

# EAST MELBOURNE 3002 JOLIMONT

community magazine

## COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTY

East Melbourne's Big Day Out

**East Melbourne Group 60 years on**

**Dallas Brooks Development**

AUTUMN  
2014



## EAST MELBOURNE <sup>3002</sup> JOLIMONT

community magazine

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### COVER IMAGE

Taken by Siusan MacKenzie at the garden party

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Siusan MacKenzie and courtesy of Minister Wooldridge's office

### PRODUCED BY

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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.



east melbourne group

With financial assistance from



## New EMG Committee & President

*At the Annual General Meeting on 5 March a new Committee was elected.*



**Murray Hohnen**  
President

**Murray Hohnen – President**  
**Joanna Pace – Vice-President**

**Jacinta Ryan – Vice-President (membership)**

**Stuart Hamilton – Secretary**

**Tom Hogg – Treasurer**

Shelley Faubel, Bill Gillies, Siusan MacKenzie, Ian Mitchell, Barbara Paterson, Moira Rayner, Anita Steinbarth, David Woodward.

# A CONTROVERSIAL NEW DEVELOPMENT FOR DALLAS BROOKS

By Barbara Paterson

**D**allas Brooks Hall (DBH), built by the Freemasons in 1969, has been a significant part of East Melbourne's modern history. Times have changed however and developers now have ambitious plans for the site. Naturally a development on this scale is controversial.

Freemasonry began in Australia in 1853 and was established in Victoria in 1859. When DBH was built Freemasons in Australia numbered up to 70,000 but membership has now declined to around 12 000. The organisation needed to consolidate buildings in order to be economically viable. A contributing factor was that the conventions held at the Centre were never its core business. Freemasons is retaining ownership of the site which it is developing with joint venture partner Mirvac Group. The architects are Bates Smart.

DBH will be demolished and replaced with a large apartment complex. The Albert St frontage will consist of two wings of apartment with a park between the wings. The idea is that the park will harmonise with the Fitzroy Gardens opposite in a 'single, calm environment.' A circular driveway in the park will provide a drop-off point at the entrance to the apartments. The greater bulk of the building will be on Victoria Pde.

The planned apartments currently number about 275 and they range in size between one and four bedrooms. They are designed for owner/occupiers. The developer conceives of the apartments as 'an assembly of residences' which are 'calm, light and open.' The developers claim to have incorporated the craftsmanship so highly prized in Freemasonry into the building's design.

The Freemasons will retain space on the Eades St corner which will

consist of lodge rooms, a museum, a library and research facilities. In a pleasing acknowledgement of the organisation's heritage masonic artefacts will be incorporated into the design. EMG would like to see the building reference the pre- DBH history of the site, for example Presbyterian Ladies College was on the site for many years and several prominent Australians attended the school. DBH as an auditorium space has had a rich performance history.

The development has an unusually large number of stakeholders in the site including local residents, the Epworth Hospital, the Epworth Medical Centre, the College of Obstetricians, the Catholic Church, The City of Melbourne, and EMG, some of whom have lodged formal objections to the plans. Residents have expressed concerns about overshadowing, overlooking, lack of parking and noise from traffic in the area. The hospital is concerned about overdevelopment of the site with consequent privacy issues for its patients, overshadowing, acoustic impacts and also the effect the development will have on its own future plans for expansion. Overshadowing of the Fitzroy Gardens is an issue. Every objector has raised heritage concerns.

Last December the City of Melbourne, whilst acknowledging that the site was capable of redevelopment, objected to the development on the grounds of overshadowing of Fitzroy Gardens and on the basis that its bulk and height were detrimental to the heritage precinct. EMG also formally objected to the plans at this time on similar grounds.

The developers have released 'New Concept Plans Prepared in Response to Issues Raised' and these plans have now been lodged with DTPLI with a decision expected shortly.

Newly elected President, Murray Hohnen responded by saying, "East Melbourne is a special suburb, made so by the people and the place itself. The 7.00 am walking group decided I should put my hand up for President. I shall organise things so there is plenty of fun and hard work, so that as a committee we will be remembered for what we have done rather than what we have talked about"

Two vacancies for members remain.

We would really welcome the involvement of new residents and young families. If you are interested to join the Committee please call Murray on 0439 811 017.

The meeting also approved new Rules for the EMG to ensure they are consistent with the new Associations Incorporation Act, and to modernise them in other ways.

# OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTY

By Siusan MacKenzie

*It wasn't the best day of summer for our community garden party and picnic but it also wasn't 40 degrees or raining. Phew! The volunteer gardeners at Bishops court had been working hard to restore the garden and lawns for our event after they suffered in one of our prolonged heat spells, and it looked terrific.*



The volunteer cooks around East Melbourne had been busy preparing delicious food to go onto the picnic platters and cake stall.

When the gates opened late in the afternoon and people started to settle into their spots on the lawn it felt like everyone let out a deep sigh of satisfaction as they took in the happy relaxed scene that surrounded them.

There were excited children with faces elaborately painted, all entranced by the antics of a Punch and Judy show and magician on the fountain lawn while adults had time to chat with friends and neighbours as they enjoyed their picnic platters and a glass of wine on the main lawn. In the background the sound of smooth jazz and soul music added to the atmosphere. Bishops court has seen many garden parties over the years and this was continuing a long tradition of historic significance.

Somehow it felt like we had all been transported and were part of an episode of the popular TV show Midsommer Murders all gathered at the village fair. Looking up at the Bishops court tower with its flag flying it was easy to let your imagination run wild. But no, we were less than a kilometre from the centre of Melbourne on its busiest night of the year and we all felt quite smug that we were part of such a thriving community.

It was all made possible because there was a vision and passion to connect our community. Archbishop Philip Freier and Joy Freier were kind enough to open their home and so many people got behind the idea and were willing to contribute time, effort and cash. It was a tremendous team effort and a great example of what makes East Melbourne the place I love to call home.

## Caine Real Estate

*Has been operating in East Melbourne for 12 years. Over that time they have often supported the work of the East Melbourne Group to connect our community. All of the entertainment so enjoyed at the garden party was provided courtesy of Caine.*

*'Caine Real Estate is honoured to continue its long association with the East Melbourne Group. The recent Garden Party was another brilliant community event conceived and delivered by the EMG that we had to be involved with. Congratulations on 60 years cultivating such a vibrant community.'*  
Jake Caine.

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## OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTY

*“ A lovely environment and community feeling*

*Wonderful! Great opportunity to catch up with neighbours ”*



A fundraising raffle held in conjunction with Holy Trinity Anglican Church raised much needed funds which will go towards the production of this East Melbourne & Jolimont magazine. The winners were:

1. **A GREAT NIGHT OUT!** Two A Reserve tickets to Wicked provided by the **MARRINER GROUP** and dinner at **CABOOSE** in the City Square won by **Helen Powell**
2. **\$300 LINGERIE VOUCHER:** kindly provided by **BETTY MCDOWELL LINGERIE** Glenferrie Rd Hawthorn won by **Mark Jenkins**.
3. **EFOREA @ HILTON SPA EXPERIENCE:** kindly provided by **HILTON ON THE PARK** won by **Kirsty O'Keefe**.
4. **TERM OF GROUP TENNIS LESSONS AT POWLETT RESERVE TENNIS CENTRE:** kindly provided by **Chris Ackerman** won by **June McKinnon**.
5. **18 PIECE STAINLESS STEEL BBQ SET:** kindly provided by **BARBECUES GALORE** Richmond won by **Mary Rowe**.
6. **A MONDLARKS CD:** kindly provided by the **MONDLARKS TRIO** won by **Rizzo**.

*“ Thank you so much, it was such a lovely evening. As visitors from the country it was wonderful to see community alive and well in the big city. Keep up the great work ”*







“ *Lovely evening, beautiful setting and fabulous platters* ”



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# EMG 60 YEARS ON

## & Still Working Hard

This year the East Melbourne Group, your residents' association, celebrates its jubilee. For sixty years the group of people that make up the association have worked passionately to protect, preserve and improve the amenity and heritage of our suburb to make it the place where we enjoy living.

At the garden party glasses were raised in a toast to their efforts and then Acting President Joanna Pace said, 'There have been many battles over the years as the EMG has led the community response to inappropriate development proposals. The battle now is to find a new generation of residents who share this passion for our community and who will take the East Melbourne Group into its next phase.'

Are you interested in joining EMG or our committee? If so please call Murray on **0439 811 017** or visit **www.emg.org.au**.



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### VOLUNTEER GUIDE INTAKE 2014

Applications are now being invited from those interested in becoming a volunteer guide at The Johnston Collection. Successful applicants will be required to take part in an intensive 10 session training program to be held on 10 consecutive Mondays commencing in July 2014. For further information and application form telephone 9416 2515 or email [info@johnstoncollection.org](mailto:info@johnstoncollection.org). Applications close and must be received by 23 May 2014.



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# A little bit of history...

## EMG in the Beginning

- A small group of residents banded together in 1953 to save the elms in East Melbourne from destruction
- The East Melbourne Group (EMG) was formed
- Elms in George Street are a legacy of initial efforts
- In the 60s & 70s they strove to stem wrecker's destruction in 3002 at a time when many of Melbourne's finest heritage buildings were reduced to rubble
- 60 years on, EMG is still working to protect & enhance the suburb
- Buildings that escaped that carnage are well protected & 3002 is now the suburb we enjoy so much

## EMG Now

- EMG is Melbourne's oldest & largest residents' association in Melbourne
- For 60 years people have volunteered their time to help protect heritage, enhance amenity & foster community spirit in 3002
- This work is ongoing to keep 3002 the suburb & community enjoyed so much
- EMG needs the ideas & input of the new generation of residents
- Please get involved – become an EMG member, have your say, join a committee

## EMG Preserving Local Heritage

- Fitzroy & Treasury Gardens placed on heritage register
- Mosslenoch's (36 Clarendon) Ballroom wing saved from demolition & placed on heritage register
- Art Deco Freemasons Hospital saved from partial demolition & placed on the register
- Artist Ola Cohn's residence (41 Gipps) saved from demolition & placed on the heritage register
- Bishops Court Garden (120 Clarendon) saved from proposed subdivision of land & placed on heritage register
- Yarra Park placed on heritage register
- Crathre House (118 Gipps) placed on heritage register

## EMG Stopping High Rise Development

- Proposed 16 storey tower behind Mosslenoch stopped
- Tower of 18 storeys behind MCG Hotel stopped
- Tower of 19 storeys behind Freemasons Hospital stopped
- Minister stopped from illegally interfering with the normal planning process of Hilton redevelopment
- Planning Scheme amendments pursued to better protect vulnerable sites along Clarendon Street & Wellington Pde

## EMG Upgrading & Protecting Community Amenity

- Campaigned over many years for new library & community room
- Campaigned to build new playground - Powlett Reserve
- Campaigned to build BBQs in Powlett Reserve
- Ongoing campaign to upgrade Yarra Park & stop its use as a car park
- Ongoing campaign to limit impact of aircraft noise
- Ongoing campaign to manage thru traffic & parking

## EMG Connecting the Community

- Hosted first local Fiesta in 2004 to mark EMGs 50th anniversary
- Other Fiestas followed in 2007, 2008 & 2012
- Hosted community street party New Years Eve 2007/08
- Hosted community garden party & picnic 2014
- Produced & delivered a quarterly community magazine to every 3002 household since 2001
- Conducted community survey 2013
- Hosting social events for members
- Partnering with local business to help fund raise



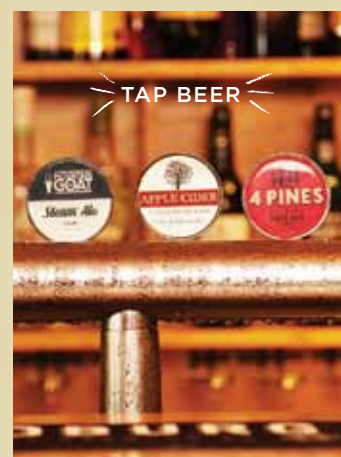
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## IT IS NOT WHAT YOU EXPECT TO FIND IN A CAR PARK BUT THANKS TO SOME THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX, A SPACE IN THE FEDERATION SQUARE CAR PARK IS NOW OFFICIALLY HOME TO MELBOURNE'S MEN'S SHED.

With the closure of a disability centre which formerly occupied the space, come new opportunities for the men of Melbourne. The shed will be installed on the ground floor of the car park thanks to \$160,000 from Melbourne Council and \$60,000 from the State Government. Architects Woods Bagot donated their time and in-kind support in responding to the brief they were given to create a practical modern man cave that is easy to maintain and attractive to visit. It is where men of all ages from East Melbourne will come together with others from right across

the City of Melbourne to build social capital and look after their health and wellbeing. It won't all be about building things. A range of classes will also be on offer and the opportunity to put people's talents to good use in volunteer activities. Melbourne Men's Shed Association president Tony Bright, an East Melbourne resident, said he was a Men's Shed member in Wagga before moving to Melbourne. When he saw a group of guys at the 2012 East Melbourne Fiesta trying to generate interest in a new local shed he joined forces with them and shared his valuable experience. With

no appropriate local space available it made sense to combine efforts with men in other neighbourhoods of Melbourne all striving to achieve the same goals.

Now up and running on Mondays from 10am-3pm the Shed is looking to recruit members. For more information go to

[www.melbournemensshed.org](http://www.melbournemensshed.org)

PICTURED: Tony Bright, Mary Wooldrige Minister for Mental Health- Community Services, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and MP Craig O'Nardie.



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## Books We've Loved

# The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society

By Glenda Banks

It is 1946 and as Juliet Ashton sits at her desk in her Chelsea flat, she is stumped. A writer of witty newspaper columns, she can't come up with an idea for the next one. Out of the blue she receives a letter from a stranger, Dawsey Adams in Guernsey – one of the Channel Isles situated between France and England. He writes to say he has acquired a book Juliet once owned and the two begin a correspondence.

Dawsey is a member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society and it's not long before the rest of the members begin writing regularly to Juliet: among them Isola who makes feel-good potions, Eben the fisherman who loves Shakespeare, and Will Thisbee, famous for his potato peel pie (created out of necessity when food ran out during the German occupation). As the letters fly back and forth, Juliet comes to know the extraordinary personalities of the society and learn about their lives under German occupation. She decides to visit the island and meet the members in person. Unwittingly this turns her life upside down.

A moving tale of post-war friendship, love and books, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society* is gloriously honest, poignant and funny – a book to fall in love with and savour forever.

The book's back story is almost as interesting as the novel,

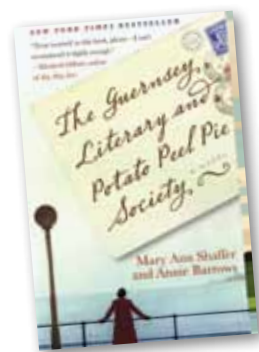
which was the result of the author being goaded by the book club she had led for nearly 50 years to write a book of her own.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society is a first novel from 70 year-old former librarian, Mary Ann Shaffer, and sprang from her interest in the German occupation of the Channel Isles during WW2.

In 1976, on a whim, while visiting London she decided to fly to Guernsey and became stranded there when a heavy fog prevented planes or boats leaving. While waiting for the fog to clear she came across a book about Guernsey during the war and her fascination with its history began.

Many years later, when pushed to write by her book club, she drew on her Guernsey experience for her first and only novel. Sadly, not long after the sale of the manuscript, Mary Ann's health failed and she died early in 2008 without seeing her book in print. But her niece, Annie Burrows – a successful author in her own right – had taken on the job of editing the book when Mary's health began to fail.

*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Burrows, a best seller in the US and the UK when published in Australia by Allen & Unwin in 2008, is available from the East Melbourne library and good bookshops.



# Books

**BOOKS WE'VE LOVED** is a new, regular column giving readers a window into other people's lives.

We invite readers to share a book they've loved – or meant something special to them. Provide 600-650 words and include the names of the author/s and publisher. Contact the Editor at [admin@emg.org.au](mailto:admin@emg.org.au) if you would like to contribute our next review.

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## A bright outlook for local property market

by Greg Hackett

East Melbourne and Jolimont are at the forefront of a re-awakening in the property market, according to a leading local agent.

Continuing low interest rates, combined with increasing demand, have resulted in a great start to the year, said Top Lane Property director Anthony Verrocchi.

"East Melbourne property prices are off to a confident start for 2014," Mr Verrocchi said.

"With interest rates tipped to remain their lowest in years, the demand for property in East Melbourne is now again greater than the supply for homes and apartments across all price ranges."

Mr Verrocchi said the central location of East Melbourne and Jolimont, plus the local amenities such as the abundance of parks, cafes, restaurants and tram routes, were benefits that attracted both owner-occupiers and investors.

"Some may say that property has finally awoken from its slumber since the Global Financial Crisis, when buyers and sellers became very cautious," Mr Verrocchi said.



Top Lane Property's Briana Craig and Anthony Verrocchi say the future looks bright.

"As for East Melbourne prices, they are heading only in one direction. The East Melbourne buyers are attracted to the premium location and the unique parklands whilst being in close proximity to the city.

He said inner suburbs such as East Melbourne could only benefit from the concentration of CBD apartments.

"With many more apartments forecast to be built in the city, this will have no adverse effect on the East Melbourne market, as it sees itself removed from the overcrowded city life style, while still offering the convenience of the city within easy access for our residents," Mr Verrocchi said.





*It's not every day you see someone standing on a soap box in the median strip of Simpson Street so the sight of Rosie Smith from the East Melbourne Historical Society surrounded by a large group of people certainly slowed the traffic.*

She was leading a walking tour A Walk on the Wildside – Stories of Death and Destruction which regaled participants with stories of past lives that

took place in the buildings and parks of Jolimont and East Melbourne. The walk was initiated and researched by Sylvia Black, and generated much interest amongst the participants.

Many people are familiar with The Mystery of a Hansom Cab a mystery fiction novel by English writer Fergus Hume first published in Australia in 1886. Set in East Melbourne, the story focuses on the investigation of a homicide involving a body discovered in a hansom cab in St Kilda. Brian Fitzgerald, originally considered to be a suspect in the case, but who turned out to be the hero, is thought to have lodged in Canterbury Terrace in Powlett Street. Most of the 16 houses in the terrace were boarding houses and the book does not give enough detail to firmly establish which one it could

have been.

There are at least 10 actual examples of murder or attempted murder, 2 deaths by accident, plus a suburban train crash that resulted in 3 deaths and many injuries which contribute to the darker and lesser known aspects of 3002's history. You just never know what might have gone on in the house next door!

East Melbourne has a very active Historical Society which meets bi-monthly to enjoy guest speakers and learn more about days gone by in our part of the world. The Society welcomes members to participate in its program of talks, excursions, research projects and social activities. For enquiries about membership and details of the 2014 program, please visit the website. [www.emhs.org](http://www.emhs.org)

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# WoofWoof

By Siusan MacKenzie

*Behind every good dog is an obedient owner. East Melbourne and Richmond dog owners can be found obediently gathering on a daily basis in Yarra Park.*

While the dogs do what dogs do the owners chat and share the ups and downs of each other's lives. It has become a tradition that one night in December the owners take themselves off to the Kingston Hotel where dog gifts are exchanged, stories are told and The Twelve Days of Christmas is boisterously sung, adapted with local dog lyrics.

The funny story of the year was told by Gaile, owner of Dommie a small black pug. He likes to relax in the washing basket and one day took a fancy to a particularly pretty red lace G string belonging to Gaile's daughter. When

Gaile tried to retrieve it from the dog it became a game of wills which the dog won by swallowing! Telling her daughter, 'the dog ate your G string' was bad enough but the next afternoon Gaile was much more embarrassed when she collected Dommie from a day at Pets Zone in Richmond to be confronted by the owner holding up the tiny lacy undergarment and saying in a loud voice to a group of waiting owners, 'I think I have something of yours here Gaile!' Dommie obviously has a very effective digestive system.



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## TURN OVER A NEW LEAF

By Sarah Hollonds, Spa Manager  
eforea spa at Hilton on the Park - Melbourne

AS SUMMER WINDS DOWN AND THE COOL AUTUMN WEATHER MAKES ITS WAY INTO OUR LIVES, YOU WOULD BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT YOUR SKIN IS OFTEN HIT THE HARDEST.

Let's explore some simple tips this autumn to ensure your skin and body is kept to its youthful and radiant best.

- 1 **JUST ADD WATER:** You will need at least eight glasses of water per day to eliminate those nasty body toxins and keep the skin moisturised. Don't forget that you need to add an extra glass of water for every glass of alcohol or coffee – no shortcuts!
- 2 **THE CHARM OF EATING COSMECEUTICALS:** Foods rich in Omega-3

fatty acids and anti-oxidants help reverse the summer sun's damage and boost the skin's immune system. These cosmeceuticals are rich in vitamins A, C and E to preserve skin quality and restore that natural glow. Walnuts, salmon and yoghurt should become important additions on your next shopping list.

- 3 **BE EASY ON THE EYE:** Our eyes are often the first part of the face to show our aging and the best way to reduce those wrinkles and fine lines is an effective eye cream. For dry and aged skin, an eye cream is the best but for oily skin then an alternative eye gel is what you need. Apply twice daily, once in the morning and another dose at night.

- 4 **CHANGE YOUR SKIN CARE LIKE YOUR WARDROBE:** You wouldn't wear summer sandals outside in cold weather, so why use

**BE ACTIVE WITH YOUR  
SKIN CARE THIS SEASON**



the same skin care for every season? As the temperature drops, you should use a more nourishing and vitamin-rich moisturiser for these autumn months.

- 5 **FIRMING FACIALS JUST FOR YOU:** Reenergise the face with at least one good facial treatment to start the season polished and smooth. The most exposed part of the body needs a small dose of exfoliation every now and again to correct oily congestion and sun damage – plus a bit of pampering at eforea spa never goes astray!

Your skin needs much more protection than just layers of clothes in the cooler month. As the autumn leaves start to fall, it's time to turn over a new leaf and do something different with your skin to keep it looking the best it can be.

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# MARCH OF MOTHERS

A march of mothers was spotted on its way to the library to take part in the Songbirds program for children from newborn to 18 months. Why not join in on Thursdays at 10.30am at the East Melbourne library for a half hour of songs, rhymes and stories to engage your budding bookworm's mind and introduce him or her to the fun and rhythm of language.



## More for children at the library

Children aged from 18 months to 3 years can enjoy Stompers, a half hour of stories, songs, rhymes, music and best of all... fun at 10.15am on Wednesdays.

For 3 to 5 year olds it is 45 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities at story time on Wednesdays at 11am.

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## IN AND AROUND EAST MELBOURNE IS A POPULAR LOCATION FOR FILM CREWS AND THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS SHOTS IN RECENT MONTHS.

The East Melbourne Group (EMG) is working with City of Melbourne to establish a framework to guide film companies operating in East Melbourne. Included in the framework will be the need to supply sufficient and timely notice to EMG and directly affected residents

regarding any changes to usual parking and traffic conditions. This information can then be passed on to all EMG members via an Update email. When the policy is complete, it will be posted to EMG's website [www.emg.org.au](http://www.emg.org.au)



*What a difference in the condition of Darling Gardens in East Melbourne and Darling Gardens Clifton Hill, just a few kilometres up the road. Both experienced the same extreme heat over summer but one was a lush green meadow thanks to our storm water recycling system while the other was crispy dry earth.*

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# FERTILITY CLINIC

## Seeks Enforcement of By-Laws to Stop Patient Harassment

*Walking along Wellington Parade has for many years meant running the gauntlet of anti-abortion protesters outside the Fertility Control Clinic.*



Some locals take the line of least resistance and detour along George Street. The people who attend the clinic don't have that option.

Susie Allanson, psychologist at the clinic, says patients are jostled, called murderers and whores and told they are going to hell as they try to enter the clinic. She has seen patients arrive shaking and in tears. They are mostly reluctant to make any complaint against the protesters because of fears about their privacy and a wish not to be subjected to any more stress. 'We consider this not to be protest, we consider this to be chronic bullying and intimidation', Dr Allanson said.

Tanya O'Brien, a spokesperson for the protest group, Helpers of God's Precious Infants, denied on radio that the group harasses people.

The East Melbourne Group has responded over the years to numerous concerns of residents, impeded as they go about their business in Wellington Parade. At one stage it was agreed that the protesters should not cross the white line on the pavement but that is increasingly ignored. The City of Melbourne and police have not yet been able to resolve the problem.

The clinic was the site of a murder in 2001, in which Peter James Knight, a recluse obsessed with abortion, shot and killed a security guard before being restrained by patients and staff.

The clinic with assistance from Maurice Blackburn Lawyers and the Human Rights Law Centre is now taking action in the Supreme Court against the City of Melbourne for failing to enforce laws that it believes could stop the protests.

Lawyer for the clinic, Elizabeth O'Shea, said the council has shirked its responsibility and has failed to take the problem seriously.

The City Council issued a statement saying its officers visit the clinic at least twice a week to monitor protest activity. 'We do what we can

in regard to behaviour outside the clinic within the extent of the laws available to Council.'

It has been reported that the Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, is delighted controversial new move-on laws, which were recently passed by the Victorian upper house, could be used to deal with the protesters at the Clinic.

The laws will allow police to issue move-on directions, in which a person or group is ordered to leave a particular area or cease an action, on a range of new grounds.

However, Ms O'Shea said move-on powers already exist and have not been used against anti-abortion protesters in the past. 'I would be surprised if the new move-on powers were ever used on protesters out the front of the clinic', she said.

It is to be hoped this problem might at last be resolved and peace will prevail on the footpath of Wellington Parade.

If you want to assist with the case by sharing details of your experience as a resident contact the Response Centre at Maurice Blackburn on 9605 2700. Please only do so if you have direct experience of nuisance, that is, activities that might be dangerous to health or injurious to personal comfort.

**By Siusan MacKenzie**



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# TOP LANE



# NOISE FROM ABOVE

By Shelley Faubel

*Aircraft noise in East Melbourne can at times be almost as bad as living near an airport. This is shown by analysis of measurements taken by one of our Committee members and provided to Melbourne MP, the Hon. Adam Bandt.*

We have had an invasion of aircraft disturbing the peace of our suburb over the last year, since regulations were removed. Low flying fixed-wing aircraft and hovering helicopters are regularly recording high decibel noise levels. Many of these aircraft are old and are exempt from noise controls and they are allowed to fly as low as 500 ft - about 150 metres above our houses.

Previously aircraft were required to fly over freeways and the bay but now they are allowed to fly anywhere. They are making life in our suburb a misery, disturbing us in our gardens

and in our houses. Many of these are joy flights, but they are no joy to residents.

The committee of the East Melbourne Group has been continuing the fight against this intrusion into the peace of our suburb.

Committee representatives recently met with Adam Bandt, who convened a meeting with airport representatives and regulators. Paul; Ferguson, the CEO of Moorabbin Airport and two representatives from Airservices Australia, from Canberra, attended. Paul Ferguson undertook to speak with operators from

Moorabbin to pass on our concerns. Adam and the EMG committee, will also write to operators from both Moorabbin and Essendon Airports. Airservices will provide further advice about what measures can be taken to alleviate the problem. Adam thinks that ultimately it might be necessary to pursue legislation to provide an adequate level of protection for residents.

If you are disturbed by fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, please continue to complain to? – **1800 802 584** or lodge a complaint form on the Airservices Australia website - [www.airservicesaustralia.com](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com)

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Authorised by J Kanis, 146-148 Peel St, Nth Melbourne.

## A MAN WHO... LOVES HIS JOB

By Siusan MacKenzie

**PAUL CURRIE LOVES TO DO  
HIS JOB PROPERLY & SO  
IT TAKES HIM TWO & HALF  
DAYS TO MOW THE FITZROY  
GARDENS CAREFULLY.**

He started working in Melbourne's parks in 1972, across the river in Alexandra Gardens. Paul has been mowing the parks around East Melbourne for 10 years and has never seen them looking so good. He couldn't believe the length of the grass in Darling Gardens in February. 'It looked more like a meadow than a Melbourne lawn in summer.'

He meets lots of dogs out for their lunch time wander and a few years ago he came across Fred, the brown and white cocker spaniel from Gipps Street. They took a liking to each other and Paul started to bring a bag of treats along for the ride. Now many of the dogs in East Melbourne know Paul and they don't forget. 'They pull their owners to get to me' he said.

Because of a change of contractor Paul won't be in the mowing seat after March. He said he'll miss the place but I think the lucky dogs will miss him more.



# PEOPLE & PETS *the you meet on streets*



## Bima and Sparticus

Bima and Sparticus (we know the spelling is wrong!) are 'brothers' having been together since they were 12 weeks old. Bima was named after an African hunter but it is also apparently the name of an Indonesian god and Bima, according to his owner Chris, is certainly the god of cuddles. A sensitive soul Bima became quite introverted when none of his friends recognised him after he got his new short summer 'do'. Sparti on the other hand would be the sort of teenager to have multiple tattoos, piercings and be a Jack Daniels drinker.



## Lyn Walton

Lyn was a Probate and Conveyancing clerk for 50 years. Now she spends most of her spare time putting all that administration experience to good use in the office at Holy Trinity, and she'll read almost anything – fact or fiction. Lyn has lived here for 49 years and like most of us she loves the village feel of our suburb, its history, terraces and parks and gardens. Given we have more children in the area now, and more traffic, she would like to see a 40kph speed limit on our streets and marked out parking bays across the suburb which she feels would enable more resident parking.



## Alex Lidgerwood

After finishing a BA in Music last year Alex travelled for six months including time at a language school in Rome perfecting her Italian. A highlight of her travels was attending an opera with her dad in the fabulous arena at Verona. At age 13 Alex was taken to see the Merry Widow and decided then and there she too wanted to sing opera. Now, in between working shifts at Persillade she is about to start studying at the Opera Studio in Melbourne where she will learn to be an accomplished performer and sow the seeds of her career. Her dream role would be Mimi in La Bohème.



## Thomas McCrossan

Thomas, originally from Ireland, moved to East Melbourne just three years ago to help care for his elderly mother-in-law. He has grown to love the great sense of open space and parks and living on Hoddle Street he has become accustomed to the traffic noise of one of Melbourne's busiest roads. Thomas would like to see more local events to connect people and instil a sense of community for people like him who are relatively new to the area. At the moment he is making his own community connection by teaching an early morning yoga class at the library – something he hopes to do more of.



## Geoff Borrack

Geoff knows East Melbourne very well indeed. As a school boy he attended Christian Brothers in Victoria Pde; as a resident of 46 years; as an architect involved in the restoration of 36 local projects; and as an illustrator for the popular book East Melbourne Walkabout. In that time Geoff has seen the whole of East Melbourne turned upside down from when interest was first sparked in restoring our terraces and cottages in the early 70s. One little cottage he worked on had 60 demolition orders on it and it ended up winning an award from the Institute of Architects.



## Tracey Habron

Nineteen years ago someone told Tracey they lived in East Melbourne. They said once you live there, you don't want to live anywhere else. At the time Tracey thought they were a bit 'up themselves' but once she moved here soon after, she realised they were right! For her it is the country village feel 10 minutes walk from the city. On the down side one hour parking in the area really irritates Tracey as it makes it almost impossible to hold a decent dinner party. In her spare time Tracey is very involved with TED talks – ideas worth spreading.



# Community Noticeboard



## THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

Many interesting activities will take place in the Gardens over autumn.

### SATURN RETURNS

**Monday evenings (except 21 April).** Meet at the Melbourne Observatory, outside the Visitor Centre at Observatory Gate on Birdwood Avenue. Saturn with its brilliant ring system is the highlight of the autumnal sky. Join astronomical guides at the Melbourne Observatory and explore the stars and planets of the southern sky through historic telescopes.

### BACKYARD BEAUTIES – TREES FOR THE HOME GARDENS

**Sunday 13 April & Thursday 1 May 10.30am – 12noon.** Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate. Which tree is best suited to your garden? Are you looking for summer shade, autumn colour or spring blossoms? This guided walk will help you select the best trees for your home garden.

### HAIKU POETRY IN THE GARDENS

**Sunday 18 May 10am – 12noon.** Meet at the Visitor Centre, Observatory Gate. The beautiful surrounds of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Japanese haiku poetry come together for a writing workshop with poet, Marisa Fazio.

There are also many interesting school holiday program activities for children both in the city and at the Cranbourne Gardens.

Have a browse at [www.rbg.vic.gov.au](http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au) for more information on these events or call 9525 2300

## FREE MELBOURNE TOWN HALL ORGAN LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

**11 JUNE 1 – 2PM**

Canadian organist Isabelle Demers is taking the organ world by storm. Hear her Australian debut on the impressive Melbourne Town Hall Grand Organ.

**18 JUNE 1 – 2 PM**

British organist Colin Andrews is one of Britain's most respected concert organists. Don't miss his Melbourne Town Hall Grand Organ concert

## CHOIR

### MELBOURNE WOMEN'S CHOIR IN CONCERT

Conducted by Faye Dumont the choir presents a program of choral music featuring compositions with bird themes.

Holy Trinity Anglican Church East Melbourne

**Sunday 18 May 2.30pm \$20/\$17**

Proceeds to the Organ Restoration Appeal



## FANTASTIC AUTUMN PLANT SALE

The Royal Botanic Gardens holds two public plant sales each year. These are the only opportunities for members of the public to buy rare plants propagated from the Royal Botanic Gardens stock that are not necessarily available at commercial nurseries. Shrubs, trees, perennials, natives, herbs and succulents will also be available.

The Autumn Sale will take place on the **Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 May from 10am**. Just inside E Gate, on Birdwood Avenue.

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## ARE YOU CRAFTY?

Are you one of the many crafty people who live in East Melbourne? Would you like to get together with other like minded people on a regular basis to share ideas, skills and chat in a sort of craft circle? If so, please give me a call and if there is enough interest we will get something going. **Siusan 0438 405 406**

## A FABULOUS EXHIBITION! GENIUS AND AMBITION: THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, LONDON 1768-1918.

Some of the finest examples of British art have travelled to Australia for the first time. Close to 100 works from the Royal Academy of Arts, London, featuring revered works by Turner, Gainsborough, Constable, Singer Sargent, Fuseli, Millais, Waterhouse and Reynolds are showcased. To complement the works on loan from the Academy, 30 significant works by Australian artists such as Nicholas Chevalier, Tom Roberts, John Longstaff, Rupert Bunny, Arthur Streeton, E Phillips Fox, Margaret Preston, Agnes Goodsir and William Dobell who were educated, then exhibited and subsequently gained reputation through the Academy have been included. **Until 9 June** at the Bendigo Art Gallery.



## DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

**Every Sunday 10 am – 5 pm**

A variety market is held at Melbourne's Docklands. Stroll along the water past the many restaurants and browse the interesting stalls, always offering something different.

The market reflects a multi-cultural Melbourne with French, Italian, Greek, Turkish, Nepalese, Polish, Russian, Israeli, Irish and some very innovative Australians! Find a treasure, have a meal and make a day of it.

## EASY PEASY BLACK CHERRY CAKE



- 1 & ½ cups of SR flour
- ¾ cup caster sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 125g softened butter
- 1 tin of pitted black cherries drained (approx 420gm)
- Caster sugar/cinnamon/flaked almonds mixed together for sprinkling

1. Preheat oven to 180 degrees
2. Grease the base and sides of a 20cm spring form tin with butter and set aside.
3. Mix flour, sugar, egg, vanilla and butter with a fork.
4. Press ¾ of the mixture into the based of the cake tin.
5. Top with drained cherries then dollop the remaining mixture over the cherries.
6. Sprinkle with a generous mix of sugar, cinnamon and almonds
7. Bake for 20 – 30 minutes until golden and shrunk away from the sides of the tin a little.

Serve with cream. Yum. Bet this becomes one of your favourites too!

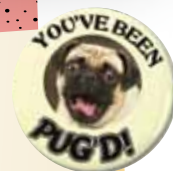


*Lily & her mum in Yarra Park*

## FREE DOG WALKER

I am a local East Melbourne resident who has a love for dogs. I live in a rental apartment, so unable to own a dog. I have had experience walking and minding dogs. If you are busy, elderly, time poor or your lifestyle does not give you the opportunity to cater to your dog's exercise and social requirements I may be able to help.

If interested feel free to call or email **Demi Cheung**  
0410 147 055 or [demi\\_csc@hotmail.com](mailto:demi_csc@hotmail.com)





# WHICH ELM IS WHICH?

By Charlie Hohnen

**WHEN YOU CAME TO THE EAST MELBOURNE GROUP'S GARDEN PARTY LAST MONTH DID YOU HAPPEN TO LOOK AT THE ELMS ON THE MAIN LAWN? THESE ELMS ARE IN FACT A BIT OF A MYSTERY.**



They are included both on the State Government's Heritage Register and on the City of Melbourne's Exceptional Tree Register but under different species names. They may all be English elms or a mixture of English and Dutch elms or they may all be Dutch elms, according to which expert is consulted.

It is broadly possible to identify the common species of elm from leaf material and bark characteristics. *Ulmus procera*, English elm, has different venation patterns, leaf shape and texture and bark from *Ulmus xhollandica*, Dutch elm. Sometimes the differences are not entirely

clear cut and in the case of the elms at Bishops court some confusion still exists.

On 8 March Ameelia Needoba of the Melbourne City Council's Urban Forest Strategy organised an Elm Sampling Workshop in Fitzroy Gardens. This was attended by a some local members of Friends of the Elms and some Bishops court volunteers among others. The council's Exceptional Tree Register contains significant trees in private and public spaces around Melbourne.

The council is sampling elms around the city and testing DNA. It turns out that some of our magnificent elm avenues

are composed of clones so that each tree in the avenue is of the same genetic composition as all the others. They are to all intents and purposes the same tree. While this makes for exceptional uniformity in height and growth habit it leaves such avenues exposed to disaster if disease strikes. The Elm Sampling Project is intended to find out how much genetic diversity there is within Melbourne's elm population so that the disadvantages of monoculture can be avoided.

The DNA analysis should clear up the mystery of which elm is which once and for all.

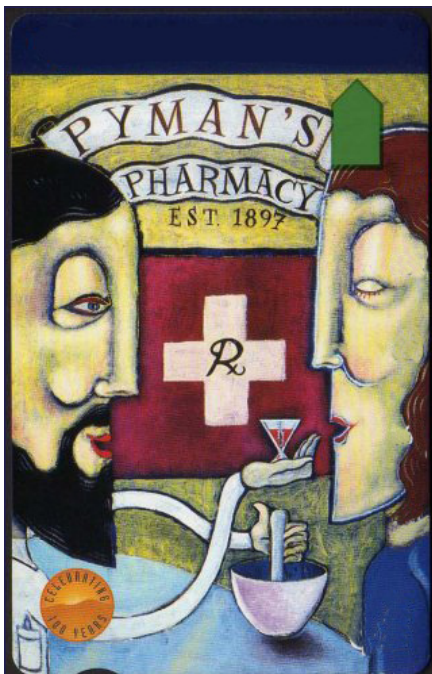
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