

EAST MELBOURNE 3002 community magazine JOLIMONT

**COMMUNITY
TRIVIA NIGHT
26 JUNE**

***Wellington Parade
Trams & Developments***

PRODUCED BY

The East Melbourne Group Inc
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www.emg.org.au

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



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COVER IMAGE

Lego Squad at the library
by Siusan MacKenzie

PHOTOGRAPHY

Siusan MacKenzie

With financial assistance from



What does EMG aim to achieve over the next 3 years?

A new initiative driven by EMG committee members David Woodward and Siusan MacKenzie saw the EMG present a draft Strategic Plan for the operations of EMG from 2015 to 2018 to a gathering of its members in April. The meeting sought feedback and suggestions in relation to EMG goals with the strategies, actions and projects proposed to achieve those over the next three years. There were some great suggestions for sharpening the focus of the plan, in particular actions for:

- attracting new members
- protecting and enhancing the built and natural environment, and
- greater participation of members and the broader community in ensuring East Melbourne remains a great place to live and is a supportive and strong community

After an hour and a half discussion the President,

Murray Hohnen, thanked the members for their comments and their strong endorsement for the first Strategic Plan for EMG.

The members' suggestions have now been included in an updated plan along with the projects and actions that flow from the plan. The EMG Strategic Plan can be found on at www.emg.org.au

The committee strongly encourages members to view the plan and its associated documents and would welcome any further thoughts and suggestions sent to admin@emg.org.au

EMG member Susan Henderson has lived in East Melbourne for about 20 years and has always paid membership of the East Melbourne Group, trusting that she was doing her bit to support EMG in its work to preserve our lifestyle.

'It was not until I attended the Strategic Planning

Meeting in the library that I realized our delightful environment is not a matter of chance. To keep it as it is the EMG committee members do a heck of a lot of work on our behalf', said Susan.

'I'm now even more aware that to maintain the privileges we enjoy in East Melbourne we must support the East Melbourne Group, especially financially – by becoming members.'

She commented that with apartment living becoming more prominent in East Melbourne and many young couples moving into the area it is important that they too become involved.

'To maintain our village feel I encourage these new residents to empower the East Melbourne Group to represent them by joining the EMG.'

emg.org.au

East Melbourne Group

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.

east melbourne group

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

Email

Phone

Address

east melbourne group

Mail to: 152 Powlett Street,
East Melbourne 3002

Thank you very much for your interest. You may like to visit our website www.emg.org.au for further information.

3002 COMMUNITY TRIVIA NIGHT

Book your tickets at www.emg.org

Friday 26th June at 7:30pm
\$25 per head - Tables of 10
St Peter's Church Hall
Corner of Gisborne St & Albert St
East Melbourne



COMMUNITY TRIVIA NIGHT FRIDAY 26 JUNE

The first East Melbourne Community Trivia Night in 2014 was great fun. The hall was jam packed teams some of which were fiercely competitive and others just there for fun. You don't need to be a genius to join in.

BYO everything you need in the way of food and drink including glasses.

[Doors open at 7 and kick off is 7.30pm at St Peter's Hall cnr Albert & Gisborne Streets enter in Gisborne Street opposite St Patrick's Cathedral.]

Bring along some gold coins for the raffle and silly games.

There will be loads of prizes all donated by generous local families and businesses including Gepetto restaurant, John Moran Myotherapy, Pullman Hotel, Kere Kere Café, Kiwi Fish & Chips and the Baden Powell Hotel.

Funds raised will go towards helping the East Melbourne Group connect, protect and enhance our neighbourhood.

Seating is at team tables of 10.

But don't worry if you can't make up a table of 10. You may book individually and be allocated to a team.

You **must book in advance** as seating is limited. Go to www.emg.org.au for booking details.

Call Siusan on 0438 405 406 if you have any queries.



Number 10 Wellington Parade

In late 2014, an Application for Planning Permit to build a 13 storey apartment building on the old Il Duca site at 10 Wellington Parade was made to City of Melbourne.

In January 2015, the developer issued proceedings against City of Melbourne at VCAT for failure to make a permit decision within the statutory time.

EMG recently received new plans from the developer. In summary these new plans include:

- Reduction of height by 9m (13 storey to 10 storey)
- Reduced overshadowing of Weedon Reserve
- Reduction of apartment numbers from 12 to 9
- Reduction of car parking from 11 to 9 (one per apartment)
- Redesign upper floor exterior appearance

EMG is of the view that:

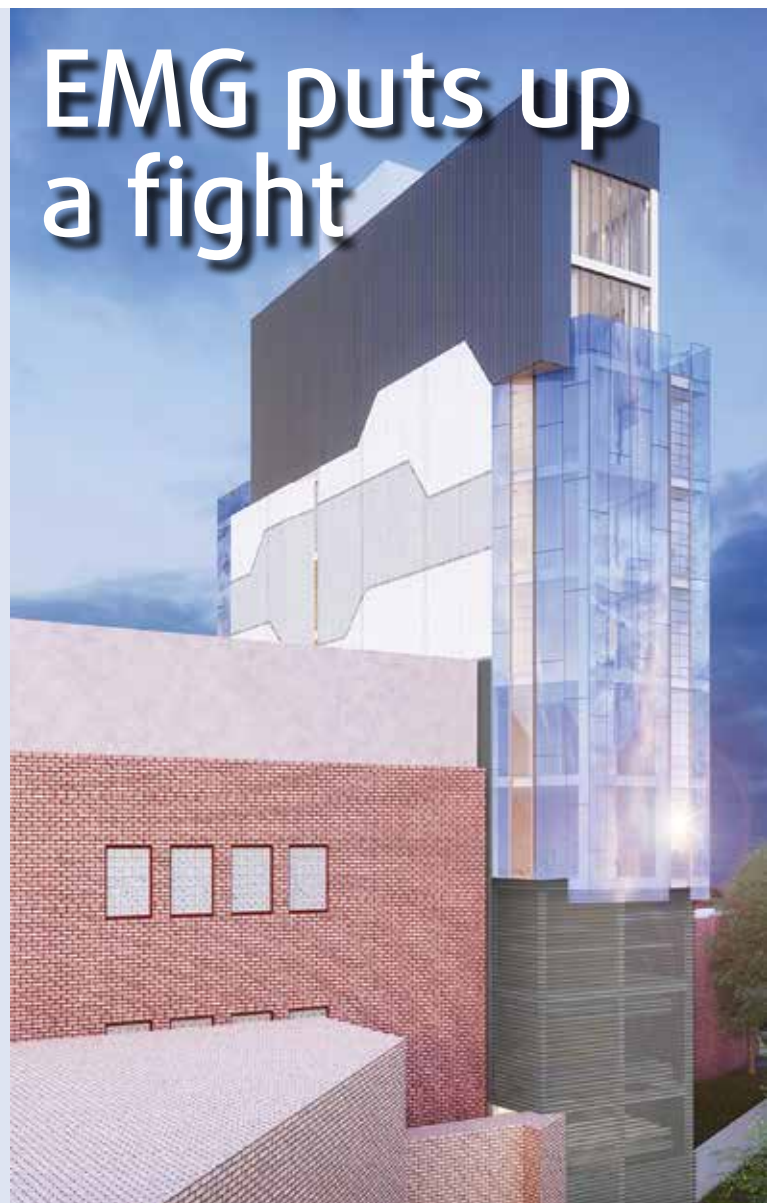
- Nine floors is still too high and out of keeping with surrounds
- Appearance of the top floors look worse
- Ingress/egress from Punt Road is still a major issue both in terms of traffic flow and safety, especially as it appears impossible to create a turning lane from Punt road.

EMG and about 14 others including VicRoads have joined the VCAT action. The hearing date is 29 June and the case is expected to last for several days.

EMG has arranged for a barrister and two expert witnesses at the hearing. We have attracted some pro bono work and will seek to augment the fighting fund by calling for donations. We need community support to fight this inappropriate development which could set a precedent for further high-rise development in Wellington Pde. This is particularly so given the current sale of the building at the corner of Powlett St which houses the 7 Eleven, which we will be watching closely.

EMG will be writing to objectors and affected residents in the area, requesting financial support for this action.

EMG puts up a fight



THE MODERN HISTORIC SUBURB

BY BARBARA PATERSON

EMG was very pleased to welcome Ellen Sandell, a member of the Greens party and State MP for Melbourne, as a guest at its main committee meeting in May. Ellen had contacted EMG regarding residential zones and the surreptitious release by the former Minister for Planning of the report of the Residential Zones Standing Advisory Committee (RZSAC) earlier this year.

The report shows that the RZSAC recommended the former Minister approve zoning for the City of Melbourne in the form it was drafted by the City of Melbourne, i.e. with some neighbourhood residential zones included in some of the stable residential areas. The former Minister ignored the Council's proposal and the RZSAC's recommendations. Minister Guy zoned all areas north of the Yarra, which were proposed by the Council to be zoned Neighbourhood Residential, as General Residential. A map with a comparison of the zones proposed by the Council (and supported by RZSAC) with those of Minister Guy approved is on the EMG website.

Ellen says, 'Matthew Guy made bad planning decisions for the inner city that were purely political. He approved strict development controls for South Yarra (in the then Liberal-held seat of Prahran) but rejected the City of Melbourne planning recommendations in the rest of Melbourne. Richard Wynne, the new Planning Minister, promised to review these terrible decisions, but has now delayed this until an unknown time in the future. The Greens will hold Minister Wynne to his promise to ensure we get a fair outcome for residents in East Melbourne.'

East Melbourne has many historic properties but the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. This

is why EMG has taken a whole form approach in its submissions to Melbourne Council and RZSAC. In its submission to RZSAC, EMG argued for a global approach to East Melbourne and Jolimont that all of the area should be zoned neighbourhood residential, consistent with notable heritage precincts in other great cities of the world.

Urban conservation guidelines can be effective in protecting individual buildings and limited precincts but are less useful in protecting a generalised urban ambience. World-wide, historic centres abutting city centres are appreciated by tourists for their human-scale dimensions and for the contrast they provide to the city centre. Distinctions between neighbourhood residential and general residential are invidious in this context. Planning zones further deregulate planning and render strategic planning obsolete.

Local pressure groups have radically influenced the history of change in East Melbourne. EMG has played a major role in shaping the suburb since 1953. But given the current context of developmental ideology and fast-paced change community groups are always on the back foot, resisting inappropriate development in an ad hoc fashion.

The Committee felt a rapport with Ellen on this topic and in particular we appreciated her solution-orientated approach and her practical suggestions regarding future action. Now is the time to remind Minister Wynne of his rhapsodic comments regarding East Melbourne in The Age last March.

Individual buildings need conservation controls, but conservation is not the same as history. The time is right for a global approach to East Melbourne and Jolimont – an approach that encompasses social and urban history as well as individual buildings.



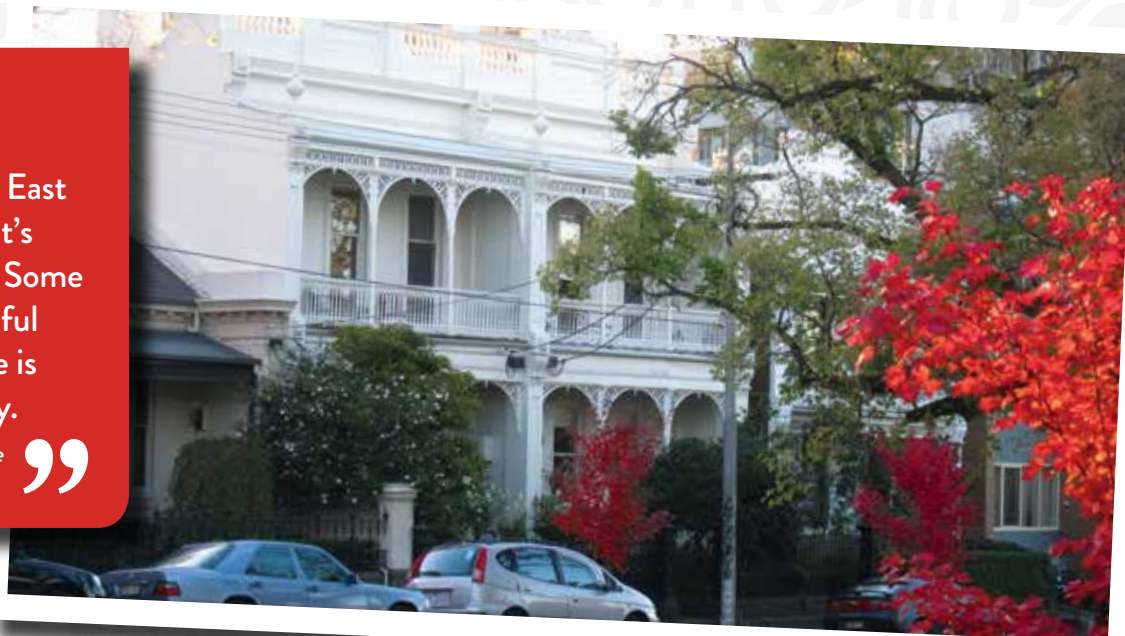
Member for Melbourne,
Ellen Sandell

“

Walk around East Melbourne, it's spectacular. Some of our beautiful built heritage is extraordinary.

– Minister Wynne

”



WELLINGTON PARADE CHANGES

BY STUART HAMILTON

Yarra Trams will soon begin their planned replacement of the stops at Clarendon Street and Powlett Street with a single stop between those streets called Jolimont Station stop.

Yarra Trams have not released details of any other changes, but consistent with their policy throughout Melbourne we know that eventually all existing stops will be replaced with (probably fewer) 'accessible' stops. The location of the Jolimont Station stop is intended to direct tram passengers to the MCG via the two footbridges which will be positioned at each end of the planned stop. It is thought this will avoid the current problems of safe access by passengers at the north-west corner of Yarra Park, where cars enter and leave.

The East Melbourne Group has seen a 'discussion and project scoping' document originally prepared in 2013 for the City of Melbourne as part of a wider Wellington Parade draft plan. This includes replacement stops at the

junction with Punt Road (either on the Richmond or East Melbourne side) with possible, but not certain, retention of a stop near Simpson and Vale Streets. This will depend upon the exact location of the Punt Road stop as well as retention of a stop near Jolimont Road, and removal of the stop near Lansdowne Street.

The City of Melbourne has included funds in the 2015-16 budget for a Master Plan for Wellington Parade, which goes beyond the changes to tram stops to include trees, footpaths, traffic movements etc. EMG will take a keen interest in this work mindful of any impact on local residents and businesses.

Yarra Trams circulated the brochure about the Jolimont Station stop [available at www.emg.org.au] to nearby households and businesses, held a public information session at the Pullman Hotel at the end of April, and has put posters up at the stop.

Questions raised by EMG and others about the stop include:

What will be the effect on other stops, particularly those currently at Simpson

St and Jolimont Road, in the absence of published wider plans?

What will the effect of removing car spaces have on parking in the area?

How will visitors and services access the Wellington Parade apartments between Powlett Street and the Pullman Hotel?

Will the current footbridges be adequate on busy match days?

The City of Melbourne has responded to criticism on the parking/access issues, and is planning to restore some parking spaces critical for building access.

Another matter that arose in discussion was the possibility of the extension of one of the Elizabeth Street tram routes to turn left along Flinders Street and end at the shunting section at the corner of Wellington Parade and Punt Road. This would provide a direct route to north-west parts of Melbourne for local residents.

The East Melbourne Group has surveyed its members and will use the results in further talks with Yarra Trams.





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EMG push for fitness equipment

BY ANITA STEINBARTH

East Melbourne's parks and gardens are a treasured feature of living in East Melbourne.

The East Melbourne Group has a Parks and Gardens sub-committee which takes an active interest in the parks and gardens of our suburb. Our priority is to ensure that these remain high quality, well maintained, safe, serviceable and functional public open spaces.

EMG takes the view that the parks and gardens should provide facilities that support and encourage a range of uses, from passive to active recreation by residents and visitors.

During 2015 we will be developing a strategy and pushing the City of Melbourne and the MCC (responsible for Yarra Park) to incorporate outdoor fitness stations in some of East Melbourne's parks and gardens. EMG believes there is demand for fun and self-guided outdoor equipment areas in Powlett Reserve and Yarra Park and if the new basketball ring is any indication, they will be good for fitness and social engagement.

In response to statistics which now indicate a shocking 63 percent of adult Australians are overweight or obese (that's two in three adults!) the City of Melbourne developed an Active Melbourne Strategy stating at

the time, 'as a community, we have a responsibility to reverse these trends.'

The strategy commits Council to making a positive difference to peoples' health and wellbeing by involving the community in areas of physical activity. The vision is supported by a framework of principles and themes, which

Having improvised my way around East Melbourne for several years now looking for the next bench seat or children's playground to exercise on it would be great to have some equipment specifically for those of us who enjoy exercising outdoors in the local area. Encouraging physical activity and being outdoors should definitely be a priority for local councils and government.'

– Paul Salmon

will be the basis for continual assessment of priorities across the municipality.

The City of Melbourne has a precedent for the installation of outdoor fitness equipment such as EMG envisions for our suburb with



evidence in Princes Park, Eades Place Park and a number of new parks in the Docklands.

Council recently advised EMG that they are currently preparing a plan to guide the installation of outdoor gym equipment and other free recreation infrastructure throughout the municipality. Planning will include looking at the East Melbourne area to determine potential sites for such equipment and may require broader consultation with the local community. Whilst there are currently no funds allocated for outdoor gym equipment Council will investigate alternate funding opportunities.

The MCC has a recreation policy for Yarra Park but has not installed or upgraded the outdoor fitness equipment yet.

The City of Melbourne permits personal training in designated areas of the Fitzroy and Treasury Gardens. We have observed however that some trainers are inappropriately using tree branches as fitness equipment. This practice is detrimental to fragile tree health and EMG will be raising this with the Council.

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WALK ON WELLINGTON

In April members of the East Melbourne Group enjoyed a progressive dinner at three restaurants on Wellington Parade. Canapés and a round of drinks were served by Gus and Michelle at **Tippler & Co** before the group walked on to **il Duca** where Dom and his team surprised us with a singing waiter to serenade our scrumptious main course. More drinks and on to **Persillade** where decadent desserts and sticky wine awaited the progression of walkers. Just when people thought the night was over Alex Lidgerwood delighted the group with three of her favourite songs. To great applause and shouts of 'Encore!' she was joined by her dad John and together they performed a glorious rendition of *Music of the Night* from *Phantom of the Opera*. Everyone went home happy but especially the lucky people who won meal vouchers generously provided by each of the three participating restaurants.



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**East Melbourne
Dental Group**

Invasive little PEST

BY FRED HALLIDAY

This autumn many EMJ residents were talking about our elm trees and how across the entire suburb the leaves on the trees had been looking very sick. On nearly all of the trees, the leaves showed damage ranging from a few perforations to the leaves being reduced to a lacy net of veins with all of the green eaten away. On some trees the damage was so extensive that the sky could be seen from underneath the tree, rather than a solid green canopy.

The culprit? The Elm Leaf Beetle: a little critter that arrived in Victoria in 1989 and that is now present across the whole of metropolitan Melbourne. Both the beetle larvae and the adult beetles love the taste of elm leaves, causing the damage that was so obvious this year.

The City of Melbourne has for many years had a treatment program in place that limits but does not eradicate the beetle population. Under the Council's program every three years a low toxicity insecticide (Confidor) is applied to the trees. In the past the treatment was applied by soil injection around the tree, but as that treatment was dependent on more recently unreliable soil moisture levels, the Council now uses a more effective trunk injection method.

So why were the beetles so bad this year? Melbourne's hot summer months, in conjunction with the treatment program, normally act as a limit on the beetle's population. Last summer was cooler than normal. As a result, the beetle population was considerably larger than normal. This overwhelmed the typically effective treatment program, and resulted in the visible effects we saw this autumn.

The Council does not expect that this year's large scale infestation by the Elm Leaf Beetle will have a long term impact on the health of our elm trees. The more serious threat to our elms is their old age where many are now close to the end of their natural lives.



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Farewell & Norm Anna Daher

BY JILL FENWICK

For the last twenty-four years, the East Melbourne community has depended on its local store for a wide variety of goods. Run out of milk? Ladder your stockings? Feel the urge for some gelato? Or just a coffee to see you on your way? Head down to Norm's and, while you're there, catch up on real estate prices in the neighbourhood and pick up the paper. The shop has been open seven days a week, from seven in the morning until about the same time at night.



Norm and Anna Daher took over the East Melbourne General Store from John and Julie Bonney in October 1991. Now, with their children, Michael and Erika, both at university, and time moving on, they've decided to take some time out.

They were farewelled with a community party at The Menzies Foundation on 11 June, sponsored by the East Melbourne Historical Society, The East Melbourne Group and the First Sunday Lunch Group. A watercolour of the store painted by customer and local artist, John Wykes was presented to Norm and Anna. We wish them all the best for the future.



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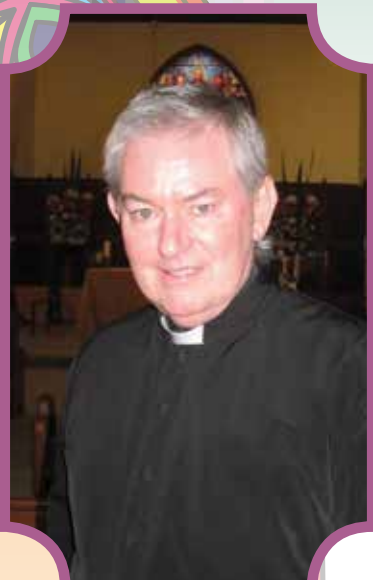
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**Fr. Grant Edgcumbe
brings a smile to
the congregation at
Holy Trinity**

Reverential Rap

BY FR. GRANT EDGCUMBE

On my first trip to America, not all that long ago, the terror of using my mobile telephone and incurring an enormous bill led me to a public call box. The technology then allowed you to dial the number and a nice lady informed you what money to insert so the call could be connected. So convenient and simple (for some). 'Please insert two nickels, a quarter and a dime,' came the voice. I hunted around in my pocket and found a heap of loose change which was quite unfamiliar to me. I said, 'Excuse me but what size is the quarter, the nickel and the dime?' The line went dead. How rude, I thought, America was turning out to be everything I had imagined. I redialled and the same lady said, 'Please insert two nickels, a quarter and a dime.' This time I quickly shouted, 'Excuse me, I'm from Australia, could you please tell me what these coins look like?'

Again the phone went dead. I was totally convinced of the rudeness of American society by the grinning young woman standing outside the booth who seemed to be really enjoying my hassles with the lady on the phone.

As I left the booth I commented to the young bystander that I thought the telephone company's attitude was less than fantastic and with an even wider grin she explained,

'Honey, that ain't no lady on the phone, that's a recording and when the computer doesn't register the coins then it just shuts down! I guess you don't have computers where you come from?' Well, how stupid can you feel?'

Technology is a wonderful thing that releases us from much of the drudgery of life but there is always the danger of it dehumanising us as well. It's good to get a laugh from some of our misadventures with technology but worth remembering that all this wonderful hi tech stuff was invented to serve us and not for us to serve it. One of the great things we rejoice and give thanks for in our community is the face to face interaction we are able to enjoy through so many of the activities organised by the East Melbourne Group, Holy Trinity and other organisations. I hope we can all continue to give thanks for the many wonderful people in our community.



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LEGO SQUAD, it's awesome

BY JEANETTE BECKLAR

Prompted by Lego devotees in the East Melbourne Community and Libraries supporting Lego as an engaging way to learn and extend literacy, it was time to start Lego Squad at East Melbourne Library.

Now every Thursday afternoon from 4pm, kids aged 7 to 13 years arrive ready to create imaginative responses to the monthly Lego challenge. We have the Lego. You have the skill.

Since the program started in February *Lego Squad* has created puzzles, spot the difference games, made a conductible (involving LEDs, threads, batteries and a conductor to make lights on the banner glow) Lego banner.

It is a great time for kids to unwind after school, enjoy some snacks, make new friends, and of course build with Lego. The kids who

attend look forward to Thursday saying, 'I can't wait for Lego Squad' and 'it's the best thing all week'.

It's fun working with *Lego Squad* and I am really impressed with their creative achievements.

Any unwanted small size
Lego donations will be
graciously accepted at the
East Melbourne library.

For more information about Lego Squad ask at the library.



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Horse Troughs



BY JUDITH RYLES

Not all cities in Australia still have historic horse troughs but unlike Melbourne, not many still have carriage horses trotting the streets either.

Recently I observed three horse troughs in East Melbourne were empty.

My concern about empty horse troughs is that carriage horses operating in the city often stop at the one outside St Peter's Church for a drink.

Annis and George Bill set up a trust fund to construct, erect and pay for horse troughs.

Each trough cost £13 plus transport and installation. The majority of the troughs were installed in Victoria and New South Wales between 1930 and 1939.

The standard designed pre-cast concrete troughs had a curved pediment and were inscribed 'Donated by Annis & George Bills Australia' and were made by the Bill's firm in Hawthorn, Melbourne.

The Treasury Gardens trough in Lansdowne Street is of the standard design and inscribed. Two other local troughs outside St Peter's and in Wellington Parade near Hoddle Street look to be replacements.

With the rise of motorised transport, demand for the troughs declined and production ceased at the end of World War II.

The City of Melbourne has the responsibility to maintain troughs and has always followed up my requests for maintenance. Empty or damaged troughs should be reported to them.



Historic horse trough in Lansdowne Street

“Wherever such horse troughs are seen desirable for the relief of horses and other dumb animals either in Australasia, in the British Islands or in any other part of the world subject to the consent of the proper authorities being obtained.”



Geoff Borrack outside his old red brick horror

“it had a bit of magic about it”

A HERITAGE WARRIOR

BY ROBERT MCCOLL

London led Geoff Borrack back to East Melbourne. It was 1968 and young architect Geoff was about to wrap up a five-year stint in the Big Smoke, after which he would return to Victoria, and build a home from scratch on some land he'd bought in Templestowe. But London's old buildings, and the restorations that had preserved them so well, made him question his plan.

Melbourne's inner-city had grand, old buildings too, and a home on Albert Street, East Melbourne he had bought, sold and still thought about, was one of them. He went back, but a rude shock was waiting for him. The home on Albert Street he knew as a lovely old mansion was now a 'red brick horror' and indicative of a wider movement in 60s East Melbourne to knock down older buildings and replace them with contemporary-style units.

This bothered Geoff, who knew first-hand how much easier it was to knock down and replace, than to rebuild and recreate. He recalls working in the fifties in Honolulu, which surrendered its best land to multi-storey office buildings. Since, Geoff says, 'they've sort of tried to grasp back the past but the damage was done'. East Melbourne looked like it might go the same way.

He recalls one cottage on Simpson Street which had 65 demolition orders on it. It was virtually falling apart, Geoff says, but he saw it 'had a bit of magic about it.' Geoff managed to save the cottage by enlightening a potential buyer as to the many building catastrophes that were architecturally plausible if the place was knocked down. A solicitor eventually bought the property, and kept Geoff on for the restoration.

East Melbourne's Braemar, a bluestone mansion in George Street, was next on the chopping block, and here Geoff, and the East Melbourne Group as more or less the lone advocates of heritage in the area, liaised with the government, which eventually allowed the developer to build two units at the back, so he would have enough return on the property for restorations.

There were disappointments too. He mentions the Eye and Ear Hospital. Geoff presented a design plan for this which kept to the brief, while preserving the facade and keeping the building's height down. But the plans of another architect were used instead.

This has been the exception though. Almost 40 of Geoff's local design plans have been seen through, and their success in synthesising practical building realities with the old-world character of East Melbourne is evident around the suburb. Most recently he was involved in the restoration of the old chemist shop in Powlett Street opposite the park

What became, though, of the red brick horror on Albert Street? Well, Geoff bought it back years ago and it's no longer red, brick, or horrible. 'I thought, given time, I could get it back pretty close to the original. I have to say, that in fifty years I got close to it.' Now Geoff, his wife Margaret and their two westies are moving to a less hectic life on a country property at Deans Marsh. He certainly leaves behind an amazing legacy we can all be grateful for.

An adventurous life

BY SIUSAN MACKENZIE

Max Griffiths has had a fascinating life. He was a shop steward in the Iron Workers Union and a council member of the Royal Flying Doctor Service before he followed in the footsteps of John Flynn, working with the Australian Inland Mission throughout the Northern Territory, and beyond.

Max became a minister in the early 1950s, and he's had some incredible adventures, supporting remote communities around Australia.

Max had spears thrown at him. He experienced some close calls in a Cessna over Alice Springs and was on the first Hercules to Darwin after Cyclone Tracy.

His years in the outback led him to write about many aspects of it he found so fascinating - the dedicated nurses, aboriginal affairs, the mining industry and John Flynn. According to Max, 'There was something special about them all'.

While he loved the space, the colour, the isolation and life unimpeded by the minutiae of urban life, today he is very happy to chat to friends over a hot strong, flat white in one of our local cafes. When he married Merrilyn eight years ago she said she wasn't moving from East Melbourne and Max has adapted very well to his new environment!

Max and Merrilyn were former students at Melbourne University's Ormond College. Max went on to be president of the student club

and a member of the college council. It was in fact Merrilyn's suggestion that Max should turn his writing to the founder of the college.

Francis Ormond – A Ruling Passion is a book about that man - a Scottish born pastoralist, a member of the Parliament of Victoria, and a great philanthropist in the areas of education and religion. He used his wealth to benefit others. As a young man, he managed his father's sheep station near Piggoreet, southwest of Ballarat. Upon discovering that the majority of station hands he employed were uneducated, Ormond started a class for his employees, devoting nearly every evening to their tutorage. This was the pattern of Francis Ormond's life. Where he saw a need, he took practical steps to help.

Francis Ormond, Max tells us, was a self-taught man. But throughout his life he espoused the value of education and its transformative power.

As a devout Presbyterian and elder of the church, when the question of establishing a Presbyterian college at the University of Melbourne was raised in 1877, he pledged £10,000 to the appeal. When a Working Men's College was proposed, he offered £5000 pounds towards its establishment. The college opened in 1887 with 320 students. By 1938, the number of students was 10,000. It is now known as RMIT University. His attempts to found a college of music in Melbourne were unsuccessful, so he gave £20,000 to found the Ormond Chair of Music at the University of Melbourne.

Max reminds us that Francis Ormond was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. And



**Max Griffiths author of
*Francis Ormond – A Ruling Passion***

despite this – or some may think because of this – he succeeded at times against the odds, and often in the face of opposition.

Max's recently launched book is the story of Ormond's life and times, rounding out the picture of the man whose generosity benefitted the lives of so many Melbournians.

Francis Ormond had links to East Melbourne, being Chair of the Presbyterian Ladies College Council when it was established on the site in Albert Street where the Freemasons Hospital sits today. And it was the minister Adam Cairns of the Cairns Memorial Church on the corner of Powlett and Hotham Streets who first suggested Ormond establish an educational scholarship in memory of his sister.

Like Francis Ormond, Max and Merrilyn share an enormous interest in education. They continue to support young people through their education in Alice Springs and in Papua New Guinea.

At the age of almost 89, and with 10 books to his name, Max shows no signs of slowing down!



Desert Storm

BY CHARLIE HOHNEN

There is movement at the station as a group of locals prepare for their next desert adventure. You may know some of them or have heard talk of the plans. There are meetings to discuss the minutiae of the proposed journey. Expeditions to practice necessary skills have taken place over the past two or more years. The expeditioners know their vehicles and their equipment, some of which has been around for decades, proof that 'they don't make things like they used to'. Modern technology is recruited for safety and convenience and the younger generation make their contributions to the group expertise. There is an air of excitement building.

Of course Melbourne has seen many explorers and expeditioners set off for the interior of this vast country. Some were successful and some less so. For modern adventurers camels have given way to 4WD and the laden wagons are reduced to half a dozen vehicles, carefully loaded with water and fuel which in this day and age can be replenished without too much difficulty though often with considerable expense. The water points are known unlike in the early days when water had to be found

as the travellers passed through unfamiliar country. Fuel drops can be organised in advance and members of the party can fly in to join the others at remote locations. Food technology has meant that expeditioners can eat royally without having to live off the land or take their own animals along. The tin can and the dehydrator supply much of the needed variety without the weight that previously had to be transported. The cast iron camp oven is an item that even today proves its

worth on a desert trek where hot coals rather than gas or electricity provide the heat source. Dampener and golden syrup are very comforting on a cold night and full roasts and surprising puddings can be produced from this humble 'old tech' item.

The group has crossed the Simpson Desert twice in the past two years, practising sand driving on the 1200 dunes which have to be negotiated before the ultimate challenge of Big Red just outside Birdsville. Last year saw

a medico and his grandson from Queensland join the core group, driving across to Alice Springs and giving the grandson 7000km of practice for his driving licence as well as some flying practice as his dirt bike crested the dunes. This year the group will be joined by several newcomers to make quite a large party.

They are off to travel the Canning Stock Route. Watch this space for details if the expedition is successful. Otherwise, well, everyone has heard of Burke and Wills.

A good place to live



Local resident Bengt Chrisphersson from Stockholm enjoyed a chat with Paul Henry. Was it about the baby Paul had just delivered in Wellington Parade after responding to reports of a woman screaming?

Police from Melbourne East have recently formed the Melbourne East Safety & Security Committee to engage with the numerous community groups served by police. Senior Sergeant Paul Henry acknowledges that unlike many suburban police stations Melbourne East covers a wide community base involving residents and businesses in the CBD as well as major sporting precincts and the security issues of significant sites. Although situated in Flinders Lane, the station also has responsibilities to the residents of East Melbourne.

Commencing in July, the Melbourne East Safety & Security Committee will bring together representatives from a variety of residential, business and cultural groups to identify issues affecting our community. In the first instance the complex problem of homelessness will be considered. Recently there was cooperation between the City of Melbourne and police to move people sleeping in the Fitzroy Gardens to appropriate support agencies. This helped prevent problems like those found in and around Enterprize Park in Melbourne.

EMG committee member Ian Mitchell will represent the East Melbourne community on this new group facilitated by Senior Sergeant Paul Henry.

Paul dropped by on Saturday afternoon for a chat with people in Powlett Reserve and made the comment that, 'From an East Melbourne residents' perspective, crime continues to be relatively low in comparison with the central business district.

East Melbourne continues to be a good place to live with proactive residents who address issues before they become major problems.'

Paul encourages residents to keep up the good work and not to hesitate to contact our local police station on 9637 1100 if we have anything to report of a non-emergency nature.

Broaden your reading experience

Join a book group

BY LINDA LONGLEY

Providing a space and an opportunity to be exposed to different reading material and learn about other's experiences, book groups can be an escape from a busy life, a safe place to exchange and challenge ideas.

Whether the group bring whatever they are currently reading to discuss, or have decided to read a set list of books across a year, book groups are alternately fun and serious, a place for people to say how they

felt about their reading experience and hear about the experiences of others and feel connected through a shared interest and love of reading – and sometimes wine too!

People join book groups for many different reasons. Reading is a solitary activity. Book clubs offer the opportunity to share the reading experience, meet new people and discover new books to read.

Book groups can help create and foster

friendships and community connections, and are places where anyone who reads can join in no matter their background, age or gender.

Even more than that, some books are better for talking about them!

Melbourne Library Service coordinates a variety of different book groups, check them out or start your own and happy reading!

Continued on page 20



PEOPLE & PETS *you meet on the streets*



KAYE FLETCHER

Kaye moved from Parkville four years ago. It was the proximity to the city which brought her here but now she really enjoys the chance to interact with neighbours and participate in the activities and events offered by EMG and other networks in the area. She gets a sense that people appreciate living here and put an effort into maintaining the area to enjoy now and into the future. Finding a place to park at times, especially when friends visit, is quite a challenge. However, it does encourage use of the tram system and walking as an option. When she's not here she heads to the Surf Coast and often a game of golf at the 13th Beach Club.



DAISY

Daisy is a five year old Labradoodle who came to live in East Melbourne from South Australia. She loves living here because of all the parks. Being off lead in Yarra Park is a real treat especially after the football when there are lots of yummy forbidden food scraps for her to find the next day. One day she also found a child's dummy and would not give it up much to the amusement of commuters as she sat quite contentedly on the pavement while her dad went in for the paper. Daisy's other favourite pastime is having coffee with her owners Rob and Annie at the local cafes. In fact she is under the misapprehension she is human.



ANGELA DAVIS

Angela, works in the research area for the ABC. She stumbled across East Melbourne four years ago and hopes she can stay here for a long time to come - if only housing was more affordable! She's made friends here from all over the world, most recently through going to yoga at Holy Trinity with her mum. Being close to the MCG is a bonus as Angela is a fifth generation Richmond supporter and she regularly goes to the footy with her extended family, all ardent Tiger fans. There was no question that her partner would also support Richmond if there was to be any future in the relationship.



ASH MCINTOSH

Ash moved to East Melbourne with his girlfriend after graduating from ANU in Canberra almost four years ago. They were looking for a suburb that was close to the city but with a country town feel and East Melbourne came up trumps with its wide streets and beautiful gardens. With a lot of family and friends also now in East Melbourne there is no shortage of people to hang out with. Early morning runs around the Tan, playing in the mixed doubles comp at Powlett Reserve, watching champions at the Aus Open and winning the Jesus clock at a Cohen cellars trivia night are all highlights of life here.



GRAHAM ROGERS

Graham has lived here for 22 years and like most people, he wanted to be closer to the city for his professional life. At one stage he was a committee member of the EMG and also chaired an informal group of residents who were interested in the possibility of bringing the Bendigo Community Bank to the area. Although it was concluded that the population of 3002 was too small to justify a branch, it was a wonderful way to get to know local people. Travel, golf, playing bridge and learning Italian are what Graham enjoys in his spare time. He'd very much like to see commercial traffic flow on Powlett Street reduced.



CHARLIE HOHNEN

Charlie and her husband Murray discovered East Melbourne by accident 20 years ago, having never heard of it before moving from Brisbane. They were originally impressed by the proximity to the CBD and the access to public transport but find the people of East Melbourne quite special in their sense of community. Charlie has always had an interest in writing as well as in plants and gardening, having worked as a botanist in the past. Volunteering at Bishops court, helping with the magazine and being involved in EMG sub-committees keep her busy. She enjoys 'active' travel and being involved in the lives of her grandchildren. Traffic in the suburb and aircraft noise are issues that concern her.

Community Noticeboard

WELCOME WINTER WITH FLAVOUR

Celebrate the flavours of Winter at Flavour Exchange, Fed Square's quarterly tasting event.

Here is your opportunity to explore Victoria's superb wine, beer and cider and taste sensational seasonal produce while meeting all the producers, winemakers and growers. Work your way through the tasting trail, hear the stories behind these much-loved local products and purchase your favourites directly from the producer.

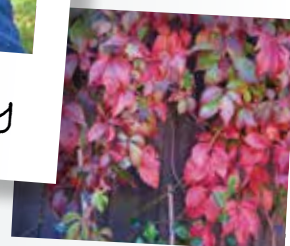
The Atrium at Fed Square 18 & 19 June 4.30pm – 8.30pm

9827 4466 flavour.exchange@digandfish.com
www.flavourexchange.com.au

\$32.50 online, \$37.50 at the door.
 Ticket includes 14 tasting vouchers
 and a tasting glass to take home.



Nadia & her little boy



Backyard colour

EAST MELBOURNE LIBRARY STORY LOUNGE

Story Lounge is a story time for adults. Enjoy the simple pleasure of listening to hand-picked stories and poems read aloud in a relaxed setting.

Mondays 10.30am – 11.30am on 13 July, 10 August, 14 September, 12 October and 9 November

FOR A LOVELY DAY OUT....

Remember the Royal Botanic Gardens at Cranbourne. Just an hour's drive away they are a visual treat at any time of the year.



Rosario & little Rosario



A HEARTY HEALTHY WINTER SOUP WITH CHICKPEA AND LEEK

2 cans of chickpeas drained and well rinsed
 1 large potato peeled and cut into small dice
 4 leeks with root removed and sliced finely including some of the green, well washed.
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 Knob of butter
 2 garlic cloves crushed
 Salt & ground black pepper
 1 & ½ litres chicken stock (or vegetable)
 Parmesan cheese coarsely grated or shaved
 Extra olive oil to serve

In a thick bottomed pan melt the oil and butter. Add the sliced leeks and garlic to the pan and sweat with a good pinch of salt until tender. Add the potato and chickpeas and cook for a minute. Add 1 litre of stock and simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in 2 tablespoons of grated parmesan. Off the heat puree half of the soup in some sort of processor. (I just put a stick blender in the pan). Now add remaining stock to achieve the consistency you want.

Warm up. Serve with a dash of olive oil on top, a dollop of shaved parmesan and ground black pepper and a crusty bread roll. Dinner in a bowl!





AFTERNOON TEA

On Tuesday 23 June at 2pm
EMG will host an afternoon
tea at the library.

\$5 per head to be paid on the day

Enjoy a delicious selection of homemade
sweet treats with a cuppa and a chat.



MELBOURNE DESIGN MARKET SUNDAY 21 JUNE

From 10:00 – 5:00 Federation Square's undercover carpark will be overflowing with design products as dozens of design businesses launch hundreds of new products at the market, making it a must for design-savvy shoppers.

There is an outstanding mix of talent and products from Australia and around the world, including fashion, jewellery, homewares, furniture, textiles, stationery and bags.



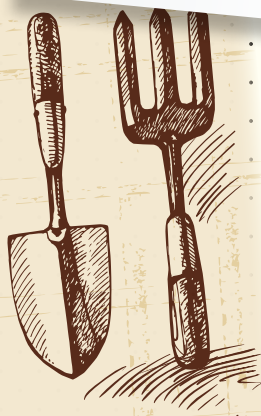
Jeanine enjoys a
sunny afternoon

GARDENS FULL OF SUN AND LIGHT IN SOUTHERN FRANCE

Having visited many of the world's great gardens, John Patrick has found that he particularly enjoys the gardens of the South of France. With their Mediterranean climate, harsh soils, strong drying winds and coastal exposure in some places, these gardens have many similarities with our own.

Come on an exciting virtual journey to view gardens full of sun and light.

Thursday 13 August 6:00pm for 6:30 – 7:30
Mueller Hall, National Herbarium. \$25.00



FESTIVAL OF PHRYNE

Step into Rippon Lea and enter the opulent 1920s world of the Honourable Miss Phryne Fisher and her crime fighting associates. This brand new exhibition, set in the home of Aunt Prudence in the TV series, features never before seen series three costumes and props.

The Miss Fisher's Costume Exhibition is open daily at Rippon Lea House from 10am – 4pm from 1 May to 30 September 2015. Cost \$20 or Call **9656 9889** to book.



THE CHANGING FACE OF VICTORIA

Visit a remarkable free exhibition at the State Library that tells the stories of the people, places and events that have shaped Victoria. Read moving accounts from Australians during World War One, discover what Coles' looked like 100 years ago, and delight in treasures cartoonist Kaz Cooke has uncovered in the Library's realia collection.

Dome Galleries.
Bookings not
required, open
all this year.



DIY ON 3002'S DOORSTEP

Will there be a well-worn path between East Melbourne and Victoria Parade made by DIY enthusiasts excited by the opening of a Bunning's store? The new store features the façade of the old heritage-listed Kodak building.



Shooting hoops on
Sunday afternoon

Recent release recommendations from the East Melbourne librarians

The bone clocks

David Mitchell

Metaphysical thriller, meditation on mortality and chronicle of our self-devouring times, this is the kaleidoscopic new novel from the author of Cloud Atlas. Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2014.

Terms & conditions

Robert Glancy

Frank has been in a serious car accident and he's missing memories. All he remembers is that he is a lawyer who specializes in fine print. As memories flood in, Frank's tightly regulated life begins to unspool as he is forced to face up to the real terms and the condition of his life. A shrewd and hilarious exploration of freedom and frustration, success and second chances, and whether it's worth living by the rules.

Only the animals

Ceridwen Dovey

Perhaps only the animals can tell us what it is to be human. The souls of ten animals caught up in human conflicts over the last century tell their astonishing stories of life and death.

My Salinger Year

Joanna Rakoff

Poignant, keenly observed, and irresistibly funny: a memoir about literary New York in the late nineties, a pre-digital world on the cusp of vanishing, where a young woman finds herself entangled with one of the last great figures of the century.

The faster I walk, the smaller I am

**Kjersti A. Skomsvold
(translated by
Kerri A Pierce)**

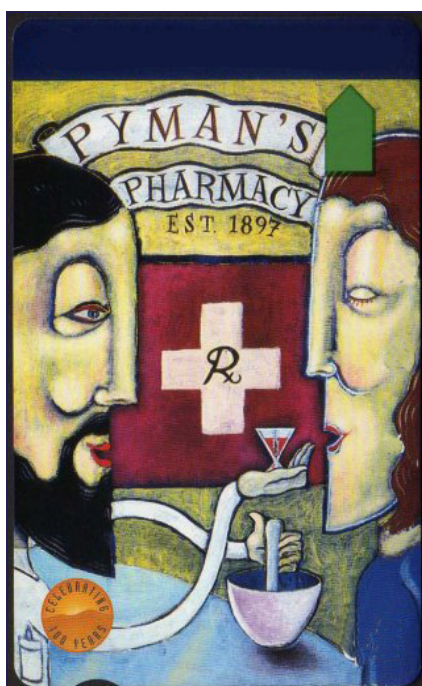
Mathea Martinsen has never been good at dealing with other people. After a lifetime, her only real accomplishment is her longevity: everyone she reads about in the obituaries has died younger than she is now. Afraid that her life will be over before anyone knows that she lived, Mathea heads out into the world to make her mark. A macabre twist on the notion that life 'must be lived to the fullest.'

Step back in time

Built in 1755, Cook's Cottage located in the Fitzroy Gardens is the oldest building in Australia. Originally located in Great Ayton, Yorkshire, England it was built by the parents of Captain James Cook. Astonishingly, each brick of the cottage was individually numbered and packed into barrels for shipping to Australia in 1934. A clipping of ivy from the original cottage came to Melbourne so the same plant could grow on its walls.



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