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FREE

# CBD NEWS

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## Light the night

The CBD was ablaze in light and colour during the White Night Reimagined festival in August.

A record 718,000 people attended the event over three nights from August 22 to 24, as the festival celebrated its seventh year in Melbourne.

Once again under the stewardship of artistic director David Atkins, the event featured more than 50 program items.

“Over three nights in three uniquely programmed realms presenting outstanding international acts, breathtaking local works and with White Night’s largest ever crowds this new concept has clearly proven itself a success,” Mr Atkins said.

Photo: John Tadigiri. For more head to [cbdnews](#) on Instagram.



# Police mark the city a "designated area"

By Meg Hill

**Certain police powers have expanded over the past decade to become increasingly concentrated in the CBD, with policing focus shifting to protests.**

Victoria Police were given the power to declare a “designated area”, within which they have expanded search and move-on powers, in a 2009 amendment to the *Control of Weapons Act 1900*.

Victoria Police and the Brumby Government justified this at the time with reference to an apparent rise in youth crime, particularly involving knives and other weapons.

Anthony Kelly, an executive officer at the Flemington and Kensington Legal Centre where a state-wide Police Accountability Project is run, said the searches designed to target this rise had little success.

He said the initial designated areas and searches, often located at suburban railway stations, found “very few weapons, despite comprehensive searches and metal detectors”.

“It became pretty clear that these gazetted

areas and control of weapons powers were incredibly useful for protest events, where police have powers to search people without needing any reasonable suspicion,” he said.

As the CBD is the most popular location for protesters, this has meant that the use of the provisions became CBD-focused.

Research by *CBD News* revealed that out of 11 uses of the provision in 2010, only one was located in the city. There was also very little overlap of any location that year – nine different suburbs were represented in the eleven instances.

By 2018, however, nine out of 14 instances had occurred in the CBD. Of those, at least

five were called in response to protest events, while at least three others were used for popular public events.

The data also showed escalating tensions between far-right and left-wing groups in the city.

At least four of the 2018 instances targeted clashes between groups at events like the True Blue Crew’s nationalist march or the anti-feminist “March for Men”. Data from 2017 showed a similar trend.

The Act was expanded again in 2017 by the Andrews Government to include anti-masking provisions, which Mr Kelly said

*Continued on page 2.*

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edition is Thursday, September 19.

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20,000 copies are printed and  
distributed exclusively within  
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*Views expressed by contributors are not  
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## Police mark city a "designated area"

Continued from page 1

signified that "their main functionality had become protest control".

The added provisions allowed police to force the removal of face coverings, even if they were used as protection against the potential use of pepper spray in the area.

Mr Kelly claimed that, alongside a move to protest control, the police had also increasingly used biases and racial profiling while exercising the powers.

"The police were very concerned about risks and accusations of racial profiling in 2009, so they did a whole range of things like pick every 10th person or randomise searches in a variety of ways," he said.

"Now there is far less care or concern about how they're being used in that way. They are more likely to target activists they treat as suspicious and therefore a whole range of biases can be used."

"They can be used in a very discriminatory way in these sorts of protests."

He said that this was also of concern where the provisions were used for public events like Moomba, White Night, or New Year celebrations.

"The risk is racial profiling, where police pick out for instance young African people from the crowd to search them, and they don't need any reasonable suspicion."

A Victoria Police spokesperson told *CBD News* the early weapons operations under the designated area legislation were located around transport hubs "where the approach included random searching of all commuters similar to aviation explosive detection testing conducted at airports".

"As these locations were narrow designated areas with a higher volume of youth using the public transport system this was an appropriate approach," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said the Melbourne CBD operations "complement large events" and that where a declaration was made the Chief Commissioner must be satisfied "there is a



Photo: Julian Meehan.

likelihood that violence or disorder involving the use of weapons will occur in the area".

"These laws are intended to respect the right of Victorians to engage in peaceful protest, while ensuring that police are able to deal with those who seek to disrupt peaceful protests and other events," the spokesperson said.

"The consideration of human rights is a key part of our operation planning."

"While the number of searches under the *Control of Weapons Act [1900]* has remained relatively steady in recent years, more weapons are being found. Our first priority is community safety."

But Mr Kelly said that when the anti-masking provisions were added a statement of compatibility was made with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* that was "highly inadequate".

"They usually say that the powers limit human rights but are justifiable for X reasons," he said.

"Any power or legislation, even archaic ones, can be misused by police to shut down protests or to restrict or somehow deter protests, so legislators can easily allow or provide police powers that indirectly restrict our democratic rights, and this *Control of Weapons Act* is a good example of that."



## Fed heritage

*Federation Square has been added to the Victorian Heritage Register after a year under interim protection.*

The National Trust recommended the Square be added to the register in October last year in the midst of a protracted battle of activists and community advocates with Square management, Apple and the state government.

National Trust CEO Simon Ambrose said the National Trust welcomed the news that its recommendation had been accepted.

"This comes after a year-long process following the National Trust's nomination of Federation Square to the Victorian Heritage Register," he said.

"The inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register will not prevent appropriate future change and development at Federation Square. However, any future changes will need to consider its architectural, social and historic values, and go through a process of public consultation."

"As a direct result of the National Trust's work to recognise what makes Federation Square our state's premier public space, the state government has announced a major review to inform its future."

You can participate in the review here: [engage.vic.gov.au/federation-square-review](http://engage.vic.gov.au/federation-square-review)

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# More congestion in the pipeline

By David Schout

**A \$21 million upgrade to the CBD's sewerage system will compound commuter delays within the Hoddle Grid for over 12 months.**

From this September until late-2020, a section of Lonsdale St (between Elizabeth and William streets) will be disrupted at various times to, according to City West Water, "help secure wastewater services for people living and working in Melbourne's CBD".

Disruptions will include lane closures and some parking restrictions.

The news comes shortly after it was announced both eastbound lanes on Flinders St (between Elizabeth and Swanston streets) would be closed for three years from early September for Metro Tunnel works.

Further, the City of Melbourne plans to begin pedestrianising parts of Elizabeth St from next year.

The state government's call to delay these plans until tunnel works were complete in 2025 fell on deaf ears when the council pushed ahead with its plans at a May meeting.

While the various upcoming works appear essential in future-proofing a growing



Congestion on Lonsdale St is expected to worsen this month.

inner city, their combined impact on CBD congestion is likely to be significant.

General manager of infrastructure and delivery at City West Water Maree Lang said the latest delays would be managed carefully.

"There's no doubt Lonsdale St presents us with some logistical challenges given its location and daily use by many city residents, businesses and visitors, however we've been planning for many months to minimise disruptions throughout the works period," she said.

"Importantly, no water or sewerage services will be impacted while work is in progress."

Transport Minister Jacinta Allan conceded in July that the Flinders St lane closures would cause disruption, but said they were an unavoidable part of large infrastructure projects.

"We are entering into a big and intensive construction phase with the Metro Tunnel project," she said.

"Not just here at this site but indeed at all of our sites across the CBD as we get in and build two nine-kilometre tunnels and five underground stations and various connections to the existing train network, in a very busy capital city, of Melbourne, a busy international city. It's a very big construction job. It's also a complex logistical task, as how all those phases of the construction are carefully managed so we can get the city moving."

Early sewerage works will take place along Lonsdale St from 9.30am to 3.30pm Monday to Friday and will include some lane closures and temporary restrictions to street parking. No work will be undertaken on weekends or at night.



## Library assault

**Police are appealing to witnesses following a sexual assault at the State Library on June 27.**

Investigators have been told a 20-year-old Melbourne woman was waiting outside the library at about 6.30pm.

An unknown male offender approached her, struck up a conversation and asked to give her a massage before sexually assaulting her.

Shortly afterwards the man said he needed to catch a train from Melbourne Central Station and left the scene in an unknown direction.

The man is perceived to be of Indian Sub-Continental appearance, aged in his mid-20s to early 30s with a solid build, brown or black curly hair and dark coloured eyes. He was wearing a red hooded jumper, dark pants, light-coloured sneakers and a watch at the time.

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# Heritage blocks plans

By Meg Hill

***The state government's adoption of new heritage protections has ruled out a \$1 billion project for Queen St – the third time plans for the property have been scrapped in six years.***

CBUS Australia had submitted a renewed demolition and redevelopment application for three neighbouring properties on August 5, the latest in a back-and-forth process that began in 2013.

CBUS Australia planned to demolish 150 Queen St, 140 Queen St and 27 McKillop St and create temporary open public space while preparing plans for a 55-storey office tower.

But the State Government's adoption of the *Hardware and Guildford Laneways Heritage Amendment* only 11 days later placed permanent heritage protection on 140 Queen St as part of a new heritage overlay.

The site had been subject to confusion since a previous owner, CEL Australia, stalled demolition of 150 Queen St in 2013 after a dispute with Colonial Range, which owned neighbouring sites 140 Queen St and 27 McKillop St.

In 2017 both CEL Australia and Colonial Range decided to sell the sites due to protracted legal proceedings and cancelled contracts.

CBUS Property bought all three sites, applied for a demolition permit and began preparing a proposal for a \$1 billion project.

**The new planning amendment:**

140 Queen St holds a 15-storey '60s building that's been under scrutiny since 2004 when a piece of concrete fell off the façade.

Originally known as the Scottish Amicable Life Insurance Building, the site is an early example of precast concrete modernism. It was designed by architecture firm Yuncken Freeman – who designed the Sidney Myer Music Bowl and BHP House.

In their application CBUS Australia recognised that, although different bodies accepted the building posed a threat to public safety, there was debate about whether or not it could be restored.

27 McKillop St is currently a single level restaurant and 150 Queen St is home to a 12-storey building that's been empty and covered in black shade cloth and scaffolding since 2014.

CBUS Australia didn't respond to requests by *CBD News* for comment.

# High-rise limits could ease by year's end

By David Schout

***The state government could soften restrictions on new inner-city developments by the end of the year, according to the Property Council of Australia.***

At a recent Property Council luncheon, Premier Dan Andrews confirmed that changes to C270 planning controls were expected in the coming months.

The C270 planning restrictions, which include mandatory building setbacks and restrictions to plot ratios and shadow controls, were introduced by the government in November 2016 after a spike in high-rise approvals under the previous Liberal government.

Then planning minister Matthew Guy earned the nickname "Mr Skyscraper" on the back of excessive height allowances for developers, and C270's implementation has seen a definitive drop in approvals.

But earlier this year planning minister Richard Wynne flagged a "tweaking" of the planning controls after just two new CBD commercial office buildings were

approved in a two-year period under the amendment.

The Property Council said it had "significant concerns about the pipeline of supply" of commercial developments in the CBD, where the vacancy rate of 3.3 per cent was the lowest of capital cities across the country.

It has claimed the amount of office space was not growing at a rate to keep up with Melbourne's expanding workforce.

Victorian executive director Cressida Wall said that, as a result, changes to C270 were much needed.

"Since C270's introduction, commercial CBD approvals have fallen dramatically and future supply has dried up, while vacancy rates are at historic lows," she said.

"This position is untenable and changes to C270 to support commercial development are the release valve Melbourne urgently needs."

The government would not confirm details about changes to the planning controls when contacted by *CBD News*, but reaffirmed its commitment to necessary restrictions on big developments.

"We're continuing to speak to peak bodies about C270 and whether any tweaks are required," a government spokesperson said.

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# Council's call to action on waste

Advertorial by Sean Car

**While local councils across the state continue working behind the scenes to resolve our recycling crisis, the City of Melbourne is encouraging its residents to play an active role in being part of the solution on waste.**

City of Melbourne recycling program officer Ian Clarke caught up with *CBD News* last month to shed light on the many different ways the community could still make a significant impact in reducing its waste to landfill.

Mr Clarke said the council's transfer station at Dynon Rd in West Melbourne was now open for residents to drop off their regular recycling items. However, he said it was important that glass was kept separate from other recycling.

"All of the cardboard and paper gets bailed at Dynon Rd and goes to Visy Recycling for processing," Mr Clarke said.

"The broader public perception is that everything is going to landfill but that's not the case. We put actions in place to divert different streams that we can still recover."



Recycling program officer Ian Clarke.

While a solution is being sought to recycle plastics following the closure of recycling company SKM, Mr Clarke said locals could still recycle other forms of waste such as organics, e-waste and hard waste.

In the first instance, he said it was important for community members to continue recycling as usual, while trying to limit how much plastic they purchase every day.

"My role is to encourage people to continue recycling but the best thing to do is to try and change your purchasing habits," Mr Clarke said. "When you go to the supermarket, don't buy over-packaged goods."

"Consider what you're doing with food because food scraps and organics make up approximately 50 per cent of our landfill bins. So, ask yourself: 'do I have the capacity to compost that at home?'"

"We need people to stop throwing small

items of e-waste in the bin. Most people won't throw phones in the bin but it's all the accessories - headphones, chargers, cables and batteries - that we can also recover."

With around 75 per cent of the municipality's residential bins located in high-rise buildings, he said these messages were particularly crucial for those living in communities such as the CBD, Docklands and Southbank.

The council has for several years run a tailored waste management program in high-rise towers. Many residents would be well aware of the different e-waste and charity bins (managed by Diabetes Victoria) that are already accessible in around 150 buildings.

"We're constantly working with building managers to try to encourage them to reduce contamination in their recycling bins and to educate residents as they move in as to how waste works within their building," Mr Clarke said.

"We're also trying to reduce the amount of hard waste. When Diabetes Victoria goes into the buildings now, they go through the hard waste and take out any good furniture to sell on at their stores."

In another example of residents taking action, he said that some buildings had even set up "reuse" areas where people could swap larger items with their neighbours.

As part of the awareness efforts, Mr Clarke was keen to remind locals that they could

cash in on discounts of up to 50 per cent for compost bins and worm farms via its partnership with social enterprise The Compost Revolution.

He said he was also constantly encouraging high-rise residents to hassle their building managers and Owners' Corporations to find space on rooftops or in communal areas to build raised garden beds for vegies and composting.

"If you can keep compost on your property and use it on the garden then happy days," he said. "Get a group of residents together who are keen to get the space. It could be on the roof or in a communal area. Get a raised garden bed in there and grow some vegies!"

City of Melbourne has also established a permanent drop off zone for e-waste at Kathleen Syme Community Centre in Carlton, as well as battery collection services at City Baths and City Library.

On September 21, it will also host a free e-waste recycling day in partnership with Tech-Collect at Argyle Square in Carlton, where residents can save their old phones, computers or appliances from landfill.

City of Melbourne also supports businesses and the community to produce less waste. Its small business grants program provides up to \$100,000 for proposals that focus on reducing waste, with a new series of grants to open in October.

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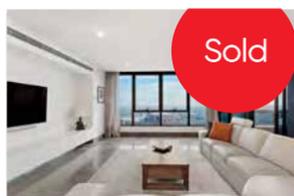
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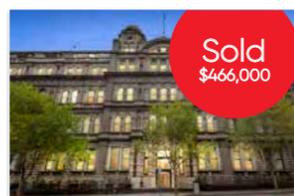
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- Support sustainable businesses

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## Laneway protection

*The state government has formally adopted new CBD heritage overlays proposed by the City of Melbourne in 2017.*

Planning Minister Richard Wynne approved the amendment on August 16. The protections emerged out of a 2017 report by architects Lovell Chen that was accepted and advocated for by the council.

Amendment C271 gives the Guildford and Hardware Laneways precinct permanent heritage protection. The sites have been under interim protection since last year.

City of Melbourne heritage spokesperson Cr Rohan Leppert said the council was "delighted" that the minister had gazetted Council's Guildford and Hardware Lanes heritage amendment.

"This is the culmination of years of work by City of Melbourne staff, heritage consultants and advocates, all for the cause of bringing our heritage controls up to date and conserving the unique character of this remarkable part of our ever-changing city," Cr Leppert said.

Multiple sites neighbouring the laneways are also included in the overlay.

Minister Wynne said the laneways had a "rich and interesting history".

"We want them to be protected so they can be enjoyed by generations to come," he said.

## Future up in the air

By David Schout

*The future of the 136-year-old Hotel Windsor remains uncertain after Planning Minister Richard Wynne put his foot down and rejected a fourth planning permit extension for its redevelopment.*

Developer The Halim Group has planned to build a 26-storey luxury hotel at the rear of the building since first being granted approval by the Brumby Government in 2010.

But work has remained in the preliminary stages for almost a decade, and despite being permitted three previous extensions, the group had sought more time beyond the March 31 deadline next year.

Mr Wynne said that almost no progress had been made since the last extension three years ago, and that "enough was enough".

"The developers have failed to secure finance or show a real willingness to get construction started despite having nine years to do so," he said.

Now that has been declined, the developers need to finish the work within the next seven months, which appears highly unlikely.

Billed as Australia's oldest grand hotel, the Windsor is on the Victorian Heritage Register, which puts responsibility on an owner to maintain the building's integrity.

The Indonesian-based Halim Group bought the hotel in 2005.

Since being granted approval to redevelop the rear of the site in 2010, major amendments to the planning scheme have been introduced to protect the Bourke Hill precinct.

As such, the proposal would have been knocked back altogether in 2019.

"If the same application for development was brought to me today, I would have to reject it immediately - planning rules and community expectations have changed," Mr Wynne said.

"The Windsor Hotel is a Melbourne icon and we're protecting it - and the unique



A render of the former proposal for Hotel Windsor.

character of the Bourke Hill precinct."

Halim Group hotel director Adi Halim said in a statement that the company still believed it could find a solution for the hotel's future.

"We are disappointed with the minister's decision," Mr Halim's statement said.

"It is an opportunity lost for the Hotel Windsor and for Melbourne. We are determined to keep the hotel and work with Heritage Victoria to try to find an alternative solution. Meanwhile, it is business as usual."

Plans for the 26-storey tower have been shrouded in controversy for almost a decade.

In 2010 former Labor Victorian planning minister Justin Madden's press secretary accidentally leaked plans to halt the development, including plans for a bogus community consultation period to block the proposal.

Soon after the bungle, the Brumby government approved the redevelopment.

In 2016, the Halim Group applied for an extension until 2020 on the project, but were denied by Mr Wynne.

After an appeal at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT), the group was eventually granted an extra three years to finish the works.

The government said in a recent press release that granting yet another extension would be "dragging the process out for 13 years and defying industry and community expectations".

## Mobile doc rolled out

By Alex Dalziel

*A mobile doctor service that provides free healthcare to homeless people living on the streets of the CBD will be expanded under a new investment from the City of Melbourne.*

Cohealth's street doctor mobile bus clinic, which previously only operated on Wednesdays, will now also operate on Mondays.

The service provides a dedicated GP, nurse and social worker who provide free health, mental health and drug counselling.

Last month, Lord Mayor Sally Capp announced the City of Melbourne had invested \$200,000 in the project.

"The mobile bus clinic will provide services direct to rough sleepers where they're needed," the Lord Mayor said.

"When a patient steps onto the bus they can speak directly to a doctor and access free services such as flu shots, treatment for wounds or urgent mental health referrals."

Cohealth interim chief executive Nicole Bartholomeusz said that Cohealth had long advocated for better healthcare for vulnerable people.

"Rough sleeping creates serious health problems, and yet people who are homeless have less access to health services than the rest of the community," she said.

"Stigma and discrimination is a barrier to accessing health services. People who are homeless also struggle to afford medical care and to travel to appointments and may find it difficult to maintain treatment regimes."

The Lord Mayor also launched a *Handbook for grassroots organisations* that will guide volunteer groups assisting the homeless.

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# Council creates special committee to progress new gambling policy

By Stephen Mayne



council meeting when council was unable to make a decision in relation to Planning Scheme Amendment 307, a tough new poker machine policy which had been three years in the making.

Team Doyle councillors were ruled out by a \$40,000 donation to Team Doyle from the Australian Hotels Association in 2016, along with the decision by wealthy advertising man and Crown Resorts director Harold Mitchell to donate \$10,000.

After raising about \$300,000 from property developers for his 2012 re-election campaign and successfully winning five seats for Team Doyle on council, the next four years saw a number of examples of quorum being lost and decisions being delegated to the officers.

A quorum is six of the 11 councillors, so for this to happen in the 2012-16 council it always required one additional councillor to be either absent or conflicted to reduce overall numbers to just five.

When Team Doyle briefly got to a majority of six councillors in the second half of 2017, the November 2017 decision to send the new

gambling policy off to panel had to be made by officers under delegation.

The election of Sally Capp as Lord Mayor last year was hopefully going to ensure council could make gambling decisions but she then opted to accept a \$4000 donation from Ann Peacock, a long-time marketing employee at Crown Melbourne, which rendered her personally conflicted on gambling matters.

As all this became apparent at the July 30 council meeting, some quick thinking saw the councillors opt to establish a dedicated committee, the Gaming Planning Provision Committee, to progress the planning scheme amendment.

The new special purpose committee held a 15-minute meeting on August 6 when the five non-conflicted councillors – Rohan Leppert, Cathy Oke, Jackie Watts, Philip Le Lui and Nic Frances Gilley – gathered together and endorsed sending the panel report on the proposed tough new gambling policy off to Minister for Planning Richard Wynne.

The council has asked the minister to go a little harder than the panel recommended as it does not wish to encourage new poker machine venues, preferring a harm minimisation approach.

One of the reasons City of Melbourne only has eight pokies venues – for instance there are none in suburbs such as Docklands, North Melbourne, East Melbourne or Parkville – is that council has one of the best records of any Australian council when it comes to resisting pokies applications at VCAT and before the gambling regulator.

The Queensberry Hotel in Carlton, The Victoria Hotel behind Town Hall and the Francis Hotel in Lonsdale St are just some of the venues which have tried and failed to install pokies over the years.

The adoption of Planning Scheme Amendment 307 will make it even tougher, which is a good thing.

*Stephen Mayne is a former City of Melbourne councillor who has long campaigned to reduce gambling harm in Australia.*

**Robert Doyle has been gone from Town Hall for more than 18 months but the impact of some of his decisions lives on – particularly in relation to conflicts of interest arising from campaign donations.**

Team Doyle no longer formally exists but there are still five serving councillors who are not able to make decisions related to donors who Robert Doyle secured to support his 2016 campaign.

This came into sharp relief at the July 30

## “We’re not a hotel”

By David Schout

**The owner of a quirky CBD caravan park has been taken to court by hotel giant Novotel for a name it claims is too similar to its own.**

The costly legal battle has led James Fry to self-represent at the Intellectual Property Court in Canberra, the result of which he is anxiously awaiting.

Fry owns Notel on Flinders Lane, the name of which is intended to convey that it is “not a hotel”.

The trendy rooftop, atop a car park Fry himself owns, contains six refitted 1970s Airstream caravans that for three years has operated as a popular alternative overnight experience in Melbourne.

Guests reach the rooftop via a speakeasy style entrance in a downstairs café and eventually reach a red astro-turfed roof surrounded by cacti and the distinctive caravans that were shipped in from the US in 2016.

But Novotel’s owner Accor, one of the world’s largest hotel groups, has lodged court documents that claim the Notel name is “deceptively similar” and would cause consumer confusion; something Fry denies.

“We don’t want to be a hotel,” he said.

“We’re Notel, we’re not a hotel, we’re caravans on a rooftop. As if there’s any confusion to the general public? As if we’re ever going to be anything like each other?”

Should he lose, he would no longer be able to use the Notel name and could even be forced to pay opposition legal costs.

In July, Fry decided to represent himself in Canberra after legal fees continued to rack up.

“Novotel went in strong, they had a real crack,” he said.

“It was a pretty intimidating day up there in court but I tried to find the funny side from it and take a light-hearted approach. You know, embrace the David versus Goliath battle. But on the day, God, it was pretty hairy.”

Fry was thankful for the citywide support he had received throughout the legal process and was unsure which way the October judgement would fall.

“I feel honestly like it’s a toss of the coin. I feel I had a really strong case with the public weight behind it, and overwhelming support that Notel had that this was just a ridiculous case gives me confidence. But this is not about what people think, or the general consensus and common sense – this is law. And when it comes to law, the best case and case law often dictates the outcome.”

Fry described the hotel group as “bullies” with “endless pockets”, deploying deliberate tactics to have him change his name.

“This was always death by a thousand cuts,” he said.

“They bombarded me with paperwork, bombarded me with emails. And every time my lawyers responded to their emails, it’s



Notel owner James Fry at his Flinders Lane rooftop caravan park.

a \$750 to \$1000 turnaround to read and respond to an email. You get 20 emails in, and all of a sudden you’ve flushed all this money down the toilet and you’re no closer to a resolution.”

After protracted emails back and forth, Fry offered to meet with Novotel in person to “stop the bleeding”, something he said they refused to do.

While he hopes to avoid changing the name, his hand may be forced.

“I haven’t put my mind to a name change yet, but I have contemplated the worst-case scenario, that being if we do lose I’ll have to change the name. What that name will be, I don’t know. I’m very hopeful that I don’t have to.”

Fry said that whatever the ruling, the CBD business would remain.

“There have been some reports that we’re going to close down – that’s not the case. We’re not going anywhere, it’s a great little

business and the people of Melbourne love us. The concept will stay, if we have to change the name it’s a disaster but it’s not crippling, it’s not going to close us down.”

A long-time owner of Fry’s Fast Park, for years Mr Fry wondered how best to utilise his unique, low (the car park itself is just two storeys) CBD rooftop.

He eventually settled on the caravan idea, shipping them over from the US and refitting the interiors, a process that altogether cost around \$1 million.

Fry said being able to meet and chat with clients staying on his unique rooftop for their birthday, anniversary or other special occasion was something he loved.

“We’re a little niche in the market and people are loving it. It’s a really enjoyable business.”

Accor Hotels did not respond to questions posed by *CBD News*.

The court ruling is due to be handed down in early October.



# 90-year neighbours unite for garden

By Alex Dalziel

***The Immigration Museum and the Port Authority Building have collaborated to deliver a community garden to residents.***

August 24 marked the beginning of a 12-month trial community garden in the Immigration Museum's rear courtyard.

The trial will allow Port Authority Building residents to use garden planter boxes in the courtyard, providing green space to residents who otherwise have none.

The boxes were handed over to the residents after their use in the Immigration Museum's *Grow, Gather, Share* exhibition in 2018/19, which showcased the diversity and history of gardening and food culture in Australia.

The Immigration Museum hopes the garden's second life will help facilitate human connection and social cohesion among the local community as well as build a connection with the neighbouring Port Authority Building.

Port Authority Building resident and the garden's association president Nene Machwhirter said that residents welcomed the collaboration.



Residents in the community garden at the Immigration Museum's rear courtyard.

"We've been neighbours for almost 100 years but it's taken this long to work together on something," she said.

Nene has lived in the Port Authority Building for over 10 years, and said that the building suffered from a lack of shared and outdoor spaces. She, along with other residents with similar concerns, led the development of the community space.

She said that the inspiration for the garden came from her daughter, who started the North Melbourne community garden "the North West Patch".

"The building as built originally as office spaces in the 1920s so it doesn't have any outdoors or shared spaces, and you can't tack on balconies," she said.

"You would only see other people in the

elevator, so it's been really fantastic in getting to know people who live here."

"Some are interested in gardening and some are just happy in getting to know the other people that they live with."

The gardening association plans to divide the boxes between each floor, with one or two floors getting a box to themselves, which they can grow whatever they want in.

"It's creating a sense of community with the immigration museum, and it's healthier to be out in the fresh air. A lot of people already use the court yard so they can go out and get their hands dirty," Nene said.

Immigration Museum spokesperson Anna Quinn said that the boxes made the concrete courtyard more vibrant and inviting for visitors and residents.

"When we proposed it, the Port Authority Building residents saw the project as an opportunity to forge relationships with other residents, which they don't often have the opportunity to do," she said.

"Apparently we're already seeing some unlikely friendships forming."

The boxes were officially handed over to the residents on August 24, with a number out of a hat lucky dip determining who received which box.

## Residents pine for quiet

By Rhonda Dredge

***Bible House is on the front line of excavations for the new Town Hall Metro station and its residents have learned to deal with the noise and vibrations.***

Jemma Thomas lives on the top floor with her pet and partner and the balcony of their studio apartment overlooks the site.

"Sometimes I can reach out and almost touch the drill," Jemma told *CBD News*. "The last one-and-a-half years have been quite full-on."

Workers are beginning early and finishing late, she said. Jemma rented the apartment two-and-a-half years ago because of its European feel. Down below is Scott Alley, a cute little lane with a French creperie, a barber and a travel agent.

"I immediately felt a sense of community," the branding specialist said.

Until recently there was also a small menswear shop. Now Metro Tunnel has taken over the lease for the shop and has been trying to "jazz up the alley".

First there was astro turf which attracted backpackers who partied all night. Now the hoardings at the end of the lane have been painted with a carnival scene.

"The small businesses are what make the laneways of Melbourne," Jemma said. "It could be a great communal space."



When the apartment came up for sale this year for about \$500,000 Jemma wanted to buy it but there was no guarantee that a multi-storey complex would not abut it when the station is redeveloped.

The drilling was loud when *CBD News* visited last month. The apartment is modest with a fold-out bed, a fold-down desk and a shower in the middle in a copper cylinder.

The balcony used to look over the roofs of McDonalds, Hungry Jack's and the Port Phillip Arcade.

"The rooftops were so simple. There was a view of the Arts Centre and Fed Square. Now I try not to look down. It was once a sanctuary," Jemma said.

"There's a common misconception of living in the city of being alone, living in a concrete jungle or it being for people with busy corporate lives. This building is full of artists and makers and people who work from home."

Gemma runs a niche internet business from the apartment called COAT Label – two stylish merino wool ranges for greyhounds and whippets.

See *Pet's Corner* on page 20 for a full report on Stevie's modelling career.

## Start-up gets \$25,000

***A council grant will give a city-based start-up the chance to develop smart technology in its quest to provide consumers with zero-waste grocery baskets.***

Unpackaged Eco won \$25,000 from the City of Melbourne's Small Business and Social Enterprise Grants which will go toward radio-frequency identification (RFID).

"The dispenser of the bin and the packaging start talking to each other and we collect some really interesting data on refills," said founder Irene Chen.

Unpackaged Eco is a package-free system that enables customers to shop, refill and return containers that are cleaned, refilled with product and returned back to shelves.

"The technology will let us detect how many times a container has been returned back, measuring impact at a granular level. It will also help us troubleshoot – if we've got stations in two suburbs and one is refilling more than the other we can figure out why."

Unpackaged Eco currently has stations at a number of independent supermarkets in the inner north and more should be coming to the CBD soon.

The stations are currently supplying cleaning product – dish liquid, handwash, multi-cleaner and laundry liquid – that are largely Unpackaged Eco's own.

But they also do partnerships with brands



Irene Chen.

to supply other products.

"The goal for us is to grow to make sure the grocery basket is as complete as possible. We want to expand to food soon," said Ms Chen.

Ms Chen is one of three founders. She said she moved toward a sustainability start-up from a career in retailing about a year ago.

"I heard about the size of the plastic waste issue and I was concerned about it like everyone else and I realised when I tried to reduce my waste it was nearly impossible," she said.

"There weren't any options to refill or reuse my containers. I felt like I was forced to throw my plastic away."

Ms Chen said Unpackaged Eco would like to thank the City of Melbourne and invite any brands and retailers to reach out for partnerships.



Producer Ben Anderson



Writer and performer Cameron Taylor

## Fringe in search of truth

### Melbourne Fringe has turned to truth 37 years into life.

For its truth-themed year the Hub has relocated from North Melbourne to the "People's Palace" Trades Hall - while the rest of the festival branches out to 140 different venues, 2718 participating artists and 455 events.

Ben Anderson, an independent producer living in Southbank's Arts Precinct, has produced four shows in this year's Fringe - *PISCA*, *WRATH*, *Just Us Girls* and *Somebody's Somebody*.

He said a fringe festival was a particular space in the arts.

"A Fringe Festival allows people to try more experimental work, but it also allows people to try new work that might still have a really wide appeal," he said.

"It can be a really good platform to showcase a new and upcoming artist like I think *PISCA* is, and then shows like *WRATH* - which is kind of an absurd play - is by a writer who is very new but I think will one day be writing for Malthouse and Melbourne Theatre Company."

Ben originally moved to Melbourne from Auckland to go to clown school. He said the shows he's produced for the Fringe Festival all shared some commonality with that background.

"*PISCA* is clowning-based, *Just Us*

*Girls* is a character comedy from that world, *Somebody's Somebody* is a drag performance which obviously partly comes out of the world of masks, and *WRATH* is a very absurd high energy heightened realism," he said.

*PISCA* is showing from September 21 to September 29. It's a mix between clowning and French cabaret. Writer and performer Cameron Taylor sings, dances, clowns and improvises with the audience all while playing the role of a newborn duck.

"When you're clowning, the show is completely about the audiences you get, and with a fringe festival you get an eclectic crowd - there's so many different things that can happen," said Cameron.

"The interaction between the character and the audience is more exciting."

This will be Cameron's third Fringe of the year, after Perth and Sydney. The show has been in a process of development since 2014.

"It started originally as a performance piece I created just after Robin Williams passed away," Cameron said.

"The original piece was based on comedians having anxiety - and the original character was a depressed clown and it was his job to go to work and be a duck."

"Every time I do the show it changes. Every night there's sections of improvisation and with different audiences, different things work, so it's constantly changing"

## Mirka Mora: The teacher

By Meg Hill

*Mirka Mora was one of the city's most famous artists. Her career tracked with Melbourne's development - her murals and studios appearing in key locations at prime moments.*



The Mirka Mora Tram

She moved into Collins St's Grosvenor Chambers in 1951 as Melbourne's bohemian moment began. She then opened Exhibition St's Mirka Café a few years later, where Joy Hester had her first major exhibition.

This was followed by moves to East Melbourne, St Kilda, back to the city and Richmond and the development of Melbourne's subculture seemed to follow her.

And for 23 years of that career she also taught at the Centre for Adult Education (CAE) on Flinders Lane.

Mirka passed away last year aged 90. CAE and the City Library celebrated Mirka's life this August with an exhibition, a talk and a walking tour.

Mirka was born in Paris in 1928. She narrowly escaped the Holocaust with her family while in transit to concentration. After the war she moved to Melbourne with her husband George.

After a short stint in the south-east they moved to Grosvenor Chambers on Collins St - Australia's first custom-built artist studio complex. She had exhibitions in their living room.

"Her exhibitions there would open with a three-day party," said Isabel Simpson, who ran CAE's talk and walking tour.

"Nobody ever bought anything, but celebrities like Anthony Perkins, Katharine Hepburn and Stanley Kramer would arrive between 11 and midnight."

Apparently, Fred Williams would arrive with drawing ink in his pocket and sketch Mirka, her children and her cat Napoleon.

Mirka moved to St Kilda in the late '60s, where she opened the Tolarno Hotel. Her murals are still scattered around the suburb in restaurants and by the foreshore.

In 1978 she moved back to the city into an apartment studio on Rankins Lane. That same year she was one of the artists chosen to pioneer Melbourne's first art tram project.

The tram - coloured a rich red and white scheme and covered in Mirka motifs like moths, serpents and flowers - operated through the streets of Melbourne before being auctioned in 1986.

The exhibition at the City Library was compiled from Mirka's and her students' art. The centrepiece was a mural also from 1978 - Mirka and 300 people.

Mirka collaborated with 300 of her CAE students to make the mural's six panels - each at a different station that the "CAE art train" stopped at on the way to Castlemaine.

A note from a student, Edith White, read: "During my first CAE painting course with Mirka, I accidentally spilled paint onto the picture I was creating, but Mirka cried out 'Quick! Capture that into your painting!' which was a lesson to me on how one could deal with a 'disaster' creatively."

## Contracts for bookseller

By Rhonda Dredge

*Getting a publishing contract is like winning a lottery for a writer. To get two at once is enough to make you feel like a millionaire.*

Anna Macdonald has a book of essays coming out next month and a novella next year.

She has signed the contracts with Splice and can relax in a rare moment of sunlight.

Anna has worked for eight years at The Paperback on Bourke St and she's known for her ability to match reader with title.

Now the book whisperer is being recognised for her own ability to put words to landscape, particularly Melbourne's CBD.

"Walking as a way of being in a place is

important to me," she said.

Her book of essays *Between the Word and the World* tracks her extended walks, observations and thoughts about the CBD and part of her novella *The Weight of Water* is set at the bookshop.

"In terms of a sense of the city, I know how much memory is invested in this particular area. So many people came in as kids to the bookshop."

The Paperback building is one of the oldest shopfronts in Melbourne, she said, with original walls in Liverpool and Crossley streets from 1847.

Even though she has a history degree, Anna has not written a literal account of the city. She likes books that include digressions, curiosity and attention to detail.

She is primarily a literary critic, writing online reviews for Splice, a publishing company based in London.



Anna Macdonald just before her Sunday shift.

Her work is influenced by European writers such as Sebald and deals with the way an interior monologue connects a character to a place.

Writers are shy about describing or interpreting their own work. That job is up to the reader.

Anna includes first-person grounded responses to the novels she reviews, a method perfected by Janet Malcolm in *The New Yorker*.

It is easier, however, to get her to comment on the craft of writing than it is for her to

reveal any back stories about herself or her work.

"Writing ... I think it's part of my personality. If I don't have time on my own to think ... writing for me is a way of finding out what I think about something."

"For me, there's fun when something works. When words come together in a mysterious way ... I don't understand how that came together."

The novella moves between contemporary Melbourne and London and London of 1919 and that's all she's revealing.



## A blessing in disguise

By Rhonda Dredge

**Art students at the Box Hill Institute's city campus are learning how to get viewers to connect both emotionally and intellectually with their work.**

Daniel Matina's grandma Maria died six weeks ago and he's memorialising her in a painting of her last walk in the park.

The view, which is from the back, is both sad and amusing.

Artists rarely paint little old ladies out for a stroll. Old people with their walking frames are familiar but often overlooked.

Daniel, who is enrolled in a diploma of visual arts, said he had lived with his grandmother since he was six.

"For me there's a lot of fond memories walking with her," he said. His mum died when he was 11. "It was just one of those things."

Daniel and other diploma students have access to well-equipped studios on the seventh floor of the CAE Degraives St building.

Art teacher Toby Dutton is enthusiastic about the location. "There's an art shop down below and 50 galleries within a five-kilometre radius," he said. "It beats taking a mini-bus."

Artists need to learn how to disrupt the everyday thoughts of viewers to get them to look at their work. Toby had an exhibition at the City Library in 2013 called *Back and Beyond* in which all the portraits were also from the back.

"They challenge the perception of the viewer walking into a gallery," he said. "It's almost as if the subject is walking away."

The method works well for depicting people in the CBD as they hurry past, or street people who may not want to be identified. Anonymity is preserved yet the presence of a person is still recorded.

One portrait was of Marcus *The Big Issue* seller, who was a popular personality at the corner of Flinders Lane until he disappeared two years ago.

Daniel is coming to terms with his memories of Maria as he paints. "Whatever time I was able to have with her was a blessing in disguise."

## School of displacement

**The School of Displacement is an alternative place to learn about Indigenous history and future and how they relate to displacement. Its third iteration is about to open in Melbourne.**

The school is held within an enormous patchwork tent that's previously set up shop in Redfern and Newcastle, but from August 31 to September 12 will be housed at the Arts House at 521 Queensberry St in North Melbourne.

Both the physical structure and the more metaphysical school are pieces of art. Indigenous artists Keg de Souza and Claire G. Coleman led the process which intersected smoothly with the Arts House's own *Refuge* project.

Arts House artistic director Emily Sexton said the program was the result of a collaborative conversation.

"*Refuge* is a five-year project we've been working on where each year we look at how art and emergency relate to each other – particularly in relation to climate crisis," Emily said.

Themes have included flood, heat, pandemic – and now displacement.

"We do a lab at the start of the year where we

bring together emergency service workers, academics, activists, and the result is the program we've got coming up."

As part of the School of Displacement talks will be held on topics like homelessness, language, culture, water rights – all through an uncompromising lens when it comes to climate catastrophe and Indigenous rights.

"What partly makes it different is that we approach these issues by trying to deal with the future crises, not contesting whether or not they're going to happen in the first place," Emily said.

"It's an empowering project in that way even though at time it can feel sort of grim. One of the answers is that listening to Indigenous communities and about how they dealt with climate change for thousands of years is obviously a really useful thing to do."

In addition to various different First Nations communities, speakers also include a Palestinian and emergency service workers and fields of expertise range from the arts to all parts of academia and activism.

For *In a Strange Land: How Does Culture Survive When You Can't Go Home*, Palestinian performer Aseel Tayah will join Professor Omid Tofighian from the American University in Cairo and Noongar writer Casie Lynch.

Check out the rest of the program here: [artshouse.com.au/events/north-melbourne-school-of-displacement/](http://artshouse.com.au/events/north-melbourne-school-of-displacement/)



## Blissful bridge

By David Schout

**Evan Walker Bridge is noisy no more, after the footbridge connecting the CBD with Southbank was finally fixed by the City of Melbourne.**

The half-a-million-dollar upgrade included the installation of new support blocks and steel fasteners to quieten what was colloquially known as the "noisy bridge".

Users had become accustomed to the click-clacking on the pedestrian passage – named after the former Victorian planning minister – which was caused by a flaw in the design.

The noise produced by the bridge's decking had become particularly loud at the northern end near Flinders Street Station.

The Evan Walker Bridge is just one of three footbridges the council recently announced it will upgrade.

Nearby Sandridge Bridge also received \$165,000 worth of waterproofing upgrades, while Cr Capp announced \$390,000 to replace timber decking with fibre reinforced polymer decking on the Birrarung Marr footbridge between Flinders Street Station and Melbourne Park.

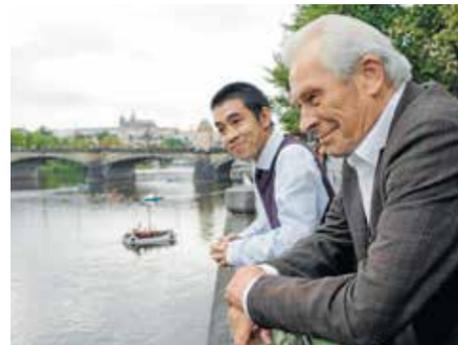
## Czech and Slovak film festival

**This September Melbourne's iconic, and newly restored, Capitol Theatre will host the annual Czech and Slovak Film Festival of Australia (CaSFFA).**

With a jam-packed four-day schedule, running from September 19 to 22, viewers can expect a rich tapestry of films, from historic screwball comedies to insightful documentaries.

2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the famously peaceful "Velvet Revolution" when 500,000 people took to the streets to demand an end to the one-party communist rule of what was then Czechoslovakia.

CaSFFA artistic director Eleanor Colla said this year's festival theme, Keys to the City,



represented the people unlocking the doors to power and taking back control of their heartland.

"This kind of defiance is perhaps best captured in our closing night film *Jan Palach*; the story of the Czech student who famously self-immolated to protest the Soviet occupation of his country," Colla said.

"This is in stark contrast to our opener, *On*

*the Roof*, an uplifting story that explores universal themes of compassion, loneliness and friendship, depicted through the eyes of a stoic senior citizen and young Vietnamese migrant."

Bringing the lighter side of Czechoslovak films is Radek Bajgar's *Shotgun Justice*, the same director as CaSFFA's 2016 hit *Tiger Theory* and Benjamin Tucek's sci-fi comedy western, *Trash on Mars*.

CaSFFA President Marcel Mihulka said the festival presented a window into the unique cultures and landscapes of the Czech and Slovak republics.

*CBD News* is a proud media partner CaSFFA for the 2019 festival. Readers can win tickets by visiting [facebook.com.au/cbdnewsmelbourne](http://facebook.com.au/cbdnewsmelbourne)

For festival ticket sales or to learn more, visit [casffa.com.au](http://casffa.com.au)

# Bartenders score a grant

By Alex Dalziel

*Melbourne's first commercially-available bar laboratory has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the City of Melbourne as part of the council's small business and social enterprise grant scheme.*

Worksmith ELLA is a bar laboratory and co-working hub located in a sleek industrial space in Melbourne Central's new ELLA food district.

The space, which opened in June, provides those new to the hospitality industry a place to experiment and sharpen their craft, as



Michael Buscetta and Robert Weston.

well as meet like-minded individuals.

"Your average bartender who is starting out is not going to get access to these facilities until they move to a bar or restaurant that is top-end," operations manager Robert Weston said.

"The idea is that it is a safe entry point, so

it's almost like 'hey come and try this for a few months, come see if it takes off and we'll support you.'

Beyond providing a space for clients to work, Worksmith also runs a number of hospitality-focused events and masterclasses. Most recently Worksmith hosted a masterclass with World Class Global Bartender of the Year winner Orlando Marzo.

The business started as a collaboration between high school friends Michael Buscetta and Roscoe Power. Michael has a history in hospitality and owns Capitano Carlton and Bar Liberty in Fitzroy, while Roscoe started his career in property development.

In 2017 they travelled the world together looking at co-working spaces. The three started Worksmith when they returned

to Melbourne, having opened their first location in Collingwood in February last year.

"One of the really good things about the dynamic between Michael and Roscoe is that Michael has the food and beverages experience and network, and then Roscoe has the property development background," Robert said.

"They are finding this sweet spot. That's one of the hardest things for people in the food and beverages industry is trying to find a space and talk to property managers, and actually build a relationship."

The small business grant will help Worksmith pay for a rotary evaporation system, a device used in chemical laboratories that has become popular among inventive bartenders to prepare unique drinks.

## Business



Awards winners (third from left) Jason Fischer, (fourth) Dr Stephan Muller and (fifth) Derek Scott with Haileybury executive staff on August 16.

# New year, same success

By Jack Hayes

Haileybury College has continued its winning ways, with another impressive showing at the 2019 Australian Education Awards (AEA) at Dockside Sydney.

As industry-wide leaders in innovation, school programming and international vision, the King St school capped off another successful year in the non-government school system by taking home three awards.

Principal Derek Scott was named Australian Principal of the Year, with Jason Fischer taking out Department Head of the Year. The school also won Best

Professional Learning Program.

No stranger to the podium at the AEA, Mr Scott said the awards recognised Haileybury's world-class people and programs.

"This outstanding result reflects the enormous effort that Haileybury's staff, students and parents make to ensure that our school offers exceptional educational opportunities," he said.

"As one of Australia's most successful schools, we work hard to ensure that our programs are second to none but also ensure that every child matters every day."

Haileybury will need to make there is some space in the trophy cabinet following a 2018 awards night which saw it take home Australian School of the Year, among other awards.

For information on school tours and enrolment visit [haileybury.vic.edu.au](http://haileybury.vic.edu.au)

# Spice up your Wednesdays

Wednesday nights at Queen Victoria Market (QVM) will continue to be a Melbourne hotspot for food and entertainment, with the springtime return of the Hawker 88 Night Market.

The Hawker 88 Night Market will fill the oriental buffet-sized void left between winter and summer night markets every Wednesday night from September 18 to October 23.

Over six weeks, visitors can explore different regions of the Orient through the five senses to learn more about their

cuisine, culture and traditions.

Step under the Market's iconic sheds and feast on authentic street food from Thailand to India, Vietnam to Korea, and Malaysia to Japan with more than 20 food stalls.

To complete the experience, the sounds and colours of Asia will fill the Market sheds with live music and entertainment, including traditional dancers and performers taking centre stage. Expect everything from a traditional Chinese lion dance, to martial arts and K-Pop.

The Hawker 88 Night Market is location between sheds K-L (Queen St to Peel St) and entry is free.

With the flavours of the Orient taking over the Market, Wednesday August 28 is the last chance to get your mulled wine and winter feasting fix before the Winter Night Market disappears for another year.



Residents 3000

# Augmenting your reality in Flinders Quarter

Just in case you didn't know, the Flinders Quarter in Melbourne's CBD, is the area bordered by Collins, Flinders, Elizabeth and Swanston streets.

The precinct is famous for its street art, cosy laneways and arcades, eclectic small businesses and heritage buildings. It is a special part of the city loved by residents and tourists alike.

But now, from mid-August until September 14, you can wander the area to view a collection of 12 new and existing artworks that are brought to life with augmented reality (AR). The magic is made possible with an AR app called *EyeJack* that you download to your mobile phone or digital device. The guided tour and app presentation has been sponsored by the Metro Tunnel project.

To start your tour, you pick up a map from the Metro Tunnel HQ on Swanston St or from selected Flinders Quarter businesses, Melbourne cafés and shops. Then off you go to enjoy a new experience! All you have to



do is point your device at one of the artworks with the *EyeJack* app activated, press the white button and you will be amazed to see the art come alive with animation, seemingly moving away from the wall, turning into a 3D image that changes in many ways in time with accompanying music. Delightful!

The walk encompasses a diverse collection of artworks over multiple sites, featuring works by celebrated Australian artists including Vexta, The Huxleys, Adele Varcoe, Alex Mitchell, Chelsea Gustafsson, Jacob Leary and Sutu (Stu Campbell).

As you travel up, down and around

Flinders Quarter, you will also discover, or re-discover, the precinct's diverse independent businesses. There are plenty of places to stop for coffee and a bite to eat mid-walk and the quarter is home to some of the coolest local designers, makers and labels. You could easily lose an hour or two in the iconic Nicholas Building and acquaint yourself with the famous *Chloe* painting in the Young and Jackson building.

## Residents 3000 annual general meeting (AGM)

As with last year, Residents 3000 is pleased to welcome Lord Mayor Sally Capp to address our members and guests. This is a wonderful opportunity to be updated on the progress made since Sally has taken over leadership at the City of Melbourne. There will be time for residents to ask questions and to give our Mayor feedback about the good and not so good aspects of life in the CBD.

The event will be held on Thursday, September 5 at 6:30pm. We suggest arriving at 6 for registration and to enjoy a chat and a drink from the Kelvin Club's extensive bar. Details to be posted on our web site at [residents3000.com.au](http://residents3000.com.au)

Following the formal part of the meeting, we will be entertained by composer/pianist/jazz singer Monique diMattina who, apart from being a Fulbright scholar, is a regular performer on Australian and international stages. Monique is known for her ABC radio segment in which she composes and performs bespoke songs to listener requests. She has released seven albums on the Head record label. Find out more about her at [moniquedimattina.com](http://moniquedimattina.com)

As usual, refreshments will be served towards the end of the event.

Be aware that the Residents 3000 AGM is the time when a new committee is elected. If you are interested in city affairs and would like to volunteer, please let our president Rafael ([rafael@residents3000.com.au](mailto:rafael@residents3000.com.au)) know or nominate on the night.



**Susan Saunders**

vice president  
Ph: 0412 566 606  
email: [sue@residents3000.com.au](mailto:sue@residents3000.com.au)



We Live Here

# Small print shrinks state cladding fund

Premier Daniel Andrews' cladding fund might be able to help a tiny percentage of apartment buildings with dangerous cladding.

The small print in the recent Victorian Building Authority (VBA) report explained that more than half the headline-grabbing \$300 million fund would be earmarked to fix the cladding on the government's own buildings.

Less than \$150 million will be left over for ordinary folk living in combustible apartments.

At an average remediation cost of \$5 million per building, the fund is just enough to take care of the cladding on perhaps 30 buildings.

That's about three per cent of the 1069 buildings that the Victorian Cladding Taskforce deemed a "risk to life".

This cladding fund seems to be scant propitiation for the government's significant role in this whole scandal - having overseen the disastrous "self-regulation" regime.

And three per cent is long way short of "half" the fire-risk buildings that the state government said it would help.

Meanwhile, another cladding fire in Canberra this month, ignited by a discarded cigarette on a balcony, has once more highlighted the issue.

And Minister for Planning Richard Wynne made the headlines in a case being prosecuted against a building surveyor who signed off on dangerous cladding for several buildings.

Please remember that the state government was the architect and, for decades, the arbiter and enforcer of the disastrous building self-regulation regime. This was a system that sanctioned the

wholesale approval of substandard and dangerous works by government-accredited, private building surveyors.

As a major beneficiary of the runaway building boom, the government's role in the genesis of today's cladding calamity is both intimate and comprehensive.

The state's desultory oversight of a cavalier and corrupt industry over so many years is an unmitigated failure of duty of care that cannot be extenuated with a monthly, hyperbolic sound-bite from Spring St.

We expect much more from our government than empty funding promises and animated blame-shifting.

Mr Andrews and Mr Wynne, how about forgoing the false magnanimity and confected indignation? Just accept responsibility for the mess and do something concrete.

Sadly, so many state governments around Australia are guilty of the same monumentally incompetent supervision of building standards.

Again, we urge the federal government to call a Royal Commission into the building industry and the appalling multi-billion-dollar legacy that ordinary Australians are now paying for.

## OC Act reforms fall short

We are very concerned about loopholes in the state government's exposure draft of the proposed reformed *Owners Corporation Act*.

We Live Here has been campaigning for years against blatantly unfair building and facilities management contracts.

Many unconscionable contracts have opaque costs, embedded commissions and irrevocable terms of many decades.

*The Financial Review* reported this month a case of a 99-year embedded network contract!

This type of inequity needs to be eliminated.

The government has drafted a clause in the proposed draft legislation to prevent onerous long-term contracts that "benefit the applicant for registration of the plan of subdivision", i.e. the developer.

The huge loophole here is that the developer can offer a benevolent gift of a lucrative multi-generational contract to a "mate" who happens to be in effective control of an unrelated company or entity. Different company, different directors - too easy.

This ruse would still be possible despite the draft reforms. Legally, or ostensibly, the developer does not benefit - a fairy tale that we lack the credulity to swallow, despite the legislators' disposition.

Many of the unfair contract examples we are being sent by disaffected owners corporations show that the developers and contracted companies are well known to each other but legally unrelated.

The reform required is simple: just limit the term of all third-party owners' corporation (OC) contracts to three years, renewable at the OC's option - regardless of who benefits. Otherwise the proposed reform will be just ludicrously simple to rot.

This legislation needs to allow owners

to seek a ruling from Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) on fairness and equity principles for all existing contracts of more than three years, not just new contracts signed since 2017.

Many of these unfair "mates" deals for 25, 30 and 99 years obviously still have many years or decades to run.

Developers and building managers have been prodigiously ingenious in forging new constraints to create generational, iron-clad contracts, such as:

- procedural restrictions imposed on the revocation of an appointment;
- contractors renewing the appointment at their option;
- automatic renewal of the contract of appointment if the OC fails to give notice of its intention not to renew; and
- restricting the ability of an OC to refuse consent to the assignment of a contract.

To see the We Live Here submission to the Consumer Affairs Victoria OC Act review, search online for "Owners Corporations and Other Acts Amendment Bill - Exposure Draft consultation".

We Live Here believes these contract inequity issues must be addressed as a matter of urgency before the final version of the Bill is released.



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

# Outside Nott's confectioners

This photograph was taken outside the shop of confectioner Thomas Nott in about 1900. He'd been in business for about 50 years by then and boasted that he made the best sweets for children in Melbourne.

They were "thoroughly wholesome, absolutely pure", according to his advertisements. And at first glance, if you go by the crowd outside his shop in this summertime photograph, they were thoroughly welcomed by adults, as well as children.

It's probably just as well for me that Nott's Confectioners closed its doors in the 1920s. I would definitely have been among the crowd you see here outside the shop, probably walking alongside the girl to the left of the photo with her waist-length hair tied back in a ribbon, boater on head and almost ankle-length summer dress; the only female among a sea of men of varying ages. We were not huge consumers of lollies in our family, although I seem to recall that my threepence pocket money was largely spent on the biggest, most glamorous sweets I could buy for my money. I also recall that my first visit to the dentist was when I was about seven,



Outside 222 Collins St, 1900. GS-CS-17 from the Royal Historical Society Victoria collection.

so perhaps my mother should have been even stricter on the sugar intake. It's ironic, then, that the site of Nott's is now part of the Manchester Unity Building, a marvellous modern Gothic structure on the corner of Collins and Swanston streets and the home of my dentist, so I know that building quite well.

In the days when the photograph was taken, Nott's next-door neighbour was Gustave Damman, a tobacconist located on the corner of Collins and Swanston streets, just across the road from the Melbourne Town Hall, which you can see in the background of this photo. It seems likely, then, that the men in the photo,

some wearing boaters, some bowlers, some smoking, one leaning on his bicycle, were patrons of Damman's rather than Nott's. Perhaps it's lunchtime and they have congregated there for a quick lunchtime smoke and chat before heading back to business. The young man in the boater, leaning on a cane in the centre of the photo has a drawstring bag at his feet, so it's possible he's a member of the legal profession and this is his robe bag. There were many legal chambers in Collins St, so perhaps the men are members of the legal fraternity enjoying a little summer sunshine.

If you follow Collins St east and up the hill beyond the Town Hall, you will reach its "top end"; the "Paris end". With its elegant buildings and exclusive shops such as George's Emporium, it was considered the most fashionable street in Melbourne. The closest I ever got to shopping in this part of Collins St was when I bought a pair of shoes at Hermann's (near the Baptist Church and only a short distance from where this photo was taken) and blew several weeks' pay but they were worth it! Across the road from the Baptist Church is the Regent Theatre with its magnificent interior. It wasn't there when this photo was taken. The Regent, then styled a "picture palace", arrived on the scene in 1929, just at the start of the 1930s Depression. Next door to that was City Square, but not until the late '60s, early '70s. It was constructed on the site of the

Queen Victoria Building, diagonally opposite the site of Nott's confectionery shop, where today you are greeted by high fences around the construction site of the CBD South Station, part of the Metro Rail Tunnel scheme.

Travel in the opposite direction, and a little further west you will find one of my favourite places in the CBD - The Block Arcade. In the early 1970s as a young adult, my friends and I headed there for an elegant morning tea at the Hopetoun Tearooms when we wanted to treat ourselves, then strolled through the arcade marvelling at its style and splendour. We'd make sure we were at the Royal Arcade as Gog and Magog struck the hour on the clock near the Bourke St end of the arcade. This was one of my favourite childhood memories. When we visited from Ballarat, where we lived in the 1950s, we always visited Gog and Magog then walked a little further east along Collins St, crossed the road and had lunch at the Wild Cherry Café. To me, as a six or seven-year-old, this was the height of sophistication! Today, I rarely find anyone else who remembers the Wild Cherry, but occasionally I stop and watch Gog and Magog and notice someone of a similar age to me standing back and quietly watching the two giant figures at work.

**Dr. Cheryl Griffin**  
Royal Historical Society of Victoria

## Trader Profile

# Farm gate goodness in the heart of the city

Queen Victoria Market's (QVM) go-to man for milk, eggs and honey Luke Graczyk has been providing locals with the essentials for more than 10 years.

Market regulars would be well familiar with the Eggporium under Shed I near the corner of Queen and Therry streets with its vast range of produce from some of Australia's best farms.

Luke's family has been in the egg industry for more than 20 years and had been supplying the Eggporium for a long time before Luke took over the business in 2012. Since then, it has truly transformed into a QVM institution, offering eggs of all varieties, milk fresh from the farm gate and more than 200 different product lines of honey.

"Our main focus is just providing really good, fresh stuff, right in the city which you can't get most of at the supermarkets. You'd have to go to farm gates to get it so to have access to that sort of produce right here in the city is a real point of difference," Luke said.

The Eggporium specialises in providing certified organic and free-range eggs, which compared to their caged counterparts, are packed with more vitamins and nutrients,



Luke Graczyk at the Eggporium.

while containing less cholesterol and saturated fats.

Whether you're after organic, free-range, brown, white, duck or even quail eggs, the Eggporium only offers the freshest range of eggs from local farms across Victoria.

"Eggs, in terms of nutrients, you're not going to get much better than anything that size; good protein and they provide heaps of different vitamins," Luke said.

"All of the milk and eggs come from small family owned suppliers. There are quite a few out in Gippsland and Western Victoria and some closer from Cranbourne, Devon Meadows, Lara, Werribee and there are a

couple of interstate farms but most of them are pretty local."

While eggs might take centre stage at the Eggporium, it's the stall's incredible range of honeys that have been attracting growing attention from customers based on increased awareness about their amazing health benefits, according to Luke.

The stall stocks honeys from Australia and New Zealand with all the varieties you could imagine, such as leatherwood, Manuka, organic, organic, red gum, stringy bark, yellow box, local flora, banksia, clover, jarrah, honeycomb chunks ... and the list goes on!

"The health aspects and medicinal uses for honey have been going through the roof in the last few years," Luke said. "People have really been starting to understand it now so that's great."

"Health wise it's great for cold and flu, immune and gut health and people are using it a lot for external topical stuff now. People often use it for treating infections, tinea on feet, scarring."

"I actually had one customer who had a huge cancerous tumour hanging off her face and no conventional medicine could get rid of it. After about of year of Manuka on it, it fell off. It was ridiculous and she swears nothing else worked like it."

"With natural stuff that will work with some people, but others' makeups are different, and it won't work as well for them, but the right product on the right person honey can do absolute wonders."

While Luke said that the uncertainty and lack of security surrounding the forthcoming renewal of QVM made operating his business somewhat of a challenge at present, he said there was no greater place to work or community to be a part of.

"It's the social interaction with traders and customers I love the most. It's not like any other workplace," he said. "It's a massive community here."

The Eggporium is located at stall 43-45 under I Shed on Queen St. For more information or to order online visit [theeggporium.com.au](http://theeggporium.com.au)

Metro Tunnel

# Flinders St eastbound lanes closure

As works to build the new Town Hall Station ramp up, the eastbound lanes of Flinders St, between Swanston and Elizabeth streets, will close from September for up to three years.

The closure will enable construction of an underground passenger connection from the new Town Hall Station to Flinders Street Station, between Swanston and Degraves streets.

Trams will continue to run in both directions, except from October 2 to 7.

Pedestrian and vehicle access will be maintained for local businesses and residents, with a new pedestrian crossing built near Degraves St.

In addition to facilitating construction

of the interchange, which will enable passengers to transfer from Town Hall Station to Flinders Street Station without passing through ticket gates, the east bound lane closures will halve the number of truck movements on Swanston St during peak construction, boosting safety for pedestrians, cyclists and other motorists.

For more information on Town Hall Station visit [metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au)

## Flinders Quarter Augmented Art Walk

See Melbourne's CBD and its public art like you've never seen it before, as part of the Metro Tunnel Project's Augmented Art Walk.

This month, you can interact with 14 artworks as they are animated with virtual reality technology when seen through a phone or iPad.

Take the self-guided walk around Flinders Quarter and discover a diverse range of artworks by local and Australian artists using

your Android or iPhone – download the free *EyeJack* augmented reality app and watch art come to life with movement and sound.

The walk starts at Metro Tunnel HQ, 125 – 133 Swanston St, where you can pick up a map, then find your way to Vexta's *The Rising Orb: Hope* mural in Degraves Place.

From here follow the map, keeping an eye out for Flinders Quarter stickers at artwork locations around the Metro Tunnel Project's Town Hall Station construction site near Flinders and Swanston streets, including the Nicholas Building and Scott Alley.

At the Young & Jackson Hotel, on the corner of Swanston and Flinders streets, iconic nude portrait *Chloe* becomes animated when viewed through a phone screen, with images of envelopes containing love letters from soldiers floating around *Chloe*.

Artworks can also be discovered at the City Library, DoubleTree by Hilton, Bared Shoes (Manchester Lane) and underground

in Campbell Arcade.

The Flinders Quarter Augmented Art Walk is a Metro Tunnel Project business support initiative.

Get involved and share your #flindersquarter #metrotunnel experience. Find out more on Facebook and Instagram by following @flindersquarter @metrotunnelvic

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



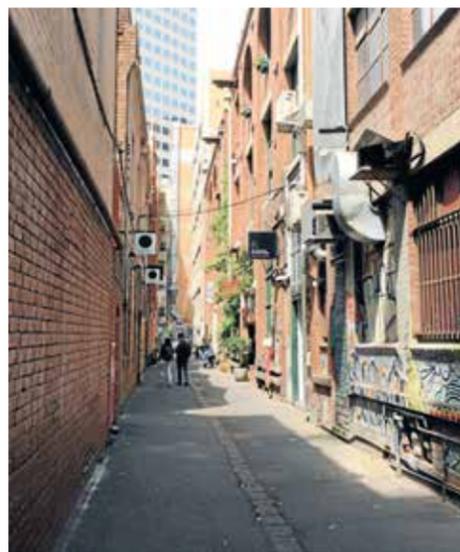
Heritage

# Protecting our sacred laneways

As reported earlier in this issue of CBD news, after a two-year long process, Minister for Planning Richard Wynne signed off this month on one of the City of Melbourne's most ambitious heritage protection studies in decades.

The move sees heritage overlays now extending over Guildford Lane, the Hardware/Little Bourke area and much of Elizabeth St.

The protection of a myriad of laneways and buildings in this study area has been a key focus for Melbourne Heritage Action (MHA) since our group was founded in 2010, and it's fantastic to see years of lobbying



paying off, with the new heritage precincts almost mirroring suggestions we've been making since 2014.

While some buildings were excluded in the study area which we thought were worthy of protection, such as the Duke of Kent Hotel, which currently lies derelict and has been flipped for sale by the developer who closed it as a pub and successfully applied to demolish it. Another is Melbourne House, a 1920s office building in Little Bourke St which may also soon face demolition.

Debate continues over Chart House in Little Bourke St, which the study erroneously labelled as non-contributory to the heritage streetscape. MHA has provided evidence proving the building is intact and built earlier than the study found, which has subsequently been accepted. However, with a live application for demolition, it will be up to the City of Melbourne to negotiate a compromised development which hopefully retains at least the facade of this unique 1940s building with its original shopfronts and early modernist design.

Overall, however, the study is a huge win

for heritage values.

Areas like Hardware and Guildford lanes are the lifeblood of Melbourne, hosting all sorts of creative practices, cafe culture and niche businesses. They are a great example of what happens when cities protect their small heritage buildings, with oddly shaped layouts and quirks. It is proof of one of MHA's foundational assertions: that heritage is not about creating museum pieces to sit alongside a modern city, but about allowing a modern city to thrive through both old and new, with more than one use or demographic inhabiting it, and with a memory as well as a diverse future.



**Rohan Storey**  
Vice President  
**Melbourne Heritage Action**

## Open for business

Flora Indian Restaurant: 238 Flinders Street

During construction of the new Town Hall Station, Flora will remain open for business. Flora is a no-frills counter-service diner serving delicious and authentic Indian cuisine. Try the local favourite Butter Chicken or grab yourself a popular small combo dish for under \$11. Open everyday until late, come in for lunch, dinner or even a late-night snack!

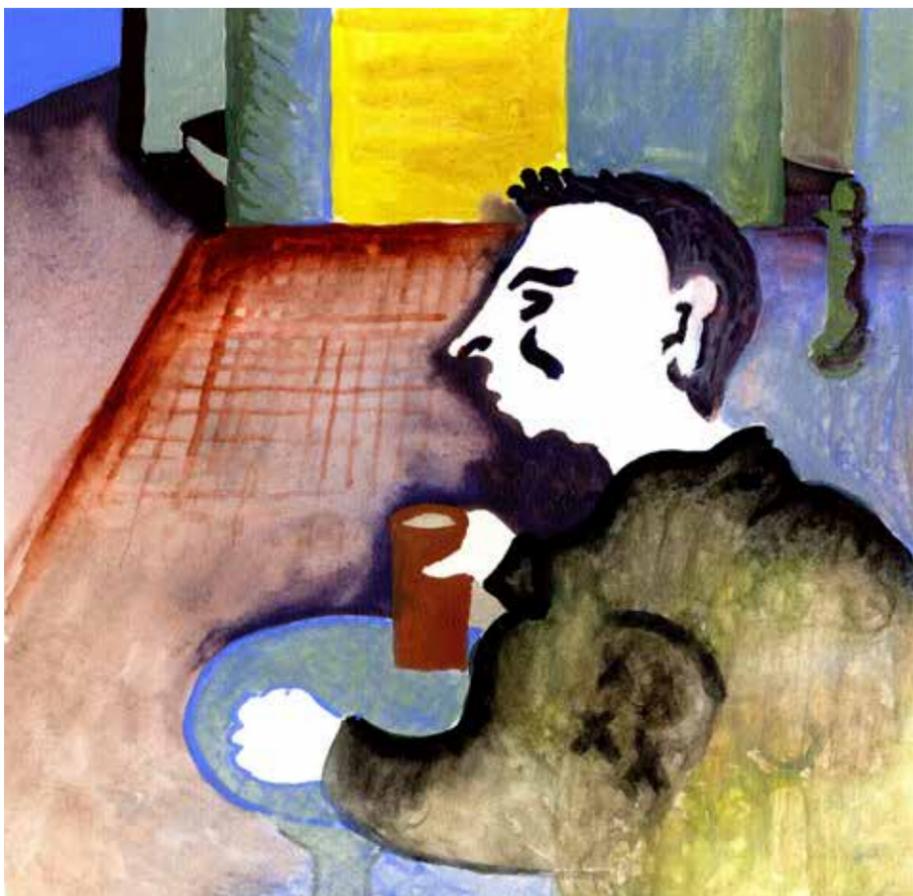
For more information visit [metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au)



More trains,  
more often



Lunch Break



**Alex ordered a beer**

*Kirk's Wine Bar. Hardware Lane*

Critic



**Casual encounters with the past**

By Rhonda Dredge

Radical families are inspiring and the van Schaiks are a name when it comes to the CBD, in architecture and now art.

In fact, Leon van Schaik, Emeritus Professor of Architecture at RMIT could be named a CBD hero.

Back in the '80s when heritage remakes were the rage, he was responsible for commissioning some of RMIT's wild buildings, such as the bright green deconstructionist Storey Hall.

"I supported local creative talent," Leon told *CBD News*, but he also protected RMIT's iconic red brick buildings and laboratories.

"They wanted to pull them down," he said.

Standing up for your principles is a van Schaik ideology that has been passed down in the family to Leon's daughter Andrée.

Her exhibition of paintings at Neon Parc gallery with the work and a crowd of architects come to show their respects was a rare pleasure.

The paintings, which are small, portable and priced under \$1000, fit neatly into the contemporary painting scene while creating casual encounters with the past.

Andrée van Schaik features at Neon Parc, 1/53 Bourke St until August 31.

Andrée appears to relish the privilege of modernism to be relaxed about meanings or to eschew them altogether.

"I think the pieces reflect pastiche," she said. "They have an internal charge. It's kind of subtle. I can't put my finger on it and I don't want to."

She uses the collages as a design guide then focuses on the pleasure of painting.

"I don't think about philosophy while I'm doing it. It's all there in the back of my head."

Some of the works move into picture-

making, such as the tableau of jewellery pieces in Haeckel, while there are traces of Matisse in the red figurative building depicted in Tropic.

In all there are 19 paintings, drawn together more by size and method than content.

To be in this small modernist Neon Parc gallery with the work and a crowd of architects come to show their respects was a rare pleasure.

The paintings, which are small, portable and priced under \$1000, fit neatly into the contemporary painting scene while creating casual encounters with the past.

Andrée van Schaik features at Neon Parc, 1/53 Bourke St until August 31.



Artwork: Skin, Top: Train.

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SWA113E

# To teach is to listen

In 13 different spaces within the City of Melbourne, 1500 retirees regularly congregate for classes as part of the University of the Third Age (U3A).

Charles Klassen teaches a short course on the Literature of Power, Law and Justice that begins with the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, moves through Greek and Egyptian justice, the Middle Ages, and David Williamson to Aboriginal justice today.

And all in just six weeks.

"A lot of people have a lot of experience with justice," Charles - whose career was spent as a high school English teacher - said as he pointed out that the art of teaching mature age students was listening.

"What impresses me is that the teachers are open - it's totally different to teaching young students because they don't have much background," he said.

"When you're teaching mature students, sometimes they have expertise and knowledge that you don't have."

"It's not just lecturing; it's listening to them."

That's why Charles starts his class with an informal discussion, initiated but not dominated by his Canadian accent. His class discusses experiences with the tax office and the power of bureaucracy.



Charles Klassen.

His U3A experience began as a student, too, when he moved to Melbourne two years

ago from Sydney.

In 1969 he met an Australian nurse at

home in Canada. Three years later they'd moved to Sydney and they stayed there until 2017.

"We moved to Melbourne to be with our children and grandchildren. We have four sons, two of them are in Melbourne with five grandchildren here."

One of his sons is in Brunswick, the other in North Melbourne, so he said he and his wife got an apartment in the CBD to be as close as possible to both at the same time.

His wife is involved with U3A's film, museums and historical walks courses.

For Charles, adult life has been all about teaching. He retired as a high school teacher 15 years ago and moved into teaching the card game bridge full time.

He said of all U3A events he's been involved with his favourite was a reading of the World War One poets - like Wilfred Owen and Rupert Brooke - at Deakin's Edge.

"It was read by a number of different men who got up and were really well choreographed and developed. It was really moving."

## SkyPad Living

# Vertical living style

Our apartment layouts might be uniform, but our interiors need not be!

Advice abounds about how we, vertical villagers, can decorate our small spaces.

We are advised to delineate areas, go vertical with storage, choose a light colour palette (or alternatively) go bold, add layers for depth - and most important of all - invest in appropriate furniture.

But just what is appropriate for our space-challenged apartments?

Scanning the many guidelines offered by small space stylists, current advice cautions us not to take the "dollhouse approach", meaning that we should not simply shrink our furnishing and outfit our abodes with tiny furniture.

According to course director of interior architecture at Swinburne University Kirsten Day, the best types of furniture to use in small spaces are simple open-framed chairs and tables, furniture with light frames, steel or timber, and open backs. She further advises that fitted living room furniture with built-in side tables that hug the wall is better than large single units and isolated tables. And Kirsten is also an advocate for flexible space (i.e. multi-purpose arrangements).

To date, flexible space in Australia has focused on transforming furniture - sofas which turn into beds, coffee tables which change into dining tables, etc. The more radical options, such as moving robotic walls, were the stuff of futuristic design fairs.

### But things are about to change

Swedish furniture giant IKEA is teaming up with US start-up, Ori, to create such a robotic furniture product.

Ori's current collection includes a "pocket closet" (an expanding and concealable wardrobe) and in conjunction with IKEA, Ori is developing the *ROGNAN* solution which enables a bedroom to transform into a living and working space.

"More IKEA ..." I hear you sigh.

And it is a common lament that in being one of the few retailers that offer reasonably priced furniture suited to our space, that many small apartments can look like a page from an IKEA catalogue.

### Enter the IKEA hack

As many know, IKEA hacking has been growing in popularity for some time with entire sites now dedicated to sharing tips. Early on, the Swedish retailer "disliked" this idea but they have changed their tune, even offering ideas themselves.

IKEA hacking started with the re-engineering of IKEA pieces to serve another purpose but increasingly, these hacks focus on customising the appearance of the skandi furniture - the decorative hack.

In recognising this desire to customise one's IKEA, the past few years have seen several start-ups emerge which offer different ways of doing this. Among these are Norse Interiors, Reform, Panyl, Hølte and even our own Australian LUX.

At Norse Interiors (USA), they offer "luxurious, custom-made replacement pieces to turn IKEA furniture storage into

bespoke works of art." Customers choose the colour and design of pieces which fit over existing IKEA furniture.

Reform's offer is more a swap-out of kitchen fronts and countertops which they promise are easy to combine with IKEA's basic and popular modules.

Hølte, a London-based studio, provides a high-end version of this aftermarket alteration service, offering an array of coloured handles, countertop surfaces and hand-finished cabinet fronts.

Deviating from this refit approach, Panyl and our own LUX offer more accessible ways of customising - no screw drivers needed!

Panyl is a do-it-yourself furniture wrap which comes in multiple colours and wood grain textures.

Meanwhile LUX offers a range of overlay panels along with a selection of handles, legs and feet which can be combined for a "designer look on a flat-pack budget". LUX's products are Australian designed and made, and LUX is Australian owned and operated - which could mark the beginning of an interesting OZ-scandi fusion!

So, before you send your IKEA unit to landfill, think about "hacking out" a second life.



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

## Letters to the Editor



### Congratulations

I would like to congratulate journalist Meg Hill for her article "Beggar déjà vu". A well-constructed and researched piece which turned over the rocks of the "beggar narratives" that have dogged our community for years and will no doubt continue.

I appreciated Meg's analysis and deeper delve into the various issues. Thanks for guiding and clarifying. I will continue to support these people whenever I can.

Thanks Meg!  
Katharine

### Closure a no-go

As a trader in Elizabeth St for a number of years, I have objected to the permanent closure of Elizabeth St southbound in the block between Little Lonsdale and Lonsdale streets. Along with the closure of Elizabeth northbound in the block to Latrobe St, I believe this will cause traffic chaos in Little Lonsdale; a street which is overtaxed as it is.

David



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

## Music

# Planet B

The Steve Lucas and Friends EP *By Request* launched this winter is an impromptu selection of songs dedicated to the memory of legendary blues musician Chris Wilson.

Steve Lucas, the mercurial muso who founded the punk band X travelled to San Diego, California to team up with a bunch of sensational Mexican musicians, recording four songs. The bass player from The Zeros Hector Penalosa is in the band that plays on the *By Request* EP and *Before The Next Teardrop Falls* has singing in both English and Spanish. The full album cover is a great picture of a snowy vista that includes a sign for The Joshua Tree Inn by the roadside.

There is a distinctive twangy Americana feel to this project, and there is a piano accordion bright and prominent in the mix. *He'll Have To Go* has some fine south of the border guitar strumming and again we have the multi-lingual dimension of Spanish and English. A sweet and succinct song. *Sad Days Girl* is a poignant vignette sung with vim and brio by Lucas, and again one of the verses is in Spanish.

This four track EP is a ripper and should be available at all good record stores in the CBD as well as at the *Steve Lucas Band Camp* page. The four songs were recorded at Earthling Studios in San Diego and were mixed by Mike Kamoo. You should also be able to hear selections of these songs on Denise Hylands' *Twang* radio show on 3RRR.

There is also a full album of 10 tracks that concludes with a snappy *Heartbreak Hotel*, a staple in The Heinous Hounds sets. *Down By The River* is a great song reprised on the full album with a full flavoured band sound. The remaining six songs on the album were recorded in Melbourne at Studio and On The Mount and are mixed by Steve Lucas. There is a more Neil Young in the country feel to these songs. *All Things Gonna Lead Me To Your Door* has a real ever loving man feel to it, which also reminds one of Daddy Cool. *You Think I'd Know Better* has some tremendous keyboards in the mix and the backing vocals are well balanced in the mix. It's a tremendous song and Steve Lucas is in fine form on the vocals.

*Maybe You'd Be Mine* is a beautiful alt-country song, and gets chugging along in the middle section with panache. There is also some fine harmonica playing towards the end of the song. *By Request* by Steve Lucas and Friends is worth your attention.

Steve Lucas also performed as one of the Heinous Hounds at the final Cherry Blues Sunday afternoon blues sessions at The Cherry Bar at ACDC Lane. Heinous Hounds have elevated over the past couple of years and are one of the best bands playing around Melbourne. Matt Dwyer sang a great version of Johnny Cash's *Folsom Prison Blues*, while bass player Jerome Smith was at his swaggering best on *I'm Ready*. Dave Hogan was in blistering form on the harmonica and Steve Lucas was in fine fettle on lead vocals. The instrumental *Lazy Lou* was one of the highlights of the day. The interplay between Lucas and Dwyer on guitars was at times reminiscent of Ronnie Wood and

Keith Richards from the Rolling Stones. They have developed a fine sense of playing together, and Jerome Smith has it locked down solid in the pocket. Dave Hogan adds fuel to the fire with sharp, succinct and gutsy blues harmonica playing. Cherry Bar will be relocating to a new central location in the city in the next month.

Plum Green will be having its *Lions In Darkness* EP launch happening at The Curtin on Sunday, September 8. Plum Green has a grungy noir gothic sound. Its previous album featuring *Baby Bird* is available at record stores around Melbourne. Supporting on the night will be Sam Haven and Rach Brennan and The Pines.

CASEY Bebenek, the dynamic ambient instrumental duo of Adam Casey (cello) and Julia Bebenek (drums) have been performing, recording and releasing every month a series of long form nature inspired atmospheric improv concerts that are very treasureworthy. Their music is available on the *CASEY Bebenek Band Camp* page.

On Tuesday, August 6 classical piano player Jonathon Xian performed at the Music Matinee at The Scots Church, situated on the corner of Collins and Russell streets. Jonathon Xian won first prize in the fourth series of The Talent on 3MBS in 2018, a live music performance opportunity on radio that helps artists develop their performing skills. Also, to his credit, Jonathon was selected to perform in the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition. On the menu at The Scots Church was Bach's *Chaconne in D minor, BWV 1004*, *Brahms Intermezzo in A major, Op 118, No. 2* and Franck's *Prelude, Chorale and Fugue, FWV 21*.

Xian had performed Franck's *Prelude, Chorale and Fugue* on a previous occasion at the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition and it was the highlight performance at his music matinee performance at The Scots Church. Franck wrote this music in 1884 and it comprises three movements. Director Luchino Visconti featured this music in a prominent manner in his 1965 Italian movie *Sandra*. The movie starred Claudia Cardinale and Jean Sorel. Jonathan Xian played the piece with great dexterity and finesse. The cyclical nature where the themes of the prelude and chorale make a return in the fugue. Jonathan also performs in Bottled Snail Productions, a production company comprising of members of Melbourne's legal fraternity. Bottled Snail Productions are presenting their *Lawchestra: Pomp, Peer Gynt and a Premiere* at Mic James Tatoulis Auditorium in Kew on Sunday, September 15.

- Ainslie Wills album launch - Howler (Brunswick), August 30
- CASEY Bebenek, Jibber Jabber Sound Club (Castlemaine), September 2
- Ride - Forum Theatre, September 5
- Chris Cohen, Deborah Conway and Vivien Goldman - Melbourne Recital Centre, September 8
- Plum Green - The Curtin Hotel, September 8
- The Maine - 170 Russell, Sunday, September 22



Chris Mineral

email:  
mineralsands@hotmail.com

## Pet's Corner



## Shy fashion model

By Rhonda Dredge

Stevie is a shy whippet more at home snuggling into a couch than living in the limelight as a model.

But in the last month she has been on the *Today* show and in the *Herald Sun* modelling a skivvy.

She prefers a fashionable black when she's at an art opening but light grey or charcoal suits on other occasions.

"I take her everywhere, shopping down Little Collins, wine bars and cafes, exhibitions," her owner Jemma Thomas said.

A thoroughly urban dog, Stevie lives in a fourth-floor studio apartment on Scott Alley and works in the city, modelling two fashion ranges for Jemma's online business

COAT Label.

"Whippets feel the cold big time," Jemma said. "They have low body fat and short hair. They need to be snug and warm."

She designed the coats because she couldn't stand the gimmicky products available.

"Denim jackets shrunk down for dogs! There was nothing firm-fitting, sleek or sophisticated."

Her Merino wool jersey coats sell around the world and her latest product is a Snoot, a cross between a hood and a scarf.

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## 巷道获得正式保护

维州政府已经正式批准采纳了新中央商务区遗产保护覆盖修正案，该法案是墨尔本市政在2017年提出的。

州规划厅长理查德·韦恩(Richard Wynne)于8月16日批准了该修正案。这个保护措施建议来自建筑师洛弗尔·陈(Lovell Chen)在2017年提交的一份报告，该报告被市政接受并得以提倡。

这个c271修正案给予吉尔福德(Guildford)巷道和哈德威尔(Hardware)巷道区域永久的遗产保护。自去年以来，这些遗址巷道一直处于临时的保护之下。

墨尔本市政遗产保护发言人罗汉·莱珀特(Rohan Leppert)议员说，厅长在政府公报上公布了本市政的吉尔福德和哈德威尔巷道的遗产保护修正案，我们对此感到高兴。

莱珀特议员说：“这是墨尔本市政工作人员、遗产顾问和倡导者多年工作的成果，所有这些都是为了更新我们的遗产管理，保护我们这个不断变化的城市中这一显著部分的独特性。”

哈德威尔巷道曾是墨尔本赛马训练业的中心，如今因鹅卵石路面和伞篷而在这座城市中脱颖而出。

吉尔福德巷的东西走向和连接小巷营造出了红砖村的氛围。它原来就有工厂、仓库和有影响力的新剧院。

这个覆盖修正案中还包括巷道附近多个地点。

韦恩厅长说，这些巷道有着“丰富有趣的历史”。

他说：“我们希望它们受到保护，以便后代能够享用。”

“像很多维多利亚人一样，我在哈德威尔巷也度过了一些美好的夜晚，这些新的遗产保护法意味着我们的后代也能有同样的美好经历。”



## 市中心成为“指定区域”了

撰稿Meg Hill

过去十年来，维州警察在中央商务区的权力已越来越大，因为他们的警力重点已转移到抗议活动上来了。

在2009年的“武器控制法1900”修正案中，维多利亚州警察有权宣布一个“指定区域”，在该区域内，他们有权扩大搜查力度和行使进一步的权力。

此举是当时的布伦比(Brumby)政府和维多利亚警察厅为了应对青少年犯罪明显增加，尤其是涉及刀具和其他武器的犯罪而制定的。

负责全维州警察问责项目的弗莱明顿(Flemington)和肯辛屯(Kensington)法律中心的执行官安东尼·凯利(Anthony Kelly)表示，旨在应对这一犯罪增长的搜查力度收效甚微。

他说，最初的“指定区域和搜查”通常位于城郊的火车站，

发现“尽管有全面的搜查和金属探测器，但武器发现很少”。

他说：“很明显，警察所指定区域和武器控制的权力对于抗议活动非常有用，因为警方有权在没有任何合理怀疑的情况下进行搜索。”

由于中央商务区是抗议者最受欢迎的地方，这意味着CBD成了这些措施的行使重点。

“都市新闻报”的研究显示，在2010年实施该条款的11次实例中，只有一次是在市中心。那一年任何地点的重复实施也很少，在11次的实例中有9次都在不同的城郊。

然而到了2018年，14次实例中有9次发生在CBD，其中至少有5次警察被召集来应对抗议活动，还有其他3次用于人流众多的公共活动。



## 工程施工 拥挤增加

撰稿David Schout

耗资2100万澳元的中央商务区污水系统的升级工程将使赫德(Hoddle)交通网络内的通勤延误加剧12个月以上。

自今年9月至2020年年末，朗斯代尔(Lonsdale)街(在伊丽莎白(Elizabeth)街和威廉姆(William)街之间)的一段将在不同时间被中断，根据城市西部水公司的说法，这是为了“帮助确保在墨尔本CBD生活和工作的人们提供污水处理服务”。

这些中断还包括车道封闭和一些停车限制。

这一消息是在宣布弗林德斯街(伊丽莎白和斯旺斯顿

(Swanston)街道之间)的两条东行车道将因Metro地铁隧道工程于9月初关闭三年不久后才发布的。

此外，墨尔本市政计划从明年开始对伊丽莎白街部分作为步行街。

州政府呼吁这些计划推迟到2025年隧道工程完工后，可是市政置若罔闻，在5月份的会议上却推进了该计划。

尽管即将到来的各种工程对于一个不断发展的中心城市之未来似乎至关重要，但它们对中央商务区拥堵的综合影响也可能是显著的。

## 墨尔本市政推出流动诊所

撰稿Alex Dalziel

墨尔本市政的一项新投资将扩大为生活在中央商务区街头无家可归者提供免费的流动医疗服务。

联合医疗(Cohealth)公共流动汽车诊所以前只在周三运营，现增加在周一也运营。

该服务提供全科医生、护士和社会工作者，提供免费的保健、心理、药物和咨询服务。

上个月，市长萨利·卡普(Sally Capp)宣布墨尔本市政已经在这个项目上投资了20万澳元。

市长说：“流动公共汽车诊所将直接为街头露宿者提供他们所需要的服务。”

“当病人登上流动公共汽车诊所时，他们可以直接与医生交谈，并获得免费服务，如流感疫苗注射、伤口治疗或紧急心理健康转诊。”

Cohealth的临时首席执行官妮可·巴塞洛梅乌斯(Nicole Bartholomeusz)表示，cohealth长期以来一直倡导为弱势群体提供更好的医疗保健服务。

她说：“睡眠不佳会造成严重的健康问题，然而无家可归的人比社区其他人获得的医疗服务更少。”

“无家可归者感觉耻辱和歧视是他们寻求保健服务的一个障碍。他们也难以负担医疗费用和赴约就诊，也难以维持治疗上的要求。”

市长还为基层服务组织发行了一本手册，以指导志愿者团体如何帮助无家可归者。

# WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**10AM - 4PM, FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH ACMI, FEDERATION SQUARE  
ACMI FAMILY SUNDAYS**

On the first Sunday of every month, ACMI will be hosting a day of free family and kid-friendly events and interactive activities for Family Sundays. **FREE**

**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**

**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  
10AM-3PM SUNDAY,  
326 LONSDALE STREET**

**MEET UP WITH FRIENDS**

Instant coffee or tea with a biscuit for **\$2.00**  
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.  
LUNCHTIME, 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**

**EVERY SUNDAY FROM 2.30PM,  
THE HUB, 506 ELIZABETH ST  
FILM CLUB**

The film club has some of the best film noir classics including 1962 French classic and two time Cannes winner *Sundays and Cybelle*. **FREE**, coffee provided.

**Contact John on 0459 398 358**

**6:30PM EVERY MONDAY, ST. FRANCIS CHURCH, 326 LONSDALE STREET**

**JOIN OUR SPIRITUAL FAMILY**

Students with no family in Melbourne, are welcome to pray for each other. It is a unique gathering of learning to walk in faith and hope. After prayer we share concerns and network. **FREE. 9663 2495**

**LANEWAY LEARNING**

Cheap, fun classes in anything and everything. Weekday evenings in cafes, bars and other spaces around Melbourne. Classes usually have about 20 people to keep it friendly.

**www.melbourne.lanewaylearning.com**

**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.

**Bookings www.NewToMelbourne.org**

**7-9PM, EVERY \*WEDNESDAY, WELSH CHURCH, 320 LA TROBE STREET**

**MEN'S CHOIR PRACTISE**

Australian Welsh Male Choir weekly practise. Sing with our City Chapter. No need to be Welsh. \*Except last Wednesday of the month. **www.awmc.org.au or call Geoff on 0405 987 567**

**EVERY THURSDAY FROM 1PM,  
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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**

**11AM, 11.45AM, 12.30PM, 2PM,  
2.45PM, AND 3.30PM THURSDAY 26 TO  
SUNDAY 29 SEPT, BIRRARUNG MARR  
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**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  
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**9600 1574 or info@camparihouse.com.au**

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SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER, ARTPLAY  
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www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/artplay**

**1PM, EVERY THURSDAY & FRIDAY,  
LEVEL 1, YARRA BUILDING,  
FEDERATION SQUARE  
BIRRARUNG WILAM RIVER WALK**

Learn about how the land under Melbourne has changed over time and its significance to the local Kulin people.

**\$33, book on fedsquare.com/shopvisit/  
birrarrung-wilam-walk**

**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**

## ✝ PRAYER TIMES

**St Michael's**

120 Collins St, Melbourne, 3000  
Ph: 9654 5120  
Church times:  
Sunday Service at 10.00am

**Chabad of Melbourne**

Suite 301, 343 Lt Collins St  
Ph: 9525-9929  
Chabad of Melbourne CBD hosts regular lunchtime lecture series on various topics.

**City on a Hill**

Sundays at 9am, 10.30am and 6pm.  
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  
6.00 pm Evening Worship Service

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Shop 7A, Emporium Melbourne, Phone: 8609 8161

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# Expecting hay fever this spring? Don't blame the plane!

By David Schout

*As hay fever season looms, we're being told to go easy on the humble London plane tree, which despite popular belief isn't to blame for runny noses, itchy eyes and sneezing.*

For those that live or work in the CBD, there's every chance you're all too familiar with the London plane, a tree which accounts for a whopping 70 per cent of the Hoddle Grid's urban forest.

Known for its resilience to warm weather and the tremendous shade it provides in the hotter months, the trees are synonymous with Melbourne.

Perhaps lesser known, they are also extremely efficient at absorbing air pollution owing to their large leaves.

But in the months of October and November in particular, the trees are cursed by many Melburnians as the root cause of highly irritable (and sometimes debilitating) hay fever symptoms.

"I'm thinking of starting up a vigilante group committed to razing every plane tree in the CBD," one Twitter user said last spring. "Hay fever sufferers of Melbourne unite!"

"All those in favour of cutting down every



*Rough end of the stick: The London plane, contrary to popular belief, isn't a primary cause for hay fever in Melbourne.*

plane tree in Melbourne, sneeze bitterly," another said.

But have we got it wrong about the poor old London plane?

The City of Melbourne says we have.

"(The trees) are often inaccurately associated with hay fever," council environment portfolio chair Cathy Oke told *CBD News*.

"While some people may experience physical irritation from plane tree trichomes (leaf and shoot hairs), the most common cause of hay fever is grass pollen."

When the trees' trichomes are released they can be particularly messy in the CBD, something that is worsened on windy days.

Their visible, swirling presence leads many to blame them for the onset and

exacerbation of hay fever symptoms.

But while they can be irritable, it's grass pollen that's the primary issue.

"The shedding of plane tree trichomes occurs during the same period that grass pollen levels are highest in Melbourne and it is common for sufferers of hay fever to associate their symptoms with the trichomes," Cr Oke said.

Associate professor Ed Newbigin, a plant biologist from the University of Melbourne and coordinator of the Melbourne Pollen Count, confirmed we should be predominantly shifting our blame to grass pollen.

"I have been counting grass pollen in Melbourne for over 20 years and can attest to it being a major driver of springtime

allergies," he said.

But he said that he couldn't completely rule out plane tree pollen as a cause of hay fever as the Melbourne Pollen Count predominantly measured grass pollen.

Rather, he pointed to a 2007 study in Sydney that found less than a quarter of people were allergic to plane tree pollen, despite it making up over three-quarters of the air's total pollen.

This was contrasted with over half of those tested who were allergic to grass pollen.

So, while we can't say that plane trees don't cause issues for hay fever sufferers, their impact is far less than we might think.

Whatever the case, the council has pledged to significantly reduce the CBD's high number of London plane trees in coming years in the face of unprecedented climate change, population growth and urban heating challenges.

"We want to increase diversity in our urban forest and have a target of no more than five per cent for any species within the municipality," Cr Oke said.

"The changes are already underway. We're replacing existing trees with new species progressively as the opportunities arise. Plane trees have already been replaced on Flinders St between Fed Square and Wellington Parade South, with lemon-scented gums."

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