

# Christmas windows light up the town



Santa reigns at Kitchen Capers

Photo: Jim Weatherill



Kitchen Capers

Photo: Jim Weatherill



Penguins, presents and bears oh my at the Town Hall Hotel



Photos: Jim Weatherill



McMaster's window lights Photo: Jim Weatherill

## Raphaelle Race

If you've travelled along Queensberry Street, Errol Street or Victoria Street recently you may have noticed a number of windows dressed-up ready for the holidays.

This year sparks the first annual North and West Melbourne Precinct Association (NWMWA) Christmas window shop decorations competition.

The competition is open to all traders with a shopfront in Errol, Queensberry or Victoria streets.

Loan Nguyen, an executive member of the NWMWA and owner of North Melbourne Podiatry, is running this year's competition. She has told the *News* that the association is a "new, invigorated team dedicated to improving the North and West Melbourne precinct's profile".

"We wish to continue this competition for years to come and hope the number of participants will increase. We hope that one day this could put the NWMWA on the map for our quirky, creative Christmas window displays because, let's face it, we have a lot of amazing talent in our area."

This year's judge will be Councillor

Beverley Pinder-Mortimer, who will be assessing the displays on 18 December. While locals are unable to vote this year, the NWMWA will be implementing a voting system next year so that everyone can have their say.

This year's participants are Alexkarbon, Ace Antiques and Collectables, the Courthouse Hotel, The Cobbler's Last, Arts & Graces, Casa Verde, The Centre, Quirk & Co, Mr Price's Food Store and Kitchen Capers.

"We are excited with the response and the participants we have," says Loan. "This competition is for both NWMWA members and

non-members. Ideally we'd like to get all the traders involved."

While North and West Melbourne are well known for their cafes and restaurants, retail shops could use a boost, Loan says. "I believe there is room for more retailing stores in the area. More clothing, boutique stores, and gourmet supermarkets."

"I have people constantly say to me that they have money and time in their lunch breaks but have nowhere to spend it other than on food! The NWMWA is hoping to change retail confidence by supporting the traders of the area."

## NOTICEBOARD



The *North and West Melbourne News* is a quarterly publication produced by volunteers from North and West Melbourne and the inner city. It is now in its 36th year of production. Readers' contributions are welcomed. Where relevant the *News* may seek alternative opinions in the interests of balance. Contributors' opinions are their own, however, and the *News* takes no responsibility for them. We reserve the right to edit or omit articles considered unsuitable or when space is limited.

**Finance**

The *News* is a non-profit organisation working as a program of The Centre. Funding is by way of a limited quota of advertising, a grant from Melbourne City Council, sponsorships, subscriptions and occasional donations.

**News subscriptions**

If you would like to receive the *North and West Melbourne News* by mail, the rate is \$10 for four copies sent anywhere in Australia or pro rata for part of the calendar year. The *News* is distributed free throughout North and West Melbourne. Further copies are available from The Centre and the North Melbourne Library.

**Advertisement sizes and rates**

60 mm W x 92 mm H \$70 plus GST  
124 mm W x 92 mm H \$140 plus GST  
188 mm W x 92 mm H \$210 plus GST  
252 mm W x 92 mm H \$280 plus GST  
A charge of 25 per cent may be added for advertisements that require designing.

For more information phone 9329 1627 or email [nwmnews@centre.org.au](mailto:nwmnews@centre.org.au).

Community announcements are published free of charge.

**Volunteers**

The *News* welcomes new volunteers. If you have skills in writing, drawing, photography, archiving, subediting and proofreading, computer technology or design and layout, please consider joining the team.

**Editor:** Raphaelle Race

**Deputy Editor:** Adam Falloon

**Production Coordinator:** Position vacant

**Advertising Coordinator:** Janet Graham

**Section Editors:**

Arts & Entertainment: Jennifer Choat

Community: Position vacant

History: Michael Roche

Noticeboard: Janet Graham

Politics & Environment: Position vacant

Sport & Health: Position vacant

Travel & Food: Position vacant

Youth & Education: Daniel Doody

**Production team:** Jennifer Choat, Adam Falloon, Janet Graham, Ava Macmaster, Raphaelle Race, Jim Weatherill and Kris Wilson. Peter Alsen provided professional assistance with layout.

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Telephone: 9328 1126

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[www.centre.org.au](http://www.centre.org.au)

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We have some vacancies on the *News* delivery team, as a few stalwarts have had to withdraw for various reasons. So, if you would enjoy a short local walk four times a year to help distribute the paper in your community, we probably have a suitable area just for you! Most blocks need 100–200 copies and take up to two hours to deliver.

To find out more about this active volunteer role or to join the distribution team, please contact Adam on [adamfalloon@gmail.com](mailto:adamfalloon@gmail.com).

**North Melbourne Library****Christmas Bedtime Story Time (with special visitor)**

Wednesday 10 December 6.00pm

**Summer Adventures****Kazoo Jam Workshop with The Mudcakes**

Tuesday 13 January 11.00am

**Air Brush Tattoos**

Monday 19 January 11.00am – 1.00pm

**Wild Action Animal Adventure**

Tuesday 20 January 2.00pm

**North Melbourne Book Group 2015**

Meets third Wednesday of every month at 6.45pm  
All welcome — no bookings required

21 Jan	All the Birds, Singing	Evie Wyld
18 Feb	The News: A User's Manual	Alain de Botton
18 Mar	Shy: A Memoir	Sian Prior
15 Apr	The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden	Jonas Jonasson

Enquiries: 9658 9700 — [www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au](http://www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au)  
North Melbourne Library, 66 Errol Street, North Melbourne 3051

**Mid-December serenade with Errol's Angels**

Come and enjoy Christmas carols performed by Errol's Angels Community Choir.

This small choir of 20 male and female voices will be roving along Errol Street from 7.00pm until 8.00pm on Thursday 11 December.

They will be singing their repertoire of traditional carols from around the world and from many different eras. Bring the family along and join in on the carols you know and love.

The event is being supported by The Centre and the North and West Melbourne Precinct Association. There may also be a special guest appearance from Santa!

New choir members are always welcome. The Errol's Angels meet every Thursday evening from 7.00pm to 9.00pm during school terms at the Maternal and Child Health Centre in Abbotsford Street, North Melbourne.

For further information visit [www.errolsangels.com](http://www.errolsangels.com)

**Christmas Services in North and West Melbourne****St Alban's, Anglican**

55 Melrose Street, North Melbourne

Wednesday 24 December (Christmas Eve) 7.00pm Service  
Thursday 25 December (Christmas Day) 10.00am Service

**St James' Old Cathedral, Anglican**

Corner King and Batman streets, West Melbourne  
(opposite Flagstaff Gardens)

Sunday 21 December 10.00am Service of Nine Lessons and Carols  
Wednesday 24 December 11.00pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion  
Thursday 25 December 10.00am Christmas Day Holy Communion  
All services with *The Old Cathedral Voices*

**St Mary Star of the Sea, Catholic**

Corner Victoria and Howard streets, West Melbourne

Wednesday 24 December (Christmas Eve) 6.30pm Vigil Mass;  
12.00 Midnight Mass  
Thursday 25 December 10.30am Mass of Christmas Day

**St Mary's, Anglican**

Corner Queensberry and Howard streets, North Melbourne

Sunday 14 December 7.00pm Carol Service  
Wednesday 24 December (Christmas Eve) 4.00pm Kids' Christmas;  
11.30pm Midnight Mass  
Thursday 25 December (Christmas Day) 9.00am Sung Eucharist

**St Michael's, Catholic**

456 Dryburgh Street, North Melbourne

Information unavailable at time of going to press

**Saints Peter and Paul, Ukrainian Catholic**

35 Canning Street, North Melbourne (corner Canning and Dryburgh streets)

Tuesday 6 January, Christmas Eve (Fast), 5.00pm Great Compline  
Wednesday 7 January, Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, 8.00am & 10.00am Divine Liturgy  
Thursday 8 January, Synaxis of Blessed Virgin Mary, 10.00am & 7.00pm Divine Liturgy

**The Eighth Day (a Baptist Community)**

4 Miller Street, West Melbourne

Sunday 14 December 5.30pm *The Christmas Story — God with us!*  
Sunday 21 December 5.30pm Carol Service (note: to be held at Sandringham Baptist Church, corner Abbott & Essex streets, Sandringham)

Sunday 28 December 5.30pm *Reflections on Beginnings and Endings* (includes Communion)

Public worship services resume Sunday 26 January 5.30pm

**Uniting Church, Mark the Evangelist**

51 Curzon Street, North Melbourne

The congregation meets in the church hall, 4 Elm Street  
Thursday 25 December (Christmas Day) 9.30am Service with Eucharist  
Normal Sunday service times in December and January

ERROL'S ANGELS COMMUNITY CHOIR  
PRESENTS

# Errol Street CHRISTMAS CAROLS

SUPPORTED BY:  
THE CENTRE  
THE NORTH AND WEST MELBOURNE  
PRECINCT ASSOCIATION

WHEN? THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

TIME? 7:15PM START

WHERE?

MEET OUTSIDE THE CENTRE AT  
58 ERROL ST, NORTH MELBOURNE  
THEN JOIN ERROL'S ANGELS COMMUNITY  
CHOIR AS THEY SING OUR FAVOURITE  
CAROLS ALONG ERROL ST



SANTA WILL BE JOINING IN THE  
FESTIVITIES AND GIVING OUT  
GOODIES COURTESY OF THE  
NORTH & WEST MELBOURNE  
PRECINCT ASSOCIATION

## COMMUNITY

# Volunteering in North Melbourne: Bede Mackrell's rich life

## Carole Lander

**B**ede Mackrell has worked out what makes a good volunteer and he is definitely one of them. On three days of the week this 80-year-old giant of a man can be found at Ozanam House or the Ozanam Community Centre in North Melbourne, mingling with groups of people who have various housing and support needs.

He also drives a van to collect food at the Food Bank and bring it back to the kitchen in Ozanam House where chefs Ben Alvarado and Dave Ngo cook three meals a day. This bank is a depository where the big supermarkets take food approaching its use-by date, and charities like VincentCare (which runs the Ozanam centres) go there to collect supplies.

Bede (who was baptised Desmond) grew up in Alexandra, in northern Victoria, but went north when he joined the De La Salle Brothers as a young man. With the brotherhood he taught at a range of schools, ending in Papua New Guinea, where he ran a school for nationals for 13 years.

Later, Bede ran a motel where the brothers led training sessions and where he decided that he liked interacting with clients in that sort of environment. So, on returning to Victoria in 2004, he offered his services to VincentCare. The supervisor was delighted and told the other volunteers to watch their language but Bede says, "I was the first to swear!"

To get back to his theory of what makes a good volunteer, Bede believes: "If you want to improve the people [in places like Ozanam House], then you get into difficulties. Just take them as they are. It's no good taking them any other way because that's not going to change them. I'm fairly accepted because I don't judge them."

Bede uses the phrase 'walk with them' to describe the approach he takes. "That's why

'do-gooders' don't work out. They're not trusted. I say 'walk with them' rather than service them. You might be giving them a meal, cleaning the table, or just talking to them. They are important."

The greatest compliment he has received from these homeless people happened recently when he got on a tram. A group of them hailed him: "Hey, Bro", come and join us." He happily did so, knowing that this was a special gesture. The term 'bro' is considered a compliment.

One of his clients — or friends — told him recently how he had moved from a shopfront to a car park. "This man," says Bede, "is perfectly clean and well-spoken. He just prefers to live outdoors." Others, of course, fall on hard times through a variety of circumstances, including drug use, mental health issues, and a lack of safe and affordable housing.

Ozanam House offers meals and accommodation to approximately 60 men and Ozanam Community Centre provides meals and washing facilities to more. They can also see a doctor, dentist, counsellor or Centrelink advisor. Donations supplement government funding to make all this possible.

Bede Mackrell has made many friends in the 10 years he has been volunteering in North Melbourne.

The most important thing to remember is that "the line between where we are and where they are is very, very fine". He adds, "When I hear what some of them have been through, I think I wouldn't be in as good a state as them."

VincentCare gave Bede their Outstanding Volunteer Award last year. He reckons he will continue his work at Ozanam until he can't do it any more, or until something else comes up.

"I very much believe in divine providence and the guidance of God," he says. Divine providence has given him a rich life for the past 60 years.



Bede Mackrell with his award

# Meeting people is top reward for volunteer Tewodros

## Tomas Bailey

**V**olunteers fulfil an important role in our local community, lending their time, skills and effort for the good of others. One of these hard-working volunteers is 23-year-old Tewodros Berhe.

Tewodros came from Ethiopia to Australia six months ago and after travelling the country he settled with family in Melbourne. For the last four months he has been volunteering his time and skills at North Melbourne Language and Learning.

North Melbourne Language and Learning (NMLL) was formed in 1989 to aid members of the local community, many of whom are newcomers to the country. They can access English language lessons and the information they need to build the best life they can in Australia.

Situated today in Alfred Street, not far from the North Melbourne Community Centre, NMLL continues to enrich the diverse community it serves with the help of sponsors, donors, staff and volunteers like Tewodros.

"When I came to Australia I decided to volunteer instead of going into paid work right away," says Tewodros, adding that an employer is more likely to choose someone if they have volunteer experience for a job.

"I have a marketing and public relations degree from Ethiopia. As a volunteer I get to use what I learned."

Tewodros spends six hours a week helping to promote and create awareness of NMLL.

He stresses the need for everyone to have a balance between work and life and believes volunteering can help in maintaining this.

Volunteering gives him not only valuable work experience but also a deep satisfaction from helping out in his community.

"Some people don't speak much English and sometimes don't realise all of the services that are available to them when they are disadvantaged," he explains.

Aside from volunteering at NMLL, Tewodros also runs his own language classes:

"I hire out one of the halls to teach local children languages."

He teaches Amharic, an Ethiopian language, and Tigrinya, a language of northern Ethiopia and Eritrea. In addition to the classes he organises, Tewodros also teaches a large group of children at his local church.

"As a volunteer I get to meet a diverse range of people in the community," he says with a smile. "This is one of the most rewarding parts of being a volunteer."

"Anyone can volunteer and do things like this to help out in their community. Some people don't realise how easy it is and how helpful it can be for building a career."

Tewodros's advice for anyone trying to find a career, or considering a career change, is to give volunteering a go.

Volunteering gave Tewodros a direction in his career and his goal for the future is to start a language school. In this way he wants to improve his community just as NMLL has for 25 years. He encourages everyone to give back to their community through volunteering.



23-year-old Tewodros Berhe

# Fragments from the '57'

## Very Impressive

The West Maribyrnong tram is also known (to me and others) as *my 57*. How many of us have caught this wonderful service from one end to the other, travelling through a diverse collection of suburbs plus Melbourne's CBD?

Our first tram service here in North Melbourne began in 1890, starting in the city and ending at the cable house on the corner of Abbotsford and Queensberry streets.

Then, in 1906, the North Melbourne Electric Tramways and Lighting Company Limited improved our service by opening an electric tramway as a feeder line from the cable house to Saltwater (later Maribyrnong) River.

This line was further improved when the (Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board)

acquired it in 1922. Three years later the cable trams were curtailed at Abbotsford Street, and our marvellous electric service was continued to the city via Flemington Road and Victoria Street, replacing the former route via Mount Alexander Road and Victoria Street, in 1929.

In 1935 the now fully electric tram route was diverted to the current route running from Elizabeth Street in the city through North Melbourne. The line was last extended in 1940 to its present terminus in Cordite Avenue to serve a munitions factory in Maribyrnong.

So *my 57* has been through many changes in its history, mostly good ones. Now and again people can be heard complaining about certain passengers or the infrequency of arrivals due to cars getting in the way.

But I love *my 57*. I'm incredibly lucky to have *my 57*, and my life, and other people's lives, would suffer a huge loss without such a great service.

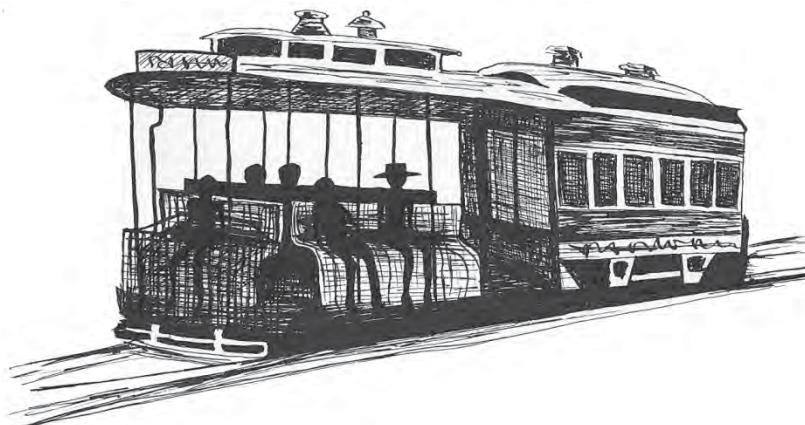


Illustration: Ava Macmaster



Illustration: Jennifer Choat

## Sudoku

### Adam Falloon

Sudoku is a Japanese, fun puzzle game. It requires the player to fill in the 9x9 square grid with the numbers one to nine. The numbers should be arranged in such a way that each row, column and mini-grid contains one of each number. A single error in a Sudoku throws the whole game out.

9		7	6	3		1	4	
		3	1		4		9	
4					2			
1							2	
6			8	7	3		9	
	9			3	8	6		
4				1				
8			2		9			
2			6		4	7		

# Rene takes pause after 14 years with the News

## Janet Graham

After 14 years as an invaluable member of the layout team, Rene Heeps has regrettfully told the *News* she won't be able to continue because of family circumstances.

Rene, who turned 80 a few months ago, joined the team at the *North Melbourne News* (as it was then) in 2000 after her son's then partner, who was the neighbourhood centre's admin worker, suggested it as an opportunity to add to her Apple Macintosh skills while helping to produce the paper.

Already a Mac enthusiast, Rene jumped at the chance and, over the years, developed her expertise with QuarkXPress and Photoshop and, later, InDesign to a high level.

Her calm manner, patience and ability to explain things clearly also made her the preferred trainer of new layout recruits.

Rene witnessed many gradual advancements in the layout process, as well as two significant ones. The first of these, in 2003, was the division of the newspaper into sections and the introduction of section editors to manage them.

The second, two years later, was a complete revamp of the template by two postgraduate RMIT design students whose brief was to enable more content to fit on the pages and to

streamline the system to make layout simpler and more uniform. Rene adapted easily to these changes.

In the early days, Rene's growing Mac enthusiasm prompted her to join the Apple Users Society of Melbourne (AUSOM). For many years she has done the layout of a regular article about Photoshop in the monthly AUSOM magazine. She once addressed a special interest group on the use of InDesign and Photoshop to produce documents and has given a number of talks on graphics.

While layout and page design were Rene's speciality, she occasionally wrote articles for the *News* on topics that piqued her wide range of interests. These included one on the Queen Victoria Market's solar panels, an overview of AUSOM's Melbourne activities and several book reviews.

With a close friend, Rene helped set up a charity called Kelti, which raises funds to provide vocational training for disadvantaged women in India, especially widows, to enable families to become self-sufficient. She still devotes time to Kelti. Rene also takes a hands-on role in supporting her grandchildren, four of whom were adopted from Africa.

If Rene ever managed to find some spare time in this busy life, the *News* would love to see her rejoin the team. Thank you, Rene, for your huge contribution over the years.



Rene Heeps training new recruits in 2005

Photo: Janet Graham

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# North and West Melbourne Association

## NWMA at the Spring Fling

Once again this year, the North and West Melbourne Association (NWMA) had a very successful day at the Spring Fling Festival. NWMA members were kept busy on our stand all day, with both local residents and visitors — brought out by the warm weather — stopping to have a chat.

A broad range of local residents expressed interest in the Association. Many new to the area were keen to discuss ways to maintain its amenity while supporting varied housing options for existing and future residents.

This year the stand showcased the proposed development at 450–454 Queensberry Street, as well as the recently approved development on the Baptist Church site on the King, Hawke and Curzon streets block near the southern end of Errol Street.

People who stopped to examine the projects expressed concern about the effects of overdevelopment on many small sites in their immediate neighbourhood. At least a further 20 objections to the Queensberry Street proposal were collected on the day.

While the preservation of heritage and the built form was of general interest, younger residents asked whether there were any plans to increase the provision of essential infrastructure for families, such as childcare centres and schools, noting a perceived lack of available places.

Another major concern was the diminishing amount of public open space accessible to residents generally, commensurate with the increasing population.

There was also a disturbingly high level of confusion about Melbourne City Council's rezoning of most of North and West Melbourne's Residential 1 Zone areas to the new General Residential Zone. It became clear that the effects of this zoning change had

not been effectively communicated to most residents.

## Update: Baptist Church development, TP-2014-200

The vacant site at the corner of King, Hawke and Curzon streets, alongside the adjoining residence and hall. The Baptist Church is planning to develop four apartment blocks of four, five and six storeys (72 apartments in total), with a convenience store and a hall for use as a function centre and place of worship.

After 200-plus objections to council, plans to redesign and fence off the Miller/Hawke Street Reserve to the south of the site (not owned by the Baptists) were removed from the planning application, and overshadowing of the park was reduced. The plans have been amended to provide slightly better visibility for cars entering and leaving the site through Hawke Street.

The objections raised concerns about the plan's height, bulk, density, inconsistency with neighbourhood character, reduction in car-parking, demolition of the heritage-listed residence, noise, overshadowing and safety issues. Also raised were concerns that the land, granted free for a place of worship only, was now slated to be converted into a high-density development.

Local residents proposed that the land be purchased or swapped by Melbourne City Council and used to extend the small Miller/Hawke Street Reserve to provide much-needed green space. Lord Mayor Doyle asked the church repeatedly if they would sell the land to council but the church refused.

Residents have raised irregularities in the land title with council, statutory authorities, the Baptist Church and State Government politicians and candidates.

Council approved the development



A planning application has been lodged to turn this two-storey building into a 14-storey development — eight storeys higher than any other buildings in the area

Photo: Janet Graham

application, subject to a number of conditions. These included: full compliance with EPA requirements to remove the carcinogenic topsoil; restrictions on hours of use for the convenience store and hall/function room; removal of the proposed coffee shop; closure of the gap in the Hawke Street median strip; and implementation of a complaints process.

Residents have lodged an appeal with VCAT. To learn more about the land history, read residents' comments, follow the VCAT appeal's progress or donate to the appeal costs, go to [www.nwmelbourne.com](http://www.nwmelbourne.com) for updates.

## Proposed development at 109–129 Ireland Street, West Melbourne

This application covers the triangular block bounded by Ireland and Dryburgh streets and Railway Place opposite North Melbourne Station. The Association and local residents have lodged objections to this proposal, which is for 217 apartments, three underground levels of car-parking and commercial premises at street level, on the following grounds:

- At 14 storeys, it breaches height limits and is contrary to the guidelines established for the area in Design and Development Overlay (DDO) 28.
- Contrary to the developer's claim that urban renewal has stagnated in this area, recent planning approvals for 14–20 Anderson Street, 108–110 Ireland Street and 53–59 Dryburgh Street, as well as the Railway Hotel conversion, have greatly increased residential capacity.
- It is an overdevelopment of the site. The additional resident traffic, daily garbage and recyclable collections and other servicing activities would increase noise and congestion in the area and disrupt the 401 bus service.
- The bulk and height of this proposal, which is eight storeys taller than any other nearby

buildings, are totally out of character with the neighbourhood and would overwhelm the low-rise North Melbourne Station, nearby Victorian dwellings, the heritage Railway Hotel and other, more sensitive, residential developments.

## Planning application for Australia Post site on Rosslyn, Adderley and Dudley streets

The NWMA has also objected to this proposal, which it views as an overdevelopment of the site and contrary to the proper and orderly planning of the district. In addition:

- West Melbourne and surrounding areas have insufficient social and civic infrastructure to support the additional population it would generate, especially schools and open space.
- The site is in a mixed-use area subject to DDO 29, which sets a maximum height of four storeys. This proposal is for 6–19 storeys. The Association would consider any attempt to use the discretionary height provision in DDO 29 to justify this height an abuse of process and inconsistent with good planning practice.
- A development of this scale would add to traffic congestion in West Melbourne and the western end of the CBD, particularly during peak hours.

## NWMA contact details and meetings

Please email [info@nwma.org.au](mailto:info@nwma.org.au) to renew your membership or apply to join the Association. Check out our website at [www.nwma.org.au](http://www.nwma.org.au).

Ordinary general meetings take place at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the Bastow Institute, 601 Queensberry Street (enter from Union Street). Everyone is welcome, whether or not a member, although we do encourage you to support the Association by joining.



Kids rally for a new park in West Melbourne

Photo: Sue Scarfe

# North Melbourne Residents About Integrated Development

## fencing team steadily advancing in the ranks

**Marg Leser**

RAID@3051 has earned a reputation for working with residents, local government and a range of community and planning groups to advocate for planning and development that is matched by linked social infrastructure that addresses the needs of current and future residents of all ages. It seeks quality planning outcomes for residents of postcode 3051.

During 2014 RAID supported a number of campaigns to encourage appropriately scaled housing developments that cater for future community growth. It also called for transparent, independent planning appeal processes. An overview of these campaigns and updates on their status follow.

### 1. Overdevelopment of key sites

#### Woolworths

The Woolworths site was advertised for re-sale in March 2014 and is currently 'under offer' to a developer. Woolworths obtained VCAT approval in May 2013 for a large supermarket, bottle shop and over 300 apartments on a triangular site bordered by Canning Street, Macaulay Road and Vaughan Terrace, North Melbourne.

Since 2011 RAID has opposed the size, lack of open space and impact on amenity and traffic of this proposed development.

#### Corner Shiel and Haines streets and Gardiner Reserve

RAID is concerned about the scale and impact of proposed developments of 6–10 storeys in this vicinity that would overshadow the Gardiner Reserve (Haines Street) playground and open space. Over 100 apartments are proposed on four adjoining sites: 110–112 and 114–116 Haines Street, and 1 and 3–5 Shiel Street.

#### 2. Housing standards

RAID is critical of the high density and poor design of many new developments. The City of Melbourne's draft housing strategy Homes for People states that a key goal is to improve design and environmental standards

of new apartments. It also states that some of Melbourne's recent developments have a significantly higher density than is permitted in many overseas cities.

The City of Melbourne is reputed to be the fastest growing municipality in Australia. Its residential population increased from 60,000 to more than 116,000 in the decade 2001–2011. It is expected to grow to more than 150,000 people by 2021 and to almost 200,000 by 2031.

#### 3. Integrated planning for the future

The Hotham Hill/Arden–Macaulay zone is already in the midst of rapid change. Multiple developments are under construction without any evidence of much-needed accompanying infrastructure — schools, childcare and aged-care facilities, playgrounds, transport and traffic measures.

State and local government appear to be approving developments in a policy vacuum without provision of key infrastructure and services. The website of the Victorian Government Architect currently notes that:

"From parks and gardens, to buildings and streets, our urban spaces provide enormous opportunity for creating public value ... Design quality affects our health, well-being, prosperity and the way we engage with our communities. Good design creates economically, socially and environmentally sustainable places that serve our needs and enrich our cultural identity."

RAID has concerns with the new planning zones and made a presentation at the Residential Zones Standing Advisory Committee hearing. RAID approves the decision of City of Melbourne planning officers to allocate some North Melbourne areas of high sensitivity to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, after previously identifying the whole area as suitable for General Residential Zone. However, many streets seem to have been zoned arbitrarily without due consideration of context.

#### 4. Inner Melbourne Planning Alliance (IMPA)

RAID is a founding member of IMPA, which

is a non-partisan, not-for-profit association that brings together community, professional, industry and business bodies and committed individuals from across Melbourne. Its focus is to engage with government and other relevant bodies on the major changes proposed for inner Melbourne.

#### 5. East West Link (EWL)

As a non-partisan organisation, RAID has monitored the positions of different political parties in relation to the EWL and is aware that preferences of smaller parties with undeclared positions on the EWL may have a significant impact on the election results.

Despite unresolved court challenges and despite not having released the full business case for the project, the State Government signed contracts for the EWL in the run-up to the state election. The ALP said it would tear up the EWL contracts if it won power.

RAID has serious concerns about the EWL and its likely impact on North Melbourne and surrounding areas. If it proceeds it will divert money away from other vital areas of expenditure such as hospitals, schools, social services, level crossing removals and public transport.

While this is not the only issue in the current election campaign, it is indicative of ill-conceived planning and transport decisions made without independent scrutiny.

#### RAID objectives for 2015

- Monitoring developments that will significantly impact on 3051 (with particular emphasis on physical and community amenity, traffic and transport)
- Working constructively with City of Melbourne and other planning authorities
- Linking with aligned groups concerned with planning and community infrastructure

#### Connect to RAID@3051

For further information about RAID, or to become a member, email [raid3051@gmail.com.au](mailto:raid3051@gmail.com.au). Access the RAID website, [www.3051-integrated.com](http://www.3051-integrated.com), or follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/3051-RAID](http://www.facebook.com/pages/3051-RAID) or Twitter @Raid3051.



Shadows lengthen at the Woolworths site on Canning Street

Photo: Marg Leser



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Domenic Yates with his medal

## Doone Clifton

In 2010 the first Commonwealth Fencing Championships were held in North Melbourne.

The Arden Street Recreation Reserve had built an Olympic-standard 8 piste fencing facility, becoming the home of the State Fencing Centre. For those not in the know, the piste (also called the 'strip') is the marked fencing area and is required to be 14 metres long and between 1.5 and 2 metres wide.

In April 2010 the Victorian Fencing Academy started beginner's classes after school for kids. From then on, a number of children from Errol Street Primary began walking over together every Wednesday. Some stayed for a year or so, some kept going.

With the introduction of fencing to the area, local kids began competing in competitions.

Our University High fencing team has travelled down to Geelong for the Lawrence Cup each year for the last three years. They have been steadily improving their position each year.

Last year Domenic Yates won Gold for University High in the Junior Secondary School Epee and this year both Meredith and Domenic won Gold in the Schools competition.

This year was the first year that anyone from the current crop of local fencing team has gone on to the National Junior Championships in Sydney. Both Campbell Waters and Domenic Yates made the trip. They competed in the Under 17 Epee and did well against stiff (and much older) competition.

Earlier in the week Domenic had competed in the Under 15 Epee winning a Bronze in the individual and also captaining the Victoria team to a Bronze.

Domenic and other fencers from the Arden Street Victorian Fencing Academy are participating in a Fencing Camp at the Australian Institute of Sport this December.

How fortunate we are to have such a great, inspiring facility in our midst!

## HISTORY

# North Melbourne Town Hall: in search of time

Bill Hannan

My father was devoted to having the right time. When he wound our mantel clock he would check it against his pocket watch. To get the right time on his watch he would check it against a railway station clock or one of the clocks that tram drivers used to key into as they left the stop.

No doubt there are Freudian theories on this subject but I used to think my father was attentive to the right time so that he could be waiting for the tram in the morning and prepare for the radio news at night. I now think his devotion to the right time might also have been a hangover from the days when nobody knew the time.

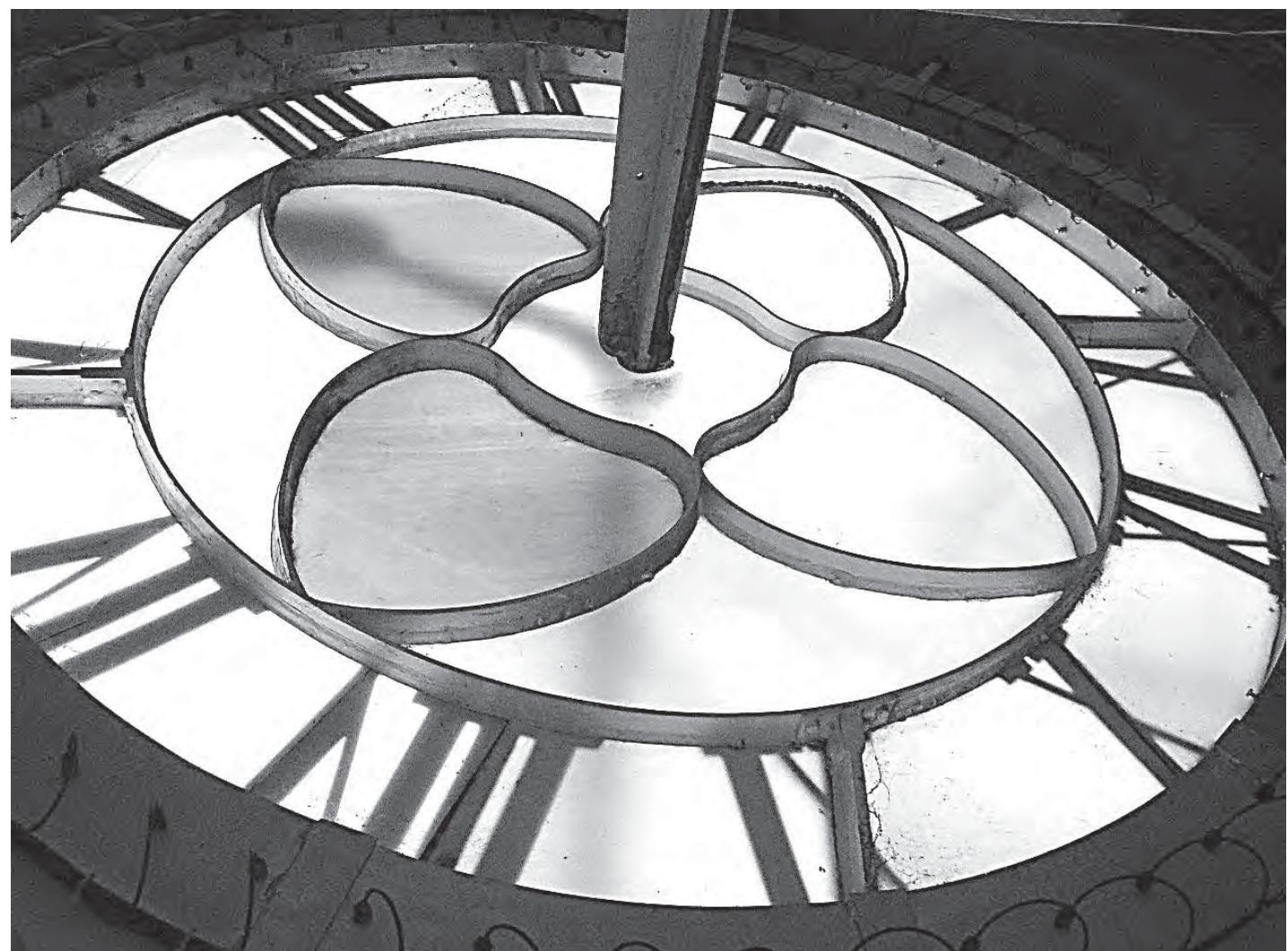
Today, people are more likely to check a public clock against their mobiles. We have the right time in our pockets. When Hotham's public clock was set going on 24 May 1879, just on five months after its bells were first heard on Christmas Eve 1878, the right time became visible to the people of North and West Melbourne.

More than that: the people found their identity confirmed. "North and West Melbourne people," said an interviewee to the Hotham History Project, "are defined as those who can see the North Melbourne Town Hall clock." See, but not hear, for the chimes have seldom rung since the clock's electrification in the middle of the 20th century, and then only briefly.

In the colony of Victoria in 1879 the man most likely to know the right time was Robert Ellery, the government astronomer and designer of the Hotham clock. Born in Surrey, England, Ellery had followed his father into medical practice but his deepest interest was in astronomy, which he pursued as an amateur whenever he could.

He turned up in Melbourne in 1851, as the gold rushes were about to precipitate the founding of North Melbourne, and barely 18 months later, reports *The Illustrated Australian News for Home Readers* of 25 April 1868, he "was invited by the Government to establish and manage an observatory at Williamstown for the purposes of commercial astronomy".

"This office he accepted and has held ever since, first under the title of Superintendent of Observatory, and since under that of Government Astronomer. In 1854 the Williamstown end of the Melbourne and Williamstown telegraph line, the first erected in the colony, was placed under his charge in addition to his astronomical duties. In 1858 he was appointed to superintend the geodetic survey of Victoria ... He was elected Fellow



One of the four North Melbourne Town Hall clocks as Spring Fling visitors saw it from inside the tower

Photo: Janet Graham

of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1857; President of the Royal Society of Victoria in 1866; and re-elected in 1867." Clearly an amateur no longer.

Ellery's appointment to the Williamstown observatory tells us most of what we need to know about the conquest of the right time in Victoria.

In horse-drawn days, news of the world arrived by coach and the coach moved on when it had all its passengers, the last of whom would dash from the pub. Williamstown, however, had our first colonial railway line. Trains need standardised time and a way of knowing what it is, otherwise they're apt to collide on shared lines. The first examples of standardised time are known as railway time in both Great Britain (1840s) and the USA (1883).

Railway time was not always welcomed — local time would be displayed beside it and the likes of school committees disciplined for wanting to adopt it. Further, we see that the Williamstown line was connected to

the telegraph. The stationmaster waving a telegraph is a familiar scene in Westerns, for America was undergoing the same revolution in communications.

In our case, Robert Ellery was telegraphing the right time from his observatory in Williamstown and subsequently his new observatory in the Domain. By the 1870s the right time could be sent to every local post office, which, in many towns, as in Melbourne, had a clock tower telling the right time.

Eventually, various versions of railway time morphed into Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and successive versions of universal time, finally arriving in our own pockets.

The plaque that Spring Fling climbers to the tower see on the massive clock mechanism, names, along with the councillors of the day, Ellery as its designer and Thomas Gaunt as its maker.

Gaunt had a famous jewellery shop in Bourke Street where a large clock and a weather report that was also printed daily in

*The Argus* provided Melburnians with a way to check their watches and prepare for rain. Though a landmark watchmaker and jeweller, Gaunt left his mark on many public clocks and on the chronometers that give official times at racecourses around the world.

Ellery thought his design compared with the best in the world. Gaunt was a master craftsman. All of this story tells us why Hotham Council was determined to have the best of clocks despite the very substantial cost it added to the town hall building, whose incorporated post office would receive the right time from Mr Ellery.

The clock mechanism and bells alone added at least a 10th to the building cost, without allowing for the cost of the tower itself. A small price really for bringing North Melbourne into the modern industrial, punctual, mobile age.

Bill Hannan is an author and member of the Hotham History Project.

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# The Audacious Adventures of Dr Louis Lawrence Smith

Michael Roche

A book title that promises audacious adventures has a lot to live up to, but thankfully local historian John Poynter does not disappoint, delivering adventures aplenty in two volumes and 644 pages.

The subject of his study is Dr Louis Lawrence (LL) Smith, whose range of interests and achievements in colonial Victoria is simply astonishing.

Poynter came across LL in an archive while researching the life of another colonial figure but his connection to this man is somewhat more personal. His wife, Marion, is LL's grand-daughter.

I met John and Marion Poynter recently in their North Melbourne home, which contains several artefacts from Dr Louis Lawrence Smith's life. It is a place where the past still feels very much alive.

"He was once a very familiar name, but hardly anybody has heard of him these days, except if they happen to be interested in racing, the history of medicine or the history of the wine industry," says Poynter.

So who was Dr Louis Lawrence Smith? Well, he was many people: a medical doctor, druggist, politician, prison reformer, author, publisher, theatrical entrepreneur, art collector, museum curator, farmer, winemaker and a breeder of racehorses.

As Poynter writes, "the eight-hour day was not for him".

LL was born in Southwark, London, on 15 May 1830. His French mother ran a shop and raised two boys on her own after her husband cleared out. The family struggled financially until a better life in Australia beckoned.

The young LL, having completed his medical apprenticeship under a couple of London surgeons, took his new qualification to the young colony of Victoria. He sailed in on the *Oriental* and arrived in Port Phillip on 11 December 1852. It was the heady days of the gold rush.

The first volume of *The Audacious Adventures of Dr Louis Lawrence Smith* — by far the more entertaining of the two — is largely based on letters that LL wrote home to his mother. These letters offer a view into his own inner and outer worlds, his burgeoning medical practice, his entry into politics, scandals with courts and the press and everyday life in the colony.

By the mid-1850s LL had established a medical practice in Bourke Street East, where he lived with his first wife and their children.

Life for the young doctor was never dull. In 1856 he wrote to his mother about being called out at 3.00am by the police to see to a murdered woman in a 'house of ill repute'.

"It was a frightful sight for a man just



A fantastic turn out for the launch of *The Audacious Adventures of Dr Louis Lawrence Smith*

popped out of bed, half asleep and taken unaware," he wrote.

When not answering calls in the middle of the night, LL was writing and publishing on medical matters in the colony. He mostly offered common-sense advice, such as his 1863 medical almanac, which continued to be published many years after his death.

He also wrote on mental illness, publishing *Self-Preservation: Insanity, Popularly Treated* in the late 1880s. In this book he followed the traditional thinking of the time that there was no greater cause of mental illness than the solitary vice of masturbation. "Nature takes her most terrible revenge on those who offend in this outrageous fashion," LL wrote.

Interestingly, he also listed alcohol as a cause of insanity but was far more tolerant towards it than masturbation. This possibly makes sense given one of his other careers was winemaking, which saw him win the second order of merit at Melbourne's International Exhibition of 1880–81 for his 'Crème de Bouzy', ahead of entries such as Moet and Chandon and Krug.

Poynter argues that LL had a compulsion to write and speak in public, so it is not surprising that he took to politics. He entered as the independent member for South Bourke and was elected to the colony's second parliament in 1859. This was a time in politics before the dominance of the two-party system.

"They weren't under party discipline and they could say what they wanted to say and it made the debates much more interesting," says Poynter.

LL's political views were considered radically liberal. He argued for equality, defended the Chinese against racist attacks and promoted a concept of prison rehabilitation quite advanced for its time. But on the local Aboriginal population he remained silent. "Like many people at the time he assumed they were dying out," says Poynter.

LL died in 1910 at the age of 80, survived by his second wife and several more children.

Throughout the second volume, Poynter tells many more of LL's adventures as the colony entered federation and Melbourne became the nation's capital. He does offer the reader a word of advice though. Poynter writes: "The reader is urged to follow one habit of LL's: once a chapter in life began to bore him he turned over yet another new leaf and moved on to the next."

My advice would be to start with the first chapter, titled 'Episode: Dr Smith's Free Lunch'. On 28 November 1867, a free banquet for the masses was held alongside the Yarra River. The banquet was to celebrate the arrival of Prince Alfred.

The catering for this huge feast included 120,000 pounds of meat, 70 tonnes of potatoes, 600 gallons of beer and a drinking foun-



Former Hawke Minister Barry Jones (left) with John Poynter (right) at the launch of *The Audacious Adventures of Dr. Louis Lawrence Smith* earlier this year

Photo: Ms Jane

tain flowing with red wine.

This grand idea was LL's, bringing all classes together in a demonstration of his egalitarian principles. The organisers, however, underestimated the crowd, which swelled to 80,000 people under the blazing sun on a hot and windy day.

Sadly, the Prince never made it. When word spread that Prince Alfred would not be appearing, all sense of decorum was lost and a riot soon ensued. *The Age* reported scenes of wild revelry and debauchery. The free banquet had turned into a free orgy.

*The Audacious Adventures of Dr Louis Lawrence Smith* is published by Australian Scholarly Publishing. You can order a copy from the website, [www.scholarly.info](http://www.scholarly.info), RRP \$69.95.

## North & West Melbourne Association Inc.

Working together for the future of our community



Email: [info@nwma.org.au](mailto:info@nwma.org.au)

Post: PO Box 102  
North Melbourne Vic 3051

Web: [www.nwma.org.au](http://www.nwma.org.au)

### Who are we?

We are a group of people who live or work in North and West Melbourne, a community that is very much part of the inner-city life of Melbourne.

### What are our aims?

They include:

- promoting a sense of community in our eclectic, culturally diverse neighbourhood
- protecting and enhancing the built and natural environment of the area
- enabling community contacts

### What do we do?

The NWMA represents its members by canvassing their views, concerns and proposals on issues of community interest to local, state and federal governments.

### We cordially invite you to join the Association and:

- share your community concerns with us
- attend meetings
- join an interest-based group
- attend our quarterly social functions
- expand your community contacts

### and, if you wish, help us to:

- monitor City of Melbourne Council agendas and minutes
- represent the Association on committees and delegations
- prepare submissions on strategic issues
- monitor planning permit applications
- promote sustainable transport and manage traffic issues
- support our internal processes, including website management.

### An active community is a progressive community

Whether you have lived or worked here for many years or have just moved to North or West Melbourne, one thing you probably enjoy is the livable quality of the built environment.

The North & West Melbourne Association has worked for more than 30 years to maintain the amenity and enhance the wellbeing of residents, workers and visitors.

Please contact us if you would like to share your skills. You don't need to be an expert, just keen to be involved and be part of the team!



Supported by the City of Melbourne Community Services Grants Program

## YOUTH &amp; EDUCATION

# Camp for Kids organised by North Melbourne's police officers

**Daniel Doody**

The Melbourne North Police Station, as part of the Carlton Police Community Consultative Committee (PCCC), has come up with a new way to tackle the antisocial behaviour of young people at risk of turning to crime.

For the last 16 years, the committee has been organising Camp for Kids trips twice a year for kids who have difficulty coping at school or whose parents can't afford to pay for excursions.

The PCCC currently has 16 organisations located in the north regional area that are part of the committee. North Melbourne Football Club, Carlton Rotary Club and North Melbourne Language and Learning are some of the groups that help bring ideas and a community closer together.

North Melbourne's police station is a part of the committee's board and, in conjunction with the PCCC, focuses on developing a local initiative that helps young people who are at risk of offending or becoming victims of crime.

The Camp for Kids program was established in 1998. Since then, police and youth workers have successfully conducted over 45 camps. Police work closely with teachers from local schools to identify kids who may be eligible for the program.

Police meet with the parents and send a

welcome pack inviting the youngsters to join the camp.

The camp involves 20 young people selected from various schools going on a three-day trip to Victorian Blue Light Camp in Maldon, where they take part in the program set up by police and youth workers.

At the start of the weekend, leaders take responsibility for five kids. These groups earn points by participating, listening and joining in sporting activities.

Through the program the kids learn the importance of working in a team and respecting each other. They also get to interact with other kids who may have been in similar situations to their own.

The participants also learn that simple disciplines of life, such as not turning up late for activities and setting the table for breakfast, lunch and dinner, are all part of taking responsibility and gaining confidence within themselves.

If kids are well behaved and take on board all the positive outcomes from the camp, they receive prizes in recognition of their skills.

The objectives of the camp program are to promote positive relations between police and young people, develop leadership qualities and bring about confidence and self-awareness.

Community liaison officer Nick Parassis is stationed at the North Melbourne police station and is the organiser of Camp for Kids.

"It's amazing," he says. "You see the difference between Friday and Monday with



**Fun times at Camp for Kids**

*Photo: Nick Parassis*

a few kids who would be really quiet and shy on the bus, but at the end of the weekend every other kid is gravitating towards them.

"Quite often we see some of the kids around the neighbourhood with their mum or dad. They would see the police car and they would come running up and say to their parents 'That's Nick from the camp'."

In the last few years the camp has become very popular and Mr Parassis has seen an

increase in the number of kids wanting to sign up or return to the camp for another weekend.

The organisers do not take payments, but running the camp can be quite expensive. Victoria Police welcome any donations.

*If you would like to donate to the Camp for Kids program, contact community liaison officer Nick Parassis at Melbourne North Police Station on 8379 0800.*

# North Melbourne Primary School students learn the power of the pen

**Robyn Phelan**

North Melbourne Primary School (NMPS) students learn a broad range of writing skills. Last term Grade 3 students undertook a writing activity that resulted in some inspiring outcomes. Teacher, Anna-Maria elaborates further:

"As part of our transactional writing unit, students were encouraged to put what they had learnt into practice and contact a school stakeholder regarding a very relevant issue at NMPS. The issue was the hugely increasing student numbers with no space to accommodate these increases. Students crafted a

business letter addressing the issue to send to a local or federal member of parliament. The response from all those contacted was fantastic with some students having their names read out in parliament, and others receiving personalised responses. It really gave them a sense of empowerment and understanding that they must act if they want to make situations known or see change occur."

Two students, Tina and Alexandra, received a response from Jennifer Kanis who invited them to morning tea at Parliament House where they discussed their worries about their school and education. The girls reflected on the experience by writing:

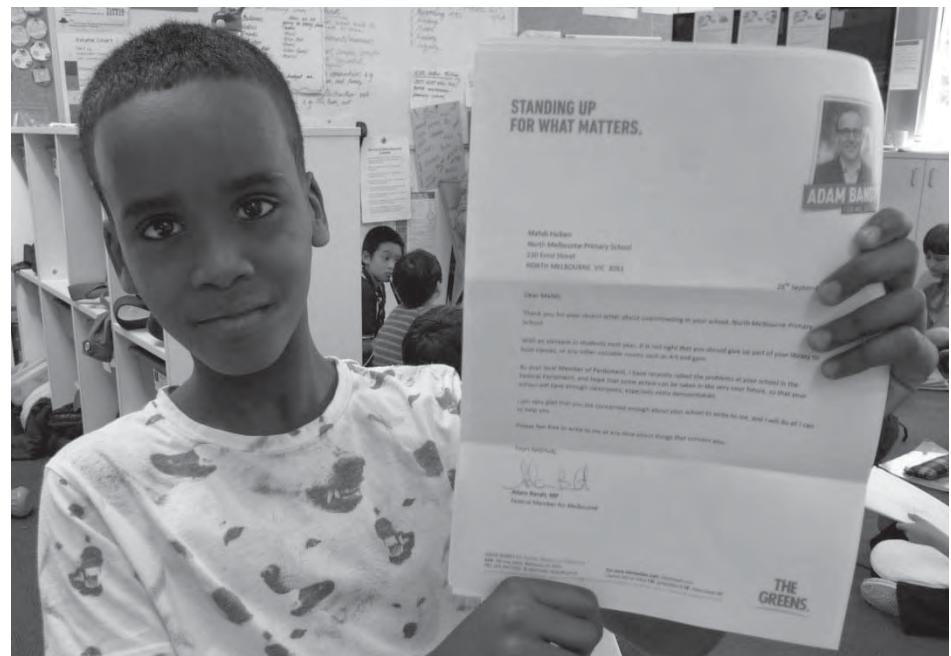
"On Tuesday 16 September, we went to

Parliament House to see Jennifer Kanis, the Member for North Melbourne. Jennifer had said she really liked our letters, and invited us over to Parliament House to meet her. We were very excited when we found out! Jane, her assistant, took us upstairs to the cafe where Jennifer was waiting for us, as well as Matt and Alex's Mum, Shelley. Jennifer was very kind and paid for four drinks — two lattes and two freshly squeezed apple juices, although we didn't really like it that much. We talked about the school population and how it is getting bigger and bigger. We also met Dan Andrews, the leader of the opposition, who listened to our concerns as well."

Classmate Mahdi received a personalised

letter from federal Greens member Adam Bandt on 26 September 2014 saying, "... it is not right that you should give up part of your library to hold classes, or any other valuable rooms such as art and gym." Bandt also included in his letter a copy of the parliamentary speech he had given three days earlier. In this speech, he quoted other NMPS students' opinions, such as Sidney who wrote: "Next year our school will be stuffed with students. I would like to ask you if we could have a few demountables so we will not be so jammed."

This was such a valuable experience for students to find their voice and express opinions within the realm of state politics.



**Mahdi proudly displaying his letter from Deputy Leader for Melbourne, Adam Bandt**

*Photo: Robyn Phelan*

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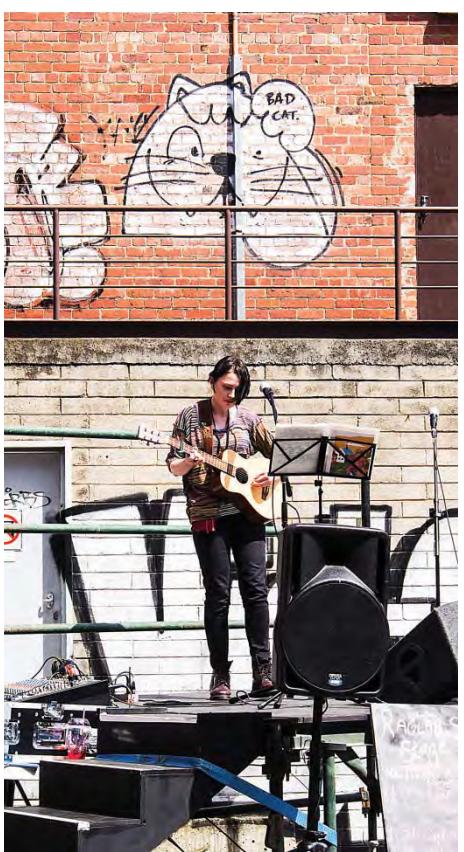
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## SPRING FLING 2014

The busking stage *Photo: Jim Weatherill*Volunteers handing out the Spring Fling Festival Guide  
*Photo: Jim Weatherill*NAVIGATE THE FESTIVAL  
*Photo: Jim Weatherill*The Auction Room tables spill out across the street for the festival *Photo: Jim Weatherill*

Saman Indomelb perform one of the most popular traditional dances of Indonesia, the Saman dance

*Photo: Jim Weatherill**Photo: Jim Weatherill**Photo: Adam Falloon*



# Spring Fling round-up

## Ezme Webb

The 38th Spring Fling Street Festival brought live music and food stalls to Errol Street, Victoria Street and surrounding lanes on Sunday 19 October. The News was there to get a round-up on the day.

This annual community festival is organised by The Centre: Connecting Community in North and West Melbourne Inc.

Michele, The Centre's acting administration and information officer, said the event was a great success: "I've spoken with a few stallholders and they're very happy with the sales today."

Michele emphasised the importance of volunteers to the success of the event. "What a lot of people don't realise is the preparation that goes into the Spring Fling, from the minute one finishes until the next year. Today would not have been possible without Emma and Phil and the amazing team they've led. In the final countdown, they put in an awesome amount of hours."

"They're just incredible young people

and they're a credit to themselves and their families and to this organisation. They really, really work hard. And they're very good leaders. That's why I think today's been so successful."

Hannah and Zak, wood-fired pizza stallholders, said the diversity of the Spring Fling attendees was one of the highlights of their day.

"There have been really nice people and a mixed crowd as well, from tiny kids to old men and women, and everybody in between," Zak said.

Natalie, of Natalie's (vegan and gluten-free) Cupcakes, said she jumped at the opportunity to hold a stall after having a great time with the North Melbourne Craft Market at last year's Spring Fling.

"I've been performing as well today. That was lots of fun, on the Worldview stage with the Brandragon Morris dancing."

Punters John, Josh, Mel and Tiff said events like the Spring Fling were one of the best things about living in North Melbourne. "It's a perfect little spot," Tiff said.

"North Melbourne for life!" added Mel.

## POLITICS & ENVIRONMENT

# A campaign of fear or awareness?

## Ezme Webb

From late September until the end of October, the 'See Something Say Something' campaign featured prominently at Flagstaff and Southern Cross Stations.

A Victorian Department of Transport spokesperson said that the campaign's purpose was to remind the public to be alert and report suspicious activity. The campaign was part of a broader strategy to encourage awareness and vigilance after the federal government raised the terrorism alert level.

The question 'who controls the decision-making process of our public spaces?' was posed to candidates for the seat of Melbourne in the imminent Victorian state election.

Sitting Labor Member for Melbourne Jennifer Kanis said she is concerned about the prevalence of advertising in public space and the inability to avoid it, like on public transport.

Ms Kanis believes that advertising seen by everyone needs to be appropriate and would pursue the matter if re-elected as part of a new Labor government.

Shadow Minister for Government Scrutiny, Martin Pakula, recently stated a Labor

government would legislate new advertising standards, ending tax-payer dollars wasted on "blatantly political" messages.

Greens Candidate Ellen Sandell believes enhancing people's fears has the capacity to incite community division.

"People are pretty shocked the government are using that public space like our train stations to spread this campaign of fear.

"It is deliberately marginalizing certain elements of the community, particularly Muslim women because they're the most recognizably Muslim because of the headdress they wear and it's just awful."

Ms Sandell works with women from inner-Melbourne's large Muslim community. "They're telling us they feel more scared than they did after September 11. A lot are getting harassed on the street. We've seen incidents of violence on the rise.

"The government is playing to this campaign of fear that is actually resulting in women in particular being harassed and marginalized and ostracized on the streets. That's not the kind of community I think we should have in Australia."

Regarding the decision-making of our public space, Ms Sandell said there's a corrupting influence over city planning.

"Things that affect people's lives in a negative way - we shouldn't allow big business profits to be more important than the good of the community."

"Big business is so embedded in our lives and I think both Liberal and Labor are really at the whim of these vested interests. And it will take a lot of unravelling. But there's things we can do immediately from the state government perspective."

Scrutinizing business donations to political parties is a passion of the Greens, said Ellen Sandell.

The Australian Sex Party (ASXP)'s freedom of information policy demands greater transparency on government decision-making.

"Government information should belong to the public," said ASXP Candidate for Melbourne, Joel Murray.

"If you've got that transparency and that accountability, the Victorian Government is going to start responding in a much more ethical manner because you've got people being able to look up the information immediately and hold government to account."

"We know that from some campaigns the current Victorian government are running, they're certainly not based on fact."

"There's a lot of propaganda that seems to

be floating around particularly in relation to the public transport projects."

"If it's space for the public you should be able to have the enjoyment of that space as an individual with very little interference."

"I think there is terrorism hysteria. If we're bringing in laws because one or two individuals have gone over to join the Syrian state ... to get just one or two people out of the whole 22-million people that live in this country, the percentage is so low, yet all this money is being spent."

Liberal Candidate for Melbourne, Ed Huntingford, did not respond to phone nor email enquiries.

Similarly, Public Transport MP, Terry Mulder, did not address questions about the decision-making process for transport advertising.

The Victorian Department of Transport were able to respond to requests for the reports, research and statistics upon which the decision to feature the 'See something, say something' campaign was made.

When questions were raised about the resulting feedback regarding its effectiveness, the Victorian Department of Transport directed the matter to the Federal Government and Victoria Police.



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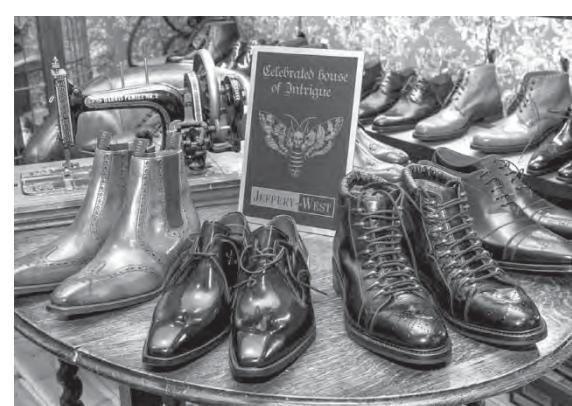
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# A window onto the Australian Garden History Society

**Phoebe La Gerche-Wijsman**

If the spate of ABC television programming is anything to go by, archaeology and architecture continue their resurgence in popularity with programs such as *Who's Been Sleeping in My House?*, *Restoration Home* and *Grand Designs Australia*.

Unfortunately, these programs only touch lightly on the Australian Garden History Society's first objective: to promote knowledge and research, encouraging appreciation and concern for our parks, gardens and cultural landscapes as part of Australia's heritage.

Yet this is an area not only of Australian importance, but also of worldwide concern, perhaps even more so today with the emphasis on climate change, carbon credits and how we manage our own backyards. Knowledge of our landscapes, past and present, including gardens and parks, is crucial to understanding and conserving our environment, our health and perhaps even our future.

Surrounded as we are by some of Victoria's most historic parks, all North and West Melbourne residents need to be aware of groups that act to protect these important cultural landscapes and heritage spaces.

Within Australia is an organisation devoted entirely to this cause and one which every member of the Australian community can be part of.

The Australian Garden History Society (AGHS) was formed in 1980 to bring together people from diverse backgrounds with an interest in the many aspects of garden history, including horticulture, landscape design and landscape architecture.

Its primary concern is to promote interest in, research into and systematically identify, record and restore historic gardens and cultural landscapes.

The AGHS is a far-sighted, nationwide, not-for-profit organisation with active branches in each state and some regional areas, all run by enthusiastic volunteers. It focuses on a number



Illustration: Adam Falloon

of significant ongoing projects that engage the wider community and has an important role in advocacy, providing a link between community and government, primarily at local and state level.

It also makes or supports others' submissions concerning potential impacts on important publicly accessible landscapes such as parks and gardens and significant historic trees and avenues, and supports the heritage listing and protection of cultural landscapes.

State and regional branches actively research their neighbourhoods and work to ensure significant gardens and parks are celebrated, better understood and included on local statutory registers.

The Society itself works with other affiliate organisations including the National Trust of Australia, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA), the Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS) and government heritage agencies in each state, such as Heritage Victoria.

This has never been truer than with the Society's recent involvement in the

application for Royal Park in Parkville to be listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

Alongside many local groups and residents of the North and West Melbourne, Parkville, Kensington and Flemington area opposing the State Government's plans for the East West Link to cut through Royal Park, the AGHS presented a submission to the Planning Panels Victoria public hearing in April, outlining the cultural significance of this park.

Similar advocacy is underway in Sydney opposing aspects of WestConnex, as it attempts to slice through inner western Sydney's parks and gardens.

The AGHS has assisted practical conservation of historic gardens across Australia through working bees, financial contributions and obtaining grants for works.

Additionally, the AGHS has an oral history project responsible for initiating and funding the collection of oral histories, both nationally and regionally, of those who have played a significant role in the Society's evolution and, more broadly, in the development of Australia's gardens.

The Society's Kindred Spirits Fund fosters research and publication of papers such as those that make up *Studies in Australian Garden History*. So far these comprise three volumes of in-depth research on a range of themes such as forestry, water management and the management of gardens. Planning of volume 4 is underway.

The AGHS has also supported a number of important publications documenting our relationship with the Australian landscape and gardening. These include: *The Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens* (2002); *Planting the Nation* (2001), which explores Australian gardens and landscapes from 1890 to 1914; *Gardenesque: A Celebration of Australian Gardening* (2004); and *Lost Gardens of Sydney* (2008).

Society members are a vibrant, energetic mix of the community — from hands-on 'dirty' gardeners to academics, nursery owners and professionals — who enjoy a busy social program of garden visits and functions, special guided bus tours, practical demonstrations for tasks like beekeeping, seminars and lectures by a range of passionate speakers. Highly enjoyable and stimulating conferences take place in a different part of Australia each year.

These conferences offer a vital opportunity to hear lectures by leading academics on current research, recent conservation and management challenges and achievements. They stimulate inspiring discussion and debate.

The enthusiasm of the more than 1800 members stems from the knowledge that they are contributing to both the past and the future of the Australian landscape while having a great deal of fun doing so.

If you think that uncovering a lost garden border, restoring a fountain, replanting an old orchard or discovering photographs of a previously unknown garden can't possibly be as exciting as viewing the final walk through a newly restored house on the other side of the world, don't take our word for it — come and see for yourself!

For further information visit [www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au](http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au)



Royal Park vista

Image courtesy of Ron Jones

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# Pining for pine — seasonal gardening ideas

**Phoebe La Gerche-Wijsman**

**C**hristmas for me is all about the scent. A humid and heady combination of pine, eucalyptus, cloves, and Christmas lilies. It's one of my favourite things about Christmas. Yet the humble pine tree isn't the most ideal Christmas tree in the inner city, particularly if you are after a living tree to bring inside for a month each year or trying to dispose of the dead one in January.

So if you're after a tree for a month you really probably need either something similar to a large bonsai that won't be too heavy to bring inside or another alternative.

- Miniature pines

Most nurseries have an interesting mix of pines to purchase in pots this time of year. They grow in all sorts of shapes and sizes and can be trimmed into the quintessential conical and kept bonsai-size or at the very least, kept in a pot that will be not too difficult to get inside.

I recently took myself off to a suburban nursery to see what they had. The ones that stood out to me were the *Pinus strobus* 'Louie' and *Picea omorika* 'Gunter', for their lovely asymmetric shape and the *Juniperus chinensis* 'Stricta' if you're after a nice dense conical shaped tree.

- Cut flowers/branches

An alternative is the vase full of pine/spruce



Image courtesy Wikimedia Commons

or even eucalyptus branches. You get the scent, little branches for decorations, and much easier to chop down into mulch for the garden or your worm farm. Speak to our

local florists about ordering bunches of pine/spruce/eucalyptus on the lead up to Christmas. They will also be able to get you some bare branches, which you can arrange in a

vase and again decorated just like the traditional tree.

- The Cut Tree – love the scent!

Available from a variety of places, to get the best out of your tree, buy it as close to Christmas as possible, on a cool day and make sure it hasn't been sitting in the sun. The only issue then will be disposing of it once Christmas has come to an end. Some tree sellers near the Market, I think, have a 'pick-up' service available when it's time to dispose of the tree, which is a far better alternative than abandoning it in a laneway, pocket park, or just by the side of the footpath.

And one last thing...presents! Plants, particularly the edible variety are a great and cheap present for friends and family. Potting them up is also a great way to involve children in learning about gardening.

You can grab a pot or even a large tin (like ones which used to have tomatoes in them) and plant them up with a mix of salad plants like rocket and lettuce; Basil, parsley and thyme, a cherry tomato and chives, or some edible flowers like marigolds, nasturtiums and pansies. Whatever combo you think they'd like to eat.

Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year to you all.

## SPORT & HEALTH

# The importance of harmonising your home

**Chantelle Heldt**

**T**here are a variety of definitions for the word 'home.' The Macquarie Dictionary describes it as *any place of existence or refuge: a heavenly home*, while the Oxford English Dictionary describes it as *a place where something originates, flourishes, or is most typically found; the seat, centre, or birthplace of an activity*. These are both alternative yet trustworthy depictions of what a home ideally is.

*Feng shui* is the application of Chinese traditions in which one harmonises one's surrounding environment. *Feng shui* is the consideration of the space in which one gathers after a long day of toil. A home tells the story of a person's life; it says a lot about what we feel about ourselves and the world around us.

*Feng shui* tells us that household objects can give us hints of the internal shifts happening in a person's subconscious mind. Are homes really a mirror of our identity and/or reality?

Another course of study, similar to *feng shui* and related to harmonising the home environment, is called 'building biology'. It is concerned with the relationship between the inhabitant and their habitat of choice. According to building biology, high frequency radiation and electro-magnetic fields are important to our ability to harness the energies within a home.

Building biologist Narelle Haw also uses design psychology to help clients design a 'home blueprint', a plan that works to sustain a home's inner balance. This approach views the home as a spiritual shelter and sacred place of ease.

According to building biology, the

expansion of a space focuses on neutralising and decluttering unnecessary items in the home. This is brought about by working with the hierarchy of space available in a home, the placement of interior decorations, and the specific placing of furniture. All of these things contribute to the overall aura of a home and helps the inhabitant renew their life.

The style of older houses in North and West Melbourne is fairly uniform. Our beautiful 'worker's cottages' are often long and thin with a single frontage and little space in either front or back yard. These houses are often tricky for interior design and can become cluttered.

Through practicing *feng shui* one can develop an awareness of objects. Consultants often look at the subject matter of an inhabitant's household art. Perhaps it indicates a feeling of contentment, or maybe it acts as

a constant reminder of what you want, where you want to go or what you want to become.

Perhaps the answers to a harmonious house really are hidden in plain-sight. You may find that you have a preference for a particular style of wallpaper, textured tile, lighting or arrangement of certain items. If you are comfortable and it brings a sense of calm, then it is a positive energy or 'good vibe'.

By working to recognise how you interact with your own home and what really makes you appreciate your living space you can encourage a healthier and more balanced environment for yourself and your guests.

The art of *feng shui* (or building biology) can be practised in either traditional or alternative new ways, but ideally people simply need the awareness of their relationship with their home and how it makes them feel.

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Decluttering your home is an important step towards harmonising your environment

# Finding health and balance in yoga

**Janine Barron & Chris Addison**

*Set the tone for holiday celebrations with a healthy and balanced approach*

Sometimes holidays can be stressful and emotional — a time when you become frazzled and disconnected. Balance is the key in everything you do. Balance your socialising with a yoga practice the next day. Eat chocolate when your heart wants it and salad when your body needs it. Wear high heels on Saturday and walk barefoot on Sunday. Go shopping at the mall and then sit down to meditate. Living high and low is part of the season — move and stay still.

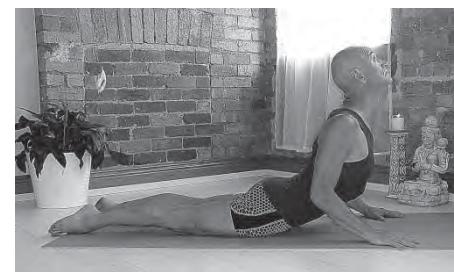
*Embrace all sides of who you are*  
Be brave, bold and spontaneous and let that complement your abilities to find silence, patience, modesty and peace. Aim for balance. Bring your mind into the present — simply observing your breath will do this for you.

*Be kind to yourself.*

Yoga will help you manage your stress by staying grounded and enjoying the present. You will feel better both mentally and physically and stay focused on what is really important — spending time celebrating with family and friends.



**Corpse Pose**



**Cobra Pose**



**Locust Pose**

## Three Yoga poses for stress and balance

**Corpse pose (Shavasana):** This is one of the best yoga poses for stress relief.

- Lie face up on the yoga mat using a blanket for warmth
- Place feet about mat-width apart (50–60 centimetres) and let them fall naturally
- Place your hands palms up about 30 centimetres from the sides of your body.
- Ensure that your shoulder blades are pulled down and the small of your back is relaxed into the floor.
- Completely relax the body so that eventually you forget it is there. Breathe normally.
- Feel yourself in tune with the rhythms of your body. Detach yourself from your thoughts. Let them go.
- You can stay in Shavasana for 5–10 minutes.
- Come out of Shavasana very slowly, rolling to one side and then sitting up in a comfortable position. Stay in touch with the peaceful and relaxed feelings you have created inside yourself.

**Cobra pose (Bhujangasana):** This is one of the better-known exercises for relieving stress and reducing fatigue. It stimulates and relaxes the upper part of the body.

- Lie on the yoga mat on your stomach.
- Put your legs together. Stretch your legs back with the toes stretched outward.
- Bend your elbows with your palms down so that your thumbs touch the side of your chest.
- Keep your face down till your chin touches the ground softly.
- Keep your pubic bone firmly pressed into the mat.
- While inhaling slowly, raise your chin, move your head backward to its limit, and raise your body slowly.
- Draw your chest forward by pulling back your shoulders. Divide your weight between arms and spine.
- Keep your elbows close to your body so your shoulders do not hunch.
- Breathe normally in and out of the nose. Hold the pose for 5–6 breaths.
- While exhaling, lower your body into the original position.

**Locust pose (Shalabhasana):** This pose stimulates the lower part of the body. In addition to relieving stress, it helps strengthen abdomen and leg muscles and improves digestion.

- Lie on the mat on your stomach with your chin resting lightly on the ground.
- Put your legs together. Stretch them back with the toes stretched outward.
- Keep your pubic bone firmly pressed into the mat.
- Have your arms by your sides with the palms up. Stay relaxed.
- Tighten the muscles of your hands, feet, legs and arms.
- Inhale slowly, using your back muscles to lift your head and chest, arms and legs at the same time. Take care to lift them as high as you can without bending your legs.
- Maintain this position for 5–6 breaths.
- Exhale slowly while gently lowering back to the mat.

*Janine Barron and Chris Addison operate The Yoga Place at 203 Victoria Street, North Melbourne*

# Medicine is more than just symptoms

**Adam Falloon**

The most common experience for most of us when we get sick or sustain an injury is to find a doctor who can either treat us or refer us to a specialist. However there is a growing trend in society to discuss preventative health measures such as lifestyle choices, diet and regular check-ups.

In line with this trend, medical centres that offer different services and treatments under one roof are becoming more common. For this edition of the *News* I visited one such centre in West Melbourne to get a better understanding of how a business like this operates and what benefits it offers its patients.

Premier Health Partners is a medical practice that offers a range of services with an emphasis

on multidisciplinary care. I spoke with one of the resident osteopaths, Dr Paul O'Keefe, to get an idea of how their treatment philosophy affects the way they look after their patients.

Paul was keen to emphasise the partners' wish for the practice to be a comfortable hub for the community.

"We really want to have an environment that's friendly and welcoming. We have a nice light-filled waiting room and a community noticeboard ... we often have people in the waiting room who will stop and chat."

The practice benefits greatly from having a range of practitioners available as this allows a varied and cooperative approach to treatment. Dr Alan Underwood and Dr Margaret McDowell are the two resident GPs, both veterans of medicine and well respected in the community.

Dr McDowell has worked in the area for over 20 years and is familiar to many. Dr Underwood is a specialist in treating children and also works for the Royal Children's Hospital.

Apart from the GPs, who are of course key to assessing a patient's symptoms and prescribing appropriate remedies, there is also a practice nurse who assists with coordinating treatments and developing a healthcare plan tailored to each patient's needs. From there, patients can take advantage of a number of different services including massage therapy, pilates, clinical psychology, osteopathy and pathology.

It was interesting to learn from Paul that this whole-treatment approach is synonymous with the philosophy underpinning osteopathy as a medical practice.

"The body is a unit. No aspect of the body operates independently from anything else," he explained. "If something fails it affects other parts, if something fails it's because something else has failed."

"That's the main philosophy of osteopathy and possibly what led me to have a clinic like this. We can give a bit of dietary advice or a bit of fitness advice but to have the actual experts here makes for a good team environment to get the best outcome for each person."

Complementing this holistic philosophy, Premier Health makes charitable contributions by sponsoring several sporting clubs and community events. These include the Spring Fling and Run for Hope, an event that raises funds for and awareness of breast cancer and is run by Pink Hope, a non-profit organisation.

Before parting, I asked Paul if he had any preventative health advice coming into summer.

"As an extension of what I said before ... we are mobile entities," he replied. "We're not planted into the ground. Our body not only enjoys movement but needs it for circulation and to keep the body functioning. We take that

away through a sedentary lifestyle, sitting at a desk too much ... all the things we enjoy in a modern lifestyle."

"I'm a big advocate for standing desks in the workplace, or, if that's not possible, get up and move when you can to get mobile. Each week, as well, have at least three episodes of exercise, bare minimum, just to get the body moving again."

So, as the weather gets warmer and we all become a bit more weight conscious, this might be the time to find new opportunities to get the body moving!

*Premier Health Partners is located at 491–495 King Street, West Melbourne (corner Rosslyn Street). Phone: 9329 7077 [www.premierhealthpartners.com.au](http://www.premierhealthpartners.com.au)*

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**Dr Paul O'Keefe, osteopath at Premier Health Partners**  
*Photo: Adam Falloon*

## OPINION

# Christmas: new life and infinite horizons

**John Smith**

By the time you read this, the shops will be full of tempting merchandise, the streets will be decorated, Christmas carols will be in the air and people will be jostling to buy gifts to give and special food to eat.

In our increasingly multicultural, multifaith society we are faced with competing options that raise questions about what to do with all-pervasive celebrations like Christmas.

At the same time, in some countries that have not had a strong Christian heritage—Japan for example—the celebration of Christmas has grown in popularity as a cultural celebration, rather than an expression of faith. I am all for enriching our cultural heritage by allowing the different stories and traditions to stand alongside one another and enrich our lives.

At the same time, there is no need to downplay or delete other longstanding parts of our heritage as a multicultural society. As we approach the Christmas season again, we know it is not just about pressure to socialise or more marketing. But what is being celebrated at Christmas?

Christmas is timed to coincide with the point in the northern hemisphere where the shortest day and the darkest night give way to the slow return of the light and warmth of the sun. Originally, the inevitability of the coming of the light heralded the rebirth of life that would be celebrated at the spring festival.

When Christianity became dominant in that part of the world the symbolism of the old winter festival was translated to fit the Christian story based on the life and message of Jesus.

Christmas came late in the history of the

church. When it did, it was Easter that set the tone. The traditions of Christmas centre on the birth of a child in a dark, out of the way place that came under threat from an imperial power. This became the symbol of the emergence of new hope for living in a dark world. And it was especially hopeful because it was the shepherds—the poor and disenfranchised—who were the first to know about this. It was suggested by the visit of the wise men, people who came from different cultures and faiths, it had significance for all people. As the presence of the oxen and donkeys suggests, this had significance for all of creation.

The meaning is that, in the life of the child who was born as one of us, the creative, life-giving power that humans have referred to as God came to be fully expressed as a human being, within time. Many Christmas carols are based on this thought.

But Christmas is not an idea. It is a person to embrace and a life to follow, which is why Jesus is indeed the reason for the season. Because of the way he lived and died, the inner truth of Jesus's life has implications for how we regard one another, and the way we seek to live. Welcomed by shepherds, he welcomed outsiders to his side and to his table. Generosity and hospitality are quintessential Christian virtues.

Honoured by foreign sages, he did not choose to overpower us or seek to place boundaries around our life. Instead he offered us an utterly new possibility of life, set against an infinite horizon. Everything about him is a sign that we are embraced at the deepest level.

Some would say divine love has been active on our behalf. If that is really true, then it is no wonder Christmas is a season of joy and goodwill. And we can help make it so ourselves. Merry Christmas!

# The gift of giving — all year around

**Claudio Palmeri**

Have you ever thought about exactly what having the 'Christmas spirit' means?

What about the importance of the gift of giving?

I often wonder how many people truly understand what it means. How many people have lost the art of giving and only think about the importance of receiving?

At this time of year, I reflect on a song that is often played in my house, "And so this is Christmas, and what have we done", realising that perhaps I have not done enough.

Did I give enough to the guy on the street who was homeless? Did I cut short too many conversations with the lovely elderly lady that lives down my street? Did I have enough compassion for the drunk guy who screamed at me on my way home from school?

The gift of giving (for me) does not always come in the form of a wrapped parcel with a bow but, rather, taking the time to give back to those who need it — without prejudice or preconceived ideas, something that, undoubtedly, *The Leader's* Feed Melbourne Appeal is all about.

The appeal started in 2009 and over the past five years has raised over \$2.4 million for those that are not fortunate enough to have a meal every day.

According to Rebecca David, the group reporter from *The Leader*, the people who rely on the appeal have changed over time.

"Traditionally it was the homeless or those with mental illness and substance abuse", she writes. However, with the cost of living on the increase, it has also affected "the lower income earners, that are struggling to pay rent and put food on the table".

"The appeal aims to bridge the gap between food waste, edible food, and helping people who are going hungry in our suburbs."

In 2014, 34 charities received about two-thirds of the raised money. The money was to go towards the transport, storage, cooking and distribution of food that would otherwise be thrown away.

The remaining third went towards FareShare, a not-for-profit community organisation, whose annual mission, with the help of their 600 volunteers, is to make one million meals a year from the surplus, good-quality food rescued from supermarkets, farmers and other businesses that would otherwise end up in landfill.

The meals that are made are delivered to

soup vans, homeless shelters, food banks and school breakfast programs each week.

This great project would not be the success it is without the partnership between *The Leader*, FareShare and the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation Appeal.

Thus the gift of giving should not be an expression used only during the festive season, but rather an act that should be embraced all year round by those who are in more fortunate positions.

My parents have always told me that in life it is really easy to think that you are always going to be on top, but life throws amazing curve balls that can bring down even the most affluent person.

So the next time you see someone asking for help, don't judge or assume that anyone would deliberately choose to be in that position. Everyone has a story and everyone deserves a helping hand. Remember the gift of giving.



Illustration: Adam Falloon



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# Travel tips



Illustration: Patricia Lew

## Patricia Lew

An hour's train ride will take you out into the beautiful Macedon Ranges. Take the trip on the first Saturday of every month and you can find the friendly and welcoming Woodend Community Farmers' Market.

A gold coin donation upon entry was all that was needed to enter the market but this was absolutely worth it considering the quality of produce that was available there.

I went on a day when the sun was out. The atmosphere was jovial and it was a reasonably crowded Saturday morning with both locals and tourists bustling around. Patrons were exploring the area, enjoying the scenery and picking up some fresh produce.

There were haystacks framing the entry way. Immediately, I could see a Shetland pony anchored to a fence. It was white with black spots and there were children around it, waiting for a ride around the market grounds. It was adorable! I have a soft spot for all animals.

It was great to see a bunch of kids discovering what real produce looked like. They were obviously in awe at the contrast between these and the prettier-up versions in the supermarket.

The apples were seasonal and freshly picked. They were not only reasonably priced but deliciously crisp as well. I realised just how much I had forgotten what *real* apples tasted like!

The fresh artisan bread looked amazing and, if this wasn't enough, there were also gorgeous pastries and cakes lined up as well. A few stalls down from the baked goods, a lovely lady held a platter of cheeses to try.

After leaving the market, quite satisfied with my apples, veggies and bread, I popped across the road to Bourkies Bakehouse for a quick coffee and bite to eat before heading back home. It was really busy and the roast pork roll was delicious. Highly recommended!

Woodend Community Farmers' Market is definitely a fun way to start the weekend and if you want to get out of Melbourne for a few hours without venturing too far away. It is a lovely place to visit.

When you go, I recommend that you take a basket or shopping bag and cash (not card!) to buy some goodies. Also remember to take into account the weather as this market is outdoors. Dogs are allowed, provided they are on a leash.

**Woodend Farmers Market**  
Community Centre grounds on the corner of High and Forest streets  
109 High Street, Woodend 3442

Open from 9:00am to 1:00pm  
Approximately one hour's drive from North Melbourne.

Public transport: approximately one hour's train ride from Southern Cross Station (take the Bendigo train and alight at Woodend Station)

# The Cat Café comes to Melbourne!

## Raphaelle Race

Have you heard of a cat cafe before? Some friends of mine had recently returned from Japan and they were absolutely raving about the craze.

A cat cafe is a small, friendly place where you can go and spend time with cats. It sounds strange, but in high-density living areas like Tokyo and Taiwan, where pets are hard to take care of, these cafes are becoming more and more popular.

Soon after finding out about this overseas craze, I discovered that Melbourne had recently acquired its very own cat cafe right next to the Queen Victoria Market.

The owners of Cat Café Melbourne, Anita and Myles Loughran, were inspired to set up their own cat cafe after travelling to Japan on their honeymoon. The Melbourne Cat Café was initially assisted as a startup business by crowdfunding website Indiegogo, which helped them raise \$11,000 from enthusiastic punters.

The Cat Café is not so much an actual cafe (where you'd get a big breakfast and a soy latte) as the most comfortable zoo ever. Set above a shopfront, Cat Café Melbourne comprises four rooms on the top floor, each set up with couches and extravagant cat towers,

scratching posts and little toys.

You can order hot drinks and small snacks, but food is definitely not a reason to visit.

There are 12 adorable cats in residence at the Cat Café. They have been adopted from animal rescue services like The Lost Dogs' Home and the Geelong Animal Welfare Society.

"We could not have come this far without the help and support of those who contributed to our campaigns," said owner Anita. "We reached approximately half of our original goal, but this was enough to keep us scraping by to finally open in July 2014.

"It took a year to get to the point of opening and we have now been open for four months."

The cat inhabitants are very social creatures who don't mind being picked up and petted. They have a number of hidey-holes to get away from overenthusiastic visitors but are mostly just happy to sleep on couches and laps.

"We provide separate toilet and feeding rooms. These private rooms also provide a safe place for the cats to go if they are overwhelmed or just need some personal space.

"It's actually a bit of a miracle that they all get along so well," Anita added. "We introduced most of the cats on the same day and the rooms became neutral territory ... they

play, clean and sleep with each other."

The Cat Café has a restriction on children under the age of eight. This has caused some trouble with hopeful kids and angry parents, but there are practical reasons for the exclusion.

"Before opening to the general public we brought some family friends in to meet the cats, including a few young children and one infant.

"It became clear to us that the cats did not like young children. And so for the welfare of the cats and the safety of young children we implemented the age restriction. Everything we do at Cat Café Melbourne is for the welfare and benefit of the cats."

Cat Café Melbourne will be having a big food and donation drive this Christmas. If you're keen to join in or help raise money for animals, there will be details on their website closer to the holidays.

Because only small groups of people are allowed in the cafe at a time, bookings are essential. Head over to their website at [www.catcafemelbourne.com](http://www.catcafemelbourne.com) to make a booking, or give them a call on 9642 8540.

*Cat Café Melbourne is situated at 375 Queen Street, Melbourne, right next to the Queen Victoria Market.*



Photo: Raphaelle Race



## The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Incorporating UnitingCare Hotham Mission

### December Worship

*Longing, Desire, Possession, Beauty - The Song of Songs*

### Christmas

*Christmas Day: Service with Eucharist, 9.30am*

*Normal Sunday service times in December and January*

Sunday Worship 10am in the church hall, 4 Elm St, North Melbourne



For further details: 9326 8245;  
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[www.marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au)



Hotham Mission is seeking volunteer tutors for its Homework Club in 2015. This after-school program supports upper-primary-aged students from the North Melbourne and Kensington communities to complete homework and improve their literacy and numeracy skills.

For more information contact the Homework Club coordinator [lee.kenny@hothammission.org.au](mailto:lee.kenny@hothammission.org.au) or visit the UCHM web site



[www.hothammission.org.au](http://www.hothammission.org.au)

# A world of words: indie publishing with Spinifex Press

Jennifer Choat and Carole Lander

**S**pinifex Press co-founder Susan Hawthorne draws on her 20 years' experience as an independent publisher in her new book, *Bibliodiversity*.

Hawthorne left Penguin in the 1980s to set up her own business with Renate Klein — both of them frustrated by the big publishers' unwillingness to take risks during that recession.

Their first book was *Angels of Power*, an anthology of writings: poetry, fiction, play scripts and film scripts about reproductive technology.

"It was quite a nice combination of our two specialties," says Hawthorne. "Renate's was critical writing on reproductive technology and mine was creative writing, so it really brought those things together."

Despite major changes in the publishing industry since those early years, Spinifex has maintained its mission to publish feminist books that are controversial and innovative with an optimistic edge.

"We published four books in our first year. We really didn't know if we would go for more than that. When you start you have no idea what you're doing!" says Hawthorne.

Like many small business operators they started at home, in a first-floor flat in West Melbourne, often working in their pyjamas. Later they bought a building on Queensberry Street. Success came early — two of their first

three publications were short-listed for awards and two were translated.

"We published seven books in our second year but we felt pretty early on that we didn't want to get really big."

Asked why they did not want to expand the business, Hawthorne says: "You need to move to a whole different level of management, structure and financial security. It also means that you start to think about publishing differently ... we wanted to be more hands-on with the business. You know, small is beautiful."

And they like to support Australian business: "We have a very good relationship with our printer here in Melbourne. I like the fact that we can ring them and talk to them in our own time zone. Also, philosophically I think that's what we should do."

Spinifex targets all women readers, not only those who identify as feminist. Hawthorne admits, though, that their readers are generally well-educated with slightly left-leaning political views.

During her career she has seen feminist publishing become nearly extinct in Western countries as a result of globalisation. But Spinifex keeps on going and their books are translated and sold in unusual places like Bengal, Korea and Latvia, as well as Germany, Spain and France.

"One of the things we try to do when we publish our books is to find that balancing point between language that is accessible and also a bit challenging. We avoid post-modern language because we think it's too obscure."

Feminist publishing took a really big hit in the 1990s, largely from the introduction of the superstore, starting in the United States. Often these opened across the street or next door to the very best independent store in an area, which might have been a feminist bookstore. The superstore would order in all the same content as the feminist bookstore, which couldn't compete on price.

Then Amazon came on the scene. Interestingly, the name Amazon was already taken by one of the very best American feminist bookstores, located in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The owners were furious that this electronic ordering giant was out there and stealing their name and they took Amazon to court. They received a payout but couldn't keep going because their name had gone.

It is a well-known fact that digital publishing is threatening the print industry but Hawthorne believes that books will still be treasured items.

Her luggage is very heavy when she travels to the Frankfurt Book Fair to promote Spinifex's authors and she admits that carrying several novels on an e-reader is preferable for personal travel reading. In fact, when they started doing e-books in 2006 they were only the third Australian publisher to experiment with the form.

"We've been in that game for a while and decided to do that [publish electronically] because we felt that if all the books in the world were going to be digitised, the feminist books would probably be at the bottom of the



**Susan Hawthorne, co-founder of North Melbourne's Spinifex Press**

*Photo: Jennifer Choat*

list. We thought we'd better get in and do it ourselves!"

Passion and addiction are what keep Hawthorne and business partner Klein going. Spinifex remains a small publishing house and they still print in Australia.

They have adapted to the new digital scene and regularly promote their books using social media. Their Facebook page also allows them to participate in feminist petitions and create a sense of community for feminist publishing — here and overseas.

*Spinifex Press is at 504 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne; telephone 9329 6088; www.spinifexpress.com.au.*

## Art around the corner: in conversation with Marta Tesoro

Jennifer Choat

**J**ennifer Choat recently caught up with local artist/ animator/ illustrator Marta Tesoro.

JC: Tell me a bit about yourself and your training.

MT: I arrived in Melbourne from the Philippines in 1996 at the age of 16, just in time for year 12. After that I went to Monash University and studied visual art, majoring in painting, then did my Masters in Animation and Interactive Media at RMIT. I've been freelancing and contracting for the last 10 years. I'll be finishing off my latest contract at Studio Moshi soon. I've been there for almost two years now working on the television series *The Day My Butt Went Psycho*. It's been a lot of fun.

JC: Did you find contemporary art school

training difficult?

MT: When I was at Monash they were more concerned about 'the idea', rather than formal arts training, whereas I am more concerned with what the work looks like at the end. But my mother and father were artists, so they taught me a lot. RMIT was much more my thing. They concentrate on technique, but at the same time were happy for you to go off and try different things and explore your own ideas.

JC: How did you get your first illustration/ animation jobs?

MT: One of the administrators at RMIT recommended me! So I got a job fairly quickly after finishing my Masters. After that it was a lot of pedalling, cold calling and constantly sending off show reels.

JC: What has been your favourite job?

MT: I love moving around from place to place actually. I know most people like stability, want to stay in one place and know when the pay cheque is coming in, but I find that I actually flourish a lot better if there is actually an end. And I like juggling jobs. Sure there have been some disasters, but even those were good in a way because you meet all of these great people. Animators are quite a cool bunch, so it's been a blast!

JC: Who are your influences or inspirations?

MT: Mostly comic book artists. And certain animations like *Invader Zim* by Jhonen Vasquez. Also artists like Mark Ryden, as well as Hans Giger who designed *Alien*. Then it became the people around me and other artists on Facebook. My mum was a very big influence on me as well, growing up. She's a very talented watercolour painter and fashion designer, so I wanted to paint like her. My grandfather was an influence as well; he was an amazing artist.

JC: On your blog you mention 'Urban Sketchers'. Can you tell me a bit about this and what materials you use in the field?

MT: I use markers only. No pencils. I'm trying to go all over Melbourne sketching local scenes. I often go alone or in a group on the weekend where we do a big sketching session. It's a great way to get ideas and expand by looking at other people's drawings. We share our work and I've started a Tumblr to document mine.

JC: What mediums do you use for your illustrations and animation, is it mostly computer work?

MT: Yes, it's mostly on the computer. For animation I use Flash and Toon Boon, After Effects and Photoshop. For the illustrations it's mostly a combination of hand drawing and colouring on the computer using Photoshop, which is my favourite way of doing things. Colouring is much more fun on the computer! I also use watercolours, ink and coloured



**Artist/ animator/ illustrator Marta Tesoro with her Urban Sketching work**

*Photo: Rob Macfarlane*

pencils for my exhibition work.

JC: What are your unfulfilled ambitions?

MT: I'd like to publish a storybook or two. I've done educational books before, but no proper stories. I'd like to work towards my own solo exhibition in the near future too. And I wouldn't mind winning an Oscar!

JC: I'm really impressed with the volume of work on your blog. You seem to post a new illustration almost every day. Why and when did you start?

MT: I started slowly around 2006. Then in 2010 I started a 30-day challenge when I posted one work every day. I enjoyed it so much that I kept going and it became habit. Work ethic is also important. I've always been fast. Thankfully, my skills have caught up too!

*View Marta Tesoro's work at www.rabbittownanimator.com or in the group exhibition Girls to the Front at The Tote in Collingwood, 6 December. She is available for commissions and illustration work.*

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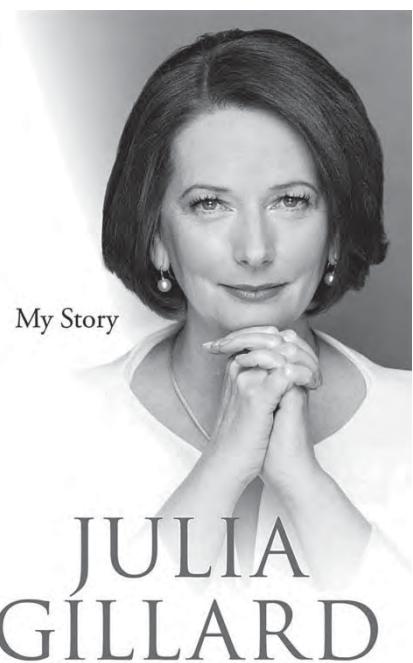


**Los Andes**

**the latin store**

## Between the Covers

Chris Saliba



### My Story

Julia Gillard

(Random House. RRP: \$49.99)

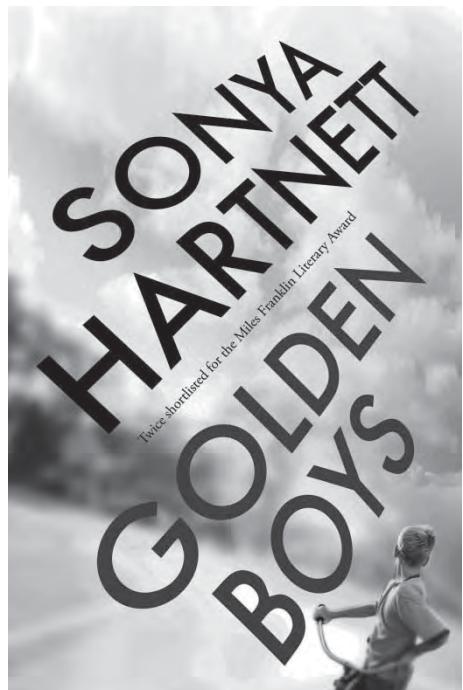
Julia Gillard opens her memoir with a frequently asked question. In public she was often asked, "How do you do it?" Interested questioners would then search her face for clues, "wanting to know why I wasn't at home, hiding, sobbing, screaming".

The first part of *My Story* tries to answer that question and is titled 'How I did it'. It's a 130-page roller-coaster ride that doesn't hold back.

Part two of *My Story* is titled 'Why I did it'. For the most part, these 330 pages discuss the achievements of the Gillard government. Like all politicians, Gillard wants to chisel out her legacy. Detailed discussions of policy achievements (and struggles) are interspersed with interesting insights and observations.

What surprises most in *My Story* is how uncontroversial a politician Julia Gillard was, if her memoir is anything to go by. She was never out on the political fringes, but firmly in the mainstream.

*My Story* makes for fascinating reading. It's a remarkable insider's story, the type of which only comes along rarely. Whether you like Gillard or not, this memoir gives a very intimate portrait of a prime minister's life and how government works.



### Golden Boys

Sonya Hartnett

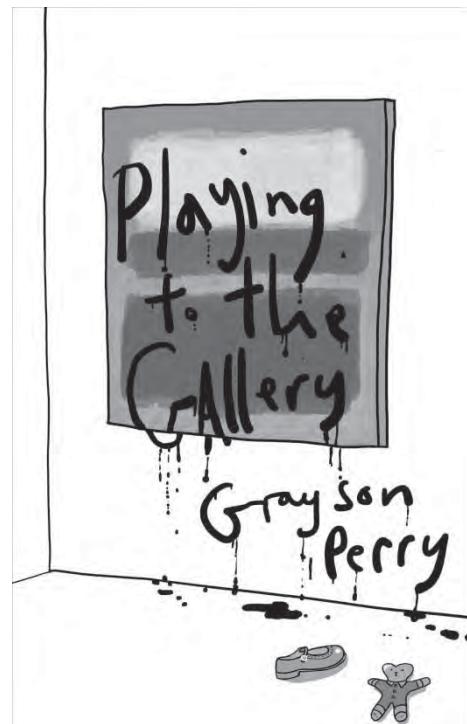
(Hamish Hamilton. RRP: \$29.99)

The Jenson's have moved into a new suburb. The father, Rex, is a happy-go-lucky dentist.

He likes treating his two boys, Colt and Bastian, to games and puzzles. He is an excellent provider for his family. His boys have all the toys they could possibly want. His wife, Tabby, seems to float on a cloud of suburban comfort. But underneath all this perfection there is a nagging sense of something not being quite right.

In the opening chapter, when Rex repeatedly makes the boys guess the colour of the new BMX bike that he's bought them, the game turns almost into a mania.

*Golden Boys* is a near-perfect evocation of growing up in the Australian suburbs. Sonya Hartnett describes the flipside of the Australian dream: envy driven by our commercial culture, the sharp limits to community feeling, the isolation children feel from adults, violence within marriages, the nagging sense of personal failure, the very prison of the mind and spirit that the suburbs seem to create. Reading *Golden Boys* I marvelled at how true to life the novel was.



### Playing to the Gallery

Grayson Perry

(Particular Books. RRP: \$35)

"For even I, an Essex transvestite potter, have been let into the art-world mafia," declares Grayson Perry happily in the introduction to his manifesto *Playing to the Gallery* (based on his Reith Lectures).

Australian ABC viewers may know Perry from his BBC documentaries, where he frequently dresses as his alter ego, Claire. In this short book the artist and potter writes about many aspects of the art world, much of it from a practitioner's point of view. He discusses money and art, the vagaries of the art scene, popular art versus the cutting-edge variety and whether the art world is truly revolutionary or secretly conformist.

Perry is a bit of an outlier; indeed, he seems quite surprised by his own success. It is this distance that allows him to look on and comment about his milieu in an amused, detached yet appreciative manner.

*Playing to the Gallery* offers many insights into the finicky world of art and provides a useful guide for those wanting to make art a career. It counsels cheerful optimism but warns that success takes many decades to achieve. This is the perfect book to drop into the knapsack of any young art student.

Chris Saliba is co-owner of North Melbourne Books, 546 Queensberry Street, and a regular contributor to the News.

## Music Reviews

Paul &amp; Maria from Heartland Records

### LED ZEPPELIN

#### LED ZEPPELIN 4 & HOUSES OF THE HOLY DELUXE EDITIONS

Everyone either has an older brother, cool uncle or even cooler aunt that owned *Led Zeppelin 4* (LZ 4) back in the day. This is the album that the group were told would not sell because it did not have the band name on the cover and people would not know what it was. That was 1971 and LZ 4 has since gone 23 times platinum, that is 23 million copies sold in the USA alone.

As with the remastered editions of the first three albums, guitarist Jimmy Page has once again remastered and produced these two releases. As before, each album is available in multiple formats, single 180g LP, double 180g LP with alternate artwork and bonus material, as well as a two-CD set. For the 'completist,' there are the super deluxe box set versions that contain the double vinyl, double CD, deluxe book and art print along with a download code for extra material. Both boxes include previously unreleased tracks and rare alternate versions of others that are culled from the band's personal collection.



LZ 4 includes a mandolin/guitar mix of 'The Battle of Evermore' and an alternate version of 'Stairway to Heaven'. *Houses of the Holy* includes a rough mix of 'The Ocean' and a version of 'The Rain' without piano. As with the previous releases, the sound is superb and the detail in the packaging is top class. If it has been a long time since you rock 'n' rolled then get out and grab yourself a copy of these albums, it will be like hearing them for the first time.

### SCOTT WALKER & SUNN O)))

#### SOUSED

Experimental musician Scott Walker and drone metal group Sunn O))) have teamed up on the 4AD label to produce an album titled *Soused*. For Sunn O))), masters of high volume, slow moving doom metal, and Walker who started his career as a teen heart-throb in the 1960s/1970s pop group the Walker Brothers, it may seem like an unusual collaboration. His work later in life, however, has been more experimentally ambitious, leaning toward avant-garde. The music he created in the last two decades is as difficult to define as it is to listen to; it is not for the faint-hearted.

*Soused* opens with the track 'Brando'. Walker explains it as "a song of masochistic

longing, inspired by actor Marlon Brando's tendency to get beaten up in films."

Walker's voice enters almost immediately, thundering operatically over the stadium guitar, riffs and vast synths, there is a silent pause, and then enters the whips, metallic screeches and oppressive chaotic feedback of O'Malley and Anderson's guitars. This uneasy theme doesn't seem to vary too much throughout the remainder of the album's five long tracks, along with Walker's distinctly mournful theatrical vocals. The layers just keep building up until you feel completely submerged in Walker's underworld.

Although Sunn O))) originally approached Walker years ago for a collaboration, it wasn't until this year that he decided to write new material. Walker's influence is overwhelmingly evident in the dark abstract lyrics and the sonically complex compositions, which is perhaps why it's dubbed the ScottO))) project. *Soused* closes with the track 'Lullaby', which is anything but comforting. You may be left feeling like, "the sun ain't gonna shine anymore", but it's worth a listen.



The The is basically put together by Matt Johnson with some help from his friends, including Jools Holland who contributes an amazing piano solo on 'Uncertain Smile', the closing track on side one. Along with the album itself, the box set includes a special four-track double 12-inch set featuring six rare mixes. This is all housed in a fantastic gatefold cover, designed by Johnson's brother Andy who is also responsible for the unique and striking artwork on the album. The box contains a newspaper-style poster written by Johnson, which details the making of the record. *Soul Mining* is an album that belongs in everyone's collection, a true masterpiece. Perfection.

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# What's On

in North & West Melbourne

## Comedy



**The Comic's Lounge**  
26 Errol Street, North Melbourne  
www.thecomicslounge.com.au  
December line-up:  
Mick Molloy, **3–6 December**  
Lawrence Mooney, **8–12 December**  
Pommy Johnson, **13–17 December**  
*A Very Woggy Xmas*, **18–21 December**

## Markets

**Docklands Sunday Market**  
Waterfront City, NewQuay Promenade, Docklands  
**Every Sunday 10am – 5pm**  
**except 28 December & 4 January**  
Special Event on Australia Day, **Monday 26 January**

The Docklands Sunday Market reflects multicultural Melbourne with French, Italian, Greek, Turkish, Nepalese, Polish, Russian, Israeli and Irish input with an Australian slant. Arts and craft, vintage clothing, baby clothes, second-hand books, reclaimed wood furniture, unique jewellery and entertainment. Find a treasure, have a meal and make a day of it.



## Theatre & Performance Art

**Club Voltaire**  
14 Raglan Street, North Melbourne  
Phone 9326 9094 for bookings  
Bars open 7pm



### Variety Night

**Thursday 18 December 7.30pm**  
Featuring comedian Zoo-Loo Momann Jr, beautiful Burlesque Babes, Liberty Foxx, Katarina Sin, Queen Esther Hur and Zuri Minx plus music by the amazing Anton Thomas and super Solemechanics. Hosted by the lovely Miss Holly Delight-Me.  
Tickets \$15

## EVENTS

**Wow! It's Italian**  
**Lithuanian Club**  
44 Errol Street, North Melbourne



**Saturday 6 December 2pm – 3pm**  
With ancestors who migrated from a remote village high in the mountains east of Rome, Wow! It's Italian's passion for food led them to record traditional recipes to share with everyone. Find out about the Mediterranean diet — live longer, live healthier and live tastier!  
This is a free event. Bookings essential.

## Anatolian Festival

Docklands Drive, Waterfront City, Docklands  
**Saturday 6 December 12 noon – 10pm**  
The Anatolian Festival celebrates the coming together of our communities, with outdoor stalls of food and merchandise, street theatre and entertainment, cultural performances, arts and craft.



## Library at The Dock

107 Victoria Harbour Promenade, Docklands  
**Introduction to Unity**

At Animation Space @ Gaming Zone  
**Wednesday 10 December 5pm – 7pm**  
Introduction to Game Design workshop with a brief introduction to Unity 3D engine. You will learn how to create your own unique levels complete with power-ups, traps and high score goals.

## Words on the Wind

**Thursday 18 December**  
Storytellers from Storytelling Australia Victoria tell tales that reflect their relationship with this part of Melbourne's Docklands. With Simon Oats and Roslyn Quin. Simon is a passionate participant in the movement to reclaim and promote the art of oral storytelling. Roslyn specialises in storytelling as performance for an older audience and enjoys working in character for special events.  
For information on costs visit [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/MelbourneLibraryService](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/MelbourneLibraryService)

## Jubilation

NewQuay Promenade, Harbour Esplanade & Victoria Harbour Promenade, Docklands  
**Friday 12 to Sunday 14 December**  
**Friday 12.30pm – 2.30pm, 5pm – 10pm**  
**Saturday & Sunday 5pm – 10pm**  
Jubilation is a new three-day festival to raise funds for the Country Fire Authority. Event highlights include light installations, floating lanterns, Christmas markets, 18 food trucks across the three days, a carousel, over 10 fire trucks (vintage to modern), illuminated boats in the harbour, the City of Melbourne Christmas tree, live entertainment and appearances from Santa and CFA's Captain Koala and Beepa.

## African Music and Cultural Festival

Federation Square, Melbourne  
**Saturday 20 December 12 noon – 8pm**  
Discover the vibrant music, arts and culture of over 40 African countries in this inaugural free event. Features family entertainment, sumptuous cuisines, colourful fashion and performances by local musicians including the Nigerian vibes of Alariyya Afro Beat Group. Presented by the African Australian Communities and Organisations in Victoria.



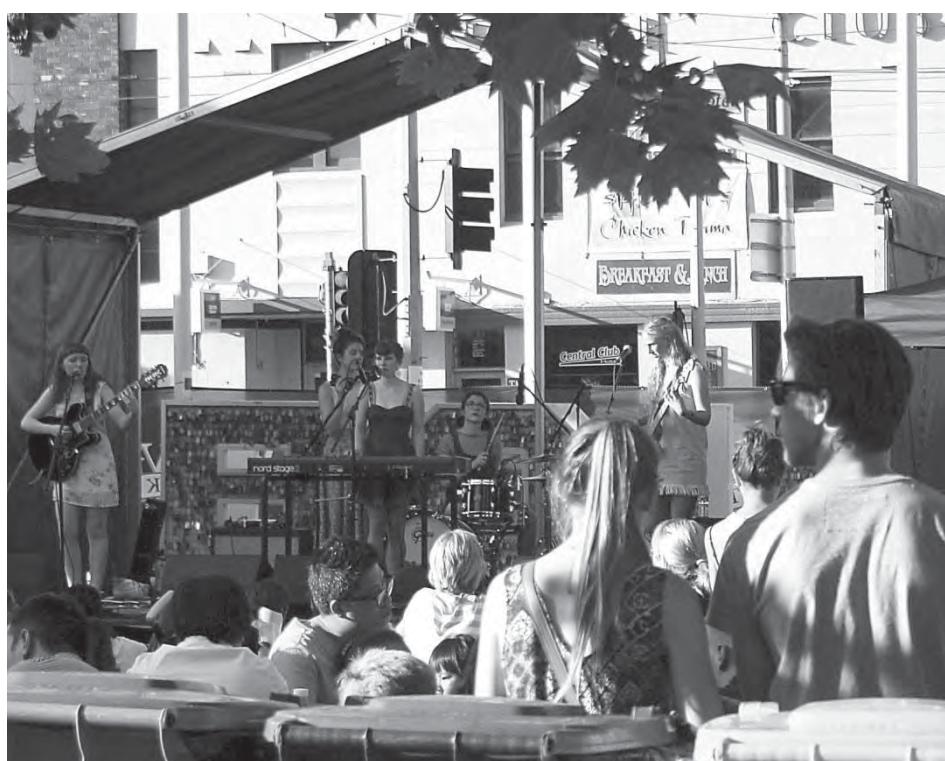
## AFRICAN MUSIC AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL

## International Street Food Festival

Melbourne Showgrounds  
276–318 Epsom Road, Flemington  
**Sunday 25 & Monday 26 January**  
**10am – 10.30pm**  
A major Australia Day weekend event showcasing Australia's multicultural cuisines.



If you would like to add a community event to our column, we'd love to hear from you! Please forward event details to [EditorialNWMN@Centre.org.au](mailto:EditorialNWMN@Centre.org.au).



The outdoor stage at the Summer Night Market

Photo: Adam Falloon

# The Summer Night Market is on

## Raphaelle Race

With so many markets and festivals, especially in the summer months in Melbourne, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by what to do and where to go. This issue of our What's On covers a number of festivals, but perhaps the closest to home for the North and West Melbourne Community are the various activities being held at the Queen Victoria Market sheds. This year there are a number of free holiday activities to distract the kiddies. Take the trip down to the market to see the Victoria Market Christmas Tree, lit on December 3 and up for the month. Every weekend at the day market, Santa Claus will be waiting to meet the kids and

discuss their Christmas wish-list. And every day that Queen Victoria Market is open, there will be a special map for people to follow the Christmas Trail. Simply pick up a map and follow Rudolph's footprints on a fantastical journey through the market. For the adults, on 9, 11 and 12 December at 11am and noon, you can join Kirsten Tibballs for a festive cooking demonstration highlighting the use of food as delicious Christmas gifts. And now that the warmer months are here, you can take the trip in to discover the Summer Night Market. Now 17 years old, the Night Market is on every Wednesday evening from 5pm until 10pm – excepting Christmas Day and New Year's Eve – and hosts a number of delicious pop-up fooderies, performances and market stalls.



## The Centre Courses for 2015

[www.centre.org.au](http://www.centre.org.au)

[admin@centre.org.au](mailto:admin@centre.org.au)

### Office Hours:

Monday 10.00am to 6.00pm

Tuesday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm

Classes follow school term dates unless otherwise stated



### The Centre

58 Errol Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051

Tel: (03) 9328 1126

### North Melbourne Library

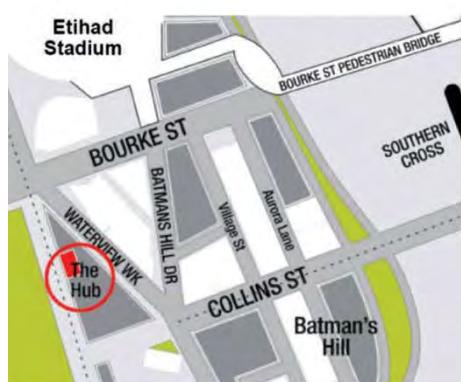
66 Errol Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051

Tel: (03) 9658 9700

### Arts House Meat Market

5 Blackwood Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051

Tel: (03) 9329 9966



### Docklands Hub

80 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands VIC 3008

(near the corner of Bourke Street — look for the giant rabbit)



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

### Beginners Singing

Time: Thursday 7pm – 9pm

Membership: \$160 / \$100 concession\*

Venue: Arts House Town Hall

### Centre Adventures (Day Trips)

Time: Third Tuesday monthly 9.30am – 4pm

Cost: \$35 / \$25 concession\*

Meeting Point: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Discovery Walks – Art, Architecture and History Walking Group

Time: Fourth Tuesday monthly

10am – 11am

Cost: \$3 per session

Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Drop-in Morning Teas

Time: First Tuesday monthly

10.30am – 12 noon

Cost: \$3 per session

Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

## THE CENTRE

### Errol's Angels Community Choir

Time: Thursday 7pm – 9pm  
Membership: \$160 / \$100 concession\*  
Venue: Maternal & Child Health Centre, 505 Abbotsford St, North Melbourne

### Volunteer Program

We have a wide range of opportunities for everyone, for example:

- Spring Fling, second Sunday in October annually
- Writing and editing *NWM News*
- Tutoring or teachers aide
- Office and business administration

Time: Must enter into a regular commitment  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Ready, Steady – Walk Docklands

Self-guided tour using QR code reader technology (assisted)

Time: Any day  
Cost: \$5 refundable material deposit per session  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Wonder Walks

Time: Any day quarterly, usually 10am – 2pm  
Cost: \$30, includes afternoon tea  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Open Door

Cost: Free to those sleeping rough

## FOUNDATION SKILLS

### ABC English for Business

Time: Wednesday 12.30 – 3.30pm or 6pm – 9pm  
Cost: \$133 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Adventure Book Club for Fathers and Sons

Grade 5 and 6 boys plus fathers  
Time: Two hours monthly  
Cost: \$153 per term  
Venue: 58 Errol St and excursions

### Global Homework Program

#### Primary (Grades 4 and 5)

Time: Wednesday 3.30 – 5.30pm

#### Secondary (Grades 7–12)

Time: Tuesday 4pm – 6pm

Cost: \$35 / \$25 concession\*

Venue: North Melbourne Library

#### Transition (Grade 6)

Time: Monday 3.30 – 5pm

Venue: Hobsons Bay Altona Library

### Job Readiness Program

Time: Thursday 9.30am – 3pm  
Cost: \$133 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Financial Literacy

Time: TBA, in conjunction with Wingate Avenue Community Centre  
Cost: Free for concession card holders, others \$55  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

## EMPLOYABILITY AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

### Event Management Short Course

Time: Monthly and term options available  
Cost: \$237 / \$188 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Food Handling OR First Aid Short Courses

Time: 9am – 4pm quarterly  
Cost: \$125 / \$105 concession\*  
Dates: 10 April, 10 July, 2 October, 15 December  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Job Readiness / Vocational Preparation Program

Time: Thursday 9.30am – 3pm  
Cost: \$133 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Project Management for Beginners

### Time: Wednesday 9am – 3.30pm

Cost: \$184 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Certificate IV in Frontline Management (BSB40812) / Diploma of Management (BSB51107)

Time: Wednesday 6pm – 9pm (10 sessions)  
Cost: \$1295 / \$375 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAE40110)

Time: Monday 6pm – 9pm (11 sessions)  
Cost: \$1595 / \$375 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Upgrade to TAE40110 from old BSZ40198 and TAA40104

One-day workshop  
Time: Wednesday 9am – 4pm  
Cost: \$475  
Date: 23 September  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Introduction to Teachers Aide Work

Time: Wednesday 9am – 3.30pm  
Cost: \$1225 / \$250 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Introduction to Mental Health

Time: Wednesday 9am – 3.30pm  
Cost: \$237 / \$188 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Introduction to Special Needs

Time: Wednesday 9am – 3.30pm (one session)  
Cost: \$250  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

## INFORMATION, DIGITAL MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

### Computer Skills: First Steps

Time: Monday 10am – 12 noon  
Cost: \$125 / \$90 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Computer Skills: One Step Further

Time: Friday 10am – 12 noon  
Cost: \$125 / \$90 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Computer Skills: INTEL Easy Steps

Improve your skills in using Microsoft Office and other services online.  
Time: Wednesday 1pm – 3pm  
Cost: \$125 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Basic Skills

Time: Friday 1pm – 2pm

### Job Seeker Skills

Time: Monday 1pm – 3pm

Venue: Flagstaff Crisis Accommodation

### International Computer Drivers Licence (ICDL)

Time: Wednesday 1pm – 3pm  
Cost: \$125 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: Online

### I-Gadgets for the E-Challenged

Bring your own iPad or iPhone to class to learn what all these apps and downloads mean.  
Time: Wednesday 6pm – 7.30pm (four sessions)  
Cost: \$90 / \$55 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Photoshop and Your Photography

Time: Tuesday 10am – 12 noon or 1pm – 3pm  
Cost: \$133 / \$90 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne, or Docklands Hub

Venue: North Melbourne Library

### Yoga

Time: Monday 6pm – 7.30pm  
Cost: \$165 / \$125 concession\*  
Venue: Arts House Meat Market

### Introduction to Health Studies

Time: Thursday 7pm – 8.30pm  
Cost: \$125 / \$105 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne, or Docklands Hub

### Introduction to Mental Health

Time: Wednesday 9am – 3.30pm  
Cost: \$237 / \$188 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Pilates:

#### Introduction to Pilates

Time: Thursday 5.30 – 6.30pm

#### Beginners Plus

Time: Thursday 5.30 – 6.30pm

#### General Class

Time: Tuesday 6pm – 7pm

Tuesday 7pm – 8pm

Thursday 6.30 – 7.30pm

#### Intermediate

Time: Thursday 7.30 – 8.30pm

#### Intermediate Plus

Time: Thursday 6.30 – 7.30pm

#### Antenatal Pilates

Time: Thursday 7.30 – 8.30pm

(five sessions)

Cost: \$185 / \$135 concession\*

Venue: Arts House Meat Market

### Yoga for Kids#

Time: Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm  
Cost: \$115 / \$100 concession\*  
Venue: The Legion in Little Errol Street

## ART AND CRAFT

### Art and Craft: Create and Communicate

Time: Tuesday 10am – 12 noon or 1pm – 3pm  
Cost: \$90 / \$55 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne, or Docklands Hub

### Art Heroes (Primary – Grades 4–6)##

Time: Monday 3.45 – 5.15pm  
Cost: \$133 / \$111 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

### Art Warriors (Preschool – Grade 4)##

Time: Monday 3.45 – 5.15pm  
Tuesday 3.45 – 5.15pm  
Cost: \$133 / \$111 concession\*  
Venue: 58 Errol St, North Melbourne