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# FREE CBD NEWS

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## Doyle win fails to quell market battle

By Shane Scanlan

**Opponents of the Queen Victoria Market redevelopment are ramping up their campaign, despite a Robert Doyle victory at the October council election.**

Losing lord mayoral candidate Phil Cleary says there is enough community feeling and potential political alliances to convince Cr Doyle to revisit the City of Melbourne's development plans.

"I'm extending the hand of friendship to Robert Doyle," he said. "We think there's a better solution which will save money and preserve the integrity of the market."

"Other options need exploring. But if he isn't interested, we're prepared to go to war with him," Mr Cleary said.

Mr Cleary said that, with the election of a new council, it was appropriate to revisit the planned redevelopment.

He said the market should be renewed via a refurbishment, better marketing, better management and a sustainable energy refit. He doesn't support the council's plans for temporary removal of sheds and excavation for basements under Sheds A, B, C, D, H and I and says the existing car park should be preserved with the addition of a second storey for public open space.

Mr Cleary said he was motivated to continue the fight to support traders who were unhappy with the proposal.

And he may well have the ultimate political ally in Planning Minister Richard Wynne, who told *CBD News* he was determined to protect the market.

"I am fired up about it simply because this is an iconic part of Melbourne that people love and I want to protect it. I want to protect it and I want to make sure that any redevelopment of it is sympathetic to the integrity of the market," he said.

To avoid perceptions of conflict, the council has insisted that Mr Wynne be the planning authority to judge its proposal, which potentially should limit what he has to say.

"At the moment, there is not a proposal before me," Mr Wynne said. "It's changing all the time. They're looking at different road alignments and where the car park entrances might be. Is it going to be in Queen St? Is it going to be on Therry St?"

"There are still serious questions to be answered in relation to Aboriginal cultural heritage. There are serious questions that still have to be resolved in relation to any impact on the cemetery. It's not yet clear that there are not burial sites potentially under Sheds A, B, C, D and E."

*Continued page 2*



## Santa arrives in style

**It seems Santa got lost on his way to the magic cave at David Jones. But with the help of Captain America, Santa Claus made it to the Christmas pageant in the Bourke St Mall on Saturday, November 12. Children cheered as the unlikely duo sped through the crowd on a custom Harley-Davidson.**

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# Doyle win fails to quell market battle

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From page 1

"And obviously there remain significant concerns from the traders about how this is all going to go and the other area that has no approval at this stage is heritage. So there's a long, long way to go."

Mr Wynne said he didn't consider the planned redevelopment as an integrated plan which provided badly needed community infrastructure to City North while, at the same time, renewing the market.

"They're stand alone projects," he said. "I am concerned that any development that occurs on the market does not overwhelm the market. This is an incredibly important heritage site. It is much loved by Melburnians and I'm concerned about it."

The Friends of the Victoria Market group have also been lobbying Mr Wynne. Spokesperson Mary-Lou Howie agreed with Mr Cleary that people needed to put aside their entrenched positions and come together for the sake of the market's future. She also warned that, if that didn't happen, the fight would intensify.

*CBD News* sent this story to the City of Melbourne three days before publication seeking a response from the Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle.

A spokesperson said: "Unfortunately the Lord Mayor is unavailable to comment."

*International market expert David O'Neil gives his view: see page 7*



Planning Minister Richard Wynne expresses his concerns.



Failed lord mayoral candidate Phil Cleary at the market.

## CBD NEWS

### Editorial comment

Cr Doyle appears to have adopted a "crash or crash through" approach to progressing the council's QVM renewal plans.

This is a pity as the plan is a good one and deserves community support.

But his unwillingness to engage is fast becoming THE issue.

This tactic will only strengthen the arm of his opponents and, in the end, it will be the future of the market that suffers.

It is apparent that the council has failed to communicate properly its plans for renewal.

This failure has allowed both politically-expedient opponents as well as people who are genuinely concerned to grasp onto rumours, half-truths and falsehoods.

*CBD News* respectfully suggests that Cr Doyle starts talking.

Minister Wynne would be a good place to start.

# Melbourne CBD Coming of Age



Sam Nathan  
Managing Director

Melbourne's CBD is continuing its progression to truly global city core, driven by economic, social and demographic dynamics and the increasing maturity of our residential property markets.

The central city is Melbourne's global interface, increasingly driven by a broader capital and population base that recognises the relative uniqueness of Melbourne's CBD and the comprehensive lifestyle amenity it offers. Both the established and new apartment markets are at the forefront of this rapidly emerging and dynamic city.

Critical to the evolution of Melbourne's central city residential market has been its role as the commercial, retail and lifestyle hub of one of the world's most liveable cities. This has led the CBD to consistently attract strong population growth, increasingly underpinned not by student tenants but skilled workers participating across a range of 'knowledge industries'. The result of this change has seen the gradual emergence of a more sophisticated central city property market.

Importantly, the current evolution of the CBD market is not, as many would suggest, led purely by investors. The increased activity by owner occupiers is testament to the structural shift occurring in the higher value areas of the market and we have never before witnessed such a meaningful shift in the owner occupier segment. The market now recognises the scarcity of quality owner occupier opportunities and the embedded value that exists in established exclusive and luxury buildings.

The CBD could be considered relatively unique due to the integrated retail, lifestyle, employment, education, transport and residential opportunities contained within a simple city plan – from which Melbourne's famous city fringe suburbs, multicultural hubs, sporting precincts are easily accessed. Many may scoff at the analogy, however after over 15 years of high-level advisory and sales across some of Melbourne's most iconic and complex developments, the best benchmark I can make is to the vaunted layout of that most venerable of cities – Manhattan. It is time we thought of Melbourne in the bigger picture.

The CBD apartment market is now mature, no longer regarded as a niche sector, but a stand-alone market driven by the vibrancy of Melbourne's core. Melbourne's broader housing market is undergoing a structural shift in favour of higher density and apartment living, driven by population growth, infrastructure capacity, housing affordability and cost of living pressures. Although demand from both local and foreign students has historically driven demand for residential apartments in the city centre, a new layer of demand from locally-based tenants and intending owner occupiers will continue as collectively we recognise the appeal and amenity of our world class city.

Our leadership team have played key sales roles on some of Melbourne's most iconic residential and mixed use buildings. Understanding the drivers of this shift and how each building is positioned in the market is critical in representing the interests of vendors and ensuring the full narrative of a property is portrayed to the market.

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# Councillor vacancy to become a saga

By Shane Scanlan

*The appointment of Melbourne's critical 11th city councillor looks set to become a long and protracted saga, with a multitude of potential outcomes.*

Indigenous Voice candidate Brooke Wandin was successful at the October 22 election but resigned before being sworn in amid allegations that she was not correctly enrolled and, therefore, ineligible.

However, Ms Wandin's resignation was not enough to stop Electoral Commissioner Warwick Gately on November 11 referring the matter to a Municipal Electoral Tribunal (MET).

Mr Gately said in a statement: "Although Ms Wandin has tendered her resignation, the mandated countback process for filling the vacant seat on the council cannot resolve any defect from the general election."

A "countback" would see the position offered to Ms Wandin's running mate Nic Frances Gilley. There is speculation that Mr Frances Gilley may not actually want the position. He's not talking. It was originally planned that he and Ms Wandin would run for the lord mayoral and deputy positions to funnel votes through to former councillor Richard Foster who contested the councillor section of the election.

But the pair incorrectly enrolled themselves in the councillor contest, precipitating a falling out with Mr Foster. Mr Foster is not



Indigenous candidate Brooke Wandin addresses residents in Carlton before the election.

talking either. Together, Ms Wandin and Mr Frances Gilley polled 1628 votes (just 2.29 per cent) of formal votes, but Ms Wandin unexpectedly attracted enough preferences from other candidates to see her elected.

It turns out that she was incorrectly enrolled as a resident at Mr Foster's address (which probably explains why Mr Foster is not talking!).

If a "countback" was conducted and Mr Frances Gilley did not accept the position, then it would flow to one of three leading contenders - Joe Sarraf, former councillor Stephen Mayne or Bruce Poon from the Animal Justice Party.

Despite Mr Gately's reference of the matter to the MET, a countback is due to start on December 12.

The countback may well end up being a waste of time if the MET later orders a "recount".

The MET is an unknown quantity with discretionary powers which could lead to unexpected outcomes. It might, for instance, disqualify Ms Wandin's team, sidelining Mr Frances Gilley and triggering a recount.

Under such a recount, it could further order that the votes attracted by the An Indigenous Voice on Council team be set aside, which could have an even more dramatic effect on the composition of the council.

It has been suggested that one possible outcome could be the ousting of Cr Jackie Watts and the return of former councillor Susan Riley.

As it currently stands with only 10 councillors, Team Doyle is effectively enjoying a majority as the Lord Mayor has a casting vote. To say there is a lot of vested political interest in the outcome would be a massive understatement.

Whatever the result, the legal eagles will be licking their lips at the prospect of a protracted tussle.

The Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate was already investigating the matter but Commissioner Gately said: "I am confident that any tribunal inquiry into this matter can be undertaken quite separately from other investigations that are currently underway."

A Municipal Electoral Tribunal is a magistrate appointed by the Attorney-General to rule on disputes arising from local government elections.

Its website points out the obvious attraction to the legal profession: "It is not an investigatory body and, therefore, it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide sufficient evidence."

Watch this space!

*Election results and predictions: see page 6*

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Before the election.

## Team Doyle removes its website

*Constituents will struggle to scrutinise the performance of Team Doyle during the new council term following the removal of its website.*

When questioned by *CBD News* during public question time at the November 15 Future Melbourne Committee, Cr Doyle initially said people could find Team Doyle policies on its website.

Asked whether he did not know that the website had been removed, Cr Doyle said: "Well, the election is over but I'm very happy to make those policies available to people who ask me and we can do that through screen shots of the election campaign. I can't guarantee that I can deliver them all."

"We are a council now, not a Team Doyle council and, as always in consultation with my colleagues, we'll seek to develop the four-year council plan and the one-year council plans and budgets. I may or may not be able to convince my colleagues to support them all but I'm certainly happy to provide them to anyone who wants them. But they were, of course, publicly available during the campaign."



After the election.

# Girls map a safer city

By Khiara Elliott

*Young Victorian women, Plan International Australia and CrowdSpot have come together to create a digital campaign to help women feel safer in our streets.*

Known as Free to Be, the project comprises an interactive map showing all the "happy" and "sad" spots of the CBD and greater Melbourne.

Plan International has implemented several campaigns around the world that work towards equality and safer cities for girls.

Women aged 15 to 19 were invited to mark locations on a map as either "happy", where they have had good experiences or "sad", where they have experienced feeling unsafe or unwelcome.

The Free To Be idea came about after research showed that one in four young women felt unsafe when using public transport alone and one in three felt unsafe after dark in the city.

"This was so startling to me," said deputy CEO of Plan International Susanne Legena.

"We asked the girls, you know, 'What are you doing then?' and they all said they just go straight home after uni or the gym. It was shocking," Ms Legena said.

Experiences currently mapped out in the CBD are a mix of "happy" and "sad" spots.

One participant named Cass mapped Flinders Street Station as a sad spot during the night.

"Flinders Street Station and along Elizabeth St feels very dangerous at night, with little presence of security and PSO patrols. Many people are affected by drugs and alcohol and I don't feel safe leaving work late," she wrote.

Other areas of the city received a more positive response, with the RMIT campus being mapped as a happy spot, during any time of the day.

"RMIT campus security will escort you to a tram stop and wait with you if you don't feel safe. Not that you need them. It's a relaxed environment where you can relax and learn," wrote user Anthea.

The Free to Be project involves girls of all backgrounds. One spokesperson Idil is a young Muslim refugee. Mill O'Sullivan is a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans



Mill Sullivan in the Bourke St Mall.



Sherry-Rose Bih-Watts at the State Library.

and intersex (LGBTI) community.

"The more I can do to advocate for their safety and the safety of young people who experience social isolation or transphobia or homophobia or any type of violence based on sexual orientation or gender identity, the better," she said.

Ms O'Sullivan said her sexual orientation had triggered a lot of harassment whilst

spending time in the city.

"Particularly as a young, queer person you can get a lot of street harassment. Especially when there's those bigger, dominant male groups coming into the city for club culture. It can be pretty dangerous," she said.

Ms O'Sullivan aims to influence more queer-friendly spaces within the CBD, as well as to create visibility for her community.

"A lot of young, queer voices get drowned out in the conversation and in planning. I think structural development, policy development and cultural development has always just been led by straight white dudes," she said.

Sherry-Rose Bih-Watts is 20-years-old and is another ambassador for the Free to Be project. Originally born in Cameroon, Central Africa, Ms Bih-Watts moved to Melbourne when she was six.

Like Ms O'Sullivan, her experiences in the CBD are far more positive during the day.

"I think that's a general finding for most young women and those who commute into the city. I feel safer in the city during the day, because I'm usually with friends or a large group of people," she said.

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# Glimpsing 14 years into the future

By Khiara Elliott

***The CBD is quickly growing and expanding in terms of population, commercial and residential development, but what will it look like in 14 years time?***

According to City of Melbourne data, the current population of the CBD is 37,106. By 2030, it will reach 65,674.

Data also indicates that of the 65,674 people living in the CBD in 2030, most will be aged between 25 and 34.

The 25-34 age group is already the majority, comprising 47.3 per cent of the CBD population. By 2030, although at a smaller percentage of 33.2 per cent, 25-34 year olds will still be the largest group.

City of Melbourne data also states that more females live in the CBD than males.

Currently there are 18,594 females aged from 0-4 to 85 and above, a slightly higher number than the 18,515 males living in the CBD.

By 2030, there will be an estimated 32,974 females and 32,702 males residing here.

On October 26, at the Property Council's "Crystal Ball series", four of the top minds



From left: Tim Farley, Ben Koops, Sarah Horsfield and Ingrid Bakker at the Property Council event.

in the areas of business management, real estate, design and architecture presented their forecasts for the CBD.

Sarah Horsfield, director at business management consultancy Urbis said there were some major works in store over the next 15 years that would be nothing short of transformational for the CBD.

Ms Horsfield discussed the Melbourne Metro project, saying "not since the construction of the City Loop have we seen a project that has such potential to change the

urban geography of Melbourne."

The Melbourne Metro project, opening in 2026, will allow more than 30,000 extra passengers to travel in and out of the CBD with a higher frequency of service during peak periods.

Ms Horsfield said Melbourne Metro would fundamentally change the passenger flow at each of the CBD train stations, and Southern Cross Station will overtake Flinders Street Station as the primary transport hub.

In 2016, Southern Cross has catered to 19

million commuters. By 2030 it is predicted that Southern Cross will cater to 26 million.

"What that means for CBD property is that there will be a decisive shift in people, activity and retail demand in the western end of the CBD," said Ms Horsfield.

She also discussed the CBD's capacity to accommodate the growth in jobs that will be seen in the future. According to her data, there will be about 502,000 jobs in the CBD by the year 2046.

Ms Horsfield discussed the government's planning amendment C270 and its proposed changes to built form design and floor area ratios. She believes the stricter floor area space restrictions of amendment C270 will be detrimental to future office space developments in the CBD.

"What the amendment does is indirectly favour residential developments," she said.

"Commercial development, as we all know, requires larger floor plates and once you start imposing quite restrictive set back requirements and a 'wedding cake style' format of buildings, it becomes much harder for commercial developments to achieve a sufficient sized floor plate for the modern commercial office."

According to Ms Horsfield, commercial dwellings may be pushed to the fringe of the CBD in the future, as residential dwellings continued to develop.

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# Plenty of town hall intrigue to come

By Shane Scanlan

**Lord Mayor Robert Doyle has been returned for a third term, but he won't have it all his own way over the next four years.**

Despite increasing his lord mayoral primary vote (from 41 per cent to 44 per cent), this support did not translate into the councillor election and he failed to win a majority in the chamber.

Team Doyle has five councillors, the same number it had during the last four years. This time around, it is without veteran Susan Riley and Beverly Pinder-Mortimer who made way for newcomers Nicholas Reece and Tessa Sullivan.

There are three other new councillors, although one position is subject to investigation and is unlikely to be known this year (as reported on page 3).

Other newcomers are Victoria Market trader Michael Caiafa and Philip Liu. Also leaving the council are Ken Ong, Richard Foster and Stephen Mayne.

Greens councillors Rohan Leppert and Cathy Oke enjoyed increased support and were returned emphatically this time around. Cr Jackie Watts was also returned and Cr Arron Wood has been promoted to Deputy Lord Mayor.

Cr Doyle is temporarily enjoying a majority (having a casting vote in the event of a tie) while the 11th position is known.

Once the final position is filled, Cr Doyle will most likely court the support of Philip Liu. Cr Liu was the unsuccessful Liberal Party candidate in the seat of Melbourne at the July federal election. He led the "Together Melbourne" councillor ticket under the sponsorship of former planning chair Ken Ong.

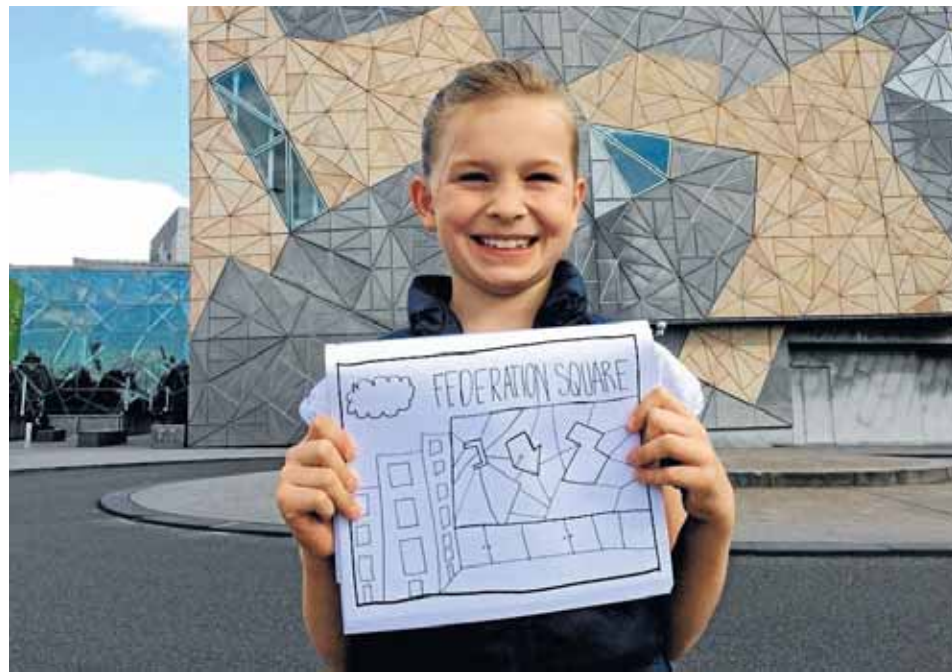
Cr Liu will enjoy a powerful position and will likely find himself holding the balance of power on contentious issues. No doubt Mr Ong will be keeping the lines of communication open.

Brand new councillor Michael Caiafa is already struggling with town hall politics. He was elected with a mandate to halt the Queen Victoria Market redevelopment. Cr Caiafa is currently being kept on a very short leash by council management. He will have an ally in Jackie Watts, but this could work against him in his dealings with Team Doyle.

He also has a pecuniary interest as a market trader, which will prevent him actually voting on market-related issues. That this was unknown to him before the election is an indication of how much he has to learn about the workings of local government.

Nicholas Reece will learn the ropes more quickly, having spent a career in powerful positions guiding, protecting and advising ALP premiers and prime ministers. But this is the first time he's been an actual politician. And he finds himself in an unholy marriage with an old enemy - former Liberal state opposition leader Robert Doyle. With so many landmines waiting, it will be fascinating to watch his performance.

Another newcomer is Team Doyle's Tessa Sullivan. It is yet to emerge what motivates this young, high-achieving mum towards the political realm.



Sophia Millar, artist of the Federation Square page, feels proud that she could help other kids.

## Kids colour the city

By Khiara Elliott

**Some 55 artists between the ages of three and 10 years old have created what is believed to be the world's first commercial colouring book made entirely by children.**

*Colour Melbourne* is made up entirely of children's drawings of iconic Victorian landmarks. The colouring book also features a section dedicated solely to the CBD, with drawings of Flinders Street Station and Federation Square.

Art teacher and owner of Pip Dot Art Studio, Julie Kennedy, and best-selling children's author Joanne O'Callaghan created the book over 12 months alongside their artists.

The idea for a colouring book for kids, by kids came about after the duo attended the NGV Art Book Fair in May last year.

They felt that, although there had been a

recent rise in colouring books for adults, the colouring craze needed to be seen through a "new lens" - the eyes of children.

"I'd seen some beautiful illustrations Julie's students had produced, so I put it to her that maybe her students could produce a colouring book," Ms O'Callaghan said.

The book aims to provide children with the empowering message that their drawings are valued, are as varied and individualistic as people, that the process of making art is as important as the end product and that there is no single way to draw something.

A crowd-funding campaign funded the 80-page book, with copies donated to sick children through the Royal Children's Hospital Foundation.

"We wanted to include an element of helping other children," Ms O'Callaghan said.

"There's often a lot of waiting around involved in some hospital visits or overnight stays, so we thought that providing some copies of the book as well as colouring sheets would help children pass the time whilst they're in hospital."

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# Get behind market plan

By Shane Scanlan

*Visiting international market expert David O'Neil sees passionate reaction to the City of Melbourne's plan to redevelop the Queen Victoria Market (QVM) as a positive.*

"That heart-felt argument is a sign of love," Mr O'Neil said. "It's a good sign and it's very typical. Anytime an old beloved market gets into a 'we're going to fix it up' situation people get very nervous."

However, he applauds the city's ambition for the QVM and recommends that people get on board.

"There is a sensitivity," he said. "The customers and the vendors are right to question the process because it is very important that authenticity is maintained. But it's also important that the market stays relevant. Demographic shifts are occurring and you cannot sell nostalgia for too long. You've got to keep up."

Mr O'Neil points to the changing shopping habits of current-day consumers as the major need for change. He said, in the US, consumers were now spending the majority of their food budget on eating out, take away and pre-prepared food.



Market expert David O'Neil at the Queen Victoria Market.

He said piecemeal upgrades to the market would not help traders in the longer term.

"Renovations or no renovations, there will be casualties," he said.

Mr O'Neil said he was impressed with what market management was trying to achieve.

"From what I've seen it seems to be on the up and up. A lot of it is maintenance. A lot of it is positioning the market as a stronger consumer destination," he said.

"I think 'de-carring' it and making it a better place for people is certainly a wonderful thing. And I love the public spaces that are

going to be a signature part of the market."

He said markets all around the world were facing similar challenges and he was confident that Melbourne's response was appropriate.

"This is the largest single market renewal project in the world right now. It's also very important to the market world that this has a good outcome," he said.

"I love the fact that they bought the adjacent piece of property (the Munro site). That was a good strategic move. You've got an incredible footprint for your market here."

While he recognised people's fear of change, he said the market would not be very different after redevelopment.

"And it's not really redevelopment. It's not really changing. It's the same traders, it's the same place and better infrastructure," he said.

He said the language and the rhetoric of opponents of the redevelopment was almost exactly the same as in other markets around the world.

"This is a very typical reaction. It requires adjustment and people would prefer to not adjust," he said. "But it's incumbent upon management to do these kinds of things for the long-term."

"You have to be ready to maintain the traditions but also be ready to satisfy changing trends," Mr O'Neil said.

## Online drug trafficking in CBD

*"CBD News" has recently become aware of illicit substances being sold online, targeting the CBD.*

The dealers trade under the aliases of "cleanguy123", "maple420" and "wickstar24" on classified advertisements website Craigslist.

Two users advertise marijuana and the third is selling crystal methamphetamine, known by its street name ice.

The advertisements are brazen, explicitly stating prices depending on the size of purchase. Two advertisements include photographs of the product.

CBD News was able to gain two of the three dealers phone numbers using a fake email. All contact details were forwarded on to Melbourne East Police.

Sen-Sgt Adam Tanner said: "Police are aware of a number of websites that facilitate the trafficking of illicit goods."

"Anyone who is engaging in illegal activity on the internet needs to be aware that Victoria Police actively monitor these sites and conduct proactive and covert investigations into online activity. If you are conducting criminal activity within these forums you will be caught and charged."

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# Perfect score for Lonsdale and Swanston

*A website has awarded both Swanston and Lonsdale streets with a score of 100/100 based on their "walkability".*

WalkScore.com judges suburbs all around the world based on their walking accessibility to dining and drinking, groceries, shopping, parks, schools, errands, and culture and entertainment.

The website labelled Lonsdale St a "walker's paradise", adding that daily errands could be conducted here without the need for a car.

Swanston St was dubbed not only a "walker's paradise" but also a "rider's paradise", scoring 100 for its access to public transport.

Bourke and Elizabeth streets just missed out, receiving a score of 99/100. Both were lacking in the "errands" and "culture and entertainment" categories.



Ben Rossiter in the CBD.

Overall, the CBD took out fourth most walkable suburb in Melbourne, topped by Fitzroy North in third place, Fitzroy in second place and Carlton taking out the top spot.

Victoria Walks is an association whose aim is to engage more people to walk every day.

Executive officer Dr Ben Rossiter said the scores were a good indication of the CBD's

accessibility to drinks and dining, however further distinctions should be made in order to really grasp the walkability of the CBD.

"WalkScore can be a valuable tool, but I don't think it's the ultimate measure of walkability," he said.

"It includes criteria like accessibility to food, but that could be either a 7-Eleven or the Queen Victoria Market. There's not a lot of distinction."

The topic of congestion and particularly vehicle congestion in the CBD has been heavily discussed recently. Mr Rossiter believes that congestion is severely affecting not only our roads but also our footpaths.

"One of the biggest issues the city is facing is pedestrian crowding," he said.

"Our footpaths are too crowded, our speed limits in the CBD by international standards are quite high, and our streets are not as permeable as they can be for crossing."

# Short-stays referred to committee

*The State Opposition has delayed the second reading of the short-stay accommodation bill by successfully referring it to a parliamentary committee for further scrutiny.*

The second reading of the Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-Stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 will now not proceed before March 7 next year when the Environment and Planning Committee is due to report back to the Legislative Council.

Successfully moving to send the matter to committee on November 7, Eastern Victoria Member Edward O'Donohue wants the committee to report on:

"Undertaking proper consultation with peer sector economy providers, individuals and owners' corporations short-stay letting providers;

The impact on individuals, families, apartment owners and owners' corporations of short-stay letting in apartment buildings; and

The adequacy of owners' corporation rules in managing impacts on amenity, noting also the lack of adequate planning on the part of the building and construction sector to accommodate the impact of high-intensity short-term lets."

While yet to oppose the Bill, the Opposition is taking the issue of short-stays in residential apartments more seriously since being heavily lobbied by the We Live Here movement.

When the Government introduced the Bill in May, We Live Here was scathing in its criticism.

"Victoria let a golden opportunity slip to set an example to the rest of Australia and take a strong stance on short-term lets and Air BnBs that ruin the liveability and amenity of high-rise buildings," spokesperson Marshal Delves said.

## STREET LIFE



3.30pm. Flinders St.

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# Club for the 'interesting and interested'

*Henley Club is a private social club hidden in Rankins Lane, comprising members who are both "interesting and interested".*

Established in 2012, Henley Club was created to cater to young minds wanting to express and exchange ideas on topics such as politics, science, entrepreneurship and art.

"It was inspired by a need for the creation of a forum that would equip a multidisciplinary community of young people in Melbourne with information and networks to empower them to make a positive impact," said member and media relations manager Emma Needham.

With over 230 members aged between 25 and 40, Henley Club has a diverse range of thinkers.

CEO of Henley Club Erica Liston told *CBD News* "We try to purposely bring together a wide variety of members."

"So we invite people from corporates, entrepreneurs, artists, academics ... I guess what they have in common is that they're curious and they really want to have an impact on their community and on the organisations that they represent," she said.

Current members are employed in varying roles from varying industries, ranging from the National Executive Director of United Nations Association of Australia, to Architects, to Junior Doctors, to Composers, to Public Speakers, to the Public Affairs



*Henley Club CEO and community manager, Erica Liston*

Outreach Assistant of the U.S. Consulate General here in Melbourne.

"It's for people with great ideas and for people who want more great ideas," said Ms Liston.

"The more you can come together with creative thinkers and people from all different types of backgrounds, the more

you're going to be able to bring fresh thinking and bring that into whatever you're doing," she said.

As their signature event, Henley Club hosts a "conversation" once a month. Conversations are intimate, Q&A style interviews with high profile speakers in different fields.

Past conversation speakers include

Nobel Laureate Professor Peter Doherty, CEO of World Vision Australia Reverend Tim Costello, Former CEO of Carlton Football Club Michael Malouf and High Commissioner of Pakistan Naela Chohan.

Henley Club also has nine working groups, led by two members, centred around different schools of thought.

The working groups focus on the areas of Arts and Culture, Domestic and International Affairs, Education and Development, Environment and Social Justice, Finance and Investment, Food and Wine, Founders and Innovators, Medicine and Health and Science and Technology.

Henley Club working groups run separate events to the clubs conversations, ranging from excursions to Art Galleries to speak with curators to presentations on possible implications of a Trump Presidency by Nuclear Proliferation experts.

The club has been operating so successfully in Melbourne that they are looking to expand to other cities around Australia.

"So what works in Melbourne might not necessarily work in Sydney or Brisbane. We recognise that those are different markets, but we want to take the best of here and potentially expand it across the country," Ms Liston said.

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## Trade as usual

By Rhonda Dredge

**Rush hour has arrived and it's time for the evening swill. Andrew Sanders is waiting to take orders. He has 23 ales in his line-up and three ciders.**

The crowd advances. Amongst them are many first-time visitors from interstate who expect a horse-racing tip.

"The favourite is still Carlton Draught, unfortunately," quips Mr Sanders, while keeping an eye on the door. The patient barman's heart lies with the up-and-coming contenders, the summer ales and the pale ales, the sunset ales and the red eyes, of Victoria's craft beer industry.

It was Victoberfest at Young & Jackson's during November and numbers were up but the hotel occupies a crucial corner in the CBD, just opposite Flinders Street Station, and it will soon be covered in hoardings for a period of up to 10 years.

The hotel, which is part of the construction zone for the proposed CBD South Station, presented its case to an environmental effects inquiry in October. The inquiry has six weeks to bring down its decisions.

In the meantime, Mr Sanders is on the front line of the hospitality industry five days a week. "We'll keep on trading," the barman said.

Some 8000 tourists arrived from interstate on four P&O liners for the Melbourne Cup during November, each spending an average of \$300 in town before the big race.

The largest group of interstate visitors comes from NSW yet international numbers were up 12.6 per cent to 2.5 million last financial year, with those from China up 40 per cent.

Many of these tourists head down to the popular hotel on the corner of Flinders and Swanston streets to view *Chloe*, on show upstairs, and to select from the Victorian drinks line-up.

Wearing a vivid orange label, Mr Sander's pick of the bunch is a Pacific ale that goes by the name of Stone & Wood. The brew is close to a summer ale but not exactly the same.

"Summer ale is a local invention," Mr Sanders explains to those who follow his form guide. "They had a court case to decide whether it was a brand or a style."

It remains to be seen what concessions Metro Rail will make so the hotel remains viable.

## New committee for EastEnders

**A few changes were made to the EastEnders Inc committee on November 22, following its annual general meeting.**

EastEnders Inc welcomes new president and longstanding active member, Jenny Eltham.

Standing alongside her will be vice president Ken Tabart. Ms Eltham and Mr Tabart will

be supported by committee members Tim Matthews, Denise Reynolds and Jen Ferneyhough.

EastEnders Inc gave a special thank you to previous president Karin Dixon and newsletter correspondent Ron Butters.

Both Ms Dixon and Mr Butters were original members of the group.

President Eltham said planning for next year's EastEnders Inc events and activities had already begun.

## Dog off-leash parks needed in the CBD

By Sunny Liu

**CBD's dog owners are still waiting for a dog off-leash area for their four-legged friends while Flagstaff Gardens remain an on-leash only park.**

There are currently no off-leash dog parks in the CBD area and the closest free-roaming park is the Clayton Reserve in North Melbourne.

The City of Melbourne (CoM) is trialling a dog off-leash space at Docklands' Ron Barassi Snr Park.

CBD residents have long been calling for an off-leash park for their beloved dogs. Flagstaff Gardens is one of the most popular meet-up spaces for dog owners in the CBD and is regarded by many as a suitable place to be a dog off-leash area.

But the council's response to dog owners is that Flagstaff Gardens is on-leash only, "a designation consistent with the heritage status of the garden".

Regular checks are carried out at Flagstaff

Gardens and dog owners who let their dogs off the lead could be fined.

The council says it is aware of the increase in residents who live in or near the city and the heightened interest in facilities such as dog off-leash areas.

The CoM says it is looking to fill some of the gaps in the distribution of local access off-leash areas and a new off-leash area will be constructed in West Melbourne, making it the nearest off-leash park to the CBD.

Docklands residents can now enjoy the privilege of letting their dogs roam free at the spacious Ron Barassi Park, while the CoM is considering further construction of more dog friendly areas in the west end of the CBD.

Ron Barassi Snr Park is located on the western end of Docklands Drive.

Creating a new off-leash area takes time because community consultation and feedback is needed to establish a plan. A formal declaration through a municipal order is required before an area can be used.

The council is also reviewing other locations for a potential off-leash park within the municipality. CBD residents can express their ideas and concerns on **participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au**.

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MELBOURNE CBD



# Airport Airshuttle to halve travel time

*Monorail technology that would cut CBD to airport travel time in half is ready to be formally tested.*

Strategy, planning and development company Peter O'Brien Projects has been developing the air-shuttle project for three years, following similar systems that have successfully operated for a decade in countries such as Russia, China and, more recently, Italy.

Studies would be conducted over two and a half years and meetings with financial backers have already started. Once the project officially begins, it is predicted to be fully functional within four years.

The proposal presents a light rail system that would operate every two minutes, travelling at 100 kmh, getting commuters from the CBD to the airport in a guaranteed 15 minutes. The air-shuttle would also operate 24 hours a day.

The air-shuttle, or "Airport Express" as it has been dubbed, will also take locals economic and environmental impacts into consideration.

One of the project's key criteria is that it must be completely sustainable, with very low emissions. Airport Express will use electric motors with power recuperation braking. Peter O'Brien Projects believe it will be the first truly environmentally-friendly public transport system in Australia.

Other criteria discuss the need for a minimum of 75 per cent local content



Artist's impression of Mr O'Brien's Airport Express concept.

throughout construction, including civil works.

The line will preferably operate from Southern Cross Station.

Airport Express is planning to operate on one-metre-wide concrete guide-ways, elevated in publicly-owned airspace and will be driverless, with systems operated from a control centre.

The Airport Express also says 750 people

would be employed throughout the duration of the construction, which is estimated to cost \$1.2 billion.

Company CEO Peter O'Brien believes a system like Airport Express is sorely needed.

"I'm doing this because I'm a Melburnian and have been asked by senior politicians from both major parties," he said.

Earlier this year, Infrastructure Australia identified a CBD rail link as one of its

preferred national projects.

After being approached by Peter O'Brien Projects about the Airport Express project, Melbourne Airport representatives seemed welcoming. However, the company says it was told to come back in two years when the airport's next Ground Transportation Options Study is scheduled.

"The airport has no sense of urgency to come up with a solution, given it will take two years for government studies and four years to build and commission. So if we started next January, it wouldn't be completed until 2023," Mr O'Brien said.

The entrepreneur has travelled extensively for work, making about 5000 flights since the age of 16 and so has a vast understanding of airports and how the top models operate globally.

He is being advised pro bono by leading consultants such as Peddle Thorp, WSP Global Parsons Brinckerhoff, PWC Australia and Baker McKenzie.

He believes Melbourne Airport is not operating at a first world level during morning and afternoon peak periods.

Mr O'Brien also said the current transport system was unsustainable and it was obvious to any regular user that major innovation was needed.

## Office space spike

*As the economy continues to grow, so does the CBD office space leasing market.*

According to the latest report from Savills Research, the CBD contains 3,625,325sqm of lettable office space - the highest amount in five years.

Commercial redevelopment was a major contributor to this figure, with buildings such as 567 Collins St adding 45,000sqm of new office space upon its completion.

This trend is set to continue, with the partial redevelopment of Rialto Towers at 525 Collins St adding 6500sqm of office space by the end of the year. 5000sqm of this space has been let to the Bank of Melbourne.

Future development of 360 Collins St will see a further 6000sqm added to the market.

CBD office space sales saw an increase in the year to September, reaching a total of \$2.15 billion. This was a \$1.87 billion increase from 2015.

CBRE Melbourne sales manager Nick Lower said there was a noticeable increase in property enquiries alone.

"We've seen a significant spike in transaction volume and enquiry levels," he said.

"The number of enquiries have been record breaking this year. Each time we



Nick Lower and Tim Last.

launch a new campaign, there are floods of people coming back with enquiries."

Of the sales reported, some notable purchases were the \$157 million purchase of 380 LaTrobe St and the purchase of 114 William St for \$175 million by Straits Real Estate.

Data on CBD leasing activity in the 12 months leading up to September show that it is up 109 per cent compared with last year.

The average capital values for A-grade properties within the CBD have also risen by 22 per cent over the last year.

According to data collected in September, capital prices for A-grade buildings are estimated to range from \$7200 to \$11,500 per square metre. Secondary graded buildings are estimated to range between \$5000 and \$6550 per square metre.

The use of this space is reportedly to come from: healthcare, which is expecting an increase in jobs of 6 per cent; finance and insurance with an expected growth of 5.4 per cent; and government, with an expected growth of 4.1 per cent nationally.

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# Local pitch night launches inventor

*A smoke detector that can tell the difference between burnt toast and a house fire has taken out one of the top three spots at the Australian China Association of Scientists and Entrepreneurs (ACASE) pitch night.*

The pitch night was held on October 20 at Melbourne Town Hall. Ten competitors were invited to showcase their inventions over three minutes in front of 150 guests.

Attendees included Australian and Chinese investors, university principals and government officials.

Software engineer Cheng Huang came up with the idea for the smart smoke detector two years ago after the detector in his home would sound the alarm every time he prepared a meal.

"It was really, really annoying," he said. "Sometimes we'd cook for two minutes and it would go off, so we wanted to build something smarter."

Mr Huang created the smart smoke detector using similar technology to that found in a smart phone.

"We invented the new detector from scratch. It's quite different from the technology found in smoke detectors now. Inside, like the smart phone, it has a small processor".

The smart smoke detector responds to how long smoke is present for.

"The alarm can detect if it's a smaller degree



Dr Erijang Fu and Cheng Huang

of smoke, like from burnt toast. However if the smoke is still present 30-45 seconds later, it will sound," said Mr Huang.

Founder and CEO of ACASE Dr Erijang Fu said that Mr Huang's idea catered to the needs of both Australian and international consumers.

"There's a high demand for this type of product in smart cities like Melbourne and overseas in China," he said.

"People have a strong demand for smart technology and smart homes. This was one of the many reasons Cheng's idea was appealing to us."

Despite interest from both countries, Mr Huang's smart smoke detector will differ slightly in China.

Another feature of the smoke alarm is that it can send an alert in the form

of a text message to your phone. Via a Wi-Fi connection, the smoke detector not only alerts you by text that a fire is occurring in your home, but it also pinpoints the location of the flames.

However, Australian law prevents the text feature being permitted here.

"By law, it's just not allowed. Any remote device cannot receive a message from a smoke detector," Mr Huang said.

"So I'll have to alter it to have an Australian version. For example, we'll keep the industry level smoke sensor. It's still smarter and more active, however we'll have to remove all the Wi-Fi features."

The Huang family business back in China works in the smart technology sector.

"Based on his family background too, you've got a pretty strong case," said Dr Fu.

The next step for Mr Huang and ACASE is to head to Guangzhou for three weeks, where they will enter a larger competition on December 18.

Organised by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Technology and Science, the competition received 500 applicants.



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# A sustainable upgrade for laneways

*The City of Melbourne is transforming four CBD laneways into lush pocket parks as part of the Green Your Laneway program.*

Under the transformative program, a mixture of greenery will be planted along Katherine Place, Meyers Place, Guildford Lane and Coromandel Place.

The City of Melbourne has just revealed the draft designs for the laneways and is investing \$1.3 million into this pilot program.

The newly re-elected Lord Mayor Robert Doyle says the concept shows the sustainable potential of the laneways.

“Melbourne’s laneways are internationally-renowned for their quirky and eclectic culture and feel ... there are more than 200 laneways in our central city but only a small number of these feature greenery,” he said.

Cr Doyle also says the green makeover for the laneways will have both aesthetic and environmental benefits.

“We can add another layer to their attraction by enhancing the sustainability of our laneways and making them ‘green’ and therefore more efficient at cooling the city, intercepting and cleaning storm water and improving air quality and ambience,” Cr Doyle said.

The four laneways were selected based on public nominations and expert advice from a group of engineers, landscape architects and sustainability professionals. The amount of sunlight, exposure to wind and physical and functional characteristics of the laneways



Manager of Lily Blacks on Meyers Place, Abraham Holder

were also taken into account.

The City of Melbourne has illustrated the laneway designs using an interactive map.

The exact type of greenery for each laneway has not been finalised, but the Lord Mayor says each location would have a unique mixture of plants to suit the environment and local business owners’ requirements.

Cr Doyle says Katherine Place, which is near

Southern Cross Station, could be turned into a tree-lined miniature boulevard with an ivy-covered archway.

“Guildford Lane’s residential community would like to create a leafy refuge from the city, with climbing plants and pots to complement the laneway’s beautiful brick warehouses. They’re also considering a community garden for residents and a series of innovative ‘drain-gardens’ to capture

rainwater and reduce flooding,” Cr Doyle said.

And for one of Melbourne’s oldest laneways, Meyers Place, lush greening around the cocktail bars and restaurants is on the plan.

Abraham Holder, venue manager at the Lily Blacks bar on Meyers Place, says the transformation could make the place more inviting.

“It’s an exciting project that’s great for our business. The laneway was used for car traffic but now we can use the space for outdoor seats,” Mr Holder said.

Mr Holder says he has been attending the consultation meetings with the City of Melbourne and is happy with the planned design.

“I’m glad that the City of Melbourne has listened to our feedback. More green is always a good idea.”

Some pop-up greenery was installed on Meyers Place to demonstrate the sample greening concepts and the draft design. A gardening workshop was also held at Meyers Place.

The City of Melbourne is aiming to finalise the plan early next year and the planting will start around June.

Residents can share their thoughts on [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au).

## Documenting women in philanthropy

*A book that documents the history of the Lady Mayoress’ Committee has been launched.*

Five former lady mayoresses attended the launch, with the current Lady Mayoress Emma Page Campbell and the former Deputy Lord Mayor Susan Riley giving speeches about the historic significance of the committee at the Sofitel Hotel on October 20.

The committee raises funds for various charities and the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation.

Founded in 1959 by the then Lady Mayoress Dorothy Evans, the committee has held many charity events and has seen many changes in women’s roles in society.

From the old-fashioned ruffles to the now cocktail functions, the fund-raising methods have also changed significantly.

Lady Mayoress Emma Page Campbell said hundreds of committee members had been

making a positive difference for Melbourne for almost six decades.

“The history of Melbourne could not be told without recognising the enormous contribution that the Lady Mayoress’ Committee has made to Melbourne’s charitable sector,” she said.

Former Deputy Lord Mayor Susan Riley said the book was a record of the works women on the committee have done.

“The book can tell the history of a legacy we can’t leave behind,” she said.



Susan Riley, Emma Page Campbell and Author of “A History of the Lady Mayoress’ Committee, 1959-2016”.

## CHRISTMAS AT ST MICHAEL’S

The festive season is a special time of year to attend service at St Michael’s Church. Dr Francis Macnab will preside at this Christmas Morning Service and will give the address:

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## END OF AN ERA

On Sunday, 18 December, we will acknowledge the end of an era: Dr Francis Macnab’s Ministry at St Michael’s Church.

For 45 years, Dr Macnab has shaped and guided St Michael’s into the unique community it is today.

During the service a short film highlighting Dr Macnab’s work at St Michael’s will be shown. Refreshments will be served in the colonnade after the service.





## Puurfect place to relax

By Rhianna Busler

### Cakes? Coffee? And cats?

Cat Cafe is the CBD's first bistro that allows Melburnians to sip on a latte whilst patting an assortment of friendly four-legged pals.

With 16 different personalities strutting around, it's a quirky place for a cuppa.

Anita Loughran first opened the cafe with her partner in 2014 on Queen St, before they relocated more recently to Guilford Lane.

"We're not just an animal shelter, or a cafe, were a bit of both. We promote adoption and provide a space for people to be around animals in the city," Ms Loughran said.

The cats are accepted from either The Lost Dogs Home in North Melbourne, or the Geelong Animal Welfare Society.

After first coming across the cat cafe idea in Japan on their honeymoon, the Loughrans decided to start their own here in the CBD.

"My husband said to me: what would you do if you could do anything? Then that was pretty much it. We got researching and now we're doing our dream job," Anita said.

With a small team of workers Ms Loughran said: "It's not a business you franchise. It's personal and we're really happy as we are."

The cafe works with a booking system that allows customers to pay \$12 to hang around with the cats for an hour, with a break for the cats to have lunch by themselves.

On a weekday, the business can expect to see around 80 people, with as many as 150 on the weekends.

"People always stereotype cat lovers, but you are more than welcome to be the crazy cat lady at our cafe," Anita said.

# Vampires in the CBD

By Khiara Elliott

*Narrelle Harris has been writing horror, crime, fantasy, romance, erotica and non-fiction out of her Swanston St studio for six years.*

Her passion for writing has been a part of her for as long as she can remember.

"I don't remember a time when I wasn't writing," she said.

"Before one of my brothers and I could write, we were telling stories into a cassette deck. So pretty much the moment I knew how to form words, I was writing stories."

Professional success came later for Ms Harris, with her first book being published when she was 38.

"It took a while for me to get the courage up to send things out. It was harder finding publishers in Australia back then. It was a much smaller market."

Her first two novels *Witch Honour* and *Witch Faith* were published by US company Five Star and were eventually shortlisted for a George Turner Prize.

The Ned Kelly Award and Chronos Award nominee has also lived on Elizabeth St for 14 years.

"When my husband and I first moved in, the city was just building up. I think the residential population was only about seven or eight thousand, and it was basically just eccentric people and students," she said.

Living and working within the city has certainly inspired Ms Harris when it comes to her writing.

Her vampire novel *The Opposite of Life* is set all over Melbourne, with a lot of events within the story occurring in the CBD. Her supernatural detective series *The Talbot and Burns Mysteries* is also set in the City of Melbourne.

"I find Melbourne as a city really nourishing. There's so many great places to work around town and I find myself using them as a setting in a lot of my stories," she said.

To those wanting to break into the writing industry, Ms Harris said the most



Narrelle Harris at her studio with her handiwork.

important thing was to write, then write again, then write some more, and then to keep writing.

"I think people get concerned or they fear that if it's not perfect the first time then that's it and that they should give up," she said.

"But I'm pretty sure that even da Vinci started somewhere. You start sketching then you practise and you practise and you practise, and then you add more paint and you practise some more. Then you might screw one up and throw it away before you start another, but you still practise."

"Writing is exactly the same. The more you write, the more reading you do, the more practise you get."

## Witnesses sought

Police are appealing for witnesses following an alleged assault on Tuesday November 1, Melbourne Cup Day.

A 28-year-old woman was walking with a man along Princes Bridge at around 9pm before he assaulted her. The victim then began walking towards the CBD before she was located and taken to hospital.

Police interviewed a 27-year-old man alleging reckless injury, however he was released pending summons.

Anyone with any information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.



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## LUNCH TIME

## CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

The festive season is upon us and the city is bustling with Christmas cheer. It seems that Santa has well and truly come to town!

Melbourne is the self-confessed Christmas capital of Australia, and there's no better place to enjoy the festive season and embrace the Christmas spirit than the CBD.

City Square's much loved Christmas Square is back and this year Santa has set up shop in a magical forest where he'll be posing for free snaps and accepting wish lists for the entire month of December. For those who prefer to admire from afar, Santa's Mail Box is accepting post until December 16, but be sure to mail by December 12 (and include a stamped self-addressed envelope) for a reply from Mr Claus himself. There's a new nativity scene on display and the illuminated advent calendar will be counting down the days to Christmas!

Melbourne Town Hall will play host to the Gingerbread Village where, for a gold coin donation to the Royal Children's Hospital, you can take a tour of the city's major landmarks in gingerbread form. There's no tasting involved but you can purchase some of the delectable building material on the way out! The famous Christmas Projections will once again decorate the facade of the Town Hall every evening and, for the first time, the festival will be extended down Swanston St bringing colours and lights to Federation Square.



Snap up a Christmas bargain at the Shop the City event from 10am to 10pm on Wednesday, November 30, with many stores offering one-off discounts and special prices throughout the day. Or if you prefer to shop local, don't miss the Melbournalia Snag It VIP shopping event on Thursday, December 15, and the Clementine's Meet the Makers events running throughout December.

Stop to admire the Myer Christmas windows whilst shopping on Bourke St, a tradition that is now in its 61st year, and look for the sparkling red baubles hung high along Swanston as you walk between St Paul's Cathedral and Victoria Street. And if

decorations make your festive bells ring, why not download the online decorations map and make an afternoon of it. Best of all, it's free so you'll have more money to spend on Christmas shopping!

For festive food and drink, enjoy a Christmas-themed cocktail and share-style nibbles in the afternoon sunshine at the Emerald Peacock rooftop, or visit Federation Square's Beer Deluxe for a burger and seasonal Christmas-themed craft beer.

Regardless of how you prefer to celebrate the festive season, the CBD is the place to be. Get out and about next lunchtime and enjoy the Christmas cheer!



WITH JACQUI MOCEK

lifestyle@cbdnews.com.au

To be featured in this section call 8689 7980

## HIGHLIGHTS



## Brooches at Erika

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## City Library Christmas Party

Celebrate the festive season at this family-friendly event at the City Library. There'll be Christmas stories and songs, and a visit from a very special guest.

10.30am - 11.30am, Tuesday December 6.  
City Library, 253 Flinders Lane, free, www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community



## Festive High Tea

Settle in for an afternoon of indulgence and experience a festive twist on the traditional with a specially themed Christmas high tea at the Westin.

Available daily from 11am - 4pm, until December 31. The Westin Melbourne, 205 Collins St, www.westinmelbourne.com



## Summer in Motion

Get moving with the Summer in Motion series at Fed Square. Events include yoga, Zumba, juggling, belly dancing, African drumming and more.

Regular events from Monday, January 9 until Thursday, March 16.  
Fed Square, free, www.fedsquare.com



## Food Truck Park Pop Up

Open for breakfast and featuring a rotating line-up of trucks, the Food Truck Park Pop Up is a must-try foodie event.

8am - 2.30pm, Monday to Friday until December 2.



## Carols on Collins

Catch a lunchtime session of Christmas carols at City Square featuring performances by the Australian Girls' Choir, Glee Club, Citi-opera and special guests.

1pm - 3pm, Monday, December 19 to Wednesday, December 21.  
City Square, 44-86 Swanston St, free.





# MAPPING MELBOURNE

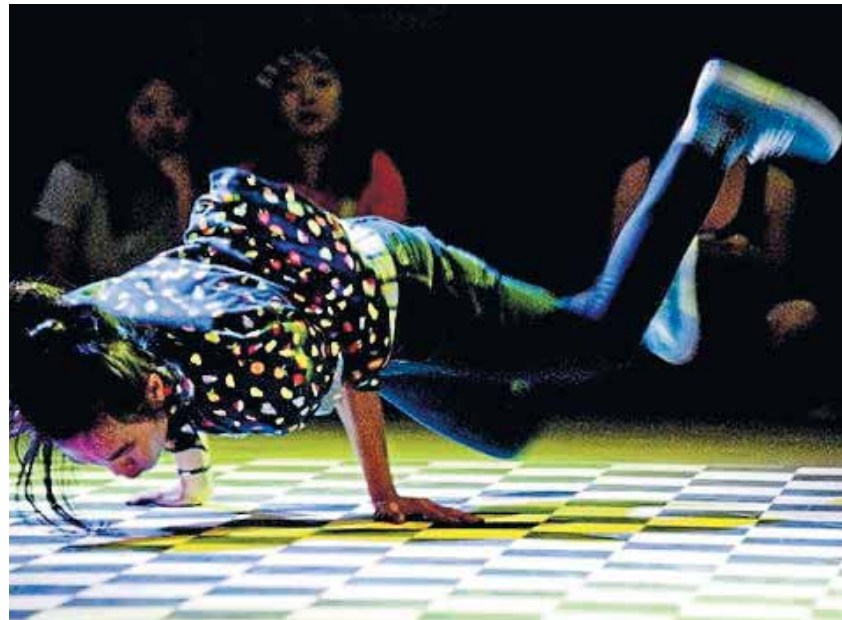
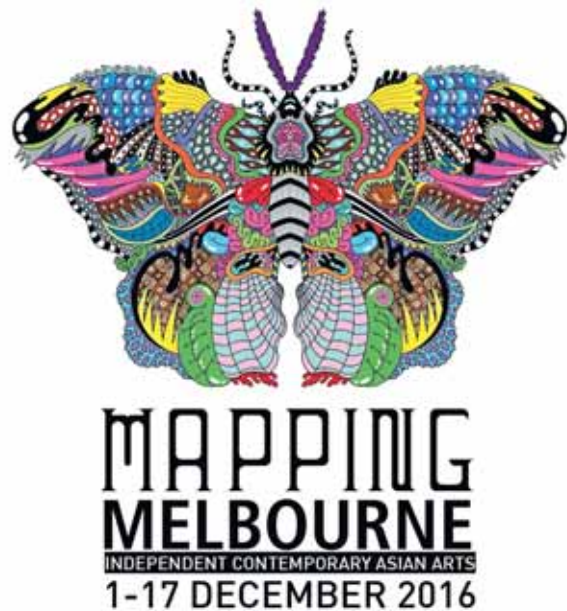
The fourth edition of Mapping Melbourne will unfold across our city streets this December in celebration of our Asian Australian identity and creative connections.

Mapping Melbourne 2016 will be transforming CBD spaces from December 1 to 17, and will feature a range of events and exhibitions across multiple art forms. The festival will profile emerging and established artists from Australia, China, Indonesia, Singapore, India, Thailand, Japan, Vietnam and Malaysia.

With the intent to strengthen Australia's arts network across the Asia Pacific region, the festival is a platform for artists to foster collaborative and creative cross-cultural relationships and present contemporary and challenging works. Mapping Melbourne aims to highlight the importance of social and cultural links between nations and create a shared forum for creative knowledge, expression and respect.

The festival will include exhibitions, workshops, live music events and performances, held at venues across the CBD.

Sonia Sarangi's photographic exhibition *Desivolution* at Magnet Galleries Melbourne will mark the launch of the festival on Thursday, December 1. The exhibition maps the humble archetype of the Indian



restaurant and follows the evolution of the Indian diaspora in Melbourne. 6pm - 8pm, Thursday December 1, Magnet Galleries, 640 Bourke St.

Performance based work *Moyi: Ink Art* will see artists from China and Australia come together for live art and music presentation fusing Chinese art and music traditions with contemporary Melbourne at Federation Square's Deakin Edge. 7pm - 9pm, Friday December 2, Deakin Edge.

Chin Chin's Wall of Art will screen collaborative video art projection *What*

*the Flux?* by local artist Mimi Leung and Balinese artist Kemal Ezedine each night after dark from December 5 to January 1. A mixed-media collaboration, the projection depicts the constant flux of culture throughout the generations. December 5 to January 1, Chin Chin, 125 Flinders Lane.

The pop art-inspired *Mini Mapping: Symphony of Boxes* installation features works by more than 800 up-and-coming artists from New Star Arts School expressing the essence of being young Melburnians. December 3 to 8, Fracture Gallery, Atrium

Fed Square.

The festival will culminate with *Circle of Funk*, a performance at The Toff in Town bringing together the local street dance community and the Foreign Brother's eclectic rhythm section, The CoreTet, for a party through the eras of jazz, funk and hip-hop. 7.30pm - 11pm, Saturday December 17, The Toff in Town, 252 Swanston St.

The festival is presented by Multicultural Arts Victoria. For full program details visit [www.multiculturalarts.com.au](http://www.multiculturalarts.com.au)

## HIGHLIGHTS



### Christmas Projection Show

The beloved Melbourne Town Hall's Christmas Projection Show is extending to Fed Square in 2016, and you can catch the cheery light show nightly until Boxing Day. **9pm - late daily from November 25 until December 26.** The Square, Fed Square, free, [www.fedsquare.com/events](http://www.fedsquare.com/events)



### Explore Theatre

Join a small group of theatre artists and enthusiasts to practise your craft in a safe and encouraging space. All interest and experience levels welcome. **6pm - 8pm every Thursday, until December 15.** Stephen McLaughlan Gallery, Nicholas Bldg, tickets \$10, [thedaydream.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:thedaydream.theatre@gmail.com)



### Fed Square Live

A stellar line-up of local independent and emerging acts will be bringing tunes to The Square this summer as part of the 2016/17 Fed Square Live event. **5.30pm - 7.30pm fortnightly, from Thursday, December 1 until February 16, 2017.** The Square, Fed Square, free, [www.fedsquare.com/events](http://www.fedsquare.com/events)



### Counterfeit Culture

Listen to a panel of Triple R radio presenters tackle the concept of authenticity in today's music, art and culture scene at this special debate event. **7pm - 8pm Monday, December 8.** State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston St, free, [www.slv.vic.gov.au/whats-on](http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/whats-on)



### Melbourne Social Club

Join the Melbourne Social Club at their end-of-year drinks event to make some new friends and learn about the best and liveliest social activities in the CBD. **6.30pm - 9pm Thursday, December 29.** Royal Melbourne Hotel, 629 Bourke St, free, [www.melbournesocial.com/events](http://www.melbournesocial.com/events)



### SpontaneiTEA

Sip on a bowl of green tea and take in pop-up performances at the PopUp Tearoom Series event presented as part of Mapping Melbourne 2016. **4pm - 8pm Monday, December 5 and 12.** Horse Bazaar, 397 Little Lonsdale St, free, [www.multiculturalarts.com.au](http://www.multiculturalarts.com.au)





## THE WEEKEND

# RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

It's one of the most anticipated events on the annual social calendar for many Melburnians and they say the way you spend New Year's Eve will set the tone for the year ahead.

Fear not, with an abundance of enviable events on offer, for all ages and penchants, the CBD is the ideal spot to ring in the New Year.

For the foodies, Allegro Restaurant is serving up a tantalizing six-course degustation in the heart of the CBD. There'll be a special menu featuring dishes such as native oysters with caviar, local venison smoked in red gum with blackberries, onion and bone marrow sauce and an almond buttermilk sponge with dark chocolate and river mint. Sittings are available from 6pm to 9.30pm and prices start at \$180 per head, including a glass of Moët and Chandon and canapes on arrival. Move out to the terrace for the countdown and enjoy a complimentary bubbly at midnight. Newcomer The Cut Steakhouse at The Alfred will showcase a specially curated three course, \$99 per head, menu including a glass of bubbly and served to the tunes of old school jazz.

Usher in the New Year with Grammy award-winning guitar virtuoso Frank Gambale, and his vocal group Soulmine, at a very special dinner and show at Bird's Basement.



Included in the ticket price is a glass of bubbly, four-course meal and the show. There'll be two one-hour sets, the first at 9.30pm the second at 11.30pm and Frank himself will see in the New Year with a countdown followed by more music. Tickets start from \$175.

Blue Diamond will be hosting a South American-themed extravaganza, high up on the 15th floor, complete with breathtaking views of the midnight fireworks. There'll be a Brazilian floorshow, costumed dancers, live percussionists and DJs to dance the night

away. Tickets to the event are \$79.

Hardware Lane favourite Campari House has a range of events to suit all tastes. With a casual pizza and drinks affair on the ground floor, a Japanese-themed party featuring whiskey cocktails and a free photo booth on level one, private serviced booths on level two, and a live DJ playing all night at the rooftop bar; choose one or visit them all! Rooftop entry is \$20 and will be open from 12pm, all other spaces from 5.30pm.

For family-friendly entertainment look no

further than one of our favourite public spaces in the CBD, Federation Square. Combining an extravagant live show of music and entertainment and the perfect spot to watch the fireworks, Fed Square's New Year's Eve celebration will be one of the best in the CBD. And best of all, it's free. There'll be a feast of music to boogie to, including salsa, funk, hip hop and new-school dance battles. A disco party will ring in the new year and have revellers of all ages mesmerised by the kaleidoscope of colour and movement.

## HIGHLIGHTS



### Fair@Square

The Fair@Square Ethical Lifestyle Festival encourages ethical consumption and mindful purchasing in the lead up to Christmas, featuring stalls, cooking demonstrations and fashion shows.

**11am - 6pm Saturday, December 3 and Sunday, December 4. Fed Square, free, [www.moralfairground.com.au](http://www.moralfairground.com.au)**



### Craft Christmas Market

Bringing together the best in ethical, independent and Melbourne-made craft and design under one roof, Craft's annual Christmas is the perfect place for unique gifts.

**10am - 4pm Saturday, December 17. 1000 Pound Bed, 361 Little Lonsdale St, free, [www.craft.org.au](http://www.craft.org.au)**



### Koorie Krismas

Celebrate Krismas with a K at Fed Square. Presented by The Koorie Heritage Trust, this family-friendly event will feature live music, activities, workshops and a visit from Koorie Klaus!

**1pm - 4pm Sunday, December 11. Koorie Heritage Trust and The Square, Fed Square, free, [www.fedsquare.com/events](http://www.fedsquare.com/events)**



### New York End of Melbourne Tour

Discover the New York End of Melbourne on this free walking tour visiting some of the finest architectural buildings at the western end of the CBD.

**2pm - 3.30pm every Saturday until March 18 2017. Media House, 655 Collins St, free, [www.redcoattours.com.au](http://www.redcoattours.com.au)**



### Australian Open Festival 2017

Get caught up in the Australian Open action at Birrarung Marr with multiple screens, food and drink options and a series of live music events.

**Open daily 10am - late from Saturday, January 14 until Sunday, January 29 2017. Birrarung Marr, Batman Ave, [www.ausopen.com](http://www.ausopen.com)**



### Hand in Hand Concert

Celebrate the festive season with a range of uplifting gospel, opera and popular classics at the Hand in Hand Concert presented by the School of Hard Knocks.

**3pm - 5pm Saturday, December 10. Melbourne Town Hall, tickets from \$28, [www.schoolofhardknocks.org.au](http://www.schoolofhardknocks.org.au)**



# Pup needs more play space

By Nadia Dimattina

LeeLeu, the six-month-old Jack Russell only wants to play but is restricted by living indoors.

LeeLeu's owner, Sandra Sierra, moved to Australia from Columbia three years ago.

She believes that living in an apartment is difficult for her playful pup.

"I think its hard living in an apartment with such a small puppy as they want to exercise. I don't think apartment living is suitable for dogs but a house would be better especially one with a garden," Ms Sierra said.

LeeLeu's owner loves to take her dog for walks around the CBD but is concerned for the safety of her energetic puppy.

"I can't play with LeeLeu off the leash in the city because there are many things going on such as children, busy roads and other hazards so I think there needs to be more places in the city to take your dog to play that are fenced in," she said.

Despite her few concerns, Sandra is loving living in the CBD and thinks it was a good idea moving here.

"I love Australia and I hope to stay here forever," she said.



## Letters to the Editor

# Is it really liveable?

Is the world's number one liveable city really that livable?

Many of its streets and pathways are blocked off or bottle necked with restrictions and diversions for construction work everywhere.

Where do the ordinary, everyday needs of people come into this, i.e. this fabulous liveability?

It is often complete and utter mayhem, especially if you depend on a wheelchair.

And if you are a resident, you suffer an unceasing and relentless intrusion of noise, dust and disrupted travel at all hours of day and night.

And government policy? Let's have more of the same apparently.

Where do community needs fit into all this?

Appeal to the council/government? The chaos inside their offices is worse than that outside. No one takes responsibility - you are tossed back and forth from one office to another.

Instead of bleating and boasting about liveability, perhaps it's time for the politicians and bureaucrats to take a real walk through this town. They might become a little more liveable themselves!

Please help us find a way of ridding these "deplorable" conditions that the government has put on us and let's make living and working conditions in the "City of Melbourne Great Again".

Jason Robins



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SKYPAD Living

# Vertical dwelling energy hacks

Energy bill shock – it's something that we all dread regardless of our type of dwelling. And while there is much advice for householders endeavouring to reduce their energy costs, specific options for vertical dwellers are not so plentiful.

Looking at some apartment advice sites, their "energy hacks" include switching to LED, sealing gaps around windows and doors, adjusting your thermostat and even air-drying your clothes (just not on your balcony!).

While sound advice, these suggestions really do not take advantage of vertical living's specific circumstances – or opportunities. So rather than trying to emulate ground-bound residents, the question really is, what could we as vertical dwellers do?

Consider this.

High-rise apartments have huge amounts of external, often glass-clad vertical space.

Many of us have a love-hate relationship with these areas, loving the light that penetrates and hating the summer heat amplified by these sun-drenched exteriors. What if these glass panels could be treated so as to not only improve our thermal comfort but also capture this solar energy for our use?

This type of building-integrated technology is the holy grail of sustainability and photovoltaic (PV) glass is promising apartment residents a way of working with the sun to simultaneously generate power while reducing the demand for electricity to heat, cool and light.

Comprising a transparent solar panel, standard mono-crystalline PV cells are integrated into double glazing, which lets natural light in while capturing solar energy at the point of utilisation. The potential uses for this technology are astounding, with hundreds of thousands of sun-baked apartment windows and glass doors being ready candidates.

However (isn't there always?) the current limitation of PV glass is its high cost which, when combined with the additional challenges of retrofitting, mean that this is not yet an accessible solution for most vertical dwellers.

There is, of course, another better-known



Nicholas Hill (sales manager), Cameron Knox (CEO), Miriam Robinson (member of Nicholson Gardens). Allume Energy will be piloting its new solar technology and business model with Nicholson Gardens, in Fitzroy.

application of PV technology, which is solar panels. While these adorn the rooftops of many Australian houses, unfortunately comparatively few high-rise apartment buildings have adopted PV systems and those which have typically direct their benefits towards reducing the costs of heating, cooling and lighting common property. This leaves the individual vertical dweller largely excluded from the many benefits of renewable energy.

Enter Allume, a new Australian social enterprise that is taking a different approach to cracking this solar-nut. Its stated mission is to make solar energy accessible to apartment residents or, as they phrase it, "those who don't own their own roofs so can't get access to solar".

Allume comprises a group of recent graduates of University of Melbourne,

who are currently working under MAP (Melbourne Accelerator Program), and as part of this program, they will soon travel to Silicon Valley to meet potential investors.

According to CEO, Cameron Knox, (who balances his bachelor of science in mechanical systems with his diploma in French), Allume removes the entry barrier to solar through a pay-for-power (not panels) service, commonly referred to as a solar power purchase agreement (SPPA).

This means that vertical dwellers (both renters and owner occupiers) pay a reduced rate for the power they use from the panels (estimated between 20-40m per cent less than retail electricity), with revenue from the SPPA being paid to the financier of the system.

Allume sees their key advantage as providing

a solution that bypasses the regulatory overhead of an embedded network while offering each resident an opt-in/opt-out arrangement. This also means there is no long-term contractual commitments. And to complete its offer, Allume helps with negotiations with owner's corporations, as access to roofs remains a key requirement.

It is these types of "hacks" from our universities that can pragmatically shape our emerging vertical villages, making our high-rise residences both more visually appealing as well as resource and cost efficient.



**Janette Corcoran**  
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# A setting for sparrows

Rhonda Dredge

Artists of the back lanes of the CBD are like sparrows. When the first flickers of sunlight hit the cobblestones they are out and about making the most of their chances.

In Rankins Lane the sun's rays hit the ground at about 11 am, a time that suits the habits of the late-riser. At number five, a door opens and a flight of stairs leads up to an artist's garret. The entrance is still shrouded in the darkness of the night.

By 4 pm, the door closes, giving visitors just a small slice of gallery time on a Saturday to experience the romance of the setting. For the rest of the week, residents Max Maguire and Stefan Mau are working at their regular jobs.

Shop-houses are popular in Asia and they also provide a workable model for galleries, combining dwelling with hanging space without too much intrusion at open times.

"We found this place on Gumtree," said Max, a musician from England. "It had been empty for 15 years."

A faded sign on the front, Norris and Skelley, suggests the first-floor dwelling was once a factory for a wireless production company.

Good finds like this are more likely to occur in fiction. There's a famous Russian story about a sparrow, which happily lives off crumbs but stops singing when put in a cage. The same could be said of artists who won't roam far when free but cannot abide being trapped.

Both sparrows and artists are plump and plentiful in the back lanes where pop-up galleries are casual places for hanging out. The rustic dwelling, with a simple kitchen bench on the first level and a bed behind curtains on a mezzanine, is a perfect place for viewing small works of art.

"We didn't want a white box," Max said.

Paintings, photographs and works on paper hang on the kitchen wall and in the bedroom. Paintings by Adrienne Gaha riff off works by European masters in a pleasing way. Twenty photographic views by Tim Maguire of Mt Fuji from the Tokyo-Kyoto bullet train are clever and colourful.

# Discriminatory terminology

Repeating the discriminatory terminology used by a persecutor to demonise its victims is tantamount to aiding the cause of that persecutor.

I refer to: "Banished faith finds home in Melbourne", issue 24 CBD News.

Millions of innocent people have been persecuted for 17 years by the Chinese Communist Party simply for putting their faith first. Thousands are confirmed as having died in custody from torture, and exhaustive research by independent investigators suggests that up to a million may have been murdered to supply the lucrative Chinese organ transplant trade.

Your article quoted a Chinese scholar who claimed that other faiths were not persecuted so there must be a "problem" with Falun Gong.

In fact other faiths only escape persecution if they join a "patriotic association" meaning

that they recognise the CCP as the supreme authority over their faith.

Catholics loyal to the Pope and "House Christians" are subject to persecution just like Falun Gong.


Michael Pearson-Smith



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## Planning

# Ending the year on a high

2016 looks set to end on a high (quite literally) with plans finally being unveiled for a mixed-use development at 308 Exhibition St comprising twin towers of 70-storeys.

Developed by SP Setia and designed by COX in collaboration with Fender Katsalidis, the project is set to feature 504 hotel rooms and 16 hotel residences, 500 plus apartments, 330 vehicle bays, 254 bicycle bays and three retail tenancies combining for 437sqm across its two 254m towers.

Arguably the project's most striking design feature, a curving sky bridge will link the towers across levels 49 and 50, with the structure slated to include communal spaces among other features.

Additionally the development will include a host of public and private facilities headlined by retail spaces, a 1370sqm child care centre, restaurants, lounge/bars, a 548sqm ballroom and 1333sqm of pre-function and function space.

Last month saw Planning Minister Richard Wynne approve a 64-storey apartment tower at 111 A'beckett St. Dubbed "Myriad," the \$190 million project, designed by Elenberg Fraser, will retain the existing deco-style frontage of the Commonwealth Motors building. It includes 632 one, two and three-bedroom apartments, retail space, car and bike parking in addition to laneway upgrades and space dedicated to community use, such as a childcare centre.

Meanwhile, the City of Melbourne's Green Laneways program is entering the next phase of its implementation with the

release of concept designs for four laneways which form the pilot project. The four pilot laneways were selected earlier this year to be the very first laneways of the Green Your Laneway pilot program following the initial phase of community engagement.

City residents, building owners and businesses were encouraged to participate in helping to select the four laneways as part of the pilot project, to be fully funded by the City of Melbourne.

The selected laneways are Coromandel Place, Guildford Lane, Meyers Place and Katherine Place. Initial design concepts have been developed for each with further community engagement to refine the concepts.

Looking ahead, the new year will see a number of significant city-changing projects kicking off headlined by early works kicking off on the Melbourne Metro project including services diversions, and deep excavation to allow for the construction of new stations.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle securing a third term which will see the Queen Victoria Market renewal project push ahead, including development plans for a high-rise tower on the Munro site in addition to parking and community facilities being provided by developer PDG. This will allow for works to then begin on further



308 Exhibition Street

improvements, including a new alignment for Franklin St, refurbished heritage sheds and a new Market Square.

Beyond this, 2017 will see a number of high-rises top out or completed – particularly along the northern stretch of Elizabeth St including Light House, Victoria One, Eq. Tower and Empire. Taking their place on the list of construction projects will be Collins Arch, Olderfleet Place, 80 Collins St, Queens Place, West Side Place and a long list of

others set to change the Melbourne skyline.

And finally I'd like to wish all *CBD News* readers a safe and relaxing break over the holiday period and look forward to what should be a big year in 2017. Thanks for reading.



**Laurence Dragomir**

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

## Fashion

# A hidden gem

By Khiara Elliott

Fine jeweller Vick Nackashian has been operating out of the CBD for more than 24 years.

Taking an interest in jewellery from as early as four years old, Mr Nackashian attributes his passion for fine jewellery to his Armenian heritage.

"A lot of Armenians are jewellers. When I lived back home I used to watch them as a kid and I got really inspired," he said.

Upon moving to Australia, Mr Nackashian began his jewellery apprenticeship with Ken D Gray designs before completing it at J. Bird and Son Pty Ltd fine jewellers.

It was here that Mr Nackashian worked for six years before opening up his own fine jewellery studio in the office tower of 220 Collins St. Interestingly, all three businesses are located on Collins St.

"I've never left the city. I love it," he said. "You've got Town Hall. You've got the arts

district. There's a lot of inspiration in the city."

Mr Nackashian prides himself on his relationship with his clients, involving them in the entire process from the beginning designs to the final product.

"The first thing I find out is their budget and I work with that," he said.

From here, Mr Nackashian spends some time figuring out the personality of his clientele in order to create a fitting custom piece.

"Everyone is different. Some people like showy pieces, some people like fine pieces."

Mr Nackashian then sketches a few designs based on the customer's material choices.

After his client has chosen a design, Mr Nackashian makes a mock-up in metal so that his clients are able to try on a physical product before he gets to work on the final piece.

Although he has never left the CBD, he draws customers from all over Australia.



Vick Nackashian with his award-winning piece "Opal Princess".



## History

# Marvellous Collins St

Collins St has been Melbourne's best-known and most fashionable street since the 1840s.

Part of the Melbourne grid plan drawn up by Robert Hoddle in 1837, it was named after Lieutenant -Governor David Collins, leader of the unsuccessful 1803 Sorrento settlement. It contains much of the city's best and most beautiful commercial architecture.

The first blocks were sold in June 1837. The block between Market and William streets was reserved for the Western Market, established 1841. The Melbourne Town Hall block was reserved on the Swanston Street corner.

Most activity in the 1830s was to the west of Elizabeth St where many of Melbourne's merchants had their offices. Some of the first shops established in Collins St were draperies, haberdasheries and ironmongers.

This photograph shows the Royal Bank and the Victoria Street cable tram. Melbourne's cable tram system was constructed in the 1880s and replaced earlier horse-drawn

buses. The Victoria St line was completed in 1886.

By 1891, Melbourne had 44 miles (70 km) of double-track tramway, powered by 11 engine houses. Cable trams were replaced by electric trams from the 1920s.

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria is the historical society for the City of Melbourne.

It is open to the public and can be found at 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne.

Currently it has a wonderful exhibition on the history of Melbourne's suburbs.

Further information: [www.historyvictoria.org.au](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au) and 9326 9288.



**Kate Prinsley**

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



Collins St looking east from intersection with Elizabeth St 1892

## Resident 3000

# Residents endorse city safety initiative

Victoria Police recently launched an innovative advice package to help residents keep themselves and their buildings safe in the city.

Residents 3000 has been involved with Victoria Police over some years addressing concerns about how people can be proactive in ensuring their personal safety in a densely-populated area such as our Melbourne CBD.

In addition, John Dall'Amico, president of Residents 3000 was particularly interested in the security of residential buildings and instigated, in collaboration with Victoria Police, a building safety check list system to cover the security of buildings and their immediate environment.

Victoria Police crime prevention officer Glenn McFarlane and members of Residents 3000 carried out trial tests of the checklist system with the co-operation of several building's owner's corporations and their building managers. Residents attended a few group discussion sessions to learn from Glenn more about security and crime prevention. At one time, during one of our neighbourhood walks, known as the 3000 Steps Walks, Glenn explained how to be aware and conscious of place and people around you when walking the city streets.

Since those early days (2014 and 2015), Victoria Police has expanded the concept and in August this year produced an innovative residential and personal security information kit as shown in the photo.

Residents 3000 recommend that readers learn more about the kit from the following Victoria Police web site: [http://www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?Document\\_ID=9541](http://www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?Document_ID=9541)

From this site you can send an email to have

a kit sent to you or you can pick one up from your local police station.

The kit is made up of a series of information cards, each of which contain useful tips and who to call if trouble arises. The handy descriptions are easy to read and contain good practical advice. It is the sort of package that you could hang up somewhere in a cupboard or on an out of the way wall that you can use in an emergency or whenever some security issue arises in the family.

The topics covered include tips for vertical living, Vehicle safety, how to deal with neighbourhood disputes, how to be party safe and how to avoid property damage and what to do if affected.

The kit also deals with digital crime and fraud as well as personal safety and family violence.

This educational kit is a must for all families living the CBD life and is especially helpful for our international students who are adjusting to life in an unfamiliar environment.

Residents 3000 congratulates Victoria Police for producing a great tool for our community to use and to feel safe and secure.



**Susan Saunders**

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



Sue Saunders is a big fan of the new Residential and Personal Security Information Kit.



## Street Art

# She's a one-off!

Isolde's contribution to the Melbourne street art scene is in the form of one-off paste-ups!

And although they are infrequent due to slowness of technique, her portraits are much anticipated. When they do appear they are a delight to discover!

They are realistic renderings in either charcoal or pastel – sometimes which the addition of pencil or ink.

“My work is quite detailed and I need to take time with a piece. In doing so, I find that I develop a relationship with it. I love the connection and depth that this enables me to have with my work,” she said.

The peeps that she portrays have faces that are full of character – emotive and weathered. “They’ve led an interesting life and it’s this that I try to convey in their portraits.”

A recent hiatus for Isolde was due to what turned out to be an unsatisfactory move to rural Victoria.

“Lack of external motivation and interest caused my productivity to lose momentum. There were less opportunities for street art and I quickly discovered that I’m really a city girl,” she said.

“I’m a self-taught draftsman. I just love drawing and dabbled a bit when I was at school. Although I’ve taken a few classes, it really comes from within. Time is also a precious commodity for me – juggling my art and raising a small child.”

As for Isolde’s alias, it derives from a love of Dali’s *Tristan and Isolde* painting and Wagner’s opera of the same name.

“It just came to me as a natural choice. And although it’s such a classical and feminine name, a lot of people mistakenly think I’m male. Is this a natural assumption because most street artists are male?”

“I started contributing to the local scene about three years ago but, due to my aforementioned slowness, it took a while for my art to gain recognition.”

“It was a portrait of Patrick White, pasted in Hosier Lane 2013. Just before the infamous Doyle’s controversial *Baby Nursery Blue* buffing took place, that focused a spotlight on my work.”

“I’m not as prolific as I’d like to be. If I get a piece up every two to three months, I think



I’m doing well!”

Isolde is very accepting of the speed with which her works can disappear – through buffing or vandalism.

“I’ve tried to get around pasting-up originals but I like the immediacy and spontaneity of doing so. However, the downside is that when it’s destroyed, it’s the end of several months work!”

“Some may last a few days, others survive and mellow with age. It feels good to put something raw up and see how it evolves. Deterioration can have a beauty of its own – a bit torn and weathered imperfect.”

“My pasting technique can be a bit slapdash and once it’s done, the works are no longer mine. They belong to the street and all this entails. I totally disconnect and let go. I’ve learnt to accept this vulnerability!”

“A recent piece pasted in Fitzroy only lasted a day. It was disheartening as I felt I hadn’t had a chance to share it. However, if I didn’t accept this, I’d exhibit in a gallery!”

“Part of the thrill of putting it out there is never knowing the outcome and I do like the ever-evolving and changing nature of the street.”

A former New Zealander, Isolde’s initial motivation for settling in Melbourne was that of inspiration.

“I was blown away by the energy on the street. It was really visceral. It was something I hadn’t encountered at home or in my travels. The city and suburbs like Fitzroy, were outdoor galleries. It was so vibrant and something I wanted to be involved with.”

“It was also exhilarating to discover that one of my favourite artists, the American

SWOON, had work in the CBD. Her paste-ups really resonated with me and were further motivation for my street art journey,” she said.

Isolde is a young woman with an abundance of natural talent and ability. Although her work has a long gestation period, like all good things-it’s worth the wait!

One for the diary is Isolde’s exhibition at Off The Kerb Gallery, Collingwood, March 3-17, 2017.



**Lorraine Ellis**

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



## Seasons Greetings

### Dear readers and advertisers

Thanks for your support in 2016. We look forward to again serving you in 2017.

The advertising booking deadline for the February 2017 edition is January 13 and the material deadline is January 19. The edition is published on January 25.

Best wishes,

the team at CBD News – Shane Scanlan, Khiara Elliott, Sean Car and Sen Bloom



# A representative of the newcomers

By Sunny Liu

For Hong-Kong native Wing Lau, Melbourne is a country town.

Ms Lau is just one of the many Chinese international students taking over Melbourne's CBD. She came to Melbourne in 2012 and has been studying at Monash University since.

Born in a prominent family in Hong Kong and the daughter of a big name in the real estate industry, she says she had been "a flower growing in a greenhouse" until she came to Australia.

"My parents used to take care of everything for me. I did not need to worry about anything before I came here," she said.

She's one of the rich foreign students you may often see on Melbourne's streets, wearing Prada and Louis Vuitton and getting into sports cars.

Her monthly allowance from her parents can easily exceed a person's savings.

But Ms Lau says she is feeling "lost" with her life.

"I have just graduated from uni and now I don't know what I what to do with my life," she said.

"My ultimate goal was to obtain a university degree. But now that I've done that, I don't know what to do."

Admitting she does not want to work anytime soon, she is busying herself with drinks and nightclubs. She says she never has a dull moment living in the CBD.

According to her, many of her friends are "drink friends", a term referring to the people she met while out drinking and partying.

Her luxurious one-bedroom apartment at Upper West Side is filled with cabinets of shoes, clothes and bags.



Ms Lau's worst nightmare is that her parents would one day stop supporting her financially and she would have to find a job.

Going back home is not an option at the moment because she wants to enjoy her freedom for a bit longer.

Her life in the CBD suits her well - where she can go out for dinner, drinks and a fun night anytime.

The only drawback of living in a high-rise is she gets lonely.

"I don't know any of my neighbours.

The only time I ever talked to one of my neighbours was when the fire alarm went off and I went out to the hall to check whether we should evacuate," she said.

Like many other Chinese students, Ms Lau was forced to get her higher education overseas when she did not get a spot at a university back home due to fierce competition.

She admits she has never stood out academically but thinks she has learned many life skills during her time in Australia.

"I used not to know how to cook or how to do my laundry because everything was taken care of by others. But now, I'm much more independent," she said.

"All my life I have been told what to do. But now I get to decide for myself."

But the decision never comes easily. Ms Lau plans to apply for a graduate visa to stay in Australia while figuring out her next step.

She says she will eventually find a job. But the prospect is not looking too bright for someone who has never worked.

## Heritage

# Let's define progress

One cliché often uttered when we're faced with the heritage demolition is "well, that's progress I guess ...," but is this statement really all that true?

Where do we find most of our city's artist spaces, music venues, pop-up businesses and the meeting places - the elements that drive so much of the cultural and economic progress of the city? It's in the idiosyncratic and malleable spaces created by layered heritage buildings and laneways.

Clearly Melbourne's diverse built heritage plays an important role in nurturing social and cultural progress that wouldn't exist in a city dominated by car park podiums and generic modern retail spaces.

But perhaps we mean progress to only

mean the progressively higher bank balances of developers and certain kinds of economic growth? But even there, the retention of heritage alongside appropriate development provides unique selling points for developments and long-term value exceeding the potential short-term costs of retention and has been shown across the world to be a driver of economic growth and tourism.

The idea that a new building of whatever kind is inherently more progressive than an historic one seems to belong more in the

misguided urbanism of the mid 20th century than in any true idea of progress.

Heritage preservation movements arose in similar circles to that of other progressive social movements in the late 20th century and most proponents of contemporary urbanism will tell you that nurturing a sense of community and scale with urban heritage and fine grain character is the best way to create good and liveable cities.

New developments and additions to our city also add other kinds of benefits, but for Melbourne to be a truly progressive city we

need to champion development that's more inclusive of heritage and ensure we don't fall prey to progress dictated by short-term and often narrow conservative motifs.



**Tristan Davies**  
President  
Melbourne Heritage  
Action



We Live Here

# Big win for residents in parliamentary vote

The Owners Corporation Amendment (Short Stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 has been referred back to the Environment and Planning Committee for inquiry.

The parliamentary vote has stopped the Victorian Government from introducing a Bill that would only benefit commercial short-stay operators.

This is a huge win for the We Live Here movement which has been working tirelessly with politicians from all sides of Parliament to achieve this outcome.

A special thank-you to David Davis, Shadow Minister for Planning, Russell Northe, Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs, along with Nina Springle from the Greens and Fiona Patten from the Sex Party who all supported the We Live Here movement on this issue.

## The Legislative Council vote

On November 8, the Legislative Council voted overwhelmingly to block the Bill and open up the opportunity for community and stakeholder consultation – consultation that the government should have offered from the outset.

Mr O'Donohue, the Liberal Member for Eastern Victoria, proposed a motion to send the Bill to the Committee for Environment and Planning for inquiry and report, on the grounds of inadequate community and stakeholder consultation.

The Labor Government shocked Victorian apartment owners on May 24, 2016 when, with no prior notice given, it introduced the Bill in the Lower House through the former Consumer Affairs Minister Jane Garrett.

The decision by the Legislative Council now prevents this Bill from passing into law, and represents a victory in the on-going push by community groups to ensure that short-term commercial accommodation becomes a regulated industry.

The inquiry by the Committee for Environment and Planning must complete its report by March 7 next year and table it with the Legislative Committee for further debate.

In Parliament, Mr Davis said: "It [short-stay accommodation] is a very important part of our tourism industry, but it is an area where there needs to be better regulations. Untrammelled access can lead to very poor lifestyle and living outcomes ..."

Speaking on behalf of the Sex Party and in support of the blocking of the passage of the Bill, Ms Fiona Patten MP said the vote was a wake-up call for the government to realise the benefit of "clear and effective regulation" of commercial short-stays.



We Live Here movement members meet shadow planning minister David Davis (centre).

Greens MP Nina Springle expressed the concerns of residents who "foot the bill" for the increased costs caused by the commercial short-stay industry. Apartment buildings "were not designed as hotels" she told Parliament.

Members of the We Live Here movement were present in Parliament to witness the debate having canvassed the support of political parties on either side of the divide including the crossbenchers.

Barbara Francis, a director of We Live Here said: "We are very pleased with this decision, and are very proud to represent the nearly one million residents in apartment buildings in Victoria in continuing to advocate for serious regulation of the commercial short-stay industry."

"We have tried to schedule meetings with the Consumer Affairs Minister(s) and advisers on many occasions, but they were not interested in engaging with residents and owners."

"Finally, by the blocking of this Bill and sending it back to the drawing board, we will have an opportunity to have our voice heard. The onus is now on the Labor Government to engage with the community, and this time to get the balance right with any proposed legislation."

## Council elections

Prior to the election all 59 candidates were sent a survey by We Live Here to canvas their opinions on the issue of commercial short stays.

An excellent response of almost 86 per cent

was received and all but one of the teams supported the regulation of short stays in residential buildings. The one exception was the team headed by former councillor Stephen Mayne who subsequently failed in his re-election bid.

It appears that ex-councillor Mayne, the self-proclaimed most pro-development former councillor, paid the price for not listening to concerns raised by us and other resident groups.

He has since declared that he has learned his lesson, that to ignore residents groups is a good way to get dumped off council!

The final make-up of the council is not yet known but we look forward to working with them all on issues involving residents in the City of Melbourne.

You can support the We Live Here movement by registering on our website at [welfarehere.net](http://welfarehere.net).

Contributions are also welcome and can be made online.

## Hungry thieves target Queen St

*Melbourne police are still searching for two men believed to have broken into a Queen St building in late August.*

On Friday, August 26, the two males entered the building using a fire escape adjoined a neighbouring building.

Police have released CCTV images of the offenders who caused some property damage and rifled through the kitchen pantry but allegedly did not take anything.

The first man has been described as of Caucasian or Eastern European appearance, medium build, in his 20s, bald but with some facial hair.

The second man is perceived to be Caucasian, slim to medium build, in his 20s and with short, dark hair.

Anyone that may have any information on this incident is urged to call Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.

## Emergency vehicle damaged

*Police are appealing for witnesses after objects were dropped on an emergency services vehicle in Melbourne's CBD early on Sunday, November 20.*

A Police Ambulance Triage Team, with two police members and an Ambulance Victoria paramedic travelling together, had just finished attending to the welfare of a person in A'Beckett Street about 12.25am when the crew heard three loud bangs.

They pulled over and found the bonnet of their vehicle had been dented by an unknown large object.

Investigations revealed that a number of grocery items had been dropped from some height, with a 25-floor building nearby.

The objects had damaged at least one other vehicle in the area.

No one was injured.

Any witnesses or anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000** or submit a confidential crime report to [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au)



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



# WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**WEDNESDAYS 5.45PM-7PM**  
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**INNER MELBOURNE LIFE ACTIVITIES CLUB**

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

[www.life.org.au/implac](http://www.life.org.au/implac)  
or call Dianne 0425 140 981

**7:20am for a 7:40am start, Tuesdays**

**ROTARY CENTRAL SUNRISE**

Interested in what we do? Join us for breakfast! We meet at the RACV City Club 501 Bourke St, Melbourne.

[rotaryclubcentralmelbourne.org.au](http://rotaryclubcentralmelbourne.org.au)

**10.30am to 2pm Wednesday – Friday – Sunday**

**MEET UP WITH FRIENDS**

Instant coffee or tea with a biscuit for \$1.00 Meet up with friends or enjoy meeting others at St Francis Pastoral Centre (entry next to the book shop in the church yard).

**326 Lonsdale St, 9663 2495**

**11am - 5pm Saturdays @ Fed Square**

**BOOK MARKET**

Join Melbourne's bibliophiles at the city's largest weekly book market, in The Atrium at Fed Square.

**Fourth Monday of each month. Lunchtime @ St Peter's East Melbourne**

**AUSTRAL SALON OF MUSIC**

Listen to music from talented young musicians. Make new friends.

[www.australsalon.org](http://www.australsalon.org)  
Mob 0449 727 910



**Saturday, 10 December. 2-4pm @ Level 1 & 3, Yarra Building, Federation Square**

**KOORIE ART SHOW**

An exhibition showcasing the diverse talents of Victoria's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists in one inclusive space.

Prizes to be announced:

- Creative Victoria Award for Excellence in any Media \$5000
- RMIT University Award \$3,000
- Kane Construction Award \$500

**For more information call 03 8662 6314 or email [exhibitions@kooorieheritagetrust.com](mailto:exhibitions@kooorieheritagetrust.com)**

**Every Monday - Saturday**

**FED SQUARE GUIDED TOURS**

Learn about the site's history, unique architecture and the engineering marvels that make Fed Square one of the city's great icons.

**Meet outside Melbourne Visitor Centre at the flag, Fed Square, From 11am, Free**



**Join our Events Drinks Night on the first Thursday of each month - 6pm at the Kelvin Club, 14 Melbourne Pl.**

A community group that connects, supports and represents residents of Melbourne's CBD.

Events are posted on our web site at:  
[www.residents3000.com.au](http://www.residents3000.com.au)

**Saturday, December 10. 3.00pm @ Melbourne Town Hall**

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**Friday, November 25, 12 noon, Queen Victoria Market**

**WHITE RIBBON DAY**

Celebrate the women of the market – female traders, workers and customers. Show your support for our market and all its women who help make it the vibrant and peaceful community place of well-being that it is.

**Every Sunday from 2:30pm @ The Hub, 506 Elizabeth St**

**FILM CLUB**

Come along to our weekly film club at The Hub, opposite the QVM. We have some of the best film noir classics including 1962 French Classic and two time Cannes winner "Sundays and Cybelle". Admission is free, coffee provided.

**Contact John on 0459 398 358**

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120 Collins St, Melbourne, 3000  
Ph: 9654 5120  
Church times:  
Sunday Service at 10.00am  
Free organ recitals at 1.00pm on Thursdays.  
For more information please contact the office during office hours (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm).

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

**City on a Hill**  
Sundays at 9am, 10.30am and 6pm.  
Hoyts Cinemas, Melbourne Central

**Collins Street Baptist Church**  
174 Collins St  
Ph: 9650 1180  
Sundays services: 10.30am and 5.00pm

**Hillsong City Youth**  
Krimper Cafe, 20 Guildford Lane, Melbourne - Every Friday 7pm-9pm

**Holy Cross Orthodox Mission**  
261/265 Spring St  
[www.australianorthodox.org](http://www.australianorthodox.org)

**Scots' Church**  
156, Collins St  
Ph: 9650 9903  
Sundays 10:30 am (Indonesian), 11:00 am (Traditional) and 5:00 pm (Contemporary)

**St Francis' Church**  
326 Lonsdale St | 9663 2495  
Sunday: 7am, 8am, 9:30am, 11am (St Francis' Choir) and 12.30, 1.30, 4.30, 6.00 pm  
Filipino Community Mass: Second Sunday of the month at 2.30pm  
Indonesian Community Mass: Third Sunday of the month at 2.30pm

**St Paul's Cathedral**  
Cnr Flinders and Swanston Streets  
Ph: 9653 4333  
Sundays: 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am, 6.00pm (Choral Evensong)

**St. Augustine's Catholic Church**  
631 Bourke St. Melb  
Ph: 9614 1722  
Sundays Mass: 10.30am & 8.00pm  
Mon - Fri Mass: 1.05pm  
Mon - Fri Confessions: 12.30pm



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

WE THINK INSIDE THE GRID

**CBD NEWS**



# 市政选举结束 女王市场之争未息

Shane Scanlan 撰稿

尽管罗伯特·道尔(Robert Doyle)在10月市政议会选举中获胜,但是反对维多利亚女王市场改造的斗争正在升级。

失去市长候选人的菲尔·克莱瑞(Phil Cleary)说,有足够的社区呼声和潜在的政治联盟可以说服道尔议员重新审视墨尔本的发展规划。

他说:“我向罗伯特·道尔伸出友谊之手,我们认为有更好的可以节约资金和保留女王市场的解决方案。”

克莱瑞先生说:“我们可以探索其它选择。但是如果他不感兴趣,我们准备和他抗争。”

克莱瑞先生说:“对于新选上的市政议会,重新审视改造规划是恰当的。”

他说,女王市场应该通过翻新,更好的营销,更好的管理和可持续的能源改装来更新。

他不支持市政暂时拆除棚舍并在A、B、C、D、H及I棚舍下挖掘地下层的计划。他说,现存的停车场应该保留但可以加第二层为公共开放空间。

克莱瑞先生说,他有继续斗争的动力,为支持那些对改造规划不满意的商家。

克莱瑞先生还有政治盟友,规划厅长理查德·韦恩(Richard Wynne),该厅长曾告知CBD新闻报,决心要保护女王市场。

他说:“我为此斗争,就是因为这是墨尔本的一个标志,人们喜爱它,而我想要保护它。我要保护它并且我要确保对它进行的任何改造都是对女王市场完整性的支持。”

市政认为韦恩先生是规划当局,负责判断规划提议,为了避免分歧,厅长说话应该有一定的分寸。

韦恩先生说:“眼下我还没看到一个提议,因为一直在改变。”

他们正在选择不同的道路路线和可能的停车场入口。是在女王(Queen)街还是泰瑞(Therry)街?”

“有关原著民文化遗产的重大问题还有待于回答。有关墓地影响的严肃问题还待于解决。目前还不清楚在A、B、C、D和E棚舍下面是否还有下葬地。”

“显然,商家仍然很担心这是怎么回事,在这个阶段,其它区域没有被批准为历史遗产,所以还有相当长的路要走。”

韦恩先生说,他不认为改造规划是一个综合的计划,一个综合的规划应该在更新女王市场的同时,提供市区北面急需的社区基础设施。

他说:“这些是独立的项目。我关心的是任何开发项目都不应该影响女王市场,因为这是一个非常重要的历史遗产。墨尔本人非常喜欢,我也很关注。”

## 圣诞老人 闪亮登场

在大卫·琼斯商场,圣诞老人好像在他去魔术洞穴的路上迷路了。

可是在美国队长的帮助下,圣诞老人在11月12日星期六的伯克街商场圣诞游行里,闪亮登场。

当他坐着定制的哈雷-戴维森摩托车通过人群时,孩子们大声欢呼。



## 市政伊始 勾心斗角

Shane Scanlan 撰稿

罗伯特·道尔(Robert Doyle)又当选了第三任市长,但在未来四年内他不会按自己的方式工作了。

尽管他的市长选票增加了(从41%增加到44%),但这个增加并没有支持他的市政议员选举,他并没有赢得市政议会的多数。

道尔团队这次有五个议员,与过去四年的数量相同。但这一次,他们没有了老议员苏珊·莱利(Susan Riley)和贝弗利·平德尔-莫蒂默(Beverly Pinder-Mortimer),他们让位给了新当选的尼古拉斯·瑞斯(Nicholas Reece)和泰莎·沙利文(Tessa Sullivan)。

还有三位新的议员,虽然其中一位接受调查,其结果今年不太可能知道(如第X页报道)。

其他新当选者是维多利亚女王市场经商者麦克·凯亚非(Michael Caiafa)和刘乐(Philip Liu)。这次离开市政议会的还

有王宗坚(Ken Ong),理查德·弗斯特(Richard Foster)和斯蒂芬·梅(Stephen Mayne)。

绿党议员罗汉·莱珀特(Rohan Leppert)和凯西·欧克(Cathy Oke)获得了更多的支持而有力地重新当选。杰西·沃兹(Jackie Watts)议员也重新当选,爱伦·伍德(Arron Wood)议员被提升为副市长。

道尔议员在第11位议员已知的情况下暂时享有多数(因为在相持的情况下,他享有决定性的投票)。

一旦最终位置被填满,道尔议员很可能会得到刘乐的支持。刘议员是7月联邦大选自由党候选人,但是在墨尔本选区落选了。在前市政规划主管王宗坚(Ken Ong)的帮助下他带领着“联合墨尔本”(“Together Melbourne”)议员议席。

刘议员将享有强有力的地位,并且他很可能在在有争议的问题上能够保持权力的平衡。

## 市政议员空缺 成为奇闻

Shane Scanlan 撰稿

墨尔本第十一届市政议员的任命似乎成为一个漫长而拖延的传奇,会有许多潜在的结果。

“原住民呼声”团体候选人布鲁克·万丁(Brooke Wandin)在10月22日的选举中胜出,但是就在宣誓就职之前她辞职了,被指控选举注册不当,为此选举资格不合法。

尽管万丁女士提出辞职,可是选举专员沃维克·吉特利(Warwick Gately)在11月11日还是将此事提交给市政选举仲裁庭(MET)来仲裁。

吉特利先生在一份声明中指出:“虽然万丁女士已经提出了辞职,但是法定的填补议会空缺席位的倒流程序不能解决大选的任何缺陷。”

这个“倒流程序”可以把这个席位给万丁的竞选伙伴尼古拉斯·弗朗西斯吉利(Nic Frances Gilley)。有人猜测,弗朗西斯吉利实际上可能不想要这个位置。

如果进行“倒流程序”,而且弗朗西斯吉利先生不接受这个职位,那么这个空缺将流向三个主要

竞争者,他们是乔·萨拉夫(Joe Sarraf),前议员斯蒂芬·梅恩(Stephen Mayne)或来自动物正义党的布鲁斯·潘(Bruce Poon)。

如果MET没有得到吉特利先生提议的话,“倒流程序”将从12月12日开始。在理想情况下,MET将在此日期之前做出裁决,但似乎不太可能。

MET的裁决是一个未知数,可能会导致意想不到的结果,例如,这可能会取消万丁女士的团队资格,使弗朗西斯吉利先生离职,并引发“重新计票”。

如果进行这种“重新计票”,就可能进一步推翻“原住民呼声”团队在市政的所获选票,由此对市政的组成可能产生更大的影响。

还有一种可能的结果是有人建议,赶走议员杰基·瓦兹(Jackie Watts),让前市政议员苏珊·莱利(Susan Riley)回来。

在只有10个议员中,道尔团队已有效地享有多数,因为市长有着决定性的投票权。