

# EAST MELBOURNE JOLIMONT

community magazine

3002

**PRE LOVED  
MARKET  
24 OCTOBER**

*Anger over bus lanes  
Heritage Act Review*



**SPRING  
2015**



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

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[www.emg.org.au](http://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

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## WELLINGTON PARADE SUPER STOP

BY STUART  
HAMILTON

Yarra Trams and the City of Melbourne have responded to objections from local residents and the East Melbourne Group to the likely impact on building access and parking of the proposed new Wellington Pde 'accessible' tram stop. They will restore some parking spaces earlier slated to go, and re-designate other spaces as short stay. The stop, which will be sited between the two train overpasses on either end of Jolimont Station, and will replace the existing Powlett and Clarendon St stops, is scheduled to be built soon after the AFL Grand Final. Recent experience with the CBD tram stops suggest that construction should largely be completed in a week.



Parking changes will occur in Wellington Pde and Clarendon, Powlett and (in a minor way) George Streets.

The authorities are to be congratulated for the way they listened to issues that were raised and responded flexibly.

Details have yet to be released on changes to other stops, particularly the stops at Simpson St and Jolimont Rd. EMG will be pressing strongly for the continued location of stops at or near the current locations.



## Testing Trivia

BY SIUSAN MACKENZIE

Did you know that many years ago, in Scotland, a new game was invented? It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden'...and thus the word GOLF entered the English language.

Our community trivia night really was a great community building event with 14 tables of ten filling the St Peter's Hall to capacity. We had teams representing a cross section of East Melbourne including community gardeners, tennis players, Holy Trinity parishioners, the Greens, Dixon Advisory staff, the mothers' group, Mercy Health and various other neighbourhood groups. Judging by the laughter and the seriousness of some competitors who frequently questioned the questions, everyone was having fun.

Trying to identify the lucky-seat winners caused some confusion and hilarity because whoever used the chairs before us had left their envelopes glued underneath. Our winners received coffee vouchers from **Kere Kere Café** in the Fitzroy Gardens and wine from **Cohen Cellars**. Heads and tails got everyone out of their seats again and the eventual winner also received a lovely bottle of wine from Cohen Cellars.

After all of the points were counted and scrutinised it was a dead heat between two teams. And then it was deemed a dead heat again when they shouted their answer to how many seconds in a year. The next question about which zodiac signs are made up of two identical elements led to the Yarra

Park Possums being declared the winners and they took away a bundle of Kere Kere coffee vouchers (so they could catch up the next morning and bask in their glory), and a basket full of wine kindly donated by the **Lidgerwood family**.

Janine Jenkins, a member of winning team Possums said, 'The trivia night was a great way to bring different groups of residents and businesses from East Melbourne together. For our table, many of us with toddlers at home, we felt we hit the jackpot just by having a night without children!'

Raffle prizes were donated by **Gepetto Trattoria, John Moran Myotherapy, the Pullman Hotel, Kiwi Fish & Chips, Adara Apartments and the McNamara family** so several people went home winners. Our quiz master Fred was presented with a bottle of red from the Baden Powell and Simone French our co-host and music maestro who cleverly sang the clues 'spicks and specks style' will enjoy some **yoga with Thomas** at Holy Trinity. All good fun!

Tom Hogg who was part of the team who were runners-up said, 'It was great fun joining in a team with people from different generations who had not met before to successfully answer a wide range of intriguing questions.' Not quite successfully enough to win this time though, Tom.

What is the only food that doesn't spoil? For one point, that would be honey.

## Ladies who Lunch



Ladies, you are invited to gather your girlfriends and get into the spirit of race week by wearing a hat on Oaks Day (Thursday 5 November) to the 3002 Ladies who Lunch gathering at Tippler & Co in Wellington Parade.

\$55 for EMG members & \$60 for non EMG members.

Ticket price includes a three course luncheon, bubbles, great prizes, entertainment and lots of laughs.

Oaks Day seats are strictly limited so reserve your place at the table now. Call 9415 7570 or admin@emg.org.au



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## Protestors free to keep harassing - for now

BY MOIRA  
RAYNER

*The Fertility Clinic on Wellington Parade has been a bone of contention for years.*

Some remember the horror in 2002 when Peter James Knight entered the clinic with a gun and shot a security guard. He was sentenced to life in prison after he entered the Clinic with a gun and shot and killed a security guard. Others are more prosaically irritated at their access to the post office being interrupted by Protectors of God's Precious Infants who regularly crowd the footpath. The Clinic itself – and many women – complain of these protestors hounding and discouraging visitors who may be going to terminate a pregnancy. A small group of Friends of the Clinic regularly stand between visitors and protestors 'who go too far' and security guards escort clients to the front door. Mass-goers march monthly from a city church, and a counter protest supporting the clinic's purpose on Saturday mornings is often noisy too.

Police and the City of Melbourne have played footsie with responsibility for protecting access to this medical clinic – and the peace – for years. Finally the Clinic took civil action in the Supreme Court, which was heard in June 2015 with supportive intervention from the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission.

In a judgment on 26 August Justice McDonald held that the Melbourne City Council did not fail in its duty of care or breach Victorian law by allowing anti-abortion protestors to harass women attending the clinic, as the Clinic alleged. Its failure to stop clinic patients and staff being harassed was a 'nuisance' and the Council had the powers and failed to exercise them, in breach of the state's Public Health and Wellbeing Act.

The Lord Mayor Robert Doyle defended Council's inaction on the basis that:

'When our compliance officers turn up, the protestors' behaviour is impeccable. It's when no one is looking, their behaviour turns vile. That's what's so frustrating about the whole thing.'

Members of the protest group were in court and were delighted with the decision.

Some members of the East Melbourne Group had urged its participation in the litigation. Whilst supportive of some action, the EMG considered that the particular form of the litigation was unlikely to result in a positive outcome for the Clinic, for women's rights to access medical treatment, or for participants. It has long been a part of British and Australian Common Law that where an authority has a discretion to investigate or use its powers to prosecute, no third party can direct that authority to do so in a particular way.

A bill enforcing a buffer zone around abortion clinics has now been introduced to the Victorian Parliament by Sex Party MP Fiona Patten.

The bill, amending the Health and Wellbeing Act, would make it illegal for protestors to be within 150 metres of fertility and reproductive health clinics, with penalties including fines or imprisonment for repeat offenders.

Ms Patten said women had experienced disgraceful treatment at the hands of anti-abortion 'vigilantes'.







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# A renovation template

BY MURRAY HOHNEN

*One of the delights of living in East Melbourne, is seeing the way in which heritage properties are sensitively brought back to life by caring owners. Many spring to mind. Let me name a few of my current favourites.*

- 1 The first is opposite Powlett Reserve where a utilitarian chemist's shop has morphed into an elegant home.
- 2 The cottage at the Hoddle Street end of George Street that has been lovingly restored and is in the process of having final touches added to its front garden.
- 3 Then of course there is the George Street Terrace that includes the redevelopment written about by Liz Haldane.



The property Mr and Mrs Haldane have restored is one of a three element terrace. Interestingly the terrace, built in 1865, is older than the adjacent 'Braemar' and among the oldest survivors from the 1850s in the City of Melbourne. The robust facade has been described as an extraordinary design without known peer for the decorative use of timber. The three storey form with its *piano nobile* (the first floor is the principal level) is unusual for a row house in Melbourne.

The original form of the three terraces comprised a front three storey section with a two storey wing along each western boundary. Changes over time meant that some historical integrity was lost.

One positive thing about the extended process of objection and consultation that preceded the granting of a building permit for No 182 was that it provided, through the various experts that became involved, an extensive history of the A listed terrace and some guidance on the principles that should guide changes to the external fabric of properties of similar character. A grade buildings are of national or state importance and are irreplaceable parts of Australia's built form.

At some point the balconies and decorative wooden balustrades of the other two elements of the terrace were stripped away. This made 182 more important in a historical sense.

Around 2009 the central element, No 184, changed hands and the new owner embarked upon an extensive renovation. The streetscape was a major beneficiary as the lost fenestration and balconies were reinstated and the complex wooden balustrades faithfully copied from the template next door.

One can only hope that at some future time, No 186 will also be restored to its historical form.

The heritage story is more complex when one considers the rear sections of the terrace. All three are visible from the cobbled laneway at the back. No 186 includes much of the original rear fabric. Like the front of the house, its fate is not currently under consideration.

At the rear of No 184 most of the original rear fabric has been changed and its contribution to the lanescape is very different from the original fabric that was demolished.

At 182 a balance, acceptable to the planning authorities was found between bringing the home into the 21st century and preserving much of the back of the house that was original or near original.

The planning scheme includes an objective of conserving all parts of buildings of historic, social or architectural interest that contribute to the significance, character and appearance of the building, streetscape or area. With regard to the demolition of A graded buildings the policy notes that demolition or removing parts of buildings will not normally be permitted and further, that for renovating graded buildings intact significant external fabric on any part of an outstanding building and on any visible part of a contributory building should be preserved.

The role of a community group like EMG in these situations is interesting. Our planning and heritage sub-committee monitors all building applications in the suburb and tries to measure them all against the same standard. We review many hundreds of applications each year and make an effort to be constructive. Our advice is to seek advice from a heritage architect or Heritage Victoria before embarking on a renovation.





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# Heritage Act Review

BY BARBARA PATERSON

*The East Melbourne Group is pleased that Planning Minister Wynne has initiated a Review of the Heritage Act 1995 and has launched a discussion paper outlining Heritage Victoria's suggestions for reform.*

Briefly, the Review advocates: procedural changes to ensure a simpler registration process, a greater role for local government in the heritage permit process to ensure the consideration of local issues, strengthening of the role of the National Trust, strengthening compliance and enforcement provisions and providing heritage area designation (cultural landscapes and urban precincts) including definition and assessment criteria.

EMG members share a belief that structures with special historic, cultural and architectural significance enhance the quality of life for all. By extension we believe that a case can be argued for

designating East Melbourne and Jolimont as an historic district. The area contains the largest remnants of Melbourne's hallmark architecture including Victorian, art deco and modern styles. To preserve the heritage ambience, new building within the suburb needs to reflect the outstanding qualities inherent in the area, notably human scale quality which is a feature of the heritage stock. An obvious way to achieve this aim is by introducing mandatory height limits.

Heritage precinct designation however raises complex questions. Planners are typically against such a proposal, arguing that it increases property values and reduces the supply of new housing. These districts can be seen as elitist – exclusive enclaves of the wealthy, educated and white. Heritage designation places the emphasis on the area rather than the building thus it is arguable that the loss of any individual building does not make a difference to the precinct. Residents lose flexibility in managing what could be their largest single asset.

Locally, the concept of heritage areas is a new one. The current Act favours individual controls for heritage protection but a new Act may provide a mechanism to recognise large-scale cultural landscapes or urban precincts as worthy of protection. At this

stage it is unclear what level of protection would be accorded to such area. We can anticipate however that all this will be of concern to the property development industry which may put in a submission. We say that the concept of an historic district is not a new concept in cities overseas and is feasible in Melbourne.

The Review will not be completed until 2016. In the meantime, EMG is committed to exploring ways in which heritage can be conserved to the benefit of residents and Victoria.



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# Victorian Beauty restored to life

BY LIZ HALDANE



182 George Street

*Designed in 1856 by acclaimed architect Joseph Reed, who also designed the Royal Exhibition Buildings, the State Library of Victoria, Ripponlea Estate, Melbourne Town Hall, Melbourne Trades Hall and the Collins Street Baptist Church, to name a few, 182 George Street is one of the area's oldest and most significant buildings and I am proud to say, our family home.*

We had always admired the house, but knew it needed some love and attention, so we were happy to take on the challenge of revitalizing this old girl when we bought it in 2009. 182 had been renovated many times over the years and these additions and alterations were beginning to take a toll on the original structure. Water penetration, leaking sewerage, the use of asbestos from bad 1960s & 70s building practices, deteriorating foundations, cracked walls, rotting windows, leaking roof, decaying balconies and old electrical wiring were a bit of a time bomb that thankfully were uncovered and repaired by local builders Krongold Constructions.

'We were very surprised and concerned about the structural integrity of the house when works commenced' said Jon Greaves, General Manager of Krongold Construction, 'but thankfully these issues were uncovered in the early stages and could be corrected by our dedicated team of engineers and builders.

Some of the building practices of the past have stood the test of time, and some have not. As builders, it is important for us to try and find the right balance between the past and the present so as to achieve the best outcome for the property – in the case of 182, the architect and owners should be applauded as they have achieved a wonderful balance of quality, innovation, integrity and historical accuracy.'

Given the above list of issues that urgently needed to be addressed within our home, it was disappointing to receive a large number of objections from people who appeared to have not even bothered to review the correct documentation. It was also frustrating that our objectors choose not to discuss their concerns directly with my husband Clyde and me, even though we were well known in the community having lived in East Melbourne for over 20 years. Notwithstanding, a few of the objections were actually humorous, such as a man from South Yarra concerned that he would be overshadowed and another from a lady who thought the fumes from the tradesman cars would cause her respiratory distress. It is also mystifying that many people had very strong views regarding what should

happen to our home but then no issue when both of our immediate neighbours submitted much larger scale applications, but I guess, this is a case of *c'est la vie*.

Our renovation began in April 2014 and it was a very cautious start as Krongold carefully peeled back the layers of past renovations to expose and then repair the original fabric of the house. It was lovely to watch our heritage consultant share stories with curious apprentices, such as pointing out '*the nails in that beam would have been handmade by an apprentice blacksmith 159 years ago*' and the apprentice replying '*I bet he wished he had a Mitre 10*'. It was fascinating researching and uncovering the history of the house and its former owners. It appears that Joseph Reed was a very colourful character!

In the end, I believe we have achieved a wonderful balance at 182, the majority of original fabric has been retained or painstakingly restored by artisans, the addition to the house is respectful, concealed and in keeping with the style of the house. The interior spaces are magnificent with the floor plan being returned to the original flow as was intended by Joseph Reed. I think Mr Reed would be pleased with what we have achieved.

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# WATER UNDERGROUND

BY BRETAN CLIFFORD

## DOES WATER SEEP INTO YOUR BASEMENT? HAVE YOU NOTICED PLACES IN EAST MELBOURNE WHERE THERE IS WATER IN THE GUTTERS EVEN ON A DRY DAY OR WALKED ACROSS AREAS WHERE THE GROUND IS OFTEN SATURATED?

The reasons are often related to groundwater reaching the surface from the yellow clay-like rock that underlies our suburb or are an echo of stream beds and wetlands that have been hidden by post-settlement building and development.

Groundwater levels in the rocks under East Melbourne commonly range between five to twenty metres below the surface and more often than not is invisible. However in some locations, variations in the rock's bedding and how the groundwater flows through the rock, or disturbance due to construction or excavation can bring the water to the surface and make it noticeable. In extreme cases this can impact local buildings and residences, and can be expressed through: damp, water seepage, salt leaching, or contribute to subsidence.

In the lower lying areas of East Melbourne the pre-settlement landscape still expresses itself in persistently wet areas. During the height of the last drought, builders at a house in Albert St were surprised to see an eighteen inch deep hole dug for new foundations start to fill with water. As residential developments in the area are making deeper and deeper excavations, some residents are becoming concerned about the groundwater implications for adjoining properties.

We need to be mindful of what lies underground in East Melbourne including variations in soil moisture and soil stability that can have implications for residents in terms of soil movement and the need for construction responses to stabilise older foundations.

*New development and construction, in particular trenching and deep foundations, have the potential to impact local groundwater conditions and change how and where water flows with impacts felt in adjacent properties.*

For our Victorian buildings, which typically have quite basic foundations, such impacts can be significant and evidence of this has become apparent with some recent deep excavations. The impact of widespread excavations below the known groundwater level in East Melbourne need to be assessed in advance of development to avoid possible negative heritage and community outcomes.

In a presentation to the Melbourne Future Committee (the Council committee which considers development issues) EMG suggested that groundwater should be considered a planning matter rather than building issue as developments can lead to foreseeable impacts outside of individual property boundaries.

The East Melbourne Group has been collecting information about: development, local groundwater, and soil stability to ensure that in the future these are recognised in planning processes. If you have any comments or observations about planning, ground water and soils they would welcome at [admin@emg.org.au](mailto:admin@emg.org.au)

For more specific detail on topographic and groundwater mapping in East Melbourne go to [www.emg.org.au](http://www.emg.org.au)



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BY GLEN RYAN



*Graffiti is evident throughout East Melbourne with public infrastructure and unoccupied buildings most vulnerable.*

The EMG Amenities sub-committee has been in discussion with the Melbourne Cricket Club about options for dealing with graffiti, particularly near and on the pedestrian bridge over the railway at Powlett Street.

We also plan to approach VicTrack, Metro Rail and Melbourne City Council with suggestions for reducing graffiti in East Melbourne including:

- Inhibit access to likely sites
- Disrupt the surface of walls likely to be defaced
- Utilise the surface for some other purpose
- Obstruct public viewing by planting a visual screen or some other barrier
- Provide better surveillance of the likely sites

Residents are encouraged to report any graffiti to building owners promptly and the Council and ask them to have it removed. Inaction on graffiti is interpreted as tacit approval or acceptance and leads to an escalation of the vandalism.

EMG would welcome your thoughts and suggestions regarding protecting our community from graffiti [admin@emg.org.au](mailto:admin@emg.org.au)

Graffiti is the marking of another person's property without permission. Graffiti can include tags, stencils, pieces and even colourful murals which have been done without the permission of the person who owns the wall and without permission from the local council. Graffiti is illegal everywhere in Australia.



# Gone to War as Sister

BY JANET SCARFE

*In the centenary year of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli, the East Melbourne Historical Society paid tribute to nurses with a local connection who served overseas.*

An exhibition, entitled 'Gone to War as Sister: East Melbourne Nurses in the Great War', held in the East Melbourne Library, was curated by local resident and historian Dr Janet Scarfe. It featured more than 20 nurses with an association with East Melbourne that came through working in the numerous hospitals in the vicinity, registering with the employment agencies for nurses in the area, attending one of East Melbourne's churches, or through living in the suburb (more often in rented rooms than in a grand residence).

These nurses served in the major theatres of war including Egypt, Lemnos, the Western Front and Greece, on hospital ships, in India and in hospitals in England. They endured danger near the front and at sea, and minor and major illnesses. One, Margaret Roberts, drowned at sea. Some were highly decorated, while others went relatively unsung.

'Gone to War as Sister' showed more than nurses treating sick and wounded soldiers. There was a sense of their lives before the Great War: Stella Priday had eloped as a 15 year old, Jessie Gemmell frequently appeared in Melbourne's social pages. Some like Emily Black enlisted after her brother was wounded, but others were the

first in their immediate family to enlist and sometimes the only one. Constance Brooks insisted she joined up to travel.

The panels showed the nurses socializing and on leave. They were eager sightseers and many like Minnie Hobler and Agnes King were keen photographers. The exhibition was greatly enriched by many photographs taken by the nurses themselves, generously provided by their family members.

The exhibition also showed the nurses' lives after the war. Some suffered illnesses that persisted after the war like Gertrude Robertson, bedridden in Caulfield Repatriation. Some died in their 40s or 50s through illness, misadventure, or in Beryl Tucker's case, suicide. However, many went on to live well into their 80s and beyond.

Most continued nursing. Some like Agnes King and Annie Kidd Hart became matrons in major repatriation hospitals (Agnes *drove* to her new positions in her prized car – twice across the Nullabor, from Adelaide to Brisbane and around Queensland in the 1930s).

Others moved into the burgeoning new field of baby health/infant welfare: Annie Purcell was well known for her newspaper columns and radio broadcasts in the 1920s and 1930s.



Margaret Roberts, the St Peter's Eastern Hill parishioner who drowned

Some moved overseas, perhaps following connections made in the war. Violet Payne became a missionary nurse in Tanganyika for nearly 20 years, and had a major impact on reducing infant mortality there.

They were adventuresome, colourful women, far more interesting and complex than the clichéd 'brave nurse looking after her brothers'. They are part of East Melbourne's history, and of much wider histories as well: Melbourne, Victoria, the Great War and nursing.

The East Melbourne Historical Society intends to rehang the exhibition in the Library next April. Meantime, material connected with the exhibition including more detailed accounts of the nurses' lives can be found at [emhs.org.au](http://emhs.org.au)

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# Long live the elms

BY FRED HALLIDAY

*The elm trees of East Melbourne make a major contribution to the heritage and character of our suburb. They also have global significance as one of the few elm populations that avoided Dutch Elm disease in the 1970s and 1980s. Last year's Elm Leaf Beetle attack, which was caused by a particularly cool summer, raised the awareness of many residents about the vulnerability of our ageing elms and their continuing place in the life of our suburb.*

Our elm trees are old. Over the next decade a large proportion will reach the end of their lives. The City of Melbourne's excellent interactive Urban Forest map shows that one third of the elm trees in Simpson Street and half the trees in the elm avenues of the Fitzroy gardens have estimated remaining lives of less than ten years.

For the City of Melbourne, the ageing of the elms and their need for replacement sits within a broad range of strategic priorities that include: protecting the local heritage and character of suburbs, improving ecological sustainability of our tree population through species and tree age diversity, and responding to climate change and the general liveability of our city through increasing the size of our urban forest.

The Council has yet to fully explore the challenges and opportunities of elm replacement however any replanting is likely to have some impact on East Melbourne and Jolimont. For example, whilst Dutch Elm disease has never reached Melbourne it would not be prudent to assume that it never will. Any future planting pattern that simply replicates the close planting patterns of a hundred years ago would expose the entire tree population to an outbreak of DED spreading like wild fire across the connected root systems of adjacent elm trees – potentially destroying an entire population as happened in cities across Europe and the USA.

Different planting patterns and interspersing of elms with other tree species would strengthen the inherent disease resistance of the elm population. The Council is however conscious that any changed planting patterns would also have to be balanced against the heritage values of the old planting schemes that go back to well before Federation.

The elms of East Melbourne have been well loved for over a hundred years. In 1921 there was a public outcry when the Council's Parks Committee planned to remove and pollard alternate trees in

Fitzroy Garden's elm avenues. And it was the proposed removal of trees in George Street that instigated the formation of the East Melbourne Group more than 60 years ago. Today's Council encourages community dialogue regarding our precinct's trees and wider heritage values for input to planning processes.

It would be good to see an avenue of flowering trees somewhere.

Think of Brisbane's poincianas or Grafton's jacarandas. Any suggestions?



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# Music to our ears

If you saw signs around our suburb promoting the festival of fine music, visual arts and dance at Holy Trinity and just wondered what it was all about, you missed out on some fabulous entertainment on your doorstep. A glass of bubbles was included in the ticket price and there was no need to worry about drink driving after the show. You could just wander off home feeling very happy about something else that living in East Melbourne offers.

This was the third festival presented by Melbourne East Arts and more than 60 artists, singers, musicians and dancers delighted audiences over three days in August.

Barney Swartz, Melbourne academic and music critic, launched the festival, speaking of the beauty of our world and the uplifting of the spirit that engagement with the creative side of our humanity fosters. Visitors to the festival, held at Holy Trinity in Clarendon St, were transported through the alchemy of diverse creative expressions: painting, sculpture, chamber orchestras, a woodwind quintet, tap-dancers, a Latin American duo, Japanese Koto player and soloists from the Opera Studio.

A festival highlight was the Melbourne Art of Sound orchestra who performed with three soloists; international pianist Anthony Halliday, Hamish Gould, counter tenor, and violinist Emily Su, a 12 year old rising star of the Conservatorium of Music, Sydney. To have such high calibre performers at our local Arts Festival is a credit to the organisers.

Melbourne East Arts arranges regular concerts and recitals throughout the year as well as the annual weekend festival.

If you would like to be on the mailing list so you know about upcoming performances, or if you are a local artists or performer who may wish to utilise the intimate performance and exhibition spaces within the Holy Trinity buildings, they'd love to hear from you. [info@mearts.org.au](mailto:info@mearts.org.au)




Rev. Grant Edgcumbe and happy festival goers

## Reverential rap

BY REV GRANT EDGCUMBE

Many of you may have enjoyed watching the English programme called 'Rev' which featured Tom Hollander as the Vicar of an inner city English parish. The programme dealt with the many and various situations the Vicar faced from day to day. You may have thought many of these fictional depictions but let me assure you some days my life mirrors that of 'Rev'. Life at Holy Trinity and some of the surrounding parishes has been made quite difficult of late by the repeated visitation of a character that could well have emerged from TV or fiction. I have had to clean up some very smelly messes on the backdoor step, large piles of rubbish tipped over the front door step of the church and several things that have gone missing from inside the church.

The day I confronted this character and he yelled at me, 'you're all ..... Paedophiles!' I started looking around for the cameras as in several episodes of 'Rev' the Vicar was yelled at and abused. This is not to say that this a laughing matter as this character is quite dangerous but it does help to have a sense of humour in dealing with some of the less palatable happenings of life. The church has had to be closed intermittently but will return to normal opening when this guy is either apprehended or gets sick of creating trouble for me - either that or I will be discovered and transported to movie fame and fortune.



HOUSE TOUR:

## RICHARD NYLON meets WILLIAM JOHNSTON

The annual House of Ideas tour with  
guest curator Richard Nylon

WEDNESDAY 8 JULY 2015 –  
TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2015

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Associate Professor  
Robert Rome

Medical practitioners are calling for an urgent review of the limitation on parking caused by the introduction of bus lanes in Victoria Parade.

258 parking spaces were removed along Victoria Parade between Hoddle and Nicholson streets to facilitate the introduction of the recently completed bus lanes.

On 7 October last year, just two weeks before works were scheduled to commence, VicRoads provided information to the East Melbourne Group claiming to have worked closely with Public Transport Victoria (PTV), City of Melbourne and Yarra City Council to develop and finalise the designs for Victoria Parade, taking into account consultation of local businesses, residents and stakeholders conducted in 2011, 2012 and 2014.

The East Melbourne Group which represents the interests of residents and business in the suburb has no record of being directly invited to participate in any consultation process about the bus lanes until the plan for bus lanes was firmly entrenched in the minds of Vic Roads.

EMG nevertheless disputed the need for bus lanes outside of peak hour claiming that it would cause unnecessary imposition on residents and business alike.

It now seems that the bus lanes were indeed constructed without due consideration for other important consequences such as the needs of patients visiting hospitals and specialists in the medical precinct.

EMG still holds the view that dedicated bus lanes are not required outside peak hours and has plans to discuss this with the City of Melbourne and VicRoads.

Doctors in the area believe that while the City of Melbourne prides itself on its world class hospitals located within a few kilometres of the CBD it should also be supporting patient care by ensuring accessible parking facilities are available for patients – not removing parking.

# BUS LANES ANGER DOCTORS

BY SIUSAN MACKENZIE

“Associate Professor Robert Rome, a specialist in gynaecological cancer has consulting rooms in Victoria Parade. He said, ‘Many of my patients are elderly and not a day has gone by since the introduction of the bus lanes that they arrive upset, agitated and late for appointments because they cannot find parking.’

For patients who are unwell and with cancer the last thing they want to do is travel by public transport to a medical appointment. They need to be driven by relatives and friends who accompany them to appointments.’

Patients visiting Dr David Kaufman, an ophthalmologist in the same building, face the additional challenge of having vision and mobility issues such that they cannot walk any distance unassisted. He said, ‘Patients certainly do not need the imposition of bus lanes that reduce parking options outside peak hour.’

People visiting St Vincent’s and the Eye and Ear Hospital are facing the same problems.



## Time to have your say about Hoddle Street

Living in East Melbourne we are well aware that Hoddle Street-Punt Road is used by thousands of people every day and that the demands on this road will increase.

Residents regularly tell us that traffic turning off Hoddle Street, often illegally, to take a short cuts through East Melbourne is one thing that greatly irritates them.

VicRoads is now investigating short to medium term traffic management options to improve the way the Hoddle Street-Punt Road corridor operates.

On 24 August Vic Roads announced a short consultation period including the opportunity to speak with their representatives on 12 September. If you missed that opportunity to have your say please do not delay in writing to: Streamlining Hoddle Street Level 4, 1 Spring Street Melbourne Vic 3000 or [streamlininghoddle@roads.vic.gov.au](mailto:streamlininghoddle@roads.vic.gov.au)



Where the community meets  
for coffee and a bite to eat

65 George Street Cafe

9419 5805



BY ROB MCCOLL

50  
YEARS

## in the neighbourhood

The East Melbourne Group has been in existence more than sixty years and these four people have been members for fifty of those years and seen a lot of change in our suburb.



**Diane Masters** came to East Melbourne via London, where she worked at Shepperton Studios as a stand-in, most notably for Margaret Leighton in Bonnie Prince Charlie. East Melbourne has been her home to since the early 60s, a time when Gipps Street was lined with sad, grand, old terraces. One of these terraces Frederick Romberg, Diane's husband – then in the early stages of a prolific career as an architect – decided was worth his time

and effort to make liveable. Today, only three of the terraces remain, but, Diane says, it's a wonder the change was not more radical. She remembers a local town planner in the 60s describing a future in which Fitzroy Gardens was like Central Park in New York, surrounded by skyscrapers. For what we have now, Diane credits the East Melbourne Group.



**Michael Wilson** was 21 when he took over the pharmacy on Powlett Street in 1960. The previous pharmacist operated from the home business for 36 years, which Michael says he couldn't comprehend at the time. Eventually Michael managed 55 years without it seeming too long at all. A two-time president of the East Melbourne Group, Michael describes the 60s and 70s as everyone else versus East Melbourne; most outside parties wanted more

commercial building in the suburb, with people in East Melbourne wanting it to remain largely residential. In the 80s there was less interest from developers, Michael says, due to an increase in demand for residential homes from professionals eager to live close to the city and this has remained the case. Interest in, and respect for, the history of East Melbourne led Michael to use photographs from the period to guide the restoration of the pharmacy's façade back to the home as it first appeared in 1874.



When **Jenny Lincoln** moved to East Melbourne in 1960, her mother insisted Jenny throw a party to prove to all concerned that her daughter hadn't moved to the slums. Jenny stresses she was never a steadfast member of the East Melbourne Group, but she did make a little time for it between family life and her career, as a solicitor. She mentions her father, also a solicitor and an East Melbourne resident, to recall an instance when he was so taken with a home on Simpson

Street, he contacted the homeowner who was on holiday in the Pacific, to make an offer on the house. The owner accepted. After her father's death years later, Jenny's mother relocated to a double-fronted, single-storey Victorian house in East Melbourne. Previously a rooming house, as many houses were in East Melbourne in the 60s and 70s, the home again became shared accommodation after her mother passed away. Jenny finds some amusement in this; a small part of a more bohemian East Melbourne persisting till today.



**Paul Steedman** describes his contribution to the East Melbourne Group as pretty minimal, but is glad nonetheless to have played some part in a group he credits for stopping great overdevelopment in the area. A surgeon, Paul has practiced in East Melbourne for 50 years, the decision to practice here in the first place informed by his time working at nearby St Vincent's as a young doctor. Here, he and many others, discovered a suburb where a young doctor or nurse working at the hospital could walk there and back in twenty minutes, much like London with its inner city hospitals and accommodation. Paul says it was unfortunate East Melbourne lost the Mercy Women's Hospital, but this was the exception not the rule, with East Melbourne remaining a central location for several hospitals.

## Tackling the impact of aircraft



A solution to the impact of excessive aircraft traffic over our suburb is yet to be found.

A recent increase in the number of large passenger jets descending over East Melbourne for landing at Tullamarine, often very early in the morning, has added to the noise and safety issues of light aircraft.

The existing regulatory and legislative framework has few mechanisms to allow consideration of resident amenity and relevant environmental impact. Any effective consultation or community involvement about these matters is limited and there appears to be jurisdictional issues between the relevant regulatory agencies.

Local residents and EMG have been supported by our MPs and Council to identify ways to address this. Adam Bandt MP has requested Air Services to install a noise monitoring station in East Melbourne and this has been agreed to. City of Melbourne

councillors have agreed to assist us in the development of a Fly Neighbourly Agreement (FNA).

An FNA is an agreement based on residents and aircraft operators working together to come up with ways to avoid noise problems associated with the operation of aircraft. It is not a legally binding instrument, but can be a very effective mechanism for bringing parties together and protecting multiple interests, including people's rights to enjoy living in their area without significant impacts on their health, safety and amenity.

As part of the process, East Melbourne residents will be sent a survey to complete. Please participate in this, even if the impact of aircraft is currently not a major issue for you. With more and more aircraft above East Melbourne it could be an issue in future.

We press on and thank our MPs and Council for their support.

BY SIUSAN MACKENZIE



*Lisette Malatesta has an architecture and building qualification from Melbourne University but it is her eye and taste for quality coffee which she has polished over the years. In fact her long pedigree in hospitality started back at Melbourne Uni when, along with her partner, she established a café and began selling the first decent food and coffee on campus.*

## OUR GENERAL STORE

• integral to community life •

This business venture evolved into coffee wholesaling and multiple café sites, the most notable of which are St Ali and the Sensory Lab at David Jones.

The East Melbourne General Store feels like retirement by comparison but it has a charm all of its own according to Lisette.

There is the lady she has not yet met who calls several times a week to order bits and pieces, a few Kit Kats and a punnet of strawberries perhaps which her daughter picks up each Sunday.

And the people who aren't going to be home to receive a delivery might ask Lisette if she wouldn't mind accepting the delivery.

Or she may have a chat with people as they sit back on the leather sofa and enjoy the coffee.

It has quickly made her feel very central to the community.

Having lived in Hotham Street for three years Lisette was a regular customer of Norm and Anna's. She was so won over by the charms of the suburb and the store, she bought the business! She sees it as a great opportunity to apply her hospitality skills and fulfil her desire to live here longer term with her family which includes children Serena, Luca and Alesso.

Although she is keen to add her touch to the store which Norm and Anna ran for 25 years, Lisette is in no rush to make changes and she will let the community advise her of what they want the store to provide. Already there is evidence of some deluxe European lines and local sustainable products, both areas of focus Lisette hopes to expand.

Although this is a changing of the guard, the EM General Store looks set to remain an important part of community life in East Melbourne for some time to come.

## A lovely golden feeling of spring

BY SIUSAN MACKENZIE

*I wandered lonely  
as a cloud*

*That floats on high o'er  
vales and hills*

*When all at once  
I saw a crowd*

*A host, of golden  
daffodils*

*Beside the lake, beneath  
the trees*

*Fluttering and dancing  
in the breeze.*

These words from the famous William Wordsworth poem might have been written for the display of daffodils that has lined the main north south path in the Fitzroy Gardens in recent weeks.

Having tested the waters with 10,000 daffodils last year, the City of Melbourne has added another 80,000 bulbs this year. This grand scale planting in the mulch under the avenue of elm trees includes 26 different daffodil varieties dispersed with 5000 bluebells which are yet to bloom. The idea is to let them spread naturally into the lawn.

This new approach to planting was inspired by the success of the meadow of flowers on Batman Avenue in 2013.

The daffodils have certainly created a stunning visual display that connects us to the season. As Wordsworth said in his poem, my heart with pleasure fills. And then my heart dances with the daffodils.

## A GOOD READ

BY LINDA LONGLEY,  
EAST MELBOURNE LIBRARY

Wolf Winter, debut novel by Swedish-born, American-based author Cecilia Ekbäck blends genres with this noir historical tale about a family settling in isolated Blackasen Mountain in the newly settled far north part of Sweden.

It's 1717 when Maija and Paavo with their two young daughters, Frederika and Dorotea arrive at a tiny settlement full of rivalries, long-held grudges and dark secrets. Life is hard and as winter approaches Paavo is forced to travel to the coast to find work, leaving Maija and their daughters to brave a *wolf winter*, one of the harshest of winters. One day while tending their herd of goats Frederika discovers the mutilated body of a fellow settler and there begins our quest to solve the mystery.

This story beautifully transports the reader into a primitive Nordic existence and this is accentuated by Cecilia's rendition of a stark, remote and freezing environment where survival is almost impossible. It's a page turner and I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.





# PEOPLE & PETS

you meet  
on the streets



## GRAEME WILLIAMS

As a consultant architect and building surveyor Graeme was attracted to the integrity of the housing stock in East Melbourne. His favourite building Queen Bess Row which he suspects would have enough wall space to accommodate his hobby of art collection. He is also addicted to diving with sharks and has been a volunteer on shark conservation projects. His most recent adventure involved diving with whale sharks in West Papua and encountering some recently discovered new species. East Melbourne would be made better if through traffic was reduced from Punt Road and along Simpson and Powlett Streets. Graeme usually starts his day with a coffee and the paper in George Street Café. He has seen many of its incarnations having lived next door for almost 35 years.



## JO SALMON

As the Deputy Director of the Centre for Physical Activity & Nutrition Research at Deakin University Jo's research focus is on ways to encourage and support people to sit less and move more so is no wonder she is often seen out exercising with her husband. Back in the days of sweatbands and pompom socks Jo was the Victorian Aerobics champion! Having some outdoor exercise equipment is an improvement to the suburb that would get Jo's backing. Finding everything so accessible in East Melbourne Jo even sold her car soon after moving here five years ago. The family has had a couple of moves within East Melbourne so feel they are not only getting to experience living in different parts of the suburb, but are also getting to know lots of lovely neighbours and their dogs.



## MICHAEL EAGER

Michael is a biomedical imaging scientist at Monash University. He had a serious head injury in a sporting accident a few years ago but still managed to finish his PhD. He credits Leanne Clancy's yoga in the library and the beautiful 3002 surrounds for getting him over that mountain. It was so long ago that he moved here with his partner Genevieve that the apartment they rent was not listed online. There was just a two line entry in the Saturday morning paper - they filled in the documentation on the doorstep and the rest is history. Being an apartment dweller Michael would like to see a community garden to get people together, maybe in Darling Square. DIY electronics and open source software are Michael's hobbies and he is currently working on a small digital radio player.



## BRONWYN ANDERSON

Bronwyn first discovered the beauty of East Melbourne about 13 years ago when she commenced working at the Freemasons Hospital. Right from that moment she knew it was where she wanted to live and six years ago she moved in. It was the beautiful established gardens, the gorgeous terrace homes, the parks, cafes and community spirit that caught her eye. These days she spends a lot of time chilling out in the parks reading, having picnics and walking the Tan. As a self-confessed terrible cook she loves having so many wonderful eateries nearby. As a new member of the EMG social committee she is looking forward to meeting more of the fun and interesting characters that live in her neighbourhood.



## COCO

Coco is to be seen most mornings sitting patiently outside the George Street café while her owner Pat catches up on the news with her friends inside. Just 12 months old Coco has had plenty of escapades to excite her and terrify poor Pat. Escaping out a window onto the top floor balcony to explore the guttering had Pat thinking poor Coco would undoubtedly tumble and be impaled on the picket fence below. Coming to a dead end at the party wall Coco had enough sense to welcome a firm hand on her collar to yank her to safety. Coco was a birthday gift for Pat from her late husband so Coco's company and very affectionate nature is very endearing. For all her crazy antics Coco loves nothing better than a trip in the car with Pat.



## JOEL CROCKER

Joel works as a graphic designer and late starts mean he can enjoy running and walking his dog Buddy through the Fitzroy Gardens in day light. The conservatory is a favourite place to sit and relax for a few minutes. It's always so peaceful and warm in there on a cold Melbourne morning! He also likes that East Melbourne's informal neighbourhood watch is working well. One day when he locked himself out of the house someone spotted him trying to scale the back fence. Joel told him the story but was obviously unconvincing as ten minutes later the police showed up at his front door asking if he lived in the house! Joel enjoys cooking when he has the chance and rumour has it he makes the best homemade dumplings in Melbourne.

# Community Noticeboard

## CULT FICTION

Like your reading to be a little off the beaten track? At the Cult Fiction book club we discuss books that have broken new ground in some way, are written in an innovative narrative style, or contain edgy issues that cause a bit of a stir! Second Saturday of the month, 10 - 11am in the meeting room. It's free and no booking required. Enquiries 9658 9600.

## LOOKING TO RELAX IN A GORGEOUS ENVIRONMENT?

Then why not volunteer as a gardener (or weed puller) at Bishopscourt. The gardeners meet most Thursday mornings and the third Wednesday of the month and get great joy from pottering in the historic grounds and sharing morning tea on the porch. There is plenty of room for kids on the lawn so don't let them hold you back. Call Charlie on 0427 883 038 for more information.



Pyman's Pharmacy team

## READING CIRCLE

There is no specific program of books. Readers simply share and discuss what they are currently reading. Second Saturday of the month, 11am - noon in the meeting room. It's free and no booking required.



Time off lead in Yarra Park



## NAIL CAN TO KNIGHTHOOD - SIR MACPHERSON ROBERTSON

For a gold coin donation Melburnians are invited to celebrate the life of the man who brought us Freddo Frog and Cherry Ripe, as the Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) presents the exhibition: 'Nail Can to Knighthood - The life of Sir Macpherson Robertson KBE'.

The exhibition at 239 A'Beckett Street Melbourne will run M-F until mid-December and feature:

- Freddo Frog and Cherry Ripe advertising from the 1930s
- The origins of the iconic Old Gold, Cherry Ripe and Freddo Frog chocolates
- The original Nail Can furnace used by MacRob to make his first sweets
- Photographs from the 1934 MacRobertson Centenary Air Race

Call 9326 9288 or go to [www.historyvictoria.org.au](http://www.historyvictoria.org.au)

## FIND YOUR STORY

Curious about your family's past and don't know where to start? Book into a free family history training session at East Melbourne library and let us help you get started. Bookings essential. Sessions run from 10.30am - noon.

- Friday 2 October
- Friday 9 October
- Tuesday 13 October
- Tuesday 20 October



Adriano, Francisco & Nino - the team from Geppetto Trattoria

## HIGH TEA AT THE MYER MURAL HALL

Enjoy an elegant high tea with your friends and family in the beautifully restored, heritage-listed Myer Mural Hall on Sunday 18 October 2 - 4pm.



There'll be sparkling wine on arrival, exquisite pastries, finger sandwiches, savoury tartlets and scones, as well as a jazz performance by the Julian Banks Trio and entertainment from the delightful Kenneth Parks who maintains a passionate professional interest in Napier Waller, who painted the 10 amazing murals in the Hall. Cost \$70

Call 9661 1546 or email [erinea.gloria@thebiggroup.com.au](mailto:erinea.gloria@thebiggroup.com.au)



## It's amazing what you can discover under a few wrinkles

Benetas is launching a social media campaign, *Unexpected Heroes*, in September to help build and promote respect for older people. Find Benetas on Facebook to upload your Unexpected (older) Hero photo along with a short explanation of why they are a hero to you.



*Unexpected Heroes*

#UnexpectedHeroes  
www.facebook.com/BenetasAgedCare

## SOMETHING YUMMY TO GO WITH DRINKS



You will need a round margarine container or small bowl lined with gladwrap so it overlaps the edges.

4 hard-boiled eggs mashed with a heaped TBS mayonnaise, 1 TBS thick cream, salt & pepper. Press into bowl.

Soften 250 gm cream cheese with a little cream & plenty of chopped spring onion. You could also add dill, chives or parsley. Layer on top of the egg.

Fold the excess glad wrap over the mixture & refrigerate for 24 hours weighted down with something heavy.

Unfold the glad wrap and turn out. Top with a generous pile of black caviar which you will usually find in a tiny jar near the smoked salmon at the supermarket.

Serve with water crackers.  
Always a winner!

## YOU ARE INVITED TO...

AFTERNOON TEA upstairs at the library hosted by the East Melbourne Group

Tuesday 29 September  
2pm  
\$5 at the door

Join us for home made sweet treats, a cuppa & a chat.

A representative of the Victorian Artists Society will entertain with a short presentation



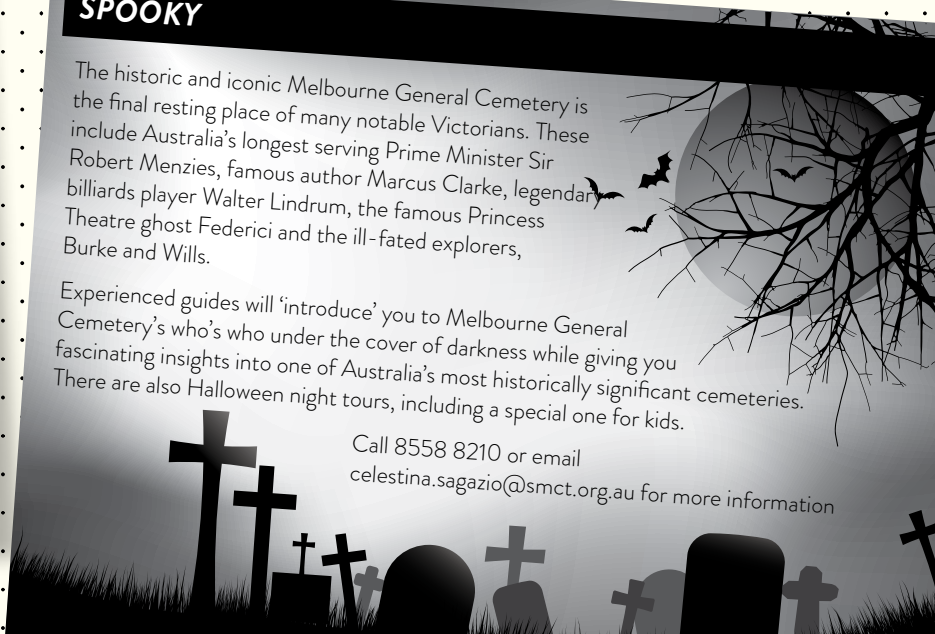
The Yarra Park Possums  
the 2015 trivia winners

## SPOOKY

The historic and iconic Melbourne General Cemetery is the final resting place of many notable Victorians. These include Australia's longest serving Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies, famous author Marcus Clarke, legendary billiards player Walter Lindrum, the famous Princess Theatre ghost Federici and the ill-fated explorers, Burke and Wills.

Experienced guides will 'introduce' you to Melbourne General Cemetery's who's who under the cover of darkness while giving you fascinating insights into one of Australia's most historically significant cemeteries. There are also Halloween night tours, including a special one for kids.

Call 8558 8210 or email  
celestina.sagazio@smct.org.au for more information



# YOUR SUNSHINE SURVIVAL TIPS!

As we say goodbye to the cooler months and welcome longer days and extra sunshine, we went to the experts at Park Hyatt Melbourne for their advice on how to survive the heat. Passionate about health, wellness and beauty Spa Manager, Apple Pon shares with us her top tips;

## COOL IT

Avoid reaching for ice cubes or freezing cold water for quick relief this summer. Instead drink plenty of purified water, warm water or herbal tea to restore balance to your body temperature, reduce excessive sweating and provide long lasting relief from the heat.

## ESCAPE THE HEAT

There's nothing quite like the relief you feel when walking into an air conditioned space on a hot summer's day. Be careful though, it's just as easy to catch a cold in summer as it is winter. Dramatic changes in temperature will stop your sweat from evaporating, leaving the heat in your body which may lead to headaches or colds.

## REST

Often we don't realise how much the heat can take out of us so it's important to get a restful eight hours of sleep throughout the warmer months to ensure you're ready to take on the next day!

## RE-FUEL

We spend months waiting for beautiful summer fruits to arrive, so take advantage and enjoy the vibrant selection of fruits and vegetables at your local grocer. Try to avoid too many nights of fish and chips on the beach that may leave you feeling sluggish.



Apple Pon

If you do overindulge, a cup of soothing peppermint tea can aid digestion.

## TAKE CARE

We all know the adage 'slip, slop, slap' but if only it was that quick and easy. This summer, remember to give your sunscreen time to absorb into your skin before enjoying the sunshine. It's important to apply your sunscreen every two hours, even those sunscreens that are waterproof.

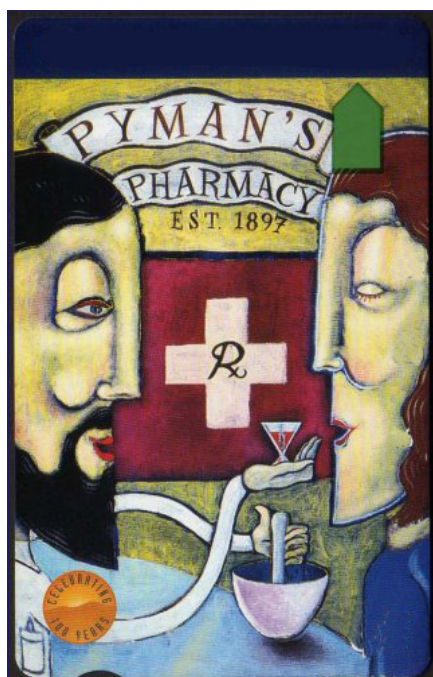
## SOAK UP TO MUCH SUN?

If you've enjoyed too much time in the sun, here is a home remedy to help relieve some of the heat.

- ¼ cup of purified water
- 9 drops of lavender essential oil
- 2 drops of peppermint essential oil
- 1 drop of spearmint essential oil

Combine into a spray bottle for relief of sunburn.

The team at Park Club Health & Day Spa wishes you a healthy start to spring!



## PYMAN'S PHARMACY

Hours of Operation  
Monday - Friday 8.30am - 6pm  
Saturday 9am - 2pm

84 Wellington Pde  
East Melbourne

P: 03 9419 4464  
E: pymanphy@bigpond.net.au

Digital Kiosk **INSTANT PRINTS**

## East Melbourne Group

emg.org.au

Working together  
to keep 3002 the  
way you like it

## Why become a member?

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

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



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 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: 152 Powlett Street,  
East Melbourne 3002