

CBD NEWS

cbdnews.com.au

Forever Free

Puzzles & Trivia P21



Creative Resilience unveiled in the CBD

A striking sculpture has been unveiled outside the Queen Victoria Women's Centre (QVWC) in the heart of CBD, celebrating the stories and creativity of First Nations women. *Full story on page 8.*

City of Melbourne delivers record budget, but predicted surplus pushed back

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the rising cost of living was "central" to this year's budget, as the City of Melbourne remained in the red.

WORDS BY *David Schout*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The City of Melbourne has drafted a record \$850.7 million budget for the 2023-24 financial year, despite posting an increased deficit and pushing back a predicted return to surplus by two years.

As the council's deficit grows from \$11 million to \$17 million, locals will pay more on their rates from July — in line with a 3.5 per cent cap imposed by the Victorian Government — however pensioners can receive a discount of up to \$253.

Despite being in a "strong position to deliver a surplus in 2023-24" 12 months ago, and similarly predicting a return to surplus in the year prior, the council was again forced to shelve any "back in black" celebrations.

The total spend was its highest ever, however announcements promoting a "record budget" (as has done in both previous budgets) were also shelved, perhaps reflective of the more sombre economic times.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said that the council was "very

Continued on page 7.

"People are dying in our streets": Local group backs CBD injecting room

Pro-injecting room group launch "Keep Our City Alive" campaign ahead of a crucial upcoming decision by the state government.

WORDS BY *David Schout*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Maria Vasileva*
HEALTH

A campaign urging the Victorian Government to open a CBD injecting room has been launched by a group of local residents, business owners and workers.

With a government decision on the location of Melbourne's second medically supervised injecting facility imminent, a campaign to "Keep Our City Alive" (KOCA) was set in motion by a group of both CBD locals and family members of people who have lost loved ones.

The group is pushing for a CBD injecting service with "wraparound care", and wanted to challenge the assumption that most locals were against the move.

"For too long we've had other people speaking on our behalf, and we want our voices to be heard," KOCA spokesperson and CBD resident Chris Lamb said.

"We are saying 'yes, we need this life-saving service to be opened in the city, and we need it urgently. We love this city, and we love living here, but people are dying in our streets and we can't sit by and do nothing."

The group launched its campaign on May 21 in Flinders Lane, near the Yooralla building at 244 Flinders St which was reportedly the government's preferred location for a new injecting facility.

A period of community consulta-



▲ CBD residents Chris Lamb, Jill Mellon-Robertson and Daniel Daly.

tion on the injecting room concluded on May 16 and, following a review, former police commissioner Ken Lay — who has been tasked with leading the rollout since 2020 — was set to table a "final report" to the Minister for Mental Health by the end of May.

The Government has not indicated when it will then officially announce the site.

The KOCA group is in favour of a new safe injecting facility as part of a "comprehensive" CBD health service that also offered health care, homelessness and social support.

It pointed to Coroner's Court of Victoria data (from June 2020 to June 2022) that showed the City of Melbourne had more heroin overdose deaths than any other local government area as further proof that a new injecting room was needed.

They also sought to remove politics from the vexed debate.

Continued on page 2.

HIDDEN SECRETS, PAGE 03

A The city's best Thai hidden in a car park



HERITAGE, PAGE 05

B Sturdy support for unique CBD building



COUNCIL AFFAIRS, PAGE 09

C New Munro library works begin



EVENTS, PAGE 15

D Dragon Boat Festival to take over Chinatown



Buy, Sell, Rent

Speak to our team today

P: 8102 0200 | W: raywhitesouthbank.com.au

RayWhite

HYPERLOCAL

NEWS

CONTACT

Suite 208, 198 Harbour Esplanade
Docklands 3008
cbdnews.com.au
Tel: 8689 7980

EDITOR

Sean Car

PUBLISHER

Hyperlocal News Pty Ltd
ABN: 57 623 558 725

ADVERTISING

Hyper-local print works for advertisers in our digital world because local people are interested in local news. To sell to the CBD community, contact Jack Hayes on 0401 031 236 or jack@hyperlocalnews.com.au

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

The deadline for the July edition is June 15.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Twitter
@CBD_News_3000

Like us on Facebook
cbdnewsmelbourne

Follow us on Instagram
@cbdnews

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the publisher.

hyperlocalnews.com.au
admin@hyperlocalnews.com.au



▲ L-R: Dr Erin Lalor, and CBD residents Jill Mellon-Robertson, Daniel Daly and Chris Lamb.

“People are dying in our streets”: Local group backs CBD injecting room

Continued from page 1.

“It’s about children and our loved ones being protected and having a safe place to go where they’re not judged,” Collins St resident Jill Mellon-Robertson said.

However, in a Facebook post Residents 3000 president Rafael Camillo expressed disappointment that neither he nor the group were invited to the campaign launch, and questioned whether those involved in the campaign were local residents.

“I would appreciate if people that reside outside of the CBD would respect their local residents’ opinion (in favour or against it) and

refrain from voicing only one-sided argument in favour of an injection room in circumstances where they do not reside in the CBD,” he said.

“This is a very delicate and sensitive topic and I think the local residents and business owners should be paramount final decision makers on this topic.”

Australia has just two supervised injecting facilities; in Sydney’s Kings Cross (opened in 2001) and in North Richmond (in 2018).

They are designed to benefit vulnerable and marginalised people who inject drugs and are particularly aimed at people who inject drugs in public settings. ●



Get to know an international student: Asawari Sahebrao Sirsat

When did you arrive in Melbourne?

I arrived from India into Melbourne on February 7, 2023.

What course are you studying?

I am pursuing a Master of Management (Marketing) at the University of Melbourne.

What are some cultural differences you have observed?

As a person who has lived in India and Australia, I have observed noticeable cultural contrasts between the two nations. Australians tend to communicate more directly and informally, often using first names, even professionally. They prefer a casual and relaxed conversation style, unlike Indians, who emphasise formalities and hierarchy more. Moreover, I have noticed that while Australians value and respect all forms of work, they hold the dignity of labour in high regard.

What are your favourite places to visit in the city?

I enjoy spending my free time in the scenic area around the Yarra River and Flinders St, as well as the bustling streets of the CBD. ●

QUEEN VIC MARKET

QUEEN
VICTORIA
MARKET

winter night market

The Winter Night Market is back at Queen Vic Market every Wednesday evening from 7 June to 30 August.

Rug up in your winter woollies and head to the Market for Melbourne’s best street food trucks and stalls, local brewers and distillers, shopping and lively entertainment.

Warm up next to the roaring open fires, enjoy colourful and unique roving entertainment and boogie along to the famous silent disco.

With **FREE** entry, this is one event you do not want to miss!

WED
FROM
5 PM

7 JUN
TO
30 AUG

winternightmarket.com.au

Melbourne's best Thai hidden in a multi-level carpark



Have you ever thought of having your lunch or dinner in a carpark? Sounds like a strange novelty, doesn't it?



WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Maria Vasileva*
BUSINESS

Well, novel is the name of the game when it comes to Soi 38 – Melbourne's notorious Thai restaurant plonked at the bottom of a multi-level carpark.

At Soi 38 white table clothes and designer cutlery make way for steel stools and tables, a paper cup for water, and a metal tin filled with chopsticks and spoons.

It may not be a three-hatted dining experience, but it is one you will never forget ... the ubiquitous line of waiting patrons out the front will suggest so too.

Soi 38 is a truly sensory experience. You can smell it from half a block away, that familiar scent of traditional Thai cooking – aromatics, spices, sweet, sour, bitter, umami (can anyone define what umami actually is?) – all working together in perfect unison.

Soi 38 first crept onto the Melbourne food scene in 2015 when owners Andy Buchan and Top Kijphavee decided to take over what was an



old sushi store. Back then it was a choice of boat noodles or tom yum soup with prawn wontons and nothing else.

Since then, the menu has expanded to include hits like kingfish or scallop ceviche, Larb Moo, a spicy minced pork salad with lime juice, fish sauce, chili and roasted rice, crying tiger double cooked marinated Black Angus brisket, or the Ultimate bowl soup, a combination of instant noodles in sour and spicy Tom Yum soup, prawns, scappled, crispy pork, calamari and a few egg yolks.

In a city like Melbourne, where food and dining is regarded with such reverence, Soi 38 cuts



HIDDEN SECRETS



another a 2m-by-2m boxed bottle-o, formerly a ticket booth, also hidden within the carpark. A sticker on the bottle means you won't be charged corkage.

Whether you go for the boat noodles, the Thai BBQ, the hot pot, ceviche, or pork knuckle, or even just for the novelty, it doesn't matter, Soi 38 will leave you with a lasting impression ... and that's what good restaurants do. ●

through the pretention and seriousness that threatens to take the fun away from our meals.

Yes, an eight-course degustation is a beautiful thing, but so too is a menu where you tick off the dishes you want, hand it to staff, and within minutes the food is back on your table.

What you might think are entrees may not come out before your mains, but that doesn't matter, because you know what is about to hit your table is some of the tastiest, and most authentic Thai food the city has to offer (according to those who have been to Thailand).

You can even grab a bottle of wine from

For more information:
soi38.com



Hidden Secrets

A DEDICATED SECTION FOR UNEARTHING THE HIDDEN GEMS IN MELBOURNE'S CBD. TO BE FEATURED, EMAIL:

JACK@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU



**Not Your Normal Lawyers
In Collins Street**

As a visit to our quirky, art filled office will quickly show you, our clients find we are anything but boring.

We do not focus on giving you just legal advice, but on providing you with outcomes and solutions that will help foster a long term working relationship.

Contact Us Today



nc neville & co.
commercial lawyers

www.neville.com.au

ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne community update

CELEBRATING THE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF MELBURNIANS

Entries are now open for
the City of Melbourne's prestigious Melbourne Awards.

For more than 20 years, the City of Melbourne has celebrated inspirational individuals and organisations who have made a positive and valuable contribution to our city through the Melbourne Awards.

Each year, we are humbled by the extraordinary people and organisations that go above and beyond to make Melbourne such a sustainable, innovative and inclusive city in which to live, work and visit.

This year, we are looking to add more Melburnians to the honour roll.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the Melbourne Awards showcase some of the most driven and passionate people in our city.

'Melbourne is full of innovators and creative minds, who are leading the charge to shape our city for the better,' the Lord Mayor said.

'Our Melbourne Awards shine a light on the extraordinary work of those who are going above and beyond in their field - improving community wellbeing, driving innovation and creating a more sustainable city.'

This year, organisations will be recognised in eight key areas: Community, Sustainability, Aboriginal Melbourne - ganbu guljin, Arts and Events, Knowledge and Innovation, City Design, LGBTIQA+, and a new category - Access and Inclusion - has been added this year, recognising the great work to make Melbourne more inclusive and accessible for everyone to enjoy.

Alongside the awards, entries for the Melburnian of the Year are now open - and for the first time - a Young Melburnian of the Year will also be crowned.

Among last year's winners were Reground a social enterprise embedded in the circular economy, and Kensington Neighbourhood House, for providing a place where people of all abilities, backgrounds and ages can participate.

Last year, Kuku Yalanji woman Antionette Braybrook was named as the top Melburnian for her work advocating to give a voice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have experienced family violence.



Entries are open until 23 June.
To apply, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards

HOW TO GET YOUR FLU VACCINE

With a significant flu season predicted this year, we are now taking bookings for flu vaccinations through our new online booking management program VaxApp.

Bookings are now available for our community sessions, individual appointments and for the first time, on-site workplace immunisations.

Vaccination significantly reduces the risk of contracting influenza and passing the virus to family, colleagues and friends.

For more information and to book, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/flu vaccine

QR code to book community sessions

Sturdy support for unique CBD building



A trip down memory lane, as laneway building is honoured for its unique engineering heritage.



WORDS BY *David Schout*
HERITAGE

Many of the CBD's heritage-listed buildings are recognised for their aesthetic, architectural or cultural value that have played an important role in shaping the history of Melbourne.

For others, though, their unique value isn't immediately clear from the outside.

That is certainly the case for the Dovers Building, which was recently acknowledged for its unique national importance.

In May the seven-storey building on Drewery Lane was officially recognised as a place of national engineering heritage, as Australia's first ever building to use a unique form of construction.

Highly respected Australian engineer David Beauchamp unveiled a new plaque in front of various residents and interested locals at the event, and explained why the building was so important.

Back in 1908, tobacco group Sniders & Abrahams — the first Australian company to mass-produce cigarettes — employed engineer and architect Hugh Rawson Crawford to design a new manufacturing headquarters on the site.

Rather than use a conventional slab and beam form of construction for the floors, Crawford decided to use a "Turner Mushroom Slab" system, just a few years old in the US, and which had never been used in Australia.

The system, termed due to the shape of the reinforcement radiating out of the columns, allowed for thinner floors.

Construction was completed by 1910 and scrutiny was naturally high.

"To prove the safety of this new form of construction one panel of a floor was loaded with 38 tonnes to demonstrate its adequacy," Mr Beauchamp explained in his speech.

Once constructed, women and girls (some as young as 14) worked in the building to hand-make cigarettes and were able to earn far more than if they worked as domestic servants, supposedly causing a shortage of servants in Toorak and other affluent suburbs.

A proficient worker was said to make 12,000 cigarettes a week.

By 1914, cheaper machine-made cigarettes became available, which started to cause a decrease in sales.

Two more storeys were added to the building in 1938 (again designed by Crawford, who again used the Turner method) before it was later sold in 1960 to Dovers Printery, which gave it its current name.

In 1996, the building was granted a permit by Heritage Victoria to convert it into 49 apartments by adding an additional floor and balconies.

"This building has a significant place in engineering history, and I am proud to unveil this plaque recognising



its national engineering heritage status," Mr Beauchamp concluded.

"Hopefully the building will continue to survive for many years yet."

It is now the third-oldest existing example of its kind in the world.

Ross Ulman, who has owned a Dovers Building apartment since 2000, ensured the event would take place.

"We had a [owners' corporation] committee meeting a couple of months ago and our building manager said 'oh, I've got a handyman booked for tomorrow morning' for the plaque," Mr Ulman told *CBD News*.

"And I said 'wait a minute' because this is a really important and historic building, we need more than just a handyman putting up a plaque. So, I said, 'let's have an event'."

Celebrate they did, cracking open the bubbly and toasting their residence with a hearty chorus of "for it's a jolly good building".

City of Melbourne Heritage team manager Tanya Wolkenberg also spoke at the event, detailing the history of Drewery Lane itself which was recently protected as part of the council's Hoddle Grid Heritage Review.

"It's lovely to be at an event like this, which shows how valued the precinct is by the resident and business community," Ms Wolkenberg said.

"Council can only do so much to protect heritage, but having places loved and cared for, used and valued, is the best way to protect heritage places and ensure their ongoing use."

Mr Ulman said like other CBD buildings, a sense of community was strengthened during COVID-19 lockdowns.

"What's really made a difference was the pandemic in that, like a lot of places, it brought people together. One of our neighbours set up a WhatsApp group for the building and that's been phenomenally impressive. About two-thirds of the residents here are on it, and it's been a really great thing for the building." ●



Police launch operation targeting vulnerable road users

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
SAFETY & SECURITY

Victoria Police will be targeting behaviour that leads to road trauma among walkers, cyclists, motorcyclists, and e-scooter riders as part of a new five-month operation.

Operation Halo, one of Victoria Police's longest road policing operations staged, will be rolled out across the City of Melbourne, the City of Yarra, the City of Port Phillip and the City of Merri-Bek.

It will be aimed at preventing death and serious injury among vulnerable road users as the colder months set in, which police have identified as a particularly dangerous time because it's darker earlier and wintry weather can also impede visibility for motorists.

Police will focus their efforts on vehicles blocking bike lanes and pedestrian crossings as well as distraction offences, speed, and impaired driving.

They will also conduct foot patrols at high-risk intersections looking for any behaviour which puts vulnerable road users at risk.

"We want everyone to think about not only their own safety but how their behaviour can impact the safety of others," Victoria Police Road Policing Command Assistant Commissioner Glenn Weir said.

Mr Weir said the e-scooter trial extension would also form part of Operation Halo.

"We will hold people to account, as we do every day, we are infringing or educating people who are transgressing the rules around the use of e-scooters."

Mum-of-two Antoinetta Tartaro, who was twice hit by a car while walking — in which both occasions sent her "flying a number of metres" — urged all motorists to be careful,



saying vehicles were "essentially a weapon on the road".

"I just want to stress to the public that the trauma doesn't stop with the person that is being hit. The trauma goes on; the injuries go on. It is a ripple effect," she said.

In 1994, Ms Tartaro, then aged 15, was struck by a vehicle after it ran a red light in Oakleigh and in 2019, she was hit by an out-of-control car in Clayton, with the latter incident leaving her with potential life-long injuries.

After her horrific teenage experience, she said: "From that moment forward, I looked at life different; it impacted my family, my friends ... it was a journey, and I have taken that trauma right through to adulthood."

Victoria Walks, Bicycle Network Victoria and the Amy Gillett Foundation are also supporting the operation, which will run until the end of September.

Victoria Walks executive officer Ben Rossiter said as 89 per cent of trips to the CBD were on foot, "we need to make our streets safer and appealing for walking".

According to police data, collisions last year in the City of Melbourne resulted in one cyclist and three pedestrians being killed while 193 pedestrians and 257 cyclists were injured. ●

Proudly representing the community in Melbourne's CBD



Evan MULHOLLAND MP
MEMBER FOR NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

Unit 10, 2 Graystone Court Epping Vic 3076

03 9651 8242 | evan.mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au

EvanMulholland.com.au | [EvanMulhollandMP](https://www.facebook.com/EvanMulhollandMP)

@evmulholland



Authorised by Evan Mulholland MP, Member for Northern Metropolitan Region, Unit 10, 2 Graystone Court, Epping Vic 3076. Funded from Parliamentary Budget.



Council property used for childcare services sold off

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

An “underutilised” City of Melbourne-owned property in the CBD is among four properties to have been recently sold off.

The two-storey building at 100-104 A’Beckett St, a former childcare centre, was put on the market last year after a proposal was endorsed by the council last November, which included selling properties at 47-49 Canning St, Carlton, and 505-513 Abbotsford St, North Melbourne.

The council confirmed the sale of the properties on May 10, saying, “Following the six-week EOI campaign, CBRE (which was engaged to conduct the EOI), successfully achieved offers for all three properties at market value”, with offers officially signed by the council on May 5.

The proceeds of the sales will be used to help deliver the City of Melbourne’s community infrastructure projects,” the council said, which a council report last year revealed would amount to \$15 million.

“By selling these properties, we will reinvest the proceeds into city-shaping infrastructure projects and the capital works program. It was an opportunity to think about how we want to evolve as a city and be bold in creating a better future for Melbourne,” the council said.

When asked how much each property sold for, the council said, “settlement of the properties will occur over the coming months”.

According to a council report published last November, it said there was a potential for the sale of A’Beckett St to deliver on City of Melbourne’s Affordable Housing Strategy 2020-2030 by providing purchasers with “an incentive to undertake the development of social/affordable housing on the site”.

The Canning St and Abbotsford St properties, however, were deemed too small to meet the requirements under the Melbourne Planning Scheme for affordable housing, the council report noted.

The property at A’Beckett St, which has a heritage overlay, was also used as a staging post for the council’s cleaning program during COVID-19.

The council has been contacted about whether the buyer of the A’Beckett St building may use it for affordable housing.

Community feedback and consultation were taken into consideration before each sale. ●

Residents support our city but feel ignored

More than 70 locals attended a forum hosted by CBD residents’ group Residents 3000 on May 11, as local MPs and leaders from the City of Melbourne participated in discussions surrounding the state government’s decision to end the freeze on 1am liquor licensing.

WORDS BY *Residents 3000 & CBD News*
SAFETY & SECURITY



▲ The Residents 3000 forum on May 11 at the Kelvin Club.

Victorian Upper House members for the Northern Metropolitan Region – leader of the Victorian Greens Dr Samantha Ratnam and the Liberal Party’s Evan Mulholland – spoke about the key issues they were hearing and their current priorities. Notably, no Labor members of parliament accepted the invitation to attend.

While Melbourne MP Ellen Sandell had some personal issues to deal with and could not attend, the forum’s chair Dr Stan Capp read a detailed statement from her that emphasised the need for Melbourne to “build back better” and identified her vision around such matters as regulating short stay accommodation, investing more in the arts, and good quality affordable apartments.

Also among Ms Sandell’s priorities were addressing the homelessness crisis and fixing the “ridiculous” voting system that is prejudiced against residents.

All speakers highlighted the need to listen to residents and consult on matters that affect them. Planning and the lifting of the 3am curfew on liquor licenses were two examples.

Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sally Capp and the chair of Melbourne’s night-time economy advisory committee Penny Miles joined the MPs in a discussion about the lifting of the curfew on allocating 3am liquor licenses – a matter highly relevant to Residents 3000.

The context for the discussion is that six days before the state election in 2022, the Premier Daniel Andrews declared that the ban on 3am liquor licenses would expire on June 30, 2023. The Premier made no mention of a review or an evaluation of the effectiveness of the curfew even though this is what the community had a written commitment from the Minister to undertake.

The freeze policy has been in place since 2008 and is administered through Ministerial Guidelines issued by the Minister for Gaming, Casino and Liquor Regulation. On June 29, 2021, Minister Melissa Horne issued new guidelines extending the freeze until June 30, 2023 and announced that an evaluation would be conducted into the effectiveness of the freeze. This would begin in late 2022, with finalisation prior to the guidelines lapsing on June 30, 2023.

Since 2008, the freeze has been extended several times with the last extension being made in June 2021. Significant changes were made to the freeze guidelines in 2015. In 2019 and 2021 further exemptions from the freeze were made to permit new applications relating to live music venues, major events, and cultural events.

Prior to the current guidelines expiring, it was expected that the minister would be informed by the review and then consider whether to issue new guidelines, as has been done on at least three occasions since 2008.

The Victorian Government is only now consulting with key stakeholders and the wider community to identify views on the freeze policy and whether any alternatives should be proposed to the policy that will address the harms associated with late-night alcohol use and abuse while also supporting the night-time economy and live music sector.

However, the decision to lift the curfew is now regarded as an election commitment and there is little doubt that the curfew will be lifted. *CBD News* sent questions to the Premier’s office regarding the consultation process but didn’t receive a response.

Dr Capp anticipated that the review would confirm what the literature corroborates, which is that larger venues closing after 1am correlate with an exponential growth in violence on the streets, anti-social behaviour, attendances in emergency departments and increased domestic violence.

Dr Capp proposed that:

- New guidelines be drafted that the minister can sign off for effect July 1, 2023;
- The guidelines should include the requirement for new liquor licenses to only be awarded when there are no unreasonable effects on local amenity;
- Base line data points need to be articulated e.g., street assault; transfers to hospital ED; domestic violence incidence; number of reported incidents; community complaints; etc.; and
- A hot line be established where community can register complaints.

Another highlight of the evening was a presentation by Residents 3000 member Yvonne

Singer who displayed her expertise in research by demonstrating the human effects of late-night alcohol consumption.

The council has asked for the decision guidelines used by Liquor Control Victoria for 3am licences to be written into the planning scheme, and the introduction of a clear definition of noise sensitive areas.

It has also recommended amending wording in the planning scheme (e.g. changing the word “tavern” to “bar”) so that it is consistent and simpler for everyone to understand.

The Lord Mayor was warmly received with her insightful and astute commentary on the lifting of the 3am liquor license and challenged everyone to identify key initiatives that could be taken moving forward.

“As a council we have a responsibility to represent and balance between safety and amenity for our residents while maintaining a vibrant night-time economy,” Cr Capp told *CBD News*.

“We continue to work with the state government to help find this balance as the 15-year freeze on new late-night liquor licences ends. We’re asking for some simple, sensible changes to the planning scheme to ensure our policy for new bars, clubs, restaurants, and other venues works better for everyone.”

“We know people love living in the city for myriad reasons – the convenience, the culture, and the community. In the past decade, the residential population of the CBD and Docklands has more than doubled.”

But Cr Capp added that, “similarly, our night-time economy is booming”.

“Last year, our city’s bars, nightclubs, restaurants and entertainment businesses contributed more than \$3.3 billion to the local economy, supporting more than 31,000 jobs – a 15 per cent increase on June 2019.”

“We are committed to finding a balance that benefits our central entertainment district, and the metropolis lifestyle that makes us Australia’s most liveable city.”

Likewise, Penny Miles emphasis on balance also recognised that residents, as well as live venues, can co-exist with the appropriate safeguards in place.

Having the two MPs present shone a light on how bi-partisan approaches can yield positive outcomes and the perspectives of both demonstrated some important values and shared recognition of the need to consult with community members in a range of matters, including the lifting of the 3am curfew.

Many comments were received from those present with the overwhelming view being that while a revitalisation of the city was welcomed, an alcohol fuelled recovery was the wrong public policy response.

President of Residents 3000 Rafael Camillo was highly appreciative of the contributions made by the guest speakers, saying that he hoped that it could become a regular part of the group’s program to have topical matters discussed by elected representatives, the Lord Mayor and other important stakeholders.

He also expressed the hope that the Victorian Government could also participate in the discussion as its lack of engagement was the one disappointing aspect of the event. ●

Senator Linda White



YOUR VOICE IN THE AUSTRALIAN SENATE

As a Labor Senator, my office is available to assist you with any Federal Government issues.

📍 Level 1, 62 Lygon Street, Carlton South VIC 3053 📞 (03) 9639 2798 ✉️ senator.white@aph.gov.au

📘 Senator Linda White 🐦 @lindawhiteaus



Authorised by Senator Linda White, ALP, Carlton.

City of Melbourne delivers record budget, but predicted surplus pushed back

Continued from page 1.

alive to” rising mortgages, rents and bills that each household faced, which were “a central part of discussions” while putting together the budget.

“Please do know we are very sensitive to how difficult the environment is out there, and it’s been central to our thinking on the budget,” Cr Capp said at the May 16 Future Melbourne Committee meeting — the same day it put out its draft budget.

Councillors noted that with inflation at around seven to eight per cent and a rise in construction costs as high as 20 per cent, capping of rate increases at just 3.5 per cent made a return to surplus unachievable without compromising local services.

“It is a great effort by the team to be so mindful and prudent,” Cr Capp said.

“We have really done our darnedest to be able to continue to deliver on services and projects in the current environment of high inflation and higher construction costs.”

A large percentage of council revenue is raised through rates (in this budget, \$377 million), however the second-highest stream is via fees and charges (\$134 million) which was set to increase by almost \$14 million in 2023-24.

This was due in part to greater activity and visitation across the municipality but also an increase in fees, notably the move to charge drivers for on-street parking until 10pm (rather than 8.30pm) and on Sundays, and the doubling of outdoor dining fees in the CBD.

From July, CBD hospitality businesses will pay \$556, up from \$278, per sqm each year for an outdoor dining parklet.

Headlining the budget was a \$247.5 million infrastructure spend, which included a further \$60 million for the renewal of Queen Victoria Market, \$17 million for the “city shaping” Greenline project along the Yarra River’s north-bank, and a further \$28 million for the redevelopment of the Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre.

The council included \$4 million towards its much-publicised bike lane rollout, including new protected lanes along the entire stretch of Flinders St.

Set to be its most challenging bike lane project yet, it has committed to delivering the project by July next year, however that timeline was dependent on state government approvals.

The Lord Mayor said there would be “extensive, comprehensive consultation” on the Flinders St designs, which were due to be finalised by June 30.

“As a capital city council, we are dedicated to continuing to invest in bicycle lanes in the city,” she said.

“This is an issue of safety. This is an issue of reducing congestion, and it is about making sure that everybody that wants to come into the city has options, no matter what form of transport they choose.”

The 2023-24 budget also invested heavily in events (\$28.2 million), libraries (\$13.4 million), greening and sustainability, business support and creative industries, which includes \$2 million for new public art projects.



▲ Lord Mayor Sally Capp and Cr Jamal Hakim (centre) with Bulgarian folk dancers from the 2023 Moomba Parade.

Photo: Maria Vasileva.

The events spend included around \$6 million for Christmas festivities and \$5 million each for Moomba and New Year’s Eve, the latter of which attracted almost half a million people earlier this year, generating \$18.7 million in economic activity according to the council.

In partnership with the state government through the \$200 million Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund, the council will also establish a new creative hub at 271 Collins St in the CBD, known as “Collins Street Studio”, transforming more than 1100 sqm of office space into space for artists.

As it has done post-COVID, the council continued to spend big on cleaning CBD streets, setting aside a record \$36.8 million for city cleaning.

This included \$2.4 million alone on graffiti removal for the “rapid response” team.

Almost \$6 million will be spent on safety, including upgraded CCTV cameras and lighting on Bourke St between Exhibition and Spring streets.

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said the “strains of recent years” were apparent in the city’s finances, which had seen it produce a “disciplined” budget.

“I think it’s a budget that’s right for the times. Somebody said to me today ‘oh, this budget seems a little bit business as usual’. Well, I’ll take that as a compliment,” Cr Reece said.

“Like everybody else in Australia we’re not immune to what is going on in the broader

economy.”

Cr Rohan Leppert, one of just two serving councillors to have occupied a spot in the Town Hall chambers for more than a decade, said the tough economic times had created a sharper focus.

“We have put more care into this budget than any before — not that we didn’t put care in before, of course — but there’s no shying away from the stark realities of the financial constraints that all local government finds itself in at this point,” he said.

However, the Greens councillor said he was “particularly concerned” about whether the council had enough staff to service a booming population in coming years.

With Melbourne having overtaken Sydney to become Australia’s largest city by population, the council was set to increase the number of average full-time equivalent staff next year by 44 (from 1478 to 1522), however in the following three years, from 2024-2027, it was projected to increase staff numbers by just 11.

Cr Leppert said this must be “constantly reviewed” to ensure the council was “not restricting the capacity of the organisation to deliver on essential services for a fast-growing municipality”.

Community feedback on the draft budget can be provided via Participate Melbourne until midnight on Thursday, June 8, with the final budget expected to be adopted by councillors on June 27. ●



▲ The Lord Mayor announces the budget at QVM.

For more information:
participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au

CLEMENTINE'S

Made & Crafted in Victoria

Locally made gifts, homewares, accessories & fine foods

Supporting over 80 small makers across Victoria since 2011



www.clementines.com.au 7 Degraues St Melbourne, Vic 3000

Sculpture honours unbroken creative thread of First Nation women

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
ARTS & CULTURE

A striking sculpture has been unveiled outside the Queen Victoria Women's Centre (QVWC) in the heart of CBD, celebrating the stories and creativity of First Nations women.

The 4.5 metre sculpture, titled *Creative Resilience*, which depicts a forearm holding up a woven basket, was created by artists from Ngardang Girri Kalat Mimini – a collective of First Nations women and non-binary artists from across Victoria.

The basket was made of Victorian grasses with a few rows woven by each artist. It began as a basket about 10 centimetres high and was transformed into the much larger copper coated version.

During a ceremonial launch of the artwork on May 6, Minister for Women Natalie Hutchins cut a floral wreath wrapped around the sculpture, which stands in the forecourt of the QVWC in Lonsdale St.

"This striking, unforgettable artwork is a fitting testament to the strength and creativity of First Nations women, past and present, and a celebration of First Nations artists," Ms Hutchins said.

"*Creative Resilience* calls on us to consider a constant and unbroken thread that stretches back through millennia to honour First Nations women as not only keepers of wisdom and knowledge but as artists and creators."

The six artists involved in the work were Annie Brigdale, Lorraine Brigdale, Janet Bromley, Trina Dalton-Oogies, Georgia Macguire and Glenda Nicholls.



▲ Ngardang Girri Kalat Mimini (NGKM) artist's Janet Bromley, Glenda Nicholls, Trina Oogies-Dalton, Hon. Natalie Hutchins MP Minister for Women, Georgia Macguire, Annie Brigdale and Lorraine Brigdale.

They drew on their networks throughout Victoria and engaged with a cultural reference group led by Wurundjeri Elder Aunty D during creation of the work. The piece was also supported by visual artist and lecturer Yorta Yorta/

Baraparapa woman Dr Jenny Murray-Jones.

Weaving is a significant cultural practice for First Nations women, and the artwork symbolises the strength and creativity of Aboriginal women in south-eastern Australia who have



supported and nurtured families and communities over tens of thousands of years.

Artist Georgia Macguire said the sculpture paid tribute to a "heritage of continuous creativity and ingenuity in support of community and cultural survival".

Creative Resilience is the third of six public artworks being unveiled to showcase Victorian women's achievements as part of the state government's \$1 million Victorian Women's Public Art Program.

Of the 581 statues across Melbourne, only 10 depict women. The program aims to address the underrepresentation of women and their achievements with statues, sculptures, and other enduring public art.

At the start of this year, the City of Melbourne passed a motion ensure more women were immortalised as statues in recognition of their contributions to society. ●

Council takes away key learnings from London health summit

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

City of Melbourne councillor Dr Olivia Ball says a key learning from her attendance at a health summit in London was the important role urban planning can play in childhood nutrition.

Cr Dr Ball said London's ban on any new fast-food outlets opening within 400 metres or a five-minute walk of all primary and secondary schools, which came into effect in 2019, "has had a demonstrable impact".

"Students who attend schools that are within walking distance of a fast-food outlet drink more sugary beverages, eat less fruit and vegetables, and are more likely to be overweight," she said.

Cr Dr Ball also noted that to tackle childhood obesity, the Transport for London (the government body responsible for the transport network in London), in 2019, also banned

advertising of unhealthy food and beverages across its transport network based on fat, sugar and salt content, as well as gambling, breastmilk substitutes and tobacco.

Cr Dr Ball made the comments as part of her post-travel report during her address at a Future Melbourne Committee meeting on May 16, after representing the council at a Partnership for Healthy Cities (PHC) Summit in London from March 14 to 16, where she joined leaders from 70 countries.

The summit discussed strategies to combat the global burden of non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes, as well as injuries, which are responsible for 80 per cent of all deaths globally.

Lessons from the summit will inform the City of Melbourne's policy and strategic commitments including its Food City: The City of Melbourne Food Policy, Smoke-free Melbourne Policy, and Municipal Public Health

and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25.

Cr Dr Ball said the link between urban planning and public health was a "big take away" from the summit but made no suggestion it would be considered as part of the council's future health policies.

However, she noted, "we need to make healthy choices, whether it's what we eat or how active we are, easier and more appealing".

"While we think of health as a function of the state primarily, there is a huge amount that goes on in public health preventative and non-communicable disease prevention at local government level," she said.

"We have direct service provision of course, for instance, our child vaccination program and maternal child health and ensuring that the restaurants that you eat in observe the necessary food safety standards, and other forms of enforcement in terms of tobacco control."

PHC covered the cost of Cr Dr Ball's airfares and accommodation,

with the council contributing \$68.92 in incidental expenses.

Cr Dr Ball also travelled to Adelaide from May 1 to 4 to attend the Preventive Health Conference 2023 and pre-conference workshop at a cost of \$2723 to council. Topics at the conference included vaping and smoking cessation, obesity prevention, maternal and child health, and nutrition.

Meanwhile, Cr Kevin Louey travelled to Manila, the Philippines, to participate in the Business Partner Cities Network Roundtable from March 15 to 18.

The ratepayer-funded trip cost \$7569, including \$5834 for airfares and \$1539 for accommodation.

Cr Louey joined leaders from 15 cities to explore ways of "strengthening innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems" in the economic climate after COVID. He also undertook meetings with Manila-based organisations operating in the innovation, startup, and investment space.



▲ Cr Kevin Louey meets Australian ambassador to the Philippines, HK Yu. Photo: City of Melbourne.

"The meetings indicated that clear opportunities exist for Melbourne in the areas of media and tourism-tech, agtech, game development and med-tech for further consideration," a post-travel report said. ●

ARE YOU A RENTER?

Victoria is experiencing a rental crisis. Rent prices are soaring and the number of homes available to rent is plummeting.

As your state MP, I'm fighting to make renting fairer and I need your help.

Please scan the QR code and tell me about your renting experience.

ELLEN SANDELL

GREENS STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

(03) 9328 4637
office@ellensandell.com
146 Peel Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051

Authorised by E. Sandell, 146 Peel St, North Melbourne 3051



New Munro library and community hub works begin

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Maria Vasileva*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Work has officially begun on the much-anticipated Munro library and community hub project, which is set to be the biggest of its kind in the City of Melbourne.

Located on the doorstep of the Queen Victoria Market, the three-storey facility will house a range of amenities including a family services centre, a creative space, and a communal study and meeting spaces.

Newly released designs show a rooftop terrace complete with lush lawn areas, native plantings, and panoramic views of the iconic market.

The hub, which will open later this year, will consist of a children's library, maternal health consulting rooms, a parent room, playgroup room and secure outdoor play area, as well as podcast and audio recording studios.

A Creative Makers' Space will also feature 3D printers, laser cutters, paint booths and sewing machines for visitors to use.

The 3100sqm hub is being delivered by the City of Melbourne and will occupy a space within the \$500 million Munro development.

The council is providing \$3 million as part of its draft Budget 2023-24 to complete the project, which will be built by Australian construction firm Buildcorp.

The designs have incorporated community and stakeholder engagement, with the council also having worked closely with leading Melbourne architecture firm Six Degrees Architects, landscape architects Bush Projects, and Traditional Owners and Elders to ensure the space was "accessible, inclusive, and welcoming for all".

"We're proud to mark another milestone for the momentous Munro development, as construction and fit out works begin on the spectacular new library and community hub," Lord Mayor Sally Capp said following a tour of the site on May 19 to mark the start of construction.

"The new Munro site will create more jobs and deliver an estimated \$70 million of economic and community benefit to the growing city north precinct."

The new library and hub are part of the

Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal program with the Munro development already home to a 500-space underground car park, 48 affordable housing dwellings, build-to-rent residential apartments and a boutique hotel, and soon-to-be retail and hospitality outlets.

Meanwhile, a revamp of QVM's food hall, which was due to open July last year, is scheduled for completion in June, with tenancy fit outs having begun early this year. Delays to the project have been attributed to labour shortages and supply chain issues, bad weather, challenges in coordinating work with authorities including CitiPower and additional, unforeseen work.

"The precinct renewal program is not immune to the challenges currently facing the construction industry," Cr Capp said, adding rising building costs, labour shortages and supply chain issues had impacted delivery timeframes for some works, including the food hall.

But once complete, she said the food hall would be a "contemporary indoor dining destination in the Queen Victoria Market precinct - attracting more visitors and boosting business for traders".

The new space will feature a new roof and flooring, a modern fit-out with new services and amenities, more greenery and additional space to dine.

According to the council's quarterly report of the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Program, \$122 million has so far been spent on the project's overall \$267 million allocation.

The final stage of the heritage shed restoration project at Sheds H and I is expected to be completed mid this year, the report, published in March, noted. However, traders will remain in their temporary locations for an estimated three-year period.

A developer has yet to be announced to transform QVM's \$1 billion-plus Southern Site, (bounded by Franklin, Queen, and Peel streets) after the council confirmed in January that a divestment process was under way.

Friends of QVM president Mary-Lou Howie said it was time "to abandon the unnecessary and expensive renewal program".

"The diminished market does not require this gold-plated trader infrastructure which will inevitably lead to higher overheads for traders that will be passed on as price increases to customers," she said. ●

Council lagging behind on 44km bike lane goal

WORDS BY *David Schout*
TRANSPORT

The City of Melbourne is not on track to reach its goal of installing 44km of protected bike lanes by mid-2024.

To date the council has delivered just over 40 per cent of physically separated cycling lanes (19km) and appears highly unlikely to hit its target in just over 12 months' time.

It has not indicated when it might reach the goal.

In response to declaring a "Climate and Biodiversity Emergency" in February 2020, the council pledged to deliver 44km of lanes in four years rather than the 10 years it had initially pledged.

The fast-tracking of cycling lanes was the council's number two priority - second only to transitioning council assets from fossil fuels at number one - as part of a 10-point action plan endorsed in 2020.

And while a scorecard presented at the May 2 Future Melbourne Committee meeting showed it had achieved "strong progress" in eight of 10 areas, the ambitious and highly publicised cycling plan was lagging.

"That is one of the targets we've set for ourselves that we are tracking towards - we're teetering towards not quite being on track, but we're going to continue doing all that we can to meet that and all of the priority actions," the council's environment chair Cr Rohan Leppert said.

"Obviously after an initial quick burst with the trial infrastructure for some of our new bicycle lanes to get to that 44km target within four years rather than 10, there was a slowdown last year. I do think there will be a smaller spurt in the coming months if we can get the Macaulay and Arden projects off the ground."

Cr Leppert said some hold-ups to delivering the action plan were outside the council's control.

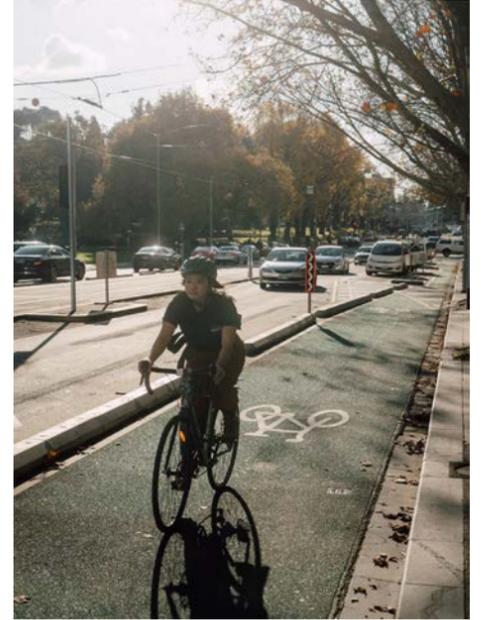
"We don't have a perfect scorecard on every single front here, obviously some of the matters here we are held up by other levels of government withholding approvals or for our own financial constraints, or for any other reason."

In June 2022 councillors controversially voted to pause the installation of bike lanes within the CBD for the entire 2022-23 financial year.

The move drew a strong public response as members of Melbourne's cycling community converged on Town Hall while more than 1100 written submissions protested the move.

Recent candidate for the Federal seat of Aston Roshena Campbell was the only councillor to vote against the continued implementation of the action plan and reiterated her criticism of the fast-tracked bike lane rollout.

"The environmental impact of speeding up that delivery (of 44km bike lanes) is not yet clear, but what is clear is that there is an economic impact of doing that. The bike lanes that were designed have had traffic congestion impacts, deterred visitors coming in by car, and



▲ The City of Melbourne has completed less than half the 44km of bike lanes it targeted by mid-2024.

council resources were required to fix up the design of them, in particular Exhibition St," she said.

"We need to provide safe routes for cyclists, but we need to get bike lane delivery right - sometimes that doesn't mean quick is best. There are always going to be competing tensions about the use of our road space, but we can get this right, we just need to take the time to do it. So, my view remains this: that the rollout to date has had significant concerns and I don't think an accelerated delivery of the balance of those kilometres of bike lanes will address that."

Big year ahead - Analysis

Given the council is yet to reach the halfway mark of its bike lane goal, despite the fact three-quarters of the timeframe has elapsed, the next year looms as a huge challenge.

Not just for the quantity of lanes it must deliver, but for the complexity of the jobs to come.

Most notably the council has committed to installing bike lanes along the length of Flinders St, from Spencer St to Spring St, by June 2024.

Cr Leppert has termed this project "the biggest and most complicated road reconfiguration we will see in this term of council".

Detailed designs for this project were due soon, and he confirmed they were on track to be completed by June 30.

It has also committed to delivering protected lanes on Bourke St (between Russell and Spring streets) in the next 12 months however the installation, alongside the Flinders St project, would be contingent on Victorian Government approval within this time.

The council's latest draft budget, released on May 16, included \$4 million for new cycling infrastructure in the 2023-24 financial year. ●

Flora Indian Restaurant & Cafe

The Flinders Street footpath will be closed to way-through foot traffic at the Metro Tunnel site entrance between Swanston and Degraves streets from 29 May to mid-September.

Flora will still be open to meet all your Indian food cravings. Immerse yourself in the sensory delight of Indian food with a range of fresh curries, breads and snacks.

📍 238 Flinders Street, Melbourne
☎ 03 9663 1212

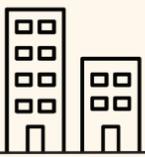
www.floraindian.com.au

Supporting business



Construction partner:
 Design & Construction

CYP-BS00338



PROPERTY & REAL ESTATE

The epitome of Melbourne warehouse living

“

When it comes to CBD warehouse living, it's hard to think of a better example than 3/12 Warburton Ln.

”

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*

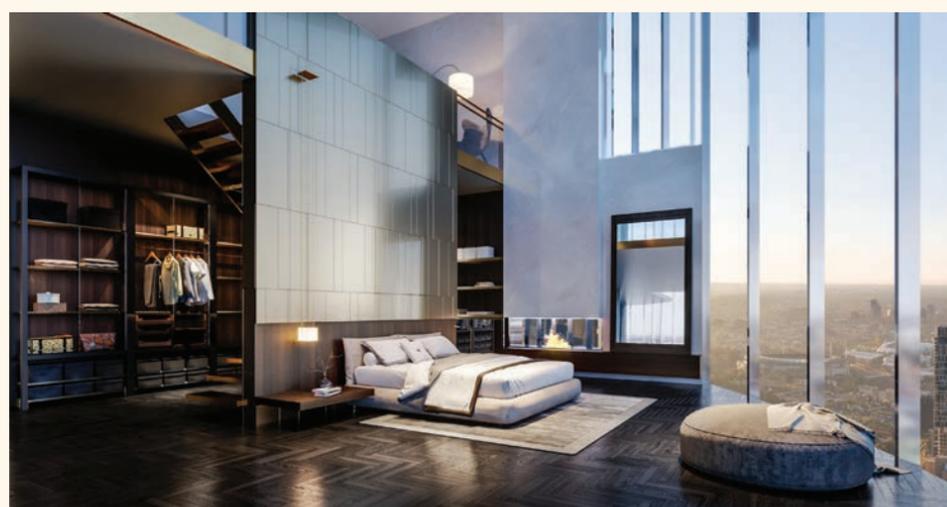
Tucked away near the corner of Elizabeth and Little Bourke streets, behind iconic Melbourne restaurants, Tipo 00 and Osteria Ilaria, you'll find this unique home.

This 160sqm warehouse occupies the entire third floor and is one of only three in the building.

It boasts a mixture of exposed brick, industrial steel beams, polished timber floors, double ceiling heights and dual mezzanine levels with a walk-over gantry.

With three bedrooms, one bathroom, and a commercial size kitchen this apartment is expected to fetch between \$1,125,000 and \$1,350,000. ●

For more information:
donazzanboutiqueproperty.com.au



Melbourne's apartment record price shattered

The exclusive sky-high penthouse at Sapphire by the Gardens has broken the sale price record for an apartment in Melbourne, selling for a whopping \$39million.

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*

Sold to local businessman Adrian Portelli, the double-storey penthouse, which is currently just a concrete shell, covers levels 57 and 58, across 1200sqm.

Following the purchase of this eye-wateringly expensive apartment, Mr Portelli caused headlines in early May after craning his \$3 million McLaren Senna GTR to his penthouse, telling media outlets the car would become the

centrepiece of the apartment.

Managing director of Colliers Residential Victoria Tim Storey said Mr Potelli's fondness of this particular apartment came with the development's location, the ability to customise the residence and having exclusive access to what will become Melbourne's most prestigious 5-star luxury hotel – Australia's flagship Shangri-La.

“Together with architects Fender Katsalidis and Cox Architecture, Colliers Residential has

been working with the purchaser to customise the space to suit his lifestyle,” Mr Storey said.

Developed by SP Setia, Sapphire by the Gardens is located adjacent to Carlton Gardens and the Royal Exhibition Building,

“I'm looking to install a swimming pool, multiple kitchens, and potentially a bowling alley,” Mr Portelli said.

According to developers SP Setia, 99 per cent of apartments are sold in the building with only a handful left on market. ●

La dolce vita at La Storia



For those who know Carlton, they will be aware of the old University Meats factory on the edge of Argyle Square.



WORDS BY *Kate Jones*

Now, a six-level apartment building will soon replace the long-held family business on Cardigan St.

The Marcocci family, who owned the University Meat address, are behind the 20-apartment La Storia development.

The family's close connection with the site prompted them to call on M3 Design for a design that will put residents first.

"They wanted to bring the site to a higher purpose and not necessarily put as many dwellings as possible," Gianni Mancuso, lead architect at M3 Design said.

"They wanted to reduce the density of the project to a collection of homes that can take advantage of the amenities that Carlton and the CBD have to offer. The goal was to provide a sense of luxury for future residents."

The building's well-crafted facade is a hint of the luxury to come inside. It features chamfered concrete panels and columns that form a type of exoskeleton for the building.

Spacious floor plans are the centrepiece of the interiors, also by M3 Design.

These are punctuated by bedrooms that are clearly set aside from living areas.

"All the private bedroom quarters are separated from the living, kitchen and dining by foyers and vestibules," Mr Mancuso said.

"We put a lot of effort into making the best use of space. So, we've got a clear distinction between private and public quarters, which you don't necessarily have the opportunity to do in most apartment floor plates."

Kitchens feature butler's pantries, induction cooktops and integrated fridges and freezers.

There are four different floor plates for buyers to choose from, some measuring up to almost 200 square metres. And there are only four residences per floor, ensuring a high degree of privacy and security.

The balconies are also generously proportioned and add extra living space. Each of the residences has a unique aspect, including apartments on the corner of Cardigan St that look over Argyle Square.

The Marcocci family spared no expense on even the finer details of La Storia, employing *New Yorker* magazine cover artist Julianna Brion to create illustrations that capture the project's four distinct personalities. Brion took her cues from geometric and abstract shapes layered with an Italian expression. ●

For more information:
lastoria.com.au



20 luxury residences in the heart of Carlton

This is your once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to secure a premium three-bedroom home in a truly boutique building at a highly exclusive address.

Live in luxury with generously sized rooms, a floorplan designed for comfort, stunningly beautiful architecture, outstanding attention to detail and a world of amenity at your feet.

Opportunities are limited, so contact Scott McElroy on 0411 889 972 today for an exclusive presentation.



LA STORIA

195 Cardigan Street, Carlton
lastoria.com.au



ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne community update

DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITY TODAY, SHAPING OUR CITY FOR TOMORROW

City-shaping infrastructure projects, our biggest events calendar and making the city safer, cleaner and fairer are highlights of the City of Melbourne's draft Budget 2023-24.



We've planned a full calendar of events so everyone can enjoy an affordable visit to the city.

Our \$850.7 million draft Budget is delivering for our community today, while shaping our city for tomorrow.

In announcing the draft Budget, Lord Mayor Sally Capp said it was "designed to overcome the current economic challenges, while realising our community's aspirations for Melbourne - the nation's fastest growing capital city".

"Our draft Budget 2023-24 delivers on our commitment to create a bustling, inclusive and clean city today, while investing in a more affordable, liveable and prosperous future for our community," the Lord Mayor said.

"We're getting on with the things that matter most - making our city cleaner and safer, building better facilities and providing vital services, and boosting business with events and support."

We know Melburnians are feeling the pressure of mortgage and rent stress and rising household bills - and this has been front of mind through the development of this budget.

That's why we're doing what we can to limit the amount of increased costs that we pass on to our ratepayers.

By not passing on the full impact of inflation pressures, we will save households and families \$4.2 million.

Rates keep our city running

Our teams work around the clock to deliver essential services - from waste and recycling collections to road works and street cleaning, public health and safety, and keeping our parks and gardens in great shape for everyone to enjoy.

Every Victorian council is facing the challenge of inflation rising faster than - and above - the current Municipal Rate Cap.

After two years of rates relief for residents and businesses and a modest

increase this year, in 2023-24 we will implement the State Government's 3.5 per cent Municipal Rate Cap.

Rates change every year as property values change. Property valuations are market-driven and determined by the State Government.

We will help ease the burden on pensioners by providing a rates discount of up to \$253.

Any ratepayer can apply for rate relief through the City of Melbourne Rates Financial Hardship Policy.

A cleaner, safer and more caring city



It's our responsibility to get the basics right, so we're investing a record \$60.9 million to scrub the city clean, boost safety on our streets, and work closely with our communities to identify and act on the needs of each neighbourhood.

We're investing \$36.8 million to spruce up our streets and keep the city free from graffiti. This includes funding for our expanded Melbourne Clean Team along with more graffiti removal, street sweeping, and high-pressure cleaning of footpaths, roads and street furniture.

More than \$28 million will be invested to collect waste from residents and businesses, while an additional \$1.5 million will bolster

work to remove rubbish from our streets across the city, Docklands and Southbank.

We'll invest \$5.7 million to make our city a safer place for all. CCTV cameras will be installed in seven key locations in Carlton, including along Lygon Street and at Argyle Square. The expansion of our Safe City Camera Program will boost safety and reduce antisocial behaviour in response to community feedback.

Almost \$6 million will be spent on critical safety infrastructure and resources, including upgrading lighting in key precincts such as Bourke Street between Exhibition and Spring streets.

We're working with philanthropic partners and the Victorian Government to improve housing access and affordability through Homes Melbourne. This includes \$12 million towards our landmark Make Room project, which will convert a Council-owned building into safe and supported accommodation.

Our draft Budget also includes more than \$1.1 million to ensure rough sleepers have access to food, healthcare and other support services through partnerships with Melbourne City Mission and the Salvation Army.

KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne News* at news.melbourne.vic.gov.au

Connect with us

[/cityofmelbourne](https://www.facebook.com/cityofmelbourne)
[@cityofmelbourne](https://www.instagram.com/cityofmelbourne)
[@cityofmelbourne](https://www.twitter.com/cityofmelbourne)



ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne community update



The new Food Hall at Queen Victoria Market is due to open soon.

Getting on with city-shaping projects

Melbourne is the fastest-growing capital city in the country. That's why we're getting on with delivering a strong pipeline of infrastructure projects to accommodate this growth and bring vital services closer to home.

In 2023-24, we will invest \$247.5 million in infrastructure, supporting up to 1,000 jobs and creating economic stimulus now, while delivering much-needed community services and facilities for the future.

A \$60 million boost for the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal program will ramp up works on a range of projects including new trader and customer facilities, as well as upgrades to the Franklin Street streetscape.

We'll break ground on our landmark Greenline Project with \$17 million for the first stage of works at Birrarung

Marr, creating an expanded riverside promenade. We'll also unveil The Greenline Project Master Plan outlining our vision for the city-shaping works.

We're investing \$28 million to get on with the new Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre, set to open in early 2025. The facility will feature a rejuvenated pool area, full-sized multipurpose courts, health and wellness areas, and a wrap-around café.

A further \$3 million will complete the city's brand-new Munro library and hub, which is set to transform the precinct with a state-of-the-art, 3,100m2 library, family services and community spaces.

Our investment also includes more than \$12 million for road and footpath maintenance, including \$3.2 million to upgrade footpaths and \$3 million to fix potholes and improve roads.



Our Business Concierge service will continue to support our city's small businesses.

Backing business and attracting investment

We're making it easier and more attractive to do business in Melbourne by cutting red tape and streamlining processes. A \$12 million boost to Invest Melbourne will bring new ventures and create jobs for the city.

Small business owners are the heart and soul of our city, so we're expanding our Business Concierge service to support new and existing city businesses with a \$500,000 investment.

Since January, the Business Concierge team has provided free advice and mentoring to more than 15,500 city businesses - reducing the time it takes for a business to start up in the city and supporting them as they embrace Melbourne's new rhythm.

Our draft Budget also includes \$1.2 million for precinct associations to create more opportunities for business networking, education and training, and initiatives to encourage visitation and local spending.

We're making it easier to do business, with \$2.4 million to complete the Digital Permits Project, fast-tracking permit approval timelines and cutting red tape for traders and buskers.

We'll also continue to back the hospitality and retail sector with \$540,000 to continue efforts to reduce shopfront vacancies.

The Shopfront Activation Program has helped to reduce the city's shopfront vacancy rate from 31 per cent in November 2021 to 15 per cent. A total of 67 spaces have been activated with pop-up shops, creative offerings and bespoke displays.



We're committed to making Melbourne the greenest and most sustainable city in the country.

A greener more sustainable city

Our draft Budget includes a \$51 million investment to create new open space, protect parks, charge ahead with Power Melbourne and cut emissions.

We love our parks, gardens and open spaces, they play an important role in making Melbourne more liveable which is why we're investing \$26.5 million to maintain them.

We'll spend \$16.5 million to secure new open space across the municipality, including pocket parks for Chapman Street, North Melbourne and Miles and Dodds Street Reserve in Southbank.

Construction will start on the Bedford Street pocket park, adding an extra 2,000m2 of open space in North Melbourne. In partnership with the State Government, the project will deliver play and picnic facilities, 48 trees and safer pedestrian crossings.

We'll also improve storm water harvesting across the municipality, collecting water from drains and roads to help irrigate and drought-proof the city's parks and gardens.

With support from the State Government, \$2.3 million will be spent on a stormwater harvesting project to drought-proof Princes Park in Carlton.

We'll invest \$1.1 million to continue the rollout of our popular Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) collection services into mixed-used residential and commercial buildings.

The program was introduced to more than 23,000 households and apartments across the municipality last year, diverting more than 1,500 tonnes of organic waste from landfill.

We're also charging ahead with plans to combat climate change and achieve net zero emissions, investing \$1.5 million in our landmark Power Melbourne project.

This year, we'll install the first neighbourhood battery at Library at the Dock, providing 100 per cent renewable energy to the community.

Biggest ever events calendar

We're delivering our biggest events calendar with \$28.2 million in festivals, activations and cultural celebrations to bring more people together in the city.

This will cement our status as the nation's events and culture capital, boost our visitor economy and have flow on benefits for our retail, hospitality and small businesses.

All the city's favourite events will return bigger and better than ever - Christmas Festival, New Year's Eve

and Melbourne Fashion Week, along with a special anniversary celebration to mark 70 years of our much-loved Moomba Festival.

All the fun begins on 30 June when Firelight Festival will light up Docklands for a three-night celebration of the winter solstice. Followed by our new Now or Never Festival in August, with immersive experiences of art, ideas, music and technology in a series of free and ticketed events over city streets and venues.



We're planning a special celebration to mark the 70th anniversary of our much-loved Moomba Festival.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Feedback on the draft Budget 2023-24 can be provided on Participate Melbourne until 11.59pm on Thursday 8 June.

After a special meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 20 June to consider community feedback, the final Budget is expected to be endorsed by councillors on Tuesday 27 June.

Have your say at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/our-plans



Once: The bittersweet musical returns for a limited season



▲ Once has arrived at the Comedy Theatre.

Photo: Robert Catto.

Awarding-winning Broadway sensation, Once, has arrived at the Comedy Theatre with the intention to strike an unforgettable chord, and its standing ovation on opening night was proof of this.

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*

Inspired by the age-old story of guy meets girl, comes a heartfelt production about a disheartened Irish musician who is encouraged to dream again by a Czech piano player who he meets serendipitously.

While the storyline may not unravel like your typical fairytale and the production elements are not as extravagant as audiences may have come to expect from many touring musicals, there is something truly captivating about this stripped back hit musical.



Its most notable feature continues to be what it demands of its high-calibre performers who make being a triple-threat look easy due to their ability to sing, dance, act, and play an instrument.

Director Richard Carroll described *Once* as "one of the most challenging musicals for the artists involved".

"It asks for so much from its actors. Not only do they need to tell this beautiful story every night with truth, passion, and humour – they also need to sing the exceptional songs with all of the same qualities," Mr Carroll said. "Plus, they are their own band, so every one of them needs to be an exceptional instrumentalist. I am blown away by the capabilities of the cast and creative team we have assembled, and I can't wait for Melbourne audiences to see them perform."

The music is clearly where this production shines, with powerful musical numbers of *Falling Slowly*, *If You Want Me*, and *When Your Mind's Made Up* sung by the lead roles of Guy and Girl, played by Toby Francis and Stefanie Caccamo.

But it is not only Mr Francis and Ms Caccamo who shine within their roles, but the rest of the cast, who when singing and playing their instruments create an atmosphere that has a spellbinding effect on the audience.

While the play's main drawcard is these heartfelt intimate scenes, the moments of comedic relief are not easily forgotten thanks to Ms Caccamo whose on point humour and

comedic timing is never once overplayed.

Although a simple storyline with an ending that doesn't follow the typical "happily ever after" that audiences have come to expect, *Once* stands out for its ability to explore human connection and music as a universal language.

The Darlinghurst Theatre Company production is directed by Richard Carroll with musical direction by Victoria Falconer, movement direction by Amy Campbell, production design by Hugh O'Connor, lighting design by Peter Rubie and sound design by Dylan Robinson.

It is also based on the film of the same name and is the only Broadway show with music to have won an Academy Award, a Grammy Award, an Olivier Award, eight Tony Awards, and four Drama Desk Awards.

Once will run at the Comedy Theatre until June 4. ●

For more information:
marrinergroup.com.au

CRITIC

Internal debates dominate festival

Local authors were drawing the crowd at this year's Melbourne Writers Festival, which was shorter than the typical two weeks and had been moved forward from August to May.

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*

The sudden changes to the schedule were annoying publishers, agents and industry people.

"May has become a monster-month for literary events," one agent said.

"Melbourne, Sorrento, Bendigo, Brisbane and Sydney. We are trying to split our time between all of them, plus do our regular work."

Writers' festivals provide the chance for the industry to flaunt, launch books and mingle but this was a low-key festival compared to those in the past.

"Nothing really fascinated me in the program," the agent said. "The one person I really wanted to see was Gabrielle Zevin, and I've booked my tickets for when she's at Brisbane!"

Another industry observer said the move to a smaller May festival was a cost-cutting exercise so that the cost of bringing out international speakers could be shared.

The MWF is meant to be the city's premier literary event and it branched out in 2018 under the directorship of Marieke Hardy to venues across the entire CBD.

This year the festival was confined to the State Library,

the Town Hall and the Capitol Theatre for four days from May 4 to 7.

There were none of the large political themes that have dominated festivals in the past, but was this a bad thing?

Fiction was clearly the focus of this year's festival with international stars Bernadine Evaristo and Claire Keegan selling out quickly.

Home-grown stories were also big sellers. *On Second Thought*, featuring RMIT lecturer and novelist Ronnie Scott and Sydney novelist Diana Reid was at full capacity.

For some readers, getting up close to their favourite novelists is as good as reading their work.

"I corrected natural tendencies in my voice," Scott explained, when he was asked about the difference between his own tentative speaking voice and the storytelling style of the female narrator in his latest novel *Shirley*.

He spoke eloquently about the pressures of working with editors during the lockdown to release a second work.

"It was nice to be able to trade full drafts and exchange rudeness and laziness," he said, adopting a more ironic tone.

Shirley tracks the lockdown experiences of a vegan woman in her 30s when her boyfriend drops her because he's attracted to men.

Poignant moments abound when the heroine stops blaming her mum for being so distant and teams up with a Brisbane boy who fathers children for busy businesswomen.

Scott declared his interest in food at the festival and the detailed recipes with Tofutti and fake cheese ring true in this inner north love tangle.

Scott teaches creative writing at RMIT and he captures the pulse of Collingwood in the trials and tribulations of this Internal Copywriter for the insurance industry. ●

New Collins St creative hub a "landmark moment for the industry"

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*

An office building will be transformed into a brand-new creative hub in the heart of the CBD thanks to the City of Melbourne and Victorian Government's joint \$200 million Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund.

The "Collins Street Studio" project will see 1100 sqms of vacant open plan office space at 271 Collins St turned into an arts hub as part of ongoing efforts to support the creative industries following the pandemic.

Announced as part of the council's 2023-24 budget in May, the studios will serve to provide affordable and adaptive spaces for up to 100 creatives to collaborate and showcase their work.

"A creative hub, a platform for collaborating and the sharing of ideas, resources and skills, opening in the heart of Melbourne's CBD is a landmark moment for the industry," Lord Mayor Sally Capp said.

"Melbourne is the creative state, and we have a proud history being the arts and culture capital of Australia – we want to continue that and charge towards the future, creating even more spaces for our creatives to thrive."

"We know that creatives have struggled to find available and affordable spaces in our city – we hope that this opportunity will accelerate



investment and collaboration across the arts sector."

As the next iteration of the council's Creative Spaces program, artists interested in renting an office or studio space within the new hub are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest online, with spaces to be offered at a competitive rate.

The announcement for the new hub comes as the council's draft Budget 2023-24 puts forward more than \$8 million towards local artists, new spaces, and public art projects.

Expressions of interest close on Friday, June 9 at 3pm: creativespaces.net.au/collins-street-studios ●



The CBD Rhythm

A DEDICATED SECTION FOR ARTS & CULTURE IN OUR CITY. TO BE FEATURED, EMAIL:

KAYLAH@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU

Dragon Boat Festival to take over Chinatown

Beating drums, paddlers in long boats, and sticky rice dumplings can only mean one thing: Dragon Boat Festival has arrived in Melbourne's Chinatown.

EVENTS

Hosted by the Chinese Museum (22 Cohen Pl) over the weekend of June 24 and 25, the Dragon Boat Festival brings to Melbourne more than 2000 years of cultural tradition and celebration.

The Dragon Boat Festival is one of three major cultural festivals originating from China, along with the Autumn Moon Festival and Chinese New Year.

Festival-goers will immerse themselves in the traditions of the Dragon Boat Festival by making Zongzi dumplings and dragon boat scales, and learn about Qu Yuan, the noble statesman of Chu, along with family photo opportunities and Dragon Boats on site.

"For many Chinese families, it is about showing their children about the origins of traditional Chinese culture and for others they can become immersed in the multicultural celebrations of Melbourne," Chinese Museum CEO Mark Wang said.

"Why don't you make a day of it by dining at one of the great Asian restaurants located in Chinatown while you are here?"

The Dragon Boat Festival, also known as *Duan Wu* Festival, is a long-established celebration in Chinese culture, traditionally held on the fifth day of the fifth month of the lunar calendar.

The word *Duan* means "beginning" and *Wu*



means "warmth and radiance".

One of the most popular stories on the origin of the festival is about Qu Yuan.

In Sima Qian's *Biographies of Qu Yuan and Jia Yi*, Qu Yuan was a minister of King Huai of Chu during the Warring States period.

He advocated appointing people according to their integrity and ability, then urged the King to ally with the state of Qi in fighting against the state of Qin. However, his advice was strongly opposed by the nobles, which led to his dismissal and exile.

While exiled, he wrote poems to convey his patriotic thoughts and devastation over the Qin army's invasion of his beloved motherland in 278 BC.

Refusing to abandon his motherland, he sacrificed his life on the fifth day of the fifth month

by jumping into the Miluo River.

People from the state of Chu who were moved by Qu Yuan's patriotism, gathered near the Miluo River to pay tribute to him. The fishermen attempted to retrieve his body by rowing boats up and down the river.

Some fishermen threw rice into the river to prevent Qu Yuan's body from being eaten by hungry fish.

Paddling feverishly, the dragon boats symbolise the race to save Qu Yuan.

Today dragon boat racing is practiced around the world, with dragon heads on the prow of the boat with 20 rowers in a team, kept in unison by a drummer, you will see dragon boats paddling on the Yarra and in Docklands, organised by Dragon Boats Victoria.

The rice thrown into the river to save Qu



Yuan evolved to be Zongzi, a Chinese sticky rice dumpling.

Zongzi are made by combining sticky rice, belly pork and other ingredients, then wrapped into little parcels with bamboo leaves before being boiled.

The museum will be providing Zongzi-making demonstrations every hour, and Zongzi-making kits can be purchased to practice at home.

The Dragon Boat Festival in Chinatown is sponsored by Dragon Boat Victoria, Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, Chinese Youth Society of Melbourne, and Melbourne Chinatown Association.

Admission for adults is \$8 with children 12 and under free of charge. ●

For more information:
chinesemuseum.com.au/event/dragon-boat-festival-2023

Sparkling new light show premieres at Fed Square

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
ARTS & CULTURE

Thousands of luminous, floating biodegradable lights are set to light up the night sky in Federation Square's main square from June 7 to 10.

The ground-breaking work known as *SPARK* has been designed by Dutch artist and innovator Daan Roosegaarde and will be displayed as part of a partnership between Federation Square and RISING.

The poetically performed light show is the result of two years of Mr Roosegaarde experimenting with a team of designers and engineers at Studio Roosegaarde, all with a determined goal to "show the beauty of a new sustainable world".

After many prototypes, and learning curves, the team successfully landed on the installation of *SPARK* that is seen today, which saw Mr Roosegaarde take home the 2022 Dutch Creativity Awards.

"Innovation is always complicated in the beginning, people would question the idea if it would work. So, it's exciting to realise an idea, and see people make an emotional connection with it," he told *CBD News*.

"The awards are just an activator to do more."

SPARK is inspired by fireflies, stars, and other magical lights in nature, and consists of thousands of biodegradable sparks floating through the air.

It is a work that imagines a better future, and strives to display how to create a different, yet still beautiful, future.

As the sparks catch the wind, they dance in mesmerising patterns, making the display highly immersive.

"The wind and the weather will give it a unique behaviour," Mr Roosegaarde said.

"Even through the different evenings of the exhibition, you will see a variety in how it looks. I love this organic and dynamic element, it is complicated but fun."

While *SPARK* has been showcased globally, with popular events in London, Bilbao, and Auckland, for its



premiere in Melbourne Mr Roosegaarde collaborated closely with Federation Square in designing the work specifically for the space.

"*SPARK* is a site-specific work of art which updates the tradition of celebration. I always look at the location, and the history of the city to make an installation which feels as if it is grown there," he said.

Director and CEO of the Melbourne Arts Precinct Corporation (MAP Co), Katrina Sedgwick OAM said they were "proud" to be partnering with RISING and Studio Roosegaarde.

"Environmental sustainability is also central to Fed Square," she said. "*SPARK* can deliver an extraordinary immersive light experience in this iconic space through an innovative biodegradable artwork that will create a truly unforgettable Melbourne experience."

SPARK will be running continuously in the main square from 6.30pm to 10.30pm, from June 7 to 10.

An opportunity is also being provided for visitors to learn more about Mr Roosegaarde, his inspiration and process, when he joins Ms Sedgwick "In Conversation with Daan Roosegaarde" on Thursday, June 8. ●

For more information:
fedsquare.com

Warm up this Winter at Melbourne Quarter

BUSINESS

Bordered by two of Melbourne's most iconic streets, Collins and Flinders, and directly across from Southern Cross Station, Melbourne Quarter is set to bring together world class design, city living, future workplaces, dining and retail spaces.

A new local for Melburnians and visitors alike, Melbourne Quarter encompasses a thriving food and drink scene, local art and green public spaces.

This winter, hospitality retailers at Melbourne Quarter have curated several warming food and beverage offerings, including:

Bluebag – proudly serving "feel good food" so customers can eat ethically, holistically and sustainably. The cafe offers a rotating menu of soups that incorporate local ingredients – making them the perfect lunch option this winter.

Destination Roll – the best spot in the CBD to eat authentic and delicious Pho. Flavours include chicken, vegetable and beef Pho.

Home Vegan Bar has just launched a brand-new winter menu, made daily in-house. This holistic cafe aims to provide healthy convenience while offering the very best in superfood smoothies, plant-based coffees, cold press juices, and raw, sugar-free desserts.

Sergy Boy – a multi-experiential café and bar offering a specialist



coffee experience. Sergy Boy is also renowned for its slow cooked comfort meals, perfect to pick up during lunch or take home for dinner.

Sushi Sushi – the market leader in fresh, on-the-go sushi, merging traditional and contemporary flavours. Sushi Sushi has a wide range of dishes including miso soup, bento boxes, sashimi and platters for corporate catering.

Other retailers include **Fishbowl** and **Peddler Espresso**, which have healthy and affordable dine-in or takeaway options.

Beyond food, Melbourne Quarter is a hub for fashion, lifestyle and art with retailers including **Da Barber House**, a one-stop-shop for all things men's styling and grooming, and **NGALI**, a sustainable fashion label that works with First Nations artists to translate world-renowned artworks into premium-quality clothing. ●

For more information:
melbournequarter.com



庆祝端午节
DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

SAT 24 & SUN 25 JUNE
at Chinese Museum



澳辛歷史博物館
CHINESE MUSEUM

Sponsored by






Parking overhaul as drivers to pay until 10pm and on Sundays

Drivers will soon be sluggish for Sunday parking in the CBD, however can park free of charge for the first 15 minutes in a bid to keep the inner city moving.

WORDS BY *David Schout*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Free on-street parking on Sundays has been scrapped for drivers coming into the CBD, as the City of Melbourne overhauls how it charges motorists.

Drivers will also be charged until 10pm, rather than 8.30pm, from Monday to Sunday, however will have access to free on-street parking for 15 minutes “to support quick trips” and discounted “off-peak” rates.

The moves, part of a new overarching Parking and Kerbside Management Plan, was endorsed by councillors at a May 16 Future Melbourne Committee meeting.

It will also see the implementation of consistent two-hour parking limits every day, 7am to 10pm, to simplify what drivers saw as confusing signage.

The council did not propose any increase to the current maximum \$7 hourly parking rate, and would implement what it said was “fairer, data-led pricing” with a new off-peak \$4 per hour rate all weekend and after 7pm on weekdays.

The sweeping changes would begin in July and only be implemented in the “CBD” – which for on-street parking purposes not only included the Hoddle Grid, but a significant parcel of Southbank and a pocket of West Melbourne adjacent to Flagstaff Gardens.



After implementing the CBD changes, the council will next review parking settings in Carlton and West Melbourne as the next-most urgent areas requiring changes.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said she often received feedback regarding the “anxiety” drivers faced about parking in the CBD and interpreting at times complex signage.

“Good parking management helps keep our city moving – and we want to make parking simpler for people who drive into Melbourne,” Cr Capp said.

“Businesses need confidence that their customers can find a park, and deliveries will arrive on time. That’s why we’re making up to 15 minutes of parking free, creating consistent two-hour limits and installing clearer signs.”

Some have criticised the move, including Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry CEO Paul Guerra who said that while the simplicity of two-hour parking was a positive, charging on Sunday would push away potential visitors and negatively impact traders.

However the Lord Mayor said this was contrary to what business owners had told the council.

“Feedback from traders was loud and clear – they want to see more active management across on-street parking, to attract more customers and increase parking turnover.”

Demand for parking has changed in recent years, with a higher appetite for weekend parking compared to pre-COVID levels.

Pedestrian numbers indicated that the

number of people coming into the city on Sundays was similar to Saturdays, and a recent economic snapshot of the city showed that more cafes were opening across the weekend.

“I know there’s been a lot of discussion about paid parking on Sundays but I am confident in the data and evidence that shows that when people pay for their parking, those spots are more likely to turn over, Cr Capp said.

“It means that more people are able to use those spots, and those people are going into our shops and venues to help those local traders. I think that’s important.”

It was expected the council would benefit from a forecast increase in parking meter revenue of around \$2.7 million in the first 12 months.

Research that informed the new plan revealed that up to 30 per cent of CBD traffic was drivers “cruising” to find a park, a situation that increased vehicle congestion, emissions and “frustration for drivers [that] can lead to unsafe driving or illegal parking”.

A significant number of drivers also reported convoluted, confusing signs in the central city.

Some controls currently switched between “1P” and “2P” during the day, and the council said a move to implement across-the-board two-hour parking removed confusion.

“Our on-street parking can be complex with some parking signs, limits, and charges confusing and inconsistent, resulting in frustrating experiences for drivers in the city. This plan will change that,” the council’s deputy transport chair Cr Davydd Griffiths said.

The plan was supported by all councillors except Philip Le Liu and Roshena Campbell, who said the move to charge drivers for something that was previously free would hamper some already struggling businesses.

On-street parking represents just four per cent of all parking available in the city, with the remaining 96 per cent managed off-street in commercial car parks. ●

STATE MP (LOWER HOUSE)

Melbourne’s creatives need your help to save the Nicholas Building

The Nicholas Building is one of my favourite places in the city. When you walk into the building off busy Swanston St, the cathedral arches make it feel like you’ve stepped into another time.



Exploring the floors above feels a bit like a maze, with every door opening to something new and exciting.

You’ll find jewellers, tailors, art galleries, textile artists, craft workshops, designer clothing stores, photographers, and even a virtual reality art studio. In the hallways and elevators, artists, and creatives chat, ideate, and collaborate.

There truly is nowhere else quite like it. For more than 40 years this Art Deco building has offered affordable studios and community to Melbourne’s creatives. It’s currently home to more than 200 artists, creatives, and small businesses. The tenants I’ve spoken to don’t underestimate how special this place is. One tenant described it as feeling “more like home than my home.”

But right now, this community is under threat. The Nicholas Building is up for sale and could fall into the hands of property developers. If it’s turned into apartments, or into a commercial building with astronomical rents, it would push out hundreds of artists and creatives, and we would lose this unique part of Melbourne’s cultural history forever. The Nicholas Building tenants and the local

council have presented a number of ideas to the state government for how they could help save the building and its community. I’ve also called on the Labor Government in Parliament to step in and save this building. But our pleas have gone unanswered.

We’re not giving up. But we need your help.

If you’d like to see this unique heritage building retained as a creative hub, please head to savethenicholasbuilding.com and add your name to the open letter calling on the Victorian Labor Government to step in and #SaveTheNicholasBuilding.

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save this iconic heritage building from being turned into apartments or a soulless commercial space.

For more on this, or to discuss anything else, contact me at office@ellensandell.com ●



Ellen Sandell
STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE
OFFICE@ELLENSANDELL.COM

SENATOR LINDA WHITE

Senator: better future for housing within reach

Australia faces significant housing challenges. Recently, issues of housing and homelessness have dominated our national policy conversation.



WORDS BY *Senator Linda White*
SENATOR.WHITE@APH.GOV.AU

Finding an affordable and decent place to live is getting harder, whether you’re looking to buy, rent, or just spend the night.

Unfairly, it is vulnerable Australians who suffer the most when it comes to insecure and unaffordable housing. The latest Closing the Gap Statement highlighted that First Nations Australians continue to disproportionately experience housing uncertainty and homelessness.

The fastest growing group at risk of homelessness is women over 55. Often these women have had careers, families and what could be described as stable lives, but the precarious nature of their financial circumstances means they are at a higher risk than others.

Shockingly, the 2021 census revealed the number of homeless Australians has increased by 5.2 per cent since 2016.

This is the challenging set of circumstances the government faces as we try to make up for nearly 10 years of wasted opportunities and neglect by the former Coalition government.

No government can solve these problems alone, or in one go. There is no silver bullet. But we can act meaningfully and ambitiously to improve Australia’s housing outcomes. And the government is doing this now, cooperating with

housing advocates, and states and territories.

Where cooperation and goodwill has been harder to find is where I sit, in the Australian Senate.

The government’s Housing Australia Future Fund legislation is a \$10 billion investment in Australia’s social and affordable housing stock – the single largest investment from a federal government in more than a decade. It guarantees 30,000 new social and affordable homes in its first five years, and a long term and sustainable funding model.

Currently, both the Coalition and the Greens Party are blocking this vital legislation.

Make no mistake: standing in the way of the most significant housing investment in more than a decade will not solve housing issues in our cities and regions.

But it will stop us getting more homes on the ground more quickly.

In June the Senate will again consider the Housing Australia Future Fund. By then I hope the senators blocking the reform will have listened to the advice of housing and homelessness advocacy groups, state and territory Housing Ministers and those Australians struggling to keep a roof over their head and pass the legislation.

Australians who dream of a safe and affordable place to live deserve no less. ●

QVM Trader Profile

Kenangan: A love letter to home

“*Kenangan is a family passion project, formed from a vision to bring Indonesian flavours to Australia during a time when its owners were unable to visit home.*”

”

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*

The name of the restaurant even symbolises this desire, with Kenangan translating to “memories” or “reminisce”.

Created by three families, Kenangan’s ability to create a home away from home is thanks to business owners Giovanni Sutjiutama, Grace Liu, Alexander Liu, Hana Mahatmayanti, Nicholas Liu, and Narae Kim.

While the eatery started out as a Japanese sandwich cafe during the day, and turned into

Kenangan at night, the success of the latter proved to the families just how important an Indonesian restaurant was for the community.

From this year, the business has fully converted into Kenangan, which is open during the day and again in the evening.

“Kenangan was born during COVID because we couldn’t go back home, and so for Indonesians who couldn’t go back home we wanted to bring Indonesia to Melbourne for them,” Giovanni said.

“We first started not as a restaurant but as a vacuum-packed delivery service, and then it all started from there.”

The business owner’s strong roots to Indonesia and their vision for sharing their home with all Queen Victoria Market (QVM) visitors is paramount upon walking into the restaurant.

With the owners all being one big family, the homely vibes are also one of the restaurant’s best qualities and they strive to share in this with all who come through the door.

“Kenangan is homely in terms of the family vibe the staff and team give, and we try our best to bring Indonesian culture into the restaurant,” Giovanni said. “It’s a pretty unique experience being in Queen Victoria Market because our offering is a little different to what is in the market, but we have all the market growers come through and it’s special being able to explain to them about our culture and our food.”



As well as getting many visitors from the market, Kenangan also has a large following due to their authentic and distinctive menu.

Some of the more popular dishes include the Iga Goreng Kremes (Angus prime ribs), the Ayam Bakar Jimbaran (grilled chicken with Jimbaran sweet and tangy sauce), and the Sate Ayam (grilled chicken satay skewers).

But the “major attraction”, and the one Giovanni is sure you “can’t find anywhere else”, is that of the Nasi Goreng Rendang, which is a slow-cooked beef brisket in coconut and spice, served with steamed rice, a fried egg and sambal ljo.

“My brother-in-law, who is the chef, is trying to bring Indonesian food from our region that is not available here yet, and that continues to be

our vision,” he said.

“For myself, I would like to bring Indonesian culture here because Vietnamese and Thai culture is very strong here, and I want to pioneer that for Indonesian food.”

Kenangan is open Monday to Saturday, from 9am to 3pm, and then again from 4pm to 9pm, and Sunday from 9am to 4pm.

The restaurant can be found on the corner of Therry and Elizabeth streets, and through their Instagram [@kenangan.au](https://www.instagram.com/kenangan.au) ●

For more information:
[kenangan.com.au](https://www.kenangan.com.au)

STREET ART



Street art versus fine art

What defines street art and how does it sit with in the fine art world?

WORDS BY *Adrian Doyle*

The main difference between street art and fine art lies in their contexts and methods of creation ...

Context

Fine art is typically created for exhibition in galleries or museums, where it is experienced within a controlled environment. Street art is created in public spaces and is accessible to anyone who encounters it. Fine art often follows a more formal and curated process, while street art embraces the spontaneity and engagement with the surrounding environment.

Audience

Fine art tends to target a specific audience, including art enthusiasts, collectors, and curators. Street art, by contrast, reaches a broader and more diverse audience, including people who may not actively seek out art experiences. Street art can surprise and engage people who may not have a particular interest in art, expanding its reach beyond traditional art circles. This also means that it can create a more potent message.

Authority and legality

Fine art is typically created with the knowledge and consent of institutions or private individuals who own the artwork or host the exhibition. Street art, however, often operates outside of official approval, and many street artists face legal challenges due to the unauthorised nature of their work. This aspect of illegality can add an element of rebellion and subversion to street art. Street art works outside the sanctioned space.

Documentation and preservation

Fine art is often carefully documented, catalogued, and preserved to ensure its longevity and historical significance. Street art, on the other hand, is ephemeral in nature and subject to removal, alteration, or degradation over time. While efforts are made to document and preserve street art, its transient nature adds a layer of impermanence and temporality to the medium.

It’s worth noting that the line between street art and fine art can be blurred at times, as some street artists transition into the gallery space or create works specifically for exhibitions. And, some fine artists are also lured to the fame and freedom of urban art. ●

Stay awesome.
Doyle

LAW

Say “cheese” but not Roquefort ... another pro bono matter

“*Many lawyers put in a considerable amount of time on pro bono work – that is, working without fee.*”

”

WORDS BY *Peter Neville*
NEVILLE & CO LAWYERS

We at Neville & Co. are no exception. In the past, we’ve acted for a variety of organisations on a pro bono basis, including the Variety Club, the Childrens Charity, Mission to Seafarers, Road to Refugees, Mahendra, The Balinese Society, and many others. We’ve also acted at times unwittingly for clients who have failed to pay their bill for a miscellany of reasons, several of which may or may not have been valid.

Our most recent foray into pro bono was occasioned by me attending a Melbourne Food and Wine Festival event at which I was accepting an award on behalf of my late wife for being an Honorary Legend for her continued service to the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival for a period of some 20 years.

At that dinner, I met with Will Studd, a well-known cheesemaker and one who has been seeking a change of legislation for cheeses made from unpasteurised milk to be made in Australia. He informed me sadly that our present laws and regulations do not permit the manufacture of such cheese in Australia like Roquefort. However, we are allowed to import those cheeses.

Now, as a lawyer, it seemed to be not only strange but inequitable that our government, as a result of various treaties, has been effectively forced to admit a range of cheeses made from unpasteurised milk from Europe but does not have enough faith or trust in our local producers to allow them to compete by manufacturing them here.

Now while this might seem a David and Goliath type fight, it is one that we have embarked upon with the services of one of our very capable interns and taken on as a pro bono matter. We don’t expect an early solution, particularly as government at various levels seem to be totally opposed or have no faith in the ability of our local producers to ensure that unpasteurised milk is turned into cheeses that match appropriate safety standards. We all agree that health and safety are paramount.

What we cannot agree with is that cheeses made from unpasteurised milk are allowed to be imported into Australia while on the other hand they cannot be produced here. Our intern has already made some excellent inroads into determining inconsistencies in legislation and their application and with the cooperation of Will Studd, we will move forward to do battle with the bureaucracy.

We, as with many other lawyers, see our pro bono contributions as being not only an obligation to the community at large, but also as a way of assisting where appropriate to take up the cause of matters which without legal advice would have little chance of success.

Having said that, in a case like the one above, we do not, of course, guarantee success, but we are not going to pass it up wondering whether the bureaucrats are right when we think they are wrong.

We acknowledge biosecurity, health and safety are paramount as I mentioned, however, there are too many inconsistencies to allow this to remain as the status quo.

Wish us luck! ●

Urban nests – families on high rises

Élodie reminisces as we chat about her arrival in the Hoddle Grid a decade ago. Back then, the way Melbourne felt like a city without being a “big city” made her feel at home.



She recalls how safe she felt as a woman walking back from her night shifts to her west-end apartment. The ease of car-free transport, the nearby cafés and restaurants, and the characters within them, all made her block resemble a little village, an important touch for someone from regional France.

She and her husband now have a two-year-old daughter, Elisa, making the family a rarity in a suburb dominated by uni students and young professionals. In 2021, the city’s cohort of children under 15 was six times scarcer than those elsewhere in the state. That could change as more city workers weigh up the opportunities to live and work for longer periods in the same neighbourhood.

It was the city’s nightlife that continually drew the Gallic couple out when they arrived. Élodie makes slightly fewer nocturnal trips now, and more towards the handful of playgrounds beyond the grid’s periphery.

“The city could definitely do with more, and ones that are made less with concrete and

more with natural materials”, she said when we discussed how to change the stigma associated with raising families here.

I heard a similar refrain from local business owner, Dani Zeini. “People think it’s impossible to do. They imagine your kids being caged up,” said Dani, who makes up for the lack of a traditional backyard by regularly exploring local gardens with his wife, Dina, and their three children.

With or without children, using space effectively in apartments can require compromise and ingenuity. Favouring quality over quantity, the Zeinis have slowly adapted their abode to accommodate each child. Their three-bedroom apartment is a unique, family-friendly asset in

a one- to two-bedroom flooded city. Even so, with the arrival of their third child five months ago, fitting another room in remains a priority.

Despite the challenges, Dani is convinced of the payoff for his children. The city’s galleries, museums and events have helped them become more cultured, he notes. A local public school, he adds, would increase the centre’s attractiveness and would be a welcome addition for families like his.

Alongside their kids, Dani and Dina have managed to find the kind of community that families value. While the couple remembers their early days being filled with homesickness, they – like Élodie – found a vertical village, one that managed to bring a sparkle to life amid the otherwise sombre days of lockdown. The pair supported new parents during those days, along with others who needed someone to talk to. Using their culinary talents, the Royal Stacks founders joined with others in cooking for neighbours at home.

Post-pandemic aftershocks on the city’s social fabric have nonetheless been significant for other households. Being among the three-quarters of city-dwellers who rent, Elodie has found the steep cost-of-living increases hard to bear. She laments the takeover of her favourite local eateries by soulless chain stores. Speeding scooters have made footpaths dangerous for children. The constant noise of day-time construction and night-time partying has worn her down and led her to consider looking for a suburban home.

Many local families still believe in the city’s capacity to find a harmonious balance between its many functions, beyond business. Even when the background noise is more cacophony than symphony, they are as resilient as they are creative in their adaptation. But some avowedly profit-making priorities have left many others feeling overlooked as an afterthought, and short of options.

Dani remains optimistic though, finding other reasons to remain for the long term. While his in-laws occasionally bemoan the trek in from the couple’s childhood home in Dandenong, the city’s events regularly attract friends to visit. His children, and others like them, might be rare for now, but they are thriving in the vibrant surrounds.

As Melbourne looks to embrace more density, for the sake of housing affordability and sustainability, their stories are challenging the national narrative of urban families and proving that a city home can be one for life, not just a season. ●



Dan Ong
COMMITTEE MEMBER OF
RESIDENTS 3000 MELBOURNE



METRO TUNNEL



First glimpse of Town Hall Station as work powers ahead under City Square

Stunning new images have revealed the spectacular Town Hall Station concourse beneath City Square, one of the five new stations set to open as part of the Metro Tunnel Project in 2025.

Just months after Metro Tunnel crews finished dismantling the noise-cancelling shed over City Square, work has begun to install the eight soaring columns that will be a signature feature of the concourse level.

Passengers will experience a large open space when they enter the station from City Square, which measures 18-metres wide. The eight concrete and steel columns will reach all the way to the ceiling, up to 14-metres above the concourse.

The concourse will be directly beneath Melbourne’s City Square, which will be returned to the public as an open space for events and to gather, surrounded by city landmarks such as St Paul’s Cathedral and Melbourne Town Hall.

The project is set to reach another significant milestone in October – the reopening of a

section of Flinders St that has been closed for more than four years.

The eastbound lane between Elizabeth St and Swanston St, alongside the tram stop, will permanently reopen to traffic in October, improving traffic flow through the CBD.

Both eastbound lanes were closed in September 2019 to allow construction of the underground walkway between Flinders Street Station and Town Hall Station.

In a final step towards reopening the traffic lane, a small section of footpath opposite Flinders Street Station, between Dangerfield and Clements House, will be closed from Monday, May 29 until mid-September so workers can finish construction below ground and safely reinstate the traffic lane.

The other eastbound lane, next to the footpath, will remain closed as construction continues on Town Hall Station.

The state-of-the-art station will be a new gateway to some of Melbourne’s most popular destinations, including Federation Square and Southbank, and feature extraordinary cathedral-like arched ceilings and some of the widest platforms in the world.

The Metro Tunnel will transform rail travel in Melbourne, creating capacity for more than half-a-million extra passengers in the peak each week. ●

HISTORY

Clackety-clack: train journeys and the Travellers Aid Society

“Clackety clack – clackety clack. There was a big train”. Some of my favourite childhood stories were about trains. And my absolute favourite was a Little Golden book called The Train from Timbuctoo that began with these words.



I had no idea where this magical-sounding place was, but it took on legendary status as I read about the train that travelled from Timbuctoo to Kalamazoo – “It’s a long way down the track,” I was told.

All those years ago I didn’t think of what such an epic imaginary journey might have meant for those on board. Nor did I think about what might have met them when they reached their destination. I have always been struck by the line by R.L. Stevenson: “To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive.” I’m sure the passengers on board my train from Timbuctoo travelled hopefully, and I am equally sure that for some the journey was a better thing than to arrive.

So, when I started to think about the role of the many groups that have given so much to our community, I thought of that train and its passengers and I thought also of the Travellers’ Aid Society, a group that began its work in 1916 supporting and protecting women and girls arriving in Melbourne to take up work during WWI. It has provided a wide range of services to the travelling public under the banner “A warm and home-like welcome” ever since.

Passengers arriving in Melbourne by train, bus, sea and air have found a friend in the Travellers Aid Society. “No girl need be friendless” was the claim during the Roaring 20s, as

young women from rural Victoria flocked to the city to take up employment, often alone and unsupported by family. The Society’s brief expanded during the 1930s Depression when its attention turned to families in crisis, abandoned children, women fleeing domestic abuse.

Ever adaptable, after WWII, staff met boats of evacuees and migrant brides. They were there to provide comfort and practical support to the lonely, the disillusioned and those who had been displaced from their homelands.

The Society has weathered the huge social and economic changes that began in the 1960s and 1970s which has meant constantly adapting to meet new demands.

Travellers’ Aid is still here after 107 years, still provides comfort and practical support. Hopefully it will still be here in another 107 years or more. ●



Dr. Cheryl Griffin
ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF
VICTORIA

CBD Local

Tossing between feelings



Ronnie Scott is a novelist and lecturer at RMIT's city campus. He talks to CBD News about his latest bittersweet novel.



WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge

The only sun still left in Bowen St by 3.30pm is reflected off Building 9 onto the seats of a student rectangle nearby.

Ronnie Scott has been sitting at his computer working at academic duties in creative writing. By the time he emerges the sun has disappeared in the western sky.

All of the student cafés have closed and it's a case of getting to the crux of the matter as quickly as possible.

Scott's second novel *Shirley* was released in February, and everyone wants to talk about it, which is just fine by him.

The novel has three very Melbourne themes – the affectations of the inner north, the microscopic attention to food preferences, and the gender issue.



"I wanted to make a glossy, entertaining surface with hidden depths," Scott said about his approach to writing the book.

Shirley is first and foremost a satire, arguably the most difficult genre to write, but this one has a soft centre.

"Sadness is highlighted by satire," Scott said. "It surprises readers. I would rather pose a question for a reader not tell it the way it should be."

Scott has been teaching creative writing at RMIT for nine years, and although fiction is his prime interest, academic research informs his work and teaching.

"When you are writing you see it as a part of research," he said. "You're testing out ideas and experimenting with form."

Scott's field of academic interest is the narratology of comics, particularly the French thinker Thierry Groensteen, and there is a storybook feel to *Shirley*, in the secret house with the strange cellar next to the railway line in Collingwood and the pathos of the characters.

There's David who likes men and loves an old shabby cat called Meanie, the distant mother

who cruises around the world as a celebrity chef, and the various residents of a renovated block of flats where the narrator lives.

There's a cartoonish feel to the adventures of this crew as they look after Meanie and get to know each other during the lockdown.

The female narrator has none of the sense of entitlement young females generally adopt in chick lit or more established ones in Aussie realism.

Shirley's narrator works in internal communications for an insurance company and her modest position suits her.

"I wanted her to be a writer," Scott said. "I didn't want her to be creative but to like language."

Basically, she's a chronicler of her neighbourhood and isn't trying to fight any ideological battles. She's generally trying to figure things out.

Scott says he's proud of the tone of *Shirley* and it is quite laidback in an amusing cartoonish kind of way as the narrator tosses between feelings of being happy and unhappy. ●

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Police launch Operation Ride Safe to clamp down on illegal e-scooter use

With the extended trial of e-scooters with revised rules and the increased uptake in the use of e-scooters within the Melbourne CBD, Victoria Police will be conducting Operation Ride Safe.

WORDS BY Sergeant Dinah Tremain
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING COORDINATOR
MELBOURNE EAST POLICE STATION

The operation is in response to the growing number of e-scooter incidents and near-misses which are occurring throughout the precincts of Melbourne CBD, Southbank, and Docklands.

Melbourne East local area police commander Inspector Dale Huntington said police would be conducting visible foot patrols and police bike patrols of risk e-scooter locations throughout the city during the month of June.

Police will be clamping down on those riding on pavements, excessive speed, riders not wearing helmets, multiple people on a single e-scooter and riding while over the prescribed alcohol limit.

"The legal use of e-scooters in a safe and appropriate manner provides a fantastic new transport option for many tourists and locals when visiting or travelling through the Melbourne CBD," Inspector Huntington said.

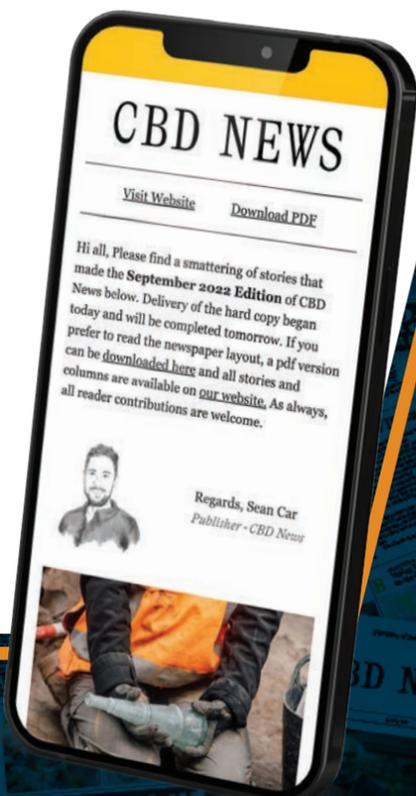
"It is the risky behaviours and illegal use of e-scooters which places individual riders and community members at risk that police will be targeting." ●

CBD NEWS

Wish your inbox was more local?

Well we have good news for you!

Scan the QR so you can stay Hyperlocal on the eNews!



New to Melbourne? Starting Uni, or launching into a fresh career? ScotsCity Church is ready to welcome you. Join us Sundays at 5pm for coffee and community and Bible Teaching that connects. scotscity.com/scotscity

5pm Sundays, The Scots' Church Laneway
156 Collins St Melbourne | ph 9650 9903
Contact Johnson, scotscity@scotchchurch.com

WE LIVE HERE

Suburban councils take the lead

The City of Melbourne is falling behind suburban councils in the race to prevent the city being overrun by short stays.

The city of Port Phillip is the most recent council to show that it hears residents' fears about short stays. The CEO has been instructed to prepare a report on how other councils manage them; with details on how they could be regulated.

This directive was the result of a community petition demanding that the council act to develop and enforce rules on short stay operations in Port Phillip. The investigative report must be presented to the council next month.

Many councils have now introduced basic regulations. **Bass Coast, Frankston, Mornington Peninsula** and most recently **Warrnambool** have implemented registration systems for short stay hosts, charging an annual fee. **Yarra Ranges Council** lobbied the state government to take responsibility for regulating short stays.

The outer suburbs appear to be more advanced on this issue. If the current momentum continues, Port Phillip may become the first inner-city council to step up and regulate short stays.

Outside the municipal sphere, the Victorian Tourism Industry Council and Accommodation Association has been lobbying the government about its concerns around the housing shortage for local workers ...



These concerns are backed up by economic data. In a lecture at the University of Melbourne, Professor Greg Clark, an urban expert based in the UK, argued that every successful city in the world is experiencing a housing shortage (read here:

Professor Clark, who reportedly has advised more than 300 cities and 50 national governments, said the housing crisis is particularly acute in Australia in comparison with global benchmarks.

In response to the expanding controversy, a Victorian Government representative issued an embarrassing prevarication:

"We have introduced laws to limit disruption caused by unruly short-stay guests in apartments and continue to monitor the wider impacts of the sector."

Victoria's short stay laws are among the feeblest implemented by any jurisdiction anywhere. A review of VCAT cases by one of our intrepid correspondents has revealed that there have been 50 cases against short stay hosts to date – and not one host has been penalised!

Meanwhile, many residential apartment blocks in Melbourne have been turned into hotels with up to half the apartments in some buildings converted to short stays.

It's hard to take this non-communicative government seriously when all they offer is to "monitor" the impacts, and then continually postpone a review first promised for 2021, now claiming it will be held "by 2027".

Also, when will the City of Melbourne follow the lead of suburban councils and register short-stays? We were asking for this years ago.

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 donate, please visit welivehere.net. We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests.



Barbara Francis & Rus Littleton

CAMPAIGN@WELIVEHERE.NET
LEARN MORE AT
WELIVEHERE.NET



Open 24/7
genuine kinky escorts
5 mins to your door
CBD location

We survived COVID-19
RE-OPENED
Fully vaxxed girls
to your door now!!

Top Class of Collins Street
(03) 9654 6351
contact@topclassofcollinsstreet.com.au

THE MOST EXCLUSIVE ESCORT AGENCY

Paramour
OF COLLINS STREET

CITY CENTRE
Melbourne's exclusive entertainment service.
Highly recommended for our interstate and overseas visitors

- Dinner Companions
- Social Escorts
- Sensual Ladies

VIP

Paramour's GRAND RE-OPENING
Be with the best girls in Melbourne give us a call to pre-organise for opening day due to overwhelming demand

CITY CENTRE GIRLS

9654 6011
CBD - 5 MINUTES TO YOUR DOOR
たくさんの美しい女性
日本語を話します

We have survived COVID-19 AND ARE STILL HERE TO HAVE BEAUTIFUL LADIES PRIVATELY TO YOUR DOOR 24/7

你了解如何庆祝端午节吗？

端午节起源2000多年前的中国，与中秋节和春节一起并立为中国的三大文化传统节日。

澳华历史博物馆将于在6月24日和25日的周末在墨尔本带领大家体验这个文化节日的精彩。

您可以沉浸在端午节的传统中，看看如何制作粽子，看看龙舟比赛，学习制作龙舟的模型，跟家人一起拍一张全家福，以及一起学习了解屈原，这为爱国的政治家。

澳华历史博物馆的首席执行官Mark Wang感叹道，“对于许多中国家庭而言，这可以向他们的孩子展示中国传统文化的起源，对于中国传统文化爱好者而言，你们可以沉浸在墨尔本的多元文化庆祝活动中。在这个特殊的节日里，你还可以来唐人街的中餐馆通过中国美食来庆祝并度过这一天。”

龙舟节，也被称为“端午节”，是中国文化中一个历史悠久的庆祝活动，传统上是在农历五月初五举行。端“的意思是“开始”，“午“的意思是“温暖和光芒”。

屈原的故事 (公元前340年-278年)

有关于此节日的起源，最家喻户晓的便是屈原的故事。

在司马迁所编写的《屈原贾生列传》



中，屈原是战国时期楚怀王的大臣，他主张重用贤能之士，并敦促楚王与齐国结盟。但是，他的建议却遭到权贵的强烈反对，导致他被开除和流放。

被放逐后，他写了几首具有影响力的诗，当中包括，《离骚》，《天问》和《九歌》，这些诗至今仍广为人知。这些诗表达了他的爱国之心和他对楚国于公元前278年被秦军入侵的悲痛之情。他拒绝舍弃祖国，于同年5月5日，写了他的绝笔作《怀沙》后不久便投汨罗江自尽。

受屈原的爱国情怀感动的楚国人民聚集在汨罗江边，哀悼屈原之死并向他致敬。渔

民试图通过在江上划船来找回他的尸体。一些渔民向河里扔了饭团和鸡蛋，以防饥饿的鱼类，螃蟹和龙虾咬噬屈原的尸体。然后，一位老医师将雄黄酒倒进江中，这是一种安抚江中的蛟龙和其他水兽以免牠们伤害屈原的仪式。

龙舟竞赛

龙舟竞赛是根据中国南方的屈原投江的传说演变而来的。

龙舟竞赛中奋力划桨的场景象征着对屈原的怀念。如今，龙舟竞赛在全球范围内都受到了广泛的关注。您将在雅拉河沿岸和

Docklands区水域附近看到，一个由20个划手组成的队伍，在鼓手统一节奏的带领下于整齐地划着龙舟。

制作粽子体验

为了拯救屈原而把大米投入河中后，演变成现在的粽子，是一种中国的糯米团。

粽子是由糯米、五花肉和其他配料混合制成，然后用竹叶包成一个小团子再煮熟。

在澳华历史博物馆，你将有机会尝试包粽子.....博物馆每小时都会提供包粽子的示范，然后您可以从博物馆买一个初学者的材料包带回家，尝试自己制作粽子。或者您可以在唐人街的超市购买现成的粽子，带回家加热。或者更简单的是，在唐人街的一家餐馆里用餐！

唐人街的龙舟节由以下单位赞助：

维多利亚州龙舟协会，城市公墓信托机构，墨尔本中华青年会。

澳华历史博物馆

地址：22 Cohen Place, Chinatown Melbourne

庆祝活动日期：6月24 - 6月25日上午10点 - 下午4点

门票：成人票：\$8.00；12岁以下儿童免费

联系电话：03 9662 2880



墨尔本最好的泰国餐馆隐藏在停车场里

有曾想过在停车场里享用午餐或晚餐？这听起来很奇特吧？

Jack Hayes

墨尔本著名的泰国餐馆Soi 38就坐落在多层停车场的底层，就如游戏小说中的那样。

在餐馆Soi 38里，没有白色的桌布和专门设计的餐具，而替代的是钢制的凳子和桌子，装水的纸杯和装满筷子和勺子的金属罐。

这可能不是一次“三顶帽子”的高级用餐经历，但绝对是一次让你永远不会忘记的体验，外面无处不在的排队等候的顾客也说明了这一点。

在Soi38用餐是一次真正的感官体验。你可以在半个街区之外就闻到那种熟悉的传统泰国烹饪香味，有芳香、香料、甜、酸、苦、鲜味(谁能定义鲜味到底是什么吗?)，所有这些都完美地结合在一起。

Soi 38于2015年首次进入墨尔本美食界，当时店主Andy Buchan和Top Kijpha-vee决定接管这家原来的寿司店。那时候只能选择汤面或冬阴汤配大虾馄饨，除此之外别无其他。

自那时起，其菜单已扩展到包括石首鱼或扇贝酸橘汁腌鱼、Larb Moo、辣味猪肉末沙拉配酸橙汁、鱼露、辣椒和炒饭、泰式双熟腌制的黑安格斯牛腩，或者最终那碗汤，由酸辣冬阴汤方便面，大虾，斑点，脆皮猪肉，鱿鱼和一些蛋黄组合。

在墨尔本这样的城市，食物和餐饮向来受人青睐，而Soi 38打破了我们用餐乐趣的拘谨和严肃。

警方展开保护弱势道路使用者行动

维多利亚警方将针对导致步行者、骑自行车者、摩托车手和电动滑板车骑手在道路上受损伤的行为展开一项为期五个月新行动。

Brendan Rees

“光环行动”(Operation Halo)是维多利亚州警方时间最长的道路治安行动之一，将在墨尔本市、雅拉市、菲利普港市和梅里贝克(Merri-Bek)市展开。

随着寒冷月份的到来，此行动的目的是防止容易受伤害的道路使用者死亡和严重受伤，警方认为这是一个特别危险的时段，因为天黑得更早，冬天的天气也会阻碍驾车者的能见度。

警方将集中力量打击堵塞自行车道和人行横道的车辆，以及分心驾驶、超速和酒后驾车等违法行为。

他们还将高风险的十字路口进行徒步巡逻，寻找任何将弱势道路使用者置于危险境地的行为。

维多利亚警察道路治安指挥助理专员Glenn Weir说：“我们希望每个人不仅要考虑自己的安全，还要考虑他们的行为会如何影响他人的安全。”

Weir先生说，电动滑板车的试用延期也将成为光环行动的一部分。

“我们每天都在追究违规者的责任，对那些违反电动滑板车使用规则的人要采取罚款或进行教育。”

维多利亚步行者组织(Victoria Walks)，维多利亚自行车网络(Bicycle Network Victoria)和Amy Gillett基金会也都支持这项



行动，该行动将持续至9月底。

维多利亚步行者组织执行官Ben Ros-siter表示，由于市中心89%的出行都是步行，“我们需要让市区的街道更安全，更适合步行”。

市政创纪录预算 恢复盈余推迟

市长Sally Capp表示，由于墨尔本市政仍处于亏损状态，生活成本上升是今年预算的“核心”。

David Schout

尽管赤字增加，预测的盈余恢复时间将推迟两年，但墨尔本市政仍然起草了创纪录的2023-24财年8.507亿澳元预算。

由于市政的赤字从1100万澳元增长至1700万澳元，当地居民将从7月起支付更多的市政费，但符合维多利亚州政府规定的3.5%的上限，而养老金领取者可以获得最高253澳元的折扣。

市政在12个月前信心百倍地提出“在2023-24年实现盈余”，并且同样预测在前一年将恢复盈余，但是现在再次被迫搁置任何“back in black”的庆祝活动。



市政的总支出创历史新高，但宣传“创纪录预算”的公告(就像之前两次预算所做的那样)也被搁置，这或许反映了经济形势更加严峻。

市长Sally Capp表示，市政“非常关注”每个家庭面临的抵押贷款、租金和账单的上涨，这是制定预算时“讨论的核心部分”。

Capp市长在5月16日的未来墨尔本委员会会议上说：“请务必知道，我们对环境的困难非常敏感，这一直是我们对预算考虑的核心。”而在同一天，预算草案公布了。

议员们指出，由于通货膨胀率在7%到8%左右，建筑成本上涨高达20%，而市政费增加的上限又限制在3.5%，如果不影响当地服务的情况下，这是不可能实现盈余的。

市长指出：“我们团队为此非常谨慎，作出了巨大的努力。”

What's on: June 2023



FOURTH FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH, 10:30AM - 11AM

PRESCHOOL POP-UP LIBRARY

Share the wonder of books with your preschooler at this storytime with stories, songs, rhymes and activities.

Elizabeth St Pop-up Library

OPEN UNTIL OCTOBER 1

GODDESS: POWER, GLAMOUR, REBELLION

Iconic stories, characters and moments from over 120 years of moving image history in one place.

ACMI, Fed Square



FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 7:30PM

KIMBRA - A RECKONING TOUR

Witness the tour de force vocalist in a cathartic concert. A Reckoning is Kimbra's fourth studio album.

Tickets: melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/kimbra/
Elisabeth Murdoch Hall



THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 6PM

DIVISI CHAMBER SINGERS - THE TURN

A youth-led not-for-profit organisation supporting early-career creative artists, and breaking down established norms of classical music. Tickets: melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/the-turn/
Primrose Potter Salon



FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 6PM AND 9PM

HEAR MY EYES: GOOD TIME + BIG YAWN + TEETHER

As part of RISING, the nerve-jangling thriller gets a percussive, lyrical score from Big Yawn and Teether. Tickets: melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/hear-my-eyes/
Elisabeth Murdoch Hall

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 6PM

KUNG FU CELLIST - EXTRA/ORDINARY

A musical journey that wanders away from the beaten track. Chinese-born Yelian He (the Kung Fu Cellist) is joined by saxophonist Joseph Lallo. Tickets: melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/kung-fu-cellist/
Primrose Potter Salon



SATURDAY, JUNE 3 AND SUNDAY, JUNE 4

DONUT FESTIVAL RETURNS

QVM's annual Donut Festival is back and ready to sprinkle some sweetness. Indulge, have a dough-lightful time, and leave full of sweet and holey treats.

Queen Victoria Market



MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2PM (FREE)

MAKING WAVES - NEW MUSIC

A four-part series. This workshop features Syzygy Ensemble exploring various compositional styles and techniques, presented in partnership with Virtual School Victoria.

Tickets: melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/making-waves-new-music/
Primrose Potter Salon

Business Directory

Accounting

rubix
business accountants

Maximising your profits by minimising your tax

PH 9603 0066
www.rubiixbusinessaccountants.com.au

Health and Wellbeing

Experienced Teachers | Air Purifier | Student Discounts

Yoga Bhuja 10 Magenta Place
Carlton South
yogabhujau.com.au

ELLEN SANDELL
STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

(03) 9328 4637 office@ellensandell.com 146 Peel Street North Melbourne VIC 3051

Shopping

QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET

For the best fresh produce, gourmet food and specialty shopping, you can't beat Queen Vic Market.

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Saturday & Sunday
with plenty of affordable parking.

QVM.COM.AU

Family Law

PWD Pearce Webster Dugdales
Working with individuals, families & business.

Tel: 9614 5122 Fax: 9614 2964
www.pearcewebster.com.au

Lawyers

nc neville & co.
commercial lawyers

WWW.NEVILE.COM.AU

Real Estate

DONAZZAN
SOUTHOAST

Contact our team
Gina Donazzan 0412 430 326
Kim Davey 0418 924 324
Suzie Inglis 0416 671 572
Will Caldwell 0419 010 270

Melbourne's Finest donazzanboutiqueproperty.com.au

COLLINS PLACE

35 Collins St, Melbourne collinsplace.com.au

Gifts

CLEMENTINE'S
Made & Crafted in Victoria

Clementine's, for your locally made gifts, homewares, accessories and fine food

7 Degraeves St, Melbourne | 9639 2681 | info@clementines.com.au

Politician

Evan **MULHOLLAND MP**
LIBERAL MEMBER FOR NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

Your voice in inner Melbourne

(03) 9651 8242 Unit 10, 2 Graystone Court
Evan.Mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au Epping VIC 3076

RayWhite

Ray White Southbank | Port Phillip
111 Clarendon Street, Southbank 3006
P: (03) 8102 0200
www.raywhitesouthbank.com.au

CBD NEWS

Want to place an ad? Talk to Jack Hayes
T 0401 031 236
E jack@hyperlocalnews.com.au
about how to customise your campaign to our audience every month.



With over 25 years of experience in Sales, Leasing and Property Management, and specialising in unique and boutique properties, Donazzan Boutique Property uses it's personalised approach to position clients to achieve exceptional results.

RECENTLY SOLD



**A new record price for the building
Sold in 3 days**



A new record price for the building

"People say selling property is stressful, but with Gina Donazzan and her team at Donazzan Boutique Property, it is effortless and unexpectedly energising. For my campaign, Gina was engaged in every detail and every step of the process. Her focus and responsiveness was unwavering.

Gina truly is a master of her craft and an example of someone who has committed decades to her profession."

- Amanda

"I highly recommend Donazzan Boutique Property to anyone looking for an estate agent that truly cares about their clients and delivers excellent results. Their professionalism, dedication, and attention to detail are second to none, and I am truly grateful for all their hard work and support throughout the process."

- Ahmad

Gina Donazzan
0412 430 326

Kim Davey
0418 924 324

Suzie Inglis
0416 671 572

Will Caldwell
0419 010 270

Melbourne's Finest...

donazzanboutiqueproperty.com.au