

EAST MELBOURNE JOLIMONT 3002

community magazine

**LAIDBACK LANEWAY
GATHERING 10 APRIL**

*Christmas memories
Yarra Park for the people*

EAST MELBOURNE 3002
community magazine **JOLIMONT**

PRODUCED BY

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www.emg.org.au

The East Melbourne
Group first produced a
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COVER IMAGE

Local families enjoying
fish and chips in the park

PHOTOGRAPHY

Siusan MacKenzie
and Yelena Young



[www.facebook.com/
EastMelbourneGroup](http://www.facebook.com/EastMelbourneGroup)



Murray Hohnen with Tara Watson at the Christmas party

A note from the EMG President

BY MURRAY HOHNEN

President East Melbourne Group

The East Melbourne Group held its AGM at the end of February. Around 70 members attended. The 2015 Committee reports are on our web site at emg.org.au

Our membership goal for 2016 is to continue to grow membership and at the same time lower the membership median age. I set each of the members at the AGM the task of recruiting one new member and promised double points for recruits under 40.

The Social subcommittee is already working on a range of social events for the year. Some activities will be the traditional ones, others will be aimed at the broader community including both the younger people in our midst and the more senior. We have launched a Facebook site to help get our thoughts out in to the broader community.

We are a voluntary organisation with a broad agenda, changing demographics and changing attitudes to volunteering and community organisations. Last year David Woodward facilitated a forum for members that reviewed our group strategy. In the coming months I would like to run a second workshop for members focussing on the important issue of heritage and planning. Although we, as a committee, think that we are on the right track, at least one member has recently

constructively complained that the EMGs external image is undeservedly poor and that the suburb is facing a development crisis. I am sure the new committee will welcome a reality check on the way things are done.

On the amenities front and in our parks and gardens we will continue to work with the Council and other stakeholders on issues that will undoubtedly arise. Parking in the suburb and Yarra Park are current concerns as is the noise and risk associated with helicopters and small aircraft over the suburb.

It was a privilege to work with the 2015 Committee, its Sub Committees, our administrator Carmel and the dedicated volunteers who do so much. I keep reminding myself that with one exception we are all volunteers and do what we do out of respect for the very special community we live in. It is not an easy task but I can honestly say that along the way we are finding a bit of time to laugh and enjoy ourselves and mark the gains we make on our members' behalf.

Say g'day and feel connected

BY SIUSAN MACKENZIE

Melbourne was last year awarded the title of the world's most 'liveable' city, and then East Melbourne was named the most liveable suburb. It came as no surprise to those of us who live here as we know 3002 boasts many features that make the suburb 'liveable' including a sense of community.

The features of 3002 as identified by people interviewed for the *People and Pets You Meet on the Street* section of this magazine are often repeated. Features that make for a great inner city life like walkability and access to just about everywhere; and neighbourhood events and activities including those hosted by the East Melbourne Group to connect the community such as the 2015 Christmas party, pop up market and trivia night.

Comfort and cleanliness of the area is also frequently mentioned as having an impact on the wellbeing of residents. We like that our streets are

clean and free of litter, and that we feel safe outside after dark in well-lit streets. Alongside that, the unique character of 3002 with its historic buildings that can't be easily replicated elsewhere is highly valued.

And everyone mentions the fantastic belt of parks and greenery that surround us, which enables us to enjoy great open green spaces so close to the CBD and partake in physical exercise.

Whilst we have a very small main street with mostly cafes for passing trade as much as local enjoyment, and we are certainly lacking some key services in the way of schools and gyms

which can contribute to a sense of social cohesiveness, East Melbourne still manages to feel like a community.

For me there is something else about East Melbourne that makes it liveable. It is a place where I feel very connected to the 'community'. That has come about in a number of ways. Through my involvement with this magazine, the community events I help organise and walking the dog, I have met a lot of different and interesting people in the neighbourhood. I also make an effort to say hello to my neighbours feeling that I share something with them by living here. I have often cooked

Outdoor exercise equipment

Would you like to see outdoor exercise equipment installed in East Melbourne?

If so, we need to know.

Council has asked EMG to gather evidence that this is something the local community really wants. The next step will be a community consultation to help plan what and where it would be installed. We are fortunate to have Jo Salmon, a Professor of Physical Activity living locally and she will be involved to make sure we get the best outcome. Please send a note to Susan via mackenzie@netspace.net.au



meals for older people who are ill or socially isolated, watered gardens, collected mail and intercepted intruders.

Interacting with people as well as places helps us to feel a sense of belonging.

Just recently it was me who was in need. Being in a leg cast and non-weight bearing for almost three months the sheer frustration of my disability was matched by the cabin fever I experienced. With one more sleep until the cast is removed (yes, I have definitely been counting) I am reflecting on how the community helped to get me through this difficult time.

There was no roster that I was aware of but every single day there was a knock on the door and people came with dinners, homemade festive cookies, skinny decaf cappuccinos, donuts (my weakness) along

with offers to walk the dog, water the garden, do ironing and Christmas shopping, buy stamps or transport me to appointments. Some just came to help me pass the time. The chemist and the general store offered to drop around anything I needed. I feel blessed to live in a community a few steps from the CBD where people make the effort to connect like this. It is this connection above all else which makes 3002 for me a thriving liveable community.

How you feel about where you live can make a big impact on your overall sense of wellbeing. Maybe 2016 can be the year of connection for all of us living in 3002.

- Say g'day to your neighbours of any age. A simple hello to someone feeling isolated can make their day.

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- Support local shops and services and become a regular. Nothing is better than when the barista knows exactly how you like your coffee.
- Get involved with the local community group – we are so lucky to have the East Melbourne Group that cares so passionately for our environment and works to connect people in it.
- Gather like minded people by starting an activity of your own. An eye catching notice at the library generally gets results.



Neighbours catch up in the park.

A community Christmas memory

BY TARA WATSON

The Community Christmas Party at Bishops court, run by the East Melbourne Group in December last year was a resounding success.

As part of the team putting it together, I was pleased to see that this second year saw an even bigger turn out by local residents with 700 people in attendance.

It was also wonderful to see many groups and parts of the community come together: Tippler & Co. busy with the bar; East Melbourne General Store providing coffee, businesses and individuals contributing raffle prizes, the local East Melbourne ladies baking beautiful cakes, and Joy and Philip opening up their garden.

For me though there was one moment that clearly stands out as a memorable part of the Christmas party. I had been busy all day, walking and checking to make sure everything was running smoothly: food being served, drinks flowing, coffee cart plugged into the electricity, and then...

“ As I came to the top of the rise on the driveway, I stopped to catch my breath. I slowly looked around to gauge the full impact of how the event was going.

And with a clear memory, like a panoramic snapshot in time:

I could see families sprawled on picnic rugs covering every inch of the large expanse of lawn... people sitting at tables and chairs laughing, drinking, eating... young children skipping and running, darting in amongst the rugs ... people standing by the bar with wines in hand smiling at someone's story...or wandering around the gardens of Bishops court admiring the beauty. I could hear the smooth jazz music and the sound of children cheering in the distance as the balloon man created magic.

In that moment I could truly feel what community was like in East Melbourne.

”

As the sun set and the event came to an end, with happy families retreating for home, I reflected on a wonderful Christmas community event to see out 2015. Once again it was a great team effort with a group of hard working and enthusiastic volunteers pulling it all together.

The next EMG event at Bishops court will be a community picnic on the green in February 2017.



The generous support of local businesses helped to make this event possible

Greens get behind fight to rid Yarra Park of Cars

ADAM BANDT MEMBER FOR MELBOURNE

Melbourne has been named the world's most liveable city for the past five years by the Economist. There are many features of Melbourne that make our city so liveable and loved by people around the world.



Ellen Sandell and Adam Bandt meet some of the regular park users.

Our beautiful parks are one of the things I love most about Melbourne. I love running through my local, Royal Park, with my dogs Albi and Max most mornings and seeing Melburnians of all ages enjoying the park's wide open space, its native trees and amenities.

But I have heard from residents in East Melbourne that they are too often not able to enjoy their local park, Yarra Park.

In 2009, the then Victorian Labor government took control of Yarra Park away from the City of Melbourne and delivered it into the hands of the MCG Trust.

MCG Trust has continued to allow people to park their cars there during sporting and other events in the area in spite of numerous requests from citizens for the return of a park that belongs to all the people and not just to the sporting bodies and sports and concert fans.

With cars frequently driving in and out of the park, the park has been damaged, including compaction around the roots of important trees, and the grass turned into dirt tracks. This is unacceptable.

Residents are also concerned for the safety of park users with cars driving in and out.

The Greens have been working with passionate East Melbourne residents to help make Yarra Park the serene local park it should be.

Greens State Member for Melbourne Ellen Sandell has asked the relevant Minister, Minister for Sport John Eren, in Question Time about whether the government has plans to address the problem. The Minister's answer was to lecture Parliament on the water recycling facility the MCG Trust has installed, while ignoring the impact that car parking has on the natural environment and enjoyment of park users.

The Greens are exploring options to reverse the Labor Government's action that has led to the damaging of Yarra Park by putting the park back in the hands of the Council.

We want to claim Yarra Park back for residents. In the coming weeks we will meet with the EMG Parks and Gardens subcommittee to fully understand local concerns and perspectives.

We would also welcome your thoughts in helping us to develop a considered position. Please contact us: Adam Bandt on **9417 0759**, adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au or Ellen Sandell on **9328 4637**, office@ellensandell.com

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY 21 APRIL

BYO dinner with the locals



This year Tippler & Co in Wellington Parade will be hosting a series of BYO dinners to encourage neighbours to get together and share a meal with their favourite bottle of wine. Corkage of \$5 per bottle will be donated to the East Melbourne Group.

Table bookings to be made directly with Tippler & Co on **9416 0618**.

Food will be ordered from the menu and charged at the usual prices. BYO wine.

Seating is limited so book a table for friends and family now.

Major development at local hospital

Epworth Freemasons Hospital has lodged permit applications in respect of a proposed medical centre on its site which is bounded by Grey St, Clarendon St and Albert St.

The permit application with Heritage Victoria relates to the two heritage registered buildings on its site – the original hospital building and the terraces at 128-132 Grey St. Simultaneously it has lodged a separate application with Melbourne Council for works within the heritage overlay.

EMG is objecting to the proposed development as are a number of local residents and groups. Our objections centre around heritage concerns - the proposed 41.2m tower will sit uncomfortably with the registered buildings and the heritage overlay. We also query the planning sense of additional medical suites in this well-serviced area. You can view details of the town planning application (TP-2015-1136) at melbourne.vic.gov.au



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From Dallas Brooks to the Eastbourne

BY BARBARA PATERSON



You may have noticed that the Dallas Brooks site is now surrounded by signage for 'The Eastbourne' which is billed as 'Melbourne's next iconic residential landmark' and 'an inner-city Eden.'

This proposal commenced in late 2012 when Freemasons Victoria announced plans to redevelop Dallas Brooks Hall for a multi-level mixed use development comprising 273 apartments (a mixture of 1-3 bedrooms), associated car parking and new Masonic facilities on the site's north-west corner. The height of 51 metres plus plant

was a particularly controversial feature of the proposal. The developers are Mirvac and its design partner Bates Smart.

Over the next 12 months a number of objections were lodged with the State Planning Department including those by EMG, Melbourne City Council, Epworth Freemasons and Eades St residents. Their principal concerns related to the proposal's height, massing and design which adversely impacted the heritage character and amenity of the area, overshadowing of the Fitzroy Gardens and loss of privacy by reason of overlooking.

The developer told EMG that one of the difficult but interesting features of getting this project up and running was the multiple stakeholders involved. EMG had several meetings with the developers on site over the course of a year during which time the plans were amended several times until they reached a stage where EMG decided not to pursue its objection.

In early 2015 Richard Wynne, Planning Minister, approved the development subject to 64 conditions. Importantly he required a reduction of the overall height of the building fronting Victoria Parade - to be a maximum of 40 metres.

Freemasons Victoria and Mirvac initiated VCAT proceedings; however the various parties resolved their differences. EMG understands that the conditions as set out by the Minister a year ago still stand but substitute plans provide further setbacks which ameliorate the concerns of the Hospital.

Landscape plans for the development are potentially attractive – the Albert St frontage will consist of 2 cantilevered wings with a park between them which is intended to create the illusion that the greenery is extending into the Fitzroy Gardens opposite. A circular driveway in the park will provide a drop-off point at the entrance to the apartments.

I am informed that the proposed works timetable is as follows:

- 2015 asbestos removal
- 2016 demolition
- construction will take at least three years

Plans to be advertised in 2016.

The Eastbourne is one of the biggest developments in East Melbourne in recent years and EMG will continue to closely monitor its progress.

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WaterAid New solutions for old problems

BY ROBERT MCCOLL

WaterAid Australia, located in East Melbourne is an international non-government organisation that works to enable the world's poorest people to gain access to safe water and sanitation. 'If we keep using donors' money to just build taps and toilets we can only do so much,' says WaterAid's CEO Paul Nichols. To do more, Paul describes a new approach to international NGO WaterAid's very old, universal concerns – a more sophisticated, hands-on, long-term approach that WaterAid is harnessing to achieve results.

An example of this hands-on, long-term approach is the liaising WaterAid does with local governments in countries including Papua New Guinea, East Timor, and the Solomon Islands. Helping these governments write and enact policy, train staff, and manage budgets, is imperative, if the taps and toilets built by WaterAid are to remain operational, and for long-term change to occur across provinces and communities. This long-term change includes facilities that will allow all women in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and Cambodia access to clean water and toilets after giving birth which is at present only available at half of those countries' health centres.

While the facilities often differ dramatically between countries, Paul says the move towards development of prosperity is about all countries committing to the same targets and goals which will be most conducive to real change. But while perceptions are changing, the money coming in has not, with the same people giving the



Francisco, 8, at a new toilet in Timor-Leste

Photo: WaterAid/Tom Greenwood

same amount. Regardless, Paul says, there are now more charities than ever competing for funds and they're adapting to survive. The new generation of volunteers and philanthropists perceive money differently too – as a means, rather than an end. 'Many young people who want to do good in the world, go and start a social business, and use the profits to do good work overseas, or they get on a plane and volunteer,' Paul says.

Paul describes these people as the 'people who already care', and mobilising them is an extension of what has always been WaterAid Australia's greatest strength – its capacity for collaboration with special concentrated interests, going back to its foundation in 2004 by professionals in the water sector who understood the issues. In East Melbourne there are multiple hospitals and lots of people who work in the health care professions who would really understand. Paul intends on reaching out to more of these local people to help WaterAid achieve its goals.

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Knock Knock, Anybody Home?

BY GLENN MCFARLANE
VIC POLICE CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER

Crime can happen anywhere and at any time. Criminals adapt to the environment that they find themselves in. Residents of the local community need to be alert and aware of motor vehicles, even bicycles and persons within their neighbourhood that look out of place.

If there has been little criminal activity in your neighbourhood and you believe that your community is immune, you still need to be alert and aware as other factors may displace crime from other areas into your neighbourhood. For example, police could be conducting a drug operation in a neighbouring suburb which could cause criminals or criminal behaviour to move location into your neighbourhood or suburb.

One type of crime we often talk about is the residential burglary. This involves the traditional residential house but also includes the new residential apartment buildings. Criminals often target neighbourhoods with unassuming or complacent residents. They also target buildings with visible weakness in

infrastructure such as open garages to commit offences.

A number of residential burglaries and attempted burglaries have been reported in East Melbourne already this year.

Police have noted a recent trend during the warmer months of residents leaving doors (front & rear) or windows open to allow air to flow through their house. Some have had fly screens or security doors fitted but these have not been locked. Doors and windows are left open when the residents are home – in the backyard or another part of the house – and away from the property altogether. Generally home burglaries are opportunistic with burglars seeing an easy method of entry and exit from the home.

Residents should install good quality door and window locks and keep them locked even when at home. Invest in an alarm and, or security camera. Make sure your home looks 'lived in', ask neighbours to bring in your empty bins and collect newspapers/junk mail and watch for suspicious behaviour. What is suspicious behaviour? 'The Concise Oxford Dictionary states, 'When a person, thing or act leaves a question mark in your mind, then it is suspicious.'

According to Glenn, 'It's all about opportunity so we're trying to reduce the opportunity and increase the risk of being caught.'

The Victoria Police website www.police.vic.gov.au has an electronic Residential Crime Prevention Information Kit & Security Assessment Guide located under the Crime Prevention & Community Safety tab.

It is important for residents to ensure they have enough house and content insurance to cover their valuables – in the event they do become a victim of crime. A lot of people fail to have adequate insurance as they forget about all their valuables e.g. jewellery which need separate evaluations.

Police request that residents call Triple Zero ('000') immediately if they are in danger or if they see anybody acting suspiciously. If residents have information to report after the fact, please contact the Melbourne East Police Station on **9637 1100**.



Where the community meets
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Do Yourself a Favour

BY ERIN COSGRIFF

I'm talking to all of us who like to feel good.

Volunteering makes us feel good and at the same time we strengthen the social fabric of our community. What a bonus to feel enlivened and connected just by being involved and supporting what we care about. Our personal and community liveability factor will rise.

So where do we sign up?

Here is the challenge: to find a group or organization which wants the time, skills and capabilities you can offer or even discover and cultivate for the first time.

Many of those I spoke to in preparing this article mentioned of the importance of finding the right fit. This can be an opportunity to really think through what you're good at, interested in and passionate about. There are myriad ideas to be had from googling



Happy volunteers at the Johnston Collection in Hotbam Street.

'volunteering'. Think local, regional and global –and ask those in your network. Think about what friends do, consider doing something that extends your knowledge and interests. Then find the formal or informal group who will appreciate and value your input. It's likely you'll already have a connection just waiting to lead you into further involvement.

Our East Melbourne Group, which brings you this magazine can use your help in small and

large ways; from letter boxing the neighbourhood four times a year, writing an article, helping out at an event, through to serving on the committee or a subcommittee.

City of Melbourne has a great tourism volunteer program. You may don the period costume and show visitors through Cook's Cottage, or be a city ambassador in red helping our visitors find all that is great about our city and even our little patch of it.

Locally there are many people who commit themselves to a diverse range of volunteering. There are consumer advocates, gardeners, playgroup organisers, aged care visitors, supporters of refugees and the homeless, events organizers, city ambassadors, dance classes for highrise kids. One personal favourite is my garden ambassador role at the Royal Botanic Gardens garden at Cranbourne, helping visitors to understand our landscape and flora. Some volunteers branch out much further geographically to undertake 'voluntourism' in Australia and abroad.

We are surrounded and supported by many cultural, educational, health, aged care and welfare organisations that are looking for your input. St Vincent's in Grey Street, Mercy Aged Care and the Johnston Collection would all welcome enquiries from volunteers now. So do yourself -and others – a favour and get involved. You'll give and get so much.



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BRETT MARTIN

Brett has lived in East Melbourne on and off since he was a teenager in the 70s. His kids were raised here and went to the kindergarten. He has fond memories of East Melbourne as it used to be, particularly Clivedon Mansion before it was demolished to build the Hilton. It was dog walking that really connected Brett to the community.

Most people know him as Turtle's dad. For pleasure Brett likes riding his Ducati motorbikes as well as target shooting and clay target shooting. He despises hunting and would never shoot animals. He is keen to see a dog memorial erected here. Now after three decades living in East Melbourne, Brett and his wife Jo are moving to the Gold Coast but he'll still pop in for breaky when here on business.



CATHERINE SCOTT

Catherine feels she has the best of both worlds living in an apartment here and with a house at Metung where she can enjoy gardening and boating. She moved into the area 26 years ago from Hawthorn and has never looked back. The friendly village atmosphere and the strong community commitment to preserving the heritage of the area makes her happy about living here. She is retired now but taught Adults English & Communication at Holmesglen TAFE for the bulk of her career. Over the years she has made many local friends and is now actively involved in the local Bridge group which meets in each other's homes with two or three tables each week. It is a very supportive group, both competitive but more importantly, social.



CHRIS BLACK & CANDY

Chris and his family came to East Melbourne nine years ago from Singapore. Like most of us they were attracted to its proximity to 'everything'.

Chris enjoys walking around the neighbourhood (generally with Candy) imagining what it would have looked like in the 1800s. Regular walks and games in Powlett Reserve with his son, events like the Christmas party and scolding Candy when she barks at people passing by from behind the fence has helped Chris meet some interesting people. Chris runs a funds management firm and was delighted when he won the Australian hedge fund manager of the year award. He has recently picked up kite surfing to help blow away the cobwebs.



ALBI

Albi the three year old golden cocker spaniel came to his home in East Melbourne on the same day as Flossie the ragdoll kitten. They have been best mates ever since and like nothing better than a game of rough and tumble followed by a kiss and a cuddle. The first year of Albi's life was really tough. He had severe hip dysplasia which resulted in two hip replacements before his first birthday. He is much happier now and loves walking the streets and parks to catch up with friends, stopping at Tippler for pint and to see who he can coax bacon from on the way past George Street café. He is often accused of bleaching his top knot but it is his natural surfer dude look. He has his own Instagram account which records the best times out and about.



ALICIA MATHEWS & GABBY

Alicia loves to put on her dancing shoes.

She is a regular at a 80s dance class and as a ballroom dancer has gold level in her sights. By day she works in the area of diversity and inclusion at Telstra. She recently joined the EMG Social and Communication Sub Committee and is looking forward to helping connect people through community events - that are inclusive across multiple generations. Being able to walk to work through two beautiful green areas and enjoying a drink at our local - Tippler & Co, seeing familiar faces out and about in East Melbourne are just some of her favourite things. She also loves to travel and her favourite destinations so far are Easter Island (Chile), Paphos (Cyprus) where she married Marcel, and Prague.



MARCEL MIHULKA

Marcel is a busy man. He recently joined the EMG Committee and he also volunteers on two other committees. He wants to see a confirmed strategy regarding the future of Punt Rd/Hoddle St, outdoor gym equipment in the area and the extension of the free tram zone to Jolimont station/MCG. For his day job Marcel works in e-Learning, implementing innovative learning solutions and instructional design for medical education. Working in education he values learning and has tried his hand at such diverse pursuits as photography, curling, Argentine tango and fencing. Proximity to everything that is great about Melbourne is what he loves about living here - being able to walk to a world class restaurant then burn off the meal playing tennis at the home of the Australian Open.

Watch your step!

BY FR GRANT EDGCUMBE,
HOLY TRINITY

On the Thursday before Easter part of the service incorporates the reenactment of Jesus washing his disciples' feet at the last supper. It is a powerful and meaningful liturgical action. We take our feet pretty much for granted. I grew up in a household where what you put on your feet was considered really important, especially by my mother who had a huge shoe obsession. My father was obsessed with how we cared for our shoes, insisting they were cleaned every night, even the space between the heel and the sole underneath. But the thing I remember most vividly was the many occasions my mother would arrive home with a new pair of shoes to be quizzed by my father as to the cost. Mum always used to say, 'Oh they were very reasonable, only \$300' and as my father turned away in obvious exasperation Mum would mouth the word 'each' behind his back.

So, as we celebrate Easter let's give thanks for Jesus' example of humility in washing feet, hope we can serve like that and give thanks for the true wonder of shoes.



Noisy for some

BY IAN MITCHELL

The East Melbourne Group through its Aircraft Noise Sub Group has been working for a number of years to reduce aircraft noise over inner Melbourne, particularly East Melbourne. More recently residents in other areas of Melbourne have voiced similar concerns about the negative impact of aircraft noise. We are well aware that in some areas of our suburb this is not a problem, however, in others the noise disturbance is quite staggering.

We work at the three levels of government, and with authorities responsible for air safety and services.

A City of Melbourne noise survey conducted with EMG and residents in September/October 2015 determined that 'public amenity was being negatively affected due to noise from helicopters and other aircraft'.

In February, we presented to the City of Melbourne Future Melbourne Committee a proposal to introduce a Fly Neighbourly Agreement. The FNA is a voluntary agreement between City of Melbourne and helicopter companies operating in the City of Melbourne to reduce the noise impacts flights have on residents.

I am very pleased to advise that the Future Melbourne Committee agreed unanimously to 'endorse management seeking to develop Fly Neighbourly Agreements with helicopter companies operating in the City of Melbourne'.

Whilst voluntary, this is a significant win for East Melbourne residents. We are grateful to the Greens Councillors Oke and Leppert for driving this proposal at Council. We also thank the Aircraft Noise Sub Group for its excellent work.

We shall monitor the creation of the FNAs and the success and compliance with all FNAs established. In time we hope to extend FNAs to other aircraft types and reduce the impact of aircraft noise over our suburb.

Holy Trinity

PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY
WEEK SERVICES:

Palm Sunday 20th March 2016

The 10am Eucharist will commence in the Fitzroy Gardens and proceed to the church.

Please gather in the gardens at the Hotham Street entrance.

Monday 21st March
Eucharist 7.00pm

Tuesday 22nd March
Eucharist 10am

Wednesday 23rd March
Eucharist 10am

Wednesday 23rd March
Tenebrae 7.00pm

Mundy Thursday 24th March
Eucharist and foot washing 7pm

Good Friday 25th March
Way of Cross Walk at 10am
from St Francis' Church.

Good Friday 25th March
Liturgy 2pm

Easter Day 27th March
Easter Vigil and Lighting of the
New Fire 6am
Sung Eucharist 10am

Free SMSF consult for EMG members – call this week

If you've been thinking of starting a self managed super fund, our free SMSF consultation can help you understand whether it's the right option for you. Alternatively, if you're an existing SMSF trustee a consultation with one of our dedicated SMSF experts might help you discover new ways of getting more from an SMSF.

Your local Dixon Advisory team has supported more than 6,000 Melbourne families establish and manage their own self managed super funds and we're confident that we can help you too.

Call us today to book your free SMSF consultation* with one of our local Superannuation Directors.

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* Information and advice provided will be general in nature and suitable for individuals or families with combined retirement assets of more than \$300,000. Fees and charges may apply to any services or advice provided following the initial consultation. Dixon Advisory & Superannuation Services Ltd ABN 54103071665 | AFSL 221143

Community Noticeboard

ACTIVE MEMORY - USE IT OR LOSE IT!

There are times when our memory leaves us high and dry: standing and staring blankly into the fridge; introducing a colleague before realising we can't recall their name; searching for car keys you thought were in your hand. It is somewhat comforting to know that short-term memory lapses such as these are not uncommon. Yet they can still be disconcerting, particularly as our birthdays tick by and we begin to wonder whether we are simply becoming a bit barmy.

Professor Robert E Wood will explore the impact of cognitive training and ways to enhance our mental abilities. It's a free event.

Wednesday 4 May 6.30 – 7.30pm
Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
30 Royal Parade Parkville
Ian Potter Auditorium,
1800 063 693 for more information



Please can I have that sausage dad?

A NEW WAY TO ENJOY OUR BOTANIC GARDENS

The Garden Explorer is a relaxing way to discover the 38-hectare Royal Botanic Gardens.

Hop on and off as you enjoy the live commentary, absorb the stunning views, and wind your way around the spectacular Royal Botanic Gardens. Tours start at the Oak Lawn on the hour until 31 May daily 10am – 3 pm. No tours on Friday 25 March and Monday 25 April.

Price: Day pass:
 full \$15, concession \$10,
 family (4) \$35 Call **9252 2429**
 for more information

LEGO IS BACK AT THE LIBRARY

Show off your skills in the Lego Squad at 4pm – 5pm, every Thursday during school terms.

The library has the Lego, you bring the skill. Beginners are most welcome.

The first Thursday of each month begins a new Lego challenge. Create book trailers, stop motion films, puzzles, displays and mix it up with craft and photography to create some amazing work.

For ages 7 to 13 years.



A GOOD READ AS RECOMMENDED BY FIONA CAMPBELL

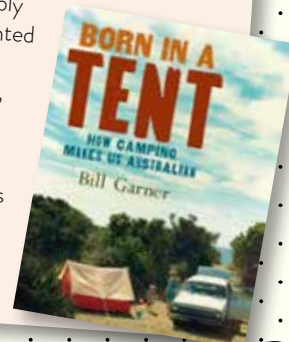
Born in a tent: how camping makes us Australian
 by Bill Garner

Just what I've always wanted, only I didn't know it: a book about the history of camping in Australia. I've always been a fan of the simple magic of camping but this book made me see its appeal and meaning through much richer eyes, in ways I had never considered.

Written with deep interest, creativity and affection for the subject, Bill Garner has examined camping in Australia via the contexts of settlement, social and economic necessity, the gold rush, rebellion, war, field naturalists and travelling artists to bring new significance to our history and recreational camping. The final chapter packs an elegant, powerful punch.

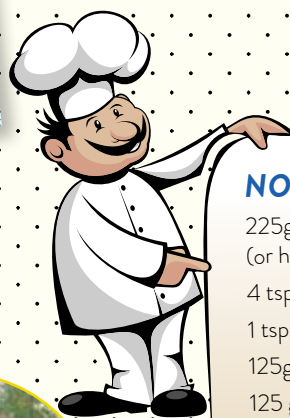
Garner's writing is comfortably informative, and complemented by a top shelf selection of historical paintings, sketches, photos and engaging anecdotes.

A refreshing read that invokes the spirit of camping even while you can't head off with a tent for the weekend.



TOURS IN THE FITZROY GARDENS

Interesting free historical and botanical tours take place in the beautiful Fitzroy Gardens every Saturday at 10:30 am. Starting from the new Visitors' Centre next to the Cooks' Cottage, this tour is highly recommended.



NOTTINGHAM GINGERBREAD

225g plain white
 (or half white/half wholemeal)

4 tsp ground ginger

1 tsp bicarb soda

125g butter or margarine

125 g brown sugar

225g half & half golden syrup and
 black treacle

150 ml milk

1 egg

Grease and line an 18cm (7 inch)
 square cake tin and set oven to
 150 degrees

Sift flour ginger and bi carb into
 a large bowl.

Melt butter, sugar and syrup
 over low heat.

Beat egg into milk.

Combine all ingredients and beat
 for 5 minutes with an electric mixer.

Pour into tin & cook in the middle
 of pre heated oven for 1 hour or until
 springy & leaving the sides of tin.

Store in an air tight container.
 It will go sticky after a few days.
 No problem with that!



Greg, Donna, Andrew & Glenda

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

CRAFT IT

Materials will be supplied in the kid's area over the school holidays to get crafty.

Make a paper wheel, diorama, stamping, finger puppets or a flapping bird.

When: Tuesday 29 March to Friday 9 April

No bookings necessary just drop by

BRUSH TATTOO

Choose from a range of fun designs. Tattoos last approximately one week.

When: Wednesday 6 April, 11am to 12pm

Age: 5 yrs+

Bookings essential

COSMIC DISPLAY

Create a constellation in East Melbourne Kid's gallery. Decorate stars, planets, moons and spaceships to help make the gallery display look out of this world.

When: Thursday 7 April, all day

Age: 8 yrs+



Jess & baby Wyatt

From little things BIG things grow

As residents of East Melbourne we all love our proximity to the Fitzroy Gardens but what do we know of the people who helped establish them?

Prior to European settlement the land we know as the Fitzroy Gardens was once grasslands with River Red Gums and Yellow Box trees. Koalas lived there in plenty. The nearby swampy land which in 1867 became the Treasury Gardens was the meeting ground of the six Aboriginal tribes.

In 1837 the land was intended in Hoddle's plan to be subdivided into building blocks, but in 1848 it was set aside by Governor Charles LaTrobe 'for the public advantage and recreation' and named Fitzroy Square, after Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy Governor of New South Wales and Governor-General of the Australian Colonies.

It was not until 1859 that the reserve was laid out and developed as a garden under the supervision of Deputy Surveyor-General Clement Hodgkinson with the assistance of Scottish horticulturalist James Sinclair. Sinclair did not design the gardens as has been sometimes believed, but his curatorial role was significant.

James was born on the Scottish estate of Sir William Gordon-Cumming in 1809. Recognising his drawing talent Lady Cumming arranged for the young James to study painting and landscape gardening at the famous Kew Gardens in London. His talents soon became widely recognised and in 1838 Prince Mikhail Semenovitch Vorontsov of Russia invited him to plan his estate at Sebastopol in the Crimea, where he introduced the pear, the grape, the apple and tobacco.

The quality of Sinclair's work so impressed Tsar Nicholas I that he borrowed him to assist in laying out the Imperial Gardens at St Petersburg.

At the outbreak of the Crimean War he returned to England where a conflict of loyalties between friendship and country influenced Sinclair to set sail for Australia. England tried to elicit confidential information from him on the Crimea which he felt honour bound not to give. In 1854, aged 45, he arrived in Melbourne with his wife and daughter. He began business as a seedsman with a shop in Bourke Street and in June 1855 published *The Gardener's Magazine and Journal of Rural Economy*, a monthly that ran for twelve issues and sold for one shilling.

Sinclair had come to Melbourne at a most opportune time when the Fitzroy Gardens were being developed. He started work in the gardens in 1857 and in 1859 he was responsible for planting the avenues of elms we are familiar with today. When rheumatism crippled his hands his second wife helped to complete his drawings. His work contributed much to the development of Melbourne as a garden city.

Sinclair produced many water colours and exquisite etchings. He also wrote gardening books. In *Two Hundred of the Principal Gardens around Melbourne* he eulogised over the gum trees found in the garden at Bishops Court. He also wrote poetry and in the words of one of his contemporaries, 'Sinclair's finest poem was the Fitzroy Gardens'.

The Italianate cottage, now known as Sinclair's Cottage, was his home from 1872 until his death in 1881 aged 72. The rear of the cottage is now home to the local community garden.

Sinclair's death passed practically unnoticed, it being left to a later generation to honour his name by a memorial tablet set in the path in front of his house. You have probably walked past many times.



Sinclair's Cottage today.

THE FITZROY GARDENS

– AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW –

BY GEOFF THORN

I remember my Grandmother's sitting room. It was always perfect, waiting for that special guest. With its pristine lounge suite and crystal cabinet, filled with bowls and glassware.

The truth was it was rarely used and the cabinet never opened.

That is how I see the Fitzroy Gardens today. I walk in these Gardens most days. What has struck me is that they are hardly used. Certainly, workers criss cross them daily and the tourists surge around the new Visitors Centre. Office workers crowd the few seats available and on nice days they can be seen sitting on the grass. At weekends, a few families venture to the Tudor Village. Overall, these vast parklands, around 26 hectares, are kept 'special'.

I think it's time to turn the sitting room into a family room.

What is the logic within the Master Plan that discourages facilities that people need to actively use the Gardens?

Passive use, I'm told, is the overriding policy. It is supposed to be a place to sit on the grass, walk around, and enjoy the beauty of the Gardens.

Why not include permanent tables, seating and BBQ's around the perimeter of the Gardens? City workers and locals would then be encouraged to use the Gardens for outdoor entertaining.

Why not bulldoze the Pavilion Café and turn it into a world class children's playground? Its lease is up soon. Surround it with picnic tables and BBQ's. Make it welcoming. The journey to the heartland of the Gardens would be a popular walk. The current children's playground is sadly lacking in everything.

Why not turn the outer path of the Garden into a distinctive exercise track with timing clocks and water fountains. Either a synthetic or gravel track so that it has a different look to the current asphalt. It would be popular with locals and city visitors alike.

I understand my suggestions would attract usage and I understand this is not what these Gardens are for but it would make a most welcome change.

My Grandmother could never change her front room, but the next owners did.



East Melbourne Group

emg.org.au

Working together to keep 3002 the way you like it

Why become a member?

- 1 To help preserve all you love about East Melbourne and Jolimont
- 2 To support the work of EMG to connect the community
- 3 To add your voice and influence decision makers

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.



If you would like to have a chat about EMG membership and how you might become involved, please provide us with your details and we will be in touch soon.

Name _____

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