

EAST MELBOURNE JOLIMONT

community magazine

3002



NEW PARK FACILITIES

Residential planning zones

Lots of community events

WINTER
2014

EAST MELBOURNE ³⁰⁰² JOLIMONT

community magazine

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Taken by Siusan MacKenzie in
Yarra Park

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TO CELEBRATE EMG TURNING 60 WE HAVE CREATED A NEW WEBSITE

www.emg.org.au

The East Melbourne Group first produced
a local news magazine in 1980 with past
editions held by the State Library.



With financial assistance from



EMG Membership

If you live in East Melbourne and enjoy our wonderful community and the amenity and heritage of our neighbourhood please consider joining the East Melbourne Group, our local residents' association.

Membership fees are very reasonable at just \$50 single, \$100 household and \$30 concession but every contribution helps EMG and its committee achieve its stated purposes which are:

1. To foster wide community knowledge of, access to and engagement in local events, services and activities so as to improve the connectedness and well-being of the community.
2. To preserve, protect and improve the East Melbourne community's:
 - residential character and amenity;
 - heritage qualities and the inventory of graded historic buildings;
 - boulevards, streets, streetscapes, laneways, views and vistas;
 - public parks, gardens, recreational areas, significant trees and plantings, including the careful management of East Melbourne's public spaces.
3. To increase and diversify membership and the participation of members in our activities so as to support our other purposes.

The East Melbourne Group strives to foster and enhance the strong community spirit that exists in East Melbourne and Jolimont but needs your input – by joining EMG, you can ensure that its focus remains broad and diverse to reflect our community.

Go to www.emg.org.au for a membership application or call 9415 7570.

New EMG Committee

The new East Melbourne Group (EMG) volunteer committee is settling down with a busy work program for the year ahead.

Secretary Stuart (Hamilton) and Treasurer Tom (Hogg) are making sure the wheels of the bus go around while Marshall Murray (Hohnen) rallies the troops.

Joanna Pace and the Amenities sub-committee are beaver away on a range of projects that include the upgrading of Wellington Parade and a much needed parking plan for East Melbourne.

Jacinta Ryan as a sub-committee of one is encouraging past members to renew their membership and new people to join.



Murray Hohnen
President

Barbara Paterson, with the Heritage and Planning sub-committee, is putting in a solid effort at the Town

Hall to try to influence the Planning Scheme outcomes. Anita Steinbarth is juggling her pursuit of the Jolimont issues she holds dear with leading the Parks and Gardens sub-committee. Yarra Park is a serious focus.

The emphasis for the Social Sub-committee led by Siusan MacKenzie is to organise a smorgasbord of community events and activities to lift our spirits. The community response to these new ideas has been enthusiastic and appreciative.

All the committee, members of sub-committees and numerous volunteers are pulling together to make a substantial contribution to East Melbourne and its enviable lifestyle. If you have a particular skill or area of expertise I'd be very happy to discuss how you too might get involved. Please give me a call on 9416 0164

Sizzling Sausages

Have you noticed the new barbecues and picnic tables in Powlett Reserve? The East Melbourne Group (EMG), suggested them to Council in response to feedback from a number of sources.

The facilities were put to the test when EMG hosted a community sausage sizzle just a week after they were installed at which time they were declared a terrific addition to the amenity of our neighbourhood.

'So many of us live in apartments or have tiny courtyard gardens so being able to come to Powlett Reserve where you can have a barbecue with friends without

having to cart along tables and chairs etc is fantastic. The playground and the shady trees are a bonus,' said someone enjoying a tasty sausage and coleslaw.

And there's more! A new light will soon be installed and strategically placed between tables and barbecues to minimise insect impact. A much needed drinking fountain is also on the way. The improved basketball ring near the tennis courts has

also been enthusiastically embraced by young and old – who knows if a local basketball star might emerge in time.

'It's a real example of the good outcomes that can be achieved when Council and residents work together to improve an area's amenity' said Joanna Pace, Convenor of EMGs Amenities Committee.



Community Events Something for Everyone

Following on from the fabulous community garden party at Bishopscourt in February, the East Melbourne Group's Social Sub-committee has been working hard to develop events that will be of interest to a range of people and suit all budgets.



Enjoying lunch after the film

Craft circle: On the first Friday of each month starting at 7pm at the community room in the Powlett Reserve Maternal and Child Health Centre. Anyone is welcome to bring along their craft, share their skills and learn something from other participants. There is no charge.

Classic films and luncheon at the library: Almost 50 people attended an event in May including a large group from Mercy Aged Care. The next film will be *By the Light of the Silvery Moon* starring Doris Day on 15 July at 10am followed by lunch. Cost \$8.

'What fun it was to sit among friends in our library. The clock rolled back in time as we watched a very young Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and the soon to

be Princess of Monaco - Grace Kelly in High Society. The music carried us away and on to a delightful lunch. Aren't we lucky!' said Prue Forster.

'It really was a great morning out for the residents and they enjoyed being included in a community event. It's wonderful to see such a great resource being utilised like this and thank you to all at EMG. Oh, and they were the best cream puffs ever!' according to Rose Hobbs from the Mercy.

Community Trivia Night: If you didn't join in the fun you missed out on a great night on 13 June. Local Fred Halliday was the quiz master and he ensured there was something for everyone. More

than 140 people made up 16 teams. Competition was fierce and delicious prizes kindly donated by the Lidgerwood and Hohnen families, Tippler & Co, East Melbourne Cellars and the Chocolate Box were very well received.

A raffle with generous prizes donated by eforea Spa at Hilton on the Park, Kiwi Fish and Chips, the Vine Hotel and GGs restaurant helped to raise funds for the production of this magazine. Pictures and details of all the winners are available at www.emg.org.au

Community Christmas at Bishopscourt: Put the date Sunday 14 December from 6pm in your diary to share some spirit of the season.

NEW RESIDENTIAL ZONES

A FIERY TOWN HALL MEETING

In early June the East Melbourne Group attended the Future Melbourne (Planning) Committee Meeting at the Town Hall to consider the report on the new residential zones. That can be viewed at www.emg.org.au

The proposed new zones arise by virtue of a state government initiative by Planning Minister Guy. The new zones are general residential zone (GRZ) and neighbourhood residential zone (NRZ).

The NRZ is very restrictive in what it allows to be developed and councillors use the words 'lock down' of heritage areas. It greatly restricts development and is what EMG has submitted ought to be applied throughout 3002 to protect our heritage and residential character. The GRZ is not much different to the ordinary residential zones that we have in place now, but will be a little more flexible for development.

We had already made written submissions which resulted in some change from management (attachment 3 of the report).

There were at least thirty speakers, mainly residents affected by the changes.

We submitted that the whole of East Melbourne should be in an NRZ

so that development could only occur through the prism of its restrictions rather than a GRZ which would lead to incremental development including many more dual occupancies and extended flats. This leads to irregular growth.

Many of the speakers highlighted anomalies. For example if you drive down Leopold Street in South Yarra, one side is NRZ and the other side is GRZ.

The speakers also pointed out that the council's response to the request by government for the zones that the MCC propose was slow, so there was not much time left in which to make submissions to the state government.

The councillors who spoke (Susan Riley, Kevin Louey and Beverley Pinder-Mortimer said not a word) seemed to be concerned about increasing growth throughout the City of Melbourne and the lock down that would occur were NRZ accepted with consequent stifling of growth.

We submitted that GRZ allowed poorly

planned incremental development and did not assist growth, and that if there is to be intensive development and growth then that should be through ministerial intervention.

We pointed out there are many significant developments throughout East Melbourne, such as the Hilton Hotel, Powlett Street Apartments, Tribeca Apartments, Freemasons Victoria Apartments, Epworth Freemasons, the Clarendon Street Apartments, the Mercy Private Hospital, the Wellington Parade Apartments, Epworth Freemasons, the Clarendon Street Apartments, the Mercy Private Hospital, the Wellington Parade Apartments, the MCG, Epworth Clevedon and Catholic University.

The point is, those matters are best handled on a one-off basis and should be through the prism of NRZ not GRZ.

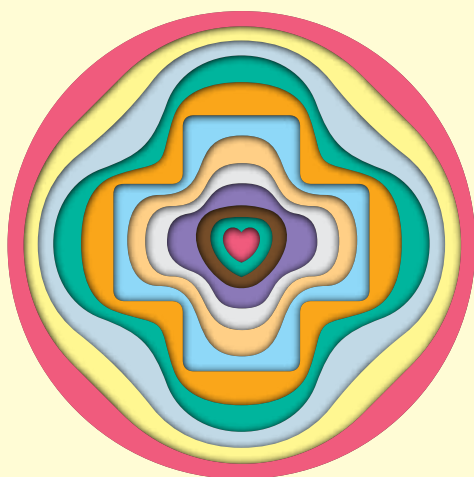
Mr Guy has already announced that there is likely to be a development over Richmond Station and four new ones in Footscray.

Councillor Leppert, to his credit, sought that the matter be adjourned one week so the planning department could take into account the anomalies that had been pointed out. Although supported by councillors Ken Ong, Kathy Oke and Richard Foster, that motion was lost.

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, said that all the objections would be put in the submissions made by the Melbourne City Council to the state government, but that was simply a sop to the objectors in the room given that the council recommendation will be different to the objections that are forwarded on to the Minister.

Councillor Stephen Mayne and Councillor Arron Wood were the main supporters of the council recommendation and rejection of the East Melbourne Group submissions. They both seem to be concerned, especially Councillor Mayne, that using NRZ would 'lock down' areas of East Melbourne, and stifle growth. They were content to accept the report of the planners without considering the anomalies.

The matter will now return to state parliament and may yet be passed into law. Of course, given the present shenanigans at Parliament House, that may not come to fruition in this parliament.



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get to know your emg committee reps



Barbara Paterson

Barbara is the Convenor of the Heritage and Planning Committee of EMG. She was born and raised in Melbourne and has lived in East Melbourne with her husband Robert for 11 years. They have three daughters. Barbara is a 'perpetual student' with degrees in law, public history and anthropology, disciplines which have proved very useful in her current role with the East Melbourne Group. She particularly enjoys Heritage and Planning because she can utilise her legal experience and she sees her interest in 'the use and abuse of Australian history' played out in the real world. Barbara's other pursuits include bridge, cinema, Arabic (studied in East Melbourne) and yoga.

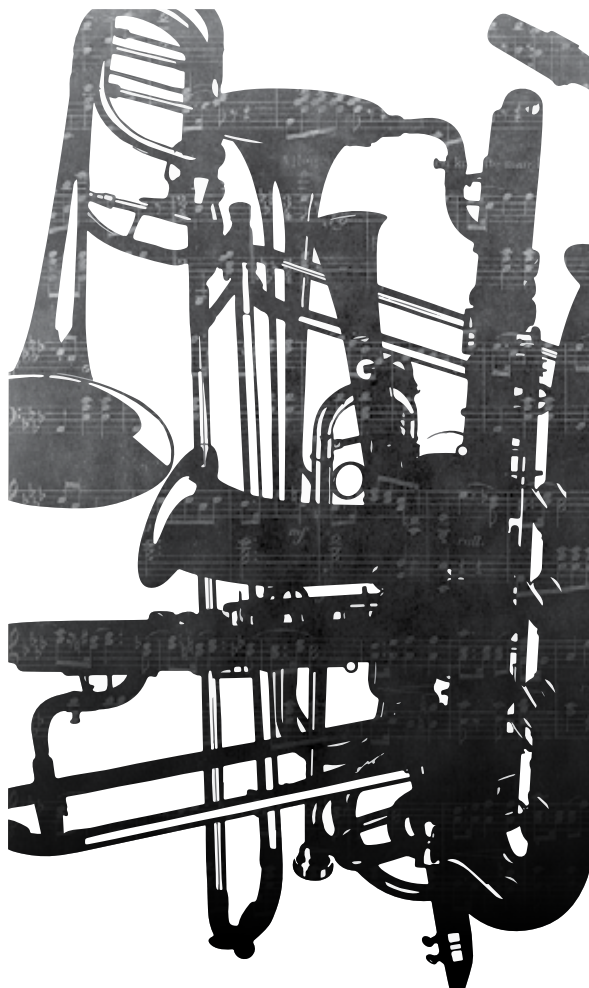


Anita Steinbarth

Anita is the Convenor of the Parks and Gardens Committee and a member of the Heritage and Planning Committee. She is a long serving EMG Committee member who has held the posts of Treasurer, Social Committee Convenor and is an active member of the Heritage and Planning Committee. Anita holds degrees in economics, law and art history. She was an investment banker, posted locally, interstate and offshore but always returning to East Melbourne. Anita has resided in East Melbourne and Jolimont for over 20 years and she is passionate about protecting its heritage and amenity.

Siusan MacKenzie

Siusan is the Convenor of the Social and Communications Committee of the EMG. Siusan came from the Dandenongs to East Melbourne 13 years ago with her husband and pets. After resigning from her demanding role as Head of Public Affairs at the CFA she started up a communication consulting business and needed to be closer to city clients but also still feel she lived amongst the trees. Siusan's passion for connecting community is what drew her to volunteer with EMG. Since becoming a member of the committee she has organised two major community events, the Fiesta and the Garden Party and takes responsibility for producing this magazine.



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Parks & Gardens

The East Melbourne Group Parks and Gardens Sub-committee is now convened by Anita Steinbarth and has a number of issues to look at.

A walk around Yarra Park revealed lots of damage to turf and tree root zones and a number of dead trees that need replacing. There is discussion taking place about dog off leash areas and their suitability. Another issue being examined is the apparent decrease in the number of native birds seen around East Melbourne and steps that might be taken to remedy this. One proposal involves the trapping and removal of exotic mynah birds which are present in pest numbers all over the suburb. There is a successful control program being implemented in Canberra.

The management of cyclists and pedestrians within Yarra Park and other areas of East Melbourne will be assessed. The narrow bridge over the railway at the southern end of Yarra Park is an issue as cyclists speed up to get over the rise and

pedestrians are put at risk. Shared cycle/pedestrian paths throughout the suburb are heavily used and not well controlled.

A walk around Fitzroy Gardens showed the park to be in generally good condition and well looked after. Rubbish left by park users is a concern. One issue is the increasing use of the hut on the corner of Lansdowne and Albert Streets as an area for people to sleep. The amount of rubbish and increasingly insanitary conditions in and around the hut are worrying. The damage from the recent fire has not been repaired.

East Melbourne residents are encouraged to pass on their concerns about these and any other issues relating to the suburb's parks and gardens to the EMG for consideration.



HOT DOG

All through the heat of last summer local dogs were left with their tongues hanging out as they walked through our parks because nowhere in East Melbourne is there a dog watering point. Owners have to carry water for thirsty dogs.

That is about to change. Angela Hill, Senior Parks Planner at the City of Melbourne has advised the East Melbourne Group that a new drinking fountain with a dog bowl at the bottom will soon appear in Powlett Reserve. Similar facilities are planned for Yarra Park. Fido will be pleased!

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A new perspective on 3002

By Lucy Battersby

Recently I became an entirely different kind of East Melbourne resident. I went from being a full-time office worker in the city to being the mother of a newborn baby girl, with several months of maternity leave up my sleeve. Instead of just appreciating East Melbourne's proximity to my office, I have suddenly discovered a lot of things I was too busy to see before or didn't need.

The parks are, of course, a great place to spend hours walking or resting and are full of things that little eyes like to watch such as running doggies and busy leaves. The Powlett Reserve child health clinic is an easy stroll away and a great resource. I also discovered the local library hosts nursery rhyme singing sessions every week to help remind us new mums where all the wheels on the bus were heading to, that

the cinemas at Victoria Gardens have an unpublicised crying room, and the Richmond gym has child-minding sessions every weekday morning.

Getting to and from the city is still convenient, but I have found I'm now willing to wait until a low-floor number 48 tram comes along to avoid pulling the pram up steep steps. (I suspect pram-pushing mothers and wheelchair users have a lot in common.)

So much time at home has also focused my attention on how empty and lonely East Melbourne can seem despite its inner-city location. Residents keep their gardens and houses very clean and tidy, but this manicured scene can feel like an empty movie set during the day rather than home for thousands of people. It would be nice to see more life on the streets.

I have seen and met other parents with small children in East Melbourne but suspect that many of them, like us, plan to leave the area despite loving it. Babies tend to outgrow apartments quickly and East Melbourne houses are too rare and valuable.

But for now we are happy to keep exploring everything this small community offers and to enjoy the peaceful autumn scenes outside.

Lucy Battersby is a journalist at *The Age* newspaper.



Lucy and baby Martha



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PUT YOUR BEST FACE FORWARD

Kaye Turner, eforea: spa manager at Hilton on the Park

While finding the fountain of youth has eluded many over the centuries, there is still a hidden secret for those who maintain their youthful radiance as if they were newborns – facials.



As the new Spa Manager at Hilton on the Park, I have seen many East Melbourne guests who have never had a facial before, or are just too nervous because they are unsure what it all means. Worry no more, as I give you the ins and outs of facial treatments and guide you to a better you.

Why the hype about facials?

Treatments that focus on the face not only promote relaxation but they provide noticeable improvements to skin tone, texture and overall appearance. Through increased blood circulation and cleansed pores at a very deep level, your face quickly gains more oxygen to the skin to create an envious healthy and vibrant glow.

How often should you receive one?

Generally speaking, skin cells regenerate every thirty days but this can be up to fifty days depending on age and lifestyle habits. This means it's best to have a skin therapist create a personalised facial treatment plan at least once a month. This will be particularly important as the winter months begin and heaters within homes and offices dry out the skin.

How long do facial treatments last?

Typically, facial treatments are from thirty to sixty minutes in length and vary in the use of skin care products. My best advice is to ensure you don't feel rushed, because relaxation and results are absolutely key to the whole experience.

How should you care for your skin after a facial treatment?

Some people can be alarmed by the small amounts of rosiness to the skin after a facial, but this is a very normal and healthy body response. Brought on by deep cleansing of toxins, the rosiness subsides in just a few hours. During this time, it is best to let your skin breathe, so I recommended no makeup for the first four hours. Your new layer of skin cells can also be quite vulnerable immediately after treatment so stay clear of the sun as you could easily burn!

A facial isn't a makeup application. It's more like a workout at the gym for your skin. People exercise often, eat healthy and receive frequent haircuts to improve their overall performance, so why not add a facial to the regime?

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What a difference a volunteer makes

By Robert McColl

When retiree Ruby downsized to an apartment in East Melbourne, its proximity to Mercy Aged Care meant no more excuses.

She decided to make a few enquiries, and see if she could be of any help. Now, as a volunteer with two or three short commitments to Mercy Aged Care each week, Ruby looks forward to her work.

According to Ruby, people are just so happy you've got time to see them. A lot of the residents have outlived many of their friends, and they don't get a lot of visitors as families are very busy with their own lives but the residents need interaction with the world outside their home at the Mercy.

Visiting her ill brother in care, where she saw the great need for some extra hands on deck, continues to motivate her more than anything.

'There were so many demands from so many different types of ailments,' Ruby says, referring to the staff's duties. Volunteers can help lighten their load a little.

'I particularly look after a man, Michael, who is completely blind, he doesn't even see shadows. He really relies on me to take him



Ruby helping to take her new friends out for some fresh air in the park

walking to get that little bit of exercise and I have enjoyed getting to know him.'

Michael says that Ruby's visits bring cheer and joy to his day.

Mercy Aged Care could do with more volunteers according to Ruby and she encourages anyone interested to consider making enquiries.

The work can be daunting, she admits, especially at first.

'Sometimes the clients are very hard of hearing and misunderstanding can cause some anxiety.

It's really a matter of having a bit of patience, allowing them to get to know and trust you. Just being able to smile, and cheer up their day a bit is so valuable and it doesn't have to take up much of your time.'

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Books we've loved

By Glenda Banks

Books we've loved gives readers a window into the wonderful world of words that have lifted our lives. We invite readers to share a book they've loved. We'll edit contributions selected for publication, which should include the name of the author/s and publisher. Several East Melbourne cat lovers have nominated this absolute gem...

Such is the warmth of *The Dalai Lama's Cat* by Perth author David Michie that, as the pages turn, readers may find themselves reaching for the comfort of HHC (His Holiness's Cat), imagining it curled up on their lap.

Written in the first person, HHC tells of how she began her close association with the Dalai Lama when he rescued her, a starving and pitiful kitten, from the slums of Delhi, to begin her new life as His Holiness's Cat.

Warm hearted, irreverent and wise she opens a window into the inner sanctum of life in Dharamsala – a beautiful sanctuary overlooking the snow-capped Himalayas – and His Holiness's travels beyond. A tiny spy observing the constant flow of private meetings between His Holiness and everyone from Hollywood celebrities to philanthropists and self-help authors, *The Dalai Lama's Cat* provides us with insights on how to find happiness

and meaning in a busy, materialistic world.

Her story will put a smile on the face of anyone blessed by the kneading paws and bountiful purring of a cat. For those who want more from HHC, author Michie gives us a follow-up novel: *The Dalai Lama's Cat and The Art of Purring* – a charming reminder of why HHC is becoming one of the world's best loved cats.

Both books are published by Visions and are available from the library, good bookshops and through Amazon online.



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A big stretch

- yoga at the library

By Robert McColl

Some people see that word yoga and assume they have to be turned inside out and upside down. Not so, according to Liz who teaches Yoga at the Library at the East Melbourne library.

'Some yoga teachers are daunting with their incredible bodies and flexibility, and I don't fit into that mould.'

Indeed, Liz aims for her Yoga at the Library classes, held on Wednesday nights at 7pm to be as accessible as possible.

'In my classes, I've had people from 12 years of age up to 85. The seniors can even sit in a chair and we adapt.'

Liz likens the many different strands of yoga to recipes for wellbeing. She follows Kundalini yoga. In Kundalini the postures are important, but it is breath based. The person whose mind is still gets the most out of it. Also important to Kundalini is conscious breathing, which enables us to do more.

Liz said, 'My mother is in her eighties and she wasn't able to touch the floor or pick anything up when she began, but when we went through gently inhaling and exhaling, she was actually able to do these things.'

Liz and regular class participant Kevin focusing on warrior pose.



Liz studied yoga in New Mexico, where Kundalini flourishes.

'Most of Kundalini yoga is done with your eyes closed so it's a very personal experience,' Liz says. 'It works well for the outside but it's really getting all those support networks that are going on inside your body active.'

Teaching isn't Liz's day job, and she isn't in yoga for the money. Her motivation for teaching Kundalini is that it's so good she had to share it!

Tuesday morning 7am Rise and Shine yoga is another option for practicing yoga at the library. Teacher Thomas Mc Crossan leads a Gita Hatha style of yoga class which targets the endocrine system or hormone producing glands, returning them to balanced functioning via classical age old yoga postures. Each posture is explained so the benefits are maximised. There are no prerequisites for yoga except a mat!

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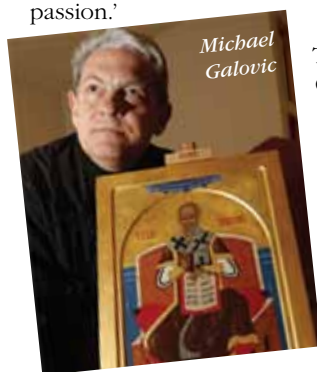
East Melbourne
Dental Group

Holy Trinity Arts Festival

The Holy Trinity Arts Festival is scheduled for August 15 -17 with an exciting program of words, art, music and dance. Make note of the date in your diary.

The Festival was launched in 2013 and builds on the success of the regular program of recitals at the church throughout the year.

Bishop Ian George said he was inspired to develop the idea of a full weekend of artistic entertainment with the support of the parishioners. 'This provides the church community with an accessible and tangible opportunity to engage with everyone in the area. We are enthused by the value of the arts, their ability to engage and transform our lives and enrich our understanding of our place in the world. This is an opportunity to share our passion.'



Michael Galovic

The church on the corner of Clarendon and Hotham Streets is an ideal and welcoming space in which to exhibit visual art and to stage recitals, and to offer hospitality and neighbourly rapport.

The art exhibition will display works by Michael Galovic, an artist who pursues both the artistic tradition of Iconography alongside his contemporary exploration of

the spirit. Performers include the international pianist Anthony Halliday and soprano Merlyn Quaife, The Melbourne Opera Chorus, St Francis Choir, local biographer Ann Blainey and the Baker Trio. The program encompasses a range of musical and artistic experiences to appeal to a wide range of audiences: it celebrates the centenary of Dylan Thomas, reflects on the anniversary of World War One through dance, along with 'Spirited Storytelling' to enthrall the young and young at heart.

The Festival chairperson Peter Nicholson comments, 'We look forward to greeting everyone to share our enjoyment and enrich the spirit. See what lies within one of the vibrant heritage institutions in your inner city neighbourhood, be entertained, refreshed in body and spirit and meet fellow appreciators.'

Go to www.holytrinitymelbourne.org.au to see details of the program and to book on line.



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the hut

By Sylvia Black

The East Melbourne Historical Society (EMHS) at one time considered the idea of using the small brick building at the corner of Albert and Powlett Streets in Powlett Reserve as its headquarters. In the end they decided not to pursue the idea but the process brought to light what was a little known aspect of East Melbourne's history and it provided an important and tangible glimpse into the history of social welfare.

The building now known by EMG as The Hut was the Old Men's Shelter and is on the register of Heritage Victoria.

During the nineteenth century the elderly were largely looked after by family or friends, or failing this, by charity. It was not until 1909 that the Federal Government introduced an old age pension. This gave the elderly poor some independence and the ability to provide themselves with permanent, if cheap, accommodation.

This coincided with a time when wealthy home owners were moving out of the inner suburbs to broader acres further afield.

Many family homes in East Melbourne became cheap and increasingly run down, rooming houses providing the new pensioners with a bed for the night.

Cramped rooms and lack of communal facilities meant that residents were usually discouraged, even banned, from staying inside during the daylight hours, forcing them to spend their days in local parks and other public places.

As a result, a group of elderly men living in West Melbourne, asked the council for permission to use a disused children's shelter in the Flagstaff Gardens as a club house. This proved to be such a success that the idea of purpose built old men's shelters was born. From the late 1930s the council proceeded to build a number of such shelters around the inner city. Only two of these shelters now survive: one in Curtain Square in Carlton and the other in Powlett Reserve. The latter was built at the request of local residents, and is an indication of the extent of the social problems in the local area at the time. These problems had been increased by the preceding years of economic depression, but so also had public awareness of the problems increased, and



The HUT administrative office for the East Melbourne Group since 2003 Formerly an OLD MEN'S SHELTER

a desire for reform.

The buildings were utilitarian in nature but solidly built and nicely designed and detailed. There was no shame in entering one of these structures. They provided welcoming meeting places, giving shelter, but more importantly, companionship and moral support. They were open from 9am to 10pm each day but there were rules: no animals, bicycles, alcohol, intoxicated persons, gambling, offensive language or the delivery of public addresses. The shelters are now regarded as the forerunners of elderly citizens' clubs.

The shelter in Powlett Reserve is typical of

them all. It was built in 1939 by W.J. Newman for £610*. The architect is assumed to be E. Beilby as it is almost identical with the shelter in Curtain Square which is known to have been designed by him. It is a small, single storey brick building with a steep, hipped roof of terracotta shingle tiles. For such a small building its front facade exhibits particularly decorative and attractive brickwork and it is regarded as a notable example of the period by Heritage Victoria.

Inside there is a small entrance foyer. On the left is a bench with a lift up lid, used for storing firewood; and on the right a store room. Beyond is one big single room about five metres square. A bench which used to run around three sides, provided seating for at least twenty men. Once there was a pot belly stove in the middle of the room. Its chimney remains intact and is a dominant feature of the little building. Wood was supplied by the council.

When the Old Men's Shelter ceased operations the building became a depot for council workers. EMG, in an arrangement with the City of Melbourne, and after a big clean up, moved its administrative office to the Hut in 2003 following many years of operating from the vestry in Trinity church and before then, the old East Melbourne library.

*City of Melbourne, Council Minutes, 24 April 1939.

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TO DISCUSS LOCAL ISSUES

In March there was a community forum at the library hosted by the City of Melbourne. This enabled people to speak with council officers about matters of concern and to participate in a discussion with a panel of councillors. Some of the local issues raised at the forum and council's responses are outlined here.

VICTORIA POLICE PATROLS

Council officers work closely with the Victoria Police Crime Prevention and 'Operation Safe Streets' units. Victoria Police advised they have increased uniformed, undercover and bicycle patrols of the East Melbourne area to monitor activity.

Victoria Police have requested that descriptions of individuals and dates and times of incidents continue to be reported to them to ensure that an operational response can be developed.

To report any incidents of crime or antisocial behaviour contact **000** for emergency attendance or Melbourne East Police on **9637 1100** for police attendance.

You can report an issue at any time by calling Council on 9658 9658 or via the 'contact us' link on the City of Melbourne website www.melbourne.vic.gov.au

DUMPED CARS OR CARS EXCEEDING PARKING TIME LIMITS

Council was advised of cars exceeding parking limits in the vicinity of Simpson Street and Powlett Reserve. Parking officers have increased patrols of the area.

If cars are thought to be dumped or exceeding parking bay limits, contact City of Melbourne on **9658 9658**.

USING AND DEALING DRUGS IN PUBLIC PLACES

Park rangers are aware of drug dealing/use issues within Powlett Reserve and Darling Gardens through their daily patrolling. Park rangers do not approach individuals committing a criminal act, such as drug dealing. Parks Services have advised that this is not a part of their role to make an approach. They contact Victoria Police immediately to report incidents and request attendance.

For any issue regarding drug use or dealing contact 000 for emergency attendance or Melbourne East Police on **9637 1100** for police attendance.

DISCARDED SYRINGES

City of Melbourne parks maintenance and street cleaning contractors collect syringes and provide reports to council. Trends are monitored, and minimal numbers have been reported this year within East Melbourne including the vicinity of Powlett Reserve, Simpson, Albert and Clarendon Streets and laneways.

Park rangers have reported that no syringes have been found at Powlett Reserve or Darling Gardens for several months.

Park rangers do a daily safety audit/patrol of Powlett Reserve toilet and all other park toilets. Rangers have reported an overflowing syringe bin in Powlett Reserve toilets twice this year. Any report of a bin overflowing or damaged is actioned within eight business hours of notification.

If syringes are found contact City of Melbourne on **9658 9658** so they can be collected and incidents recorded.



Homelessness

Park rangers monitor people sleeping rough in our parks and offer outreach assistance, or relevant support.

Park rangers continue to monitor parks and engage outreach services provided by the Salvation Army 24/7 team and Victoria Police. No issues in Powlett Reserve have been noted for some months.

For any homelessness issues, please record time and days observed and contact either City of Melbourne on **9658 9658** or the Salvation Army 24/7 Service on **1800 2666 86489** so they can be collected and incidents recorded.

A shed for everyone



Left to right – Frank Coppens Vice Chairman of MMS, RMIT Industrial design student Jessica Mew, Member Peter Brent.

The Melbourne Men's Shed (MMS) held a soft opening in May to showcase the progress of the past year to the public. Cr Ken Ong was the guest of honour and warmly greeted visitors from as far away as Bendigo. This is a modern men's shed and membership is open to all people regardless of age, gender, geographical location or employment status.

Behind the scenes the committee has been establishing links with retired men to provide the knowledge and endurance this project requires. As a relatively young chairman Tony Bright's goal is to create new pathways to intergenerational activities to share the load. 'Members continue to learn tolerance, share community resources, and build respect for each other. We are increasing social capital', says Tony.

A practical example is provided by Dr Anita Munoz and the Royal Children's Hospital, RMIT student Jessica Mew and MMS volunteers. Jessica has designed timber toys for the hospital from up-cycled shipping crates. She said that attending the men's shed was an amazing chance for her to give something back to the community while making new friends. 'And I can pass on my design knowledge to others, which has been very rewarding.'

Now heavy-duty industrial equipment will be installed at the shed. This task is being managed by Vice Chair Frank Coppens and his sub-committee.

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150 YEARS AT THE GEORGE

By Robert McColl

The story of 65 George Street, East Melbourne – better known now as the George Street Cafe – begins with a Mr Thomas Main in 1864 when he notified Melbourne City Council of his intention to build in George Street. His original plan was to build three 3-roomed cottages, not four, but then again Main had also planned to spend the rest of his life in his native Scotland, and that wasn't to be either. After Main was caught between train buffers he wasn't quite himself anymore, and his doctor felt he would be better off in a climate warmer than Scotland's.

No. 65 was an afterthought to 59, 61 and 63 George Street. The four cottages stayed in Main's family until about 1920, when a Reginald George Milton bought them from Main's daughter. He owned them until at least the 1950s. No. 65 served as a grocer's until 1943. Mrs F D Davey was the next tenant and ran a library until 1956 – Davey's Locker Library – in the spot where many East Melbourne residents now enjoy their daily latte. For a time it went back to being a grocer's. Since the 1970s, though, it has operated as an eatery. Before it was the George Street Cafe it was the George & Simpson Cafe, and for a little while in the 70s it was known as – believe it or not – the Purple Chook Takeaway. Thomas Main would surely be proud that his little shop has been able to survive time's changes to remain an important part of East Melbourne's village life.



Current proprietor Michael serving one of the many coffees made each day.

Leaving with a tear in our eyes

After 28 years behind the counter Mina and Bruno Galetti have sold East Melbourne Cellars in Gipps Street.

Their friendly faces and generous community spirit will be sadly missed by all those who have enjoyed a chat while choosing a bottle to have with dinner.



GARDEN AVENUE ART DECO APARTMENTS

By Barbara Paterson



The Garden Avenue apartments, located within a cul de sac off Wellington Parade, are of international significance in architectural terms. The site is a rare example of an intact interwar development in the moderne style of art deco building popular in the late 1930s. The complex includes seven buildings designed by the Australian architect Ilife Gordon Anderson. His style drew on architectural influences prevalent in Europe.

The apartments were built to house young professional workers and were part of an Australia-wide project which saw a massive increase in the construction of small domestic flats in suburbs bordering city areas. They are surrounded by lawn, shrubs and mature trees, providing an oasis close to the city. The ethos underlying their construction was one of practicality and healthy accommodation combined with the aesthetic importance of design individuality, quality of materials and appropriate decorative features. Part of their heritage significance is that the apartments are still used for their original purpose.

What is so special about the Garden Avenue site architecturally is that all the buildings display an individual styling but overall they achieve an integrated balance of buildings and garden surrounds. All the buildings are of three storeys and are designed with strong horizontal and vertical emphasis. The building material is of brick and tile with concrete rendered balconies. The selection of brick is either Hawthorn or Glen Iris and covers a palette from cream to rose and deeper red. Most of the buildings have shallow, pitched tile roofs behind parapet walls. The buildings are well-preserved and rich in detail. It is the interrelationship between the buildings which forms an intrinsic part of the heritage value of the area.

There have been various attempts to further develop the site over the years – the latest proposal was tested at VCAT in 2012. These development proposals have been strongly opposed by EMG where the plans detrimentally affect the significance of this very special heritage place.

PEOPLE & PETS *the you meet on streets*



Emily Williamson

Emily and her partner moved here from New Zealand four years ago. They loved Melbourne, the city in particular, and living in East Melbourne feels like they are in the middle of everything! Emily loves the parks too and has dropped her gym membership to work out in the park instead. Emily only recently discovered the library and has been attending a yoga class there and utilising the study space upstairs. As a Health Coach (think personal trainer but with nutrition and lifestyle goals), Emily helps people take a proactive approach to their health and happiness. She doesn't yet have a claim to fame but she is working hard on that one!



Oli and Ruby

These six year old Border Collies go everywhere together. They are brother and sister from the same litter and have lived in East Melbourne for 18 months after making the move south from country NSW. It is quite a change for them living in an apartment now. Instead of rounding up cattle they round up the resident possum who visits their courtyard. Luckily Yarra Park is close by and they can run free there twice a day, chasing balls and birds. Ruby spent nine months last year in a pram after having both knees reconstructed. She now walks and runs happily and has developed a crush on Dr Bill at All Creatures.



Fiona Campbell

Fiona is a familiar face to many locals. She has worked at the library for 10 years and although she officially manages the adult collection and local history material she will happily talk about pets to anyone! She enjoys the library building, particularly being able to see the streetscape rather than feel cut off from the outside environment. A love of information and a desire to do something meaningful through her work inspired her to become a librarian. For her it's wonderful to be able to help people without asking for money because she believes everybody deserves free access to knowledge. Her favourite book of all time is *The Wind in the Willows*. It's a classic for a reason.



Joe Boston

Joe came to Melbourne from the Gold Coast two years ago. Although he misses the surf, his dog and his parents he wanted to experience life and work in a big city. He likes the fact that our neighbourhood is close knit and more residential than commercial. He particularly likes the art deco style of buildings here. He runs around the whole of the suburb several times a week. Passing through the Fitzroy Gardens makes him feel like he's on vacation. He also enjoys the great vibe of Sunday afternoon in the parks with lots of young people hanging out, listening to music, playing tennis or basketball.



Taylor Borsack

When Taylor came to Australia for a holiday she never expected it would change her life. She met her boyfriend in Queensland and ended up moving here from San Diego four years ago. She is now in her third year at Melbourne Uni studying Veterinary Science. Of course she has always loved animals. For Taylor one advantage of being a vet is that she can dabble in all aspects of medicine from surgery to orthopaedics, whereas a doctor needs to specialise. She works part time at All Creatures and enjoys meeting people but admits to being more familiar with the pets' names than those of their owners! She finds the easy going Australian attitude very comfortable to live with.



Rob McColl

Rob lived in Parkville before he moved to East Melbourne with his family three years ago. Even in their Parkville days, though, they would regularly visit the East Melbourne Library, which is possibly where Rob found his love of reading. He also loves writing, and is studying creative writing at RMIT University. Living here allows him to enjoy the walk to uni every day through our parks. He will be published for the first time in this magazine, having carried out an internship at the *East Melbourne Jolimont Community Magazine*. He's hoping he hasn't peaked here, but if so, he'll hold his head high like a winner nonetheless.

Community Noticeboard

SHAKSHUKA-STYLE CHORIZO EGGS

This is great for a lazy winter Sunday morning breakfast. You will probably have all the ingredients on hand, no last minute dash to the supermarket for a missing ingredient! The chorizo can easily be left out or replaced by beans for a yummy vegetarian variation. Makes 2-3 servings

- 4-6 eggs depending on how many people you are feeding!
- 1 spicy chorizo, cut diagonally into thin slices
- 1 tsp ghee (or butter)
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- ¼ tsp chilli powder
- 1 can of tomatoes
- 100g passata (tomato sauce in a bottle)
- salt & pepper
- coriander (or parsley) to garnish

Heat the fat over a medium heat in a shallow flat pan with a lid. Add the onions and chorizo and stir occasionally until lovely and caramelised. Stir in the garlic, smoked paprika and chilli powder, cooking for another minute or so.

Add the can of tomatoes and passata then reduce heat to low and let simmer for 10 minutes. Season the sauce with salt and pepper.

Make 4 grooves in the sauce with a spoon and crack an egg in each. Cover with a lid and cook until the eggs are just set, about 5 minutes.

Garnish with your choice of coriander or parsley, cracked pepper and serve with your choice of toast or pita to dip in the yummy sauce!

Looking for more quick and easy breakfast recipes? Head to Emily Williamson's website www.conscioushabits.com, sign up to her newsletter and receive her free ebook 'The Breakfast Experiment'.



VICTOR HUGO: LES MISÉRABLES – FROM PAGE TO STAGE

18 July - 9 November 2014 daily from 10am - 6pm & Thursday until 9pm at the State Library, 328 Swanston Street. Wheelchair friendly.

Timed to coincide with the arrival of Cameron Mackintosh's acclaimed new production of Boubli and Schönberg's *Les Misérables* in Melbourne in July 2014, Victor Hugo: *Les Misérables* - from page to stage brings together an extraordinary collection of rarely seen material from around the world including original drawings and watercolours by Victor Hugo, Rare scripts, scores, designs and posters from the 1985 Royal Shakespeare Company production, original costumes and designs from the cinematic portrayals of *Les Misérables* and interactive giving visitors the chance to dress up and take centre stage.



CHEAP FUN CLASSES IN EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING

Check out Laneway Learning at www.lanewaylearning.com for cheap fun evening classes in everything and anything. For example try a one night wine palate trainer, lunch boxes for adults, Japanese bookbinding or ukulele. Melbourne classes usually take place in CBD bars and cafes and start as low as \$12 with around 20 people to keep it friendly.

School holidays at the Royal Botanic Gardens

Have a look at the website www.rbg.vic.gov.au for a fabulous program of school holiday activities to suit children of different ages.



Winter Night Sky Delights

See the roof of Melbourne Observatory in Birdwood Avenue opposite the Shrine, rotate and open to view the amazing Australian night sky. Bring the night into focus using our powerful heritage telescopes. You may have the chance to view clusters, double stars and the highlights of winter - Mars and Saturn. Tours go ahead in all weather conditions every Monday night 8 - 9.30pm.
\$22 adult | \$18 child/ concession
\$65 family of 4 (children age 8+)
Bookings required. Call 9252 2429



Heading home after play group at Holy Trinity

SECOND SATURDAY READING CIRCLE AT EAST MELBOURNE

Unlike a book club, a reading circle does not set a book to read, each individual discusses what they are currently reading or a book that has changed their life. Whether a good novel, a collection of poetry, your favourite play, a biography or textbook however you reacted to it we want to hear about it. Sound like your cup of tea?

Join us!

When: Second Saturday of the month, 11am to 12pm

Where: East Melbourne Library Meeting Room

Cost: Free, but booking essential. Call 9658 9600



Mikhala and Kim

NEED A JP?

Justices of the peace are volunteers who provide document witnessing and certification services to the community both during and outside business hours. They do not provide legal advice.

Jan Burke from Gipps Street is a registered Justice of the Peace and she is very happy to take your call on 0413 623 111



Craft Group Up & Running

Would you like to get together with other crafty people to share ideas, skills and chat? Then bring your handiwork and join us on the first Friday of the month at 7pm at the community room at the Maternal & Child Health Centre in Powlett Reserve. No charge.



OOOH LA LA AT BENDIGO ART GALLERY



Undressed: 350 years of underwear in fashion

19 July – 26 October 2014

The importance of underwear in fashion history cannot be overstated. The majestic shapes of 18th century court dress, the distorted hourglass shapes of the Victorian and Edwardian eras, and Dior's cinched 'New Look' were all dependent upon elaborate corsetry, technologically complex petticoats, hoops, and padded underpinnings. This exhibition will feature highlights from the Victoria & Albert Museum's extensive collection of underwear that dates from 1750 to the present day.

The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece

2 August – 9 November 2014

This exhibition is a visually stunning and thought-provoking exploration of the human condition seen through ancient Greek eyes; with a particular focus on the human form. Selected from the British Museum's world-famous Greek and Roman collection, this major international touring exhibition will give audiences the rare opportunity to see over 100 historical works including the impressive Discobolus; an iconic marble statue of a discus thrower from the second century AD.

TICKETS FOR BOTH EXHIBITIONS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.BENDIGOARTGALLERY.COM.AU



EVERY BUILDING HAS A STORY

Open House Melbourne weekend Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 July comes with a range of new events including a tour of Pentridge Prison, film screenings, art installations and a launch party that you are all invited to! Stay tuned at www.ohm.org.au to see the building list and other details for the weekend.

CULT FICTION BOOK CLUB AT EAST MELBOURNE LIBRARY

Like your reading to be a little off the beaten track? The Cult Fiction Book Club is a free monthly meetup where we discuss books which have broken new ground in some way, have been written in an innovative narrative style, or contain edgy issues which cause a bit of a stir!

When: Second Saturday of the month, 10am to 11am

Where: East Melbourne Library Meeting Room

Cost: Free, but bookings essential. Call 9658 9600

Here's what we'll be exploring:

12 Jul Jurassic Park, Michael Crichton

9 Aug Picnic at Hanging Rock, Joan Lindsay

13 Sep Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck

11 Oct Neuromancer, William Gibson

8 Nov Brideshead Revisited, Evelyn Waugh

13 Dec A Streetcar Named Desire, Tennessee Williams



EVER STOPPED TO SMELL THE FLOWERS?

By Siusan MacKenzie

We probably all walk past the conservatory in the Fitzroy Gardens, sometimes stopping for a few moments of tranquillity en route to a city appointment, but how did it come to be there?

The development of conservatories in public gardens was extremely popular in Australia in the 1920s and 30s. At the time when flower gardens were fashionable, conservatories provided the opportunity to display new species, showcase specialist horticultural skills and educate the public in new gardening techniques.

Our local conservatory came about thanks to a letter written in 1926 to the Town Clerk from the Nurserymen and Seedsmen Association suggesting the idea. It was opened in March 1930, with many hundreds of people queuing to see the first display of begonias, a display which is still held every autumn.



There are five separate displays to enjoy each year.

Tropical and Poinsettia April – July

Cyclamen and Cineraria July – September

Schizanthus and Calceolaria September – November

Hydrangea and Fuchsia November – February

The conservatory is open every day from 9am – 5pm except when displays are being changed over.

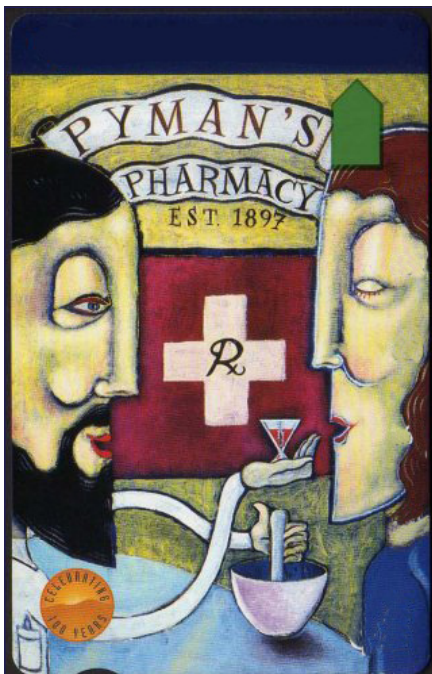
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