

# NORTH WEST CITY NEWS

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Puzzles & Trivia - P22



**Bouncing back**  
*Photo by John Tadigiri*

Residents of the nine public housing towers in North Melbourne and Flemington have banded together to create a cookbook as part of the healing process from last year's traumatic lockdown. *Full story on page 5.*

## New plans unveiled for Kensington Recreation Centre

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Designs have been unveiled for a \$42 million redevelopment of the Kensington Community Recreation Centre, which includes a new pool and three indoor multi-sports courts.

It comes after the City of Melbourne announced that it would invest \$10.2 million in this year's budget in what Lord Mayor Sally Capp described, "will deliver top-class facilities for local residents and create 140 jobs during construction".

"We know how critical it is to invest in projects that build a better community, create jobs and provide a boost to local businesses," she said.

"The project includes a 25-metre pool, a water play area, health and wellness areas, three indoor multi-sports courts, a café and enhanced community spaces."

"We have worked closely with local residents and organisations on the design to ensure it will meet community expectations for decades to come."

"We will appoint builders by the end of the year, with the centre expected to open in 2023."

The updated draft designs were released in June after being unanimously approved by the City of Melbourne to proceed to tender last December.

The new development is part of the council's promise to tackle climate change and reduce emissions, with the centre being designed with several sustainability features. This includes solar panels, a new green wall, water conservation measures, efficient heating and cooling systems, and double-glazing.

Other facilities include modern dry change areas for court users, four-metre run-off areas around the court and eight metres between courts, more flexible spaces suitable for a range of classes and community uses, and additional bike parking.

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## Victorian Government slammed for lack of apology to public housing residents

*Victorian Ombudsman Deborah Glass has slammed the state government for not apologising to public housing residents in North Melbourne and Flemington a year after they were suddenly plunged into lockdown in breach of their human rights.*

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
COMMUNITY

A key recommendation from the Ombudsman's investigation, tabled in Parliament last December, was for the Victorian Government to apologise to the tower residents and acknowledge the impact of their immediate detention, which left many without food, essential medical and other supplies, no access to fresh air and surrounded by police.

Carlton housing estate resident and public housing advocate Corey Memery said an apology wouldn't go far enough.

"It's pathetic they haven't apologised for it," Mr Memery said.

"I've said that through State Premier right to Minister Wynne's office. Buildings that were private rentals across the road weren't locked despite having COVID-19 cases. There should be a compensation mechanism."

Last year, Ms Glass ruled the timing of the hard lockdown of North Melbourne and Flemington public housing towers in early July was not based on direct health advice.

Ms Glass said the investigation found basic human rights were breached and were not considered when the rushed lockdown was announced in July last year, which affected around 3000 residents in the North Melbourne and Flemington public housing towers to help control a COVID-19 outbreak.

"It continues to be the only lockdown, before or since, announced with no notice whatsoever – and giving rise to the obvious impression it was made on the grounds of security rather than public health," Ms Glass said.

"It's disappointing the state government has not accepted a key recommendation to say sorry for that."

The investigation found that while public health officials originally expected the lockdown to start within 36 hours, Premier Daniel Andrews announced on July 4 last year that the lockdown would begin immediately. This left residents of one public housing tower waiting more than a week to be allowed outside under supervision for fresh air.

While Ms Glass emphasised that she did not request an apology for the lockdown itself – as the government was taking "necessary action" to keep residents safe – she said it was the "immediacy" of the lockdown that was not based on direct public health advice.

"We were told at the time an apology would go a long way to heal the wounds of many who experienced chaos and confusion as police suddenly surrounded their homes," she said.

"Acknowledging error, even during a global pandemic where quick decisions are needed, and showing regret, would help start this process"

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NORTH WEST CITY NEWS



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# Heavy investment in new CBD North urban renewal

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
ECONOMY

The Victorian Government has announced \$44.6 million to fund a new "green spine" linking the CBD, Carlton, Parkville and the Queen Victoria Market through a series of RMIT University-led capital works projects.

The funding will cover a raft of individual research, capital works and urban improvement projects creating a social innovation precinct bordered by Lygon, Victoria, Swanston and Queensberry streets which aims to facilitate a boom in visitors.

A Multi-faith and Wellbeing Centre to better serve the needs of RMIT's diverse community, an Asia Trade and Innovation Hub designed to support local businesses operating in the Asia-Pacific, and a Social Innovation Hub to foster research into economic and social challenges are some of the projects earmarked for development.

There will even be a Space Industry Hub to connect Victorian businesses with global space technology opportunities.

RMIT Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Martin Bean CBE said the facilities and activities funded by the government would help RMIT contribute to Victoria's social and economic response to the global COVID-19 pandemic and create jobs, enterprises and opportunities for the future.

"Activating this unique precinct and strengthening its connections with other parts of this great city will create long-lasting benefit for the Victorian economy and community," Professor Bean said.

It is understood the new capital works projects will be RMIT-owned but operated largely together with the community much like RMIT's existing Old Melbourne Gaol courtyard and public spaces in Cardigan St and O'Grady Place.

Most capital works projects are expected to be completed by mid-2022 and will collectively support around 130 new construction and teaching jobs, according to the government.

It is understood existing green spaces such as Lincoln Square, Carlton Gardens, University Square and the Royal Exhibition gardens will be linked in order to attract visitors through pop ups and other forms of activation.

The Victorian Government's two-year investment will extend programs in sectors ranging from engineering, computing and advanced manufacturing to healthcare, social services and justice innovation. RMIT will also be working to create publicly accessible shared spaces to encourage community production, studio spaces for artists and

*"We have made an unprecedented investment in the university sector to support it through the pandemic, provide great opportunities for Victorians and to strengthen the state's economy – and this project does just that."*



galleries within the precinct.

This project is one of many proposals from universities to the Victorian Higher Education State Investment Fund, which was developed in response to the significant impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the sector.

The \$350 million fund is supporting universities with capital works, research infrastructure projects and applied research focused on boosting Victoria's productivity and economy as the state recovers from the pandemic. Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney, who announced the funding in June, said the project would "change the fabric" of inner-city Melbourne. "We have made an unprecedented investment in the university sector to support it through the pandemic, provide great opportunities for Victorians and to strengthen the state's economy – and this project does just that." ●



## Victorian Government slammed for lack of apology to public

*Continued from page 1.*

for many while rebuilding trust."

A spokesperson for the state government told *North West City News* that given events relating to the public housing restrictions were before the courts, it was not appropriate to comment.

Although some efforts have been made by the government to prevent such a harsh lockdown from occurring again, Ms Glass said the lack of an apology missed a "vital" opportunity to acknowledge the harm caused to public housing residents. "This could have reduced or eliminated much of the distress that followed," she said ●

## Correction

## EDITORIAL

In last month's June 2021 edition, *North West City News* published an article titled "Bad news for Haines St Telstra users".

*North West City News* would like to apologise to Jan Lacey who was quoted in the article without permission. She was not interviewed.

The material was taken from a Facebook Group which led to a number of factual errors being published.

*North West City News* unreservedly apologises for any distress or inconvenience the article may have caused ●



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## New plans unveiled for \$42m community recreation centre

*Continued from page 1.*

Originally built in 1976, the City of Melbourne said the centre needed to be replaced to “help meet the diverse community’s needs, while ensuring it remains affordable and accessible for all users”.

Concept plans were released in 2019 for the centre, which were based on community feedback.

Last year the council had requested that two optional additions be explored including the expansion of the café footprint to cater for a social enterprise group to potentially operate from the centre in future, and the addition of an outdoor children’s water play area to the southeast of the pool hall ●

**For more information:**  
[participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/kensington-recreation-centre](https://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/kensington-recreation-centre)



▲ Artist impressions of the new Kensington Community Recreation Centre.

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# New funding to improve safety of women at night

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*  
SAFETY & SECURITY

The City of Melbourne will use new crime prevention funding to help improve the safety of women and gender-diverse people at night.

The \$193,000 grant from the state government will go towards the City of Melbourne's Night Justice project, with a focus on late-night entertainment precincts.

City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp welcomed the funding, saying creating a safe atmosphere for women and non-binary people was "an incredibly important part of a welcoming and thriving nightlife."

"Melbourne's vibrant and diverse nightlife is part of our city's DNA and is what draws people into the city after dark," she said.

Crime Prevention Minister Natalie Hutchins said the Building Safer Community grants would give local communities "the resources they need to tackle the crime and safety issues that matter most to them."

The funding will also support a Night Safety Summit, the development of a Night Safety Charter, the development of a sexual assault behaviour change campaign, and a Good Night Out Accreditation program.



It comes as a new Monash University study shows almost half of women and gender-diverse people don't return to places where they don't feel safe across Victoria.

A team of Monash Art, Design, and Architecture's gender, design and space specialists called the YXX Lab have released interim results from a crowd-mapping website allowing users to anonymously drop a pin, and share their experience while out for leisure, sport, exercise, play or catching up with friends.

The interactive map, YourGround, has so far revealed that 40 per cent of those reporting an unsafe place did not go back alone and another 13 per cent who never went back at all.

"No lights, people [are] always hanging around whistling as you walk by or asking where you are going. Poorly lit area. Do not feel safe," one respondent wrote about a public space at Kavanagh St in Southbank.

In O'Shanassy St, North Melbourne, another submitted, "Walking here to go to the shops down the street, makes me very uncomfortable as there is poor lighting and no one around. Have had strangers yell out at me from their car and follow behind me."

The study also found people shared certain tactics to feel more secure in public, including:

- Walking, cycling, or jogging extra-fast to get through a particular area, carrying an object

that could be used in defence

Not going there in the dark or early in the morning

Changing exercise or travel routes to avoid certain areas

Not wearing headphones so they are more aware of the presence of strangers and potential perpetrators

Monash University associate professor Nicole Kalms, who is co-leading the project, said the experiences shared in the first month on YourGround indicated that upgrades and investment in public space could make a difference.

"Submissions indicate that things like well-considered lighting, murals, pedestrian crossings, better footpaths, trees, and new buildings can all increase perceptions of safety for women and gender-diverse people," she said.

The project, which runs until July 31, is a partnership with 23 local government areas, Respect Victoria, the Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning, and the digital agency CrowdSpot.

The Night Justice project brings together a range of partners including Victoria Police, Crime Stoppers Victoria, Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia, the Melbourne Licensees Forum, and the University of Melbourne ●

# Should 10-year-olds be locked up in Parkville?

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*  
FEATURE

Ten-year-olds aren't allowed to create a Facebook account, work at McDonalds or consume alcohol, but in Australia they can still be prosecuted for a criminal offence.

Every year around 600 children aged between 10 and 13 are incarcerated in Australia, despite the international standard for criminal responsibility being 14.

Unbeknown to most, some of those kids end up locked up right in the heart of Melbourne at the Parkville Youth Justice Precinct.

Former head of Medical Services Dr Mike Creati said that during his time at the Parkville precinct he saw kids as young as 11 locked up.

"There are kids in custody who have gone out with friends and the friends have stolen a car, and the child is told to get in the car or they are out of the friendship group," Dr Creati told Melbourne's University's Pursuit.

"Impulsively, the child jumps in the car and if they are older than ten years of age they can then be charged with a crime because that's the law. They can end up behind bars."

As of May 17, there were three young people aged between 10 and 13 at the Parkville Precinct, all of whom were aged 13 years and on remand.

However, the correctional facility is mandated to accommodate females aged between 10 and 21 and males aged between 10 and 17.

Dr Creati said that aside from children not having developed their pre-frontal cortexes which are responsible for impulse control, many of them also suffered from neurocognitive deficits.

"Children who come into contact with the criminal justice system often have neurocognitive challenges such as intellectual disabilities, foetal alcohol syndrome, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or mental disorderslike depression and anxiety related to trauma," Dr Creati said.

"These children need care and support, not criminalisation."

There are a number of support programs intended to aid rehabilitation and provide life skills at the Parkville facility.

These include sports and education programs, as well as the STREAT café partnership where children can work at the café on leave from the centre to help them gain hospitality experience.

A Department of Justice and Community Safety spokesperson said that while there were "very few children under the age of 14" in Victoria's youth justice facilities, the kids were



▲ Boys on the rood during the riots.

Photo: Jesse Marlow.



▲ Damage caused during the 2016 riots.



supported through numerous programs.

"While in custody children and young people have access to education programs, through Parkville College school and youth offending programs, including the Adolescent Violence Intervention Program, to address offending related needs," the spokesperson said.

"They are also supported to address mental health issues through services delivered by Orygen and take part in other structured programs to prepare them for community integration."

Despite this, the Parkville precinct has been the centre of many controversies over the past decade.

In November 2016, a 17-hour riot at the hands of 28 offenders armed with makeshift weapons broke out that caused millions of dollars' worth of damage.

Four units were destroyed, security doors

weighing hundreds of kilos were torn down, and dorms were flooded causing so much damage that it took months to repair.

Afterwards there was an inquiry into the facility by the University of South Australia which found that understaffing, workload allocation and a lack of training made it difficult to control violent prisoners.

Since then, there has been multiple assaults on staff at the Parkville facility, including an incident in March this year where a worker was bashed by three inmates and had to be taken to hospital with facial injuries.

A department spokesperson said that in order to deal with the understaffing issue that had caused violence in the past, the Department of Justice was also utilising the new purpose-built facility at Cherry Creek.

"Violence of any kind is not tolerated in our youth justice facilities, and there's nothing

more important than the safety of our staff and young people," the spokesperson said.

"That's why we've invested more than \$1.8 billion in transforming the youth justice system, including through the Youth Justice Custodial Workforce Plan which paves the way for the strong, skilled, and valued workforce that is vital to the safe operation of our youth justice centres."

As a nation, Australia is still lagging well behind on the issue of criminal responsibility.

In January, 31 the United Nations member states including Canada, France, Germany and Norway called on Australia to raise the age at a UN meeting.

The ACT is expected to be the first of the states and territories to raise the age of criminal responsibility and is expected to introduce a bill by the end of this year.

City of Melbourne Cr Olivia Ball said that although the issue was not in the remit of local government she was supportive of raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

"Fourteen is the absolute minimum, according to the United Nations (UN) Committee on the Rights of the Child, so Australia is very poor by international standards," Cr Ball said.

"Our criminal codes must be revised to ensure no child below the age of 14 enters the criminal justice system."

"Below that age, problems of misconduct, however serious, ought to be treated as a welfare matter, with increased support and resources for families, carers and schools."

In March, the Greens introduced a failed bill which would have raised the criminal age of responsibility from 10 to 14.

Greens spokesman for health and justice, Dr Tim Read, said criminalising children and locking them up had lifelong effects on their mental health and development.

"The medical evidence is clear – children's brains are still developing at this age, giving us an opportunity to redirect a criminal trajectory for everyone's benefit," Mr Read said.

"Children need to be kept out of the criminal justice system for as long as possible, for their own good and for ours."

"Our bill would stop pushing kids as young as 10 through the school-to-prison pipeline, ensuring they receive treatment and support instead."

The bill was knocked back by the Andrews Government and Opposition Leader Michael O'Brien called the bill a "bad idea".

"Under the Greens bill a 13-year-old could engage in a knife homicide and get off scot-free," Mr O'Brien said.

"That is not a way to keep Victorians safe and that is not justice." ●



# Public housing residents create cookbook

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*  
COMMUNITY

Residents of the nine public housing towers in North Melbourne and Flemington have banded together to create a cookbook as part of the healing process from last year's traumatic lockdown.

It's a project which features 18 recipes, stories and artwork contributed from residents from a huge diversity of cultural backgrounds including Somali, Ethiopian, Eritrean, Indian, Egyptian and South Sudanese. But for North Melbourne public housing resident and cookbook co-producer Deepa Gupta, the Victorian Government's response to the pain of last year's lockdown is starkly devoid of any personal touch.

"We went through harrowing times," Ms Gupta said.

"Even today when I think of it, it brings shudders. We felt as though we were prisoners, as if we'd committed the biggest crime of murdering someone. Even then, the person wouldn't have so many people guarding them. They said if you go out, we'll handcuff you."

The Victorian Government has yet to apologise to the public housing residents, despite the Victorian Ombudsman finding that the immediacy of the lockdown violated their human rights, depriving vulnerable residents of food, essential medical supplies and fresh air.

The cookbook, titled *Cooking, Recovery and Connections*, is a resident-led initiative in partnership with community health organisation Cohealth aiming to help rebuild the community ties which were shattered during the lockdown.

Nagat Abdalla, a public housing resident and Cohealth community support officer, said the idea was born last year when residents were "scared" to talk to other people in the housing block.

"If you are a relative or if you are my neighbour, you come to my place or I give you a plate



▲ Public housing residents from North Melbourne and Flemington have created a cookbook.

of my lunch or dinner. For us it was really a big thing to create all these recipes together, during such a hard time when everything stopped in our life. It's something we are so emotional about. This book will be something memorable forever," Ms Abdalla said.

Although cooking with her community is helping, Ms Gupta still has burning questions for the Victorian Government.

"The biggest question is why the public housing got locked down so quickly? Is it that the public housing residents are more criminal than the others? Why did they have this control over us? Are we people that don't subscribe to law?" she said.

"They try to give us money, it's like giving

a crying kid a lollipop. Do they really want to know why the tears are falling? From the point where we're broken, or just provide a facewash?"

"If someone came and said 'I'm sorry', and listened to us – it's the personal touch that's missing."

"It's complete discrimination. We're hard working, we come from good countries, and due to the circumstances, we've had to move here, and the system treats us like this."

Ms Gupta's recipe for Gajar Hawa, a traditional Indian carrot pudding, comes from her home town in northern India.

She said it was a sweet dish featuring cashews and carrots which was meant to be shared with

*"For us it was really a big thing to create all these recipes together, during such a hard time when everything stopped in our life. It's something we are so emotional about. This book will be something memorable forever."*



neighbours as a "good omen".

"I wanted something sweet, something that makes us feel good. I thought I'll take our broken hearts and make us something that'll bring us happiness."

Copies of the cookbook will be given out free to 1300 residents and will also be available to the public for free as a digital download ●

**For more information:**  
[cohealth.org.au](http://cohealth.org.au)



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▲ Left: Satellite Foundation program graduates. Right: The team.



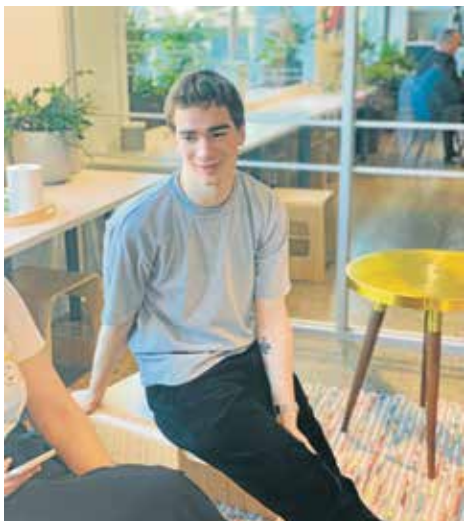
# Local mental health boosted by \$11.8 million government funding

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
FEATURE

For Charlotte O’Grady, becoming a young carer was almost “a reflex”. Growing up with a parent with a mental illness, she experienced first-hand the severe and often devastating impacts of an emotionally absent guardian and felt frustrated she could not do anything to fix it. That’s why she walked through the doors of North Melbourne’s Satellite Foundation, determined to support others going through similar situations. “Mental illness is complex, ever changing and brutal, so when you see someone facing these challenges you want to do anything you can to help,” she said. “I felt that I couldn’t talk about this with other kids, teachers or adults because I was often told that ‘it wasn’t my job to help’, but it’s just not that simple.” Satellite Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation based on Victoria St, which delivers programs, workshops and activities for children, young people and their families who have parent or family member loving with mental illness or psychological distress. It utilises a combination of creativity and the integration of lived experience to promote confidence, self-esteem, and good coping strategies. Around 250,000 children and young people in Victoria live with a parent of carer who has a mental illness, according to the foundation.

Without support, these people are more than twice as likely to develop their own mental health issues. That’s why the Victorian Government recently announced \$11.8 million in funding for the Satellite Foundation, helping realise the recommendation to support carers through the mental health, community, and education systems, as set out by the Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System. Satellite program graduate Fel Andronicou, 20, is managing her own mental health challenges as well as those of both her sister and mother – something she began doing at the age of 12. Currently self-employed and an intern at the Disability Resources Centre, Ms Andronicou said she had struggled with friendships throughout her life due to her autism. “As I struggled with friendship, I would often be around my family and spend time with my mum and began unofficially supporting my mum by helping with dinner, doing this to distract [myself], just sitting and listening and [doing] other chores,” she said. “My own mental health got progressively worse as a result for multiple reasons, one being my caring role of my family as it was very taxing.” Georgia Willmott, another Satellite program graduate, and artist, creates podcasts and films focusing on mental health and surrealism. When she was little, she said her mum was grieving the loss of both her parents while raising five kids. Her dad was dealing with

significant burnout and relationship difficulties, leaving Ms Willmott to cope with emotional neglect. “Earlier this year I discovered the Satellite Foundation during a period in therapy where I was learning how childhood trauma has impacted my whole life,” she said. “It has helped me gain a connection with other young people dealing with similar issues and I have met many inspiring mental health advocates. They have also helped me build skills in self-care, self-compassion and have inspired me to follow my dreams in the creative field.” Ms O’Grady is now studying psychology at university and dreams of a job that will allow her to help others in a mental health setting. Seeing mental illness hurt the ones she loves “lit a spark” in her and working as a carer at Satellite Foundation is just the beginning. “Satellite has helped me to realise that I am not alone in feeling this way. I feel genuinely inspired by the other young carers that I have met through Satellite, seeing so many want to also pursue roles where they can support others,” she said. “It’s a beautiful thing to be part of a team who are fighting for the same thing; together we can advocate, educate, offer support and have our voices heard, and that truly excites me!” ●



▲ Satellite program graduate Tommy Goldstraw.



▲ Satellite program graduate Georgia Willmott.

For more information:  
[satellitefoundation.org.au](http://satellitefoundation.org.au)

# Help with COVID fines

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*  
COMMUNITY

Locals issued with COVID fines can get free legal advice by making an appointment at the Flemington and Kensington Community Legal Centre on Bellair St. Concerned lawyers at the centre are warning that fines could still be in the mail from the last lockdown. Community lawyers Taina Lefort and Ella Dunstan have taken on the police response to the pandemic as a human rights issue. As members of the Police Accountability Project, they are concerned that locals from migrant backgrounds have been targeted by police. “It’s disturbing that police did not attend at the same level in different areas,” Ms Lefort told *North West City News*. “In the area of Flemington and North Melbourne the data is in from Victoria Police for the number of COVID-19 fines.” Figures show that the local government area of Melbourne recorded 5079 COVID-19 offences in 2020, the highest in the state. Many of these were issued to residents of the public housing estates in Flemington and North Melbourne. Ms Lefort said she had a recent case in which a client was walking in the park and stopped



▲ Community lawyers Taina Lefort (left) and Ella Dunstan taking on the COVID fine issue.

by police because they weren’t wearing active wear. “They were stopped and apprehended. I’ve been out for more than two hours and I’ve never been apprehended,” she said. “That person was from the Somali community. I managed to negotiate with the infringement.” The lawyers are young and are passionate

about social justice and believe that racism is behind the over-policing of the area. “The people who did get fined were from migrant backgrounds,” Ms Lefort said. “We’re looking at the reasons behind it. Certain areas were targeted much more than others.” The lawyers have had many requests to get fines withdrawn and are working with other legal centres to improve reviews and to bring

about systemic change. She said there was a coalition of community legal centres trying to get all under-18 COVID fines withdrawn, for example, and better consultation on the circumstances surrounding them. “My first fine was issued the day after the first lockdown began on March 30,” Ms Lefort said. “The client was fined for being out without a reasonable excuse. They were going to go shopping. The police didn’t believe the client.” Some fines are on the spot, while others are issued by Fines Victoria. They range from \$200 for not wearing a face mask to up to \$1652 for a stay-at-home order. The Flemington and Kensington Community Legal Centre offers free advice to the community and has an open-door policy but Ms Lefort is concerned that a lot of people don’t come to legal centres. The Police Accountability Project was set up 30 years ago after four young men from the Flemington area died as a result of police shootings. During the hard lockdown of the housing estates last year, the office set up an emergency line to help residents and lawyers were also present on site. “It was very difficult because of the relations with DHHS and police,” Ms Lefort said. But she discovered the “power of communities to lead themselves.” ●



# Homeless artist finds new lease on life

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*  
FEATURE

Until a few weeks ago, Bill, who experiences homelessness, never imagined his artwork would be “worthy of such publicity”.

But after taking a leap of faith and sticking some of his drawings on the window of North Melbourne’s pop-up Errol Street Gallery, it has given him a fresh start in life.

“I thought it was a kid taking the mickey out of me,” gallery curator Min Simankevicius said when he initially found the sketches, but still he “respected the work and put it aside.”

A few days later, Bill, 50, who had consciously avoided the gallery because he felt so ashamed, took the courageous step of walking through the doors and striking up a conversation with Mr Simankevicius.

“He’s very intelligent, his mind can flick from one thing to another very quickly. He’s got an incredible memory for detail, music, artists, everything,” Mr Simankevicius said.

“The third day he came in, he brought in another picture, and I looked at it and thought ‘oh my god, this is pretty incredible stuff’.

“To put that intense detailing into something that looks like manic madness is brilliant madness – it’s not stupid madness, it’s not drunken madness, it’s actually calculated.”

With “complete admiration” for his work, Mr Simankevicius decided to frame Bill’s collage artwork for exhibiting, which “brought on an overwhelming, emotional moment because nobody had actually paid respect for him up until that moment”.

“He thought the world of me. He’s basically smitten by the whole concept of being accepted as an artist,” he said.

Bill was thrilled with the recognition as his collage piece went on to be auctioned off at the gallery, which adjoins the Lithuanian community centre.

It earned Bill some cash that he otherwise would never have expected, but most importantly it gave him a sense of purpose and a much-needed confidence boost.

“It’s life-changing but it’s also very, very challenging because I have to do artwork that is worthy of such publicity,” Bill said, who asked not to use his surname.

He described Mr Simankevicius as a mentor and friend and respected the fact that he was “brutally honest with how he reacts to my work,” which was influenced by “putting something ridiculous or awkward on a page and then making it work”.

“If I’m really serious about improving as an artist then there is a lot of room for improvement. I will swallow my ego and I will listen, and I will take that on board.”



▲ Bill has defied the odds and started displaying his artwork in North Melbourne.

“If I’m really serious about improving as an artist then there is a lot of room for improvement.”

While the experience has been life-changing, Bill said he would not be in the position he was in today if it wasn’t for the help he received from Flagstaff Crisis Accommodation Centre in West Melbourne.

“When I was unresponsive and completely non-compliant to them in helping me, they still were patient, they were still kind, and they never judged me.”

He also thanked the kindness of the staff at The Living Room, a drop-in centre in the CBD, providing healthcare, toilets, shower and laundry facility, housing support, and more ●



▲ Some of Bill’s artwork.



▲ A driver is lucky to be alive.

## Driver flees scene after crashing into tram

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
SAFETY & SECURITY

A driver is lucky to be alive after his car was crushed by a tram and wrapped around a tree near Queen Victoria Market in early July.

Astonished witnesses watched as the car attempted to make a sudden U-turn ahead of the number 58 tram travelling south down Peel St near the corner of Victoria St on July 2.

The driver fled the scene miraculously unscathed after emerging from the wreckage around a minute after the terrifying accident, according to witnesses.

The tram had around 50 passengers on board when the driver hit the tram at around 3.30pm, but luckily no one was hurt.

Officers from Melbourne Highway Patrol found the driver shortly afterwards.

The 36-year-old Taylors Lakes man, who was driving a gold sedan, was found by police in Ardeer, interviewed and released from custody.

The driver is expected to be charged on summons with unlicensed driving, failing to give way to tram, failing to give his name and address and failing to render assistance.

It took around an hour for the car to be towed, with the tram having to forcibly reverse to become free ●

**Crime Stoppers:**  
[crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au)  
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# Local residents rally against new apartments

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
PLANNING

West Melbourne residents have voiced their concerns over the construction of multi-storey residential apartment block.

The City of Melbourne has approved the demolition of existing buildings at 205-211 Roden and 218-228 Stanley streets in West Melbourne to make way for the construction of 50 apartments in blocks up to five storeys high.

The site will include 130 sqm of commercial space at ground level, 58 car spaces and 49 bike spaces, with demolition scheduled to take place in the coming months.

Developer Development Ready will retain and integrate the heritage building fronting Stanley St, while architect Point Architects said the design respected the “human-scale” of the surrounding streetscape.

But some locals in the area are far from convinced.

Gail Jackson who lives next to the proposed site on Roden St claimed she and her husband were left in the dark about the application.

“We don’t know much about the building because [the] council hasn’t put notices on our side of the street. It’s been underhanded – the first we knew about it was drilling on the site,” she said.

This is not the first time nearby residents in West Melbourne have opposed a block of apartments on the site.



▲ West Melbourne resident Gail Jackson found out about a major development next door when she heard the drilling.

Roden St resident Steve Harris said a group of his neighbours at a nearby town house complex had recently fought off a 10-storey apartment building.

“We were very involved in defeating the first which was shocking and hopeless,” he said.

“The last one was a really bad design.”

Another local, Sarah Wallace, flagged several concerns about the new proposal, including poor-quality construction problems plaguing

new high-rise developments.

“Any sane person living in Australia today would not be contemplating investing their hard-earned life savings or risk to their own personal safety in a recently constructed high-rise apartment for fear of bad-quality construction materials used and poor-quality workmanship,” Ms Wallace commented on the Planning Alerts website.

Ms Wallace suggested low-rise developments

– comprised of single- and double-storey dwellings on Roden St – were the best option and argued low-scale Victorian houses in the area at least afforded renters their own backyards for gardening.

“No, this not just one individual ‘crying wolf’,” Ms Wallace said.

“The ongoing poor-quality construction problems have been hanging around the high-rise apartment development industry for a few years now and it’s not associated with one or two apartment developers, it’s running through it like a stinking infected melanoma.”

In response to the concerns posed by nearby residents, a council spokesperson said a notice of proposal was sent by mail to owners and occupiers of surrounding properties, with signage posted on the Roden and Stanley street frontages for a 14-day period in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

“Planning officers found the development presented an acceptable response to design objectives and built form requirements. The application was for a mixed-use, multi-storey development that respects the scale of neighbouring properties and provides an appropriate transition to the adjoining heritage buildings and streetscape,” the spokesperson said.

“A traffic impact report prepared for the application found increased traffic volumes due to the development can be safely accommodated within the surrounding road network. A total of 58 spaces are included as part of the development.” ●

# Rosie scores Queen’s Birthday honour

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
COMMUNITY

Selfless, strong and inspirational are some of the words colleagues describe the CEO of Netball Victoria Rosie King, who has led the organisation through the pandemic with grace.

Despite the uncertainties, Netball Victoria has not only navigated the challenges the crisis has thrown at the sports industry but also thrived under Ms King’s leadership.

No jobs have been lost at the West Melbourne-based organisation and netball has remained the top sport for females in Victoria and Australia.

Ms King, who was awarded with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in this year’s Queen’s Birthday 2021 honours list for her service to sports administration, said sport “is an amazing instrument to help build connections and community spirit”, and felt “very fortunate to have been involved in many different elements of the industry.”

She said the news of her award was “incredibly humbling”, but acknowledged her achievements would not have been possible “without the support of the great people I’ve met along the way, as well, of course, as my beautiful family.”

“It’s very easy to be passionate when you genuinely care and love what you do,” she said.

“I am very lucky to have worked with and

“*I hope that this recognition can demonstrate to other women that sport provides endless possibilities either through volunteering or as a rewarding career path.*”

volunteered alongside so many wonderful people who have taught and encouraged me over the journey.”

“I hope that this recognition can demonstrate to other women that sport provides endless possibilities either through volunteering or as a rewarding career path. I am very grateful.”

Ms King, who is also head of the Melbourne Vixens netball team, has a long list of achievements including being the driving force behind the redevelopment of the State Netball Centre in Parkville, which saw a \$64.6 million investment from the Victorian Government, due to be completed this year.

Many in the Victorian netball community have also received grants to ensure they can restart once restrictions are eased.

Having taken the reins of Netball Victoria in 2016, Ms King is also admired for her advocacy and commitment for sport and gender equality, which recently saw her secure funding in the state budget for two statues of female netballers.

She launched her public appeal for the statues on International Women’s Day, which Ms King said was aimed at removing the inequity of sporting statues, which stands at 29 males, three females and three horses immortalised in bronze.

Among other achievements, Ms King was awarded Sports Administrator of the Year in the 2018 Victorian Sports Awards, and was the winner of the 2015 Graeme Samuel Award.

Since 2015, she has held the position of director of Paralympics Australia, and was the former general manager of people and culture at Geelong Football Club ●

▼ Netball Victoria CEO Rosie King.



▲ Professor Ute Rossener OAM of the University of Melbourne was recognised for her contribution to bioscience.

# Outstanding citizens honoured

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
COMMUNITY

From academics to doctors, outstanding Parkville figures have been recognised in the Queen’s Birthday honours for their significant contributions to the community.

One of the top awards, those appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO), went to Erika Feller, a former Assistant High Commissioner of the United Nations Refugee Agency.

Ms Feller, who is the Professorial Fellow at the Melbourne School of Government at the University of Melbourne, said the news of the award was a “great honour”, which recognised her “distinguished service to the international community, to the recognition and protection of human rights, and to refugee law.”

“It was more satisfying to me because it showed that the award system can actually accommodate international work and particularly international work in the human rights and refugee area which is what I’ve been working on for a decade,” she said.

The honours list also saw Dr Elizabeth Rushen, the director of the Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network, appointed a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for her “significant service to community history and heritage preservation”.

World-leading plant scientist Professor Ute Rössner, who heads the School of BioSciences at the University of Melbourne, was also awarded an AM for her significant service to tertiary education, particularly to the biosciences.

She said the honour had come as a “total surprise” but was very humbled, adding her proudest achievement had been teaching students and watching them “stepping up into the working world and taking up roles and growing”.

Others receiving AMs were Professor James Barber, the CEO of Polytechnic Institute of Australia for his service to tertiary education administration, and to youth, as well as Jaynie Anderson, an Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne for her “significant service to tertiary education, particularly to art history in Australia.”

Among those receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) was Dr Igor Konstantinov for his service to medicine as a cardiothoracic surgeon at the Royal Children’s Hospital.

Beverley Noon, a former president of the Parkville Auxiliary at the Royal Children’s Hospital, also received an OAM for her devoted service to the community through charitable organisations.

This year’s recipients represent what Governor-General David Hurley described as the “countless examples of selflessness, commitment, and dedication” ●



# Community left in the dark over E-Gate urban renewal

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
PLANNING

A 20-hectare parcel of state-owned land in West Melbourne which was set to become Melbourne’s next major urban development seems to have been abandoned in favour of the West-Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP).

Known as E-Gate, the site just north of Docklands and less than a kilometre from the edge of Melbourne’s CBD, was earmarked to house more than 10,000 residents with another 50,000 sqm of commercial space, according to initial plans.

But the development has since been put on ice while road operator Transurban builds a section of the WGTP aiming to remove trucks from residential streets in the west to bring traffic directly into the CBD.

Asked by *North West City News* whether the urban renewal opportunity for E-Gate had been totally abandoned by the Victorian Government in favour of the development, Associate Professor Andrew Butt from RMIT’s Centre for Urban Research said it appeared that way.

“[It] seems the urban renewal at E-Gate has disappeared – it seems a great loss of opportunity just for a few kilometres of toll-road for Transurban,” he said.

In 2013, a group of West Melbourne residents, including Associate Professor Butt, formed Western Connection to promote smarter outcomes for the E-Gate site.

Western Connection’s vision for E-Gate included new apartment buildings, office and retail space and parklands which would link North Melbourne train station to the northern end of the CBD.

Currently an inaccessible, industrial stretch of land, Western Connection also imagined an open grass area for community sports at E-Gate, restaurants and cafes, car parking and footpaths.

But since Transurban began construction, the state government has been silent on the E-Gate urban development.

“We see this as a tragic misuse of this land that long term will cost the City of Melbourne dearly,” Western Connection architect Angus McNichol wrote.

*North West City News* asked the Minister for Planning Richard Wynne’s office whether urban renewal was still being planned for E-Gate, but no response was received before deadline.

The WGTP is currently building an elevated roadway connecting CityLink and Dynon and Footscray roads above the E-Gate site, as well as the Wurundjeri Way extension.

The City of Melbourne was strong in its opposition to the project, which will bring



▲ An artist’s impression from 2011 of what E-Gate could have looked like before the West Gate Tunnel Project was conceived.

thousands of extra vehicles into Docklands and the CBD via the Wurundjeri Way extension.

In May 2011, *Docklands News* reported that construction of the new “eco-suburb” was due to start the moment that major tenants BlueScope Steel and OneSteel moved out when their leases expired in November, 2014.

Major Projects Victoria’s project director at the time James Troedel said it could even have began earlier if the site became available.

While Mr Troedel pointed out that no decisions had yet been taken by the government, a business case based on a sustainable “ecovillage” had shown the concept was viable.

The concept was for a self-contained community, centred around a central civic square with pedestrian and cycle connections with both West Melbourne and Docklands.

### Links to surrounding areas

Any future development at E-Gate will most likely be linked to Docklands’ City Harbour precinct via a footbridge like other walkways in the CBD such as Birrarung Marr, according to City Harbour’s Guy Taylor.

City Harbour recently revealed a new vision for the precinct which includes a new

central park, reduced traffic, and connections to surrounding urban renewal precincts such as Arden and E-Gate.

City Harbour’s new plans provide for a large “Central Park” which will be complemented by a “North Grounds” park near Dudley St, which will provide the future link to the E-Gate and Arden precincts. However, it remains unclear when, or if, the E-Gate urban renewal will go ahead.

Mr Taylor said as it stood, and subject to Victorian Government planning approval, there would be a cul-de-sac turning circle at the end of Digital Drive connected to North Grounds providing space for a likely footbridge to E-Gate.

“The intention is that the North Grounds and Central Grounds will get vested to the City of Melbourne when the E-Gate construction commences,” he said.

“We’re anticipating that it’ll be a pedestrian and cycling footbridge.”

Although the City of Melbourne could choose to build a reconnecting road for vehicles between E-Gate and City Harbour, Mr Taylor believed this was unlikely.

“I think they’ll likely go for a foot bridge, for

example Birrarung Marr and the footbridge to the MCG,” he said.

Although Mr Taylor could not give a definitive date for the completion of the newly imagined City Harbour precinct, he said following a thorough consultation phase with the City of Melbourne, optimistically the area could be complete within five years.

Ashe Morgan, the owner of The District Docklands, is also understood to have incorporated future pedestrian and cycling connections through E-Gate to link up with the current North Melbourne Station (soon to be renamed West Melbourne Station) in its master planning ambitions for the Waterfront City.

While the WGTP has presented a serious challenge to the future viability of E-Gate, its future development will be critical for Docklands and North and West Melbourne ●



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# A theatrical response to queer lives under the law

WORDS BY *Emma Hartley*  
ARTS & CULTURE

How does a person live freely after being told for most of their life that their very identity is criminal?

This is just one of the questions that North Melbourne playwright Danish Sheikh poses in his upcoming book, *Love & Reparation*, which grapples with the before and after of India’s decriminalisation of homosexuality.

When the decision was passed in 2018, for Mr Sheikh who identifies as gay, “It was completely uncharted terrain. You’ve lived a life of criminality under the law and all of a sudden you’re told – ‘alright, you’re free.’”

*Love & Reparation* will be composed of two interlinked plays: *Contempt* and *Pride*.

*Contempt* was written in 2017 as a way of dissenting against Section 377 – the section of the Indian penal code that criminalised sexual activities “against the order of nature”.

Mr Sheikh was frustrated and angry with the legal indifference towards the poor health, indignity and violence suffered by queer Indians.

But Mr Sheikh said that *Pride*, “is more confusing” because “you’re living in this time,



▲ North Melbourne playwright Danish Sheikh’s upcoming book grapples with India’s decriminalisation of homosexuality.

you’ve got the things that you want, but you’re not completely free.”

“At one point in *Pride*, it returned to a conversation that actually starts *Contempt* which is about how we think about love. In *Pride* the object of love becomes a slightly twistier thing.”

Mr Sheikh’s own personal experiences and his work history as a human rights lawyer in India informs the focus of the book.

A persona in *Pride* is a man who regularly sees a therapist – a character Mr Sheik said was not a memoir but was certainly shaped by his

own conversations with his therapist about “what does it mean to live and love with law?”

Undergoing a PhD thesis at the University of Melbourne, Mr Sheikh is researching law and theatre and asking different questions about creative, queer practices in dissent against the law.

The preface to *Love & Reparation* uses those new concerns to link the two plays together.

Now living in North Melbourne, Mr Sheikh is also interested in queer lives locally after same-sex marriage was passed in Australia.

“Does that mean there’s an absolute sense of freedom now?” Mr Sheikh said “Or are there different ways in which people are still actually marked by the law?”

*Love & Reparation* will be launched at 7pm on August 12 with a rehearsed reading performance and Q&A at the Institute of Postcolonial Studies 78-80 Curzon St, North Melbourne ●

[eventbrite.com.au/e/love-reparation-tickets-157762063579](https://eventbrite.com.au/e/love-reparation-tickets-157762063579)





## Kids jump for joy at JJ Holland Park

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*  
COMMUNITY

Kids of Kensington now have a brand-new playground complete with age-friendly zones, a flying fox, a space net and a barbecue for parents on the sideline.

The new playground delivered by the City of Melbourne at JJ Holland Park opened to the public on June 14 to the delight of countless youngsters who have been eagerly waiting to play.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the new play space had a series of connected zones for kids of all ages, including junior and toddler areas.

“I’m delighted to welcome local children and families to our brand-new play space at JJ Holland Park, which is now open to the public,” Cr Capp said.

“The park also features an active play space, including the existing basketball half-court, and a barbecue zone and meeting area.”

A few years ago, kids from the Kensington Community Children’s Co-operative, as well as staff and parents, contributed ideas for the playground.

Many of their ideas have now been incorporated in the final design, from the selection of the space net structure, to the play tower inspired by a tree house, as well as a nice area for parents to sit.

“We are thankful for the bright minds and creativity of the kids from Kensington Community Children’s Co-operative, as well as staff and parents,” Cr Capp said ●

## A pub with a resident artist

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*  
ARTS & CULTURE

During the long days of winter last year, the Doutta Galla Hotel in Racecourse Rd encouraged its staff on JobKeeper to come up with creative ideas for the business.

Jethro Pitcher worked as a bar manager and he began doing some drawings.

Unbeknown to the pub, he had a background in art and design but his work was mostly fantasy.

He did a few sketches of popular dishes and drinks for the pub’s online menu and these showed a penchant for illustrative flamboyance.

“I’m now the resident artist and bar manager at the Doutta Galla Hotel,” Jethro said with a bit of a swagger.

His original drawings of ice cream sundaes, bowls of chips and bottles of wine now welcome the browser online with their swirly line and *Simpsons* aesthetic.

A graphic for Valentine’s Day during COVID-era social distancing includes pithy slogans such as, “I love you from over there.”

All of the works are drawn on a tablet in Photoshop. “I’ve learned a lot about composition and colour palettes,” Jethro said of the process.

“It’s very, very straightforward. You can undo mistakes immediately. You pay \$11 monthly for the program.”

He seems to make it all seem so easy but the reception to his work has given Jethro confidence and he has scaled up from social media posts to three large digital prints which now hang in the lounge to support the pub’s live music on a Sunday.



▲ Jethro Pitcher at Doutta Galla Hotel.

The first print represents rock n’ roll, the second electronic and the third is a Kabuki punk, making the Doutta Galla Kensington’s artistest pub.

“This came about because of lockdown,” Jethro said. “The owner wanted us to do work on projects. He was very encouraging.”

The pub was built 130 years ago and named Doutta Galla after the local indigenous people of the area.

“I’ve seen pictures on the heritage list with parts of the street and horses and carriage and it’s like another world but the pub is the same,” Jethro said.

The pub sources unusual lights and candles, creating a lush, old-world interior. “It’s all about the vibe. Honestly, I love it. I’ve worked a lot of bars. This my favourite place to date.”

He’s encouraging clubbers on their way to the city to stop by for “a cheeky meal before you get too loose.” ●



## Kids meet sporting heroes at picnic

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
COMMUNITY

Families soaked up some winter sunshine during a school holiday picnic in North Melbourne where young footy fans enjoyed a kick with their sporting heroes.

More than 35 excited kids took part in the event where they received a coaching master class from AFL and AFLW stars from North Melbourne Football Club including Trent Dumont and Emma Kearney.

Held at the North Melbourne Community Centre, the family-friendly event on July 8 was packed with activities.

Fun included yoga sessions, Hannah art, a drawing completion, Brazilian martial arts lessons, hula-hoop games, soccer, and a barbecue.

The day was hosted by North Melbourne Football Club’s community project, The Huddle, which offers a diverse mix of community programs with the aim of creating more socially inclusive communities.

Event organiser Ruth Game hailed the picnic as a success saying there were “lots of friends coming together and families reuniting”.

“We’ve been really lucky with the sunny weather, and being able to provide a space for kids and families to get together again after being separated for so long, and having a nice barbecue,” she said.

Kangaroo Trent Dumont, 26, said he was privileged to be involved and see kids smile.

Sports star Emma Kearney, who captains the North Melbourne Football Club in the AFLW, said it was “just a great way for the community to come together, be active, eat some food, and just socialise” ●

## Indigenous artists dreaming of sharing culture

WORDS BY *Matt Harvey*  
ARTS & CULTURE

A large-scale group exhibition celebrating NAIDOC week by Lardil and Kaidildt artists on Mornington Island, north of Queensland, recently showed at West End Art Space in West Melbourne.

Honouring the legacies of Goobalathaldin Dick Roughsey and Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori, *Dibirdibi – Stories from Mornington Island* was held from July 4 to 11 at the Adderley St gallery.

Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori is an indigenous woman who started painting at 81. Her work is often described as abstract expressionism and gestural abstraction. But as Gabori had little English, art theory was not a large part of her practice.

Goobalathaldin Dick Roughsey started his artistic practice in traditional bark painting, later transitioning into modern paintings in oil and acrylic and became well known for his illustrated children’s books - arguably the most well-known of these being *The Rainbow Serpent*.

*Dibirdibi – Stories from Mornington Island* explores the intertwined dreaming and storylines of both the Kaiadilt and Lardil people now based at Mirndiyan Gununa



▲ Indigenous artist Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori and her artwork.

(Mornington Island).

Much like the work of Gabori, Mornington Island artists are heavily influenced and connected to their land and culture in their artistic interpretations.

Their remoteness means the artists concentrate heavily on cultural and spiritual subject matter centered on connection to Country. NAIDOC Week is usually held in the first week of July that incorporates the second Friday.

The NAIDOC 2021 theme is “Heal Country!” which calls for all of us to continue to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

**The Dreaming**

*DIBIRDIBI – stories from Mornington Island* is partly an exploration of the dreaming stories from the Kunhanhaa, the local population.

The Dreaming is commonly misunderstood as simply a creationist history shared through stories, told verbally passed down through generations for more than 65,000 years.

However, Australian anthropologist W.E.H. Stanner has offered a more accurate and in depth exploration of what The Dreaming is in his 1956 essay *The Dreaming*.

“A concept so impalpable and subtle naturally suffers badly by translation into our dry and abstract language,” Mr Stanner said.

“One cannot ‘fix’ The Dreaming in time: it was, and is, everywhen.”

The Dreaming did not take place at the beginning of time; it encompasses the past, present, and future; it is non-linear. It is an integrated way of life that many First Nations people believe in and live by today.

The stories may differ from place to place and between Nations, but they have common features.

For example, many are creation stories that feature ancestral beings who created everything from animals, plants, rocks, to land formations as they moved through the land in human form.

The ancestral beings are models for human and non-human activity, behaviour, ethics and morality like most systems of pantheons laying out lessons to be learned and rules to live by.

**Continuity of shared storytelling**

Dorothy Gabori is one of the children of Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori who exhibited her work in Dibirdibi.

While Dorothy felt no pressure to carry the weight of her mother’s legacy of telling stories of country forward, she expressed a deep admiration of the time spent observing and learning with her mother.

“What inspires me? My mum. I used to see her painting, I’d sit and watch her painting. She said to me

you should come up to the arts centre and do some paintings, and from that day I came up and I started painting,” Ms Gabori said.

Mirdidingkingathi left her children’s artistic expression open to learn, laying down no specific techniques or style guides, letting the children explore the way she herself explored freely.

“My paintings are different from what she used to do, her paintings were about country, and her husband’s country, her mother and father’s country, mine is different from what she used to do,” Ms Gabori said.

“I do fish traps, and also I do my father’s country,” While the specific stories of her mother and father might not feature in her own works they are a part of the same continuous story, the dreaming that continues into the now and into the future.

A legacy of storytelling that doesn’t just look back but focuses on the now and the events of the future, the young ones.

Attempting to inspire them to tell their stories, to remember the past and protect the future. Dorothy encourages the sharing of stories and the continuity of storytelling and culture.

“Take the young ones to see it. Keep the culture going, you know?” Ms Gabori said ●



# Tree plan riles up residents in tight street

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
PLANNING

A “street greening” proposal to transform the streetscape of a narrow North Melbourne street has drawn strong criticism from locals as it could result in the loss of parking.

The City of Melbourne has released plans to introduce 16 medium size trees and biodiverse garden beds “to improve the look, environment and liveability” of Little Baillie St under its Urban Forest Strategy.

Under the proposal, the trees would be planted in tree plots next to the footpath in the one-way street with the aim of creating more summer shade, reduce traffic speed, and “mitigate the urban heat-island effect”.

It also pledges a “long-term benefit to the community” with trees helping in the “natural absorption and filtration of storm and rainwater.”

The plans propose to use a tree species called Black Tupelo, a deciduous tree that grows to 20 to 25 metres tall. It also has dark green leaves in summer and a glowing orange red and yellow colour in autumn.

But according to the plans, the project would result in the “repurposing” of four parking spaces to make way for the trees and understorey species, which has riled up some residents and business owners who say parking was already scarce.

There are currently 23 parking spaces Little Baillie St but residents with parking permits said this was not enough and were often forced



▲ North Melbourne resident Sarah Dower is concerned council’s new “street greening” will result in loss of parking.

to park up to 200 metres away.

“I come home from work for lunch and I frequently can’t find a park and will often park on Arden St and walk all the way back around,” resident Sarah Dower told *North West City News*.

“The parking time limits are not enforced in the street,” she said, pointing to a van that had been moved twice in a week.

“It’s a tiny little laneway street ... if you narrow that more with trees it’s going to restrict access.”

Ms Dower said she was left further confused



after speaking to the council who told her the trees had been proposed because there had been reports of “traffic driving really fast” near a tyre shop at Abbotsford Street.

“They don’t seem to have consulted residents in the actual street before they’ve put this plan in place,” she said.

Jenny Johnson, a resident of 27 years, was furious with the plans, saying she “would rather nothing” as she struggled to find a park, and was concerned about the possibility of tree debris impacting stormwater drains.

The owner of Prorepair Auto Care Centre, Menka Michaelides, whose shop backs onto Little Baillie St, said, “Love the greenery, don’t have an issue with it, but I think if they’re going to remove car parks I think the council needs to come up with a better way.”

However, some business owners such as Andrew McSweeney from the School of Music, praised the proposal saying, “we’ve got to give priority to trees” to keep up with development.

Another business owner said it was a “great idea” but believed the balance of planting new trees and keeping car spaces “might be difficult to design around”.

The City of Melbourne has invited locals and the surrounding community to have their say on the draft proposal by July 25.

“The project team at the City of Melbourne has worked hard to assess the technical feasibility of this street greening proposal, undertaking soil testing, service proving and assessing traffic and parking to ensure the proposal is achievable,” a letter from the City of Melbourne to residents and businesses said ●



## Arts House production explores cultural fear

WORDS BY *Ellen Blake*  
ARTS & CULTURE

Indigenous performance group Marrugeku is bringing a dance theatre production, which explores the connection to high Aboriginal incarceration rates and detention of asylum seekers, to North Melbourne’s Arts House.

Titled *Jurrungu Ngan-ga* – which translates into English as “straight talk” – the production is inspired by perspectives on incarceration shared by Yawuru leader Senator Patrick Dodson, Kurdish-Iranian writer and former Manus Island detainee Behrouz Boochani and philosopher Omid Tofighian.

Senator Patrick Dodson inspired the work when, in his role as a Commissioner into Aboriginal deaths in custody 30 years ago, he linked Indigenous imprisonment to the indefinite detention of refugees in onshore and offshore processing centres.

During the Royal Commission, Senator Dodson noted, “we lack the ability to straight talk to one another about cultural difference, dear grown in each generation, holding community and society back in multiple ways.”

Through movement, spoken word, installation, and a powerful musical soundscape, *Jurrungu Ngan-ga* explores Australia’s deep-seated fears to ask: who’s really in prison here?

Marrugeku co-artistic directors Dalisa

Pigram and Rachael Swain said *Jurrungu Ngan-ga* is a darkly humorous and ultimately transformative portrayal of fear.

“White Australia was founded on a dream of imprisonment and that mission has evolved into a fixation with locking people away,” Ms Pigram and Ms Swain said.

“This work reveals how a range of perspectives can address this burning issue of our times and pave a way forward together.”

Arts House artistic director Emily Sexton said the theatre “was so proud to continue a history of collaboration” with Marrugeku.

“This critical new performance features one of the best dance ensembles you could assemble in this country, wrapped around by a dazzling team of creatives,” Ms Sexton said.

“Marrugeku’s recent inclusion in the Australia Council’s National Performing Arts Partnership Framework cements their status as a critical intercultural company, working across indigenous and non-indigenous cultures as well as remote and urban communities.”

*Jurrungu Ngan-ga* [Straight Talk] by Marrugeku will be performed in the Arts House at North Melbourne Town Hall from August 18 to 22 ●

For more information:  
[artshouse.com.au](http://artshouse.com.au)

## Council endorses new design bodies

WORDS BY *Ellen Blake*  
PLANNING

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece declared it was a “particularly proud moment for the city” as City of Melbourne councillors unanimously supported the establishment of two new design bodies.

Councillors voted to endorse the Design Excellence Advisory Committee and Melbourne Design Review Panel at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting held on July 6.

Cr Reece, who is chair of the council’s planning portfolio, has been critical of Melbourne’s recent history of development and said the new initiatives were “an opportunity to draw a line in the sand”.

“The painful truth is that in recent times in Melbourne there have been too many poor developments that have proceeded and haven’t achieved the type of excellence that we try to pursue in terms of character, in terms of style and in terms of sophistication,” Cr Reece said.

In the lead up to the vote, the Deputy Lord Mayor praised Melbourne’s “brilliant” local architects and design culture but said the city had fallen victim to standard development and a reliance on “starchitects”.

“Featureless glass boxes that could be in any city in the world. Tall towers that set out to be seen from afar, but offer nothing to the pedestrians walking the streets of the city,” he said.

“Too many new towers are nothing more than spreadsheets in the sky, leaving the city poorer because of bad design and low-quality materials particularly at street level. If we do not take a stand and lift standards then our world famous liveability and appeal are at risk.”

Cr Reece spoke forcefully earlier in the year as the council rejected quadruple tower plans in the Arden-Macaulay urban renewal area.

“To boil it down, we want to see more Barcelona and less Gold Coast in Macaulay, we want to see more Copenhagen, not Kuala Lumpur here,” he said in February.

Cr Reece said the changes would ensure the council worked in partnership with industry to deliver good quality urban design and architecture, heritage conservation and adaptation, improved sustainability and greening outcomes.

The council’s deputy chair of planning Cr Rohan Leppert commended the Deputy Lord Mayor on his dogged pursuit for changes to Melbourne’s development culture.

“

*To boil it down, we want to see more Barcelona and less Gold Coast in Macaulay, we want to see more Copenhagen, not Kuala Lumpur here.*

”

“There’s no stronger champion for design excellence in the City of Melbourne than you [Cr Reece]. You have been pushing this for quite some time,” Cr Leppert said.

In endorsing the motion, Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the initiative would keep the city lifting its standards and aspirations.

“One of the most consistent bits of feedback that we’ve had through our council planning process is a desire from constituents right across the municipality and beyond is to see a legacy left of buildings that actually add value to the public realm and stand the test of time,” Cr Capp said.

The Design Excellence Advisory Committee provides a platform for industry, academia and the community to engage in topics relating to design challenges and opportunities facing Melbourne.

The Melbourne Design Review Panel consists of experts who would provide independent multidisciplinary design advice on specific City of Melbourne projects.

The review panel was established as a 12-month pilot program.

The Melbourne Design Review Panel and Design Excellence Advisory Committee are two key components of the city’s draft Design Excellence program, endorsed by the council in November 2019.

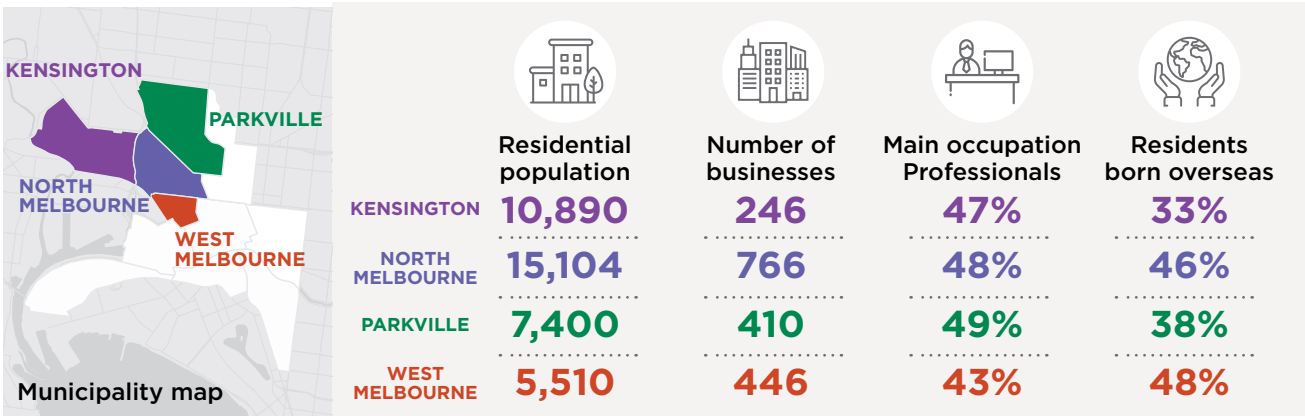
Applications are sought for up to four community members for the Advisory Committee and up to eight core architecture, urban design and landscape architecture experts for the Melbourne Design Review Panel ●



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Your City of Melbourne community update

# INVESTING IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD IN 2021-22

The City of Melbourne is a dynamic municipality with a range of diverse neighbourhoods. Our Budget 2021-22 sets out how we plan to invest in Kensington, Parkville, North and West Melbourne to support local services, maintain and improve parks, public spaces and recreational facilities, and fund events that will bring the buzz back to our city.



## INVESTING IN CAPITAL WORKS

The City of Melbourne will deliver its biggest ever infrastructure program by investing \$244.7 million in projects across the municipality in 2021-22 to create jobs and build a better environment for our community.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp sees a strong link between delivering city-shaping infrastructure projects and support for local businesses.

“We know how critically important it is to invest in our city right now and that’s why we’re delivering more capital projects than ever before, with our record infrastructure investment,” the Lord Mayor said.

“These projects provide opportunities for work on job sites right across the city and workers on those sites provide opportunities for our local traders, whether it’s a coffee and a sandwich, a trip to the physio, or a new pair of shoes.”

New infrastructure investment in the north west in 2021-22 include:

- More than \$10 million – Kensington Community and Recreation Centre Redevelopment (Kensington)
- More than \$4 million – Pump Stations Upgrade - Stubbs Street (Kensington)
- More than \$1 million – Landscape works - climate adaptation (North Melbourne)



- More than \$1 million – Cycle infrastructure (North Melbourne)
- Almost \$2 million – Community sports pavillion upgrade (Parkville)
- \$150,000 – Melbourne Innovation District (MID) (Parkville)
- \$100,000 – Cycle infrastructure (Parkville)

In addition, there will be renewal and maintenance works across the north west including roadways, footpaths, kerb and channel, drains, parks, landscape and property.



Information and events in this publication are current at the time of printing. Subsequent changes may occur.

## INVESTING IN LOCAL SERVICES

### Childcare and family services

We deliver family services at the Kensington Maternal and Child Health Centre, Lady Huntingfield Family Services Centre, North Melbourne Community Centre and the North Melbourne Maternal and Child Health Centre. Childcare and integrated or sessional kindergarten are available at the Kensington Community Children’s Co-Operative, Lady Huntingfield Early Learning Centre and North Melbourne Children’s Centre.

### Libraries, cultural and community spaces

The Kensington Neighbourhood Centre and Kensington Town Hall have spaces available for community use. The Venny adventure playground in JJ Holland Park is run by a Committee of Management on behalf of the City of Melbourne. North Melbourne Library delivers many programs and North Melbourne’s Jean McKendry Neighbourhood Centre is available for hire.

### Parks and open spaces

We manage and maintain a large number of parks and gardens. In Kensington there are 33 public spaces including Moonee Ponds Creek. North Melbourne has 13 public spaces including Errol Street Reserve. Parkville has 14 public spaces including Royal Park. West Melbourne

has 12 public spaces including Flagstaff Gardens.

### Sporting and recreational venues

Kensington’s JJ Holland Park’s ovals are used by 10 community sport clubs and local schools. We also manage the Childers Street skate park and BMX track, Flemington Bowls Club and more. The Kensington Community Recreation Centre is due to close for redevelopment in 2021-22. In Parkville, Royal Park caters to 26 community sports organisations. In North Melbourne we manage the North Melbourne Recreation and Aquatic Centre and North Melbourne Community Centre. In West Melbourne we manage the Flagstaff Multipurpose Courts and the City of Melbourne Bowls Club.

### Cultural venues

At Arts House we provide contemporary performance space including artist in residence studios. At Meat Market we provide four spaces for hire and 27 affordable creative studio spaces. We also manage the River Studios which accommodates 60 artist studios and a makerspace.

To find out more about what’s happening in your neighbourhood over the next 12 months, visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/budget](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/budget)



Investing in Kensington and the north west, with upgraded street crossings



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Your City of Melbourne community update



Missy LaMinx, Sasha Starr and Bae L'amour at Midsumma Festival Live at the Bowl

Photo: Suzanne Balding

# MIGHTY MELBURNIANS PROMOTE CARE AND COMPASSION

**For nearly 20 years, the Melbourne Awards have been our city's highest accolade, celebrating inspirational people who dedicate their time and energy to make Melbourne a world-leader.**

We recently caught up with past winners, who work in diverse fields, to see how their organisations are evolving in response to COVID-19.

## Midsumma

Karen Bryant is the CEO of Midsumma, Australia's premier LGBTQIA+ cultural festival and the winner of a Melbourne Award in 2019. The first lockdown began just after one of the team's best-ever festivals in 2020.

'Many people in our communities have experienced isolation – from families, workplaces and social spaces – so having safe venues and support networks taken away during COVID was a trigger for re-experiencing past trauma for many,' Karen said.

'We initially set to work to create a safe, meaningful online space on our website where people could access information in one place, connect and share stories and art.

'Even though, after many iterations of plans, we were able to present another great in-person festival in 2021 amid glorious weather, we are still in a pandemic and need to reactivate and adapt within this environment.

'Looking to the future, I hope we can learn to get along better with each other, understand and champion differences, and fight injustice and discrimination

with respect and graciousness for people with different perspectives or lived experience to our own.'

## Youth Projects

Melanie Raymond OAM is the Chair of homelessness support agency Youth Projects, which won a Melbourne Award in 2010.

Since its win, Youth Projects has continued its mission in earnest, including launching a night-outreach nursing program, to deliver health-care on the pavement to people experiencing homelessness, and significantly expanding its employment services.

'We see the "giving" side of Melbourne all the time. There is a high-level of concern and care for people on the margins and immense curiosity about what solutions can be found,' Melanie said.

'The initiatives to house people sleeping rough during the pandemic showed that we can move quickly on this issue in an emergency and this creative and collaborative work continues today.

'For many people in Melbourne, their isolation and marginalisation existed pre-COVID. Let's hope post-COVID we see more effort to connect people in meaningful ways.

'This is vital to improving mental health, and community-based answers are there for us to implement.'

## In Harmony With Health, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Dr Emma O'Brien leads the music therapy program at Royal Melbourne

Hospital, which won a Melbourne Award in 2018. During COVID-19, the program became more important than ever for staff and patients.

'Melbourne is this incredible city that really understands the powerful, vital role that the arts plays in people's wellbeing,' Emma said.

'Royal Melbourne Hospital had a tough time during 2020 – we were at the front line of COVID-19 and, while many people recovered, sadly many older adults passed away.

'I am so proud of my exceptional team members, who never give up finding ways to connect with people through music.

'Even in the worst of times we were there, singing to people in full PPE, from behind glass. That's the kind of tenacity that Melbourne has. No one was giving up and everyone was trying to have a moment of happiness.'

## MELBOURNE AWARDS 2021

Stay tuned for the announcement of this year's Melbourne Awards finalists in October. In November, there will be an awards ceremony and a televised event on Channel 9 to announce the winners.

For more information, visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards)

## IN-BRIEF

### BOOK YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE NOW

If you are eligible, now is the time to book in for your COVID-19 vaccine. To learn more and find a vaccination centre near you, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine)

### SHOP LOCAL

We're helping local businesses bounce back with \$100,000 Precinct Activation grants as part of the \$100 million Melbourne City Recovery Fund, a partnership with the Victorian Government. Want to support local traders? Subscribe to the What's On Melbourne newsletter for top tips on shopping, retail, dining and events. [whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

### WELLBEING SUPPORT

Our Community Support Directory is a resource for anyone whose health and wellbeing has been affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides information and contact details for mental health support, financial services, food relief, housing assistance, medical services and more. [melbourne.vic.gov.au/communitysupportdirectory](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/communitysupportdirectory)

### SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Explore the city at your own pace with our new suite of self-guided walks. The new maps are a great way to explore gardens, laneways, street arts and hidden gems in the city and inner suburbs. [whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/walks](https://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/walks)

### NEW PLAYGROUND OPENS

The new play space at JJ Holland Park is now open, featuring three new play spaces, a new play bridge, space-net, monkey bars and a flying fox. The space also includes new BBQ, seating and picnic facilities.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Watch meetings live from wherever you are thanks to our live-streaming capability. Tune in live or catch up later. Find all the details about Council and committee meetings at [melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil)

## KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne* magazine online at [magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

You can also join conversations to influence plans for your neighbourhood through Participate Melbourne at [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

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CITY OF MELBOURNE



# Reducing homelessness in the City of Melbourne

“Welcome to the second last article of our 12-part series which will attempt to explore the role that housing can and should play within Australian society and why it is important to our economy that we house all Australians, rich or poor.”

*This series intends to draw on a range of perspectives centred around housing and homelessness. We will hear a range of views from business, the not-for-profit sector and hopefully government, as to why they believe housing is an important social and economic building block for Australia's future prosperity.*

*This month we have asked Melbourne's Lord Mayor Sally Capp to share her thoughts around why the objective around housing all Australians is important, especially within the City of Melbourne ...*

Surviving a Melbourne winter without safe and warm accommodation is a brutal challenge that too many Melburnians are forced to endure each year.

Reducing homelessness remains one of my top priorities. Melbourne is a caring city but we need to do more to help and support those experiencing homelessness – particularly those sleeping rough on our streets each night.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, we witnessed what was possible when different levels of government, service providers and the local community agreed on mutual goals and cooperated to deliver a stellar outcome. Everyone sleeping rough on our city streets was offered accommodation in inner-city hotels.

This was not a perfect solution but it showed what was possible when we focused on what could be achieved rather than the reasons why something couldn't be done. That same spirit of cooperation remains but it is true that more people have returned to sleep rough on our city streets.

We have already shown how quickly and effectively we can reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness when critical circumstances, such as a pandemic, demand action. We cannot lose this momentum and I am committed to continuing my campaign of advocacy and delivery on this issue.

Unlike some neighbouring councils, the City of Melbourne wants to secure as much of the Victorian Government's \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build investment into social and affordable housing as we can.

We want more of the investment in public housing by the government delivered within our municipality and we want more investment in affordable rentals from the private-sector and community housing providers.

The City of Melbourne has commissioned research on the current level of affordable housing within the municipality and longer-term consequences if we don't act now. In 2019, it was estimated that we had a shortfall of

5500 affordable homes in the City of Melbourne. By 2036, this shortfall will grow to 23,200 affordable homes.

These are more than just numbers and statistics. Every time that number increases it means a Melburnian or a local family misses out on the accommodation they need to have a secure future in our city.

There is a wide range of people who experience homelessness. People experiencing financial hardship, domestic violence, mental health and other acute health issues are forced to sleep on our streets, live in their cars or are constantly on the move between friends and acquaintances never really knowing how long they are welcome.

Secure and affordable housing options for everyone in need is the right thing to do and is also the best investment we can make. Every dollar invested into housing saves multiple dollars needed to deliver services over the long term. Homelessness is often cited as a complex issue with complex solutions but it's really quite simple: people deserve a safe place to sleep every night and cannot address their problems, and ultimately flourish, without appropriate accommodation.

The City of Melbourne is continuing to work on a project at 602 Little Bourke St in the CBD to deliver an increase in the number of beds available for those sleeping rough, with appropriate support services. This project was announced on July 4.

Our city has been through a devastating 18 months. We started 2020 with thick choking smoke from the national bushfire crisis and then Melbourne was hit harder than any other city in Australia by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The challenges to overcome can sometimes seem insurmountable but I am always buoyed by the courage, resilience and spirit of Melburnians.

During the most difficult period that we have faced as a city for generations, there have been so many stories of individuals that have gone

out of their way to care for family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and even total strangers.

We are a city that is distinctive because we believe in, and invest in, the connections we make with other Melburnians.

I want to encourage everyone to consider how best each of us can help a fellow Melburnian experiencing homelessness this winter.

Starting with a genuine conversation that can literally be life-changing for someone who is experiencing homelessness.

Not just “we can do this”, but “we must do this” Melbourne.

*I hope you found the above perspective by Melbourne's Lord Mayor interesting and insightful. While what was said may not align with our view of the world, we all need to listen and digest what is said by others in order to find common ground. This is why we are focusing on the fact that the provision of shelter is a fundamental human need (not human right) and without that need being met, we have unintended social and economic consequences that will span generations.*

*We have been working with the Lord Mayor and her team on the project at 602 Little Bourke St, and we have a group of amazing organisations that have offered their skills and expertise and skills, which would normally equate to around \$3.5 million in costs, on a pro bono basis to help vulnerable Melburnians.*

*As I said in my first article, doing nothing is NOT AN OPTION! We need to act and we need to act now. All of us need to be part of the solution so please feel free to write to me with your thoughts: [info@housingallaustralians.com.au](mailto:info@housingallaustralians.com.au)*

●



**Rob Pradolin**

FORMER GENERAL MANAGER AT FRASERS PROPERTY AUSTRALIA AND FOUNDER OF HOUSING ALL AUSTRALIANS (HAA)

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## METRO TUNNEL

# Metro Tunnel marks nearly 30 million hours worked



Mr Andrews said the workforce was a sign that the legacy of the Metro Tunnel Project wasn't just “more trains, more often” and a “turn up and go” service.



All eyes were on the Metro Tunnel's Arden Station recently, which was the location for Premier Daniel Andrews' return to work after a fall that left him with spinal injuries.

Mr Andrews toured one of the twin rail tunnels and revealed almost 30 million hours had been worked on the project.

“This is the biggest public transport project in our state's history,” the Premier said. “It's about getting on and creating jobs. It's about getting on and building the projects that other governments said were too hard to do.”

The Premier spoke of the huge number of jobs provided by the project.

“This project is five underground stations, and nine kilometres of underground tunnels, with tunnelling now complete,” he said.

Mr Andrews said we was honoured to meet some of the apprentices, cadets and trainees who were part of a 4000-strong workforce on the Metro Tunnel Project, adding they would “carry with them the skills and the practical experience from this job to every other job they work on”.

Mr Andrews said the workforce was a sign that the legacy of the Metro Tunnel Project wasn't just “more trains, more often” and a “turn up and go” service.

“It's also about legacy around skills development, and having every worker across our state given every chance to have the skills they need to do the job they want to do, and most importantly to do the job we need them to do.”

With tunnelling now complete, Arden Station is taking shape with the platforms being constructed and the station entrance ground floor slab poured. The tunnel entrances at South Yarra and Kensington are now complete.

Completion of the project in 2025, a year ahead of schedule, will transform how Melburnians travel around the city.

**More to the Metro Tunnel than meets the eye**

The Flinders Quarter Augmented Art Walk has been extended to Friday, July 16 to give people more opportunity to experience this exhibition with a difference.

Anyone with a smartphone can take this self-guided tour of artworks brought to life by augmented reality (AR), revealing the city's laneways from a new perspective.

Each of the 12 specially commissioned artworks is brought to life through digital animation and sound on mobile devices via the free EyeJack app (for iPhone and Android).

The printed Art Walk map is available from participating Flinders Quarter businesses, Metro Tunnel HQ (125-133 Swanston St), and the Melbourne Visitor Hub (90-130 Swanston St) ●

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



# The community councillor

*An educator, publican, family man and proud member of the Flemington-Kensington Bowls Club – you’d struggle to find a more community-minded councillor than Davydd Griffiths.*

WORDS BY *Sean Car*

Originally from Bendigo, the Flemington resident has lived and worked in the City of Melbourne for much of his life since first moving to the city as a uni student in the 1990s.

Since then he has worked as a secondary school teacher having previously taught at Mac.Robertson Girls High School. And in more recent years, he has earned his living in hospitality.

Now operating two venues in Kensington and West Melbourne, the renowned local publican said he first entered the world of hospitality through an unlikely source ...

“I basically got into hospo by becoming voluntary president of the Flemington-Kensington Bowls Club back when the coffers there were empty. I love having a roll. I still bowl down there,” he said.

“I had to learn how hospo works just to keep the doors open. Yes, the beers are cheap but we also went down the craft beer road very early which was controversial back in the day, don’t you worry about that ... it’s probably still controversial now!”

“As a publican, people speak to you very directly. It just means you’re encountering everyone in society, regardless of the issues. It’s not just people who naturally tend to come to council and pitch their needs. You hear everyone’s needs.”

But while he’s passionate about his local community, he said education was the driving force which first drove him into politics and joining the Labor Party.

The first-time councillor was elected to the City of Melbourne at last year’s elections on Labor’s endorsed council ticket, and he has been



able to apply his passion as chair of the council’s education and innovation portfolio.

“In one sense, to come full circle and have that [education] as my portfolio at the City of Melbourne sort of returns back to the issues I started my public policy career around,” Cr Griffiths said.

With the city on its knees after a fourth COVID lockdown and key issues such as drawing international students back to Melbourne high on the agenda, Cr Griffiths’s experience in education and business provides a valuable mix on this council.

In addition to attracting international students back to the city, he said he was particularly

keen to use the council’s auspices to continue advocating for big changes that would see more education, training and employment opportunities provided in the municipality.

“The latest most liveable city in the world-type rankings [show] Melbourne was still getting 100 out of 100 in the education area. When I talk to locals around here with the new school opening in Docklands, the new school in North Melbourne, it just re-emphasises the fact that people expect high-quality education from preschool right through to U3A.”

“It seems foolish to me to have jobs at the hospitals or the universities going out to places such as Werribee, where people from Werribee

are coming into the city to do a job that a resident in the city could take on.”

“It’s that type of reimagining of the roles of what local education can be about. It’s that notion of worker housing, which is an important component when you think about how expensive some housing in the city is and how that precludes people of certain jobs including nurses, young doctors and others who can’t live in the city.”

The husband of former state Member for Melbourne Jennifer Kanis and father to nine-year-old son Blake, Cr Griffiths said he loved getting out and experiencing the city with his family at every opportunity.

And as one of six new councillors on the City of Melbourne, he said one of the silver linings to come out of the pandemic was how it had forced the council to come together and work positively for the community right from the outset.

“It doesn’t matter whose good idea it is, everyone is supporting all of those initiatives that help local residents recover and local workers to get jobs and local businesses to keep the doors open,” he said.

“It has to be about ensuring that various areas within Melbourne still have a sense of community about them that’s meaningful at a time of rapid change, even before COVID came along. I think that’s a really positive thing.” ●



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## HISTORY

# Errol St’s Town Hall Hotel

WORDS BY *Felicity Jack*

The Town Hall Hotel was ordered to close its doors in 1904 because of a Liquor Licensing Board assessment of all the pubs in North Melbourne. Somehow, and there is no record of how this occurred, the pub survived and today it is one of the area’s most popular drinking spots.

Thomas Smith, a storekeeper living at 21 Errol St, applied for a licence so that he could make his home into a hotel. The licence was granted, and the Errol Hotel opened on August 31, 1872. It was a brick building with 10 rooms. As was the case with many North Melbourne hotels, it had many changes of owner, and in 1873 it was owned by Laetitia Quinlan. Women licensees were particularly common at the time. Another owner of the hotel, this time in the 1950s, was Lou Richards, the well-known footballer.

The change of name to the Town Hall Hotel in 1874 was probably a reflection of the proprietor’s eagerness to keep up with the times. Although there had been talk in that year of replacing the existing brick town hall with something more lavish and imposing, the new building did not actually happen until 1876.

One of the reasons why the Town Hall Hotel was ordered to close was its proximity to many others. Indeed, when it was opened in 1872 there were 14 pubs within easy staggering distance. The map shows the location of the nearby hotels, listing those closed before 1902, those which were ordered to close and those allowed to remain.

Two of these hotels, the Butchers Arms and the Empire, had closed by 1902, the year in which local residents voted on the number of



pubs that they wished to be retained in the area (the Local Option Poll). The local community voted for 37 pubs to be closed and for 20 to remain.

The Licensing Board conducted a survey of the 57 hotels in the Flemington Rd Division and decided, using criteria such as standards of cleanliness and how the pub was run, as well as proximity to other pubs, which ones should be closed.

Compensation was paid to those that went out of business. Of the 14 pubs clustered around Errol St, the board recommended that only the Limerick Arms, the Court House, the Eldorado, the George and the Three Crowns (which was in a different licensing area anyway) should remain.

There were alterations to the Town Hall Hotel in 1942 and 1963, but the details of these are not known. In 1982 Alf and Gianna Quattrocchi leased the hotel from Carlton and United Breweries and Gianna worked there for around two years. Later Alf bought the freehold

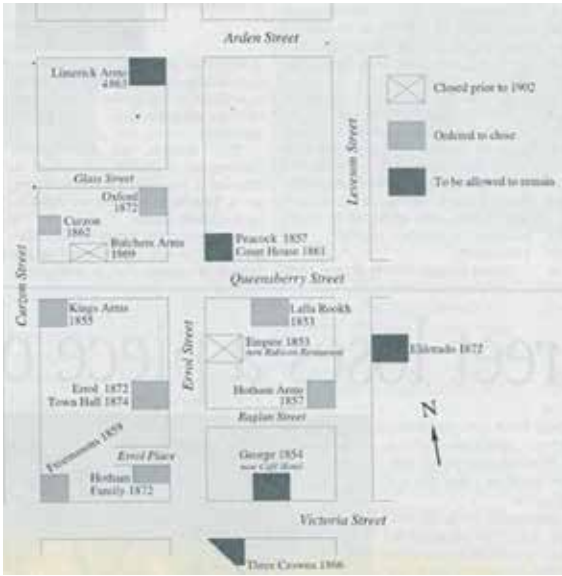
“One of the reasons why the Town Hall Hotel was ordered to close was its proximity to many others. Indeed, when it was opened in 1872 there were 14 pubs within easy staggering distance. The map shows the location of the nearby hotels, listing those closed before 1902, those which were ordered to close and those allowed to remain.”



from the brewery but sold it shortly afterwards.

During the years the Quattrocchis owned the pub they made substantial alterations.

According to Gianna, the end of the “six o’clock swill” in 1966 meant that pubs had to change their style and their clientele if they were to survive. The front of the building housed a bottle shop, which was removed, and the back was completely remodelled. They built a lounge garden and installed a barbecue where customers could cook their own meat. They also



introduced a more upmarket cuisine instead of the usual counter meals. The barbecue option no longer exists but the lounge garden remains.

Jonathan Collin bought the pub in June 1999. Over the past 22 years it has gained a reputation for good food and a convivial atmosphere. Johnny describes it as a classic local pub and it is a favourite meeting place for locals. It hosts trivia on Tuesdays and plays music at the weekend.

It survived five months of lockdown and was able to expand its seating capacity by placing tables in the side laneway. This was in line with the state government and local council’s encouragement of outdoor dining.

Johnny’s sister, Levaun Vaughan, worked in the dining room and has taken my order many times and poured me many a merlot. She was always cheerful and helpful, and it was a shock when she died suddenly a couple of months ago from a stroke. She is missed ●



ROTARY CLUB - NORTH MELBOURNE



Another Rotary year begins

After 18 months at the helm, on July 1, 2021 Neville Page handed over to Sainab Sheikh as the new president of the Rotary Club of North Melbourne.

Sainab came to Melbourne from Somalia 20 years ago via a refugee camp in Egypt.

Since arriving in Melbourne, she concentrated on educating herself and has completed a Bachelor of Social Work and Bachelor of International Community Development and is now studying an Applied Masters in Public Policy and Management and a Masters of Counselling.

She has also obtained many different certificates and diplomas including a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and Certificate III in Aged Care.

It can be easy when thinking about refugees to think that they are just a group of people leaving a life of poverty to better themselves but like most refugees Sainab was really fleeing for her life.

During the Military Junta she was at home with her two brothers, her mother, her uncle and her nephew. They entered the home and shot and killed all the males.

Not long after arriving she started the Somali Women's Development Association and has been the driving force behind it ever since. When she was inducted as president in

July she was also recognised for that work with the highest award in Rotary being a Paul Harris Recognition.

Another member, Larry Robb also received the same recognition for his valuable service to the club as well.

Another highlight of the meeting was the induction of a new member being Herbson Singo, who is from Malawi.

In the previous issue we requested members of the community nominate someone for a volunteer award at our Phonse Tobin Awards night. There is still time to submit nominations and we advise a change of date to Thursday, October 28. Nominations need to be in writing to [page@ghp.biz](mailto:page@ghp.biz)

We are really looking forward to a great year under Sainab's leadership and if anyone would be interested in enjoying the fellowship of our fun meetings every fortnight at the Mercure Hotel then just ring Neville Page on 0414 673 611 •

For more information, call Neville Page on 0414 673 611 or email [page@ghp.biz](mailto:page@ghp.biz)

Pet's Corner

The cheeky boy scout

With a love for the outdoors, Bruno is a dog that has given his owner Adeline Antolis both cheek and trouble.

WORDS BY Emma Hartley

"He loves going camping," Adeline told *North West City News*.

"We took him to the snow, and he tried eating it. He loves doing zoomies in my tent."

At one-and-a-half years old, Bruno has still yet to shake off that puppy energy.

He has run amok in Ms Antolis' flat on more than one occasion.

"I opened the washing machine and he had chewed the seal," she said.

"I got him desexed about two or three months ago and I thought that would calm him down, but no."

Bruno knew how to perform in front of the right crowd and made a good impression on the dog obedience instructor.

"The instructor said he'd go far," Adeline said.



STATE MP

These 33 men are in indefinite lockdown

Right now, 33 men are being held in indefinite detention in the middle of Melbourne at the Park Hotel in Carlton. They have committed no crime. They have fled war, persecution, violence and torture, and tried to seek a safer life.



▲ Ellen Sandell standing in solidarity with local refugee activists before our most recent snap lockdown earlier in May after speaking at the Park Hotel refugee rally in Carlton.

Yet instead of welcoming them, our federal government has locked them up in tiny hotel rooms, without charge, and with no idea of when (or if) they will ever be released.

Just before lockdown, I spoke at a rally outside the Park Hotel on Swanston St, Carlton, where these men are being held. Even though the government has tinted the windows so we couldn't see the men's faces, they held up their phone torches so we knew they could see us. As the local MP for the inner city, I wanted the men inside the hotel-prison to know that we welcomed them to our community and we would keep fighting until they were free.

Though we've all experienced being confined in our homes during COVID lockdowns, I couldn't help thinking that this doesn't even compare to what these men have endured.

This goes against common decency, and against our Melbourne and Australian values. Even our national anthem proclaims "for those who've come across the seas, we've boundless plains to share", yet I was reminded that both major political parties support indefinite detention of asylum seekers.

As a few hundred people gathered in the park to show solidarity with these men, dozens of police, including on horses, surrounded the hotel. The police initially tried to prevent the public from getting close to the hotel, so the imprisoned men couldn't see the protestors from their windows. Eventually, the police relented and let people gather in the park adjacent to the

hotel-prison. I couldn't help but wonder whether this huge, disproportionate police presence was a good use of state government resources.

Melbourne is a caring and compassionate place where we welcome difference and diversity with open arms, not with prison and police. Even though detention of refugees and asylum seekers is a federal issue, I feel that all of us, at all levels of government, have a responsibility to speak up against such a cruel abuse of power and contravention of human rights.

Thank you to all the members of our community who have been fighting for freedom for refugees and asylum seekers for so long. We need to hold the major parties accountable for their support for this abhorrent situation.

If you're interested in staying up to date on this local community campaigns like this, or want to see more local news from me, you can sign up for my online newsletter at [ellensandell.com/localnews](mailto:ellensandell.com/localnews) or get in touch with my office by emailing [office@ellensandell.com](mailto:office@ellensandell.com) or calling us on 9328 4637.

My office is here for you, so please get in touch anytime •



Ellen Sandell

STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

[OFFICE@ELLENSANDELL.COM](mailto:OFFICE@ELLENSANDELL.COM)

ROTARY CLUB - FLEMINGTON & KENSINGTON

Thrift or uncommon sense?

“Do you remember your grandmother mending clothes, saving buttons, using dad's singlets as cleaning cloths and never wasting leftovers?”

equipment, school tables, chairs and stationery, books, computers, and new clothing for distribution to disadvantaged overseas communities? Our major hospitals donate hundreds of beds annually; schools contribute many hundreds of tables and chairs, dentists give us their out-of-date chairs, school uniform manufacturers give us their superseded uniforms. Communities in India, Timor Leste, the Pacific Islands, south-east Asia and Africa have better lives because of this generosity.

Additionally, Rotary supports emergency relief for families fleeing domestic violence, suffering loss of household goods due to fire, flood and refugees and migrants in need. At the bases in Melton and Brunswick, people in need are supported by a social welfare agency to obtain basic furniture, household goods and bedding free of charge from donated items.

So, reduce, reuse, recycle and repair is a cornerstone of Rotary work supporting and serving others.

Could you see yourself joining one of these amazing opportunities to make a difference? •

Before reduce, reuse, recycle and repair became the four Rs, our parents and grandparents practised saving, reusing, hand-me-downs and sharing.

The Rotary Club of Flemington Kensington proudly promotes environmental practices through a range of efforts, and in particular, our op shop at 444 Racecourse Rd Flemington. There, people donate quality clothing, household goods and collectables which our volunteers sell to customers at low cost. All profits then go to our charitable foundation which supports needy people and organisations in our local and international communities.

But that's not all. Did you know that Rotary Donations in Kind in West Footscray receives quality second-hand hospital and medical

For more information visit: [rotaryflemington.org.au](http://rotaryflemington.org.au) or email [info@rotaryflemington.org.au](mailto:info@rotaryflemington.org.au)



# Public housing – the best way to solve our housing crisis

When the Victorian parliamentary Inquiry into the Public Housing Renewal Program (PHRP) handed down its report on June 5, 2018, it advised there were 36,742 applicant households on the Victorian Housing Register (VHR) made up of 57,077 adults and 24,622 children – a total of 81,699 at the end of March 2018.

The latest information from the VHR at the end of March this year advises there are 50,839 households – a 35 per cent increase over three years! The Save Public Housing Collective has estimated the number of adults and children to now be around 77,000 adults and 32,900 children.

It is now very clear that the PHRP is not delivering even one replacement publicly owned and managed dwelling and it won't assist with reducing the waiting list.

The Save Public Housing Collective is now tracking what is happening through the PHRP using its Public Housing Watch Victoria tool: [map.savepublichousing.com](http://map.savepublichousing.com)

The PHRP project at Abbotsford St, North Melbourne, for example, has seen 112

public housing units in good structural condition demolished.

There has been no advice on when construction will start on housing that will be managed by the developer's community housing partner when completed.

The Protect Abbotsford Street Estate group has reported that all residents on the estate were relocated during 2018 and have been accommodated in leased private housing.

The full cost of temporary accommodation was stated as being \$16,800 per day by one of DHHS' PHRP consultants in response to a Supreme Court action by a community neighbour over asbestos found on the estate.

This will amount to tens of millions of dollars for the years it will take to complete construction. This money would have been better spent on progressively refurbishing the 112 demolished public housing units.

Public housing residents in other estates in the City of Melbourne live in overcrowded conditions in buildings that are not safe and need urgent maintenance work.

Many residents fear demolition of their homes is next, as decided by the government for Flemington estates.

The Public Housing Renewal Program turned out to be a falsehood, it is not about the renewal of public housing.

Its objectives are really the exiting of publicly owned and managed housing with the handing over of public housing land to developers (on peppercorn leases, e.g., \$1 per year) to build private housing and have community housing providers take over what should be the government's responsibilities.

**Support for public housing**

Dr David Hayward (RMIT) in his recent opinion piece made it clear that publicly owned and managed housing is the most effective way to end the housing crisis in Australia.

[smh.com.au/business/the-economy/private-landlords-are-losing-billions-should-we-keep-picking-up-the-tab-20210615-p58154.html](http://smh.com.au/business/the-economy/private-landlords-are-losing-billions-should-we-keep-picking-up-the-tab-20210615-p58154.html)

I agree with Dr Hayward: governments – both state and federal – need to stop subsidising private investor housing even when they are proposed as build-to-rent (BtR) projects.

None of the recent BtR in Melbourne provide any hope of affordable accommodation for those on the state's waiting list ●

**For more information:**  
[change.org/p/daniel-andrews-prioritise-public-housing-to-protect-the-most-vulnerable](http://change.org/p/daniel-andrews-prioritise-public-housing-to-protect-the-most-vulnerable)



Cory Memery  
[CORYMEMERY@YAHOO.COM](mailto:CORYMEMERY@YAHOO.COM)

## ABORIGINAL MELBOURNE



# Delivering on the services Stolen Generations people say they need most

WORDS BY Emma Hartley

The state government dedicated \$300,000 to cover the funeral costs of Stolen Generations people thanks to advice from the Stolen Generations Reparations Steering Committee.

Ian Hamm is a Yorta Yorta man who is chairperson of the Stolen Generations Reparations Steering Committee, as well as chairperson of the Koorie Heritage Trust and has sat on many other boards.

"Stolen Generations people usually have worse life outcomes than the broader Aboriginal community which means that when they die, their families often don't have enough money for a decent burial," Mr Hamm said.

This initiative has only been the start of the Steering Committee's work which has been preparing a report for the state government proposing initiatives for Stolen Generations people.

Consultations with stolen generations people across Victoria has shown the Steering Committee that priority issues not only include financial compensation but also program support and the intergenerational effects of the Stolen Generations.

"This kind of trauma inflicted on a community can actually reverberate seven generations until it ripples out," Mr Hamm said. "But we're still basically in the first, second and third generations of when people were taken."

"We're not so much at the ripple-end effect of

it. We're at the tsunami end."

Mr Hamm has been on the Koorie Heritage Trust board since 2013 and was with the Trust at its former location on Kings St.

Now the Trust is in the Yarra building in Federation Square – a good move in Mr Hamm's eyes because it positions them in the front and centre of Melbourne.

"If Federation Square is supposed to be the social and cultural hub of Melbourne, then it couldn't have any legitimacy unless it had a strong Aboriginal presence there," Mr Hamm said.

Mr Hamm is also chairperson of Connecting Home which has helped stolen generations people actually connect with the services they need.

"Because agencies weren't talking to each other, they couldn't even get access to services let alone their core issues dealt with," Mr Hamm said.

Connecting Home has started to expand that support into the disability sector as a next step.

"A lot of the stolen generations cohort are now ageing and also qualifying for the NDIS because they've got disability issues," he said. "So, we're working in that space as well." ●

**For more information:**  
[korieheritagetrust.com.au](http://korieheritagetrust.com.au)

## PARKVILLE GARDENS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



# Latest news from Parkville Gardens

*This communiqué from Parkville Gardens can begin again with good news!*

Sixty local residents – 50 adults and 10 children – came together to enjoy a festive community dinner on Friday, June 25, just before the end of the financial year. The venue was the Reggio Calabria Club, where our genial host was Carlo Parvia.

Our community dinner was subsidised by the Parkville Gardens Residents' Association (PGRA) with significant support from the City of Melbourne. The response was terrific, certainly our most successful such event in recent years, especially in the face of lingering anxieties about coronavirus transmission. The PGRA committee was particularly pleased at the number of new members who came on board because of us engaging more broadly with the community.

We were pleased to have Tim Read, State Member for Brunswick, as our guest to thank him for his advocacy on our behalf for a better bus service. He succeeded in securing extra funding in the recent state budget. We look forward to having this translated into a more frequent service, especially during peak hours. This will be even more needed when the impending residential tower of 150 units of social housing is completed.

Tim took the opportunity to seek feedback from the gathering about issues of concern. The principal matters raised were ...


- The return of planning authority for the precinct back to the City of Melbourne
- Rational rezoning of the area to make accessible primary and secondary schools available
- Better lighting of footpaths for the security of pedestrians at night, especially at the southern end of the neighbourhood
- Charging stations for electric vehicles, to name just a few.

We'll be doing our best to maintain a collaborative partnership with Tim to continue generating favourable outcomes for the Parkville Gardens community.

A special mention needs to be given to the City of Melbourne for the grants we received in 2020. These help us cover operational and administrative costs as well as support for events we hold across the community. Much to our disappointment we weren't successful with our application for community engagement funding for 2021, so our ability to hold functions in the second half of this year is constrained. We are exploring options to secure funding from other sources for one-off events. Our AGM will be held in the last quarter of the calendar year.

We were pleased to have Fiona Darling, our City of Melbourne community liaison person, at our June committee meeting. She brought us up to date about restructuring of the council's community development unit and the council plans to engage with 11 neighbourhoods in the municipality. Just as each neighbourhood has diverse precincts within it, so too is Parkville Gardens a distinct component of the Parkville neighbourhood with its own characteristics and needs. The association will continue to champion them ●

**Residents can find us:**  
[PGRA Facebook page \(facebook.com/groups/pggrass\)](https://www.facebook.com/groups/pggrass) or email [secretary@pgra.org.au](mailto:secretary@pgra.org.au).



Tom Knowles  
TOM KNOWLES IS THE PRESIDENT OF PARKVILLE GARDENS ASSOCIATION.  
[PRESIDENT@PGRA.ORG.AU](mailto:PRESIDENT@PGRA.ORG.AU)





# Faces of North West City

Where is the best place to exercise around the Kensington area?



AARON  
I used to be a runner. We had a running group at JJ Holland [Park] where we'd run for an hour.



SHANI  
The fitness station on Fogarty St. There's pull up bars as well as a basketball court and a synthetic football pitch.



CHRIS  
J.J. Holland [Park]. I like to go running around the ovals.



MARY  
Here at J.J Holland Park or down by the river. Both of them are five-minute walks from our house.

## MELBOURNE ZOO



# Marine rescuers making a difference

WORDS BY *Mark*  
MELBOURNE ZOO'S MARINE RESPONSE UNIT COORDINATOR

If you're at the beach and see an injured seal, what do you do? If you're at a pier or jetty and see a bird tangled up in plastic or fishing line, who can help it? If a turtle, dolphin or stingray looks like it's in trouble, who do you call? The answer is Melbourne's Zoo's Marine Response Unit.

We live in a beautiful city, in a beautiful state with access to some of Australia's most beautiful coastlines. I grew up on the coast, and have always loved snorkelling and diving. Victoria's marine ecosystems are home to an extraordinary array of animals and as someone passionate about that wildlife, I feel lucky to be on the front line of caring for these marine creatures.

Every day in the Marine Response Unit – we call it the MRU for short – is different. We might be off to the beach on the south-west coast one day, at a lake in a housing estate the next, and

down at the Yarra River in the CBD after that. We care for everything from seals to sea birds, dolphins, sharks, rays, fish, turtles, you name it!

The MRU was set up in 2013, although Melbourne Zoo already had a long history of working with marine wildlife. But every year we received more calls, and had to help more animals. So, the MRU was formed. There's now two of us working full time as part of the unit, and we work alongside Melbourne Zoo's amazing veterinary team to treat and rehabilitate injured animals. We've recorded more than 900 cases during the past year, and there's more coming in every day.

When people visiting a beach or a lake or a river call us to report what they believe is an animal in distress, our job is to investigate and establish if we need to intervene. Sometimes we can treat the animal at the scene, other times we need to bring it back to the Zoo for our vet team to assess and treat, hopefully with the prospect of it being re-released to the wild as soon as possible. But unfortunately, not every

animal we see can be treated, rehabilitated and released. Sometimes injuries are so severe that the most humane welfare decision is compassionate euthanasia to relieve an animal's suffering. These situations are never easy, but I take comfort from knowing that we have brought some dignity, respect and compassion to the final hours of an animal's life.

Working this job, I see clearly that our waterways are home to so many amazing creatures. Of course, sometimes animals get sick or die from natural events in the wild. But unfortunately, I also see how much damage we humans are doing to these special places and the animals that live in them. The MRU sees the impact of plastic and other rubbish in marine ecosystems first-hand every day.

I've had to rescue sea birds that have swallowed fishing hooks. We see seals entangled in ropes and nets. I've rescued a duck that was being strangled by a plastic milk bottle cap ring. One bird the MRU treated had a baby's sock wrapped around its beak and hadn't been

able to feed for days. It can be confronting to see how such seemingly innocuous objects can have such a dramatic impact on the life of a sea bird or other marine creature. So, I've become passionate about encouraging all of us to take steps in our own lives to keep oceans and rivers and lakes clean and healthy and safe for the animals that live in them.

It's the stories that end happily that keep us going, and knowing we have made a difference. Sometimes we get very attached to the animals we are caring for, but absolutely the best part of my job is the moment when you see an animal swim or fly back into its natural environment. After the rescue, the treatment and sometimes the weeks of rehabilitation, that moment keeps me going. This job has shown me how precious our marine ecosystems are, and how we all have a part to play in protecting the amazing animals that live in them.

Anyone who sees a marine animal in distress can call Melbourne Zoo's Marine Response Unit on 1300 245 678 ●



# Community consultation (part two)

WORDS BY *Simon Harvey*  
ON BEHALF OF THE KENSINGTON ASSOCIATION WITH  
DEVELOPERS ASSEMBLE

Quite honestly, the band of stalwart residents in the Kensington Association are cynical about “developers” and their motivations! The prevailing perspective would be that they are out to make “big bucks”, nothing more.

There is certainly good reason for scepticism (and cynicism) since stories of “rogue developers” are pervasive. Given this deep scepticism – which developers must be aware of – you would expect consultation between the Kensington Association and any developer to be somewhat ... tricky.

A bit of history – towards the end of 2020 I was alerted that 402 Macaulay Rd (which is adjacent to a series of residences in Barnett St) had been purchased by Assemble, and I was very happy to be introduced to their head of urban design, Andy Fergus. I thought “this is great to have a chance to talk with someone in ‘a driver’s seat’ early in the development cycle”. Andy was recommended to me as smart and knowledgeable about all things “planning” – and he was. Before meeting Andy, I did a letterbox drop along the east of Barnett St (I live close by), to tell residents I was meeting with him, and to let me know of any priorities and concerns. That was probably a big question to spring on the neighbourhood, but I wanted to make the most of the early opportunity.

The prospect of a meeting with Andy raised a question in my mind – “what does ideal consultation look like in such a situation?” One wouldn’t expect a developer to have early consultation with the community, at least before they had something to show, but that is more or less what seems to be happening in this case. Andy shared some very rough sketches with me shortly after I met him. One of the biggest issues in consultation is the power and knowledge imbalance between parties. Andy is a young, knowledgeable, professional, and idealistic (to the extent that anyone can be in his position) representative for a large developer, and I am a relatively naive and not so young community leader/volunteer. Such a scenario is invariably the case, but I recognise there is

a point at which one must have some trust in your co-consulter!

Andy and I embarked on a tour of the 402 Macaulay Rd site, he talked (mainly) and I listened; I hadn’t heard anything from Barnett St people. He shared with me some of the issues they were considering in the early planning, and both of us expressed some concerns in relation to the proximity of the residents in Barnett St. Following our tour, I heard little from Assemble for around six months until we invited them to make a presentation at the Kensington Association meeting on June 7.

Like most consultative meetings participants join with different expectations, different agendas, different knowledge, and different levels of cynicism. Assemble was represented by Andy and two other representatives, Emma Telfer, director of culture and strategy and Maggie McKeand, communications engagement manager. Emma and Maggie began with a comprehensive outline of Assemble, its history, aims and objectives – all very admirable and forward thinking. They outlined some of the differences between 402 Macaulay Rd plans and the other Assemble developments south of Macaulay Rd (to be finished in October) and the Thompson St development (to be finished in 2023). In my view Assemble does not even get close to fitting the stereotypical image we at the Kensington Association have of developers, i.e., ethics-free scavengers who worship the almighty dollar. Andy shared some of the plans they had for the development and attempted to answer many questions and concerns raised by the meeting. Barnett St residents were understandably concerned by the prospect of large multi-storey residential blocks shadowing their backyards and invading their privacy; the large bulk which is the Webb warehouse behind them might be high and ugly, but it does not have balconies. Residents questioned what was allowable with respect to “built form controls,” and Assemble on their part explained how it was proposing to mitigate the impact on residents by deep planting and setback from the laneway on the western border of the site. The discussion was lively and varied, covering parking, planting, the flood plain, community infrastructure, and building design etc. Assemble plans further consultation with the community in August.



In a subsequent conversation with Maggie, she assured me that she wanted it to be meaningful consultation about aspects of the development that are still negotiable (refer to community consultation part one in last month’s *North West City News* Issue 05).

The response to the meeting with Assemble by members of the Kensington Association ranged from, “it was just a promotional exercise” to “better than expected”. One member from Barnett St said she was heartened by the prospect of quality planting on the border behind her property. The stark reality for Kensington is that there are (and will be into the future) many developments like this that challenge us. As human beings we are generally suspicious of and resistant to change. If we have been living happily in our locality for decades, change over the fence or round the corner is challenging; we are all “NIMBY”ish”. I feel that at the Kensington Association we nibble away at anything that will mitigate “bad change” wherever we can stick our snout in. I also feel that Assemble, while clearly charged with

making a profit by its financial backers, also knows that to build outside of any moral or ethical framework is bad business which will come back to bite them.

Readers can access some questions and answers from our meeting with Assemble that weren’t able to be answered before the meeting ended. Go to [kensingtonassociation.org](https://kensingtonassociation.org) and navigate to “Activities” and “402 Macaulay Rd”

For more information:  
[kensingtonassociation.org](https://kensingtonassociation.org)



*Simon Harvey*  
CHAIRPERSON  
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ORG.AU

## NORTH WEST CITY LOCAL

# A novel approach to ageing well

*Many hands made light work for North Melbourne’s newest street library at Clayton Reserve.*

WORDS BY *Emma Hartley*

So50 founder Magno Barros had noticed the street libraries that people had set up outside their homes and fell in love with the idea.

“When you put yourself out there with the street library, it’s an amazing opportunity to meet people,” Mr Barros said.

The street library was part of Mr Barros’s larger project – So50 – where he has shared stories about how people live their lives past the age of 50.

As a 55-year-old himself, he wanted people to know that “life actually begins *after* 50” and to show “people enjoying life and how they enjoy life”.

Mr Barros was working in the travel industry, which suffered terribly during 2020, and started So50 in December last year.

His family members have lived long lives – his grandmother passed away at 105 and, at 93, his mum is still healthy and lively.

But when Mr Barros started researching



ageing, he was disappointed by the recurring narrative.

“It’s all about death, decay, illness, the end,” he said, “There’s no positivity at all. And as a consequence, a lot of people suffer because that’s the reference they have.”

An important part of that has been to stay

active and combat loneliness.

The street library helped achieve both as community members stepped forward to donate the cabinet, help paint the library, build its roof, and contribute the books.

“A few friends came out of the experience. We’re still in touch and we have them over for

dinner,” Mr Barros said.

Mr Barros saw the books as a way to expand horizons as well as provide something for park attendees to do while watching dogs or children play.

“For people using it, it’s probably a simple experience,” he said. “For me, who was part of the process, it gains a bigger dimension because of all those experiences and interactions.”

“Every time I drive by and have a look and I see it has new books – I think that speaks for itself.”

Like the street library system, So50 has also been about reciprocation.

For an upcoming episode, Mr Barros is taking former TV celebrity chef Elizabeth Chong out to a bee farm to collect honey and prepare dishes.

The farm will be a new experience for the 90-year-old chef while Mr Barros was keen to learn more about Chinese cuisine.

“You tap into universes that you didn’t know before,” he said

For more information  
visit: [so50.org](https://so50.org) or find it on  
Instagram @SO50.fun



KENSINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



# So much more than basket weaving!

*Neighbourhood Houses are magical places. There are more than 400 houses scattered across Victoria and each one is completely unique – existing to serve the needs of their particular local community.*

If you haven't visited your local Neighbourhood House for a while (or ever!), you might be surprised by the variety of programs on offer. Here at Kensington Neighbourhood House we provide a huge range of vocational, recreational and wellbeing activities for people of all ages.

Morning childcare? Yep. Painting and drawing classes? Absolutely. Code Club? Twice a week. Seniors lunch and bingo? Those too. Exercise classes, cooking workshops, study support, job search assistance, book clubs and social groups, community choir... and did we mention ukulele lessons? Our programs are as diverse as the community we serve and that's exactly the way we like it.

By offering a broad range of ways for people to connect and create, we're helping keep our community healthy and happy. Something that can't be underestimated in these challenging times.

Again and again, research studies show that spending time on an activity you enjoy can improve your mental health and wellbeing. People with hobbies are less likely to suffer from stress, low mood, and depression. Activities that get you out and about can make you feel happier and more relaxed. Engaging in community-based recreation, such as music, singing or other creative arts or crafts is thought to support mental health recover by improving self-esteem and social connection.

So what are you waiting for? Perhaps one of these programs might take your fancy:

- **Painting and drawing for beginners** – this class starts with the basics of drawing and the use of colour and then builds up to using paints and other mediums. No previous experience necessary. Tuesdays 1pm to 3pm during school terms.

- **“Kensingers” – The Kensington Community Choir** – meet others and sing to your heart's content! This is a no-audition choir and reading music is not a prerequisite. Everyone welcome. Wednesdays 7.30pm to 9pm.
- **Creative writing** – an introduction to the potential of writing for yourself and others. Explore a different aspect of writing each month in a structured and supportive group. First Wednesday of the month.
- **Creative art for kids** – Explore the creative arts and use your imagination. Discover and experiment with new ways of making art in a fun and relaxed space. 3.30pm to 4.15pm or 4.30pm to 5.30pm Tuesdays during school terms. These are just a few of the activities available to get you out of the house and connected with

others this semester. You can find the full range of classes, workshops and programs on our website: **kensingtonneighbourhoodhouse.com**

And if you can't find the activity you're looking for? Drop in and tell us! We're always keen to hear new program ideas from community members ●

**For more information:**  
**kensingtonneighbourhoodhouse.com.au** or call 9376 6366



Rebecca Smith  
MANAGER KENSINGTON  
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE  
INFO@KENHOUSE.ORG.AU

ENVIRONMENT

## How to look after soils in our garden and city

*View your soil as a living dynamic system that you are working in harmony with, understand its needs. If we look after it – it will look after us, the surrounding plants and other life.*

Civilisations have often risen and fallen based on the fertility of their soil – when people's lands degraded that they could no longer grow food they would migrate into surrounding areas and settle – nowadays with the global population growth there are very few unsettled arable lands available, making soil an important and limited natural resource.

Soil plays an important function in many of earth's larger systems, the nutrient cycle, the carbon cycle, and precipitation. These systems in balance provide a healthy planet. If soil is not healthy it cannot play its role in these bigger systems of the earth.

When soil is covered it is prevented from playing its important function. In the City of Melbourne around 60 per cent of the soil is covered with an impervious surface.

It takes a long time for soil to form. According to Dr David Pimentel, it takes 500 years to replace 25mm of topsoil lost to erosion.

Basically, soil is stressed globally and if we build healthy soils in our backyards, parks and gardens, we assist soil to continue to play its important role in providing us with food and functioning in the bigger cycles of the planet.

To know how to look after soils we must

have a basic understanding on what they are, how they function and what supports/degrades them.

Soil is composed of mineral particles, organic matter, water, air and living organisms. Soils rarely extend further than one to two metres below the surface with the area of the living soil biology sitting within the top six to 12cm.

Dr Elaine Ingham's work in soil biology recognises that soil is the network of interacting living organisms within the earth's surface layer. This community of living organisms controls and manipulates the chemistry of the soil, not the other way around. These living organisms also ultimately control water infiltration, mineral density, and nutrient cycling.

Sunlight and photosynthesis are merely the energy source – the fuel injection system. The engine that drives land-based life is the living soil.

Soil problems generally fall into four categories each with their resulting conditions – erosion, depletion, pollution (contamination and accretion) and compaction.

Our ethical task is to ...

- Respect and leave untouched all naturally occurring soils that support unique eco-systems;
- Repair and protect all damaged soil; and
- Respect soils as living organisms

An analysis of your current soil health is a first step. You can do a simple pH home test, and in-the-field tests, where you look at soil organisms present, the colour of your soil, drainage and even a taste test all of these can provide indicators of the quality of your soil. For more information go to **thomestud.com/diy-soil-tests/**



▲ Bioswales are channels designed to concentrate and convey stormwater runoff while removing debris and pollution. Bioswales can also be beneficial in recharging groundwater.

In permaculture some of the practices we use to prevent, soil problems, restore and maintain soil health are:

- Use land within its capability (i.e., soil type position and slope) anything with a slope of greater than 30 per cent we do not use for production.
- Don't remove trees.
- Use gabions, terracing on steep slopes and revegetate.
- Manage water flow over the land so it does not cause damage, erosion (divert it, capture it, sink it).
- Reduce or no tillage, i.e., do not turn the

soil which exposes soil life to the sun and elements destroying them.

- Don't walk on wet soils.
- I recommend staying away from soil additives as we are not chemists and the amounts used can be too much, causing overload and overflow polluting surrounding gardens.
- Look after your soil life by protecting it and feeding it with green manures, plant legumes, cover crops, organic mulches, animal manures, nutrient broths, inoculants.
- Apply compost, chop, and drop to provide new nutrients for the soil and new structure.
- Use pioneers (plants) with deep taproots to stabilise soils and provide deep root penetration.
- In windy areas use windbreaks (can be a shrub) to protect your soils.
- Plant a diversity of plants with different root systems. Foliage etc, so different nutrients, layers of soil are occupied and mined from.
- Don't use chemicals, pesticides, and fertilisers – these kill soil life and pollute.

Build your own soil by composting, growing green manures and chopping and dropping green matter into smaller pieces and leaving on the top of your garden beds.

Beware of buying in soil and compost. A recent article in the *Diggers Magazine* Winter Garden 2021 stated that many gardeners found the presence of selective broadleaf herbicides in garden soil that was deforming and killing their home-grown crops. This garden soil had been sold through garden centres and was made from commercial compost made from green waste ●



Jacqui van Heerden  
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TRADER PROFILE

There’s something brewing in Kensington

WORDS BY Jack Hayes

For those in the know, this will come as no surprise, but Kensington is carefully becoming a treasure trove for micro-breweries, roasteries, and soon, it will add distilleries to that list.

Stretching through the mixed industrial and commercial land along Moonee Ponds Creek, you’ll find the two pillars of this artisan community punching well above their weight; Henry St Brewhouse and Bonehead Brewing.

The first of the two, Henry St Brewhouse, has called its Barrett St address home for more than five years, but brewing lineage in “Kenso” dates back more than a decade to a small backyard on, you guessed it, Henry St.

Co-founded by owner and former structural engineer, Phil Quayle, Henry St Brewhouse provides an intimate insight to the world of brewing.

Almost all brewing machinery is on full view, including “Dorothy”, a new 1000-litre fermenter named after Mr Quayle’s grandmother, a woman who inspired him to pursue a career in beer.

Along with brewer Drew Whitehead, the team at Henry St Brewhouse has refined a range of beers that have garnered a growing following in the area, including a beer named after Kensington itself.

“After you’ve done a few batches, you know what goes with what. There’s just so many different options and flavours, that’s why there is so many different beers,” Mr Quayle said.

“Between the malt, hops, yeast and temperature control, you can literally have millions of different types of beers. Sometimes it’s trial and error, but that is the beauty of brewing.”

“Our Monsieur Grey IPA has become a real favourite among locals. It’s an English-style IPA with a twist – dry hopped with a spicy hop combo and French Earl Grey tea for a lingering floral and bergamot finish.”

“Another popular choice is our Kenso XPA. It’s hoppier than our Secret Pale Ale; paying homage to the suburb and its locals.”

According to Mr Quayle Henry St Brewhouse moves 90 per cent of its business through the four walls of its factory, with the remaining sent out to local bottle shops and pubs like Hardimans.

In just over 10 years, Mr Quayle has turned hobby home-brewing that his mates thought “tasted pretty bloody good”, into a fully-fledged career in beer that’s steering on an upward trajectory.

“Engineers like to drink beer, as I found out during university, so that is probably where my love of beer started. I’m a very technical person and love getting into the nuts and bolts of things,” Mr Quayle said.

“Brewing beer is art and science, my mum was an artist, so maybe I’ve got that side from her, and my dad was a mathematician, so the combination has probably given me the right pedigree to love brewing.”

“It’s a fine line that we tread to ensure we are remaining consistent to our brand and quality, while putting out as much beer as we can, without cutting corners.”

In brewing, there is a delicate dance between temperature, time, and ingredients. Each degree hotter or cooler, each hour or day longer will change the structure and taste of the beer.

The full display of this dance is seen in the range of beers offered at Henry St Brewhouse.

From the balanced Brewberry Sour, named after Drew Whitehead himself, with its combination of berries adding a subtle sweetness without stepping the line, to velvet-smooth Belgian Dubbel.

It’s a no-nonsense approach to brewing with the hands of a team totally devoted to handcrafting exquisite beers using the “finest ingredients, a lot of passion, and even more hard work.”

Flanked by the microbrewery’s almost entirely visible machinery, Henry St Brewhouse provides a cosy capacity for 75 people inside flanked by an inviting fireplace, with a further 20 spaces outside.



▲ Phil Quayle and Drew Whitehead from Henry St Brewhouse.



▲ Some of the beers on offer at Henry St Brewhouse.



▲ Bonehead Brewing in Kensington.

Henry St Brewhouse is open Friday 4pm to 10pm, Saturday 2pm to 10pm and Sunday 1pm to 7pm.

Just a short walk over Macaulay Rd along Stubbs St, you’ll find the second cornerstone of Kensington’s growing fermenting family.

Bonehead Brewing was conceptualised by two self-admitted “boneheads”, wanting to part with their homebrew kits for greener pastures.

Travis Nott and Anthony Dinoto are best mates and the minds behind Bonehead Brewing, the growing microbrewery calling Parsons St home.

“The whole block was originally my dad’s body shop in 1970. I have basically been here since before I was born. I remember coming home from kinder and coming into the office there,” Mr Dinoto said.

Mr Dinoto worked at his family business next door until launching Bonehead Brewing with Mr Nott in 2018.

Although their business is still young, brewing together dates back far longer than their time in their freshly fitted warehouse.

“When we first started brewing in 2004, I was working for Fosters Australia. That’s where I fell in love with beer, the marketing of beer and different types of beer,” Mr Nott said. “Back then, there wasn’t a lot of microbrewing, everything was either imports or the big Australian names.”

“On the same weekend, I called Anth and said, ‘hey, what are you doing this weekend? I’m thinking of making some beer’ and he said, ‘I’m doing the same thing.’ So, we kind of started doing that together.”

“We started doing mini mashes on my stove using a 10-litre pot and a muslin bag. For a long time, it was just brew in a bag but then we moved into more complex systems, which replicates what we now have on a larger scale.”

From there, conversations graduated to the idea of opening a bar together, but the pair soon realised they’d prefer to be “playing while others are working” rather than the inverse, planting the seed for a life in production.

As part of his best man’s speech at Mr Nott’s wedding, Mr Dinoto first told the crowd of their plans to open a microbrewery. Of those ears to hear the news for the first time was Mr Nott’s surprised wife.

Now, with brand-new machinery installed to increase capacity, Bonehead Brewing is a finely-tuned, small-scale, machine that is dogged in its pursuit of achievement beyond expectation.

With the avoidance of another COVID induced lockdown key, the team at Bonehead Brewing is looking to take its business to new heights.

“We had to change our business model completely. We got extremely fortunate with time that we purchased a canning line before Christmas 2019,” Mr Dinoto said.

“During lockdown we transitioned almost entirely to producing cans, while setting up an online store overnight and hitting bottle shops as hard as we could.”

“It benefitted us in a way because it levelled the playing field, because it meant the big boys couldn’t throw their weight around in independent bottle shops like they could in pubs. We managed to get our beer in more hands than we could ever before.”

Bonehead Brewing’s warehouse is designed to make the most of the sun on the weekend and at night it becomes an intimate, closed, space with the fire going and a relaxed, industrial feel.

The space, that boasts walls covered in locally produced artwork and full visual access to their production line, is outshone only by their selection of eclectic, award-winning, beers.

Their core range consists of five key beers, including Mum’s Pilsner, an ode to Mr Nott’s homebrew kit given to him by his mum; Revered, a balanced sweet and bitter American-style red ale; and Sweet Pea, an inviting dark lager.

“We don’t have any IPAs or stock lager pale ales. The reason we have put together this range is because we felt we were coming late to the craft beer dance. We needed to make sure we had the moves no one else did,” Mr Nott said.

Brewing beer is art and science, my mum was an artist, so maybe I’ve got that side from her, and my dad was a mathematician, so the combination has probably given me the right pedigree to love brewing.



“One of our most popular beers is our Sweet Pea, Melbourne dark lager. Kind of like a Schwarzbier, a European dark larger and Czech dark lager all mashed together. It has picked up two silvers and a bronze at the Indie awards.”

The Bonehead Brewing team is open Friday 4pm to 11pm, Saturday 2pm to 11pm and Sunday 2pm to 8pm.

With Bakery Hill Distillery, one of Melbourne’s finest whisky producers, expected to set up shop in suburb by the end of the year, Kensington is looking is slowly becoming the destination for all things grog ●

For more information:  
henrystbrewhouse.com.au  
boneheadbrewing.com.au



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Jul 2021

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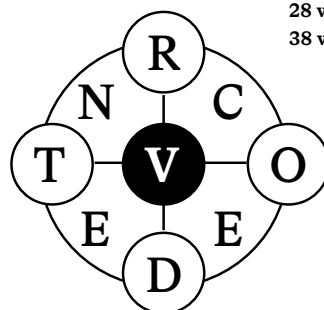
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Secret message: HARD WORK

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**Reference:**  
Collins Concise  
English Dictionary


**SOLUTIONS**




# What's On: July 2021

## Community Calendar


**The Winter Village**  
FEDERATION SQUARE SKYLINE TERRACE  
RUSSELL ST EXTENSION  
MAY 13 TO AUGUST 29  
  
All day, seven days a week  
This magical winter wonderland is a must-visit destination that's perfect for the whole family.



**Parkville Tennis Club**  
151 ROYAL PARADE, PARKVILLE  
MONDAY TO SUNDAY, 6AM TO 11PM  
BOOKINGS: 0412 279 156  
  
Play tennis on synthetic clay courts, day and night. Free social tennis events are also on each month.

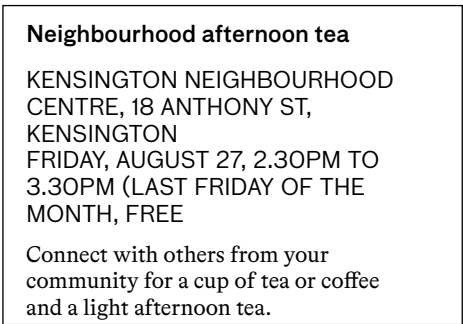


**Arts House**  
521 QUEENSBERRY ST, NORTH MELBOURNE  
JULY 16 TO 17, 7TO 9PM  
TICKETS \$10-20  
  
Feed your head with a back-to-back night of queer musical and visual performances with an interactive botanical installation.




**Comedy Upstairs at Bobbie Peels**  
BOBBIE PEELS  
351 QUEENSBERRY ST, NORTH MELBOURNE  
EVERY SATURDAY UNTIL AUGUST 21, 6 TO 8PM, FREE  
  
See Melbourne's best comedians perform each Saturday, taking risks and having fun.

**Language Factory Exhibition**  
Dulux Gallery  
GLYN DAVIS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, PARKVILLE  
JULY 24 TO SEPTEMBER 9, 10AM TO 4PM, FREE  
  
Melbourne-based artist Alex Selenitsch connects poetry and architecture in an exhibition of drawings and word-works.

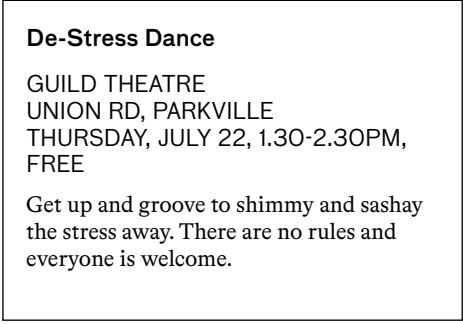


**Bastille Day French Festival**  
FEDERATION SQUARE  
10AM TO 10PM FRIDAY, JULY 16, 10AM TO 6PM SATURDAY, JULY 17  
  
Explore French food, live entertainment and talks on culture to celebrate the national French holiday.




**Parkville Tennis Club**  
151 ROYAL PARADE  
PARKVILLE 3052  
MONDAY – SUNDAY, 6AM – 11PM  
BOOKINGS: 0412 279 156  
  
Play tennis on synthetic clay courts, day and night. Free social tennis events are also on each month.

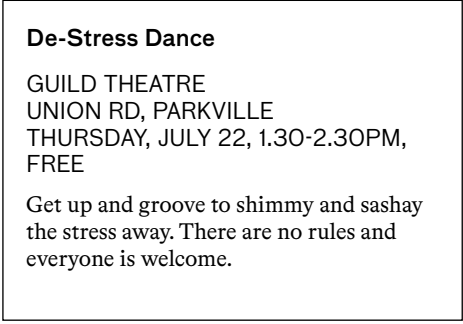
**Neighbourhood afternoon tea**  
KENSINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE, 18 ANTHONY ST, KENSINGTON  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2.30PM TO 3.30PM (LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH, FREE  
  
Connect with others from your community for a cup of tea or coffee and a light afternoon tea.



**Trans and gender diverse writing group**  
FORTNIGHTLY ON TUESDAYS 5-6PM  
  
Online writing group via Zoom for trans and gender diverse young people. The workshop will also be for any other queer-identified people between the ages of 13 to 25 to connect and get writing. FREE




**De-Stress Dance**  
GUILD THEATRE  
UNION RD, PARKVILLE  
THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1.30-2.30PM, FREE  
  
Get up and groove to shimmy and sashay the stress away. There are no rules and everyone is welcome.



# Business Directory

## Association




**North & West Melbourne Precinct Association**

w: [northwestmelbourne.com.au](http://northwestmelbourne.com.au)  
e: [northwestmelbourneprecinct@gmail.com](mailto:northwestmelbourneprecinct@gmail.com)


## Politician

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Saturday & Sunday  
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**ST. MICHAEL'S**  
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**Phone: 93299206**

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# MARKET LANE

The District Docklands

Meet our Traders

**Open 7 days a week.**

Stress free with 90 minutes free parking



Maahesh

**Meet Maahesh, fresh manager from Woolworths.**

For all your fresh produce needs from the choicest home grown meat to a great variety of fruit and vegetables, deli, fish and baked goods, Woolies is your one stop shop.

Market Lane's Woolies offer a variety of vegan goods, premade meals and multiple ready to cook lines convenient for the busy lifestyle.

And their winter warmer lines are perfect for the whole family with blankets, pyjamas, slippers, heaters, bed linen and more in store. Click and collect today!



Mark

**Meet Mark, store manager at Dan Murphy's.**

Mark says Docklands' customers are lovers of cocktails, gin particularly. That's why they stock a great range of local and imported spirits, perfect for any cocktail recipe.

While red wine is flying off the shelves, Dan Murphy's also stock local beers including a range from the neighbouring Urban Alley Brewery.

And if you would like to discover more, join My Dan's membership and explore over 300 member-exclusive offers for incredible value.

**Meet Danny from China Bar.**

China Bar serves the most popular tastes from Malaysia, Hong Kong, China and Taiwan.

Their hot wonton noodle soup is perfect for the cold winter days. Danny recommends Shanghai dumplings, garlic prawn spring rolls and pan fried dumplings, all of which will make your mouth water.

You can even have your favourite dish delivered, with EASI, UberEats and Deliveroo or meet your friends in the restaurant for a feast, open late every day.



Danny

**Meet Sandeep from Love Eyebrows.**

Let yourself be pampered. If you're on the hunt for a new eyebrow stylist, look no further! Sandeep at Love Eyebrows has years of experience and will create the perfect shape for your face and features.

With so much more than just eyebrow threading, their services include tinting, waxing and facials that will leave you feeling refreshed, beautiful and ready to seize the day. Open 7 days a week.



Sandeep

**Waterfront Way, Docklands**

[thedistrictdocklands.com.au/market-lane](http://thedistrictdocklands.com.au/market-lane)

Woolworths   
The fresh food people

**Dan Murphy's**