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主要新闻摘要 见 21 页

FREE

# CBD NEWS

PLEDGE TO HELP THE HOMELESS

- page 3 -



TOWARDS ZERO WASTE EVENTS

- page 5 -



2020 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

- page 7 -



FED SQUARE HAS A NEW CEO

- page 9 -



## Week of rebellion

From October 7 to 13, the CBD was subject to a variety of different protests, marches, roadblocks and stunts as part of a Spring Rebellion.

Organised by Extinction Rebellion Victoria, the week protested inaction on climate change.

A base camp was set up in Carlton Gardens from where activists discussed and planned actions. The organisers told media 111 people were arrested during the week.

Thousands of people joined the actions, which targeted different intersections, roads and bridges during the week.



Protester Alice Dennis was one of thousands who participated in the climate protests in the CBD in October.

Photo John Tadigiri.

## Disability access “getting worse, not better”

By David Schout

**Disability access in the CBD has gone backwards and has failed to keep pace with the city’s growth, according to a six-time Paralympian and long-time resident.**

Brian McNicholl, a Paralympic weightlifting gold medallist for Australia, said cluttered footpaths and inaccessible public transport had combined to put Melbourne well behind other big cities.

The CBD resident of 16 years said disjointed policy frameworks had made his life progressively more difficult within the Hoddle Grid.

“I find access now tends to be getting worse, not better,” he said.

“As a person getting around in a wheelchair – and I’m pretty mobile – I still sometimes struggle. I’d hate to think what a lot of other people are dealing with who have less mobility than me. Somewhere we’ve lost the plot.”

Mr McNicholl competed at six Paralympic games, winning five medals including gold at the 1992 Barcelona Games.

His world record lift of 227.5kg would

eventually see him awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

Still involved in the sport at the highest level, Mr McNicholl travels the world as a technical official and it is here the contrast with disability access is most stark.

“When you go overseas you see so many things they do that we can only hope for here,” he said.

“Most places I go the transport access is fantastic, regardless of what mode of transport you take. You can go on anything. Countries that aren’t even the US or UK; Japan is unbelievable, and so is Korea. I don’t even have any issue getting around Phuket. A lot of other places are so much better off, and

their policies must be so different to ours.”

Earlier this year Mr McNicholl went to visit a friend at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and was forced to wait for 14 trams until a low-floor option arrived that he could board.

On the way back, it was another 13 trams.

After finally boarding a crowded tram on the return journey, there was no communication of where the next stop with disability access was.

Mr McNicholl was forced to ask another commuter to ask the driver, and was eventually told he could disembark

Continued on page 2.

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# Disability access "getting worse, not better"

Continued from page 1.

## HYPERLOCAL NEWS

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

in Southbank, well past his preferred destination on the northern side of the CBD.

The round trip of around five kilometres took him over three hours.

"All of this compounds the issue I'm originally dealing with. And I think 'who is actually fixing this? Who is doing anything about it?' You just get disappointed."

He said experiences like these were a huge deterrent.

"They want you to use public transport but you can't get on every tram, and you can't get on every bus."

Mr McNicholl said he had not, however, experienced many difficulties with trains.

Alongside level-access public transport issues, he said the level of construction within the city has made negotiating footpaths a "nightmare."

He had at times been prevented from accessing his road, without any notification from the construction company.

One particular issue he has lobbied against is the legality of motorbikes parking on footpaths directly next to disabled parking bays.

This has, at times, made exiting vehicles on the kerbside almost impossible.

After Mr McNicholl lobbied for change, the City of Melbourne confirmed the installation of "no-standing" signs at these bays would be one of its first actions under the new Transport Strategy 2030 (see page 13).

His criticism of disability access in the city comes in light of a recently released University of Melbourne study that found that the council needed to improve level-access public transport, signage communication and footpath clutter to make the city more inclusive for people with a disability.

Lead investigator Dr Jerome Rachele said the study reinforced that planning had to involve people with disability.



CBD resident Brian McNicholl.

"In order to understand how to make a city truly inclusive for people with disability you need to understand the diversity of disability and diversity of needs," Dr Rachele said.

"The first thing people often think of when talking about an accessible city is ramps. Ramps are important, but it's much more than that."

Mr McNicholl agreed.

"I'd like to put some people in leadership positions in a wheelchair and see how they go getting around the city. I'd be more than happy to go with them. They can't then tell me that access is good. Because if it is, they won't have a problem."

A spokesperson for the Department of Transport said the government had invested more than half a billion dollars in asset funding and worked with public transport operators to improve accessibility across the network.

"Whether it's modern and accessible trams,

trains and buses, upgrading tram stops or improving train stations - we're making sure Victoria's public transport is modern and inclusive," the spokesperson said.

"We'll continue working with operators, community groups and locals to make sure our network meets the needs of all Victorians."

The City of Melbourne's chair of People City portfolio Beverley Pinder said council would be considering a new disability action plan early next year.

"The City of Melbourne Disability Advisory Committee was set up 20 years ago and was one of the first established in Victoria," Cr Pinder said.

"It provides ongoing civic opportunity and a voice for people with disability. This forum is convened by myself and brings together officers and people with disability to work together to find functional and innovative solutions to reduce and eliminate accessibility barriers in the city."

"The *Making the City of Melbourne more inclusive for people with disability* report is informed by a deep engagement with a range of people who experience disability."

"Key findings included the importance of consultation, and ensuring accessibility was considered in legislation, as well as addressing both physical and social barriers that people experience," Cr Pinder said.

"The report will help to inform council's new Disability Action Plan, which will be considered by council early next year and identify key areas for improvement. The Disability Advisory Committee and community have and will continue to be a part of this process."

Mr McNicholl hoped that access would eventually become better through a collaborative approach through all levels of government.

"We haven't come very far since 1981, which was the International Year of Disabled Persons. It's a real shame," he said.

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# Pledge to help the homeless

By Rhonda Dredge

**Businesses in the CBD have agreed to provide their services pro bono to convert a multi-storey building in the city into a homeless shelter.**

The partially-occupied building is owned by the City of Melbourne and valued at \$20 million.

The deal, which was first revealed in the October edition of *CBD News*, has been put together by former developer Rob Pradolin on behalf of his charity Housing All Australians.

"People are time-poor. In the private sector they all want to do stuff, but they don't have the time," Mr Pradolin told *CBD News*.

He has made it easy for businesses to donate their time by doing all the groundwork, liaising with council and getting people to sign up for the development.

"I ring someone I know and say we want an architect. This is the commitment. Are you in or not? I haven't had a knock-back."

Cox Architecture in Flinders Lane has agreed to design the fit-out of the 4000-sqm mid-rise building.

"We were asked six months ago. We thought



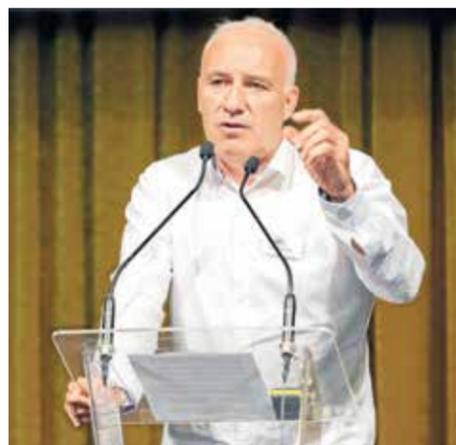
it was a fantastic cause," said Cox director Simon Hausregger.

"I think it will be a challenging job. We're doing projects for those with means and needs across the city. With this we'll be working with the most vulnerable."

The address of the building has yet to be released by the group until the project has been approved by council. An alternative building has also been mooted.

"We're hopeful that council will make a resolution before the end of the year so we can design and prepare the building ready for construction," Mr Pradolin said.

According to a 2014 report, the City of Melbourne owns 74 properties across inner Melbourne worth more than \$2.5 million.



Founding chair of Housing All Australians Rob Pradolin.

The idea behind pop-up shelters is that an under-utilised building is converted for a period of 20 to 30 years until it is sold or the site is developed.

Kane Constructions has agreed to do the fit-out at cost, a contribution of nearly one million dollars.

Other contributors include Docklands building surveyors du Chateau Chun, Umow Lai, Irwin Consult, Bonacci Group, Gallagher Jeffs, Rider Levett Bucknall, Hollerich Town Planning and legal services Norton Rose Fulbright.

The building will offer crisis or transitional accommodation. It will be the third conversion of an existing building for use as crisis shelter that Mr Pradolin has organised in the past 12 months.

## Cladding Bill

**The state government passed a Bill last month providing it with greater powers to chase "dodgy" builders for combustible cladding.**

The *Building Amendment (Cladding Rectification) Bill 2019* includes a provision to allow the State to pursue litigation in cases where it pays for rectification costs.

It said any financial returns would be reinvested into the \$600 million cladding rectification program, administered by Cladding Safety Victoria.

The legislation also introduced the building levy announced in July, which will be used to fund \$300 million of the program – a move questioned by the Property Council of Victoria in light of a slowing economy. The levy applies to new permits for multi-storey buildings valued at more than \$800,000.

With owners' corporations (OCs) already having the power to sue dodgy builders, many have questioned the benefits of the legislation.

"It does mean that owners won't be stuck with legal bills for unsuccessful claims, but presumably the government won't attempt to pursue cases where they are not successful, so that benefit is also illusory," a cladding expert said.

# Queen Victoria Market

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# Towards zero-waste events

Advertorial by Sean Car

**The City of Melbourne is calling on the community to support its mission to make all of its events environmentally friendly.**

This ambition will be on display from November 14 to 23 as part of Melbourne Music Week (MMW) 2019, which will showcase the city's first carbon neutral-certified music festival and event hub working towards zero waste, located in Alexandra Gardens.

To celebrate the festival's 10th year, MMW is bringing back its original hub *Kubik* – an outdoor events space designed by German creatives Balestra Berlin, constructed from industrial containers housing LED lights immersed in water that interact with the beats of the live music.

However, this year *Kubik* will focus heavily on sustainability, with the entire hub to be powered by 100 per cent renewable energy through the council's Melbourne Renewable Energy Project wind farm near Ararat. In addition, the containers themselves will be filled with harvested rainwater that will later be redistributed back into the city's parks and gardens.

Council has also worked with all of its events suppliers to ensure that sustainability is



embedded into every aspect of its "zero-waste" hub, from eliminating all single use items where possible such as plastic straws, as well as offering reusable drinking cups.

The leader of the council's low carbon future team Nikki Jordan (pictured) explained to *CBD News* that MMW 2019 would also once again be measuring and offsetting all of its emissions under the federal government's carbon neutral program.

"It's [the program's] quite a robust process," she said. "You have to measure your emissions activities by firstly working out which ones are the most material or significant sources for your event and then work to reduce your emissions over time."

"The remaining carbon footprint will be offset by supporting projects that reduce carbon emissions elsewhere; like reforestation projects in Queensland and New South Wales and Aboriginal land management projects that lessen the impact of large bushfires."

While the council itself has been carbon neutral since 2012 it only has control of around one per cent of the municipality's overall emissions, according to Nikki Jordan, and events are an ideal way for council to engage the community on ways it can have a positive impact.

Through measuring every component of an event from energy efficiency to waste

production, she explained that the top two sources of emissions from major events were transport used by patrons to get there and the food and drink consumed.

Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood said that bringing your own drink bottle and using active transport were just some of the ways that MMW 2019 would be encouraging people to help its cause. "We make sustainability a priority and I'm incredibly proud that Melbourne Fashion Week, Melbourne Music Week and Melbourne Knowledge Week are carbon neutral events," Cr Wood said. "Increasingly, people are telling us they want to feel good about attending an event without being worried about their impact on the environment."

"If you're attending an event it's a good idea to bring your own water bottle and think about cycling, walking and catching public transport rather than driving."

"We also give patrons the option to contribute to carbon offsetting when booking their tickets so that they're directly supporting positive environmental and social outcomes in local and international communities."

The City of Melbourne has a Sustainable Event Guide to help event organisers incorporate more sustainable practises when planning their events.

For more visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/sustainable-event-guide](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au/sustainable-event-guide)

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# ACT NOW ON WASTE AT EVENTS



City of Melbourne proudly hosts a number of major events that are certified carbon neutral, and we work with event organisers to employ more sustainable practices. This November, the Melbourne Music Week hub will be powered by 100 per cent renewable energy and is aiming to be a zero waste venue.

## What can you do?

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- Cycle or take public transport to the city.
- Check out our Sustainable Event and Business Guides.

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



# 2020 council elections – who is coming and who is going?

By Stephen Mayne



**With the 2020 City of Melbourne elections now due in less than a year, it's a reasonable question to ask: which of the current 11 councillors are running again?**

With the exception of Lord Mayor Sally Capp, the 10 other existing City of Melbourne councillors are all being very coy on this question – twice declining to provide any response when asked if they'd be staying or going during public question sessions at recent committee meetings.

This is understandable as potential retirees don't want to be seen as a lame duck councillor and the horse trading on tickets and preferences is yet to begin.

The only guaranteed certainty is that Sally Capp will be running again for Lord Mayor and will be hard to beat. What is not known is who she is likely to have on her ticket and who her main rivals will be.

Council watchers believe that the existing Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Arron Wood, is the most likely incumbent councillor who could potentially form a ticket and run for Lord Mayor against Sally Capp.

He did a good job as Acting Lord Mayor before Sally Capp was elected but hasn't been close to the new Lord Mayor, most notably splitting on the plans for Queen Victoria Market after Heritage Victoria knocked back the planning permit.

If Cr Wood was to run for Lord Mayor, it would most likely be with the support and encouragement of other residual members of the old Team Doyle, such as Cr Bev Pinder and Cr Susan Riley.



Back (L-R): Cr Nic Frances Gilley, Cr Nick Reece, Cr Rohan Leppert. Front (L-R): Cr Susan Riley, Cr Kevin Louey, Cr Beverley Pinder, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood, Cr Cathy Oke, Cr Phillip Le Liu and Cr Jackie Watts.

The situation with planning chair Cr Nicholas Reece is interesting. The Labor heavy hitter who has served as state secretary and a senior adviser to Premiers and Prime Ministers, was first elected in 2016 on the Team Doyle ticket but was then instrumental in backing the Capp campaign for Lord Mayor and is considered an obvious choice to be deputy on the Capp ticket.

But what would that mean for the Labor Party as a whole, given the party has resolved to formally contest local government elections in 2020, partly to combat the Greens?

Ultimately, the decision will be made by local Labor Party members through a committee which Cr Reece chairs. If the party was to sit out the election, it would presumably only be if there was a Labor flavour to the Capp ticket, even though Capp is actually a former member of the Liberal Party.

Cr Reece has been an excellent councillor and is clearly capable of being Lord Mayor, but the optics of attempting to defeat the first female Lord Mayor in more than two decades would not look good, particularly after encouraging her to run in the first place when Robert Doyle resigned.

Veteran pollster Gary Morgan is once again

expected to run for Lord Mayor and he has traditionally delivered one councillor to the chamber over the years: firstly Liberal finance committee chair Peter Clarke and latterly Labor Party member Jackie Watts.

After eight years on council, some are expecting Watts to retire but this hasn't been confirmed as yet. If she goes, that would open up a spot for Gary Morgan to sponsor a new councillor into the chamber because it is difficult to get elected to council without running on a Lord Mayoral ticket.

If Sally Capp is regarded as a shoo-in for Lord Mayor, the challenge then becomes finding Lord Mayoral candidates who will stand in order to assist running mates get onto council.

The Greens will contest as usual with Cr Rohan Leppert not expected to run again for Lord Mayor but instead seek a third term on council, presumably at the top of the Greens ticket. After 12 years of solid service, his colleague Cr Cathy Oke is believed to be considering retirement. If that happen, the two key questions here are who will replace her and can the Greens repeat their effort from the last two elections and secure two of the nine councillor positions. Probably, but it will depend on who else is in the field.

With an expected 20 per cent-plus vote in

the Lord Mayoral elections, the Greens are likely to be kingmakers in determining who is Lord Mayor courtesy of their preferences. The single biggest threat to Sally Capp would be if Arron Wood ran a big budget Lord Mayoral campaign while agreeing to swap preferences with the Greens.

After voting for declaring a climate emergency and supporting a progressive transport strategy to more pro-actively reduce car usage in the city, the Lord Mayor's policy commonality with the Greens has been noteworthy, even though she is former CEO of the Property Council. But could the two groups reach a formal agreement?

Robert Doyle used to joke about his Green-Liberal Coalition at Town Hall and the residual Team Doyle councillors still comprise five of the 11 votes, although they are not acting as a bloc.

If Arron Wood doesn't double down for a run at Lord Mayor, you could expect to see some retirements, including the long-serving Cr Kevin Louey, who has spent 11 years on council and before that seven years as chief of staff to former Lord Mayor John So.

Philip Le Lui is the only card-carrying Liberal Party member on council but with his former Lord Mayoral running mate Ken Ong not running again, his intentions are unclear and the Liberal Party itself is also yet to resolve whether to formally get involved in the 2020 elections. It's less likely than Labor.

And finally, that leaves transport chair Nicolas Frances Gilley, the accidental councillor who only ran last time in order to support the efforts to elect a first ever Indigenous councillor. His passion to see this happen remains, but it is not clear who that Indigenous candidate would be.

Robert Doyle was the longest serving Lord Mayor in history and the current councillors collectively have more than 80 years of service under their belt, which is arguably too much.

Sally Capp has been a breath of fresh air as Lord Mayor and with the Doyle era now over, the 2020 election presents a good opportunity for further renewal on the council, which would be a good thing.

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# Federation Square has a new CEO

By Meg Hill

*In an exclusive first interview with CBD News, Federation Square's new CEO Dr Xavier Csar said that failed efforts to build an Apple Store at the square had "catalysed" an important discussion around the future of the public space.*

Management offices in Federation Square aren't signposted. Tucked away on the eastern side of the square, the CEO's office looks out above some of the open space between ACMI and the big screen.

It would have hosted a perfect view of anti-Apple protesters when they held a number of demonstrations in the square last year.

A more than year-long battle against plans for an Apple Store in the square centred its criticism on the Andrews Government, Apple, and then-Fed Square CEO Jonathan Tribe. Now, with Apple gone, heritage approved and a government review underway, Federation Square has quietly found a new CEO.

The replacement, Dr Xavier Csar, had recently spoken with one of the square's two architects when he was interviewed by *CBD News*. He said that architect had emphasised the "nooks and crannies" of the square's built form – the hidden spaces that are meant to be discovered slowly.

But on the other side of the glass, protestors had highlighted the open public space where people gather, the classic use of a town square. The new CEO wouldn't speculate on whether or not his predecessor had got the balance wrong.

"I don't really want to focus on Jonathan's management style because Jonathan retired and I'm here to replace him," Dr Csar said. "But what I would say is that my first priority is recognising that this is a place that's defined by the partnerships and relationships between people who use the square. It's defined by those relationships and it's important they're good relationships."

Dr Csar headed the TAFE division of the Education Department for four years. He said he was asked to take over at Federation Square because of his experience connecting public sector organisations with community and balancing financial sustainability with public good.

"I'm looking to unleash that public value and



understand what those around us need and want and to deliver that," Dr Csar said.

"We're a precinct but we are defined not just by the partners we have in the precinct – the cultural institutions, the commercial tenancies, the people who come and go – but we're also defined by the value we bring to our neighbours."

He was hesitant to imply that the square was at a crossroads, but there were subtle shifts in language.

For example, when Apple pulled its controversial plans to build a flagship store in the square, then-CEO Jonathan Tribe gave public support for the first time to the idea of gaining some degree of public funding for the square.

Those who led the *Our City, Our Square* campaign, which opposed the Apple plans, had always insisted that square should be publicly funded but they expressed concern at the framing.

They said Jonathan Tribe's comments may have played up financial difficulties to justify further commercialisation. It's a framing Dr Csar avoided.

"To the question of whether or not the square should get public funds, the answer is yes," Dr Csar said.

"If the review wants to deal with that then that's terrific, but it's not as if we're not able with our current income to make this place available as you currently find it, because we are."

Dr Csar added that big projects and developments in the square would likely require more funding, which could be individual budget decisions for government and not necessarily a change to the square's funding regulations.

But he also gave a somewhat generous new spin to the current financial model of the square.

"It's not that we're not publicly funded at all. We get funds from the activities and organisations within the square, and some of those are publicly funded."

Former CEO Jonathan Tribe meanwhile elaborated on the review at a residents meeting on October 15: "I would love for the square to be fully funded but, realistically, I don't think it will. I think if Fed Square got \$10 million a year they would be doing well."

Dr Csar also described the square's "blend" – commercial ventures as well as cultural (and government funded) institutions like the Koorie Heritage Trust – as a social enterprise.

The language shifts seemed to acknowledge the tension between the idea of public space and the reality of square governance.

It was also a testament to the *Our City Our Square* campaign, which clearly identified the discrepancy between public expectations and reality for the space.

Melburnians, they said, thought of the square as a public asset and were shocked not just by the Apple proposal and process, but that the square's existence relied on profit in the first place.

"The Apple development just catalysed a discussion about the square – how public, how accessible, what's the long-term vision and is this the time to have that discussion because there hadn't been that discussion for a very long time," Dr Csar said.

In reality, Federation Square's charter, as it stands, ensures that it runs like a business, not a publicly owned asset. It has to stand financially on its own feet.

That seemed to be one of square's real hidden secrets waiting to be discovered.

Dr Csar didn't say which one he had spoken to, but it's no secret that the Federation Square's two architects diverge when it comes to the square's future. One of the architects enthusiastically supported the Apple proposal, the other denounced it. One cherishes the commercial element of the square, the other doesn't.

That division supports the idea that opinions on the issue are not fundamentally about Federation Square but are based on political divides over the question of public space.

The government is due to release its community consultation report late this year and has given few clues as to where it might lead. It's a comprehensive review that was given the scope to change the nature of the square, but it could easily satisfy itself tinkering around the sides.

The view from Dr Csar's window will likely be protest-free at least until we find out.



A render of a possible development at the Treasury Square site.

Image: Colliers International.

## Key CBD site for sale

*The state government has put vacant transport land on the southern side of Flinders St on the open market.*

The site, known as Treasury Square, is located next to the rail corridor and spans the area between Exhibition and Flinders streets, and Wellington Parade South.

The government announced an expression of interest campaign last month to be managed by Colliers International and Ernst & Young in conjunction with VicTrack until Friday, November 8.

Treasurer Tim Pallas said developing the land represented an opportunity to increase office space, new hotels or apartments in the heart of the city.

While located near strategic sites such as the railyard and Federation Square East, a government spokesperson told *CBD News* that the land was not tied up in any other government plans.

"The announcement is an expression of interest for land on the southern side of Flinders Street next to the rail corridor, spans the area between Exhibition and Flinders streets, and Wellington Parade South only," a spokesperson said.

# Wesley Place fully tenanted

By Edward McLeish

**Continual demand for office spaces in the CBD has ensured Charter Hall Group's \$1.2 billion development at Wesley Place is fully tenanted – almost a year ahead of the building's scheduled completion.**

Victorian Treasurer Tim Pallas said Australia's largest super fund, AustralianSuper, was one of several key tenants that would take up residence in the new 35-storey tower at 130 Lonsdale Street.

"This exceptional development is indicative of the solid demand for office space in Melbourne's CBD, proving that Victoria continues to grow and attract significant investment, despite global economic headwinds," the Treasurer said.

"This precinct shows how new development can be carefully designed to accommodate new office space while working in with historic city surrounds."

Telstra Super, Cbus, the Uniting Church, Vanguard, and the newly formed Australian Financial Complaints Authority complete the line-up.

The landmark development is located in one of Melbourne's most tightly held office precincts, with some of the works having led to a number of building and heritage concerns from local residents.

Data from the Property Council of Australia's 2019 *Office Market Report* shows Melbourne's CBD office vacancy is the



A render of the Wesley Place development.

tightest in the country, at 3.8 per cent.

The state government granted planning permission for the development in April 2016, which allowed for extensive archaeological investigation of the surrounding Wesley Church precinct (see story on page 11).

The entire site is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and Heritage Victoria's permission was also sought as part of the broader planning approval.

Wesley Place has been built around one of the earliest intact church complexes in Victoria, which was built in the Gothic Revival style. The church's spire is believed to have been the first built in the state.

From the outset, Charter Hall said it had worked closely with the government to balance heritage preservation with the need for more office space in the CBD.

Construction of the Wesley Church precinct will be completed in 2022.

# Residents fight off rooftop bar

**The City of Melbourne approved a six-million-dollar development at 10-16 McKillop St on October 15 after years of conflict between development plans and local residents.**

When plans were advertised three years ago to repurpose the building into a tavern and rooftop bar 70 objections were submitted to the council, forcing the plans to be withdrawn.

Many of the objections came from residents of the Excelsior building at 390 Little Collins St.

City of Melbourne chair of planning Nicholas Reece said the new plans recognised the long-term concerns.

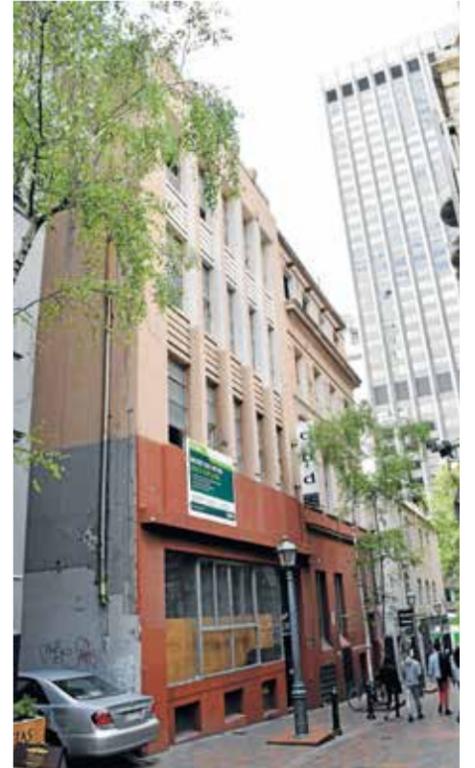
"The good news is that I think the main objections that you have made about this particular development have actually been addressed in the most recent proposal that has been lodged," Cr Reece said.

"There won't be a bar or a restaurant or any hospitality venues on the upper levels of the building."

Cr Reece praised the residents of the Excelsior building as some of the CBD's resident pioneers and an active community.

"That building was one of the first to have residents fill it."

The subject building is currently a vacant four storeys and a basement. The approved development will add three storeys.



A restaurant will open at ground level while the rest of the development will be used mostly for office space.

"In terms of the application I think there's a lot to like about it. The two buildings aren't heritage listed but I think they could be described as buildings of character, they add a lot to the character of that area."

"I'm delighted to see the proposal retains those buildings, not just the façade but all of those two buildings are retained and then the three storeys being added are recessed and so they will not be visually imposing on the street."

# Yuncken Freeman site to be demolished

By Meg Hill

**A building designed by world famous architecture firm Yuncken Freeman has been given a demolition green light by the council just months after gaining heritage protection.**

140 Queen St was given heritage protection in August when the *Hardware and Guildford Laneways Heritage Amendment* was passed by the state government.

Cbus Australia had submitted a new planning application for a \$1 billion combined site at 140 Queen St, 150 Queen St, 423 Bourke St and 27 McKillop St just days before the amendment was passed.

But the applicant's engineers were subsequently supported by both the state government and the City of Melbourne in



140 Queen St will soon be demolished.

the conclusion that 140 Queen St had been allowed to deteriorate beyond salvation.

City of Melbourne chair of heritage Rohan Leppert said the situation was unfortunate.



A render of the new development at the site.

"Making heritage reviews and progressing them through the planning scheme as planning amendments is like pulling teeth," he said.

"C271 has applied to new permanent controls to one of the buildings in question here and that was a laborious process."

"It is very unfortunate that just a couple of months after permanent controls were gazetted for one of the buildings in the project site, we are advising the Department of Land, Water and Planning that we would support the demolition of that building."

"We should only do so with very, very good reasons, and I think we do have those reasons, but at the same time it is massively disappointing that we have to do that."

The building was considered unsafe due to its damaged façade, which was also said to be beyond restoration.

The development plans have "revitalised and reinterpreted" the façade with the intent of "reinterpretation of the cellular and masonry character".

The \$1 billion development will include a 49-storey tower for mixed-use and a wellbeing hub.

# Local heritage in ruins

By Meg Hill

*In recent years archaeologists have marvelled over a photo from the 1920s of workers at the Capitol Theatre site. They're standing next to a picket fence found buried a metre under the ground.*

In 2017 when work began on a development at the Wesley Church site on Lonsdale St, an entire neighbourhood block was found preserved beneath the earth.

Both sites were too deep to correlate properly with the timeline of European settlement in Melbourne. A new study commissioned by the Heritage Council of Victoria found answers among City of Melbourne documents.

*Heritage in Ruins: An investigation into Melbourne's 'buried blocks'* cites, for example, an 1856 petition from a local resident to the City of Melbourne. The resident had been ordered by the council to fill in his low-lying property to the level of his roof with earth. He pleaded for financial assistance.

Richard Hill lived in Franklyn Street in North Melbourne but his petition is key to the development of land in the CBD in particular.

Local laws passed in the 1840s and '50s sought to level the CBD and immediate surrounds as street formation developed and flooding worsened. The default was to force the landowner or tenant to complete this process themselves.

It seems that Richard Hill's request, which included details of his unlucky ventures at the goldfields, was successful and his house was raised with the new ground level. But around the city, other structures were buried whole.

A retrospective description written in 1888 described street intersections as "gullies or quagmires" that were "almost inextricable for man or beast once glued into them".

"During winter, the streets were chains of waterholes, and the traffic had to be suspended in places ... Elizabeth and Swanston streets were shallow gullies, with deep and dangerous ruts every 20 yards," it continued.

"Flinders St was a swamp, and even Collins St was so slushy and sticky, that often to cross over from any portion of the now well-flagged and fashionable 'Block' one required to be equipped in a pair of leggings or long mud-boots."

The study by Alliance Archaeology could pinpoint some specific examples, but the magnitude of the task requires ongoing research.

Researchers found recurring references to "Lake Lonsdale" and the "Lonsdale Swamp". The body of water on the eastern side of Lonsdale St was apparently considered a major source of disease.

A body was found in a "waterhole" off Spencer St, a child fished out of a pond



Photos: Heritage Victoria.

on Dudley St, and a horse drawn cart disappeared into a body of water at the intersection of Bourke and Elizabeth streets.

But it's the "filling" phenomenon, led by the council, that had real repercussions for archaeologists by forming what are like time capsules.

Archaeologist and Heritage Council member Meg Goulding said the study marked a starting point for further research with "huge potential" to uncover heritage sites of state significance in the CBD.

"We just don't know where they are at this stage," Ms Goulding said.

30 specific sites of filling events were identified, but the study points to the existence of many more.

In 1855, land was filled surrounding the Sydney Hotel on William St, in a backyard at 113 Little Bourke St, and at the corner of Mincing Lane and Flinders St, according to council documents discovered.

Ms Goulding said that examples like the petition by Richard Hill were particularly special.

"What I think is really fascinating is the more personal stories that come through, like landowners who are feeling the financial burden of having to raise their block of land

all of a sudden by a couple of metres or a metre," she said.

"It brings history to life by getting a sense of the people of the time, and the landscape itself that people were experiencing."

Ms Goulding said the research was "at the beginning of the start", and a natural next step was to partner with universities to lead further studies.

And the implications reach back far beyond European settlement. The act of filling in lower lying sites around the CBD has almost certainly protected Aboriginal archaeology through what researchers call "capping".

"What we are finding with these excavations more and more are Aboriginal artefacts on the early land surface that Europeans and Aboriginal people were interacting on," Ms Goulding said.

"You excavate in some places around the CBD and come to this early surface. What this is pointing to is a sort of sealed-in early surface that we did know existed, but that the City of Melbourne initiative in the 1840s and '50s really did assist in protecting Aboriginal as well as European archaeology."

*Heritage in Ruins* can be downloaded online at [heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au](http://heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au)

# Lonsdale works underway

By Edward McLeish

*Staged lane reductions have begun on Lonsdale St to install a new sewer pipeline between Spencer and Elizabeth streets, as part of the biggest upgrade to Melbourne CBD's sewer network in 120 years.*

General manager of infrastructure and delivery at City West Water Maree Lang said Lonsdale St would remain open in both directions during construction, though road users could expect some disruptions as works were carried out over the next 12 months.

"To do this work safely, we need to reduce both eastbound and westbound lanes, as well as on-street parking around the sites," Ms Lang said.

"As a busy bus corridor, we've also worked closely with road and transport operators to maintain normal timetables along Lonsdale St, though commuters can expect short delays when passing through the works area."

The lane reductions are required to construct one 900 metre-long, 1.4-metre-wide pipe, with the help of a tunnel boring machine (TBM).

Working to a depth of 23 metres below street level, the TBM will be launched and retrieved across three work sites along the west-end of Lonsdale St, with the first site under way between King and William streets.

Sites at Elizabeth St and Spencer St intersections will follow early next year and remain in place until late-2020.

Ms Lang said local water and sewerage services wouldn't be affected, and access to businesses and residential apartments along Lonsdale St would be maintained at all times.

"We're doing all we can to minimise the impact of this necessary work, so all of our customers can move through the area safely and get on with their day," Ms Lang said.

Upon completion, these works will connect to the recently finished Spencer St sewer upgrade, with both projects forming part of an \$80 million capital improvement program to maintain service reliability for Melbourne's fast-growing population.

Roads will be monitored in real time and traffic lights modified to increase capacity at key intersections, with bus priority at peak times.

For more information about the project visit [citywestwater.com.au/about\\_us/major\\_projects/lonsdale\\_street\\_sewer\\_upgrade](http://citywestwater.com.au/about_us/major_projects/lonsdale_street_sewer_upgrade)

# Council's charged debate on child abuse in places of worship

By Meg Hill

*The City of Melbourne passed a motion last month regarding the safety of children following a charged debate in response to comments by the archbishop of Melbourne that he would not comply with new mandatory reporting laws.*

Cr Nicolas Frances Gilley, a former priest, introduced the motion on October 15 which passed by five votes to three. It stipulated that council would enquire as to what role it could play in relation to new state laws on mandatory reporting of child abuse in places of worship.

While introducing the motion, Cr Frances Gilley told the meeting he had resigned his licence partly due to issues of child abuse in the Catholic Church.

Later in the meeting, in response to debate on the motion, Cr Frances Gilley said that he himself had attended a boarding school and had been sexually abused.

"When you mention personal issues I mean, I did go to boarding school and I was sexually abused at boarding school, but that is not why I'm bringing this motion," Cr Frances Gilley said.

"Our role, every single one of our roles, is about safeguarding our children and we might not have a legal responsibility, but if we're not confident - and I'm not confident currently - we should ask the professionals around us to check that we have done everything we can do to ensure the safety of children."

Cr Frances Gilley said he began thinking about the issue when he read that the archbishop of Melbourne said he would not break the confessional seal to comply with the laws if an admission of child sexual abuse was made in the confessional.

"What that made me think about is, as an elected official in a council and that we have all these places of worship, and I am unaware of how many people there might be that think their faith put them above the law with respect to this issue," Cr Frances Gilley said.

"And then I realised it's not a crime until it happens, but the trouble is we know that it has happened, and it's happened to thousands of children over the years."

"So, if we as a council know that there are people who wouldn't mandatorily report, shouldn't we be considering what we should do about that rather than wait to hear that somebody was abused, somebody did confess or tell someone, and because of their faith they didn't report that."

Councillors Rohan Leppert, Nicholas Reece, Arron Wood, and Jackie Watts voted in



Cr Nic Frances Gilley.

support of the motion, while councillors Susan Riley, Beverley Pinder and Kevin Louey voted against it.

While Cr Pinder said she strongly supported the new Victorian laws, she spoke against the motion and said it subjected the Catholic Church to "attack" and "took the council into territory which it has no role or authority in".

"Let me pre-empt by saying that obviously all we can do to protect our children and keep them safe ... is paramount and goes without saying," Cr Pinder said.

"But I don't believe this is a fair and constructive way to do it."

"I really think we ought to be focusing on that which brings our ratepayers greater benefit ... and we ought not to be fighting our own battles, this is not a battleground for our own personal issues."

Cr Leppert spoke in favour of the motion and said it was an issue for ratepayers.

"I'm not sure what's meant by 'personal matters', I don't have any children but I feel passionately about this issue and that we have this public debate about what the laws mean and how they play out in practice, and whether or not any, prominent or not, places of worship are going to be compliant," Cr Leppert said.

"We're not proposing any role for the City of Melbourne yet, the conclusion of this motion is to seek advice."

"Let's be clear, this isn't a motion to volunteer to become an enforcement arm on behalf of the state government to uphold its new mandatory reporting laws."

"We're prompting a public discussion about a very important issue and we're not presuming where it may lead."

# Extending the free tram zone: Good move or bad?

By David Schout

*As state parliament considers the merit of extending the free tram zone, it appears people are split on whether free rides should extend beyond the CBD.*

In June, Transport Matters MP Rod Barton passed an upper house motion to consider extending the zone, which mostly covers the CBD and Docklands.

His suggestion included an expansion to major destinations such as the MCG, Art Centre and Melbourne Zoo, plus key institutions like the Alfred and Royal Children's Hospitals, and the University of Melbourne.

Public submissions are open until December 20.

While the state government has shown no indication yet of extending the zone, the question of how it would impact commuters remains a pertinent one.

And one thing is certain: people are divided on the zone's effectiveness.

Introduced at the start of 2015, supporters of the scheme spruik its cost and convenience benefits.

Mr Barton said extending the zone to include areas outside the CBD would be another step towards changing the way people choose to get around.

"We want to encourage visitors to these areas," he said.

"We want to encourage locals into these areas. It makes sense to encourage tram travel to these major destinations and encourage everyone to enjoy all that Melbourne has to offer."

An extension to the free tram zone would appear, from the outside, as a win for CBD locals.

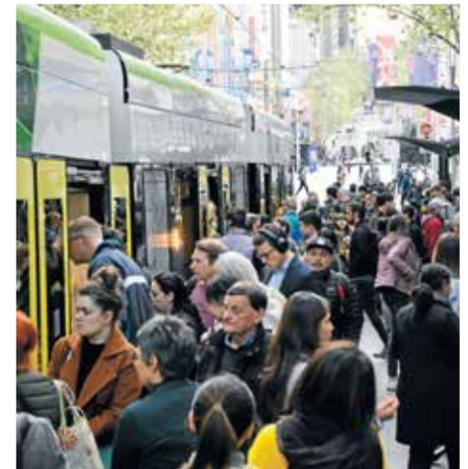
It would extend the areas they can travel for free to include key city venues and services.

*CBD News* recently asked several passers-by whether they would like to see the free tram zone extended to the arts and sports precincts. Each respondent said they would.

But others, especially those who live outside the CBD, have suggested it would further clog a system that is becoming unusable at peak hour.

Those who commute to and from the CBD by train each day don't benefit from the "free" trams: their Myki caps at \$8.80 irrespective of whether they take trams or not.

As a result, the main beneficiaries of the free tram zone would appear to be CBD



residents, tourists or those who travel into the city by car.

In a surprise revelation, the state government's recently released annual tram load survey claimed that, contrary to accounts of overcrowding, packed trams were in fact a rarity within the CBD.

It found just four instances of CBD trams past capacity during a nine-day period in May.

This compared to 11 instances in the same survey last year.

All four "load breaches" occurred during the morning peak of 8am-9.30am, meaning there were no recorded instances of overcrowding in the evening peak.

But the Public Transport Users Association (PTUA) questioned the survey's measurement, specifically the locations used to count passengers which were each located at the end of the free tram zone.

"The official numbers reckon Yarra Trams services mostly aren't overcrowded. That's because they're measuring them on the edge of the CBD - away from where the trams are most packed," the PTUA tweeted.

Despite the obvious benefits to locals and tourists, City of Melbourne councillors have expressed caution on a free tram zone extension.

Cr Rohan Leppert has said on Twitter that extending the zone would be a bad idea.

"Our public transport system is under intense pressure in the CBD," he wrote.

"An expansion of the free tram zone makes it harder for commuters to access trams, favours those who drove to the CBD over those who paid a fare in zone 1 or 2, and is a disincentive for walking short trips."

Fellow councillor Nicolas Frances Gilley agreed.

"Drivers into the city, many from inner suburbs, then use the free tram. It's a double whammy. The system does not get funded, clogged up with short free travel and cars at rush hour. All strains the system," he said.

The proposal to extend the free tram zone will be considered by parliament's economy and infrastructure committee next year.

# Pedestrians take priority in new strategy

By David Schout

*After two years of consultation with experts and the public, the City of Melbourne has finally endorsed its 10-year transport plan for the city.*

The Transport Strategy 2030 sets out council's response to Melbourne's population growth and gives definitive priority to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.

For residents, workers and visitors to the CBD, the strategy in particular aims to clear and widen footpaths after an overwhelming survey response last year suggested people were struggling for space within the Hoddle Grid.

Further research confirmed that nine in 10 trips within the CBD were done on foot, yet pedestrians were granted just a quarter of the space.

The final plan, endorsed at the October 15 council meeting, identified an "urgent need to reallocate road space in the central city and invest in walking and cycling infrastructure."

More immediately, this will include the creation of 300 new on-street motorbike parking spaces (to clear footpaths) and protected bike lanes on Exhibition and Latrobe streets.

Long-term, projects include pedestrianising large stretches of Elizabeth St and converting the city's "Little" streets (including Little Bourke, Little Collins and Flinders Lane) into "pedestrian priority zones."

Motorists will unsurprisingly be hit hardest by the plans, as the council has made no



An impression of a reimagined Little Street in the CBD.

secret of its plan to reduce what it sees as a space-inefficient mode of transport.

While "essential" trips won't be targeted (people with a disability, trade, service and emergency vehicles), other motorists will.

A draft plan to reduce speed limits to 30km/h throughout the Hoddle Grid was, however, was not included in the final strategy.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said it was time to address the commuting disparity.

"We are seeking the right balance between all modes of transport," she said.

"We need all modes to work together for a

liveable city, from building separated bike lanes for those riding, widening footpaths for pedestrians, introducing on-street parking bays for our motorcyclists and creating speed consistency for our motorists."

Cr Capp said significant population growth was a key driver behind the changes.

"We want to encourage everyone to come to Melbourne as a destination, whether it is by train, tram, car, bike or foot. However, we know that we need to make changes and upgrade our infrastructure to cope with our booming population. By 2036, another 500,000 people will be moving in and around the City of Melbourne each day."

In total, the council received nearly 1800 submissions for the new strategy - its largest ever public response.

Over eight areas were covered, including walking, cycling, motor vehicles, public transport and parking.

Alongside advice from transport consultants and academics, the strong public feedback regarding the need for changes to pedestrian and cyclist access was key in shaping the council's strategy.

Transport chair Nicolas Frances Gilley said targeting congestion benefitted everyone.

"We have thought very carefully about the kind of Melbourne we want and need in order to boost prosperity and efficiency but also to be a place for people to meet, dine outdoors, shop and have space to enjoy everything our city is famous for," he said.

"We can achieve this by alleviating congestion on our footpaths, where 89 per cent of trips are made, by welcoming people whose end destination is the city, by committing to make Melbourne the nation's leading bicycle city and by creating great civic destinations around our city stations."

An economic assessment by Deloitte suggested the prospective improvements to foot traffic would create significant economic benefits.

Other CBD specific plans outlined in the 10-year transport strategy include:

- Shortening pedestrian wait times at traffic lights;
- Reduce by half the proportion of through-traffic;
- Moving bicycle parking away from busy footpath areas; and
- Working towards a maximum of one traffic lane each way on all streets in the Hoddle Grid, except King St.

## Foot traffic confusion at Degraives St

By Rhonda Dredge

*The precinct surrounding Flinders St has come under pressure.*

Commuters bewildered by footpath closures stream down the middle of Flinders St and businesses are struggling to deal with the changes to foot traffic caused by metro tunnel works.

Traffic officers are standing at the entrance of Degraives St to redirect people further down Flinders St to a new crossing.

But old habits die hard and some are getting off the trams and taking the shortest route to their favourite haunts.

When officers are not looking, they are ducking beneath a new boom gate, to the amusement of those looking on and the annoyance of officers.

"I'm sick of telling people," said one, whose job was to patrol the gate, letting vehicles such as taxis through but not pedestrians.



A brave pedestrian slips under the boom gate.

People working in businesses close to the Degraives St intersection also reported having more trouble with deliveries since Flinders St was closed to traffic three weeks ago.

Some expressed fears that local businesses would fare as badly as those in Sydney when it undertook roadwork to re-introduce trams.

But not everyone is pessimistic even though most of the businesses in this thriving tourist

precinct depend on passing foot trade.

Backpackers World Travel at the corner of Degraives and Flinders streets said the council was trying to help with marketing, while Happy Travels, which sells tours to tourists by talking to those walking by, said the impact wasn't as bad as expected.

"We thought it would be worse," they said.

Desk staff at Backpackers United were also upbeat. "We're okay because people book online. It has affected a bit of foot traffic to the bar."

Pedestrians now have to negotiate a maze that includes a dead end on the footpath between Degraives and Swanston streets. There is no way of getting between the two streets without circumnavigating the block or crossing over the road.

Yin Aye at Vodafone, next to the boom gate, said she didn't know how they were going to survive.

"This is a new i-Phone release. We should be packed. No one is here."

Julia Ting at CT Mart is finding it really hard, she said. Her convenience store is close to the dead end on Flinders St.

"We're still negotiating to see if we can get a better solution. The rent is very expensive - \$400 a day."

Ms Ting said she had only been in the business for two months when Flinders St was closed.

# Flagstaff precinct development

By Meg Hill

*The growth of Flagstaff continues to attract plenty of interest from developers and October saw activity from three applications in particular. CBD News provides updates below.*

## 355-369 Spencer St

Probuild's plans for a tower atop the heritage-listed Sands and McDougall Manufactory will go before the Minister for Planning after being endorsed by the City of Melbourne in September.

The hotel would be built next door to the Melbourne Assessment Prison. The plans outline partial demolition of the heritage building and development of a 23-level tower with office and hotel space.

*The Age* reported that the council endorsed the design despite the plans breaching the maximum 16-storey height limit in the Flagstaff precinct and justified the decision with reference to a nearby 85-metre tower.

The council said there was a need to "consolidate and intensify development" to minimise the impact on the heritage buildings and qualified that the development must not overlook "sensitive" outdoor areas of the prison, according to *The Age*.

The heritage-listed building is a brick warehouse built in 1914.



The vacant site at 354-360 William St.

## 354-360 William St

Ubertas has submitted an amended planning application for 354-360 William St.

The site is on the eastern side of Flagstaff Gardens and adjacent to another Urbertas-owned tower at 350 William St.

In 2015 Urbertas first submitted plans to build a 22-level apartment building on the site.

But since then the plans have been amended at least three times.

Ubertas' current planning application, awaiting approval, is for an office and retail building.

The cost of the development has been scaled down from \$72 million to \$67 million since late-2016.

## 17-27 Wills St

Cedar Pacific has lodged an appeal to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) for plans to amend its permit for a tower atop a heritage-listed building at 17-27 Wills St.

The site has a controversial history due to plans by the previous owner, Highbury Focus, to build a 32-storey apartment tower centimetres from an existing apartment building at 25 Wills St.

The 2011 plans would have enclosed balconies in the existing building in a deep shaft, eliminating natural light and ventilation.

Cedar Pacific purchased the site and received a planning approval in December 2013 to build a 143-metre-high tower for use as student accommodation.

The new plans by Cedar Pacific include a six-metre separation from the neighbouring apartments impacted by previous plans.

The site is currently occupied by a two-storey warehouse protected under heritage listing. Under the existing permit partial demolition and restoration of the building is approved.

Although the plans are not compliant with current planning controls, they are compliant with the standard set for amendments to permits granted before those controls were introduced.



# Art grants

By Edward McLeish

*The City of Melbourne has awarded more than \$800,000 to a diverse range of artists, as part of the latest round of its annual arts grants program.*

70 artists and creative organisations have received funding for 2020, representing one of the largest cohorts of grant recipients ever funded by the City of Melbourne.

Chair of the Arts, Culture and Heritage portfolio Cr Rohan Leppert said the grants provided a major boost for Melbourne's arts scene, with projects stretching from theatre, dance and music to writing, multimedia and visual arts.

"This year's recipients are some of the most diverse we've ever seen and are a testament to the continued growth of our city's renowned arts scene," Cr Leppert said.

"With this funding more than 1070 artists will be employed to create 1400 days of arts activity, 74 per cent of which will be completely free to the public."

One of the 70 winners included Anna Varendorff of ACV Studio.

The designer's new project, *Walnut Gallery*, is expected to open in Swanston St's Nicholas Building early next year.

"Walnut Gallery will have a small series of exhibitions in the first half of 2020, working with artists of varied research backgrounds where the material nature of their work sits between art, design and craft practices," Anna told *CBD News*.

"The intimacy of the building and the relationship it has to housing varied practices for a significant time period undoubtedly influences both *Walnut Gallery* and its visitors."

"The council have been very personable, understanding that project proposals are a little malleable with time and environment, but remaining in support of the key ideas."

Cr Leppert said the latest round of arts grants were part of the City of Melbourne's new Creative Funding Framework.

"Council invests over \$4 million into arts and creative outcomes each year by independent artists and arts organisations," he said.

"The framework helps us set out a clear purpose and principles to guide our future investment up to 2024."

# Therry St building floods again

By Edward McLeish

*For the third time in two months, flooding has forced people out of their homes in the Zen Harmony apartments on Therry St.*

A Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) spokesperson told *CBD News* that all of the incidents, which occurred on August 17, September 3 and October 10, involved issues with the hot water system, including burst water pipes.

"The cause of the incidents is unknown, but they are not being treated as suspicious," the MFB spokesperson said.

"The council was alerted to the call outs and a building surveyor attended."

The 55-storey apartment building was completed in 2012, and so far, building management has refused to comment on the series of floodings.

No injuries were sustained in any of the incidents.



Cr Susan Riley with boutique retailer Hilda Simmonds at Erika Boutique, 437 Little Collins St.

# Plastic bag-free CBD

*The City of Melbourne is supporting the business community with preparing for the introduction of the state-wide ban on single-use plastic shopping bags.*

Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood said the ban, which comes into effect on November 1, highlighted the crucial role businesses could play in reducing waste.

"Our waste team regularly meets with businesses to help them reduce waste, learn more about recycling and help protect our

environment from plastic pollution," the Acting Lord Mayor said.

"We're proud that Queen Victoria Market went plastic bag and straw free in May this year."

"The ban has received overwhelming support with 80 per cent of customers and more than 70 per cent of traders we surveyed supportive of the ban."

Chair of the council's small business, retail and hospitality portfolio Cr Susan Riley said councillors endorsed a motion in August 2017 committing to formally advocate for a state-wide ban on single-use plastic bags.

"It's particularly important that businesses with plastic bags left over don't send them to landfill," Cr Riley said.

## Trader Profile

# Al dente at the market

“My favourite part of my job is the compliment you get when you help someone and they walk away with a smile,” said Sharon Brooks, the owner of Queen Victoria Market’s (QVM) Traditional Pasta Shop.

“Helping them with a product or a simple thing like telling them how to cook a product or what kind of sauce to use.”

“People really like that closeness; they walk away with a smile on their face because you’ve helped them out.”

If the market and the world have changed over the 24 years Sharon has run the shop, people’s appreciation for quality traditional pasta has not.

But, surprisingly, the expertise that Sharon provides was all learnt on the job.

“The shop became available 24 years ago and I just purchased it, that’s it,” she said.

“I was just a mum of four kids. I knew nothing about pasta apart from eating it. It takes a while to learn products and cooking times and everything, but over time you learn it all.”

“You get to know what products are really popular, what customers ask for. We have a broad range of fresh and dry pasta and when a customer asks for something, generally we have it right here.”

Sharon said customer favourites are often very traditional. One stand-out is orechiette, which comes with a traditional recipe that customers love.



Traditional Pasta Shop owner Sharon Brooks.

And, of course, the fresh ravioli.

“These are my favourite,” Sharon said.

“They come in a veal and white wine, a mushroom and ricotta, pumpkin and ricotta, and specialty pastas – today I have

sweet potato and leek.”

Almost all of the pasta is sourced from Italy, with a notable exception of an Australian-made gluten free brand.

A look around the shop is almost

overwhelming for a pasta novice – which is why Sharon’s help is so appreciated.

The variety of pastas, sauces and condiments – like a delicious black garlic antipasto – is impressive.

“It might be a tiny shop but there’s a lot of products,” Sharon said.

And it seems that Sharon’s shop is a fixture at the market as pasta is to the culinary scene.

“I spoke to a husband and wife two weeks ago and they mentioned how they’ve been shopping here for 30 to 40 years, and their families have been coming here,” Sharon said.

“Some move on and then come back, and you get some beautiful customers that you sit with and have a chat with, you become friends.”

The Traditional Pasta Shop is located at Shop 3-4 in the Dairy Produce Hall.

The Queen Victoria Market will also turn into a cheese-lovers dream this month when the Holey Cheese Festival returns for its second year.

The week-long festival runs from October 22-27 and will showcase the very best of the Victorian dairy scene.

## We Live Here

# Proposed changes to the Owners’ Corporation Act

As we write, Victorian Parliament is due to debate a draft Bill to amend the *Owners’ Corporation (OC) Act 2006*.

The flammable cladding issue has highlighted a serious shortcoming in the proposed amendments.

For several months we have been writing about the huge financial cost to owners caused by flammable cladding, and the slim prospects of anyone ever receiving a single dollar from the much-touted state government cladding fund.

Based on State Treasury estimates, there will be enough in the fund to help only about 40 buildings of the 1069 identified as having dangerous cladding. About 32 extreme-risk buildings, 409 high-risk buildings and 388 moderate-risk buildings will not receive any assistance.

This leaves the burden on individual OCs to seek redress. Currently any action against a builder requires a special resolution, unlike any other state or territory where an ordinary resolution suffices.

We Live Here supports the amendment of the legislation to require an ordinary resolution to be passed prior to the commencement of legal proceedings. This will bring Victoria in line with the *Strata Schemes Management Act 2015* (NSW) and the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997* (QLD).

The proposed exposure draft proposes to introduce different voting thresholds for certain matters, by stating that legal proceedings may be commenced by ordinary resolution if the jurisdiction of the matter is within the Magistrate Court limit of \$100,000.

So, if an OC sought to bring a claim against a builder for installing flammable cladding it will still require a special resolution to be passed. No other state or territory in Australia requires this threshold. This requirement acts as a barrier to justice.

### Extending protections to deal with facilities managers

New clauses in the exposure draft go a long way towards appropriate protection against unscrupulous developers awarding lucrative long-term OC management contracts to associates.

The same protections should be aimed at facilities management contracts which can be even more lucrative than OC management deals. The exposure draft is silent on any contract other than for OC management. This is a critical oversight that must be addressed to rid the industry of endemic corrupt practices.

The reform required is simple: just limit the term of all third-party 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.

### Grenfell report – first phase

Spare a thought for the bereaved, survivors and families from the 2017 Grenfell Tower flammable cladding fire disaster.

The long-awaited public inquiry report into what happened on the night of the Grenfell Tower fire is likely to be released one day before Britain is due to leave the European Union (EU).

The UK prime minister, Boris Johnson, wrote to the inquiry chair, Sir Martin Moore-Bick, saying that the report must be published no later than October 30.

English media outlets have reported that Grenfell United, the advocacy group representing the survivors and bereaved, wrote to Moore-Bick saying, “to publish the report on October 30 risks burying it in Brexit.”

This first report will deal only with what happened on the night of the fire.

The second phase of the inquiry is due to start in January next year and will investigate decisions made by the tower owner, the council, the landlords, the UK equivalent of the OC, the architects, the building contractor and two cladding material suppliers.

The second report is expected in 2021 – four years after the tragedy.

### RMIT University research into cladding impacts

We Live Here has been contacted by researchers at RMIT University seeking participants for a study on the impacts on people living with flammable cladding. The project is being managed by Dr Trivess Moore and Dr David Oswald from the School of Property, Construction and Project Management at RMIT University.

If you are affected by the cladding issue, the RMIT research team would like to hear about your experiences of the scale of the problems you face day to day. The research involves an interview by phone or in person. Questions cover social, security and financial impacts and the results will form the basis of range of peer reviewed reports, journal articles, conference papers or media releases. Contact We Live Here via our website [welfarehere.net](http://welfarehere.net) for details.

### Campaign donations

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

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



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

# “Doing the Block” in Collins St

From the 1860s to the 1930s, Melburnians who wanted to be seen (and admired), donned their finest clothes and headed for that fashionable part of town – Collins St – to take part in a ritual known as “doing the Block.”

This quickly became part of Melbourne’s identity. Colonial artist S.T. Gill, probably best known for his paintings of the goldfields, captured the scene in a watercolour that is now part of the State Library of Victoria’s collection. Then a few years later, Fergus Hume described the ritual in his 1886 novel *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*:

*“It was Saturday morning and fashionable Melbourne was ‘doing the Block.’ Collins St is to the Southern city what Bond St and the Row are to London ... Portly merchants, forgetting Flinders Lane and incoming ships, walked beside pretty daughters; and the representatives of sweldom were stalking along in their customary apparel of curly brimmed hats, high collars and immaculate suits.”*

It was a case of being seen and being noticed and Collins St between Elizabeth and Swanston streets was where it all happened. If you didn’t think about it too hard, you could imagine you were back in the “Old Country,” strolling down London’s exclusive Regent St. You needed to get the timing right – 3.30pm to 5.30pm during the week and between 11am and 2pm on a Saturday, so the *Encyclopedia of Melbourne* tells us.

Around the time this photograph was taken (1917), the *Argus* newspaper wrote of “The Block” as a “kind of vast, open-air club with unlimited membership ... a promenade without a band, a carnival without confetti, a Rotten Row without the horses.”

So that is the background to this image from the Royal Historical Society’s collection. The photographer is standing just outside



Looking west along ‘The Block’, Collins St; showing people on the footpath in front of the Kodak store at the entrance to Block Arcade. Photographer: Osboldstone & Co. Pty Ltd. Melbourne Date: c. 1917 Collection: RHSV BL005-0002.

the entrance to the magnificent Block Arcade. He is looking west along “The Block” and if you walk far enough along Collins St you will eventually end up at Southern Cross Station.

The year is 1917 and the country is in the middle of a devastating war that will see more than 60,000 Australians die and another 156,000 wounded. There is no sign of a world in turmoil in this image. However, there are some signs that this is a world in transition. For example, there is a horse-drawn cart pulled up at the kerb, but behind that is a motor car. Electric trams will soon take over from the old horse-drawn trams and the cable trams you see here.

The biggest sign of change, though, is in the shop on the right, at the entrance to the

Block Arcade. Here is a Kodak shop, ready to develop and print your latest photographs (black and white, of course). Here is modernity, and a chance for everyone to record and keep a record of their everyday lives for the future. For several generations, family “snaps” are neatly displayed in beautifully presented albums or kept inside their Kodak folders, or even piled into boxes alongside letters and postcards and other memorabilia. Then along comes digital cameras and nothing is ever quite the same. It’s hard to realise now, but Kodak and its simple and inexpensive Box Brownie cameras made it possible for almost anyone to keep a visual record of their lives.

Looking again at this scene, it is hard to realise, too, that very soon vehicular traffic

will dominate the streets and pedestrians will not be able to take part in this long-standing ritual of “doing the Block” so easily. It won’t be long before hemlines rise and the extravagant women’s hats you see here are replaced by neat clothes and some of the elegance of the age will be gone, replaced by a new, modern, bustling world looking to a better future after the end of what everyone hoped was the “war to end all wars.”

The magnificent buildings erected during the 1880s, the years of “Marvellous Melbourne,” dominate the skyline in this image. Walk down this same stretch of Collins St today and further up towards Parliament House (behind the photographer) along what has long been known as the “Paris end” of Collins St and you will see a skyline dominated by high-rise buildings of a height beyond the imagination of the people in this image.

So, where do today’s Melburnians go to be seen and admired? Is there a modern-day equivalent to “doing the Block”? What is just around the corner for us? What is the future for the CBD? All questions that occurred to me as I looked at this photograph. I don’t have the answers, but I hope the CBD remains the “heart” of Melbourne, a vibrant place for future generations to enjoy. I hope, too, that the elegance of this stretch of Collins St is valued and remembered forever.



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

## Residents 3000

# Do city kids deserve better?

A beautiful tree-covered playground in Birrarung Marr has fallen into disrepair. Once a well-designed facility had become tired and un-loved.

Mother of two young children, Alison Fairley (a University lecturer in architecture), told me about the playground.

“Being city dwellers, this playground is our back yard. We come here nearly every day. It is a beautiful spot with ample native shade trees with new ones planted recently,” she said. “But we have watched with dismay as the play equipment has deteriorated from lack of maintenance.”

“Many families use this playground including international visitors who need to take their children to play. When there are big events in Melbourne, like the Australian Open, famous people’s nannies bring their children here. School children who are visiting the city choose the Birrarung Marr



playground to have lunch.”

“I am embarrassed by the dirty panels, the graffiti and the broken equipment. Not only that, there is the problem of undesirable rubbish from teenagers’ night-time revelry, that is not cleared the next morning. I am not happy to know that my little ones are exposed to littering of all sorts of ‘strange’ items. They may think that such behaviour is the norm. Surely we can do better?”

Alison told me that a play hammock has been missing for at least six months. The water fountain is always leaking, not only wasting water but causes parents concern when little ones want to play in the mud (of

course!). The spiral slide is broken again, after being out of order for six months prior. There is no swing for the older children.

As you might expect, Alison has reported the problem to the City of Melbourne but has had no response and no action. Maybe it is time to re-do the playground altogether. Maybe a new design, brand new equipment that is easier to maintain. Why not make the playground a showcase? The best of 2020! After all, an upgrade to a popular playground after 16 years of continuous use, is not unreasonable.

### Beautifying our city - good news!

In the August issue there was discussion about street trees and how Russell St between Collins and Flinders streets had lost its centre strip trees many years ago. Not anymore! As you walk around our streets, you’ll notice that the City of Melbourne has replenished our urban forest. Mature, healthy new trees have been planted. Now it is up to us, as city residents to keep an eye out for these newbies.

If it is a Sunday and it has been hot and

dry for several days, give our new trees some love. Do not be afraid to bring out your watering can and give them a drink. We need to care for our “forest” as the trees provide us with welcome shade, oxygen as they absorb unwanted carbon dioxide and they help the city’s micro climate to be cooler in the summer.

### Come to Forum 3000 . . .

The next Residents 3000 event is on Thursday, November 7 at the Kelvin Club at 6pm. Members and guests are welcome. Details of the events are posted on our web site [residents3000.com.au](http://residents3000.com.au) and members and subscribers receive an email a week before the event. The committee has a surprise for you in November!



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



Metro Tunnel

# City Square gets a new (temporary) shed

City Square is one of three construction sites for the Metro Tunnel Project's new Town Hall station.

If you've walked past recently, you would've seen a large shed now covers much of the site.

The acoustic shed is a temporary structure designed to minimise construction impacts such as noise, dust and light during major construction.

The shed is around 23 metres wide, 90 metres long and 18 metres high and is made with large, concrete panels that reduce noise for nearby residents and businesses.

The shed will be in place for the next few years while we continue to excavate the new station.

Inside the City Square shed, excavation of an access shaft is underway, before a road header arrives on site in coming months. The road header is a specialist piece of excavation equipment that will be assembled on site 30 metres underground then launched to start excavation of the new station cavern.



City Square's new (temporary) shed.

## State Library station update

Major construction is continuing at the northern end of Swanston St at the site of the new State Library station.



New State Library station site.

The new station will improve access to some of the Melbourne's most popular destinations, including the State Library of Victoria, RMIT and Queen Victoria Market,

and cater for the area's growing student population.

To build the new station, excavation works are required at five sites across Melbourne's CBD - Franklin St East, Franklin St West, A'Beckett St, La Trobe St and Little La Trobe St.

Construction of a new temporary acoustic shed on Franklin St West is also underway.

The shed, measuring 50 metres long and coloured red to blend in with the nearby buildings, will help minimise construction impacts including noise, light and dust during 24-hour excavation works.

The team will be excavating a 31-metre-deep shaft at this site, which will connect to the main station cavern being built under Swanston St.

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

Melbourne Business Network

# Your local business network

Representing all industry sectors, small business plays a key role in the thriving City of Melbourne economy.

While running a small business can be incredibly rewarding, it isn't without its challenges. Sometimes, business owners and operators are unsure of where to turn to for assistance or need the benefit of leveraging a larger group.

Working on behalf the City of Melbourne, the Melbourne Business Network (MBN) is a membership-based networking association that facilitates connections, communications and collaboration for businesses within the city. We are a resource to help businesses succeed. Through our events, we also



Back (L-R): Dianne Schmidtke, Anita Boutell, Wendi Dawson, Brian Jones. Front (L-R) Libby Dale and Frank Gamera

provide an avenue for small businesses on business-critical issues which they may not have ready access.

Some of the challenges we have helped

business with are "how to build a brand that customers will love" (with Phil Ore of Marketing Entourage) and "how to maximise your LinkedIn profile to generate more revenue" (with Megan Edwards of mWords Communications). Additionally, we have held events on the importance of social enterprise in our city (with Jarrod Briffa of Kinfolk Enterprise). The MBN will continue its strong calendar of events into 2020 as well, enhancing our membership offerings and bringing greater focus on the resources and grants available to small business through the City of Melbourne.

The MBN also hosts the Business 3000+ Awards which are Melbourne's premier awards program for small business. Since 2004, the B3000+ Awards have been recognising and celebrating the endeavours and achievements of independent businesses located within

the City of Melbourne that contribute to the commercial success and unique, vibrant fabric of the city. Past winners of the B3000+ Awards are Middleton Group (New Business Award), Michelle Redfern (Female Entrepreneur), Smart Measures (Business of the Year, Innovation), StarRez (Business of the Year), and many, many more.

To find out more about the MBN, or our events, visit [melbournebusinessnetwork.org.au](http://melbournebusinessnetwork.org.au). For more information on the B3000+ Awards, go to [b3000awards.org.au](http://b3000awards.org.au)

We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.



**Wendi Dawson**  
president, Melbourne Business Network

## 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



# From the stock room

By Rhonda Dredge

You're judged in the art world by the decisions you make and Anna Schwartz remembers going down to an artist-run space in Prahran in the early '90s.

"When I first started going to Store 5 I was so interested in the artists and what they were doing there," she said.

"They were showing commitment to a very unrecognised exhibition space."

Some of the shows in the tiny room lasted for just a day but the artists had a common manifesto and that was to keep modernist abstraction alive in the face of postmodern simulations.

Kerry Poliness, Melinder Harper, Stephen Bram and Kathy Tremin, who had all just graduated, were part of the Store 5 collective with older artist John Nixon as mentor.

The room was so small that the person looking after an exhibition often stood in the laneway outside.

These humble beginnings become the legends of the art world, living on as bright stories to inspire those looking for their own creative direction. By definition, the avant



Anna Schwartz and shattered plywood pieces by Kerrie Poliness

garde is original, subversive and short-lived.

Commercial galleries play an important role by showing, selling and preserving work that might otherwise be lost. Store 5 closed in 1983. It was tucked in behind the Maples store close to the local art school.

Now those artists have selected works for *Never the same river*, an historical exhibition spanning 38 years of Anna's art business, the last 24 years in Flinders Lane in a building designed by architect Denton, Corker and Marshall.

Some pieces still seem fresh, such as the lovely little constructions by Kerrie Poliness

out of shattered plywood from 1986, which connect to Russian constructivism but challenge it in terms of materials.

These pieces seem funny and tentative, compared to more recent egotistical attempts by Melbourne's art community to be part of a global industry.

"I think that the point of difference is that the public is more educated than it was," Anna said. "A lot of people travel. A larger part of the culture is engaged with art. The whole culture swims in it."

Anna can take some of the credit for that. She was one of the first gallerists to take

Australian artists overseas to art fairs.

*Never the same river* includes the work of 50 artists from her stable. The hang will be changed in November to coincide with the launch of a book on the gallery scene.

There are big names in the show but also many amusing moments in this soulful trajectory through Melbourne art.

A collage on masonite made out of the black and white fur of cut-up bears is vintage Kathy Temin, the artist having a giggle at modernism's pretensions.

"It's a very early one," Anna said. Before her problems in a corner? "You'll have to check the date."

There's a clever installation of paintings by Mikala Dwyer done in nail polish in 2003, at a time when content was being dominated by spatial concerns.

A gold enamel by Dale Frank is elegant in its pouring, a departure from his more rambunctious works. "It's an early monochrome," she said. "Quite significant."

There's a great quote lit up in neon: "to be an artist is to fall as no other dare fall."

Yes, artists do fall. They have to be modest. They may go out of trend but the best live on in collections and stockrooms around the country.

*Never the same river*, Anna Schwartz, Flinders Lane, until December 21.

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Where to Shop

# When art does all the taking

By Rhonda Dredge

Private collectors are shy, hiding behind their artworks, but they do love to make a fuss about the artists in their collection.

Jan van Schaik has 128 works in his small Bourke St apartment and most are squeezed into the hall.

He can list the names of all of them and is quite particular about giving artists credit.

He has begun a project to connect with other collectors that honours the artists in their hidden collections as well.

"If you gathered together in your mind all the works in people's homes they'd be our biggest museum," he said.

Jan knows how much enjoyment he gets from looking at his works. He is amused by the audacity of Paul Yore, hanging outside the bathroom. He's drawn to the restraint of Patrick Hare, hanging just inside his front door and he makes parallels between works from different decades.

His first work was donated before his birth – an abstract silkscreen made in 1970 – and he just finished hanging his latest purchases above it, three political figurative paintings.

"In a way they say the same thing. Peter Hare is painting his feeling of landscape through his feet in St Ives and Peter Waples-Crowe his feeling of life," he said.

In 1970, flat abstraction was still considered radical, while in 2019 being gay and indigenous is a potent mix.

Jan does not consider himself to be a curator. He practices architecture in the CBD



Jan van Schaik with his collection of works by Stuart Maxwell, Bryan Spier, Gerhard Richter, Alasdair McLuckie, Hany Armanious, Patrick Hartigan, Irene Hanenbergh, Sara Oscar, Anna Nervegna, Jessie Bullivant, Susan Jacobs, Oscar Yanez, Richard Giblett, Eliza Hutchinson, Chelsea Hopper, Rob McLeish, Jess Johnson, Leon van Schaik, Adriaan van Schaik, Brent Harris and Isabella Darcy

and teaches at RMIT. Nor is he an artist. But he does love art projects.

He runs a series of talks by practicing artists called *Writing and Concepts* at different public spaces and aims to publish pamphlets to give other private collectors

the chance for some exposure.

"Buying art is the best way to support artists," he said. He doesn't object to the commercial side of the business and frequents CBD galleries Neon Parc, Anna Schwartz, Murray White and Sarah Scout.

Even though some former galleries have moved out to the Collingwood Arts Precinct, he said there were still amazing galleries in the CBD. He is also not opposed to a bit of government support, having been chair of the City of Melbourne's Creative Spaces.

"There's a risk if you don't put something in place to ensure what artists put into an area comes back to artists. In Gertrude St the benefit didn't bring returns. Artists left because of increasing rents," he said.

Jan admits to being a public man. He loves the CBD because he can nip down to his office and to RMIT without travelling. He can shift readily between roles.

For the *Collection* project he will select a couple of pieces from nine private collections and commission curators to write about them.

The project does not have funding. Perhaps a collective of collectors could be in the offing, drawing out private fancies connected to art.

In pride of place beside his dining table is a Stuart Maxwell he bought a year ago at Charles Nodrum Gallery. Its large brilliant clear forms in a cut-out shape speak of an era when it was cool just to be seen in front of an abstract work.

It did all the talking for you.

## SKYPAD Living

# The vertical commons

Communal infrastructure brings people together and, by promoting a culture of reciprocity, can reduce waste – but what model might suit our vertical neighbourhoods?

Australians are well used to portrayals of our remote outback towns being self-sufficient. With a stereotypical hands-on approach, we have become used to seeing these communities ban together to create their own facilities - like sporting fields, community halls – and sometimes even grading the road that leads there!

Referred to as communal or community infrastructure, these types of facilities are well recognised as essential for the health, social wellbeing and economic prosperity of communities. This fact is noted by both our state and local governments which explicitly acknowledging community infrastructure as a cornerstone of wellbeing.

And this need for community infrastructure is also apparent in our new high-rise high-density precincts.

Unsurprisingly – and in direct contrast to our rural cousins – one of our key needs and challenges involves space.

We vertical villagers are well aware that

high-rise, high-density living is synonymous with limited space and we are well versed in topics such as down-scaling, decluttering and multi-functional furniture.

However, viewed in terms of community infrastructure, our space restrictions have a more insidious side which impact on our ability to partake in the circular economy (i.e. minimise our waste).

### Consider this.

The space restrictions of vertical living typically require us to give up our infrequently used equipment – like specialty tools and appliances. However, in so doing, we reduce our own ability to repair or repurpose – because if a task needs a drill or an overlocker, then there are few substitutes (contrary to my neighbour's view of hammers!). This means we need to either pay someone else to do the repair (if there is a service available) or throw it away, thereby contributing to our growing waste levels.

Encouragingly, however, entities such as the Libraries of Things (LoT) and also specialty tool libraries are emerging.

Similar to our traditional libraries, tool libraries allow members to borrow items for gardening, sewing, cooking or carpentry. Borrowing might incur a small cost, or there may be a membership fee, or, in some cases, there may be no cost at all – and this is an example of the real sharing economy.

However, our high-density precincts share

with us of the vertical villages the issue of a lack of space. As services and facilities like Tool Libraries require space (these tools aren't virtual!) as well as some degree of certainty about where and when they can be accessed, has led to these services either not being set up or operating on an ad hoc basis. Add to this the wasted effort of repeatedly setting up and then dismantling operations.

What is needed is a more creative approach to exploring options - and to start, here are two thought bubbles:

First, co-working for community groups – rather than introduce yet another co-working space for start-ups, perhaps these areas can be reoriented towards community groups.

Secondly, businesses, universities and government (all who occupy our precinct) often have underutilised facilities (and equipment!). A focused look at what arrangements might be possible could lead to more than just helping people reuse and repair, it could lead to actual inter-sector engagement and a stronger community.



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

SKYPAD  
LIVING

## Lunch Break



**Alice liked to keep a watch on the menu**

*Stalactites  
Lonsdale Street*

## Music

# Musical safari

Drummer and percussionist Ash Davies will showcase his prodigious and ubiquitous skills alongside a great band for his unique *Ned Kelly Show* this month.

Playing the Word For Word National Non Fiction Festival at Wordi Youang at Geelong Library and Heritage Centre on November 17, this is a brilliant audio/visual show of the life and times of Australia's most famous bushranger.

The show is presented with the late Ian Jones' historically accurate narration, performed by Derek Guille and accompanied by a five-piece band featuring Monique DiMattina, Shannon Bourne, Rosie Westbrook and Michael Lewit. The musical soundtrack, which is emotive and engaging, will be accompanied by archival images from the collection of the State Library of Victoria.

Melbourne Music Week (MMW) 2019 returns for its 10th edition, celebrating Melbourne's phenomenal musical culture and take place from November 14 to 23. A highlight will be Loose Tooth who will be performing at The Curtin as part of the great *Live Music Safari* on November 14, where a range of venues across Melbourne will have stacks of bands performing in a night of superb musicianship.

Cherry Bar will be relaunched in the CBD in November at a genuine rock and roll location that will soon be announced. The relaunched Cherry Bar will be a reprise of the late-night rock and roll bar that was much loved at ACDC Lane. One feature of Cherry Bar that is bound to return will be the *Sunday Arvo Blues* sessions that feature great bands and musicians every month such as The Heinous Hounds, Phil Para Band and Three Kings. Its world-famous soul nights on Thursday nights should also feature on the musical menu.

CaseyBEBENEK continue their stellar one track a month release on all digital platforms with their latest album being launched on October 31 at Factory Sessions in Northcote. CaseyBEBENEK is a musical duo (Adam Casey and Julia Bebenek) that performs improvised atmospheric musical soundtracks inspired by nature.

JP Shilo, the Melbourne muso from The Hungry Ghosts had a great show to launch his album *Invisible You* at Rocksteady Records, Mitchell House entrancing a packed record store on a Friday night in October. JP Shilo is a deluxe rock and roll funkmaster who is a distant cousin to Tex Perkins. He has played with Rowland S Howard, Blackeyed Susans and had a stellar band performing with him, that included Steve Shelley (Sonic Youth), Cambodian Space Project's Glenn Lewis, Mick Harvey, Kim Salmon and Enrique Maymi from The Brian Jonestown Massacre. The Rocksteady Records show occurred the night after JP Shilo, the rock and roll ultra-reverb insect, played an electrifying set to a full house at The Spotted Mallard. *Invisible You*, the debut solo album from JP Shilo is brooding, sparse rock and roll with the vocals front and centre in the mix, as well as laid back guitars and spacious drumming akin to The Dirty Three.

This year's Aria Awards will be held on November 27 in Sydney and will be hosted by Guy Sebastian. The event will occur



Loose Tooth will perform at The Curtin as part of the great *Live Music Safari* on November 14.

at The Star Event Centre. Paul Kelly has a few nominations across three different categories and his total nomination record is now at 58. The Teskey Brothers have seven nominations. Album of the Year nominees are Dean Lewis for *A Place We Knew*, Hilltop Hoods for *The Great Expanse*, RUFUS DU SOL for *Solace*, The Teskey Brothers for *Run Home Slow* and Thelma Plum's *Better In Blak*.

Spiderbait are also performing at the Forum Theatre to celebrate their illustrious career with support from Maddy Jane and Moody Beaches. Spiderbait, who are renowned for their great cover of the song *Black Betty*, will soon be releasing their 7 inch singles collection and one of the feature songs will be the classic *Old Man Sam*.

Overdriven fuzzed out Detroit rock influenced guitar rock supremo Penny Ikingier is playing a few shows around Melbourne in November, playing songs from her illustrious catalogue as well as songs from her most recent album *Tokyo*. On stage with Penny will be Tim Deane on the guitar, Katie Dixon on the bass guitar and Tim O'Shannassy on the drums.

Legendary German duo DAF (Deutsch Amerikanische Freundschaft) will make their Australian debut in an exclusive show for MMW, performing at Melbourne Town Hall on November 17. Support will be from Total Control and Dark Water.

## Gigs/ Shows

- Melbourne Music Week 2019: Various venues, November 14-23
- The Dandy Warhols: The Forum Theatre, November 3
- Spiderbait: Forum Theatre, November 9
- Penny Ikingier: The Espy, November 1
- Fuzzfest: The Bendigo Hotel, November 16



Chris Mineral

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

## Pet's Corner

# From the bar to Benalla

By Edward McLeish

Pacho is a big boy for a two-year old golden retriever, and his owner Anna O'Callaghan is about to treat him to a weekend at the family farm.

Anna is a self-employed barrister and said after Pacho's first day at the office, on a casual Friday, they'll drive up to Benalla for a weekend of dam swimming.

"Today, I'll just take him out for little walks and coffee breaks," she said.

"It's a lot easier to bring in dogs when you work for yourself."

When *CBD News* met Pacho last month, Anna wasn't in court and was just doing office work, so Pacho, who can handshake and loves a pat, provided her with great company.

"I think the bar is pretty dog friendly - there's a lot of people that do it," she said.

There'll be cattle and sheep for Pacho to play with in Benalla, but Anna told *CBD News* he preferred to stay with the family.

"I think if he would [mix with the cattle and sheep] he could, but I think for his own safety, we wouldn't let him," she said.

"He gets to just run around and jump in dams and get really dirty and do all that

dog stuff. There are so many smells for him to investigate."

Pacho is on a relatively healthy diet; his favourite things to eat are peanut butter, sweet potato and couches.

According to Anna, he's a good boy, but there was a phase where "he wanted to chew everything".

Luckily, he's out of it now.

"I think he just got a burst of hormones," she said.

Pacho's name means "free" in Spanish.



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# 零浪费的庆祝活动

广告社论 Sean Car

墨尔本市政呼吁社区响应其环保使命，力求所有的庆祝活动都要环保。

这一雄心将在11月14日至23日的2019年墨尔本音乐周期间作为展出的一部分，届时将在亚历山德拉(Alexandra)花园展示本市首个碳中和认证的音乐节，致力于零浪费的庆祝活动。

为了庆祝这个第10个年头的节日，这次的音乐周将带回其最初的中心库比克(Kubik)，一个由德国柏林巴莱斯特拉创意公司设计的户外活动空间，在一个工业容器内装有浸入水中的LED灯，这些灯与现场音乐的节拍相互作用。

然而，库比克今年将重点关注可持续发展，整个中心将由阿拉拉特(Ararat)附近的风力发电



厂提供100%的可再生能源。此外，该容器本身将装满收集的雨水，这些雨水稍后将被重新分配回城市的公园和花园。

市政还与所有活动供应商合作，确保可持续性地嵌入其“零废物”中心的各个方面，尽可能消除所有一次性物品，如塑料吸

管，以及提供可重复使用的水杯。

市政未来低碳团队的领导者尼基·乔丹(Nikki Jordan)向本报解释说，根据联邦政府的碳中和计划，2019年墨尔本音乐周也将再次测量和抵消其所有排放。

她说：“这个项目是一个相当有活力的过程，必须首先确定哪些排放源对活动最重要，然后随着时间的推移，努力减少这些排放，以此来衡量整个排放活动。”

“剩余的碳足迹将通过支持其它地方减少碳排放的项目来抵消；比如昆士兰州和新南威尔士州的重新造林项目，以及减轻大面积森林火灾影响的土著土地管理项目。”

## 无障碍通道 “越来越糟”

撰稿 David Schout

据一位参加过六次残奥会的市区居民说，中央商务区的残疾人通道已经倒退，跟不上城市的发展。

澳大利亚残奥会举重金牌得主布莱恩·麦克尼科尔(Brian McNicholl)表示，杂乱的人行道和交通不便的公共交通使墨尔本远远落后于其他大城市。

这位在中央商务区居住了16年的居民表示，脱节的政策已经使他在市中心(霍德尔网络)的生活越来越困难。

他说：“我发现残疾人无障碍措施现在越来越糟糕，而不是越来越好。”

“作为一个坐在轮椅上四处



出行的人来说，我还算非常能动的，有时还是会碰到一些问题。我不愿去想很多比我行动能力差的人之处境，在某种程度上我们似乎被遗忘了。”

麦克尼科尔先生参加过六届残奥会，赢得了五枚奖牌，包括1992年巴塞罗那奥运会的金牌。

他创下过的227.5公斤的世界纪录，被授予澳大利亚勋章。

麦克尼科尔先生仍然以最高级别参与这项运动，他以技术官员的身份周游世界，因而能区别各国残疾人通道措施的不同。

他说：“当你出国时，你会看到很多东西，有些措施是我们在这里唯一期待的。”

“我到过的大多数地方，不管你采取什么交通方式，交通通道都很棒，你可以做任何事。甚至还不是美国或英国，日本做得非常出色，韩国也是如此。我甚至在普吉岛周围也没有任何问题。许多地方的情况都要好得多，他们在这方面的政策肯定和我们大不相同。”

## 路面车道缩减

撰稿 Edward McLeish

朗斯代尔(Lonsdale)街已经开始分阶段缩减车道，以便在斯宾塞(Spencer)街和伊丽莎白(Elizabeth)街之间安装新的下水管道，这是墨尔本中央商务区120多年来下水道网络进行最大规模升级的一部分。

西城水公司基础设施和实施交付部总经理玛丽·朗(Maree Lang)表示尽管朗斯代尔街在施工期间仍然开放双向车道，但是在接下来的12个月工程施工中，道路使用者还是会遇上一些干扰中断。

朗女士说：“为了施工安全，我们需要减少东西向车道，以及工地周围的路边停车。这是个繁忙的公交要道，为此我们还与公路和交通运营商紧密合作，维持朗斯代尔街沿线的正常运行时间表，然而通勤者在穿越工作区域时可能会遇到短暂的延误。”

施工中用隧道掘进机(TBM)来建造一条长900米、宽1.4米的管道时需要缩减路面车道。

施工将在街面下方23米深度进行，掘进机将在朗斯代尔街西端的三个工地启动并收回，而第一个工地则在国王(King)街和威廉姆(William)街之间。

接下来明年年初将在伊丽莎白街和斯宾塞街交叉口的工地进行施工，并将一直延续到2020年底。

## 行人优先

撰稿 David Schout

经过两年与有关专家和公众的协商，墨尔本市政终于推出了其十年交通规划。

《2030年交通战略》阐述了市政议会对于墨尔本人口增长的应对措施，并明确优先考虑行人、骑自行车者和公共交通使用者。

对于在中央商务区的居民、工作者和游客来说，该策略主要是力求清理和拓宽人行道。去年的一项调查显示，人们在市中心(霍德尔网络)内争夺空间。

进一步的研究证实，在中央商务区内，十分之九的行程是步行完成的，然而行人只获得了四

分之一的空间。

在10月15日的市政议会上通过的最终计划确定了“迫切需要重新分配中心城市的道路空间，并投资于步行和自行车基础设施。”

更直接的是，这将包括在展览(Exhibition)街和拉托布(Latrobe)街新建300个摩托车停车位，以清理人行道和受保护的自行车道。

长期来看，这些项目包括伊丽莎白街的大部分步行区，以及将该市的“小”街道(包括小伯克、小柯林斯和弗林德斯巷)改

造成“行人优先区”

毫无疑问驾车者会受到这些计划的冲击，因为市政会毫不犹豫地推出新政策，改进空间效率低下的交通方式。

“紧要”的出行方式(如残疾人、商业、服务和急救车辆)不会受此计划的影响，但是其他驾车者会受到很大的影响。

然而，将市中心(霍德尔网络)的速度限制至30公里/小时的计划草案并没有包括在最终的战略计划中。

市长萨利·卡普说，现在是解决通勤者问题的时候了。

# 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, ST MICHAEL'S, 120 COLLINS ST ST MICHAEL'S RECITAL

Experience spectacular music as the St Michael's grand organ comes to life for a free 30-minute recital every Thursday. No booking required. **9654 5120**

### 4PM - 10PM, SECOND AND FOURTH SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH, HEFFERNAN LANE IN CHINATOWN CHINATOWN MARKET DAY

Packed with the heady fragrance of hawker-style stalls selling dumplings and noodles, cakes and souvenirs. Stay until night falls, to see the twinkling night market. **FREE**

### 10AM, EVERY 3RD TUESDAY, POMODORO SARDO RESTAURANT, 111 LONSDALE ST EASTENDERS COFFEE CLUB

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**eastendersinc@gmail.com**

### 6PM, 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH THE KELVIN CLUB, 14 MELBOURNE PL RESIDENTS 3000 FORUM

A community group to inform, connect and support CBD residents. Regular social events with speaker.

**Details posted on residents3000.com.au**

### 4-6PM, EVERY SUNDAY, CAMPARI HOUSE, 23-25 HARDWARE LANE TRIVIA ON THE ROOF

A retractable roof and drink specials will help warm up your brain for Sunday trivia. Bookings not required.

**9600 1574 or info@camparihouse.com.au**

### 10AM - 5PM, IAN POTTER CENTRE, NGV, FEDERATION SQUARE PETRINA HICKS: BLEACHED GOTHIC EXHIBITION

More than forty photograph and video works. Shimmering and often hyperreal compositions convey the inherent ambiguity and complexity of the female experience. **FREE**

### 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/birrarung-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.  
Hoys 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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# Market plans "a recipe for congestion"

By Sean Car

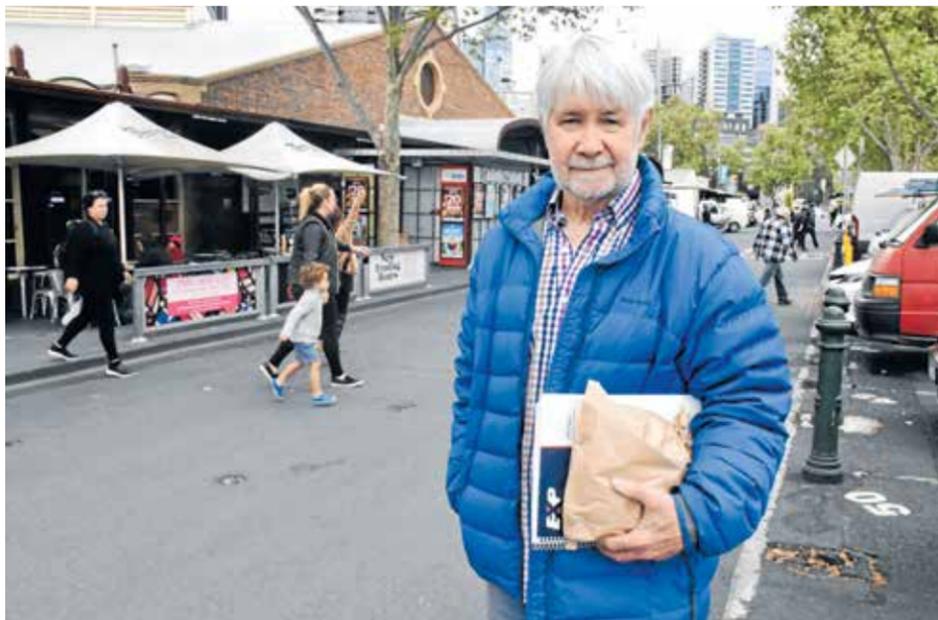
**CBD North residents continue to express concerns over the City of Melbourne's proposed road and traffic changes as part of its renewal of Queen Victoria Market (QVM).**

It comes after the council issued a public notice in September to discontinue parts of Franklin and Queen streets, which will form part of the future mixed-use southern development site on Franklin St and provide new market infrastructure on Queen St.

The changes would also see the removal of the roundabout at the intersection of Franklin and Queen streets, and Franklin St (between Queen and William streets) become a single, westbound-only lane.

The council also announced on October 14 that it would be starting community consultation on the use of Market Square – a new 1.5-hectare public open space on the land occupied by the current market car park. The community's input will help shape a charter to design and manage the space.

The southern development site on Franklin St will feature a high-rise development including shops, commercial space, apartments, community facilities and 500



Franklin St resident Bob Evans is one of a number of locals concerned with council-proposed traffic changes at QVM.

market car parks on freehold land. An additional 500 market car parks are currently being built into the Munro Development on the corner of Queen and Therry streets.

A submission to council signed by some 35 local residents last month expressed major concerns with what it described as a "failure to account for the impact of traffic congestion and pedestrian conflict."

"Council has revealed no traffic strategy to manage the changed circumstances for these streets under this proposal, particularly in

light of the massive development that has occurred around the market precinct in the past decade with more residential and business buildings under construction or being planned," the submission stated. "It also fails to take account of the popularity of the weekly night markets, which draw large crowds and heavy traffic usage of the existing at-grade carpark."

Local resident Bob Evans, one of the 35 or so to have signed the submission, said the council's current plans, in addition to

ongoing development of CBD North, made for "a recipe for congestion."

"I can't see it playing out well and all I can see it doing is adding to congestion because none of the roads out of the market in this proposed plan are going to solve that problem," he said.

"We need to protect the amenity of the area. It's really going to be problematic I think and we want the council to actually step back for a minute and to have a harder think about the bigger picture of the market in context of its vicinity and the residents."

A regular shopper at the market since 2001, Mr Evans also questioned the council's approach to consultation on matters relating to its renewal.

"We literally heard about it [proposed road changes] two days before the public notice came out," he said.

"While there is talk of consultation, it's not an open conversation and it would be much more helpful for everybody concerned if the council could be more open about what their plans are."

The Market Square charter will be open for community input until November 1.

This initial round of consultation will be followed by a second round of community consultation in the first half of 2020 on the design of Market Square. To have your say visit [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/queenvictoriainmarket](http://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/queenvictoriainmarket)

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