact with me directly.

# Good behaviour bond for Richard Foster

By Shane Scanlan

**Former Melbourne councillor Richard Foster has received a good behaviour bond for his role in Brooke Wandin's unlawful candidate nomination in the 2016 council elections.**

This is despite organising her enrolment at his Kensington home address and later "dobbing" her in to the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) as well as initially denying involvement to the Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate.

Magistrate Graeme Keil told Mr Foster he considered the matter a serious offence which meddled with the fabric of our democracy. He said democratic freedoms were hard to gain, but easy to lose.

He told Mr Foster he was "otherwise a good man" who was motivated to assist less fortunate members of society.

Mr Foster's lawyer James Catlin claimed it was reasonable for Mr Foster to deny the charge until he had seen Ms Wandin's witness statement, which was only provided to him in mid-2017.

Mr Catlin portrayed his client as an

accomplice of Ms Wandin and, he said, as a matter of parity, should also receive a diversion or, failing that, a bond.

But prosecutor Elizabeth Ruddle disputed this based on Mr Foster's "post-offence" conduct. She pointed out that Ms Wandin had been co-operative from the beginning, whereas Mr Foster had made no admissions and had offered "false denials".

Ms Ruddle said Mr Foster had "dobbed in" Ms Wandin and later claimed he had no idea how it all happened.

She said that, given the lateness of his guilty plea, there was no evidence or indication of any remorse from Mr Foster.

Mr Catlin told Magistrate Keil his client had not gained from the incident. But Ms Ruddle pointed out that it was Mr Foster's intention to gain political advantage from the matter.

Court documents show that Mr Foster fell out with Ms Wandin and her running mate Nicolas Frances Gilley after they both incorrectly enrolled in the councillor election rather than the lord mayoral contest as agreed.

They were supposed to run for the positions of lord mayor and deputy to funnel votes through to Mr Foster in the councillor contest.

Mr Foster failed to be re-elected to the council, but in a surprise result, Ms Wandin was elected to the council.

Following Mr Foster's complaint to the VEC,



Richard Foster on the campaign trail in 2016.

Ms Wandin was disqualified and, after a series of court cases, Mr Frances Gilley was declared elected.

Mr Catlin told the court Mr Foster has already suffered reputational damage from press reports of electoral fraud. He said Mr Foster's political career was over as a result.

He said Mr Foster was trying to reestablish himself as a private education provider and a conviction would prevent this as his client needed to be "a fit and proper person". He said a conviction would be a "crushing blow" and that his client had "real regret" and was "saddened and embarrassed" by his actions.

Mr Catlin said Mr Foster was trying to help Ms Wandin and his conduct was "of a lesser nature than that of Ms Wandin".

Mr Keil asked Mr Catlin: "Why did they do what they did?" He replied: "It was either a massive brain fade or an incandescent act of stupidity."

The court heard current councillor Jackie Watts had provided a reference for Mr Foster.

Ms Ruddle applied for legal costs from Mr Foster. She said at least \$20,000 had been accrued in prosecuting Mr Foster and about \$33,000 had been spent if the cost of also dealing with Ms Wandin was taken into account.

In answer to a question from Mr Keil, she said a further \$15,000 in internal staff time had been spent on the case.

Mr Catlin objected, saying the prosecution had incurred unnecessary costs, such as potentially \$6000 or \$7000 on a handwriting expert, when Mr Foster had actually admitted filling out his address on the nomination form which Ms Wandin had signed. He said Mr Foster had admitted: "It looks like my handwriting".

Ms Ruddle said the consultant expert was necessary because Mr Foster had flatly denied involvement, saying: "No I didn't fill out anything on Brooke's form."

Costs were awarded against Mr Foster, with the final amount to be negotiated between the parties.

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# Stop and think on QVM? Or just stop?

By Shane Scanlan

**The City of Melbourne would be within its rights if it called off its Queen Victoria Market (QVM) redevelopment if it is prevented from digging a basement under Sheds A, B, C and D.**

Heritage Victoria last month blindsided the council by refusing a heritage permit necessary to temporarily remove the sheds to allow a basement to be dug.

The city is exploring an appeal to the Heritage Council but, should it lose there too, it has the option of abandoning the project entirely.

Should this happen, the market will continue its long-term decline. Patronage will fall further. More traders will leave. The ageing infrastructure will continue to fail.

The “museum” will be preserved and the victorious protagonists will enjoy a hollow and short-lived feeling of well-being.

And, all the while, the value of the real estate on which it sits will continue to rise.

The re-purposing for wider community benefit of the market’s 1.5ha car park has always been at the heart of the council’s



The faces on (from left) council project manager Joanne Wandel, council design director Rob Adams and market CEO Stan Liacos say it all.

motivation. But, strangely, it has chosen to fight (and lose) the public relations battle in a “caring contest”.

Proponents and opponents have both claimed to represent the views and interests of the traders. Both sides say they love the grit, the grain and the atmosphere.

Fighting on this battleground, the council was easily vanquished. Lord mayoral candidate and newcomer to the issue, Sally

Warharft summed up the public perception when speaking to a group of CBD residents on April 5: “You can’t tell me that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we don’t have it within us to ensure the integrity and structure of that market forever, without pulling it apart, digging three floors under it and rebuilding it bit by bit with a gloss and a sheen that it never had before?” Loud applause followed.

What the council has failed to properly

communicate is that, without the basement, there is no capacity to replace the trader storage currently being housed in the Franklin Stores on the southern side of the car park.

Under a contractual agreement between the council and the state government, this area is to be excised from the market’s operational area and incorporated into a residential development (which, unlike the Munro development, will actually return some money to the council).

The proposed basement has also been earmarked for about a couple of hundred public car spaces (with another 503 in the adjacent Munro development) to replace the 720 spaces in the current ground-level car park.

Once the storage area is moved underground and the cars relocated, the car park is to be transformed into the “Fed Square of the North”. The vision for a flexible civic space for the rapidly developing City North urban renewal area is the primary reason the City of Melbourne first embarked on the QVM redevelopment. Who would know that? It’s actually quite visionary.

If you care to ignore the nostalgic affection that some people hold for a bygone era and the sensitivities of some disaffected small business people, the council’s plan makes perfect sense.

The plan is to condense the market’s operations (without losing any trading area

Authorised by Ken Ong OAM, Level 10, 278 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000.

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## MY COMMITMENTS

### MELBOURNE CBD

- ✓ Introduction of Notice Rights for all developments in the Capital City Zones (CCZ) including Southbank, CBD, Docklands and City North.
- ✓ Review the Walking Plan and identify congestion and clutter in smaller City streets to improve walkability for people of all abilities.
- ✓ Review of Waste Collection system to reduce waste truck movements and clutter in laneways. Install more compacters in key high waste generation areas.
- ✓ Work with other levels of Government and agencies to find long-term solutions for the City’s Homeless situation and enforcing laws against begging.
- ✓ Develop effective policies to manage short stay market which ensure that the rights of all owners and residents of the buildings do not suffer from higher maintenance cost.

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and retaining the cultural and structural heritage) and make brilliant use of the car park for a growing local community. Postcode 3000 now has about 40,000 residents and most of the newcomers are on the market's door step. The City North urban renewal area (capital city zone) extends to the immediate north of the market.

The QVM redevelopment has always been more about an urban consolidation / real estate deal than an attempt to throw hundreds of millions of dollars to improve the profitability of several hundred market traders.

But the council's communications strategists must have thought this message was too unpalatable to run with. Now the "we care more than you" battle has ended in tears.

Heritage Victoria was quite right in its reasoning when rejecting the council's heritage permit.

In his decision, executive director Stephen Avery said his "refusal of the permit application would not prevent the ongoing use of the market".

Obviously, the market CAN continue to be used without a basement but, as a result, the door has been closed on an innovative re-use of the car park for community benefit.

Mr Avery said the level of the proposed change was not justified by the council's business case. The business case was not about urban renewal. It should have been.

After the event, it is unhelpful to speculate on the role that Planning Minister Richard Wynne might have played in influencing Mr



Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood speaks at a press conference.

Avery's decision.

The decision has been made and now the political support among City of Melbourne councillors also is beginning to unravel in the post-Robert Doyle era.

Previously solid lord mayoral candidate Rohan Leppert is becoming populist on the issue.

At the April 5 Residents 3000 forum he said: "There's a big question mark over the future of the market and council shouldn't just put its head in the sand, crash through and

appeal the Heritage Victoria decision and expect to win it."

"That's not a properly-analysed position to take and council needs to really pause before it even thinks of going down that road which, at this stage, I do not support."

"The message is loud and clear from Heritage Victoria, from the Planning Minister and pretty much everyone - maybe not everyone on the City of Melbourne - so council needs to stop and think."

## Revamp for ACMI

*The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) at Federation Square is undergoing a major transformation to become a world-leading modern museum.*

The state government has contributed \$31.6 million, together with the \$5 million existing government funding and \$5 million raised through philanthropic sources.

The project features redevelopment of ACMI's permanent exhibition, expansion of its learning centre to double the number of students, a new audience lab, a digital preservation lab and new interactive and immersive technologies across the centre.

As Australia's only museum of film, television, video games, digital culture and art, ACMI attracts large numbers of tourists and local visitors each year.

ACMI's CEO, Katrina Sedgwick, said: "The renewal will transform ACMI into a leading global museum of the 21<sup>st</sup> century - expanding its reach and impact, and matching visitor experience to the very best museums around the world."



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RMIT academic Jan van Schaik with students Inneka Moorhouse, Yiling Shen and Nick Jumara.

## Student artwork on display at State Library

**A group of RMIT University students are working together to create a series of artworks on hoardings to be installed at State Library Victoria's front entrance in spring.**

As part of the library's Vision2020 project, hoardings will be put up at its Swanston St entrance in September when construction starts to transform the iconic building.

Around 30 students from RMIT's architecture, fashion and textile design and communication design disciplines are participating in the program to help design a 30-metre-long hoarding artwork for the State Library.

Dr Jan van Schaik, tutor at RMIT's school of architecture and urban design, is leading his students to collaborate on this project.

"The artwork can really activate a construction site and in a public space

like the State Library's forecourt, it's both activating the space and explaining why there's such a change," Dr van Schaik said.

"The artwork will present something interesting and also communicates positively about the change," he said.

His students, Yiling Shen, Inneka Moorhouse and Nick Jumara are also part of the curator team.

"The library is located in the university precinct of the CBD. RMIT is the main inhabitant of this precinct and many of the library patrons are also students. So an artwork created by student conveys the idea that the State Library is for the community," Mr Jumara said.

The hoarding will be in place for one year and the artwork will be changed quarterly to reflect different themes.

"The physical materials of the hoarding will be defined by the construction company. But the conceptual, intelligent and artistic materials will be sourced by the students," Dr van Schaik said.

## Breathe deeply in CBD

By David Amaya

**Emission controls, tree planting and cycling networks are among the reasons to breathe deeply in the CBD.**

The Index Air Quality taken by the state's Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) shows that pollution levels in the central city is relatively low, considering this area is one of the busiest places in Australia.

The authority evaluates the level of up to seven pollutants through air monitoring stations. A station located in Carlton Gardens measures the air quality in the CBD and other nearby suburbs.

Each pollutant has a different unit of measurement and therefore its level of toxicity has a different range.

For example, coarse particles PM2.5, and PM10, are reported in micrograms per cubic metre ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ). To be considered harmless, they must remain between 0-8.9  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , and 0-16.4  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , respectively.

Carbon monoxide is measured in parts per million (ppm) and must be between 0-8.9 ppm, whereas sulfur dioxide is measured in parts per billion (ppb) and must remain between 0-65 ppb.

Rarely do these pollutants rise to levels of toxicity in the CBD.

John Rees, EPA spokesman, said overall, Melbourne's air quality had improved in the last two decades largely due to the introduction of emission controls on cars.

"As old cars are retired and replaced by new cars meeting tighter standards, pollution from motor vehicles has decreased despite an increase in the number of vehicles on the road," Mr Rees said.

He also added that the removal of lead from petrol had also been an important strategy.

There are other measures too that have played an important role in keeping a low level of pollution in this area of Melbourne.

It is important to point out that measures, including restrictions of vehicles in some streets, the cost of parking, the cycling network and tree planting strategies, haven't been implemented only to maintain the good air quality but for other environmental purposes and for controlling traffic.

The City of Melbourne has restricted the flow of vehicles in some of the CBD streets.

Swanston St is permanently closed to private cars, and Little Collins St has the same restriction between 12pm and 2pm.

This significantly reduces the production of pollutants in this area of Melbourne, mostly in rush hours when the amount of motor vehicles increases the most.

Additionally, the high price of the approximately 2400 on-street metred parking spaces in this area of Melbourne could be seen as detrimental to drivers' budgets, and has discouraged vehicles.

The fewer vehicles on the streets, the lower the likelihood to increase pollution levels.

In contrast, clean transport methods such as walking or cycling are promoted. According to data provided by the City of Melbourne, almost 90 per cent of daily trips in the CBD are made on foot.

On the other hand, the city's cycling network, with over 135km of on and off-road routes, has encouraged bike riding.

A survey conducted by the council in March 2017 measured the number of bicycles and vehicles travelling in approximately 19 routes towards the central city during the morning peak (from 7am to 10am).

"Up to 17 per cent of all route users recorded were cyclists," a council spokesperson said.

This helps to reduce the traffic volume that, according to Mr Rees, "causes other aspects of motor vehicle emissions such as particles from road dust, brake wear and tyre wear".

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# Support for Munro site development

*The City of Melbourne has voted in favour of recommending a planning permit for its Munro site development adjacent to the Queen Victoria Market (QVM).*

On April 3, councillors endorsed a proposal from its development partner PDG Corporation to build 410 apartments, a residential hotel and a childcare centre on the site.

The council bought the site in 2014 for \$76 million, partly as a speculative investment to off-set wider QVM redevelopment costs and partly to protect the market from inappropriate uses.

Now facing losses rather than a windfall, thanks to receiving from Planning Minister Richard Wynne only about half of the development height it expected, the council is putting on a brave face.

At the April 3 meeting, councillors waxed lyrical about the new community facilities coming to the northern end of the CBD.

In particular, the 120-place childcare centre will offer about 100 more spaces than the council's nearby A'Beckett St centre.

The west side of the development is also to house 5332sqm of, as yet undefined, community use. Suggestions have included a gallery, community kitchen, maternal and child health centre and artists' spaces.

Some 48 of the 410 apartments are to be used for affordable housing, although it is understood that the state government may



*The proposed Munro development.*

be picking up the tab for these.

The development will house 163 resident car parking spaces and 503 publicly accessible spaces – partly compensating the market for the planned removal of 720 spaces when the existing car park is repurposed as a civic space.

Councillors are less proud of two taverns proposed for the development – one for 350 patrons in the east tower and a 180-person tavern in the community-centric eastern building. Both will trade between 7am and 1am, seven days a week.

They are also sheepish about the loss of c-graded heritage shops along Therry St.

At the April 3 meeting, Cr Rohan Leppert



*The Therry St shops could be bulldozed.*

explained that councillors did not have a choice in this matter.

"We'll be voting on whether or not the application complies with the planning scheme, not debating the merits of the proposal itself," he cautioned.

"I am deeply unhappy and concerned about some of the heritage treatment and I note that the heritage advisor and the delegate have differing opinions on what is appropriate."

"In a vacuum or under the old planning controls, the retention of the Therry St facades should have been enforced. The issue we have here is the planning controls that the planning minister has put in place

requires a certain street wall height along Therry St."

"It assumes the demolition of the facades in order to facilitate the new podium to allow the mix of uses and that situation was locked in very, very early – even before the City of Melbourne purchased the site," Cr Leppert said.

The heritage consideration was only one of three reasons that Cr Jackie Watts voted against the proposal (the only councillor to do so).

"The heritage demolition is a concern to me," she said. "Also, the parking that relates directly to the QVM development, which is in jeopardy now that we have a refusal of the (heritage) permit."

"And the last element of concern to me is the affordable housing. It still falls short of the City of Melbourne's policy aspiration of 15 per cent."

Cr Watts said: "The game has changed and it is not acceptable to me to proceed as if nothing has changed."

The cost of the works is estimated at \$230 million.

Planning Minister Wynne will determine whether or not a permit is granted.

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# High rent forces toy shop out

By Sunny Liu

*The CBD's last doll and teddy bear hospital and classic toy store, Dafel, is being forced to close due to high rental increase.*

Having been at the same location in the Block Arcade for 77 years, the shop is closing its doors because the owners cannot afford the rent, which has nearly doubled this year.

Mother and daughter Pauline Seaton and Lisa Brener have been running this beloved local gem for the past 25 years and Ms Brener says it breaks her heart to have to close the business until they can find a more affordable location.

"We don't want to give up. We need these kinds of stores for the children to buy toys," Ms Brener said.

"Melbourne is becoming more like a chain store destination and there are fewer and fewer unique store like us."

"When you walk around the city, everything is becoming very repetitive. Now to keep small businesses going is not viable anymore with the high rent," Ms Brener said.

According to Ms Brener, her landlord doubled the rent due to a hike on land tax.

"It's impossible for businesses like us to survive in such an economic climate. There is no law that protects commercial tenants from rental increases," she said.

"It just comes down to if we can't pay the rent, we leave."

Dafel specialises in old-fashioned dolls and teddy bears and also provides repair services dubbed the toy "hospital".

Its history dates back to 1941 when founder Ada Schmit opened the shop to counter the shortage of toys available for children during the war.

Dafel has built generations of loyal customers, and Ms Brener said it had become almost a family tradition for some families to come to Dafel for new toys and repairs.



Lisa Brener said she had no choice but to close the shop.

"We have had customers who burst into tears when they heard we were closing. They say we are the first stop they make when they come to the city but now they've got nowhere else to go," she said.

Ms Brener has expressed her frustration towards the unsupportive environment for small businesses.

"It's a shame that the government and landlords don't understand the importance of keeping small businesses in the city. It makes us feel that they don't care about us," she said.

The unfortunate situation is a blow to Ms Brener's mother, who is well into her 70s.

"Mum has put her heart and soul into this

shop. We don't want to lose this business and we've tried everything to get help. But there's nothing there to help us," Ms Brener said.

"I understand that rent should increase. But it shouldn't increase so much that we can no longer afford to stay here."

Ms Brener said the city's retail industry, especially independent retailers, was facing a recession due to shifts in consumer habits.

"There's been a change in the way people shop. You don't see many people carrying shopping bags around anymore. If companies like Myer are struggling, so are the small businesses."



A map of the bike crash hotspots in the CBD.

## Bike crash hotspots

*The intersections at LaTrobe and Elizabeth streets, Flinders and Swanston streets and Collins and Spring streets have been identified as hotspots for bicycle accidents.*

According to an interactive map released by Melbourne University, the CBD is a high risk area for cyclists.

Within the City of Melbourne, there have been almost 2000 crashes between vehicles and cyclists between 2010 and 2018, a much larger number than any other municipality in Victoria.

In the CBD, LaTrobe, Swanston, Flinders, Collins and Lonsdale streets have the most accidents involving bikes.

Researchers say the lack of adequate cycling infrastructure, including bike lanes, and speed limits, contribute to the high number of crashes in these locations.

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The Bourke St Mall building is being sold.

# Bourke St is the place to be

The past 12 months have seen the highest amount of property transactions along Bourke St.

Data provided by Colliers International shows around 10 commercial properties have been sold in the last year.

The most recent sale was 470 Bourke St, which was sold for more than \$35 million in April.

In December last year, 185 Bourke St and 360 Little Bourke St were sold for \$9.5 million and \$33 million respectively.

The building at 421 Bourke St was sold for a record \$20,000 per square metre last July.

Other sales include 478, 179-183 and 23-29 Bourke St as well as 377 Little Bourke St.

The Bourke St Mall building hosting retailers Swarovski and Windsor Smith has just been put on market.

The four-storey building next to Target Centre at 220 Bourke St is being auctioned by

Colliers on April 27 with price expectations of more than \$40 million.

CBRE is helping to sell the office building at 601 Bourke St, on the corner of King St.

Colliers' Oliver Hay said Bourke St was experiencing an unprecedented wave of property transactions due to its strategic location.

"Following Melbourne's recent influx of offshore investment, population growth, international students and tourism, Bourke St is now viewed in a global context," he said.

"This has resulted in record rental growth over the past three years for tenancies with prime frontage. Retailers have been charged rents of between \$9200 and \$12,000 per square metre net," Mr Hay said.

# Slender towers are on trend

By Emma Doherty

*"Slender towers" are the latest craze to hit the Melbourne property market.*

Developers are buying smaller sites to build this new style of slim buildings.

The most recent development to follow this niche craze is a hotel located at 9-11 Exploration Lane.

With construction set to start this year, the property is being developed by BPM Corp and was designed by Elenberg Fraser. It is expected the new owner will take possession once construction is completed in 2019.

Once a 168 sqm warehouse, the site is now home to this progressive development. Selling agent, Mark Bullock from Ray White Hotels said the project was unique, as "you just don't see many of them across many other cities in the country".

At 34 storeys high, the hotel will comprise

130 rooms, a hotel lobby over its two basement levels, a gym, dining area, bar and a lounge space on levels two and three.

Mr Bullock believes that these "slender towers" are the new age of high rises in cities like Melbourne as they best utilise the limited space within a capital city's area.

"I just think it's a good use of space where vacant city blocks are becoming hard to come by. It's also a cost effective to put a tower and maximise the ground floor area of such a tight space," Mr Bullock said.

Mr Bullock said that, while "slender towers" had taken over the residential market in larger cities like New York City, the decision to develop one that catered to the tourism industry was not only efficient but helped support Melbourne's economy.

"There's greater efficiency with the number of rooms versus the number of apartments you can fit on a site like that," he said.

In the year ending December 2017, visitors in Melbourne increased 8.2 per cent, with international visitor expenditure on holidays increasing 6.4 per cent.



# Elizabeth St auction

A seven-storey Victorian-style heritage building at 21-23 Elizabeth St was sold for \$9.6 million in March.

Auctioned by CBRE, the mixed-use building was snapped up by Chinese buyers after long and intense bidding from a big crowd.

The building facade is heritage-protected but developers are able to develop a

building up to 40 metres as long as the facade is kept.

The auction attracted a crowd of more than 100 people as the rare commercial and residential development opportunity arose.

VOTE 1

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POSTAL BALLOT 23 APRIL - 11 MAY (6PM)



Authorised by C. Quinn, Level 1 45 William St, Melbourne VIC 3000



- ▲ Sustainable development in the public interest.
- ▲ Strong advocacy for fairer building & owners corp laws.
- ▲ Clean & transparent governance at Town Hall.

# New Collins St Precinct president

By Sunny Liu

*Alister Reid, owner of jewellery store Grey Reid Gallery on Collins St, has become the new president at Collins St Precinct.*

Having been involved with the precinct for almost 20 years, Mr Reid said the group of small business owners was the voice of the city's small business community.

"Small business is the majority of local businesses here in Melbourne. We are an important fabric of the city," he said.

"Melbourne is still a maker city. There is a lot of talent who can open up unique businesses and showcase that talent."

"As the president of Collins St Precinct, I need to bring together these small businesses and work towards our common goal, which is to promote the city and make Melbourne a better place for visitors and business owners," Mr Reid said.

Collins St Precinct currently has almost 100 members and represents the various hospitality, retail and services operators in Melbourne's premier shopping strip.

According to Mr Reid, small businesses can offer a completely personal and memorable experience for shoppers.

"Every business has its own personality. This is different from what shopping centres offer. It's good for people to wander around the city and discover what it has to offer," he said.

"Small businesses keep the crafts alive. We stick to the core belief of the business and the individuals are equipped with the knowledge."

Mr Reid said small business owners needed to understand and adapt to the changes and challenges.

"It's important to understand the way that business is changing. We need to adopt new technology and offer services to the new generation," he said.



Alister Reid is the new Collins St Precinct president.

"To compete with bigger franchises and brands, we need to maintain our relevance and have a supportive environment provided by the council."

Melbourne is constantly evolving and small businesses also needed to catch up.

"A city that always changes is a city that never dies. So there are many positive changes and we need to know when to take advantage of the positives," Mr Reid said.

He said Collins St Precinct worked with the City of Melbourne to promote small businesses in the city.

"In a sense, we are the conduits of town hall. And this translates to our membership

and we can empower small businesses and build a bridge between big and small businesses and the customers."

Within the precinct, the members help each other out.

"We share experiences and ideas and we are proud to be trading on one of the world's most well-known strips. Collins St is not just a destination for Melbourne, but for Australia as well," Mr Reid said.

"We understand the local community and we are what makes Melbourne, Melbourne."

For more information about Collins St Precinct, visit [collinsstreet.com.au](http://collinsstreet.com.au)

## CBD good to work, live and play

*The CBD has been rated high on the live, work and play index, according to new PwC research.*

The CBD score 10 out of 10 for play, 9.1 for work and 6.7 for live – all much higher than the wider Melbourne average.

The city averages are: 5.2 for live, 3.8 for work and 4.6 for play.

This new *CityPulse* study provides future direction by measuring Melbourne and its suburbs in terms of "work, live and play".

The study recognised that the CBD's role as Melbourne's job centre had spread to the surrounding areas of Docklands, St Kilda Rd, Southbank and Parkville.

The CBD is the second best place to work, outshaded by Docklands, which received 10 out of 10 for work.

The best area for play is no doubt the CBD, having received the top mark in this category for the variety of entertainment offering.

"The successful growth of the CBD has spread to surrounding areas. The regeneration of Docklands was also a major new chapter in Melbourne's overall development, which will continue to the north of that precinct," the report said.

The report goes on to argue that – despite the success of the CBD and surrounds – land availability, urban sprawl, congestion and low-density factors make a one-centre future questionable.

*CityPulse* calls for "a polycentric city" with hubs in Monash, LaTrobe, East Werribee and Maribryong.

# STRONGER BUSINESS STRONGER VICTORIA

As the most influential business organisation in Victoria, the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry calls on all political parties to commit to our priorities for Victorian business in the 2018 State Election:

- 1 Deliver key transport infrastructure projects
- 2 Increase the payroll tax threshold to \$850,000
- 3 Increase apprenticeships and traineeships
- 4 Maximise local content in Victorian projects
- 5 Grow Victorian exports and supply chains
- 6 Lift the moratorium on onshore conventional gas exploration
- 7 Accelerate regional opportunities
- 8 Advance Victoria's high value, globally competitive industries
- 9 Provide a safe and secure business environment
- 10 Develop Port Phillip Bay



By adopting these priorities, Victoria's 590,000 private sector businesses employing 2.5 million people will have the best chance of success.

**Ask your local candidate what their views are on these important issues. Do they support Victorian business?**

For further details of the Victorian Chamber's 2018 election priorities, and to join the Chamber, visit: [victorianchamber.com.au](http://victorianchamber.com.au)

Written and authorised by Mark Stone AM, Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 150 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

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# Sally Capp for MELBOURNE



VOTE 1 

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# New Chinatown forming in CBD north

By Sunny Liu

*The CBD's retail precinct is shifting from Bourke St to the northern side, forming a new "Chinatown" in the CBD's north.*

According to CBRE's retail leasing team, 15 offers were made from Asian retailers in four weeks wanting to secure tenancies in the north part of the CBD.

CBRE said retail rents within this precinct of the CBD, marked by Therry and A'Beckett streets, have surged by as much as 70 per cent with a zero per cent vacancy rate.

CBRE's retail leasing specialist, Tan Thach, said the large number Asian students living in this part of the CBD had driven the retail activity.

"This in turn is creating the pent-up demand from both local and international retailers to secure space in this pocket of the Melbourne CBD, which is heavily influenced by international students living within close proximity to RMIT and Melbourne University," he said.

The shop at 55-59 A'Beckett St has recently

been leased at \$400,000 per annum, which has more than doubled despite the closure of the intersection at Swanston and A'Beckett streets due to Metro Tunnel works.

Chinese hospitality operator Da Long Yi has recently leased the 226sqm space at 398 Elizabeth St at a record \$400,000 on a 10-year lease.

This area has also long attracted strong interest from Asian developers, with ICD, Aspial, UEM, Golden Age, Hengyi and Mammoth building ultra-high skyscrapers in the precinct.

Mr Thach said the arrivals of Asian retailers and residential developments had essentially turned this part of the CBD into a new retail centre and a new "Chinatown".

"This northern quadrant of the CBD has by far been the location of choice for the largest Asian developers and retailers."

"This has been supported by the influx of Chinese international students and tourists in the northern pocket of the CBD," he said.

Apart from retail leasing deals, a lot of residential and commercial properties have recently or are being sold in this area, such as 422 Queen St and 132-140 Franklin St.

# Melbourne's skyline continues to soar

By Emma Doherty

*Two more skyscrapers are set to soar above the CBD skyline, despite new planning regulations being put in place in 2015.*

The properties located at 640 Bourke St and 140 King St, are owned by Chinese developers, Besgate, and received permits during the tenure of former planning minister Matthew Guy.

Along with another site in Carlton, the properties are back on the market and are expected to realise more than \$120 million.

According to commercial real estate agent, CBRE, Besgate's decision to sell comes in response to the city's growing population.

CBRE's national director of investments, Mark Wizel, said: "With Sydney's cost of living so much higher, we are even seeing positive interstate migration on top of overseas migration, student arrivals and natural population growth."

With the City of Melbourne's current population estimated to be at 151,176 residents and expected to grow by 43.26

per cent to 266,455 by 2037, Mr Wizel believes that it "reflects the very strong level of confidence that key players have in Melbourne's growth" and that Besgate's decision to sell is "seen as a very clever strategy".

The three properties combined will boast permits for residential development of more than 1200 residential spaces across four buildings.

The property located at 640 Bourke St has been approved for a twin tower project that will comprise 816 residential apartments, three retail spaces, four office suites and a child care facility over 71 storeys and with a plot ratio of 30 to one.

The property located at 140 King St has been approved for a project that will comprise 260 residential apartments and a ground floor retail space over 57 storeys. It will have a plot ratio of 31 to one.

However, despite its potential to aide Melbourne's increasing population, the towers boast high plot ratios, which would not have been approved under the current planning regulations.

# Melbourne City Council Lord Mayor by-election

## Postal election: check the mail for your ballot pack

Ballot packs containing voting material were delivered to enrolled voters from Monday 23 April 2018.

*This is a postal election.*

If you do not receive your ballot pack by Thursday 3 May please call (03) 8619 1498 during office hours to arrange an alternative.

## Candidates

Candidates who have nominated to stand for election are listed in the ballot packs and at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au). Where provided by candidates, a photo and statement are also included.

Responses to a questionnaire, completed by candidates where provided, are available at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

## How to vote correctly

You must complete your ballot paper correctly for your vote to count. Put the number **1** in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your preference. You must number **EVERY BOX** and only use each number once.

## How to return your ballot material

Post your completed ballot paper using the reply-paid envelope provided, or hand-deliver it during office hours to the Election Office at:

Level 4, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne

## Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for everyone under the age of 70 who is enrolled for the Melbourne City Council Lord Mayor by-election.

If you fail to vote and don't have a valid excuse, you will be fined

## Bill Lang Returning Officer

Level 4, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne

Tel: (03) 8619 1498 for general enquiries

Office hours:

- 9.00 am to 5.00 pm until Wednesday 9 May (excluding public holidays)
- 9.00 am to 8.00 pm Thursday 10 May
- 9.00 am to 6.00 pm Friday 11 May

**Your completed ballot material must be in the mail or hand-delivered by 6.00 pm Friday 11 May**

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• All other non-English languages 9209 0112



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# Once upon a dream

By Kathryn Lewis

**Who hasn't dreamt of going to Disney World? Not all of us get to live out that dream, but William Angliss student Sarah Jenkins has gone a step further.**

When only 15-years-old, Ms Jenkins knew Disney World was her dream job when, eight years ago, she tagged along with her sister to a William Angliss Institute open day.

"I had no idea of what I wanted to do when I was older, but I saw a sign about working at Disney World and I knew I was going to do that one day," she said.

Sarah's dream remained on hold while she finished high school and, after graduating in 2013, she took a year off travelling around the United States.

"I wanted to travel for the rest of my life but I equally wanted a great education," she said.

Ms Jenkins found that education back home at the William Angliss Institute where she began studying a Bachelor of Tourism and Hospitality Management in 2015.

From the outset, Ms Jenkins was a perfect fit for the degree, and the industry.

"I have loved gaining knowledge of the industry, networking with people in the industry and being able to apply what I have learnt to my job," she said.

In the third year of her degree, Ms Jenkins was given the opportunity to work and live abroad at Disney World in Orlando, Florida as part of a compulsory work-integrated learning year.

"Working at Disney World for an entire year was so rewarding. It was the hardest I have ever worked physically and emotionally but I enjoyed every single second of it," she said.

"It was the best of both worlds, improving my resume and skills during the day and watching the fireworks and riding on



Sarah Jenkins at Disney World.

rollercoasters at night."

Ms Jenkins spent her time abroad working in merchandise stores at the Animal Kingdom Lodge resort, a role she said was just right for her.

"William Angliss said we were allowed to go anywhere in the world for our placement year. I saw Disney World advertised and the criteria fitted me perfectly," she said.

Ms Jenkins' time abroad was a learning curve in both her academic and personal life. She said she struck the right balance between living out her dream and talking to her friends and family at home.

"I loved living abroad as I learnt so many

personal and work-related skills," she said.

"I had to manage my time and money more than I have ever had to do before which is such a valuable skill to have learned."

Now in the fourth year of her degree, Sarah said her work at Disney World was crucial in helping her to get her current role at the Novotel Melbourne.

"I definitely believe the work-integrated learning year was most beneficial for my career... being able to talk about my experiences within my interview and successfully answering tricky interview questions landed me the job immediately," she said.

Ms Jenkins looks after guests at the 380-room hotel on Collins St, working in reception and handling reservations.

She will walk away from 2018 with her bachelor degree, graduating at the end of the year confident that she has chosen the right career.

"The Disney program gave me the confidence and confirmation that I have chosen the right career and that I wanted to work in hotels," she said.

As a budding traveller, Ms Jenkins said she was glad to have her foot in the door of a reputable international company.

"My goal is to travel around the world with Accor, gaining more experience and knowledge within the industry to become extremely well rounded," she said.

"I will always be thankful to William Angliss Institute for providing me with experienced and passionate educators and I will take that passion with me wherever I go."



Sarah Jenkins (left) with colleagues at Disney World.

William  
**Angliss**  
Institute

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# Laneway foot trade for the imaginative

By Rhonda Dredge

*There are still some surprises to be had down Melbourne's laneways where dark corners and miraculous facades are a religion for those who crave something different.*

Avid shoppers will traipse up and down buildings and disappear into alleys to find a local product.

If you've got a thin foot or an ingrown toenail, however, you mightn't be as adventurous.

A surprise just off Flinders Lane could be the perfect solution. Manchester Lane has a smooth surface and the shoes down here will help you fly.

The shoes look fashionably uncomfortable in their glittery stances but all have a biomechanical footbed to support the foot, even high heels and strappy sandals.

Bared opened just nine months ago and it's a Melbourne company selling products designed here to suit the local foot.

"We don't want to be a comfort brand," says business founder Anna Baird. "We're a fashion brand that's wearable."

The opening of the store flies in the face of



the pundits who predict a move away from small local shops in arcades to an influx of global brands.

According to Colliers International, 50 new shops have opened in malls in the last 12 months and there has been an above average vacancy rate in the area between Swanston and Elizabeth streets.

Coupled with the trend towards casual sportswear in fashion and the recent

opening of global shoe stores JD Sports and Under Armour, there is pressure on designer dress brands.

Baird, a podiatrist, has chosen a former nightclub as her CBD hang-out and a décor of velvet drapes and exotic plants is making no concessions to global gloom.

The bottom line for small local businesses in the CBD is that they need friends.

"We run events in this space," says Baird. "We have food and jazz for the Festival of Steve in May. These are all CBD retailers, many of them start-up companies."

Bared proved the appeal of its range at a store in High Street, Armadale, which opened 10 years ago. CBD Bared is aimed at men. The shoes were initially manufactured in Sydney but now are made in China.

"The best artisans are in China," Ms Baird said, who is quick to promote her decision to manufacture offshore. "We'd have to retail at over \$400 if they were made here. China is amazing."

The company is heavily into marketing with warehouse sales, free shoes if mistakes are made with fitting and a staff that includes podiatrists. Models such as the Galah, Rooster, Vulture come in 10 sizes and can be fitted with orthotics.

There are now 815 above-ground shops in the CBD, many selling original wares and the Festival of Steve markets what the well-groomed CBD man should be wearing.

The pundits might prefer to shop at St Collins Lane and buy global brands but the Galahs are adjustable and comfortable.

Even though foot traffic has been redirected by Metro Rail works, there is no need to queue for limited editions when Australian companies can do bespoke runs. "We could do 30 pink and purple polkadots," Ms Baird joked.

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A portrait of Jennifer Yang, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a blue and white striped blazer over a white top. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage.

# VOTE **1**

# JENNIFER YANG

## FOR LORD MAYOR

**Jennifer is a proven leader in Local Government who will drive positive change within Melbourne City Council.**

**If elected as your next Lord Mayor, Jennifer will:**

- *Ban Councillors from drinking when on council business.*
- *Freeze rates until 2020 and immediately commence an expenditure review.*
- *Ease pressure on pensioners by doubling the Council's Pensioner Concession Rebate.*
- *Build permanent crisis accommodation to get those sleeping rough off our streets and into safety.*

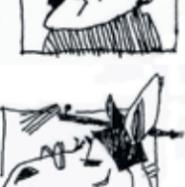
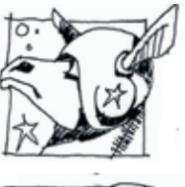
# DIVERSITY. EQUALITY. PROSPERITY.



# Form Guide to the 2018 City of Melbourne



?



**What you consider to be the three priority issues facing the City of Melbourne?**

**XIE, Qun**

No response received.

**CAPP, Sally**

Getting the basics right- such as making sure there is an efficient rubbish service, roads are maintained and rates are low;  
Liveability - managing rising population and challenges that face a growing city including homelessness and balancing development; and  
Congestion and transport - how we move around the city now and in the future.

**DOWNING, Luke**

Corruption affecting living standards; Homelessness; and Victoria Markets redevelopment proposal.

**LEPPERT, Rohan**

Changing development rules to ensure we're building a sustainable and attractive city, not leaving a legacy of poorly designed apartments; Ensuring everyone has a roof over their head and access to services they need - more affordable housing, and better social services; and Improving council's culture and transparency. We should all work for the public interest.

**WARHAFT, Sally**

Addressing the culture that abetted Robert Doyle's conduct and led to a climate of impunity, intimidation, disrespect of women and stifling of debate;  
Saving the QVM from Doyle's misconceived development proposal. This project should be completely reviewed; and  
Supporting the ambitions and needs of our different communities.

**MacDONALD, Alex**

Queen Victoria Market redevelopment; Safety and cleanliness of our streets; and Governance and transparency of council.

**Live in the City of Melbourne?**

No response received.

No.

Yes.

Yes.

No.

No.

**Any local government experience?**

No.

No.

I am a current Melbourne City Councillor, elected in 2012.

No.

No.

**Past or present political party affiliations?**

No response received.

I was a member of the Liberal Party from April 2014 to August 2016

Yes, I am an ALP member.

I am the endorsed Greens candidate.

No.

No.

**How much are you spending?**

As I am personally fundraising for my campaign as an independent, the total amount has not yet been finalised.

Nomination fee of \$250. Anything else spent thus far has just been goodwill and patience of my partner with me being away more.

I expect we'll exceed our 2016 budget, which was about \$30,000.

I anticipate my campaign budget will be around \$10,000.

\$4000.

**Where is your funding coming from?**

No response received.

Family, friends and supporters. I am not accepting donations from property developers.

Left pocket, wherein my wallet resides

Small donations from individual supporters. I'm not taking any donations from developers or corporations. The median donation so far is \$100.

Individual donations and friends and family - particularly in-kind assistance.

Self-funded.

**What makes a good lord mayor?**

No response received.

Two things: passion and credentials. I have both in abundance. I'm passionate about Melbourne, having lived here throughout my life. And, as someone who has run businesses big and small, I've got the experience to oversee a yearly budget of \$500 million, and make wise decisions that advance our wonderful city.

Transparency, accountability. Takes the blame when things aren't working, gives credit when they are. Knows when to speak and when to listen. Recognises they are an advocate for the city's residents and therein the buck stops with the mayor.

Given that Melbourne is experiencing its fastest growth since the gold rush, we need a lord mayor who doesn't owe favours to any developer and who has demonstrated an absolute commitment to governing in the public interest. Someone who understands that healthy culture comes through respect and collaboration, not grandstanding.

A belief that the role is about public service rather than a quest for political prestige, a commitment to independence from external parties including lobby groups, and the dedication, curiosity and humility integral to all good leadership.

Good mayors relate to and understand the needs of the electorate. They are a strong voice that can effectively communicate these needs and action them with professionalism. Ensuring that council is providing infrastructure and services that keep our city looking its best, practicing good governance and acting transparently and responsively.

**Preference flow:**

No response received.

No recommendation.

No recommendation.

Leppert 1, Warhaft 2, Yang 3, Poon 4, Sfetkidis 5, Downing 6, Watson 7, Ong 8, Burge 9, O'Sughrue 10, Morgan 11, Xie 12, Capp 13, MacDonald 14.

Put Gary Morgan second because of his policy on QVM. Then select Rohan Leppert, Jennifer Yang and Ken Ong. Put Sally Capp last.

No recommendation.

**CBD News says:**

*The mystery candidate. Has drawn the best barrier position. Well placed to win the Donkey Vote.*

*The favourite. Impressive in track work. Hungry and motivated for victory. Capable and committed. Carrying the hopes of the big-end of town. Some questioning over her connections.*

*Introverted, deep-thinker. Prone to a global rather than a local perspective. Might do better in a different race.*

*Capable of winning if enough votes are drawn away from the other fancied runners. Carrying the hopes and aspirations of residents. Smart as a whip with impressive track record. Strong on integrity and open governance. Stable colours could polarise.*

*Can't fault motivation and commitment. Potentially blinkered by academia and a bias to run to the left side of the track. Will benefit from the outing.*

*A refreshingly honest trier but probably outclassed in this event. Very good at putting the horse before the cart.*

**Scratched:** Phil Cleary (nobbled by his own team); Intaj Kahn (expected to be able contest from Werribee); Jane Garrett (was it about other races?); Sam Newman (dunno).



# Melbourne lord mayoral by-election



**WATSON, Allan**

Homeless; QVM; and Safety.



**YANG, Jennifer**

The need to bring the voice of residents and small businesses back into council decision-making; Fixing the toxic culture at town hall; and Fixing the ongoing homelessness crisis and putting an end to rough sleeping.



**SFTEKIDIS, Katie**

Diversity, affordability and supporting arts and culture are key issues. It is through the arts that we are able to celebrate our exciting and diverse city and demonstrate our commitment to social change. As the population continues to grow, it is imperative that the City of Melbourne remains affordable for people, institutions and business both large and small.



**MORGAN, Gary**

Stop the proposed \$250+million "mega" redevelopment of the QVM; Support the Melbourne airport railway initiative and ensure council works with the state to facilitate its immediate commencement; and Review council's budget, focus on core council functions and eliminate all unnecessary expenditure so rates are cut every year over the next three years.



**O'SUGHRUE, Nathalie Nicole**

The number of homeless seeking employment; Alcohol and drug abuse resulting in violence; and Access to mental health services.



**BURGE, Michael**

Safety (includes, crime, traffic, homelessness); The balance between maintaining Melbourne's heritage and character while attending to development and infrastructure; and Genuine community consultation (I have conducted research into genuine consultation; results indicate that there are some real problems here).



**ONG, Ken**

Providing better core services and amenities for people of City of Melbourne; Improving the planning system to preserve city's character and liveability and more infrastructure for the growing population especially better walking infrastructure like wider footpaths; and Better accessibility for people of all abilities.



**POON, Bruce**

My main priority is ending the suffering of animals. I intend to end the use of horse-drawn vehicles in the city, stop the selling of furs and shark fin products; In terms of sensible economic management and development, I intend to reform the rating which would see more rational and just rates for all; and We also need to make the city an ever greater place to live and work.

No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.	Yes.
Yes, was Melbourne's lord mayor in 1993 and a Melbourne councillor on and off between 1972 and 1993.	I spent six years on Manningham City Council, including two-terms as mayor.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Yes. Eight years as a Melbourne City councillor.	No.
Yes, previous Labor membership but resigned in the 1990s.	I am a member of the Australian Labor Party.	In my uni years I had a brief brush with the Labor Party, until I recognised that party politics was not for me.	No.	No.	Yes, I am a member of the Liberal Party.	Yes. Liberal.	I am representing the Animal Justice Party, for whom I work full-time.
\$250 nomination fee.	My donations will be disclosed in the normal way.	Spending very little on my campaign. Most of my campaign will be run online and I will also attend a number of public forums.	Less than \$2000.	No backing of large corporations or parties. Other than potentially having flyers and posters made, I plan on doing most things face to face.	Have an unfolding budget but contained within four figures.	Between \$80,000 to \$90,000.	The overall spend will be minimal.
Self-funded.	I am receiving funding from grassroots campaign supporters.	Personal finances.	I will cover all costs from my own pocket.	The majority of funding will be coming out of my own pocket.	Self-funded.	Mostly self-funded. Expect some small donations and a small fundraising dinner.	Personal savings.
The lord mayor should be elected by the council so he/she knows they have the council's confidence. They should be a spokesperson for the city. I'd like to bring a little bit more humanity into the council.	A good lord mayor is someone who loves Melbourne and has the energy, experience and vision to improve our city for residents and small businesses. More than ever, Melbourne needs strong leadership to drive the significant cultural change required at town hall.	A good lord mayor contributes to the culture - ensuring it is an inclusive and exciting place to work, visit and live. I intend to initiate cultural change within council, creating a safe space for a diverse range of voices including women, queer, trans, indigenous and people of colour. I will be a forward-thinking, creative and inspiring advocate.	Honesty, independence and insistence on transparency in all decisions and processes to restore trust in council and respect for the role of lord mayor. A powerful voice for Melbourne, with a resident's understanding of community needs and vision for Melbourne as Australia's leader in business, retail, education, arts and tourism.	A good lord mayor understands the people and their community. They listen to all sides of the equation and form their own opinion before deciding for the greater good. They are confident within themselves and know what they stand for.	I believe a good lord mayor, while demonstrating leadership, should also be a leader that is a grounded servant of the people that demonstrates high standards of ethics while inspiring confidence, trust and enthusiasm in all sectors of the community and within the council	A good lord mayor coming in now would have extensive experience in the governance of this city and fully understand all the intricacies of the challenges facing the city so as to hit the ground running. In addition, must be able to closely work with existing councillors and officers.	A good lord mayor is a good listener, to hear the many diverse voices of our city. Further, they will be smart enough and wise enough to outline a vision of where the city can go, and how it can be improved for everyone's benefit.
No recommendation.	My how-to-vote guide will be circulated directly to voters during the campaign	I would encourage voters to support independent female candidate Sally Warhaft and Greens candidate Rohan Leppert.	I have not allocated preferences - however those voting for me should put Sally Warhaft second.	No recommendation.	Burge 1, MacDonald 2, Xie 3, Poon 4, Watson 5, O'Sughrue 6, Downing 7, Sftekidis 8, Warhaft 9, Yang 10, Morgan 11, Ong 12, Leppert 13, Capp 14.	No recommendation.	Preference Rohan Leppert.
<i>Put out to pasture years ago. Surprise entrant. Not expected to worry the rest of the field.</i>	<i>Has won in the bush but perhaps not yet ready for a win at this level. Has a couple of the favourites worried and won't be disgraced. Should run a place.</i>	<i>Art for art's sake? A one-trick pony?</i>	<i>Loves this event but continues to struggle for winning form. Perhaps a stewards' swab might reveal the answer why?</i>	<i>A complex and interesting character. Has strong opinions and speaks well. Would finish better placed if this race was a beauty pageant.</i>	<i>Would appear to favour a wet track. Serious, but not a serious contender.</i>	<i>A ready-made lord mayor. Could slip into harness tomorrow. A solutions focused all-rounder - jumps, sprint and distance events.</i>	<i>Doesn't believe in horse racing but not expected to win this race.</i>



## Sales boom around QVM

*A flurry of properties have been transacted around the Queen Victoria Market, despite council's redevelopment plan being potentially down the drain.*

The property at 422 Queen St, just directly opposite the market, has been sold off-market for reportedly more than \$6 million.

This sale came weeks after two adjoining freehold buildings were sold at 132-140 Franklin St and 142-146 Franklin St.

Agents at Colliers International, who transacted the sale, said the northern pocket of the CBD was witnessing a lot of activity.

"There's a momentous energy in the market right now," agent David Sia said.

"The redevelopment of the QVM and the construction of the Melbourne Metro Rail are driving an incredibly positive sentiment and investors are just desperate to secure real estate in the surrounding locale."

"The burgeoning precinct is set to generate unprecedented economic stimulation in years to come, with short term opportunities to capitalise on current demand for hotel, residential and student housing," Mr Sia said.

## CBD can't go off the electricity grid

By Emma Doherty

*Living in the CBD and considering going "off the grid"? Think again.*

According to the chair of the Australian PV Institute (APVI), Dr Renate Egan, solar PV energy systems are not possible for locals.

With an increasing number of high-rise towers emerging across the CBD skyline, it's made it increasingly difficult for residents to consider a greener energy alternative.

Dr Egan's comments follow the release of the APVI Solar Potential Tool (SunSPoT) technology, which allows users to see an area's potential to generate electricity through PV solar.

Receiving live data from various sources, the online mapping tool details the environmental impact and potential financial savings of converting to solar.

In recent years, the Climate Council has noticed a push for greener energy consumption by Australian businesses and residents. Reports show that there are an increasing number of large-scale installations at airports, mines, healthcare facilities and businesses. It also shows that Australia is a world leader in household solar, with one in five households powered by solar energy.

However, despite these rising numbers, only 15 per cent of households in Victoria and NSW are powered by solar.

According to Dr Egan, areas like the CBD could not solely be powered by solar as the "energy footprint required is quite large. They just wouldn't be able to provide enough electricity by solar".

Nonetheless, the APVI have seen a surge in city residents looking to alternative models.

"The other successful model is when the community owns renewables, so when you buy a share of an installation. And that could be an installation on a building near you or it could be a large-scale array on shared land," says Dr Egan. "Sometimes it's not a direct benefit in that it doesn't flow to your home, it flows to the grid. But it shows there are lots

of interesting new business models being developed that are allowing people who can't put it on their roof to still have access to solar."

Whilst solar isn't a possibility for CBD residents, it does not rule out other renewable energy sources. In March, the City of Melbourne announced construction has started on a wind farm near Ararat to harvest renewable energy as part of the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP).

Led by the City of Melbourne, the project includes the University of Melbourne, RMIT, Federation Square, City of Port Phillip, City of Yarra, Moreland City Council, Bank Australia, Zoos Victoria, Citywide, National Australia Bank, Australia Post, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and NEXTDC, and is in collaboration with clean energy company Pacific Hydro.

Speaking of the project, Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood said: "This is the first project of its kind in Australia. No other renewables project has tackled the complexity of 14 partners in one buying group. We are proud to reach this milestone after announcing the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP) in November 2017."

"The Crowlands wind farm will save MREP customers 96,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> every year – an innovative approach to creating and purchasing renewable energy and also a great example of how a major city with a \$92 billion economy can influence positive outcomes in our regional towns," he said.

The project marks the first time that a collective of local governments, cultural organisations, universities and corporations have together invested in renewable energy. With the intent on purchasing 88 GWh of energy, which is enough to power 17,600 households in Melbourne for a year. The project also hopes to provide more than 140 jobs in regional Victoria.

The city's investment in renewable energy wind farms is just one more way it is taking action against climate change.

"MREP will be replicated all over Australia by groups like ours going direct to market to purchase their renewable energy. Several big corporates have already announced power purchase agreements and that number will continue to climb," Cr Wood said.



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## Crime rate has dropped

*Crime rate in the CBD decreased last year, according to Crime Statistics Agency.*

In 2017, a total of 16,293 criminal incidents were recorded in the CBD, down from 17,662 in 2016.

Among all the crimes, property and deception offences have dropped from 9476 in 2016 to 8673 in 2017 and assault and theft related offences are down from 2728 to 2035 in that period.

Crimes in the CBD reached an all-time high in 2016.

The most crime committed in postcode 3000 was property and deception offences, making up around half of all crimes.

In the property and deception category, 5482 incidents were recorded for theft and 1765 were recorded for deception.

Other popular crimes include assault, drug use and possession of drug, disorderly and offensive conduct and breaches of orders.

The CBD still has the highest number of crimes within the City of Melbourne.

# New transport strategy to tackle congestion

*The City of Melbourne has released some transport discussion papers to create a new transport strategy, aiming to relieve congestion and protect pedestrians and cyclists in the city.*

The first two of the papers, entitled *Walking and City Space*, focus on the allocation of walking, cycling and vehicle spaces.

Transport portfolio chair, Nicholas Frances Gilley, said walking was the most popular way for people to get around in the city and more space and protection should be given to pedestrians.

"Pedestrian crowd crush is a big issue in Melbourne and with the number of people in our city set to grow by 50 per cent in the next 20 years, we need to think about how we address that," Cr Frances Gilley said.

"Overcrowding on footpaths poses a serious threat to pedestrian safety: on Spencer St alone, one pedestrian was killed and 31 have been injured in the past five years."

Data shows that 15,000 pedestrians pound the pavement at the Spencer and Collins streets intersection during morning peak hours.

"(The number of pedestrians at this location) is five times the number of people in cars, yet cars are given twice the amount of time as pedestrians to pass through," Cr Frances Gilley said.

It has been suggested that "superblocks", which are designated areas only accessible to pedestrians and cyclists, would help ease



Cr Nicholas Frances Gilley speaks about the transport discussion papers.

congestion with a carless zone.

In the discussion papers, the council is also collecting ideas about how to adjust public space to make it more pedestrian and cyclist friendly.

"Allocating the majority of space to cars when most people walk or take public transport is not sustainable. We are a walking city: within our CBD 89 per cent of all trips in the city's core are made on foot and if we want to encourage more people to walk more often so we need to make it safer and

easier to do so," Cr Frances Gilley said.

Improving the city's tram network, planning for new rail network infrastructure Melbourne Metro 2 and creating orbital routes to link suburbs without having to travel through the city are also proposed in the discussion papers.

The council is seeking community input and feedback about the transport discussion papers to help develop the new *Transport Strategy*.

The *Transport Strategy* will be a 10-year document with a 30-year vision on how the City of Melbourne might develop in terms of population and traffic.

Other paper topics include: public transport network, emerging technology, cycling, parking, motor vehicles and transport pricing.

In the next few weeks, more discussion papers will be released and the public is invited to share their thoughts through [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au).

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# Relationship declaration register thing of the past

*The City of Melbourne has ceased its first-of-its-kind relationship declaration register following the legalisation of same sex marriage.*

The council established the register in 2007 to provide civic recognition of all relationships, including same sex couples.

This register served the purpose of recognising gay relationships before the same sex marriage reform was introduced last year.

The council has now ceased this register, while recognising that it had served the gay community.

“It was a way that the City of Melbourne would recognise same sex marriages when other levels of government were not doing so,” Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood said.

“It has been an important public policy in the City of Melbourne,” he said.

Cr Philip Le Liu, who initiated the motion, also asked for the register to be part of the City of Melbourne’s heritage collection.



# Melbourne the world's live music capital

By Kathryn Lewis

*Melbourne has been named the live music capital with the highest live music venue to resident ratio in the world.*

The title comes with the release of The Melbourne Live Music Census 2017, which looked into the state of live music across Victoria.

“This census cements Melbourne’s status as a leading global music city,” Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood said.

“The City of Melbourne looks forward to continuing to foster our music culture and our music economy, while working hand in hand with the music industry to uncover the next generation of iconic Melbourne musicians.”

The city boasts 553 venues, or one venue per 9503 residents, compared with London’s 245 and New York’s 453.

Live music attendance is up 12 per cent from 2012, with 17.5 million punters showing up to live music throughout 2017.

The booming industry can host the equivalent audience of an AFL Grand Final

every Saturday night with more than 110,000 attendees heading to gigs and concerts right across the city.

The music industry is also contributing hugely to Melbourne’s employment with more than 18,000 part-time jobs created by gigs recorded in 2017.

In 2016, the Victorian Government implemented a \$22 million Music Works Initiative providing funding and support to businesses and projects aiming to develop the state’s music industry.

Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley said the initiative was producing real results.

“Music is part of our DNA in Victoria. Over the past two years we’ve been rolling out a range of programs that are strengthening our music scene at all levels, our live music venues, industry organisations and musicians are thriving,” he said.

# Food truck festival brings suburbs together

By Kathryn Lewis

*Melbourne’s biggest ever food truck festival is coming to Birrarung Marr from May 2-6, with vendors from across the city all in one convenient location.*

Food Truck Park directors Frank Rusitovski and Dean Trpeski hope the festival will become a part of Melbourne’s major event calendar.

“Over the last four years, having created some of Melbourne’s biggest food events, our team is looking to make this one the biggest yet,” Mr Rusitovski said.

The festival will be divided up into four sections – north, south, east and west with vendors from each of Melbourne’s most

popular suburbs.

For those with a sweet tooth, an entire district titled Sweet Lane will be dedicated solely to desserts.

The festival will host more than 40 food trucks with beverages and cuisine from all over the world, with anything from tacos to vegan options.

Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood said the City of Melbourne supported the event as it cemented Melbourne’s standing as the culinary capital of Australia.

“Our city has embraced the food truck phenomenon with open arms and I’m sure the Food Truck Festival will attract crowds of salivating diners to Birrarung Marr this May,” he said.

The festival runs from 5pm on Wednesday and Thursday and from 11am on the weekend.

# Vertical visions of lord mayoral candidates

Melbourne's by-election for the lord mayor is fast approaching – but how well do the 14 candidates understand vertical living and what do they offer our burgeoning vertical villages?

We vertical dwellers know intimately the appeal and challenges of high-rise living. On the one hand, there are the positives of proximity and paring down but also there are negatives of noise and neighbours unknown. However, these little capture what is distinct about our vertical lifestyle and it remains a cross to bear that many government decision-makers have only a superficial appreciation of our problems and possibilities (oh, the saving potential of communal procurement!).

Yet this new way of living is already mainstream within the City of Melbourne, which currently claims a residential population in the high density precincts of Docklands, Southbank and the CBD of over 80,000 which, by 2037, is expected to increase to more than 150,000.

However, as the lord mayor is not required to live within the city, the question becomes how well do these 14 candidates understand our different way of living?

Do they have empathy for this fast growing yet still emerging lifestyle?

And how will each of these candidates ensure we move away from a “ghettos in the sky” scenario to a vertical village future?

With this in mind, all 14 candidates were asked two questions and a 100-word response was requested:

What do you consider to be the three top issues for people living in high-rise, high-density precincts in the City of Melbourne?

How will you address these issues?

What follows are the responses of the eight candidates who had something to say (listed in reverse order of draw):

## Bruce POON:

We need to see state legislation or local bylaws enshrining the right to keep pets in rental properties, as well as the development of more parks and gardens for everyone's use. I also want to reduce the cost of living by

using site value rather than capital improved value rates for all property. This will promote development of the city and lower the rates payable on most properties. I will also promote the rights of body corporates to decide the legitimate uses for the building, giving local control over short-stays.

## Ken ONG:

High density inner city living residents face a shortage of open space, lack of communal facilities in their own buildings and disruptions by short-term stays. To improve the lack of open space, council can look at using some under-utilised small roads and lanes and pedestrianise them. New open spaces in the inner-city can be created. Maybe some unused rooftop space can be used too. Secondly, council can change the planning scheme to include specific communal facilities to be include in all new high rise buildings. For the short-term stay matter, with some state government help, council can implement registration of all short-terms operators and introduce a levy for all operators for additional contribution to the building's maintenance sinking fund. Also, there should be clear rules for the operations of short-term stays in the OC Act.

## Michael BURGE:

Residents are feeling caged within the building and suffer from the absence of open community space and after hours shopping. Crime is making residents feel vulnerable and isolated. The lack of schools and safe places for children to play is a big problem. Many high-rise families are feeling depressed and anxious. Recommend performance-based, cost-effective planning that will enable design standards to deliver high quality apartments – particularly, internal living spaces that are better for occupants. Liaise with residents to achieve mandatory standards. Plan for emerging issues of car parking, noise, natural ventilation and crime.

## Gary MORGAN:

For Melbourne residents living in high-rises, it's vital that the council protects their amenity by maintaining the heritage of Melbourne by preventing over-development such as the proposed \$250+ million to be spent on the Queen Victoria Market site. Releasing these funds will allow

council to improve services for inner-city residents and make Melbourne a better business and tourist hub increasing retail and entertainment employment and promoting new business opportunities. As lord mayor I will aggressively pursue the interests of residents by tackling the state government (Liberal or Labor) by presenting accurate data to the government for how important issues should be handled.

## Katie SFETKIDIS:

Affordability, liveability and access to services and activities are the top issues for high-density precincts. High-density living is becoming more popular as the resident population grows and it is imperative we ensure that high-rises can foster community. This includes making sure new developments have access to public transport and communal green spaces. It is important that these spaces are activated through arts and cultural events to celebrate community and bring visitors to these areas.

## Jennifer YANG:

Australia is building too many poor quality high-rise apartment towers that are alienating to live in and have low environmental performance. As our city grows, I believe access to public open space is the key issue for residents living in apartments. If elected, I will ensure that the open space contribution made by developers is actually spent on high-rise residents. I will also lobby the state government for stronger powers for owners' corporations to sanction residents who don't pay their fees, prevent dangerous and flammable materials being used in new high-rise construction and boost funding for high-rise community services including neighbourhood houses, schools and health care facilities.

## Sally WARHAFT:

Very poor forward planning has been detrimental to residents in high-rise, high-density precincts and to the city at large. You cannot create or support a community without infrastructure, public transport, open spaces and schools. There has been a long-standing practice of developments going ahead, using every square inch of available space, with the only concern being maximising profits. We need to develop policies which demand the expectation of

design excellence so these buildings will serve their communities for generations. I will advocate for policy settings which demand design excellence and create prosperous high-rise communities into the future. If I am elected lord mayor, a priority will be making sure Fishermans Bend has all the necessary infrastructure from the beginning of its redevelopment and better design standards suitable for community living introduced.

## Rohan LEPPERT:

I see the top three issues for people living in high-rise, high-density precincts in the City of Melbourne as being: The impact of commercial short stay accommodation on owner-occupant amenity, owners' corporation costs and building wear and tear; The fragmented private waste collection market and the noise and disruptive impacts of multiple trucks servicing the same buildings multiple times; and Poor or poorly-advertised construction management plans for buildings, and on-street utility upgrades, disrupting access.

I intend to address these issues by: Advocating strongly to the state government for modern building, planning and owners' corporation laws that regulate different accommodation types fairly; incentivise owners' corporations and waste companies to use communal waste compactors and food digesters, greatly reducing truck collections; and instigate a new transparent web tool to clearly set out all planned on-street disruptions and building construction times in the central city, accessed by all.

## Summary

So fellow voting vertical villagers, it is now for you to decide how well the above responses from these eight candidates resonate with your experience of vertical living. And maybe keep in mind that, for those candidates that did not respond, past behaviour tends to be a good predictor of future behaviour. Something to consider.



**Janette Corcoran**  
Apartment living expert  
<https://www.facebook.com/SkyPadLiving/>

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## Emergency services memorial to be installed

*A Victorian Emergency Services Memorial will be installed at Treasury Gardens to commemorate the lives lost while serving the community.*

Emergency service organisations in Victoria, including Country Fire Authority, Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Ambulance Victoria, Forest Fire Management Victoria, Victorian State Emergency Services and Life

Saving Victoria, will be recognised at the memorial.

City of Melbourne councillors passed the initiative unanimously at the April 3 Future Melbourne Committee meeting.

Cr Cathy Oke commended the effort gone into designing and building the memorial.

“I believe it's incredibly detailed work that's gone into this, preparing and determining the memorial. A memorial is complex, there are lots of rules and regulations and lots of emotions,” she said.



Major Ken Smith (retired) and Les McIntyre fundraise for veterans

## Lest we forget this Anzac Day

*This Anzac Day, the fallen soldiers are remembered with the Dawn Service, marches and ceremonies across the countries.*



## Bourke St office building for sale

*The 12-storey office building on the corner of Bourke and King streets is on the market.*

Situated directly opposite AMP's Bourke Place, the building is home to prominent tenants such as Toshiba, Study Group and Pragmatic Training.

Commercial property agent CBRE's Kiran Pillai said the sale of this property would set the tone for the CBD's western core.

"Very few CBD office transactions have occurred within this price bracket in the western core and there is a clear appetite from investors who are looking to take full advantage of the strong office market fundamentals that Melbourne is showing," Mr Pillai said.

The building is being offered with a long-term lease with highly flexible floor plates.

There is also potential for more floors to be constructed on top of the existing building.

Some major developments are in the pipeline in the western part of the CBD, including Cbus Property's Collins Arch and Mandarin Oriental at 600 Collins St.

## NAB is on the move

*The National Australia Bank (NAB) has chosen the \$800 million office project at 405 Bourke St as its new office.*

This is one of the largest single-tenancy moves in Melbourne, with 29 levels and a total of 66,000sqm of office space taken by NAB.

Constructions will soon start on this project, developed by Brookfield Property Partners, which is expected to finish by 2020.

NAB will vacate its current offices at 500 Bourke St when the lease expires in 2020.



## Dracula's being sold

*The two-storey building at 100 Victoria St on the fringe of the CBD, former home to the long-running Dracula's Cabaret Show and Dinner, is being sold after 30 years of private ownership.*

The site is directly opposite the new CBD North metro station and had been the Newman family's Dracula's theatre restaurant for 37 years.

Dracula's closed its doors in December 2017 and the owners opened the doors again earlier this year for a "garage sale" of the old theatre items.

The Newman family also operates another theatre restaurant in the Gold Coast.

CBRE's Josh Rutman said the site offered flexibility for the buyer to develop the property.

"Authorities have earmarked the precinct as part of the City North plan, which will see increased development and density over the coming years, making 100 Victoria St ideally suited for use as a nightclub, multi-level restaurant or hospitality concept," he said.

There is potential for the purchaser to construct additional levels on top of the current building or to completely redevelop the site for a much larger building.

Expressions of interest for the property will close on May 17.

## Envision future for Birrarung Marr

*The City of Melbourne is developing a masterplan for the Birrarung Marr open space for the next 20 years.*

Community input was collected between March and April to find out what aspects of Birrarung Marr the public values the most which help guide its future development.

Built in 2002, Birrarung Marr serves as a precious open space that links Federation Square with the Yarra River and Melbourne's sports precinct.

The City of Melbourne is looking at potential improvements in the layout and infrastructure at the park and how it can be better utilised to provide a better park experience for local residents and visitors.

The community can find more information on [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/birrarungmarr](http://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/birrarungmarr)

The outcome of community consultation will be released in May, with a councillor forum to be conducted to develop a draft masterplan in July and public consultation in September.

The final masterplan will be available in January 2019.

STREET LIFE

10 pm. Bourke St.

## Heritage

# Towering over the Titles Office

The Title Office in Queen St is one of Victoria's major 19th century public buildings.

It was built in stages between the 1870s and 1880s, until it filled an entire city block, and was designed by JJ Clarke, best known for designing the Old Treasury when he was 19-years-old.

It was built to house titles, the legal evidence of property ownership, in a special strong room out the back, with solid slate shelving and steel shutters that could be slid over the windows in the event of fire.

The titles office moved out in the 1990s, and the building was later sold to Victoria University, who had established its Law School in the adjacent 1901 Records Office, sympathetically restored.



The university has sat on the building for many years, with a proposed refurbishment in 2014 not happening.

Instead it has recently applied to do something extraordinary – to build a 17-storey tower of offices and lecture rooms, perched on legs above the original strong room. This would not only loom over, and



in part lean out above the original building, but it would mean the destruction of half of the 1880s part of the strong room shelving to make way for the lift core.

The 1880s strong room interiors are particularly notable, with two double height arrays of shelving, accessed by wrought iron and cast iron galleries and stairs and bridges,

rooms that look like something out of Harry Potter.

This kind of building over and above is something that has unfortunately been permitted a few times in Melbourne, against heritage advice, generally involving smaller less significant heritage buildings, and clearly should not be contemplated for a place of such high significance.

The university purchased this building knowing full well its heritage value. There is no justification, economic or otherwise, that would allow this level of change.



Rohan Storey

Melbourne Heritage Action

## Letters to the Editor

### Lights out

Hats off to the city council for rejecting applications for illuminated high-wall promotional signs along the Yarra.

The invasive and coarse light of these advertisements creeps in through the bedroom windows of CBD residents at night.

Let Melbourne maintain its sense of decency and prevent it from becoming just another city overrun by 24/7 obnoxious light.

Phil Brier

### Scaremongering

I am responding to your somewhat provocative comments in the April edition of *CBD News*.

There have been claims for over a decade of "missing" and "discarded" ballot packs when it comes to Melbourne City Council ballot packs. Yet despite the VEC:

- Working with CrimeStoppers over two MCC council events to encourage people to do in any such miscreants and taking out print ads for same;
- Putting posters up at high-rises advising that packs were coming – and hand delivering their ballot packs to management so that they can be delivered securely and placed totally within the locked letterboxes;
- Going on various talkback shows over the years to ask people to come forward if they knew of anyone who was stealing/completing bulk ballot papers or witnessed it happening; and
- Having paid security people observing city high-rises when ballot packs are delivered at two electoral events.

There has never been a single piece of evidence provided to us to support these claims. Even so, we will continue to put up posters and hand-deliver the ballot packs for the lord mayor by-election.

Further, we do random signature checks comparing scanned enrolment form signatures with the signatures on returned declarations during an election. On the few instances we identify discrepancies – after investigation – it has come down to situations such as someone having broken their preferred wrist, or they have developed Parkinsons disease and now have a wobbly signature or a husband and wife accidentally

signing each others' declarations.

In terms of real estate agents receiving ballot packs on landlords' behalf, our experience is that, in the main, they forward them on by mail to the nominated postal address they have on file (many of whom are interstate or overseas). We know this as we get complaints from some of these electors that the ballot packs have arrived too late (due to slow overseas delivery times).

Lastly, in regard to the claims that non-Australian citizens may try to vote without evidence of occupancy, you may recall that in 2012, Melbourne City Council picked up an attempt at fraudulent enrolment very early in the process and was able to prevent these enrolments going forward. There are systems and checks in place.

So forgive me if I sound a little frustrated, but I think all you are doing is a bit of scaremongering.

Sue Lang

Director communication and engagement  
Victorian Electoral Commission

### Council has done nothing

Your correspondent praising Rohan Leppert and the City of Melbourne for a policy limiting pokies in the CBD is somewhat disingenuous.

We had contacted the City of Melbourne previously expressing concern about the fact that gaming venues are exempt from requiring a planning permit. Whilst amusement parlours require a planning permit, gaming/licensed venues do not. Licensed premises in the city fall under the definition of retail premises in Melbourne's planning scheme.

Licensed premises should be classified under a category of their own and subject to a full and proper planning process with each application assessed on its merits. The city council has done nothing to address this issue.

Anthony van der Craats  
South Yarra



Send your letters to  
[news@cbdnews.com.au](mailto:news@cbdnews.com.au)

## Critic

# Someone is following

The Shoalhaven area up the east coast holds a special place in the hearts of even the most jaded nature watchers.

Sea eagles soar, shags sit on rocks and kingfish swim just offshore at dawn.

Even humans have left their strange detritus in a series of shipwrecks memorialised in legend.

A recent chronicler of the region is Rosemary Laing whose large archival pigment prints at Tolarno Gallery open up the landscape for city slickers.

Laing has done the human thing and made her foray into the forest a large-scale excursion involving photography, construction and back stories.

The series of photographs, depicting her interventions in the forest, works well in an urban setting to create a sense of longing in the viewer to be surrounded by bush.

Documentation of the work involved in getting the shots is also included in the exhibition.

In this current digital scene in which many photographic effects can be photoshopped, the figure of Laing becomes more heroic as she brings alive the way she collected, lugged and hammered her materials.

One part of her series involved the construction of a wooden skeleton of a roof truss, which she half-buried in a hillock. The other part involved the collection of hundreds of items of discarded clothing which she dyed red and laid out in a river through the forest.

*Rose of Australia* and *Walter Hood* are titles given to these depictions, names borrowed from two of the many shipwrecks in the area and clues to the simulations Laing is enacting.

There is a monument to the Walter Hood at Wreck Bay. History says that 12 people died. The setting is moving, a forest of bracken, bloodwood, stringybark, casuarina, blueberry ash, coastal banksia and even a souve orchid abutting an isolated beach.

The locals are very attached to the

maritime stories of the coast and Laing's renditions highlight some of the useless endeavours that make up our colonial history.

A "river of blood" flows through the forest, a challenge to those who romanticise the landscape. Fires have been through recently and the dead trees have been tagged in yellow. One tag reads EO29.

There's something fixed about the official response to landscape and perhaps Laing is commenting on the way we usually photograph scenes and label them as if they were pristine instead of moving into them slowly and acknowledging our part in their evolution.

The spotting of a sea eagle, for example, might open up questions. Maybe it's a kite. Then you know that the artist's journey through the forest has been observed.

Someone is following and it has an open mind. That means something in the art world.

Rosemary Laing, *Buddens*, Tolarno Gallery, Exhibition St, until April 28.



Rhonda Dredge  
[rhonda@cbdnews.com.au](mailto:rhonda@cbdnews.com.au)

# Laneways are not all green

There are some beautiful laneways in the city of Melbourne.

There are cosy corners to stop for coffee or wander amongst boutique shops whilst admiring the leafy trees and shrubs all around. Many of the famous lanes have interesting old buildings that add character and a warm connection to the past. But it is not all roses.

Every Saturday morning when I walk down Little Collins St on the way to the market, I come across an absolute eyesore called Balcombe Lane. Over the years I have used the practical app called "Snap, Send, Solve," to send phone messages and photos to the City of Melbourne about many things. But in the waste management area, the "Solve" part does not seem to happen.

To their credit the city gave me a prompt reply as follows:

"It has been forwarded to me to investigate the bins being in the laneway and the milk crates.

The bins are currently permitted in the laneway, the milk crates are regularly collected by the council and removed also.

We are aware of issues in this laneway and are constantly patrolling it as well as works being undertaken to improve this laneway from the council. We will continue to monitor this laneway closely."

It seems to me that there is a difference



between "monitoring" and "doing". What can be done about this and other challenged laneways? The bins are large and ugly with debris overflowing. The crates are a trip hazard when they are strewn about. This laneway could be a real credit to the beautiful shops, cafes and retail outlets on this well-known street that attracts many tourists and residents alike.

On Thursday April 5, Residents 3000 invited lord mayoral candidates to express their vision and aspirations for the Melbourne CBD – making our city an even better place to live. Over 90 residents attended showing great interest in the city and its management. The key topics for discussion were:

- Building design and density;
- Homelessness; and
- Waste management

All the candidates showed that they were

knowledgeable in these areas and gave us insight into how each would seek to improve the status quo. It was recognised that waste management is a pressure point for the city given the rapid increase in population that is not expected to slow.

It was suggested that waste collection needed to be re-organised into precincts with one contractor per precinct. But competition laws are preventing a more logical approach so that there are many contractors servicing the same area causing unnecessary congestion in city streets.

When it comes to the sad laneways like Balcombe, perhaps rather than complain about the problem we should be saying "something can be done!" It could be a good project for high school or university students may be able to come up with some ideas.

Perhaps a competition judged by urban planners and waste management experts? It would be great if the winning idea was actually implemented. And residents could be involved!

Here are some preliminary ideas.

- Put all the bins on the one side of the road to unblock the road way;
- Put an attractive wooden gate at the entrance to the laneway accessible only by authorised vehicles;

- Impose fines for leaving litter around or being caught applying graffiti;
- Install one or two large compactors with a waste lodgement shoot so that all rubbish is collected in one place;
- Maybe compactor collection could simply involve a bin swap-over with the truck having a built-in crane similar to the dump bins used by construction companies;
- Paint or apply quality art work to the walls to lighten the dark facade;
- Place planter boxes in the laneway to add greenery;
- Get the property owners involved; and
- Provide racks to neatly house the crates waiting for collection.

This is not an exhaustive list, but it is an attempt to find a solution that turns some of the sad lanes into tidy, wholesome, pleasant places that contribute to the amenity of our proud city.



**Susan Saunders**

vice president  
Ph: 0412 566 606  
email: sue@residents3000.com.au



## Crime wrap



### Man knocked unconscious in Flinders Lane attack

A 23-year-old Altona Meadows man remains in hospital after he was knocked unconscious in Flinders Lane on April 15.

He had left a King St venue when he became involved in an argument with another man around 6am. The victim was placed in a headlock and punched in the face, sending him unconscious.

Ambulance Victoria spokesman John Mullen said the victim was taken to Royal Melbourne Hospital in a serious but stable condition.

A 21-year-old Altona man will appear at Melbourne Magistrates' Court on June 26 on charges of intentionally cause injury and affray.

An 18-year-old Mitcham man was also charged on an unrelated matter. He is expected to be charged on summons with affray.

An 18-year-old Rowville man has been released without charge.

### Tassie driver arrested

A Tasmanian man in his 30's has been arrested at the intersection of Swanston St and Flinders Lane on the afternoon of April 10.

The man was driving a white 1998 Mazda Campervan that was believed to be involved in some minor collisions in the Richmond area earlier that day.

The man was taken to the police station for a drug assessment.



### Warrant Issued for Johl Peters

A warrant for arrest has been issued after 21-year-old Johl Peters failed to appear at court on drug and assault related offences.

Police have released an image of Peters and are calling for public assistance to find him.

Peters is Caucasian, about 180cm tall with a medium build, brown eyes and brown hair. He is known to frequent the Melbourne CBD and Reservoir areas.

Anyone with any information about his whereabouts is urged to contact Crime Stoppers.

### Cops nab drug driver

Police intercepted an unlicensed Pakenham man driving on April 9 who returned a positive drug test.

Police were on bike patrol duties when they stopped the 39-year-old on La Trobe St just before 10am.

He is expected to be charged on summons with unlicensed driving, drug driving and other traffic-related offences.

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Metro Tunnel

# Biggest archaeology digs to get underway

Last month attention turned to exploring what historical artifacts might be found at Metro Tunnel works sites.

## State Library Station

Following the completion of building demolition on the corner of Swanston and LaTrobe streets, preparations for the state's biggest archaeological investigations have started.

The preparatory work includes initial archaeological assessments of the ground conditions to determine the digging methodology and predict what may be found below ground level.

Works will get underway at three sites on the corner of Swanston and LaTrobe streets in coming months. Digs at three further sites in Little LaTrobe St are expected to start later this year, following building demolition.

Information about the progress of the investigations will be provided to the community including on the Metro Tunnel's social media channels in coming months.

At Franklin St, excavation of an 11-storey access shaft is continuing and work has also started to construct a temporary deck that will be used by trucks to enter and exit the shed.

Around-the-clock shaft excavation is also underway at A'Beckett St. Service relocations are continuing at Franklin St, between Swanston and Stewart streets. Ongoing traffic changes during the combination of day and night works are expected to remain in place until the end of April.

Site investigations to install groundwater monitoring stations continue along both sides of Victoria St, between Swanston and Elizabeth streets and in Bouverie St. This involves day and night works and there is traffic management in place to direct

vehicles and pedestrians safely around the sites.

## Town Hall Station

Work to demolish the buildings on the site of the new Town Hall Station, between Young & Jackson and the Nicholas Building, is almost complete.

Demolition of the former McDonald's building is nearing completion and will soon begin on the former KFC building. Archaeological investigations will also get underway at this site in coming weeks. Demolition of Port Phillip Arcade is progressing and is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

The King Neptune sculpture on the Flinders St side of the arcade has been removed and placed in storage to be reinstated as part of the new Town Hall Station precinct. Access to Flinders Lane and Scott Alley businesses remain available throughout these works via either Degraes St or Swanston St.

Site preparation works are underway at the City Square site ahead of the expected commencement of piling mid-year.

## Support

We appreciate your support while we undertake these vital works in the city and urge caution around our sites. Please help us support local businesses affected by Metro Tunnel construction by continuing to visit them while works take place.

Visit [metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au) for more information about works in your area.

Music

# Space Debris Office

Ava Gardner, Monaco Club 1954, height of summer, watching Quincy Jones on the bandstand conducting the orchestra.

Everyone is waiting for Frank Sinatra. Commotion at the back of the club, gigawattage spotlight finds Frank Sinatra there, he is in meet-and-greet mode. Frank and Ava look at one another ...

Courtney and Dave look at one another ... they were playing an awesome version of The Died Pretty song *Everybody Moves* on the *RockWiz* 140 TV episode.

Dave Faulkner, singer/songwriter of The Hoodoo Gurus could hear the feeling and intrinsic timing of Courtney Barnett's musicianship. And the great *RockWiz* band, Barnett the muso once played the entire INXS *Kick* album at an in-store appearance at Pure Pop Records in St Kilda.

At one Reclink Community Cup footy match at Elsternwick Oval, when she played for the Rock Dogs, the footy record listed her name as Barret. A prescient typo.

A talented songwriter she has written a great song with *The War On Drugs* Kurt Vile called *Over Everything*. Courtney and Kurt played a stellar version of this song on KCRW's *Morning Becomes Eclectic* exhibiting their phenomenal musicianship.

From back porch to porch swing. Jamming like Ry Cooder. Her second album, *Tell Me How You Really Feel* (Milk Records) has just been released and the promo video is interesting with Courtney Barnett in a huge musical store-room, reminiscent of the magnificent Clemens Musical Services Upstairs Store Room that was reached by a ladder.

She plays sections of the album's tracks on different instruments. Jelly Roll Morton-esque on piano. *Need A Little Time* is a sparser more succinct lyrical approach compared to some of her material that has a detailed, layered Helen Garner vibe. Barnett is sublime at detailing everyday moments of profundity. Stylish and dashing. Include in everything.

Double quadruple X-factor superior northside of Gertrude St band Camp Cope have a brilliant new album called *How To Socialise And Make Friends* (Poison City).

In the instant classic *UFO Lighter* the singer utilises a Carl Sagan ability to

decode strange phenomena and appreciate everyday ephemera. Consider.

Psych-rock band Buried Feathers have released their self-titled debut album via Cobra Snake Necktie Records. Majestic keyboards, submerged vocals, Dave Gilmour infused guitars, smooth like Loop, God Is An Astronaut, John Keating Space Experience. Opening moments of *Magnetized*, we have a soundtrack to a BBC documentary about an obscure 1970s radio astronomer whose radical ideas about fast evolving lunar transients have been confirmed in the second decade of the 21st century.

*Weekends* is fuzzed out dirty glam with the party in swing action. Golden sun is setting on BBQ posse, the fadeout is phenomenal. *Sink To The Bottom* has an immense Bailer Space drive. Has ability.

TFS have recorded a sizzling, smouldering version of The Divinyls' *Back To The Wall*.

Congrats to Simon and Lauren celebrating 10 years of *Breaking And Entering* on 3RRR.

## Gigs / Shows

- Sunday Arvos in May: Cherry Blues Sessions, Cherry Bar ACDC Lane.
- Buried Feather vinyl launch Curtin Hotel, April 28.
- Sunglasses After Dark, Phil MacDougall 3PBS Thursday, 8pm.
- Breakfasters 3RRR, 6 Bells Mon - Fri.
- Stereophonics Forum Theatre, May 1.
- Archie Roach and Tiddas, May 6, Hamer Hall, Arts Centre - Dancing With My Spirit.
- Sepultura + Death Angel, 170 Russell St, May 15.



**Chris Mineral**  
email: [mineralsands@hotmail.com](mailto:mineralsands@hotmail.com)

# Open for business

## The Nicholas Building

Throughout construction of the new Town Hall Station, the Nicholas Building will remain open and accessible from Swanston Street and Flinders Lane.

Please continue to support your favourite Nicholas Building businesses. For more information visit [metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au) or call 1800 105 105.



More trains,  
more often



# Make your vote count

A by-election for the vacant position of lord mayor will be held in May. It will be conducted entirely by postal voting, with ballot packs mailed to voters between Monday, April 23 and Thursday, April 26.

Your ballot paper must be returned, either by mail or delivered in person to the electoral office by 6pm on Friday, May 11.

Fourteen candidates have nominated and you can check out their credentials on the Victorian Electoral Commission website at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

We Live Here encourages you to go along to the meet-the-candidate sessions being held by the Southbank Residents Association on April 26 and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce on April 30. In particular, you need to find out for yourselves which candidates genuinely support residents and those that are entirely pro-business.

Already we know that the mayoral candidates have differing views on the tram bridge proposal. Some candidates have not yet formed a view. Others, when pressed by We Live Here, said they would think about it more before declaring a position.

One candidate went so far as to disparage the number of people affected by the proposal as not worth worrying about, in blissful ignorance of the widely-reported rally against the tram bridge attended by hundreds of Yarra's Edge residents and others just a short while ago.

With the exit of Robert Doyle, we now have the opportunity to also get rid of his legacy – the “business before residents” gerrymander that gives commercial interests two votes while residents only have one.

Many candidates have webpages with policies that can be found via Google – time for voters to do some homework!

This is your chance to have your say. The We Live Here movement encourages you to contact the candidates and seek their views on short-stays in residential buildings and what they are going to do for residents.

Remember your vote is extremely important to them. Make sure that it counts.

## Airbnb sending short-stay operators to the farm

We Live Here was not surprised to read in the *Docklands News* (February 28, 2018, “Short-stays: a race to the bottom?”) that short-stay operators might be driven out of business by Airbnb.

It's not so long ago that residents were being told by short-stay operators to “get used to the sharing economy – if you don't

like it, go live on a farm.”

And it is not just Airbnb killing short-stay operators – there are many factors including the vast expansion in hotel room numbers in Melbourne which will put downward pressure on room rates. Last year it was estimated that more than 8000 hotel rooms were in the pipeline – all approved by Planning Minister Richard Wynne.

What is really being exposed is the flawed economics of short-stays.

Investors can get 20 per cent more on an ordinary residential lease compared with the best that a short-stay operator can offer who lets their apartments out by the night. Rental demand is sky-high right now with crowds attending rental open-for-inspections. If short-stay operators are forced to pay market rent for the properties they lease, the risk will go up and the return will go down.

Perhaps the short-stay operators, self-described Airbnb-victims, should stop bleating about the sharing economy and migrate out of the city into farm-stays? It might be more lucrative.

## Short-Stay Bill gathering dust

Since returning to the Legislative Council in December, 2017 the Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 appears to have been left on the shelf gathering dust, having barely moved from No 18 on the Notice Paper.

## Is this a de facto concession of defeat?

We Live Here calls on the state government to admit it made a mistake collaborating with Airbnb on this Bill, and just trash it altogether.

We also repeat our request for the government to start talking constructively to all the parties affected by the unregulated short-stay industry so there is a level playing field for all.

## Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to make a donation please visit our website at [welfarehere.net](http://welfarehere.net)

We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests.

You can reach us at [campaign@welfarehere.net.au](mailto:campaign@welfarehere.net.au). We Live Here members can make a presentation to your owners' corporation committee upon request.

We welcome your comments and feedback, and invite suggestions for topics you would like us to address in this column.



[www.welfarehere.net](http://www.welfarehere.net)  
emails to [campaign@welfarehere.net](mailto:campaign@welfarehere.net)

## Pets' Corner



## Totally connected

By Kathryn Lewis

Michael Skubevski and his Border Collie, South Paw, are about as close as an owner and pet can get.

Wandering through Flagstaff Gardens, South Paw does not appear to have an owner. The lead in Mr Skubevski's hand is the only giveaway of where he belongs.

But the pair does everything together, including work.

South Paw hogs all the attention at Mr Skubevski's digital communications job in the CBD.

“He goes everywhere with me, if I could go out to a bar and take him with me, I would,”

Mr Skubevski said.

Road trips are a regular weekend activity for the two, who typically enjoy a drive down to the beach, one of South Paw's favourite places.

“He loves the beach, he will always go for a swim,” he said.

However, a slightly colder destination could be on the cards for the three-year-old pup soon.

“Winter is coming, so I think this year I will take him up to the snow. He'll love it,” he said.

The unusual name came from Mr Skubevski's uncle who owned South Paw for the first year of his life before he was unable to take care of him.

South Paw's office-working, beach-going antics are helping work his way to insta-fame with over 500 followers.

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## History

# Where “Chloe” once hung

The curious passer-by in Lonsdale St may wonder why an old-fashioned pair of wrought iron gates, slung between two stone pillars, stand in splendid isolation beside the modern office buildings at No. 460.

A closer look will reveal the word “Rostella” amongst the moss and other growths near the top of each pillar.

The gates and pillars are all that remain of Rostella, a magnificent mansion that used to occupy 468 Lonsdale St. It was built and owned by Dr (later Sir) Thomas Naghten Fitzgerald, a prominent Melbourne surgeon in the latter part of the 19th century.

Born in Ireland in 1838, Fitzgerald arrived in Melbourne in 1858 as a ship’s surgeon. He soon became acting house surgeon at the Melbourne Hospital. When that appointment finished he opened a private practice and hospital in Lonsdale St and was elected honorary surgeon at Melbourne Hospital in 1860.

In 1867 Fitzgerald built Rostella beside his private hospital. The main part of the house was three storeys high, in Italianate style. As originally built, a tall square tower rose a further two storeys at the left rear corner of the house and was surmounted by a balustraded flat roof.

The main part of the house was later extended westward. The tower was used as a viewpoint by John Noone in 1869 from which to take a series of well-known photographs providing a panoramic view of the surrounding city.

Fitzgerald was also the owner of *Chloe*, the famous portrait of a female nude by Jules



Rostella in 1963. (John T. Collins, photographer. Courtesy SLV).

Lefebre. In 1883 Fitzgerald went to Ireland for three years and offered *Chloe* to the National Gallery of Victoria for exhibition while he was away.

Her display in the gallery scandalised the residents of Melbourne, particularly as the gallery had begun opening on Sundays. After only three weeks *Chloe* was removed from display and shipped to Adelaide where she met a more tolerant reception.

Back again with Dr Fitzgerald, *Chloe* hung

in Rostella for the next 21 years. Initially she was on a wall in the front salon but was visible from the street. Once again the good burghers of Melbourne were affronted by this display and poor *Chloe* was relegated to a back room.

Following Fitzgerald’s death in 1908, *Chloe* was purchased by Henry Young of Young & Jackson’s hotel at the corner of Flinders and Swanston streets, where she has resided ever since.

Fitzgerald was a skillful and resourceful

surgeon who was always considerate to his patients. In 1897 he became the first Australian to be knighted for his services to medicine.

Fitzgerald was sent to South Africa in 1900 as a consultant surgeon to the Australian armed forces. Following his return from South Africa, ill health compelled him to resign his hospital positions and cut back his private practice. On a voyage to Cairns in 1908, he died at sea off Townsville.

The private hospital building beside Rostella still stands. It was used for many years by the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

Rostella itself was not so fortunate. From the 1920s, it was used by various Australian Government agencies and the Royal Australian Navy. It was ignominiously demolished in the early 1970s, apparently to provide a car park for the ABC next door.

Only the driveway pillars and gates are left, sole reminders of a beautiful building and a notable man who gave Melbourne *Chloe*, one of the city’s iconic images.



David Thompson

David is the senior researcher of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria

## Street Art

# Why is football more important than art?

So this week it was announced that the government is giving half a billion dollars to all things Aussie Rules.

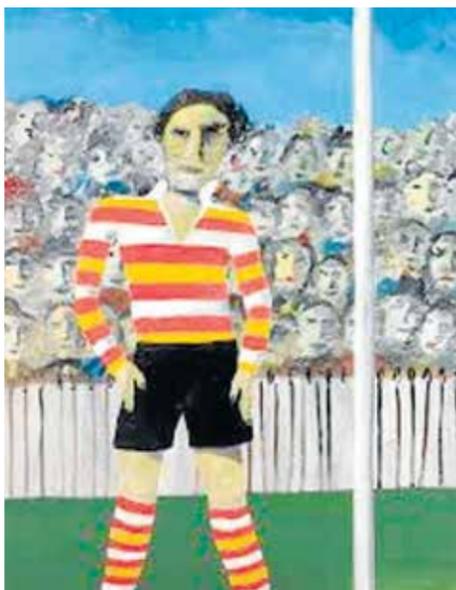
I have no problems with Aussie Rules. Don’t get me wrong I love the idea of Melbourne being one of the best cities in the world for sport. During the tennis Melbourne is awesome!

Melbourne has fast become an international city and it is investing heavily in sport infrastructure. This is great for Melbourne and has pushed Melbourne to the top of the sporting world stage.

And I agree that football is part of the Melbourne suburban culture. I played it as a kid in the Frankston league. I was never very good, part of the problem was that I couldn’t wear my glasses whilst I played so I couldn’t really see the ball.

But, like many people in Melbourne, my interest in footy dwindled as I picked up the spray can and began to make marks on the streets. I began to draw, paint and graffiti on everything.

I would draw people in the train, on the bus, everywhere. And for me it was amazing to be able to grow up, as an artist, in such an amazing and vibrant city.



Melbourne is still living off the creative past, back in the 90s when Melbourne was an amazing city where workers went home to the suburbs after work and on Sundays the city was empty.

This was a wonderful time for creative Melbourne as there was an abundant amount of space for artists to build studios and galleries, the city was basically empty and the artists moved in creating a centralised artistic community. This led to the creation of creative bars, secret spaces, hidden galleries and the urban

art movement, which made Melbourne’s meteoric rise to the cultural king of Australasia.

Melbourne has changed from a colloquial backwater with amazing studios and galleries, to an international city which is famous for its food, culture, sports and arts. It has broken the centralised art world into different diasporatic communities that now, often never get the chance to interact. The studios have all become apartments and skyscrapers and many of the good lanes have slowly disappeared and become vast investment properties for overseas investors.

I believe that the art and culture in Melbourne brings as much revenue and credibility as any sport. We have the world’s largest public art gallery and some great national and international galleries.

Yet, I believe that the amount of money that is being put into football will not give the taxpayers bang for their bucks. I think if we could figure out how many people come to Melbourne because of its laneways, culture and art it would be similar to the numbers that visit Melbourne for sport.

That’s many millions of dollars for the Victorian economy. This helps hotels, cafes and yes the Melbourne street art tours. The street art tours alone get over 30,000 guests a year.

It is a massive tourism drawcard. So why doesn’t it get the same funding that sport

gets? People have moved from all over the world to try and make it as an artist in Melbourne and the talent is thick and fast.

If the Melbourne art scene got the same sort of funding as football, Melbourne would become the greatest artistic city in the world and the benefits would know no boundaries. So why has this decision to fund footy over art been made? I really would like to know the exact figure of people that travel to Melbourne because of sport and or arts. I would like the government to tell us artist why we are not important.

We have made Melbourne great and all the government and the rich developers have done is sell us out at every turn. It is time to re-think our policy on the arts and what we value here in Melbourne. Just remember a city is only as good as its culture.

Werd up punkz

Don’t worry ’bout my grammar and spelling and the fact that I make up words it’s all about the content. The words are just a tool for communicating.

Follow me on Instagram: doylesart  
Lets make this city kool again ...



Adrian Doyle

Street Artist  
Blender Studios founder and director

# CBD beyond compare

By Sunny Liu

Chintan Pathak came to Melbourne from India to pursue his Master of Business Administration at Deakin University in 2015 and has been living in the CBD ever since.

Mr Pathak said he never thought about living anywhere other than the CBD.

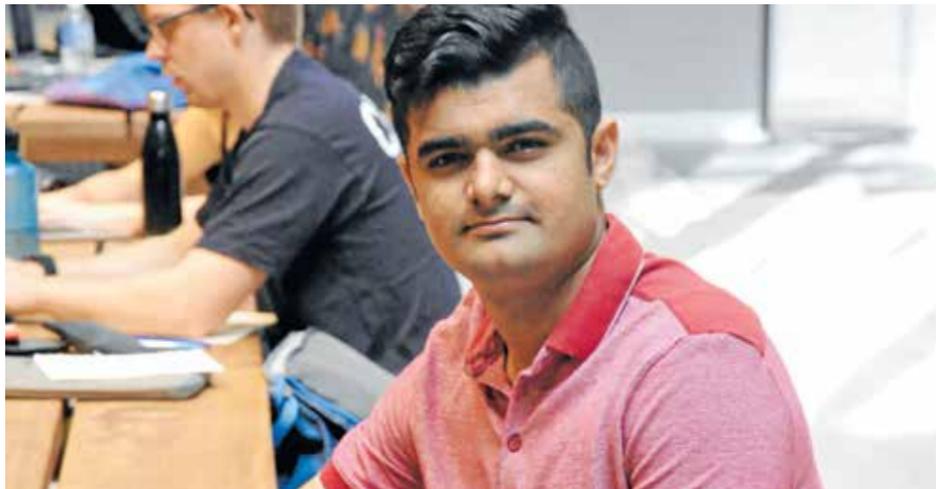
"To me, the CBD is the best place to live in for young people and international students. You get easy access to everything, such as transport, schools, jobs and shops," he said.

"The CBD is very condensed so it's very convenient. Everything is within five minutes' walk from my apartment. So I've never thought about moving away from the city."

Mr Pathak said living in the CBD helped him maintain an active lifestyle.

"I think people living in the suburbs can easily grow lazy because they would stay at home a lot and drive around in a car," he said.

"But living in the city means you walk everywhere and there are always things to



do. So you get more active. It's like a 24-hour life and you won't get bored whatever the time is."

He started working at RMIT as a data wrangler and project officer in 2016 and would not leave the CBD as he both lives and works here.

Coming from small Indian city Bhauj, Mr Pathak said Melbourne offered a more modern and urban lifestyle.

"The lifestyle of my hometown and here is nothing similar. Melbourne is way cleaner than India and even if you sleep in the streets it still would not be too dirty," he said.

"Life here is very relaxed and we feel safe

crossing the street, whereas in India you take your life in your hands crossing an intersection!"

As an international graduate, Mr Pathak said he got a sense of satisfaction through helping other overseas students and providing them with study and career advice.

"I love to help international students who feel stuck in their current situation. Some of them find it challenging to find work in Australia and some are exploited by their employers," he said.

"There's a big international student community in the CBD and sometimes I feel Melbourne is more international than

Australian."

He said the best tip he could offer international students was to step out of their comfort zones and small social circles.

"Many foreign students only socialise with people from their own country and don't even get many chances to speak English. But it is very important for them to be able to communicate with others and go out of their own circle and put themselves out there," he said.

"They should keep in mind that employers look for their willingness to try new things rather than perfection."

Mr Pathak also said students and graduates should find more time to invest in themselves through volunteering, networking and mentorship.

"International students need to challenge themselves and build their contacts and find the appropriate mentors," he said.

"I know how it feels to have nothing in Australia. Students who feel exploited should know their rights and when to speak up."

Mr Pathak said he had decided to settle down in Melbourne indefinitely, having applied for permanent residency and fallen in love with the city.

"Melbourne really is the perfect place to live in. It's flexible, convenient and also buzzing with festivities."

## Planning

# Council endorses Munro development

The City of Melbourne's joint \$230 million venture with developer PDG, for the Munro Site opposite the Queen Victoria Market has moved a step closer with Melbourne City Council's endorsement of the scheme last month.

The proposal forms part of the City of Melbourne's wider redevelopment intentions for the entire Queen Victoria Market Precinct. Whilst plans to push on with the market's redevelopment hit a speed bump due to a Heritage Victoria edict, the Munro Site's progression is a separate application and remains unaffected.

Despite being limited to 125 metres in height, the raw development numbers for the intended Munro Site tower opposite Queen Victoria Market mean the development requires final sign off from the Planning Minister before it can proceed.

The project was initially mooted with a tower just shy of 200 metres for the 6233 sqm site, only to have Minister for Planning, Richard Wynne, impose a height limit of 125 metres citing concerns of over development and overshadowing. This has not perturbed the development team also comprising design firms Bates Smart and Six Degrees Architects, with the gross floor area for the proposal approaching 100,000 sqm.



The month of April also saw a number of projects reach significant milestones with UEM Sunrise celebrating the topping out of its Conservatory project and JSK Group the topping out of its Union Tower project at 296-300 Little Lonsdale St.

The \$330 million Conservatory

designed by COX Architecture is located on MacKenzie St and, upon practical completion, will become UEM Sunrise's first completed project in Australia since its entry into the Melbourne market in 2013.

The project will also include a display comprising 477 pieces of significant artefacts

discovered during the archaeological excavation stage early in the project's life, which will be available for public viewing from late September 2018.

UEM Sunrise's other significant Melbourne project, Aurora Melbourne Central is racing along to its eventual height of 267m with Probuild at the helm. The core of the Elenberg Fraser-designed goliath passed the 200 metre mark with the first stage of apartments set to be handed over to their respective purchasers later this year.

Upon completion, Aurora will become the tallest tower within the bounds of the Hoddle Grid, eclipsed only by Southbank's Eureka Tower (297m), Australia 108 (317m) and Crown's One Queensbridge Street (323m).



**Laurence Dragomir**

Laurence is an Urban Melbourne director with expertise in the CBD  
[urbanmelbourne.info](http://urbanmelbourne.info)



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# 前议员福斯特受行为约束

撰稿: Shane Scanlan

前墨尔本市议员理查德·福斯特(Richard Foster)因在布鲁克·万丁(Brooke Wandin)被非法提名为2016年墨尔本市议会选举候选人中扮演的角色,而受到法庭“良好行为约束”的处罚。

尽管是他安排万丁用他的肯辛顿(Kensington)家庭住址注册,后来又“举报”她至维多利亚选举委员会(VEC),而且从开始就拒绝与地方政府工作督导处合作。

地方法官格雷姆·凯尔(Graeme Keil)认为福斯特的行为是一个严重的违法行为,而且干扰我们的民主体系。他说,民主自由难以获得,但失去容易。

他说,否则福斯特先生“是一个好人”,他的动机是帮助那些不幸的社会成员。

福斯特先生的律师詹姆斯·卡特林(James Catlin)声称,福斯特先生在看到万丁女士的证人证言之前否认这项指控是合理的,而证人证词在2017年年中才提供给他。

卡特林先生把他的当事人描述成万丁女士的同伙,他说,作为平等,她也应该受到转化或者约束处罚。

但检察官伊丽莎白·鲁德尔(Elizabeth Ruddle)根据福斯特的“犯罪后”行为进行了驳斥,她指出,万丁女士从调查一开始就一直持合作的态度,而福斯特先生却没有认罪,还提供了“虚假的否认声明”。



## 市长候选人见面会

市中心居民协会Residents 3000组织了4月5日的“市长候选人见面会”,从而帮助投票人了解哪个候选人对CBD的问题有更好地了解 and 关注。

虽然墨尔本市市长补选的提名尚未结束,但六名候选人出席了在开尔文(Kelvin)俱乐部举行的会议,他们是:莎莉·卡普(Sally Capp)、卢克·唐宁(Luke Downing)、肯·昂(Ken Ong)、罗汉·莱珀特(Rohan Leppert)、莎莉·沃哈夫(Sally Warhaft)和杨千惠(Jennifer Yang)。

在有关无家可归和露宿等更高层次的问题上,所有候选人都能分享他们的见识,以及对这个超越邮政编码3000边界的问题之看法。

候选人对维多利亚女王市场的重建也有很多看法。

但是一旦深入到当地生活的实质问题,如第三方规划上诉权、住宅大厦的短期出租公寓和商业垃圾收集政策,他们的见识差距就迅速拉大了。

这个时候,在任议员和前任议员自然占优势,经验较少的候选人有的承认自己缺乏经验,并表示愿意学习,也有的不懂装懂。

说实在的,在消息灵通的听众面前不懂装懂,是一个不明智的策略。

与会者将在5月11日前填写选票对所有候选人进行评分投票并通过邮寄方式返回。选票将于四月二十三日至二十六日以邮寄方式寄送给注册的选民。

## 保守派选民将迷失方向

维州自由党委员会在4月28日考虑是否让墨尔本市的候选人参选11月的州选举,这可能会让CBD中的保守派选民迷失方向。

墨尔本市在州议会中的席位是自由党正在考虑要放弃的市中心席位之一。此想法的动机是希望把资源集中在有获胜机会的席位上。

但是墨尔本市议员菲利普·刘乐(Philip Le Liu)认为,这个策略将会消除自由党在墨尔本所取得的所有成果和进展。

刘乐议员说,墨尔本市的人口结构正在发生迅速变化,越来越多的专业人士居民和退休人员在他们原来所住区域的大房减小后,选择住在市中心。还有人指出,墨尔本市有一个很大的华人社区,他们倾向于保守派。

刘乐议员说:“这一策略在其它地区可能会发挥作用,但是

在自由党选票增加之时,放弃墨尔本将是灾难性的,并使多年来的辛勤工作化为乌有”。他还说:“在我看来,随着年轻的专业人士进入市中心公寓生活,自由党的选票数将继续增长。”

在2016年联邦选举中,刘乐议员是自由党候选人,他领先于工党,获得了25.5%的初选选票。在2014年的州选举中,自由党候选人埃德·亨廷顿(Ed Huntington)也就获得了24%的初选选票(8913票)。

刘乐议员说,最终的行动方针还将由该党来决定,但他提醒说,如果自由党撤出墨尔本,那么在试图返回之前,几代人的努力将付之东流。他还警告说,这个决策将影响该党在立法院(上院)市区北部议席的机会,还会耗费该党至关重要的选举资金。

## 重新考虑女王市场? 或停止重建?

作者: Shane Scanlan

如果墨尔本市政府决定取消维多利亚女王市场(QVM)的重建项目(不在A, B, C和D棚下挖地下层),这也在情理内的。

维多利亚遗产委员会上个月拒绝了临时拆除棚屋以允许挖掘地下层所需的遗产许可证,从而使市政蒙上了一层阴影。

市政正在探索对遗产委员会提出上诉,如果上诉失败,那么完全放弃这个改建项目也不会感到惊讶。

如果发生这种情况,该市场将继续长期下滑,客流量将进一步下降,更多的交易商将离开,老化的基础设施将继续老化。

“博物馆”将被保留下来,胜利者将享受一种空虚和短暂的幸福感。

与此同时,该处的房地产价值将继续上升。

市政一直以来的工作重点,都是把女王市场的1.5公顷停车场改作其它用途,以造福社会。但奇怪的是,它选择了在一场“关怀竞赛”中打(赢和输)公关战。

支持者和反对者都声称代表交易商的观点和利益。双方都说他们热爱这种交易的勇气、方式和气氛。

在这个战场上战斗,市政很容易被打败。在这个问题上,新来的市长候选人莎莉·沃哈夫(Sally Warhaft)在4月5日与一群CBD居民交谈时总结了公众的看法:“在这个21世纪,如果不把这个市场拆开,在它下面挖地下三层,一点一点地重建它,让它拥有前所未有的亮丽,我们就无法确保这个市场的完整性吗?”。随后响起了一片掌声。

市政未能妥善沟通的是,如果没有地下层,就无法取代停车场南侧富兰克林商店目前的交易商仓库。



# WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**MARCH 2 – JULY 15, MELBOURNE MUSEUM**  
**YOU CAN'T DO THAT**  
A celebration of fashion designers who challenged the norms in society. Melbourne Museum and Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival present this exhibition.

**6PM-8PM TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY UNTIL DECEMBER 12, CITY LIBRARY**  
**WRITING FOR BEGINNERS**  
Find new friends and your writing voice at the free workshop designed to give writers a space to network, receive feedback and learn in a supportive environment.  
**FREE 9658 9500**

**INNER MELBOURNE LIFE ACTIVITIES CLUB**  
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 Dianne 0425 140 981**

**7.20AM FOR A 7.40AM START, TUESDAYS**  
**ROTARY CENTRAL SUNRISE**  
Interested in what we do? Join us for breakfast! We meet at the RACV City Club 501 Bourke St, Melbourne.  
**rotaryclubcentralmelbourne.org.au**

**10.30AM-2PM WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SUNDAY, 326 LONSDALE ST**  
**MEET UP WITH FRIENDS**  
Instant coffee or tea with a biscuit for \$1.00 Meet up with friends or enjoy meeting others at St Francis Pastoral Centre (entry next to the book shop in the church yard). **9663 2495**

**MONDAYS 8.30PM, 41 BOURKE STREET**  
**COMEDY AT SPLEEN**  
Mixing some of the big names in comedy with the best up and coming acts, this will be sure to make you forget the Monday blues. Gold coin donation. **0439 660 836**

**4TH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH. LUNCH-TIME, ST PETER'S EAST MELBOURNE**  
**AUSTRAL SALON OF MUSIC**  
Listen to music from talented young musicians. Make new friends.  
**www.australsalon.org**  
**0449 727 910**

**MON – SAT 10AM-4PM, 141 QUEEN ST**  
**STROLLING IN THE MIDST OF JOYFUL BLOSSOMS**  
Artist Alice Shen presents her paintings at the Fo Guang Yuan Melbourne Art Gallery. These paintings express the artist's joy at her surroundings. **FREE. 9642 2388**

**EVERY THURSDAY FROM 1PM, ST MICHAEL'S, 120 COLLINS ST**  
**ST MICHAEL'S RECITAL**  
Experience spectacular music as the St Michael's grand organ comes to life for a free 30-minute recital every Thursday. No booking required. **9654 5120**

**1-2.30PM, EVERY WEDNESDAY, CITY LIBRARY**  
**ESL READING GROUP**  
Join this free and fun weekly reading program, read along with others and practice pronunciation, improve English comprehension and vocabulary and meet new people. Both native and ESL speakers

are welcome.  
**7.30PM WEDNESDAYS, 16 CORRS LANE**  
**CRAB LAB**  
Comedy in the city at the House of Maxion with well-known performers from radio and TV plus some new talent. **FREE. 0422 686 933**

**6PM, 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH THE KELVIN CLUB, 14 MELBOURNE PL**  
**RESIDENTS 3000 FORUM**  
A community group to inform, connect and support CBD residents. Regular social events with speaker. Details posted on **residents3000.com.au**

**4-6PM, EVERY SUNDAY, CAMPARI HOUSE, 23-25 HARDWARE LANE**  
**TRIVIA ON THE ROOF**  
A retractable roof and drink specials will help warm up your brain for Sunday trivia. Bookings not required. **9600 1574** or **info@camparihouse.com.au**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY, FROM 6PM. MELBOURNE CENTRAL LION HOTEL**  
**LANGUAGE SWAP**  
Speak another language but no one to practise with? Come along to the free language exchange and meet like-minded people who love language.  
Book on **www.NewToMelbourne.org**

**6PM-7PM, WEDNESDAYS UNTIL JUNE 26, ALEXANDRA GARDENS**  
**COMMUNITY WORKOUT**  
Bring your sports gear and turn up for some after-work stress relief. Bring a water bottle and don't forget to prepare for Melbourne's weather! **www.melbournehealthylifestyle.com/contact-us/**

**10.30AM – 11PM TUESDAYS UNTIL DECEMBER 11, 253 FLINDERS LANE**  
**STOMPERS AT CITY LIBRARY**  
For toddlers aged 18 months – 3 years, this event is sure to be a fun favourite. Songs, stories and rhymes will help develop of love

**2-3.30PM TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY UNTIL MAY 16, STATE LIBRARY**  
**SEARCH AND FIND**  
Improve your online research skills in this one-hour workshop. Learn to form effective questions and retrieve the most reliable results. Bookings required. **FREE. 8664 7099** or **inquiries@slv.vic.gov.au**

**10AM, EVERY 3RD TUESDAY, POMODORO SARDO REATAURANT, 111 LONSDALE ST**  
**EASTENDERS COFFEE CLUB**  
Come along and join the company of friends and neighbours. Meet new people and be informed.  
**eastendersinc@gmail.com**

**10.30-11.15AM, EVERY 3RD SATURDAY, CITY LIBRARY**  
**ONCE UPON A TUNE**  
An interactive musical adventure that features live music by Beethoven, Brahms and Brumby. Suitable for children aged from 5-12 years. **FREE.**

**EVERY SUNDAY FROM 2.30PM, THE HUB, 506 ELIZABETH ST**  
**FILM CLUB**  
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**Chabad of Melbourne**  
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Ph: 9525-9929  
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**City on a Hill**  
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Hoyts Cinemas, Melbourne Central

**Victorian Friends Centre**  
484 William Street, West Melbourne  
Quaker Meetings for Worship: Sunday 10.30am

**Collins Street Baptist Church**  
174 Collins St  
Ph: 9650 1180  
Sundays services: 10.30am

**CrossCulture Church of Christ**  
333 Swanston St, Melbourne (Corner of Swanston & Little Lonsdale St)  
Ph: 9623 9199  
Sunday services (English) - 9am, 11:15am & 6pm  
Sunday service (Mandarin) - 10:45am  
**www.crossculture.net.au**

**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

**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

**Wesley Church**  
148 Lonsdale St  
9.15 am Gospel Hall Cantonese/Mandarin Service  
11.00 am Morning Worship Service  
7.00 pm Evening Worship Service

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about how to customise your campaign to our audience every month.

# Join the Big Dance

*On Sunday, April 29, 600 people will bust a move at Federation Square for the Big Dance on International Dance Day.*

The Big Dance, hosted by dance company Ausdance, converges professional and amateur dancers from around Victoria for the big bi-annual event.

It aims to get more people moving and appreciating dancing through bringing the community together.

Participants can attend the free workshops led by professional dance instructors or watch online tutorials to learn the simple dance moves.

The community dance event originated from London in 2006 and has since spread across the world.

In 2014, Ausdance held the first Big Dance with more than 2000 participants performing in person and online at the Sydney Opera House.

The Big Dance is open to people from all ages, all abilities and all experiences.

The choreography this year is a five-minute contemporary Indigenous routine curated



*Dance instructor Josh Twee busts a move at Federation Square ahead of the Big Dance.*

by acclaimed Indigenous choreographer Frances Rings and New Zealand dancer Craig Bary.

Independent artist Josh Twee from Ausdance is one of the dance instructors and workshop facilitators for the Big Dance.

He has been teaching the public the special

choreography at studios in Collingwood and Sunshine.

This year, thousands of people will dance together at various locations in Victoria and Australia, including Federation Square, Melba Park in Lilydale, Victory Park in Castlemaine, Cathedral Square in Sydney

and metro and regional locations in other states.

The public is welcome to watch the impressive group dance from 12-4pm on April 29, which is also International Dance Day.

More information on [bigdance.com.au](http://bigdance.com.au)

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