

40 years

# NW MN

## NORTH & WEST MELBOURNE NEWS

ISSUE 183 SUMMER 2018–2019

THE NORTH & WEST MELBOURNE NEWS IS PRODUCED BY VOLUNTEERS AT THE CENTRE

## Colonial Victoria's stained-glass craftsmen



Ferguson & Urie stained-glass window in the Union Memorial Church, Curzon Street, opposite the company's workshop

Photo: Alan Wilkinson

### Felicity Jack

"Ferguson & Urie stained-glass windows not only tell stories of the Bible, but also encompass medicine, explorers, humanitarians, sea tragedies, war, love and respect, royalty, bravery, Shakespeare, education, human suffering and even a famous racehorse!" in the words of Janice Ball, a member of the Ferguson family.

The story of Ferguson & Urie has been absorbing Ray Brown, the great-great-grandson of James Ferguson, for the past 10 years. The company that designed and manufactured stained-glass windows at 42 Curzon Street, North Melbourne, from the early 1860s until around the end of the century was the subject of a talk Ray gave to the Hotham History Project in September.

The company was well known and respected in the last half of the 19th century, and has left an enduring legacy in many churches and secular buildings.

The increasing wealth that came to Victoria in the middle of the 19th century brought greater investment in the artistic and spiritual aspects of life. Churches and magnificent mansions were built to glorify God and to display the wealth that was gained by luck and hard work. In addition, as the aspiring classes were looking to indulge their European cultural tastes, many people turned to the beauty of stained glass.

Importing such fragile items from overseas was both expensive and hazardous, meaning there was space in the market for a company such as Ferguson & Urie to come into being. Developing from a plumbing and glazing company set up in 1853, it appears that Ferguson & Urie was the first commercial stained-glass workshop in Australia.

James and David Ferguson had worked with their father, James senior, in his plumbing and glazing business in Wallacetown, Ayr. They arrived at Port Phillip from Greenock, Scotland, in April 1853. Their business partner, James

Urie, travelled separately but arrived at about the same time. David returned to Ayr four years later to resume working with his father.

The three men lost no time in setting up their business, and their first advertisement appeared in the Melbourne *Argus* in August 1853. It was for zinc spouting, piping, revolving cowl for chimneys, galvanised tiles, tin roofing, as well as lattice glazing and leaded windows for churches and cottages.

There was no mention at this stage of stained glass, and the first hint of this was a year later when they exhibited some of their workmanship at the 1854–55 Victorian Exhibition, where they were awarded certificates for two exhibits: plumbers' work and stained windows.

The decorative glass side of the business didn't properly develop until several years later. This is most likely because the lure of the goldfields meant that few men in the building trade remained in Melbourne. In 1858, Ferguson & Urie drew up a contract with a success-

ful and experienced craftsman from Carlisle, in the north of England, David Relf Drape, to work in their North Melbourne premises, promising a well-fitted-out workshop for him on his arrival.

In fact, the promise couldn't be kept because of the shortage of builders, and Drape spent several years working as an architect in the goldfields, not beginning his work with the company until 1863.

The company expanded in 1866 when John Lamb Lyon, who had migrated to Victoria from Scotland in 1861, joined the business and it became Ferguson, Urie & Lyon. It was at this time that the firm jettisoned their plumbing business and worked exclusively on glass. Lyon remained a partner until 1873, when he moved to Sydney to establish his own company with a Scottish friend.

Lyon recollected, in an interview for the *Australasian Decorator and Painter* in 1909,

Continued on Page 6



**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 41st year of production. Readers' contributions and letters 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 and advertisements considered unsuitable or when space is limited.

Articles should be submitted by email to [nwmnews@centre.org.au](mailto:nwmnews@centre.org.au). Please use minimal formatting and do not embed graphics in documents. Photographs should be sent separately as JPEGs.

**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, sponsorships, subscriptions and occasional donations.

**News subscriptions**

If you would like to receive the *North and West Melbourne News* by mail, the rate is \$20 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	\$84 incl GST
124 mm W x 92 mm H	\$168 incl GST
188 mm W x 92 mm H	\$252 incl GST
252 mm W x 92 mm H	\$336 incl GST

A charge of 25 per cent may be added for advertisements that require designing. For more information phone 9328 1126 or email [Advertising.NWMN@outlook.com](mailto:Advertising.NWMN@outlook.com). *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, social media or design and layout, please consider joining the team.

**Publisher:** Ragn Hannah

**Content Coordinator:** Position vacant

**Advertising Coordinator:** Janet Graham

**Distribution Coordinator:** Dan Tutas

**Section Editors:**

Arts & Entertainment: Elliott Binks

Community: Amelia Jarrett and Imogen Bower

Education & Technology: Dan Tutas and Ian Truong

History: Samantha Wilson

Noticeboard: Janet Graham

Politics & Environment: Catherine McLeod

Sport & Health: Position vacant

The Centre: Janet Graham

Travel & Food: Shamira Natanagara

**Production team:** Janet Graham and Dan Tutas. Peter Alsen provided professional assistance with layout.

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**Please deliver contributions, letters and feedback to:**

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Telephone: 9328 1126

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**Thursday 15 August**

Publication date: Friday 13 September

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**Thursday 7 November**

Publication date: Friday 6 December

*North and West Melbourne News* is available online at The Centre's website: [www.centre.org.au](http://www.centre.org.au)

**A warm thank-you to News distributors!**

On behalf of the *North and West Melbourne News* team, I would like to thank all those volunteers who have helped distribute the *News* to the local community during 2018.

Laurence Angwin	Marg Leser
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Ragn Hannah	Rosemary Tonkin
Susan Harraway	Dan Tutas
Karen Hayes	Carolynne Venn
Very Greer Impressive	Samantha Wilson
Jan Lacey	

I would also like to extend our appreciation to the following local community services for their support in distributing the *News* to their members:

North Melbourne Language and Learning  
North Melbourne Library  
The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne

If any readers would like to join the delivery team, please phone The Centre on 9328 1126, email [nwmnews@centre.org.au](mailto:nwmnews@centre.org.au) or drop into The Centre. You would be most welcome!

**Dan Tutas**  
**Distribution Coordinator**

**NORTH MELBOURNE LIBRARY****North Melbourne Book Group 2019**

Third Monday of every month, 6.00pm  
at North Melbourne Library

Please contact the library on 9658 9700 for enquiries

<b>21 January</b>	<i>The Only Story</i>	Julian Barnes
<b>18 February</b>	<i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i>	Amor Towles
<b>18 March</b>	<i>The Death of Mrs Westaway</i>	Ruth Ware
<b>15 April</b>	<i>Boy Swallows Universe</i>	Trent Dalton
<b>20 May</b>	<i>Milkman</i>	Anna Burns
<b>17 June</b>	<i>The Arsonist</i>	Chloe Hooper
<b>15 July</b>	<i>Transcription</i>	Kate Atkinson
<b>19 August</b>	<i>Bridge of Clay</i>	Markus Zusak
<b>16 September</b>	<i>Warlight</i>	Michael Ondaatje
<b>21 October</b>	<i>The Death of Noah Glass</i>	Gail Jones

**To find out what else the library has in store for you in early 2019, turn to the article on page 6**

**North Melbourne Library, 66 Errol Street, North Melbourne**  
[www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/libraries](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/libraries)

**Christmas Services in North and West Melbourne****St James Old Cathedral, Anglican**  
**Corner King & Batman streets, West Melbourne**  
**(opposite Flagstaff Gardens)**

Sunday 16 December 10.00am Nine Lessons and Carols  
Monday 24 December 11.00pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion  
Tuesday 25 December 10.00am Christmas Day Holy Communion

**St Mary Star of the Sea, Catholic****Corner Victoria & Howard streets, West Melbourne**

Monday 24 December 12.30pm Mass (English); 6.30pm Christmas Vigil Mass; 11.30pm Carols followed by Solemn Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25 December 10.30am Mass of Christmas Day; 12.00 noon Mass (Lithuanian); 6.00pm Latin Mass  
Wednesday 26 – Friday 28 December 12.30pm Mass (English)  
Saturday 29 December 11.00am Mass (English); 6.30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 30 December (The Holy Family) 10.30am Mass (English); 12.00 noon Mass (Lithuanian); 6.00pm Latin Mass  
Monday 31 December 12.30pm Mass (English); 10.30pm New Year Eve Mass

Tuesday 1 January (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) 12.30pm Mass (English)

Wednesday 2 – Friday 4 January 12.30pm Mass (English)  
Saturday 5 January 11.00am Mass (English); 6.30pm Vigil Mass  
Sunday 6 January (Solemnity of the Epiphany) 10.30am Mass (English); 12.00 noon Mass (Lithuanian); 6.00pm Latin Mass  
Sunday 13 January (Feast of the Baptism of the Lord) 10.30am Mass (English); 12.00 noon Mass (Lithuanian); 6.00pm Latin Mass

*From Monday 7 January follow the normal St Mary's timetable*

**St Mary's, Anglican****Corner Queensberry & Howard streets, North Melbourne**

Sunday 16 December 7.00pm Carol Service  
Monday 24 December, Christmas Eve, 4.00pm Kids' Christmas; 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25 December, Christmas Day, 9.00am Sung Eucharist

**St Michael's, Catholic****456 Dryburgh Street, North Melbourne**

Monday 24 December 6.30pm Christmas Eve Mass

**Saints Peter and Paul, Ukrainian Catholic****35 Canning Street, North Melbourne (corner Canning & Dryburgh streets)**

Monday 24 December, Christmas Eve, 10.00am Divine Liturgy  
Tuesday 25 December, Nativity of Jesus Christ, 10.00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday 6 January, Ukrainian Christmas Eve, 8.00am & 9.30am Divine Liturgy; 5.00pm Vespers

Monday 7 January, Ukrainian Christmas Day, 8.00am & 10.00am Divine Liturgy

**Uniting Church, Mark the Evangelist****51 Curzon Street, North Melbourne**

*The congregation meets in the church hall, 4 Elm Street*

Sunday 23 December 10.00am Advent Readings and Carols, with Eucharist

Tuesday 25 December 9.30am Christmas Day Service, with Eucharist

*Normal services and times 30 December and January*

**Melbourne North Police Station**  
**Christmas Toy & Food Drive**

Donate a toy or non-perishable food item for those less fortunate. Melbourne North Police in conjunction with the Melbourne North Police Community Consultative Committee are holding a Christmas Toy and Food Drive.

Drop new toys or groceries into these collection points:  
Melbourne North Police Station, 36 Wreckyn Street;  
Commonwealth Bank, 53 Errol Street; or  
Westpac Bank, 55 Errol Street, North Melbourne;

**by Tuesday 18 December**

Help put a smile on someone's face this Christmas!

All enquiries to Leading Senior Constable Nick Parissis at Melbourne North Police Station, 8379 0800.

**Thank you, and a merry Christmas!**

## COMMUNITY



## North and West Melbourne Association

### Spring Fling Street Festival

The Association enjoyed a great day out at Spring Fling on 21 October. Our theme this year was about recycling food waste. Compost Revolution lent us a worm-farm kit and the City of Melbourne provided a compost bin for display. Visitors were shown how these worked and had the opportunity to order one at a considerable discount.

As at last year's festival, we shared our stall outside the library with North West Patch, now a separately incorporated and successful group. We held a raffle to boost the Patch's funds.

The first prize was a master preserving class for six people with chef Daniel Wilson valued at \$650 generously donated by The Artisan's Bottega, which also provided the last prize of a \$30 voucher. Hardie Grant Publishing donated some fabulous books.

Dozens of plants were on sale, consisting of strawberries, tomato seedlings kindly propagated by the father of a Patch member, and succulents. The succulent cuttings were from a heritage jade plant descended from stock cultivated by the same Patch member's great-grandmother.

At the stall there were leaflets from the Protect Abbotsford Street Estate group, which has been campaigning for over a year for the government to build much more public housing than currently proposed by the Public Housing Renewal Program for the North Melbourne estate and eight other public housing estates across Melbourne.

This program promises only a 10 per cent increase in public housing, which in reality will be much less because large family dwellings will be replaced by one- and two-bedroom units. With 82,000 people on the waiting list for housing, it is untenable that most of our public land will be sold off and used to build private homes.

On the Abbotsford Street estate the ratio of private to public housing will be about 60:40, and the intense development will consume almost all the open space that tenants enjoyed until they were relocated.

We also had a petition for people to sign requesting that the City of Melbourne (CoM) plant more trees and greenery in the Errol Street shopping centre. Despite overwhelming support for this when the Association conducted a survey and straw poll three years ago it hasn't happened yet.

### West Melbourne Structure Plan

Many festival-goers stopped to discuss issues of great concern to our neighbourhood, such as the West Melbourne Structure Plan (WMSP), yet to be adopted by the council and submitted to the Planning Minister for approval. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning cannot make a decision on the amendment until this occurs.

Matters have moved on since October, and the CoM has now invited West Melburnians "to review Planning Scheme Amendment C309 which proposes to implement new planning controls into the Melbourne Planning Scheme". A crucial change to be made is the rezoning of "most of the Mixed Use Zone in the structure plan area to a Special Use Zone (SUZ6) to deliver a true mix of uses".

The CoM has arranged two information sessions in early December in the Yarra Room at Melbourne Town Hall. The second session is on Saturday 8 December, 11.00am to 12.30pm (morning tea and refreshments provided).

For more information see [www.participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/AmendmentC309](http://www.participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/AmendmentC309). Via this site you can also make a submission until Monday 4 February 2019. We urge you to take this option, as the latest version of the WMSP is not as innovative and environmentally aware as the earlier draft.

Even so, the plan received a commendation in Landscape Australia's 2018 Australian Urban Design Awards, for "leadership, advocacy and research — local and neighbourhood scale". Amendment C309 is on public exhibition from 22 November to 4 February.

The council has to consider all submissions lodged and may decide to ask the Planning Minister to appoint an independent planning panel to review and hear submissions if there are unresolved issues arising from them.

The website also gives timelines for the several stages yet to be completed in the long process towards implementation of Planning Scheme Amendment C309.

### Launch of two new parks for West Melbourne

The two upgraded parks were officially opened by Rob Adams, CoM director of city design, on Saturday 22 September. The popular sausage sizzle, set up under awnings, fortified visitors for the afternoon's events. Activities for children run by park rangers included a



The NWMA had a busy day at Spring Fling

Photos: Janet Graham



The City of Melbourne's Rob Adams officially opened the new parks on 22 September

Junior Ranger trailer, circus workshop and unicycle riding.

A highlight for adults was the urban forest and ecology walk. Starting at the extended Railway and Miller Street Park, a knowledgeable CoM arborist led a group of residents past the Stawell Street dog park and eventually to the Hawke and Adderley Street Park a few hundred metres away.

The variety of trees was surprising. In the Railway and Miller Street Park there are huge lemon-scented and spotted gums, and a river red gum has been planted in a garden bed, the site chosen because it's above a buried watercourse. New casuarinas (she-oaks) line the path up to the dog park, and native flowering shrubs and groundcover ramble around rocks on either side.

With Melbourne experiencing climate change, the council is experimenting with heat-tolerant trees including species from North Queensland. One is the Queensland fire-wheel, which has brilliant red flowers. At the entrance to the Stawell Street Park is a well-grown Japanese oak (*Quercus dentata*) with a dense canopy of big, glossy, indented leaves.

As to this off-leash dog park itself, some residents are highly critical of the inhospitable gravel surface and the lack of a fence on the

western side near Dynon Road, saying they would never take their dogs there.

In the Hawke and Adderley Street Park, one member of the group was able to identify a Canary Island palm among the five palm trees that arrived unexpectedly in June. Our guide assured us that the other small trees would soon grow full canopies to provide shade in summer.

We still don't understand, though, why the already established trees, which included a lemon-scented gum, had to be removed and why the new park design couldn't have accommodated them.

### To contact the North and West Melbourne Association

Email [info@nwma.org.au](mailto:info@nwma.org.au) or write to PO Box 102, North Melbourne 3051. Subscription fees are \$30 family (two adults), \$20 single adult and \$10 concession. Membership for associate members (under 18 years) is free. Visit our website at [www.nwma.org.au](http://www.nwma.org.au)

The next NWMA meeting will be on Tuesday 19 February at the Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership, 603–615 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne. Association meetings are public and you are most welcome to attend. We often have interesting guest speakers.

Season's  
Greetings

from



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Dr Alan Underwood



# VERY IMPRESSIVE



## A rambling hoarder

My apartment is currently overrun by my hoarding. I've far too many of many, many things. And then there's also my studio in Preston.  
Chaos Reigns Supreme.  
Hoarding's not my problem. My ideal solution just keeps not happening.

Moving things.  
Throwing things away.  
Moving things around.  
From here to there.  
Packing away some.  
Throwing others away.  
Only to make OTHER people happy.

It's exhausting to be doing it, then I look behind/under what I've just moved and hundreds of other things have suddenly appeared. Some people seem to think that I'm unaware of there being too much stuff in here. But they really aren't aware at all.  
They've no idea of how many items, over 13 years, have been squirrelled away in here.

I used to make regular journeys of departure for unused things; some of them were more loved and so managed to stay.  
But then five years ago my PTSD arrived and I started to become progressively housebound. This place is like a giant game of Tetris, so far the only computer game that has ever caught my attention.  
I would have regular sessions of moving it all around.  
I've often said that sorting through it is like looking through the layers of an archaeological dig site, revealing many generations and cultures.  
I've also said that it's like moving deckchairs around on the *RMS Titanic*.

## Things I collect...

There's got to be over a thousand books, on subjects from true crime to architecture, novels to astronomy, graphic novels to pop-up books. Clothes, of course, being the devout creator and follower of fashion that I've become.  
My journal collection — there must be at least 200 of them in here.  
Toys, kids' and adults'.  
Tables — at last count there were 35 of various sizes, shapes and styles.  
Art, my own and other people's.  
Plants — mostly rescues of those abandoned by careless people.  
Maps. Dictionaries. Transistor radios. Totemic carvings. Clocks. Photography/cameras. Rocks/crystalline forms. Parasols. Dinosaurs. Handbags. Luggage. Timber boxes. Glass in its many forms.  
Hundreds of jewellery items. Sunglasses for every occasion. Lamps, including lava lamps (I'm not a fan of overhead lighting). Butterflies, real and faux. Hats by the hundred. Garden gnomes. Dragons. Make-up cases.

## Filial relationships

When I was a kid, about seven maybe, I was supposed to be on my way to rugby practice and Mum came into my room. She sat down on my bed and said, "You don't have to play rugby if you don't want to, Dad won't mind."  
I was a prop and I hated it, couldn't stand the ear-rubbing thing, but if I'd been repositioned I can see that maybe I would've liked it, maybe even been good at it.

Strangely she was lying. He did/does mind.  
I can't remember really having a father/son relationship since. Certainly not the relationships I see others having.  
And then there's my not learning to drive. I've realised over the years that it must at times be an impossible embarrassment for him. Do people ask him if I've started driving yet, and he has to answer "No, the so-and-so still doesn't do it?"

If I was a driver I'm sure I would have been encouraged to race, and been given cars.  
He apparently gave one of my favourites to someone's useless husband, now ex-useless husband. A 1945 Chevy saloon. He wrecked it. Drove it over a bank and rolled it.  
My dad still has the coupé, used as a tow car for the Stanton. Which, by the way, I don't recall having ever been allowed to even sit in, let alone have a ride, but she's been in my life since before I can remember.  
And strangely, I name-drop her, "the Stanton Corvette", when I meet car aficionados. Everyone's jealous.

My all-time most favourite car in his collection was the Ford Model A Tudor. Legend has



Very and Paula taking a break at the Spring Fling

Photo: Janet Graham

it that Dad paid \$100 for it. Found it sitting under a pine tree on a farm he was working at. I had a ride the day it arrived but I've not been inside since. The last time I saw it, it was restored from the doors down, but the little old man who was doing it died.

## Things that create joy

Saw this on *Gardening Australia* and loved it immensely: the leafless rock wattle (*Acacia aphylla*). It's evolved to cope with hot, dry climates by losing its leaves. Endemic to Western Australia but adapts widely.

Another image I think of now and again which makes me happy: a cinema with décor done in theme to favourite interiors of films that I LOVE.

Such as a hallway that references *The Shining* on one side and the Aztec Theatre of the Simpsons on the other.

*Waves V*, a Brett Whiteley drawing worth \$30,000, has been missing from Launceston's Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery since 1976. If anyone has it or has seen it please give it back.

The problem is no one knows what it actually looks like. Isn't the art world wonderful?

Yours, Very Greer Impressive

# ADAM BANDT MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MELBOURNE

STANDING UP FOR WHAT MATTERS.

GF1 296 Brunswick St, Fitzroy VIC 3065.

(03) 9417 0759 [adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au)

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THE GREENS

Authorised by D. Lamson, 296 Brunswick St, Fitzroy VIC 3065

# Residents About Integrated Development (RAID@3051)

Gary Bateman

## Residents matter!

RAID@3051 continues to focus on working with residents, local government and other community groups to advocate for better integrated physical planning and development in our neighbourhood.

RAID is a non-partisan incorporated local organisation that is committed to open, transparent governance. It was formed in 2011 in response to an application by Woolworths for a massive development on the site bounded by Canning Street, Vaughan Terrace and Macaulay Road, North Melbourne.

## Urgent: traffic management works required for Shiel, Canning and Melrose streets

The development at 111 Canning Street (Woolworths site) is well underway, with stage 1 construction proposed to be completed by early 2019. The plan for the complex includes 300 apartments in a 10- and 16-level residential tower, a large supermarket and an array of commercial premises.

As a consequence, large numbers of residential cars will enter and leave the complex from an access ramp in close proximity to the intersection of Shiel, Canning and Melrose streets. Numerous vehicles will also access the supermarket and other commercial entities from Macaulay Road.

Residents worry that substantially increased traffic flows and overflow parking generated by this development will threaten the area's tranquillity and amenity.

A RAID member and a long-term resident of Shiel Street recently met on-site with traffic engineers from Melbourne City Council to review their traffic management plan for the area and to voice community concerns.

These issues include: rat-running and commuter traffic along Shiel, Canning and Melrose streets as drivers avoid peak-hour traffic on Macaulay Road; the West Gate Tunnel project pumping an extra 9000 vehicles per day onto Arden Street and nearby roads; and the location of the 402 bus stops — two in the Footscray direction and one in the East Melbourne direction — in Canning Street between Melrose Street and Boundary Road.

Also discussed were: how best to address the dangerous intersection of Shiel, Canning and Melrose streets; the potential for a grassed and treed central median in Canning Street between Melrose Street and Vaughan Terrace, and other traffic-calming measures in Canning Street; truck bans to prevent deliveries to the Woolworths site via Shiel Street; and proposed on-street parking limits in nearby streets to address overflow parking from the development up to 10.00pm or midnight.

Both residents who attended the meeting

# RAID 3051



The Woolworths development in Canning Street near the Shiel Street/Melrose Street intersection. RAID is concerned about increased traffic in this area

Photos: Janet Graham

were disappointed with the council's apparent lack of progress in addressing these concerns, and RAID has since contacted councillors about them.

It is highly desirable that the council implements a traffic management plan for the whole precinct and that it does so before the development is completed and operational. RAID believes these concerns need to be addressed urgently. Ongoing monitoring once the development is operational will also be required.

## Liquor licence for the new Woolworths

RAID submitted an objection to the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation regarding the Packaged Sale of Liquor Licence application by Woolworths Group Limited for the 111 Canning Street site. We raised matters consistent with those raised during the planning process and VCAT appeal in 2013.

One of these — regarding the location of the outlet near two bus stops and residences — has now been addressed. We have been advised that the outlet will be located within the complex with access from the Canning Street entrance to the complex and with no external street access.

Unfortunately, our request for the store's operating hours to be reduced has not resulted in such a positive outcome. Unlike the example set by the IGA on Melrose Street, which

has self-regulating hours for the sale of liquor, the Commission has issued a licence for the Woolworths liquor store for the standard operating hours of 9.00am to 11.00pm on all days other than Sunday, Anzac Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day.

One additional objection related to the location of the advertising of the application — an A3-size 'poster' on the hoarding surrounding the construction site. The notice was neither easily accessible nor located where advertised. It was advertised as the corner of Canning Street and Vaughan Terrace but was posted on the corner of Macaulay Road and Vaughan Terrace.

The Commission did not accept our objection and advised that the application notice had been appropriately displayed.

## Connect to RAID@3051, become a member or volunteer

For further information about RAID, to receive our email updates, to become a member or to offer your assistance:

**Email:** raid3051@gmail.com

**Write to:** PO Box 2077, Hotham Hill 3051

**Visit the website:** www.3051-integrated.com

**Follow us on Facebook:** by searching 3051 RAID



The Vaughan Terrace frontage of the development with 76 Canning Street in the background



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452 Victoria Street, North Melbourne, Vic 3051  
[northmelbourneosteopathy@gmail.com](mailto:northmelbourneosteopathy@gmail.com)



## Colonial Victoria's stained-glass craftsmen

Continued from Page 1

that when he started with Ferguson & Urie their operation was on a very primitive scale, and that they made their own colours and acids and fired the glass in a colonial camp oven!

The first window to have gained a significant amount of publicity for the company was at St Paul's Church at Bakery Hill in Ballarat. This Gothic decorated window was installed in St Paul's in March 1862 and created quite a bit of media attention.

The company became well known for their workmanship in stained glass, which was touted as being comparable to, if not better than, the imported glass from the 'Old Country'.

Having an intimate knowledge of the Australian light conditions allowed them to effectively 'paint with light', carefully considering the orientation of the window and the intensity of the sunlight. European glass works had spent centuries refining their skills to suit a lighter, sombre palette, more in tune with their overcast skies.

In contrast, Ferguson & Urie took advantage of the bright Australian light, using bold tones and maximising the use of the primary colours of deep rich ruby reds, blues and yellows, to create a striking kaleidoscope colour effect when exposed to the powerful antipodean sun.

In July 1862, the company's most controversial secular stained-glass window was created

for entertainer George Coppin's Apollo Music Hall, which was then part of the Haymarket Theatre in Bourke Street. It depicted a life-size portrait of William Shakespeare and some of his theatrical characters.

Demand for their work came from all over the east coast of Australia, from as far north as Rockhampton in Queensland, as far west as Port Lincoln in South Australia, and as far south as Hobart. There are also six known Ferguson & Urie windows in New Zealand. Not to mention the hundreds of works that were commissioned within the state of Victoria.

James Urie died in 1890 aged 62 at his residence 'Glencairn' in Wellington Street, Flemington. In his public life he was a councillor, Justice of the Peace, and mayor of Flemington and Kensington in 1887–88. His funeral procession was described as being one of the most imposing seen in the borough, with Alfred Deakin acting as one of the pallbearers.

When James Ferguson, who lived in Leonard Street, Parkville, died in 1894, the company passed to two sons of the original founders, James Ferguson and William Urie, but the company gradually wound down and ceased business.

The works by Ferguson & Urie that remain are too many to list, but details of their location can be found on the very informative website set up by Ray Brown at [www.fergusonandurie.wordpress.com](http://www.fergusonandurie.wordpress.com)



The Shakespeare window by Ferguson & Urie is on display at the State Library Victoria

Photo: [www.fergusonandurie.wordpress.com](http://www.fergusonandurie.wordpress.com)

## Coming up at North Melbourne Library in 2019

Heather McKay

We have some wonderful events planned for you in the new year. Do join us for some or all of these talks and walks in February and March.

### Tuesday 26 February 6.00pm The Battle for Capel Street

In the 1980s Capel Street was threatened on a number of fronts with large-scale plans for demolition and redevelopment, spurring the local community into activity. Those involved at the time will revisit the community group actions, their involvement, the outcomes and how they feel about the whole issue today.

### Tuesday 5 March 6.00pm Life with Manning Clark

Local resident Sebastian Clark will be talking about life with his father, Manning Clark, and the ongoing activities of Manning Clark House.

### Friday 8 March 2.00pm and 6.00pm Women's Peace Garden Walk

Walk around the Women's Peace Garden for International Women's Day. Learn about the history and growth of the garden as part of the Newmarket Saleyards redevelopment.

### Tuesday 19 March 6.00pm Whelan the Wrecker and the Melbourne Benevolent Asylum

Robyn Annear will be speaking on Whelan

the Wrecker with specific reference to the Benevolent Asylum, as part of the Melbourne Library Service series on archaeology in Melbourne. Robyn is an amazingly entertaining speaker and this will be a fascinating talk.

Bookings will be available a month before the events. Keep an eye out in the library for posters.

To be notified of library events, subscribe to our newsletter at [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/libraries/Pages/libraries.aspx](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/libraries/Pages/libraries.aspx)

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Sebastian Clark

Photo: [www.manningclark.org.au](http://www.manningclark.org.au)

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## POLITICS &amp; ENVIRONMENT

# North West Patch a blooming success!

Catie McLeod

On Saturday 10 November, a crowd of 150 gathered in the sunshine at the North Melbourne Meat Market venue for the official opening of the North West Patch. Gardeners, family and friends joined politicians and supporters to celebrate the official opening of the community garden, a dream that's been three years in the making.

Regular readers of the *News* might remember the article in our winter edition, 'North West Patch finds a home in time for spring'. At that stage, garden organiser and chairperson Bridget Macwhirter was preparing for her project to become a reality — after receiving a federal grant and council approval, and a home for the Patch opening up at the Meat Market.

Just a few months have passed, and the once-bare concrete space is now filled with blooming boxes. Once the City of Melbourne had issued a licence for North West Patch, its members pulled the planter boxes out of storage and started planting.

The Patch's inaugural working bee took place on 22 September. Some of the garden members had grown seedlings at home, and the urban agriculture organisation 3000 Acres donated many more. Alexkarbon Real Estate in North Melbourne made a large donation that helped purchase some of the required soil. Bunnings Warehouse in Brunswick provided extra equipment and sent a staff member to the Meat Market to help out.

The office of Adam Bandt MP authorised the \$7000 grant the Patch received earlier in 2018. It was fitting, then, that Mr Bandt was there on 10 November to officially open the garden.

"Without that grant we wouldn't have gotten where we are today," Bridget said. "We thought it would be a great opportunity for him to come down and open the Patch."

"North West Patch will bring people in our community together," Mr Bandt said in his speech. "As Melbourne grows, it's a great example of how we can bring garden plots and green spaces to neighbourhoods everywhere. It wouldn't be possible without the amazing grassroots work of local residents, and I was so pleased to help with a federal grant."

The official opening was an opportunity for the Patch's committee and members to invite other local politicians and City of Melbourne councillors and promote the need for more communal green spaces. State MP for Mel-



North West Patch members at the opening with MPs Adam Bandt and Ellen Sandell (second from right) and Councillor Cathy Oke (second from left)

Photo: Jane Poynter

bourne Ellen Sandell also spoke on the day. It was a chance for all involved to unveil the garden to the public, after months of dedication and hard work.

Thanks to their determination, members of the Patch now have a colourful collection of plants including silverbeet, tomatoes, coriander and bok choy. Plants often grow in symbiotic relationship, so the mix works well.

"It represents the diversity the group is and the diverse tastes the group has," Bridget said.

"Everything has grown really nicely," she added. "One member, Nicholas Atkins, has been tending to the garden almost daily, giving it worm juice and watering it from the rainwater tanks at the Meat Market. It's looking lush and healthy, it's really coming along."

The Patch now has 24 paid-up members, not

including family members and households. The committee has decided to cap the membership at 24.

"We'd have loved to keep the membership open," Bridget explained. "But we came to the conclusion that we can't share the produce from 10 boxes between 50 people. It's a shame because we want more people to benefit."

Perhaps the Patch's success — they have a waiting list of eager gardeners — will prompt council and government to find land for more shared green spaces. The difficulty in North and West Melbourne remains a lack of space for similar projects, and the council might have to rent or purchase suitable sites.

Luckily for the Patch, the Meat Market has turned out to be the perfect venue. The staff there had had plans for a long time to do some-

thing positive with the courtyard and a community garden suited those plans nicely.

"We couldn't have asked for a better organisation to partner with," Bridget said.

In the future the garden's committee plans to apply for more grants to allow for more planter boxes and more members. There are also hopes for the eventual establishment of a similar community garden in West Melbourne.

Members of the Patch also plan to be available for consultation with local community groups or individuals seeking guidance on how to set up street gardens offered to residents by the City of Melbourne.

"Things happen faster with a support network," Bridget said. "Basically, we'd like to be a group that initiates and helps with gardening in the local community."



North West Patch's first working bee on 22 September

Photos: Jane Poynter



# Andrews and Labor clinch election landslide

Conall Batch

Daniel Andrews has emerged from the 2018 Victorian election with an increased majority for his Labor Government, allaying earlier fears of being pushed into minority government by a potential dual swing towards Matthew Guy's Liberal Party and the Greens.

Labor received a statewide swing of almost 5 per cent and is set to pick up 55 lower-house (Legislative Assembly) seats and 18 in the upper house (Legislative Council).

The result is a resounding win for Andrews, whose Labor Party defied polling predictions and handily won supposedly marginal battleground electorates, sweeping the crucial Frankston train line 'sandbelt' seats and competing in Liberal heartland areas including Hawthorn and Brighton.

Speaking on election night, Andrews characterised the victory as an endorsement of his progressive policies and large-scale projects as well as a resounding rejection of scare-campaign tactics employed by Guy.

In the electorate of Melbourne, incumbent Greens MP Ellen Sandell is set to retain her seat by a slim margin after early predictions she would be defeated by former Melbourne Labor MP Jennifer Kanis, who gained a modest 0.9 per cent swing.

Sandell, who is the Greens spokesperson for treasury and finance, climate change, environment and national parks, resources, and science and innovation, campaigned on

a statewide platform in line with her party's hopes of holding the balance of power in the lower house and maintaining their upper-house presence.

With a likely Greens result of only two or three lower-house seats and one upper-house seat, Sandell will have her work cut out in Parliament promoting the Greens' agenda, advocating for improved public transport, access to housing and strengthened environmental and energy policies.

Guy's Liberal Party received a negative swing of 6 per cent, picking up only 22 lower-house seats and provisionally 10 in the upper house. Guy resigned as party leader shortly after the loss, and it remained unclear who would assume the leadership. Some party members blamed Guy's own personal image for the loss, including his time as planning minister and perceived ties to developers.

One possible replacement — shadow attorney-general MP John Pesutto — is not certain to retain his seat of Hawthorn as recounts continue. The other frontrunner — shadow treasurer Michael O'Brien — is not favoured by Liberal Party moderates, who blame conservatives, including their federal counterparts, party strategists and party president Michael Kroger, for the dismal showing.

They are calling for a return to centrist policies as the only way to revive the Liberal brand in Victoria and avoid a wipeout in the 2019 federal election.

The Greens also experienced a negative swing of 1.6 per cent statewide, with fallout from multiple controversies in the weeks be-

fore the election. These included allegations of sexual assault levelled against Sandringham candidate Dominic Phillips and scandals involving Footscray candidate Angus McAlpine, upper-house candidate Joanna Nilson, staffer Paul McMillan and New South Wales MP Jeremy Buckingham.

Greens candidate for Richmond Kathleen Maltzahn failed to topple Planning Minister Richard Wynne, as expected, despite the Liberals' decision not to run a candidate in the seat to deprive Labor of preferences. In Brunswick, Greens candidate Tim Read and Labor candidate Cindy O'Connor were separated by a few hundred votes, while Labor won back Northcote after the Greens' Lidia Thorpe seized it in a 2017 by-election.

Victorian Greens leader Samantha Ratnam, who remains as the party's sole MP in the Legislative Council, blamed the party's poor performance on aggressive negative Labor campaigning as well as undercutting their platform by adopting some Greens policies.

Minor parties picked up multiple seats in the upper house amidst controversy over pay-for-play preference deals involving powerbroker Glenn Druery. Druery is a staffer for Derryn Hinch's Justice Party, which could win four seats after campaigning on a tough-on-crime platform, advocating harsher mandatory sentencing in spite of recent reforms.

The Aussie Battler Party, Liberal Democrats, Animal Justice Party, Shooters, Fishers and Farmers and anti-immigration Sustainable Australia gained a seat each, while Transport Australia, a taxi-driver protest party, won two.

Fiona Patten lodged a complaint against Druery, blaming him for the loss of her seat and her Reason Party's lacklustre result after refusing to pay for favourable preference deals.

The election was fought largely on day-to-day issues, including population growth, transport infrastructure and education. Andrews spruiked Labor's first-term achievements to bolster their campaign, pointing to investment in schools, the Melbourne Metro Rail Project and level crossing removals.

Despite the visible impacts of construction across the city, voters signalled their willingness to wait out the disruptions in return for future investment.

Andrews has vowed to move forward with a suburban rail loop, linking existing train lines in the outer suburbs and providing a dedicated Melbourne Airport railway station, as well as the North East Link road project. Final costings from Labor's spending commitments suggest Victorian state debt will rise from 6 to 12 per cent, with the government claiming that this is unlikely to impact the state's triple-A credit rating.

In a cabinet reshuffle soon after the victory, Andrews announced new ministers, bringing female representation in his cabinet to 50 per cent.

After this election, both the Liberal Party and the Greens would do well with some introspection to understand why voters rejected them. At Labor's jubilant election celebration at Trades Hall, the party faithful celebrated into the night. It was clear that this was their moment.

## Bougainvillea spring in North Melbourne

Tim Cremean

The Errol Street bougainvillea is arguably the most spectacular in Australia. Opposite the primary school it spills out over the top of the old clothing factory wall. It is the healthiest and most colourful I've seen since being overwhelmed by a great specimen in southern India in my backpacking days long ago.

The colour flows over the wall like a waterfall, although the council required it to be clipped to allow safe passage for pedestrians. If asked, I suspect most passers-by would be happy to walk around it, however.

Spring is a great time to wander the streets of North Melbourne and enjoy the perfumes and colour of so many gardens. Chapman Street has many fine gardens, like the one full of iceberg roses or the nasturtiums spilling out through the picket fence. It's great to see the next wave of council planting taking root, too. Soon the urban forest will double in many streets.

The Erskine Street vegie boxes not only make for more greenery but have also led to the little community involved building a great piece of street furniture and, of course, the practical compost tumbler.

North Melbourne has much to offer outdoors, especially in the warmer seasons. People travel from all over Melbourne to air their children in the wonderful adventure playground at the corner of Flemington Road and Gatehouse Street.

Most days it's bursting with family picnics while tiny tots and some much older but young at heart frolic in the waterplay or roll down the grassy knoll. The grassy hill, which has a great city view, must be the simplest and most enjoyed activity of them all.

Dog walkers and joggers can of course enjoy hectares of space and views by accessing the circular pathway in the centre of Royal Park.

I moved from Ascot Vale (Freeway Heights end) to North Melbourne more than 20 years ago. I wasn't sure that it was the right move at the time. I have no doubts now. The wide streets, gardens, trees and exceptional parklands make the suburb feel more spacious than most suburbs further out.

More importantly, people walk past your house making an opportunity for talk and interaction. So much of suburbia is about driving in and out of your isolated castle with less opportunity to mingle than in pedestrian-friendly North Melbourne.

Another hive of activity as the weather improves is the Macaulay Road pool, thankfully saved from closure by community protest. The luscious Arden Street Oval with its rich green grass is a pleasure to the eye.

I can remember watching a game there with my dad in which a supersize, super-athletic Sam Kekovich burst out of the centre towards

the pool end, brushed aside opponents and unloaded a prodigious kick to goal (totally cutting out the need for the other 17 available players). I think the game was simpler then.

With the new Metro station taking shape nearby and no doubt much adjoining development, I trust more trees and green space is part of the plan.

At quiet times at my front gate I can occasionally hear the gibbons calling from the zoo — a gentle reminder of another great garden and nearby feature to enjoy. It's a strange link to the past for me as I remember the same call of the wild could be heard in the backyard of my old Ascot Vale house. That's about all the two suburbs have in common. Viva North Melbourne.



Photo: Tim Cremean

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## 40 YEARS OF THE NEWS

# NORTH MELBOURNE NEWS

The NMN is a community newspaper produced and distributed by a collective of North and West Melbourne community members.  
It is still absolutely free, pass one on to a friend!

Issue No 95 December 1996



The Former West Melbourne Primary School

Photograph: Karleen Joss-Knight

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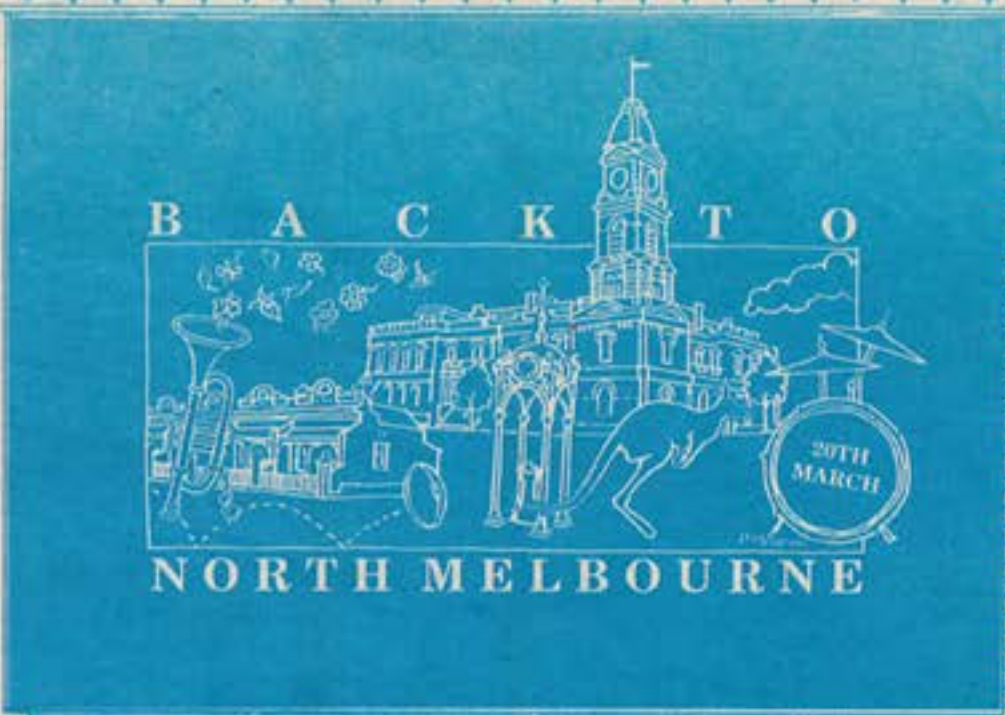
NORTH'S YEARS  
at  
"ARDEN STREET"  
by  
Father Gerald Dowling

It is fascinating to learn that the first admission charge to a North match at Arden Street cost 6 pence. That was in 1883.

The previous year the North Melbourne Football Club (playing then as Hotham), used its now familiar headquarters for its regular home games for the first time. Its opening encounter was against Royal Park which it defeated 2.9 to 0.2 on 29th April.

With the exception of 1965, when it played one season at Coburg, North used the arena bounded by Arden Street, MacCauley Road and Fogarty Street continually until the 1980's when it started to transfer its home matches to the M.C.G. It took the field in its final senior encounter on 17th August 1985. On that occasion it took the points against Richmond, the attendance being 7,341.

Known officially as the North Melbourne Recreation Reserve, it was permanently reserved for the club.



Free Fun Day

international year of the child ...  
meat market craft centre ...  
community notices ... poetry ...  
supplement ... after school program

Creative Writing!

North Melbourne News June-August 1992 page 19

NMN

Princess

I got a job at the Princess Theatre  
I was the cleaner, scrubbing the carpet  
on my hands and knees

When the Queen came out they put on a special show  
we had to stand at the back we weren't allowed to sit  
because the Queen was coming out

scrubbing the carpet at the Princess Theatre  
scrubbing the carpet on my hands and knees

Auntie Biddy's Hints and Recipe Corner

Wash and bottle. Dress with hot water when using.

**Pineapple Parosettes.**  
1 1/2 cups plain flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking powder  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1 egg  
1 cup (250 ml) milk  
2 teaspoons melted butter or vegetable oil  
1/2 cup drained crushed pineapple

Whisk together flour, salt, baking powder and sugar into a mixing bowl.  
Beat the egg, then blend thoroughly with the milk.  
Pour the egg and milk mixture into the flour mixture, mix well.  
Mix in the melted butter or oil and the pineapple.  
Allow to stand for at least 1 hour.  
Pour two teaspoons of the batter on to a hot lightly oiled pan or griddle, when the bubbles appear and break them over and cook on the other side.  
Drain honey over parosettes and serve immediately.  
This is all for now.  
Cheers from  
Auntie Biddy

H & WEST BOURNE

West Melbourne is original formal planning, its streets and garden squares, similar principles to as Carlton. It gains however, from its hilly nature the fact that the area was developed in an early period and with care of land uses.

It was developed as a site for the gold rushes of the first release of land in the area bounded by Dryburgh Street (Batman's Swamp) to the north of which is Melbourne Creek. In 1855 by the sale of the land to the Flemington Road. Originally intended to be a large reserve of land for the North Melbourne Football Club, it was later sold to the State to survive the pressure of increased density of development.

In 1859, the Hotham became its own right. The released fashionable wealthier Dryburgh.

The area was in the 1860s peaked in the rest of Melbourne was Victoria area by then a commercial centre including meat panners. The large warehouse centred around Melbourne Boor with Large still centred around an important part of the heritage worthy of preservation.

STREET FAIR FUN

Art, Crafts, Films, Dancing, Singing and FUN

Other local schools will be presenting items. St. Joseph's has two Rock Bands and both will perform.

West Melbourne Primary School will be presenting a Chinese Dragon Dance. Dancers from other countries will be presented by the International Dance Group. A new item will be the march part of the Eusebian Police Women's Band.

This group has become unbelievably popular since their performance in the North Melbourne shopping centre. Some of their performance when they did a practice November 2nd.

The "Eusebian Police Women's Band" is part of the West Theatre Company's organisation.

Anyone who has seen their plays such as "Vital Signs" and "Dream Cafe" will know that they can expect high class entertainment when it is presented by the West Theatre.



# POLITICS

NMN

## Melbourne City Council - West Ward Column



Cr. Martin Brennan

### Council Elections

Residents of West Ward Kensington-North Melbourne, elected Rhonda Cumberland, Fran Sciarretta and myself at the

## CHANGE THE SEC ACT - FOR A NUCLEAR FREE VICTORIA

A PUBLIC OPINION POLL REPORTED IN THE HERALD ON 21st JULY LAST YEAR SHOWS THAT OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN AUSTRALIA IS RUNNING 2 TO 1 AGAINST. SIMPLY STATED, MOST PEOPLE DON'T WANT A NUCLEAR REACTOR NEAR THEM.

But what effect has this body of opinion had on the Government's attitude to nuclear power?

In April 1978 the Premier of Victoria, Mr Hamer, indicated that a draft State energy policy would be released in a

few weeks. He promised that the draft policy would be open for public comment - 'as is already done with draft proposals by the Environment Protection Authority and the Land Conservation Council'.

However, the draft policy did not ever appear and the public review did not take place. After a year's silence the Government released its official and final energy policy in April 1979.

The energy option the Government had chosen was the coal-to-oil/nuclear path-

Given the pressures towards nuclear power, Philip believes people should give the Government, the SEC and industry a clear signal that nuclear power is 'not on' so that in future their efforts can be directed towards developing an energy future in which nuclear power is not needed.

## THE FALL-OUT FROM HARRISBURG

It was March 31st 1979 when we first heard that the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant was gripped by a ma-

However, a year later, the toll of the Harrisburg accident is beginning to mount. Pennsylvania Health authorities have admitted that



### MAKE THE SEC NUCLEAR FREE

Philip Sutton, author of 'Victoria's Nuclear Countdown', believes that since the Government has failed to consult the public on whether they want nuclear power, it is now appropriate for the public to take the initiative and make its views known. Philip believes that the community should press for a change in the charter of the State Electricity Commission to stop them from using nuclear power.

## VICTORIA'S NUCLEAR COUNTDOWN

YOUR GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR A NUCLEAR VICTORIA



## WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE?

In 1986, the state of Victoria in Australia established the Neighbourhood House Co-ordination Program as a vehicle for enhancing family and community life and well being.

A Neighbourhood House is simply a house or similar building that serves as a community centre, hosting a variety of programs and services developed by local people to meet local needs. Through Neighbourhood Houses community members:

- Develop responses and solutions to their own community issues and problems.
- Reduce isolation of individuals and groups and increase opportunities for the disadvantaged through skills development, self help and mutual support activities, and social interaction and
- Prevent and alleviate community and family violence through education and support services and resolution of relationship difficulties.

# NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES ARE FOR EVERYONE



Services Committee and Corporate Services Committee and Cr. Martin Brennan as chair of the Community and Cultural Services Committee

### Casino Development

The current controversy surrounding the proposed casino development in the World

previous Council. Most important amongst these has been the move to find legal, political or 'other' means to stop the construction of 26 elderly person units on the Park Street railway land in Brunswick. The Council was requested to undertake expensive and highly improbable legal action to stop the development. Fortunately the advice of Council's legal advisers and the opposition of the Labor/Progressive Group together with some conservative members stopped the action being taken.

Over the last 12 months, the Council has expressed its level of concern. Following the Council's decision, residents have proposed a Melb comm sent to

### Swanston Street for

The proposed change to Swanston Street to transform it into a one-way street for cars to one for people is an initiative of the Council's series of projects to make the city a vibrant, economic, cultural, and

# the right to education

Secondary education should be a right, not a privilege based on wealth or examinability. This is one of the principles which has aroused such a widespread campaign to keep the doors of University High School open to the children living in the North Melbourne area. Local children have the right

This is a very disturbing report which in practice provides the framework for putting the clock back. It strongly favours selective education and ignored the significance of local decision making. Reports such as the Williams Report are based on the assumption that those who succeed in life

more able students to one which develops each individual to his fullest capacity is a difficult and pressing one." Such research as this sparked off many campaigns to meet this challenge; ensuring that local children have the right to go to local schools and that all schools provide

### REFUGEE HOSTING

continued

ward necessary for enjoyable individual/family relationships. Watching of other characteristics, e.g. occupation, is often meaningless because of cross-cultural differences. Apart from these difficulties, prior to the arrival of refugees, the host community often has a preconception of what a refugee is like. These preconceptions often worsen the first impressions on such occasions.

The paper goes on to confirm the perceptions of other agencies, that the host community often has a preconception of what a refugee is like. These preconceptions often worsen the first impressions on such occasions.

Springvale C.A.S.B. suggests through its paper that 'group housing seems to provide an additional, more appropriate way to experience community contacts... For example, suggestions of paternalism and religious conversion pressures tend to be diffused at group encounters, while self-matching/alignments of smaller, individual parties can take place in due

course. Details are given of support group get-togethers of refugees and host community members in some areas, mostly Australian and Greek are also mentioned. Italian and Greek are also mentioned. The C.A.S.B. that is likely to appeal 'that community makes a special appeal that community groups such as parishes, clubs, school organisations, etc., in response to short-sighted "host a family" appeals, and from areas unlikely to provide suitable work/housing opportunities and opportunities

After the war, many others are all too ready to accept the conclusions about the host community. It is no longer seen as a quick, cheap and valuable way of helping new arrivals to feel at home. and from what I have heard, would appear to have more disadvantages than otherwise.

A lot is being written and thought about the subject of hosting at the moment. In future, refugees may get more appropriate help from those in the community who are eager to assist them. It is a no one losing the battle in it. It's no one losing the battle in it. It's no one losing the battle in it. It's no one losing the battle in it.

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## EDUCATION &amp; TECHNOLOGY

# River Nile School: empowering women and girls

Catie McLeod

Down on North Melbourne's Capel Street, a small team of educators and students are paving the way forward for migrant women and girls. Housed in an unassuming office building, River Nile School is brightly lit and filled with colour and sound.

At any time there are maybe 50 students on site, of a registered 40 school-aged women in the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) program and 30 older women in the Learning Centre.

It's quieter on the Friday morning that I visit the school. "We're scaling down for the summer with end-of-year transitions," principal Lisa Wilson says. "And Friday is the day we encourage some students to tend to other duties, like catching up with case or social workers."

Since 2006, the River Nile Learning Centre has been a safe space for young women from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Each comes with her own story and her own needs. Some women have attended Australian government schools. Others have never been to school here. Some might have been in the country for only a few weeks.

Working with three full-time staff members and 13 others, River Nile specialises in being a multicultural education provider. "We try to take the best practice from a range of fields," Lisa explains. "So teaching English to speakers of other languages is our first area of focus ... and providing positive education in a trauma-informed way."

River Nile provides individualised support and tailored schooling for refugee and asylum-seeker women. Students in their 20s and 30s attend the Learning Centre, which offers language, literacy and numeracy education, alongside work and life skills to help women adjust to professional and social life in Australia.

Younger students who are around school age — from 15 to 20-plus — have the opportunity to complete their VCAL, a recognised qualification that allows for progression to TAFE or university pathway courses and employment.

To obtain their VCAL certificate students must complete 10 units, including literacy and numeracy streams, work-related and personal development skills, and a Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificate.

Lisa tells me about the VCAL program as we sit in the school kitchen together. "We teach VCAL in an integrated way, so the learning applies in the real world. The great thing about VCAL is that a lot of it's done through project-based work."

In 2018, for example, students had to work



River Nile principal Lisa Wilson (third from left) and students

in teams to address the literacy theme 'sustainability' and decide on a project. They decided on a market, to be held at the school in early November. The groups used real-life business skills including online communication, calculating costs and designing logos.

As part of the program students visited the CERES community environment park in Brunswick East. The girls decided to donate their profits — over \$1100 — to CERES after the market. Lisa smiles: "I feel very proud of that."

In the VET component students can specialise. River Nile's size means that two streams are on offer: business studies that include computer literacy and client management, or a combination of hospitality and kitchen operations. Next year students in this second stream will also complete training in hair and beauty.

This year, 12 students will successfully complete their VCAL, up from eight in 2017. "Some students get through the course in a year, but if they take two or three years that's fine," Lisa says. "And the numbers who complete the course in one year will continue to grow."

Last year's graduates have gone on to courses at Victoria University, Holmesglen Institute

and RMIT. "One of our students at Holmesglen just finished her pre-apprenticeship to become an electrician," Lisa says proudly. "We've had a few go into the health services and patient support."

River Nile also employs former students who have received further qualifications elsewhere and then returned to Capel Street. Some are working at River Nile as multicultural aides.

"We have a lot of new women who struggle with the confidence to come to school," Lisa explains. "Our aides might meet them at Sunshine train station, for example, wherever is required to help them get here."

All services provided by the school are free, from Mykiss to breakfast to computers. There is also a small childcare centre on site. On my visit I meet three kids happily eating toast and sliced cucumber. "Some of our young mothers wouldn't be able to attend school otherwise," says Lisa.

River Nile became a registered, government-funded school in 2016. "Before that it was all volunteer led and run, funded by philanthropic grants and donations," Lisa adds. "They recognised that it was becoming too challenging and got a grant to employ a part-

time director."

This was back in 2014, and Lisa was chosen as the director and led the development of the school before becoming the principal. She came from a professional background in the agricultural industry — in CEO and board member roles — along with volunteering experience and family ties to the Horn of Africa.

"We were overrun with demand at that time," she says. We focused on who we were best placed to serve ... and it was clear it was young women and girls, especially women who are young mums."

At River Nile School students and staff are able to speak together about women's health, reproductive rights and equality. It's a place to learn and feel safe.

Any prospective students or members of the community interested in learning more are welcome to make a time to visit by emailing [admin@riversnileschool.vic.edu.au](mailto:admin@riversnileschool.vic.edu.au) or phoning 9329 8425. The school year begins on Thursday 31 January 2019. Student enrolments take place across the school year.

*River Nile School and Learning Centre is located at level 1, 117 Capel Street, North Melbourne.*



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# The future payphone

Ian Truong

Last year we saw a surge in sales of the ‘smart hub’ device Google Home, a voice-controlled assistant disguised as a speaker. This season, Google Home and its companion, Amazon’s Alexa, are still the top-listed Christmas gifts.

Their rise has led to the sharp decline of the traditional wired speaker. This is a classic example of how quickly a brand-new product can enter the market and replace the old device! When product design and specification reach saturation, technology companies focus on a more intangible value: convenience.

The idea of ‘selling convenience’ has been the basis of several start-ups in recent years, with a few organisations so successful that we forget their humble origins. These include Airbnb, Uber, WhatsApp and Afterpay. Leaving aside the negative argument that technology makes us more dependent and lazier, convenience is the positive aspect that all users of technology enjoy!

Most of us scarcely noticed as smartphones gradually removed the need for wristwatches.

Will traditional analog watches eventually become a mere accessory, since they have only one function — to tell the time?

Credit cards, on the other hand, were introduced to Australia nearly 50 years ago. In all that time the most significant improvement has been the integration of the contactless chip servicing PayPass and payWave.

Last year, the market saw a steep increase in payment by mobile phone, with the participation of Apple Pay, Samsung Pay and, more recently, Optus Pay. The smartphone will soon be able to perform tasks that we once only wished it could. How long will it be before the credit card is replaced by the smartphone?

Half a century after its introduction, the credit card has completed most of its life cycle: birth, growth, maturity, decline. Each stage in its development brought a sense of insecurity. Compared to the credit card, the smartphone somehow creates a sense of trustworthiness, thanks to the advertising efforts of the manufacturers.

In every ad for a new product by Apple and Samsung, the product is portrayed as a secure sidekick. And the rise in mobile phone

payments is based on that sense of security and convenience.

In the past, a young adult would take time to become familiar with the different services provided by Visa, Mastercard, American Express and their like, and now the older generation is familiarising itself with Apple Pay, Samsung Pay and PayTag, which are becoming more and more popular.

One Samsung Pay ad featuring its latest phone describes it as “simple, secure and almost anywhere”. This advertisement promptly sparked criticism, as this method of payment is not ‘simple’ because it needs an account with a sufficient balance that requires complex set-up. Nor is it ‘secure’, as the phone could be lost or stolen, and cancelling a bank card is simpler and quicker than replacing a phone.

Will smartphone payment ever be more secure than card payment? It depends on the owner of the device. Will it be more convenient? The destination plays an important role. Will users accept it as we welcomed the smartphone?

One thing we do know. All the big names in technology are promoting smartphone

payment as being in the interests of the user and in the name of convenience.

We once joked about the Instagram user needing a mobile phone for photography on every night out. Soon, we might all need one to make payments.



Photo: Ian Truong

# Stories knit communities together and are an insight into other worlds

Sam Navarria

We all remember stories as children, whether told at kinder or read by a parent or a teacher. And we all remember being enchanted by the magic of the story and the telling.

It is similar in adulthood — we all enjoy a good yarn. We are moved by the tale of a journey; we love the wisdom at play in a fable; we are interested and learn about others through their narratives.

At North Melbourne Language and Learning, adult students learning English wrote stories from their culture and their country or their personal experience, as part of an English class exercise, and shared them with their classmates.

Now these are being shared with a broader readership. Some are in the genre of fables or myths, others are windows looking into the life of an individual or a family or a community. Some arise from the migration experience, others from the tragedy of displacement, or the challenge of resettlement and the promise of a

new beginning. All are enthralling.

Here is a little bundle of fables — and there are other stories to come in future editions of the *News* — for our pleasure and interest.

## The goat and the sheep

Before a long time ago there was a goat and a sheep. They were friends and lived together in a beautiful house. One day the goat saw a snake coming out of their house. She got so scared and ran to tell her friend sheep. The sheep asked the goat to show her the snake so they came together to see the snake.

The snake was still there waiting for them and willing to bite them if they tried to enter the house. The goat and her friend sheep ran away from their house because they were scared. They saw a monkey in a big beautiful garden eating a banana. They told him what they had been through and the monkey felt sad for what happened to them. They asked him to give them food, water and a place to sleep.

The monkey gave them what they asked and a lot more. He gave them a beautiful house made by banana tree leaves and he said to them “now this is your new house”. She said

“please let’s live together” so that they can help each other and protect each other from the bad and dangerous animals. They lived together happily ever after.

This Eritrean story teaches us that all good people are welcome into our house so that we can be a stronger family together.

by Ayan

## La Siguanaba

Siguanaba is a well-known figure from El Salvador. Sihuehue means beautiful woman. She had an affair with the son of God, Tlaloc, and became pregnant. However, she was an irresponsible mother and left her young son alone while she satisfied her desires.

When Tlaloc discovered this, he was furious. He changed her name to Siguanaba, or horrible woman, and put a curse on her. From that point forward, she would appear beautiful at first sight, but when men got closer to her, she would change into an ugly woman with large floppy breasts hanging to her knees.

Tlaloc condemned her to roam the fields and appear to men who travelled alone at night. People say that they can see her washing

clothes in the rivers and looking for her son, Cipitio, who was granted eternal youth by the god Tlaloc.

The legend says that she often appears to wanderers in the night, usually to men who seduce women and boast of their conquests. These men are bound to see her bathing using a golden bowl and golden comb, her body shimmering in the moonlight through her nightgown. In order to keep their souls safe from Siguanaba, it is said in some versions that men must bite on a metal cross and pray to God.

If you happen to see a woman bathing in the river, and you’re not sure if it’s Siguanaba, you can yell “No Te Vas a Ir Maria Pata de Gallina” three times. If it is Siguanaba, she will be frightened. If not, people will think you are crazy, but that’s better than being scared. It’s always important to take the necessary precautions so you aren’t tricked by La Siguanaba!

by Maria Recinos

## Thousands of petals

In the past there was a girl living with her mother in a shabby hut but she was a very filial girl. Unfortunately, her mother was seriously ill, but because she was so poor she could not afford medicine, and the girl was very sad.

One time she was crying on the road. Suddenly an old man passing through said to her “go to the forest and go to the oldest tree in the forest to pick a single flower on it”. He said get a flower with as many petals as possible. “The more petals the longer your mother will live.”

She went into the forest and found the white flower a long time later. It was difficult to climb up to get the flower, but when she did she counted that it only had one wing, two wings, three wings, four wings. It only had four petals. Will her mother only live four days?

The little girl used her hands to tear the four petals into thousands of smaller petals. Her mother then lived to 100.

From then on people call the flower a white daisy to talk about her filial piety for her mother.

by Selam

Sam Navarria works in education at North Melbourne Language and Learning.

# ELLEN SANDELL

## STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

Hi, I’m Ellen — I’d love to hear your ideas and concerns.

☎ (03) 9328 4637

✉ office@ellensandell.com

Mail & Office: 146 Peel Street, North Melbourne VIC 3051



Authorised by E. Sandell, 146 Peel St, North Melbourne VIC 3051. Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office & Communications Budget.

## SPORT &amp; HEALTH

# MAMIL? Middle-aged male biker yes, lycra no

Tim Cremean

I'm not a lycra man but I do love my bike. I bought the hybrid after recovering from a cardiac arrest. I've always tried to keep up a level of fitness but the bike has helped me crank that up quite a bit.

My pre-bike regime was walking, tennis and gym but riding two or three times a week is strengthening my legs and belly as well as really getting the cardio happening when I take on those hills on the Capital City Trail.

It took me many attempts and half-trips to familiarise myself with the Capital City Trail and its few disconnection points, but finally, as my stamina improved and I untangled a couple of no-signage dead ends, I made it once around. It's about 30 kilometres.

It's my favourite trail. I do it solo quite often and have also led Dave, Ann, Peter and Steve, among others, along all or some of it from time to time.

The path traces old railway lines and creeks mostly as well as a good portion of the Yarra from Dights Falls to the city. I often return home up Swanston Street from Federation Square, thus avoiding about five kilometres of trail through Docklands and along the Moonee Ponds Creek.

The path carries thousands per day in sections like the stylish North Carlton and North Fitzroy. The many students and hipsters riding to work and study pass rider-friendly coffee shops like Green Park.

The Merri Creek section past Northcote and Clifton Hill is quite wild. I even dodged a tiger snake there one spring morning as it slithered across the path and down to the creek's bushy edges.

Past the bluestone labyrinth I go (no time to meditate) and over several small bridges into

Yarra Bend Park, the falls and then the Bell-bird picnic area. The birds never fail to sing and I wonder if it's a recording to entertain the apartment-living gentry who wander down to the river here in Abbotsford.

Sometimes I stop at the old convent, which is now a magnet for yogis, vegans and artists — a very different use from the old days when the dormitories were for 'bad' girls forced to do laundry service to keep them from temptation. On past the Collingwood Children's Farm where farm animals graze on the Yarra banks in this remarkable rural microcosm in inner-city Melbourne.

From here fitness is definitely required because you have to push your bike up three flights of stairs in order to get up to the Gipps Street bike/pedestrian bridge. Cross the river and then use your gears sparingly to reach the top of the trail's most challenging hill. I think I can! I think I can! I knew I could! — and then, whoosh, down you scoot to another bridge and into the Richmond section.

From here the path is broad and steady as you pass plenty of rowing sheds, private schools and eventually Toorak mansions.

As we get within a few kilometres of the city, now coming in from the east, the path becomes a pontoon paralleling the Monash Freeway but down at water level. From here the city starts to loom up and picture-postcard opportunities arise that capture rowing eights on the Yarra, green banks, Victorian bridges and skyscrapers, all in the one view.

Finally you reach the sports precinct of ovals and the National Tennis Centre before pedalling into Federation Square. I pedal past a favourite footy drinking hole, Riverland. On the river's edge just below Princes Bridge, this bar spills out from the old bluestone vaults with views of the river and its passing traffic. A great place for a pre-game beer before walk-



The Capital City Trail at Merri Creek, Northcote

Photo: Tim Cremean

ing the direct pathway to the game's birthplace, the 'G'.

If I take Swanston Street from here I go carefully to avoid trams and trucks but I love those priority green lights for bicycles, the illuminated little green bike signs at every intersection.

I can now power around this circuit in a little more than 90 minutes. An invigorating ride that delivers that lovely relaxing, slightly spent feeling throughout my whole body. It's probably also what sets me up for an athletic game of tennis later in the week where my game is built on running the ball down rather than high levels of skill.

Ann bought me a book of other suburban and fringe rides, many of which I do with friends. Often we catch a train to a starting point like Greensborough or Aircraft and then ride the creek-based trails back to the city. Another good one is taking the rail trail to Port Melbourne and then riding along the bay beachfront as far as you like, with brunch in Sandringham maybe.

Bike riding has made me part-time tourist guide. I sometimes help adventurous tourists with directions when they have strayed far from the CBD. I led some Uruguayans to Carlton via the MCG to help focus their ride. Then there was the Belgian friend's retired brother-in-law. An ultramarathon runner, he visited Australia looking for adventure in the outback and on arriving in Melbourne he wanted a 'vigorous' bike ride.

I led him around the Capital City Trail, down to Port Melbourne and the beach and then back into the city. Belgians love a beer, so we stopped at Curtin House. We went up to the city's original rooftop bar. Exhausted, I fell into bed that evening, but later received feedback that he thought I was fit. A great compliment from him even if earning it had taken all my powers.

The bike is freedom from traffic. The bike means healthy exercise. The wind in your face. Your muscles doing the work. The bike takes you to new places that you have time to investigate and appreciate. Long live the bike.

## A community that plays together

Wendy Alberni

The City of Melbourne Bowls Club (CoMBC) is located in the beautiful Flagstaff Gardens off Dudley Street in West Melbourne, near the Queen Victoria Market. The club has a rich heritage spanning over 150 years. It is one of the oldest continuing sporting clubs in the city.

In support of the club's Strategic Plan, specifically to contribute to the livability and wellbeing of central Melbourne, CoMBC actively supports the local community through our Community Charity Partners, Community Partnership Program and community engagement events.

City Mazda South Melbourne provides sponsorship to the club that enables us to run the Mazda Moomba Monday Fours Tournament and the City Mazda Cup. As part of the Moomba Tournament the club conducts a charity auction with all proceeds from the auction going to one of the club's Community Charity Partners, VincentCare's Ozanam House in North Melbourne.

This charity focus sets our tournament apart from the majority of bowls tournaments. The club is indebted to donors of auction items, and the generous response from bidders demonstrates their support of our values.

The club's Community Partnership Program provides discounted room hire and use of the club greens to over 70 local not-for-profit groups each year. Groups we support include VincentCare, Heart Foundation, Collingwood English Language School, Deaf Victoria, Liberty Victoria, Camp Quality, Victoria Legal

Aid and the Wilderness Society.

CoMBC continues to provide use of the club facilities to local school students from Simonds College and Haileybury College.

The Centre's Spring Fling Street Festival, which takes place annually in Errol Street, North Melbourne, and surrounding streets, provides an excellent opportunity for CoMBC to engage with the local community. This year club members again manned a stall and ran modified bowls activities in a prime location on Errol Street.

CoMBC strongly supports the Spring Fling



CoMBC ran modified bowls activities in Errol Street at the Spring Fling

Photo: Jeff's Digital Photography

and welcomes this opportunity to let both children and adults try their hand at bowls, while club members are delighted to invite all to drop in and visit the club in the beautiful Flagstaff Gardens.

In March 2019, City Mazda will once again generously support the City Mazda Cup, which will run over four Tuesday nights — 5, 12, 19 and 26 March. This event is one of the club's major community engagement activities, providing an opportunity for non-bowlers, new bowlers, old bowlers and the local community to 'meet your neighbours' at this fabulous

social event.

If you would like more information about this event please give the club a call on 8329 0211 or email mazdacup@citybowls.net.

If you would like to meet new people and bowl competitively or socially, or if you represent a local charity group or are a potential Community Partner, then please check out our website, [www.citybowls.com](http://www.citybowls.com) — we would love to meet you!

Wendy Alberni is a board member of the City of Melbourne Bowls Club.



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## HISTORY

# Man bitten by pig

Jason Ralphs

There was once a large building on the corner of Roden and Victoria streets. It was built for Ekman, a Swedish man who arrived in Melbourne in 1854. He sold cabinets for a living and became so wealthy that he built a factory and warehouse in 1875 on that corner.

A large portion of the building housed the North and West Melbourne Coffee Palace, and it was meant to appeal to wowsers and act as an alternative to the many pubs and hotels that you would find in North Melbourne at the time.

The North and West Melbourne Coffee Palace was known for being in a bad state. In 1913, the proprietor was taken to court due to the conditions in the Palace, with claims of “crevices full of cockroaches” and food exposed to flies. It was quite a slide in reputation for a building once advertised as a “comfortable hostelry”.

One of the stranger events at the Coffee Palace took place in 1923. At midnight, a 34-year-old clerk named Samuel Venning arrived at the Palace with blood dribbling from his thigh. He claimed that he had been bitten by a pig.

Escorted by police, Venning was rushed to the Royal Melbourne Hospital, where the doctors were able to view the wound. The attending physician, Dr Herchfield, was dumbfounded, however, because it was quite clear to him that the injury was a knife wound. Detective Jones questioned Venning about this, but despite the doctor’s opinion Venning was adamant that his injury had indeed been caused by a ferocious pig.

According to Venning, he had lost a cheque earlier in the day and suspected that he might have dropped it at a pig market in Parkville. It was while he was searching the pig pen,

he said, that he was taken by surprise and attacked by the sinister swine who caused his injury.

While questions may have been raised as to why Venning took so long to seek help, and why, of all places, he sought it in a coffee palace a kilometre away, even Detective Jones was somewhat swayed by the man’s insistence on his version of events. Jones would go on to state that there was nothing to indicate that Venning was *not* attacked by a pig.

We may never know what truly happened to Venning, but unfortunately the Coffee Palace is no longer with us. Destroyed by a fire in the

1970s, the spot it once occupied is now a car park, with a stylised map of the area adorning its walls.

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Victoria Street circa 1880, with the Coffee Palace at left and Melbourne Benevolent Asylum in the distance

Photo: courtesy State Library Victoria, image H11738, source ID 1800524

# PROV announces Local History Grants Program

Samantha Wilson

The Public Record Office Victoria (PROV) has announced a new round of grants funding for your local history project.

If your organisation is based in Victoria, is not-for-profit and is registered with the Office of Consumer Affairs Victoria (or is auspiced by one of the many organisations that meet these criteria), your project could be eligible.

The list of ways this funding could be used is exhaustive and includes cataloguing, interpreting and digitising artefacts and accounts, storytelling through a variety of media, conservation and training, and interpretation and signage.

The funding for this round has an emphasis on the digital, so funding, for example, for hard-copy publications alone will not be considered, but there are a number of ways in which PROV might fund your idea to capture our local history. You should bear in mind that

successful projects will be announced early in the 2019–2020 financial year.

If you are new to grant applications and feel you don’t meet the organisational criteria, it’s worth looking into having your grant auspiced. This means that if you are successful with your grant, an organisation that has supported your application, such as an incorporated association or cooperative, will manage the funds for your project, rather than the funds going directly to you.

This is a great way of working with an

organisation experienced in handling budgets and overheads, as well as cutting through the red tape that may be preventing you from making your project a reality.

For more information look here:

[www.prov.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/media/local\\_history\\_grants\\_program\\_final\\_v1.0\\_aj\\_20180827.pdf](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/media/local_history_grants_program_final_v1.0_aj_20180827.pdf)

**Applications close at midnight, Tuesday 18 December 2018. Late submissions will not be accepted.**

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# Moving Melbourne exhibition now showing at the Victorian Archives Centre

Tara Oldfield

**M**oving Melbourne: *Cities don't stand still* is a photo exhibition focused on a city in constant motion. From rowers parting the morning mist to protesters stopping traffic, Melbourne never stops moving.

This exhibition displays historic archival photography from the State Archival Collection alongside contemporary street photography. The exhibition is free to view at the Victorian Archives Centre, 99 Shiel Street, North Melbourne.

In the photo *Holidaymakers* from the archival collection, you can see the era of 1960s leisurely paced travel, where passengers regularly chose ships, rather than aircraft, to take them to their international destination. The passengers in this image are enjoying the facilities aboard the Sitmar flagship *TSS Fairsky*, which brought British immigrants to Australia throughout the 1960s and 1970s and began delivering purely recreational services in 1962.

This photograph was used as promotional material advertising Sitmar's luxury cruises to Victorian holidaymakers.

Leisure and movement are shown in a different light in the contemporary photograph submitted by local photographer John Robb, *Climbing, descending, standing*, which was taken at Docklands Stadium during the third-quarter break of an AFL night match.

View more historic versus contemporary photographs at the Victorian Archives Centre Gallery until the beginning of May 2019. Opening hours are Monday through Friday 10.00am to 4.30pm, and every second and last Saturday of the month, closed on public holidays.

Tara Oldfield is the communications and on-line engagement officer at the Victorian Archives Centre.



Holidaymakers

Photo: State Archival Collection, VPRS 8357-P1-4-004-181

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Novels twist and turn through Yarra Valley

Elliott Binks

### Jasper Jett & the Breach of the Sixth Crystal

June McIntosh

Jasper is a Voltaric Traveller. He just doesn't know it yet.

So he isn't aware of his special powers, which allow him to teleport anywhere in the blink of an eye or speak to others without even talking. Nor does he know of the Heartland — the secret world that lies beneath the surface of the earth.

In the first novel of June McIntosh's *Jasper Jett* series, McIntosh's imagination runs wild. She creates an entire world beneath the earth that 11-year-old Jasper discovers alongside his best friend Sam.

It's a world of crystals, chakras and auras, where people exist as souls without bodies. It's also a world that's been plunged into grave danger — danger that Jasper and Sam experience first-hand.

McIntosh takes us on a journey full of unexpected twists, introducing us to a whole host of unique characters, some of whom are human, others less so. It's also a very Australian novel, taking place during the January summer holidays and set in and around — or often underneath — Marysville in the Yarra Valley.



Jasper Jett & the Breach of the Sixth Crystal  
Cover design: Rairu Rebolledo, Bounce Books

A story of fantasy, family and friends, *Jasper Jett & the Breach of the Sixth Crystal* will give children plenty to get lost in this festive period.

### Jasper Jett & the Sceptre of Selenite

June McIntosh

The second instalment in the *Jasper Jett* series sees Jasper and Sam pick right up from where they left off.

The pair return to the Heartland after receiving an invitation to the annual meeting of the Albumen. Their trip will also see them start a new training schedule to help them master their newfound abilities.

But, much like their first trip to the Heartland, not everything goes according to plan. And the dangers they faced during their previous adventures eventually come back to haunt them.

As in book one, McIntosh weaves together an intricate story that is capped off with another unexpected conclusion.

Her descriptions of the fantasy world, and the characters within it, remain as vivid as ever. And this time the boys manage to explore a few more spots on the surface of the earth, from Gippsland to the Dandenong Ranges. There's even time for an impromptu trip to Disneyland along the way.

*Jasper Jett & the Sceptre of Selenite* goes above and beyond its predecessor, as the boys learn more about the powers they hold, the power of selenite and the power of the old



Jasper Jett & the Sceptre of Selenite  
Cover design: Rairu Rebolledo, Bounce Books

saying: love many, trust few, but always paddle your own canoe.

For more information on June and her books visit [www.junemcintoshauthor.com.au](http://www.junemcintoshauthor.com.au).



## Between the Covers

Chris Saliba

**We Begin Our Ascent**  
Joe Mungo Reed  
(HarperCollins. \$27.99)



The narrator of *We Begin Our Ascent*, Sol, is a competitor in the Tour de France. He rides in the peloton as a member of a team of riders who alternate positions to maximise their performance. His wife, Liz, is a research biologist. Both are very competitive — Liz perhaps more so.

When the team's sinister coach, Rafael, suggests to Sol that he start doping to improve his performance, he is horrified, but soon succumbs. As difficulties arise with the drug's supply chain, Liz readily agrees to help. Can their relationship survive such elaborate deception and its attendant risks?

Joe Mungo Reed's debut novel about the peculiar side effects of ambition is tautly written and skilfully plotted. The many scenes involving racing, manoeuvring as part of a peloton and the physical sensations of high-performance riding are compelling. The novel's portrait of the manipulative and slimy coach Rafael is so well done it makes the skin crawl, while the dithering, vacillating, hand-wringing Sol and his go-getter wife Liz are the Macbeth and Lady Macbeth of the cycling world.

A cautionary but also existential tale about the emptiness often found at the centre of our desires.

**Speaking Up**  
Gillian Triggs  
(Melbourne University Press. \$45)



Gillian Triggs, former president of the Australian Human Rights Commission, uses her years of experience and learning to discuss at length a range of human rights issues that she cares deeply about, everything from the treatment of asylum seekers right through to the marriage equality vote.

The main concern of *Speaking Up* is how Australian parliaments are encroaching upon the liberties that we have inherited over the centuries as part of the common law.

For example, the federal parliament has laws that allow asylum seekers to be detained indefinitely and yet the Magna Carta (drafted in 1215 to put a check on the executive power of kings) prohibits imprisonment without charge. Writes Triggs: "The common law has become an insubstantial spectre with little capacity to restrain parliamentary excesses."

*Speaking Up* puts its case calmly and confidently. It provides a thorough and reasoned survey of Australia's human rights record, finding that further vigilance is required to meet the country's obligations.

Whether you agree with Triggs's analysis or not, this is a formidable book that can't be ignored. Important and timely, *Speaking Up* is mandatory reading for those interested in the law, democracy and human rights.

**Girldtopia**  
Hilary Rogers  
(Scholastic. \$14.99)



One day 12-year-old Clara Bloom goes to school to find that there are no boys present. The male teachers are absent too. What could be going on? It appears a mysterious virus has afflicted all the men and boys in the city of Melbourne. A state of emergency is announced, major roads are blocked and there are up-to-the-minute television reports. Meanwhile Clara's dad has gone fishing in regional Gippsland, along with friend Pete and his son Jack.

Clara and her teenage friend Izzy worry that the fishing trio may try to return to Melbourne, which would put them at risk of contracting the mysterious virus. Izzy, who has just received her licence, offers to drive to Gippsland. After picking up Clara's best friend, Arabella, the three girls go on a daring road trip.

*Girldtopia* is the first instalment of a three-part series of novels from North Melbourne writer Hilary Rogers. With its dystopian flavour and well-timed plotting, *Girldtopia* makes for addictive reading. It has mystery, humour and loads of adventure. The main character, Clara, is easy to relate to, a young girl trying to piece her world together just as it is falling apart. Even though her parents are separating and life is full of confusion, she discovers strengths she never knew she had.

Parents will be happy with the novel's girl-power messages of independence, resilience and positive self-image. *Girldtopia* will appeal to readers aged nine and up.

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

# One artist's journey to River Studios

Nancy Lane

It all started about two years ago with a long, flat, narrow strip of metal that I found on the street on my way to the gym in North Melbourne.

I wondered what it was and where it had come from. Then I started finding similar metal strips on random streets at random times. Were they from telephone poles? Streetlights? Building sites?

While looking for these 'mystery objects', I also started finding nuts, bolts, washers, nails, screws, bobby pins and more. I considered it my civic duty to pick them up before they punctured someone's tyres, but I also wanted to find a way to reuse and repurpose them so as not to add to landfill.

I hit upon the idea of using these lost bits of metal to make wall sculptures. I now call myself a 'found object assemblage sculptor', though my husband jokes that I am really a 'bag lady', because whenever I go walking I pick up trash from the gutters and bring it home in a plastic bag. My daughter just calls me 'my mother, the junk gluer'.

I start each of my wall sculptures by experimenting, laying out bits of metal on a block of wood or tile that I've also found on the street. I usually leave my works sitting for several days, adding or removing or rearranging the metal to observe the effect in different light from different angles. When I finally feel satisfied with the aesthetics of a work, I glue the pieces, then use a toothpick to remove excess glue.

My artworks started small, usually less than 20 by 20 centimetres. I was inspired by the Melbourne skyline, especially at sunrise and sunset, and created miniature cityscapes. I was also inspired by the found objects themselves and often placed them in juxtaposition — for example, locks and keys, washers and wires, or bobby pins and nuts.

In early 2017 I set up an Etsy shop, NancyDeeSculptures, to sell my works online, and I started exhibiting at In.cube8r Gallery in Fitzroy. During the winter that year I went to Luang Prabang, Laos, as a volunteer at Souphanouvong University. There I noticed that the trash was quite different — very little metal but lots of plastic.

I couldn't help myself; I started making wall sculptures from plastic. My first solo exhibition was at the Lao Friends Hospital for

Children and I donated the income from the sales to the hospital.

Early in 2018 I had a solo exhibition at Melbourne's City Library, and my works were also included in several group exhibitions. This inspired me to make larger works, which meant collecting larger types of trash from the streets: hub cabs, bicycle wheels, clothes drying racks, even the door of a safe.

However, my home studio was getting too small for both storing junk and creating art. I desperately needed a bigger space, which led me to River Studios. This former warehouse is located in the back blocks of West Melbourne, on Sims Street off Dynon Road, just before the Maribyrnong River bridge into Footscray.

It was leased by the City of Melbourne and converted to art studios by Creative Spaces in collaboration with Breathe Architecture in 2010. The renovation prioritised the use of innovative, recycled materials and won the Australian Institute of Architecture Award for Small Project Architecture (Victoria) in 2011.

There are more than 60 studios in the building, available at low rental rates. Artists there include painters, photographers, screen printers, digital and film developers, fashion designers, textile artists, jewellers, sculptors, portrait artists, theatrical costume makers, glass bead makers, ceramicists — and now a found object assemblage sculptor.

You can learn more about River Studios and the talented people working there at [www.creativespaces.net.au/artists/river-studios-33](http://www.creativespaces.net.au/artists/river-studios-33)

The move has definitely paid off. Being surrounded by people with so much creative energy is stimulating and invigorating. I collaborated with a young German painter, Julia Zoellner, to hold an exhibition called *Upcycled from the City Streets* at the Guild Assembly Point in Southbank, and to create a sculptural installation for the Gasworks Arts Park *From Nature* exhibition.

I was also inspired to make works to exhibit at the North and West Melbourne Spring Fling. At my stall there, I encouraged children and adults to use my found objects to design their own flatlays, which I photographed and posted to Instagram.

And yes, before I forget: about those first, inspirational 'mystery objects'. Russell from my gym class saw me picking one up in the gutter and asked what I was planning to do with that wire bristle from the street sweeper brushes. Aha — mystery solved!



Nancy Lane had a stall at the Spring Fling Grand Designs Market, where she encouraged children and adults to use her found objects to design their own flatlays Photo: Jane Poynter

## TRAVEL &amp; FOOD

# Milonga night

Suzie Luddon

We recognised the venue as we approached it, recalling the directions on Google Maps and TripAdvisor.

A double-storey older-style brick building, just past the corner — no signage, just a door opening onto a wide wooden staircase, with a man sitting at a desk selling tickets in the lobby.

“*Dos, por favor,*” I stammered, handing over 200 pesos.

“Welcome,” said the man in English.

Is it that obvious that I’m a foreigner, I thought to myself, not for the first time on this trip.

I was frustrated at first, but was now merely amused that whenever I attempted to speak Spanish I invariably received either a blank look of incomprehension or a response in English.

“*Gracias,*” I mumbled as we climbed the stairs.

We found ourselves in a cavernous room at the top. There were a few people milling around looking as lost as we were — some partnered up and moving rather awkwardly on the wooden dance floor, others sitting at the tables along the sides of the room. They all looked to be foreigners like us.

It was dark, there was music playing, but not a lot going on. Maybe we’re too late, we thought, but then realised it was far more likely that we were too early. Buenos Aires was a notoriously late-night city, especially when it came to milongas. We were horrified when a tour guide told us that the best time to arrive was between 1.00 and 3.00am — that was way past even our holiday bedtime, so we opted for a local club on a Tuesday night, arriving around 10.00pm.

Once we’d become tuned in to the milonga culture here in Buenos Aires, we realised that they were everywhere. Indoors, outdoors, during the day, in the evening, very late at night and into the early hours, in every neighbourhood and open to anybody and everybody.

We’d planned to have a few lessons, after which we hoped to be good enough to mix

it with the locals. There’s a whole language of intricacies around tango etiquette, and we knew that our best chance of finding ourselves on the dance floor was to find a teacher.

Hearing music coming from behind a closed door on the far side of the room, we walked over and gingerly opened it, and were instantly transported to another world. This was it, the real deal, a Buenos Aires milonga. A smaller room than the one outside, with benches along the walls and a bar in the corner and with soulful music playing, this room held a dance floor full of couples absorbed in this dance of dances, the emblem of this city, the dramatic and sensuous tango.

We were enthralled as we found a seat from which we could watch the spectacle before us. How beautiful they all looked, how adept they were at dancing, how engaged each dancer was with their partner, how serious, and yet at the same time how casual, they were about the dancing.

It was as if all the other couples on the dance floor didn’t exist for the length of the tune. But once the music stopped, as it did regularly for a short break, they turned into seemingly regular people, some politely breaking away from their partner and sitting down, others chatting idly to each other until the music started again.

We sat there for hours watching it all, intrigued by not only the dancing but also the order, the system, the complexities involved. Some were obviously couples who danced only with each other, but others danced with a new partner for each turn, and seemed to be able to tune in to their new partners as if they’d been dancing together forever.

We couldn’t quite figure out how it all worked, but we were lucky enough to be right at the epicentre of the tango universe, and we were now hooked on finding out more during our time here.

Buenos Aires is often called the Paris of South America, but dig below the surface and there is a lot going on. Much of the stunning architecture does have a Parisian flavour, but there is also a *mélange* of unique neighbourhoods, a thriving music and entertainment scene, and a whole culture of tango just waiting to be explored — *¡vamos!*



Street art — Buenos Aires style

Photo: Suzie Luddon

## Recipe: corn and zucchini fritters

Ian Truong

Crisp on the outside, smooth on the inside, hot and fresh. All these in just one bite of a tasty homemade fritter. Whether you are having a late breakfast or an early lunch — a brunch — corn and zucchini fritters are the perfect healthy meal for a family of four! Keep reading to learn the recipe.

Serves four people

Preparation and cooking time: around 45 minutes

### Ingredients

1 large zucchini, grated or finely chopped  
3 large eggs  
3 cups of self-raising flour  
3 to 4 cups of milk  
½ bunch of dill, finely chopped  
2 fresh corncobs, cooked and kernels scraped off the cob  
1 teaspoon of salt  
1 teaspoon of pepper  
4 rashers of bacon  
1 large avocado  
Mayonnaise, according to your preference  
50 grams of halloumi cheese, chopped (optional)

### Method

- Put corncobs in a saucepan of cold water. Bring to the boil and cook for 10 minutes. While waiting for the corn to cook, grate or finely chop the zucchini.
- Mix eggs, chopped dill, zucchini, salt, pepper, flour, milk and cheese (optional) in a large bowl. Mix well. (Adding halloumi will give the fritters a nice chewy texture.)
- When the corn is cooked, scrape as many kernels as possible off the cobs and add them to the mixture. The mixture should be a yellowish colour from the eggs with a hint of green from the dill and zucchini, and it should have a sticky consistency. If mixture is too runny, add more flour; if too thick, add more milk. Stir well.
- Using a non-stick pan, cook bacon over medium heat until the colour changes on both sides. Set bacon aside. (The bacon can be cooked before preparing the fritter mix and reheated later if preferred.)
- Using a large spoon, put the mixture into the pan. Two or three spoonfuls are enough to make one fritter. Cook the mixture over medium heat for five minutes on each side. Cook until the colour becomes golden yellow on both sides.
- Remove cooked fritters from the pan and put them on a plate.
- Quarter the avocado and thinly slice the flesh.
- Spread mayonnaise on the fritters and put sliced avocado and cooked bacon on top.

If the bacon has cooled, reheat it before adding.

- Voilà! Your meal is ready to serve. Enjoy the taste of crispy bacon, silky-smooth avocado, mayonnaise and freshly cooked fritter in one bite!



Photo: Ian Truong



## THE CENTRE

# The Centre's Summer and Early Autumn 2019 Programs and Courses

From the Director



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

### Errol's Angels Community Choir

Time: Thursday 7.00pm–9.00pm  
Membership: \$176 / \$109 concession\* per term

Venue: Maternal & Child Health Centre, 505 Abbotsford Street, North Melbourne

### Home Away From Homework Club Primary (Grades 4–6)

Time: Wednesday 3.30pm–5.00pm

### Secondary (Grades 7–12)

Time: Tuesday 3.30pm–5.00pm

Cost: \$37 / \$27 concession\*

Venue: North Melbourne Library, 66 Errol Street, North Melbourne

### Open (Grades 4–10)

Time: Thursday 3.30pm–5.00pm

Cost: Free to City of Hobsons Bay residents

Venue: Altona North Community Library

### Centre Adventures – Monthly Bus Trips

Time: Tuesday 26 February & 26 March 9.00am–5.00pm

Cost: \$42 / \$32 Health Care Card concession\* #

Meet at: 58 Errol Street, North Melbourne

### Community Morning Teas

Cost: \$5 or bring a plate of food to share

Time: Tuesday 5 February, 4 March & 2 April, 10.00am–12.00 noon

Venue: 58 Errol Street, North Melbourne

\* subject to conditions

# subject to staff–student ratios

### Boomerang Bags

Help us make new shopping bags from recycled materials. Work at The Centre or sew at home.

### Spanish Language Fiesta – Saturday 6 April

Mark your calendar now! Would you like to get involved in community events? **Volunteer** for the 2019 Spanish Language Fiesta in April (and/or Spring Fling Street Festival in October). We need:

- Volunteer Coordinator
- Social Media and Marketing Coordinator
- Activity Coordinator
- Community Engagement Coordinator
- Graphics Coordinator
- Programming Coordinator
- Sponsorship Coordinator
- Event Assistant
- Site Manager
- Festival site crew

If you are interested please email [staff@centre.org.au](mailto:staff@centre.org.au)

### Something else?

Have you got a skill, talent or expertise to share? Would you like to start a club or discussion group? The Centre could be just the place to get started. Drop in or drop us a line at [admin@centre.org.au](mailto:admin@centre.org.au)



The Centre's IT classes are always popular

Photos: Carolynne Venn

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROGRAM

### Pilates @ The Meat Market, 5 Blackwood Street, North Melbourne

#### General Pilates Summer Sessions \$23.50 per session

Tuesday 5.30pm–6.30pm – 15 & 22 January

Thursday 6.30pm–7.30pm – 17 & 24 January

#### Tuesday Pilates Classes commencing 29 January

5.30pm–6.30pm – General  
6.30pm–7.30pm – General/Rehab  
7.30pm–8.30pm – Introduction to Pilates

#### Wednesday Pilates @ The Legion – behind North Melbourne Library Classes commencing 30 January

9.15am–10.15am – General

#### Thursday Pilates Classes commencing 31 January

5.30pm–6.30pm – Beginners  
6.30pm–7.30pm – Intermediate Plus  
7.30pm–8.30pm – Intermediate

#### Older Adults Exercise Classes @ The Legion – behind North Melbourne Library

10.15am–11.15am – Wednesdays commencing 30 January  
12.15pm–1.15pm – Fridays commencing 1 February

Cost \$194 per term or \$142 Health Care Card concession



## TERM 1 2019 COURSES

Bookings are now being taken for Term 1 and Term 2 2019 courses. Days, times and course costs are available on our website or contact The Centre on 9328 1126 or at [admin@centre.org.au](mailto:admin@centre.org.au)

### Information, Digital Media and Technology

Ten weekly two-hour sessions exploring

#### iGadgets

Four weekly two-hour sessions

#### Introduction to Customer Service **NEW!**

Six three-hour sessions plus one off-site activity

#### Introduction to Accounting/Basic Bookkeeping **NEW!**

Twelve two-hour or eight three-hour sessions

#### Introduction to News Media **NEW!**

Ten two-hour sessions

The Centre also has tutors able to deliver workshops, short courses or one-on-one training on a variety of subjects. Minimum and maximum numbers may apply; fees (if any) will vary. If you are interested in Art Therapy, Photoshop, Teacher's Aide Training, Spanish Conversation, Job Interview Practice or Résumé Writing get in touch!

Classes follow school term dates unless otherwise stated.

### The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne Inc

58 Errol Street, North Melbourne, Vic 3051  
Tel: (03) 9328 1126

Office hours: Monday 10.00am to 6.00pm  
Tuesday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm



Photo: Jim Weatherill

My first six months leading The Centre have been full of learning. Learning about The Centre and the many different things we do, from bus trips and IT classes to our Homework Clubs and Spring Fling. And this newspaper. And Errol's Angels, which I've joined. I've also gotten to know North and West Melbourne residents, traders and community organisations.

My first Spring Fling, on 21 October, was a great experience, and festival-goers certainly seemed to agree. With trams diverted around the festival for the first time in many years the festival precinct was quite a bit more spacious even if the streets closed to traffic were the same as last year. Festival-goers enjoyed the freedom to wander throughout the precinct without having to hunt down tram crossing points.

To everyone who helped to organise the day, starting with the Festival Coordinator, The Centre's own Tatiana Echeverri, and to everyone who came on the day, a big *Thank you!*

There are many ways for any local to get something out of an involvement with The Centre. A bit stiff getting out of bed these days (like me)? Sign up for a Pilates or an Older Adults Exercise class. Enjoy reading the *News*? Why not help deliver it, or perhaps even write for it? We can help you understand your new smartphone better, or you could help us make recycled shopping 'Boomerang' bags.

Did you enjoy Spring Fling this year? You could help put it on next year, or encourage a club or organisation that you're part of to get involved with a stall or activity. Customer service, community development or administration skills? Be a regular volunteer at The Centre.

I've barely scratched the surface, and we're always interested to hear what people want that we might help deliver, whether that be a workshop, club, course or just some information.

The Centre ultimately is whatever the community wants to make of it. So ... what do you want to make of it? I'm waiting to hear from you.

Tom Seddon



# Sun shines on Melbourne for Spring Fling 2018

**Tatiana Echeverri**

Melbourne produced one of the best Sundays of the year for the Spring Fling Street Festival.

Errol, Queensberry and Victoria streets came alive for the 41st Spring Fling on Sunday 21 October. Produced annually by The Centre, the festival was, as always, a great time for the North and West Melbourne communities to come together and celebrate their diversity, while attracting local and statewide community groups.

The festival kicked off at 10.00am and went deep into the afternoon, with the musicians reluctantly having to stop playing at 6.00pm.

The Alexkarbon Community Stage was buzzing all day with singing groups, including

Errol's Angels Community Choir and St Aloysius College Choir, dance troupes and some up-and-coming local bands.

A highlight every year, the Spring Fling Dog Show delivered once again. The north end of Errol Street was packed out as spectators applauded dogs strutting their stuff in their chosen categories. Most Obedient, Best Costume, Owner/Pooch Lookalike and Best Trick entrants kept everyone entertained. Special guest Catalina Gonzalez was the MC and Lucinda Dart, from Alexkarbon Real Estate, adjudicated.

The Victoria Street Music Stage got off to a great start with a ukulele performance and continued with beats that kept people dancing and moving. Right next to the stage and along Victoria Street, making good use of the tram-free space, were the third annual Melbourne

StARTers Market and Spring Fling's first Grand Designs Market.

Showcasing wares and art with a focus on sustainability created by a host of designers and artists, it was fantastic to see all the innovative works on display and for sale.

The Prop & Pose Co photobooth was busy from start to finish, and new initiatives and activities for both kids and adults ensured there was good fun to be had all day. Stallholders and vendors interacted with attendees for a day of much laughter, talk and smiles.

Entertaining the crowds in Errol Street this year was an array of multicultural artists showcasing their best roving acts.

The now traditional Suitcase Rummage took over Raglan Street with bargain-hunters casting a critical eye over the spoils.

Lighting up Queensberry Street was The

Precinct. With live DJs, local trader promotions, delicious street food and The Precinct Garden Bar, this corner of the festival was all about celebrating local entrepreneurs.

With the sun shining for most of the day and great tunes pumping at both ends of the site, the 41st annual Spring Fling was a fantastic day out for all ages. We'll see you next year!

*Many thanks once again to our amazing festival volunteers and to our very generous sponsors who helped make the 41st Spring Fling Street Festival such a success: City of Melbourne, North and West Melbourne Precinct Association, State Government of Victoria, Alexkarbon Real Estate, Flexicar, City West Water, Suitcase Rummage, Prop & Pose Co, W.B. Simpson & Son and many more.*

*Photos: Camila Vargas*

