

43rd year

NW MN NORTH & WEST MELBOURNE NEWS

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www.centre.org.au



St Michael's principal Denise Hussey, students and site managers inspect the building plans.

St Michael's new building is rising to the heavens

Steven Hubbard

After securing a \$5 million state government building grant, St Michael's Primary has embarked on a major building project that will take our school into the 21st century.

Four flexible classrooms are planned, including a lift and a rooftop playground. The new facilities will cater for a projected increase in enrolments over coming years.

Work began in late September. The first stage was developed offsite in a factory with the construction of modular classrooms to be later inserted into the building framework. Expected completion is early next year.

Principal Denise Hussey said that with enrolment having grown recently, more teaching space is needed.

"We were privileged to receive the Victorian government grant, and I'm

proud that we will be able to offer state-of-the-art teaching facilities to complement our 103-year-old building."

Denise is delighted with the progress of the project. "It's marvellous to see the concept taking shape so quickly and the children discussing the project with the Lloyd Group builders," she said.

The informative progress reports give details of regular site meetings that involve school representatives, architects, site and project managers, and a representative from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools.

Teachers at St Michael's are thrilled with the possibilities the new building offers to enhance their lessons.

"I'm excited by the prospect of teaching in the flexible classrooms and of providing enhanced experiences for our children," Grade 3/4 teacher Fiona Dunne said.

Grade 3 student Claude is interested in a simpler attraction in the new building.

"It's so cool that we're going to have a playground on the roof. I'll have more space to play with my friends."

Steven Hubbard is deputy principal at St Michael's.

Want to know more?

To see a representation of the new building, go to: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZoKGiXLq_KetkPYICCTKWTLQ0RC89O4/view

Lort Smith celebrates 85 years

Nerida Fearnley-Gill

Lort Smith Animal Hospital celebrates its 85th birthday this year. This isn't the only milestone for the iconic institution.

As Australia's largest and busiest not-for-profit animal hospital, the organisation is bursting at the seams at its original site in Villiers Street in North Melbourne.

With more than one million animals treated and countless people assisted since we began in 1936, Lort Smith has embarked on an exciting new chapter in its history. In mid-December we will be opening a second site in Campbellfield.

The Lort Smith Animal Hospital-Campbellfield Centre will be a brand-new, purpose-built facility providing high-quality, affordable veterinary care to Melbourne's outer-northern suburbs.

It's at 25-35 Berwick Road in Campbellfield, just off the Hume Highway. It's easy to get to and there's plenty of on-site parking.

The veterinary practice will be open six days a week and will provide many routine services. These include health checks, vaccinations and behaviour advice as well as day-surgery procedures such as desexing and dental and soft tissue surgery.

Specialised services such as accident and emergency, critical care, and overnight care will not be provided at the new Campbellfield facility. However, they will continue to be available at the animal hospital

in Villiers Street, as well as routine veterinary services.

Lort Smith's trademark focus is on nurturing the human-animal bond and our services are highly regarded for our unique legacy of compassion for pets and for members of the community.

Alongside the new veterinary clinic at Campbellfield will be a custom-built animal shelter that will become the new home of Lort Smith's animal adoptions. It will provide a stress-free environment and significantly improved amenities for animals while they are waiting to be rehomed.

The site will also host Lort Smith's community-based services that include our volunteer and community outreach programs such as our renowned pet therapy that has been running for 32 years.

Lort Smith's Campbellfield centre offers local animal lovers the chance to come together at the on-site community dog park.

Nerida Fearnley-Gill is community partnership & engagement officer at Lort Smith.

Want to know more?

Check Lort Smith's website: www.lortsmith.com/about-us/future-directions.



Pet therapy dog Bastien off to work.

STOP THE PRESS!

North & West Melbourne News stars in state community newspaper awards

Winner: Best design & layout (Congratulations, Anne Burgi)

Winner: Best feature story (Congratulations, Anna Huynh)

Runner-up (equal): Best community newspaper (Congratulations, everyone)

Runner-up: Best community content (Congratulations, everyone)

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Guerilla Gardeners grow their own way

Zoe Sheridan

Guerilla gardeners have taken to our local streets. Once barren corridors have been transformed into lush oases for residents and wildlife.

The guerrilla gardeners raise plants on private or council land. Long-time West Melbourne resident and keen gardener Linda Ely sums up their aim: “The whole point of guerrilla gardening is to follow our natural instincts to make something bleak into something beautiful and to build that connection to nature.”

Linda took up street gardening while working from home during lockdown. Dismayed by the lack of greenery outside her window, she started planting around a gum tree on her median strip.

She says the garden just kept getting bigger. “Most of the plants have come from nearby streets. So many people say they love what we’re doing and they ask if they can contribute any plants we need.”

The gardeners’ work has beautified many of our local

streets. Chetwynd Street’s masterpiece is a collection of local cuttings and donated bulbs and succulents. William Street is ablaze with red, pink and gold native ground covers.

Rosslyn Street is greened with the subtle textures of native grasses while Walsh Street has a floral array ranging from African daisies to delicate lavenders. Capel Street is adorned with an eclectic variety of hardy flowering aromatic evergreens.

However, guerrilla gardening has its risks. “I’ve often been busted by council,” says Laurence Angwin, a veteran guerrilla gardener from Capel Street. He has lived in the area since the 1980s and has been ordered on several occasions to rip up his thriving street gardens, only to start over a few months later.

He remembers when his street was a harsh and unforgiving landscape. “There was barely a tree here after all the oaks and elms were cut down by council to provide more car parking,” he says.

More than 20 years ago, Laurence and his neighbours



Provost Street gardeners: Richard Piper, Rod Mullinar and Kimberley Wheeler with Bert the Cat. Photograph: Zoe Sheridan

successfully petitioned the council to sacrifice eight car spaces to plant scarlet oak trees. Since then, the street has had squares cut into the wide footpath, providing garden beds for street gardeners. Laurence says the council is split on competing demands for car parking and space for gardening. “The parks and gardens department would like to see the place ‘greened’ but they are restrained by the engineering department. We can only try to influence them.”

Guerrilla gardeners have had a stunning success in Provost Street. Three neighbours – Richard Piper, Rod Mullinar and Kimberley Wheeler – have had their gardening approved by council and they plan to extend the garden along the entire street.

Richard explains how victory was won. “We were told to

remove our garden pots from the street, then strong women in council fought for us to keep our street garden. They argued the removal of the pots breached council’s own commitment to greening.”

The Provost Street garden has become a local attraction, and children often visit to play and explore. “It’s fantastic how many people come here and want to join in. It’s really a contribution to the whole community and I hope it inspires other guerrilla gardeners,” Richard says.

Laurence says the greening of the street has made the area more alive.

“We have butterflies, evening moths, bees, ladybirds and even fruit bats and possums that feed on the figs. And we have lorikeets and other native birds, which we never had years ago.”

Zoe Sheridan writes regularly for the News.

New Arts House works open windows to the wider world

Wintana Kidane

The Arts House windows at the North Melbourne Town Hall on the corner of Errol and Queensberry streets are displaying a compelling new work.

The piece has been produced by Melbourne/Naarm-based visual artist Aida Azin and curated by Arts House associate producer Kalyani Mumtaz. It comprises six abstract paintings and uses evocative dream-state symbols to decode the experiences of a third-culture kid.

Titled *Stay Climbing*, it encompasses Aida’s life experiences and explores her contradictory feelings of yearning for an identity of authenticity, and the process of dealing with shame. Aida was born to Iranian/Filipina parents and raised in an Australian context.

She uses her paintings to

describe her understanding of where her responsibilities might lie as a person that comes from three diverse cultures. Although everyone’s experience is different, there are unique underlying similarities that weave the experiences of the diaspora together.

Aida authentically represents her experiences in a reflective style by centring her art around her perspective of her intertwined cultures, colonialism and tradition.

Wintana Kidane is digital content producer at Arts House.

Want to know more?

Walk past Arts House and see Aida Azin’s beautiful work. Or visit the Arts House website www.artshouse.com.au/events/stay-climbing/. To stay up to date with Aida’s work, visit her website aidaazin.com/.

Artist Aida Azin’s words on the image, one of the six in her *Stay Climbing* series:




Stop intervening so that we can self-manage – the Philippines. 2016: *That trip to the Philippines in 2016 has never left my mind – the conversations where new friends generously filled me in on the history of my motherland that I’d managed to become separated from. How do I process the last 500 or so years of what my country has survived in bloodshed and tears caused by colonisation and corrupt governance? As an artist all the way over here, it feels ridiculous to attempt to insert myself in this narrative. I’ve indulged in feeling sorry for myself for missing out on this history. Later, I further indulge in shaming myself for having the audacity to feel sorry for myself.*



Photograph: Bryony Jackson



Walsh Street community garden. Photograph: Zoe Sheridan



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Mail offers refuge to damaged veterans

Geoff Pound

The Royal Mail Hotel on Spencer Street, West Melbourne, an unpretentious, old-fashioned watering hole, fell victim to COVID and closed its doors in January.

Happily, the old corner pub is set to reopen.

The mover and shaker is Shaun Matheson, a former army officer and director of the charity, The Ark of Veterans. He's also a biker who dons his leathers when he cruises our local streets on his Indian motorbike.

Shaun became concerned at the high suicide rate among Australian veterans and is keen to help struggling young vets reintegrate into civilian life. He already runs a training centre in Lang Lang and a workshop for veterans where they can restore old Holdens.

The Royal Mail's rebirth is Shaun's current project. The front bar has been renovated to appeal to vets with one wall painted army red, a second navy dark blue and a third air-force light blue.

The fourth wall has been painted white to represent front line workers such as fires, ambos and police. The four walls are adorned with photos and memorabilia.

Shaun hopes the memorabilia will create a feeling of home.

"I want the pub to be a place where vets and other service people will feel comfortable and



Shaun Matheson behind the bar inside his Royal Mail Hotel.

where they are honoured for their service. I want to bring people together," he says.

Many veterans are fighting new battles after marriage and family breakups. "This place can become a place of refuge, where through eating, drinking and relaxing, veterans will develop a sense of belonging in an environment where friendships can grow," Shaun says.

He accepts that critics might question if a pub is the best place for veterans who have often depended on alcohol to deal with life's setbacks. He offers a practical reassurance. "The pub will offer a range of non-alcoholic drinks and we'll encourage them to drink wisely."

Shaun is happy to outline his vision. "The aim is not so much to sell beer but rather to create a place of friendship and support that will bolster mental health and ease anxiety and loneliness."

He stresses that professional support will always be available. "For people with physical and mental illnesses, we can refer them to whoever they need –

psychologists, psychiatrists and GPs. We are also developing a closer relationship with the Department of Veterans Affairs," he says.

While the front bar and kitchen form the initial renovation, the dining room will be developed to serve meals and hold special events.

A monthly meeting for vets is planned, perhaps over a spit roast while they listen to a guest speaker.

Shaun says many curious locals saw the renovations and asked what he was planning.

"I told them I've met many veterans in North and West Melbourne, some of whom are homeless and sleeping rough. My longer aim is to offer upstairs bedrooms as short-term accommodation for vets doing it tough."

This area has lost many of its old corner pubs that once offered locals a social connection. Shaun's restored Royal Mail is part of a grand tradition.

Geoff Pound is minister of the West Melbourne Baptist Church.



Green facelift for Errol Street

The City of Melbourne is installing temporary tree planters and additional public seating along our main street, between Victoria and Queensberry streets.

The council is working with traders and the North & West Melbourne Precinct Association to roll out leafy tree species and new social spaces so as to soften, beautify and energise the Victorian-era street.

This month sees the start of a six-month trial during which the council will maintain the project. Errol Street traders are able to request more greenery near their premises.

Whether you are a resident, trader or visitor, you can help shape the look, function and feel of the street as it evolves.

Visit participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au.



Artist's impressions of the new look for Errol Street.

Community Comment

Laura Misale got a few laughs when she invited four funny people to share their corniest joke



Georgia, student, North Melbourne

All my jokes are clever, but if you really want a corny one. "What's the best thing about Switzerland? I don't know but the flag is a big plus."



James, journalist, West Melbourne

OK, here's a really silly question that even your dog could get right. "What do you call a boomerang that won't come back? A stick."



Venessa, student, North Melbourne

I'll give you one that's so bad it's embarrassing. "I wrote a song about a tortilla. Actually, it was more of a wrap." I can't believe I said that!



Flynn, electrician, North Melbourne

Try this stupid joke. "I was in the park the other day and I was wondering why this frisbee kept getting bigger and bigger. Then it hit me."

Rashi goes out on the town in North Melbourne

Rashi Jain, who has lived in North Melbourne for nearly two years, invites you to share her dream day.



6.30 am: I get up, grab a coffee then head to Royal Park for a run. Sunlight is starting to touch the grass as people walk their dogs and kids ride their bikes. Just as I start to feel breathless and consider stopping, a heavily puffing runner passes me. I get a surge of energy and keep going.

8.00 am: I stroll up to my boxing club on Sutton Street. People I work with or meet socially always seem surprised when I tell them I'm keen on boxing. Perhaps it doesn't fit my image. But I love the rhythmic sparring, the exercise and the feel-good sensation.



9.30 am: Just down the road from home is one of Melbourne's finest cake shops. Beatrix, on Queensberry Street, is one of our local area's true gems. Don't be put off by the queues snaking down the street. A visit to Beatrix is the sweetest trip you'll ever make.



11.00 am: I'm feeling indulgent today. My next stop is Mr Gonzo on the corner of Melrose and Erskine and I pick up a tasty Colombian cheese empanada. The walk home is brightened by the many examples of street art. My favourite is Kaff-eine's work on Queensberry Street.



2.00 pm: I see many basic household items sitting idle in front of houses. Perhaps a local has decided to do a serious declutter and to share unwanted items with neighbours. North Melbourne Good Karma Network Facebook page shares posts about locals getting rid of their belongings.



4.00 pm: I pass the roundabout at the end of Arden Street near the Castle Hotel. The courtyards of Victorian houses are beautiful and the fragrance of the flowers is a delight. I love the North West Patch Community Garden on Courtney Street. It's a garden by locals, for locals.



7.00 pm: Where to go for dinner? I'm overwhelmed by the many choices. What do I feel like tonight? So many cute little cafes with so many cuisines on offer. I'm thinking modern Australian or Lebanese. Then again, it could be Mexican or Italian. Or perhaps Asian or African. So many options!



8.00 pm: There's got to be a show on somewhere. A comedy night with my friends at The Comic's Lounge on Errol Street is always good. Or perhaps a theatre show at the Meat Market on Blackwood Street would be an equally enjoyable end to my busy day in North Melbourne.
11.00 pm: I'm feeling tired so it's home to bed. But what a magical day in our wonderful local community!

Rashi Jain is distribution coordinator for the News.

River Studios artists find new ways to put their work on show

Nancy Lane

River Studios, near the Maribyrnong River in West Melbourne, provides studio space for about 60 artists and is managed by Creative Spaces for the City of Melbourne.

River’s resident artists didn’t close up shop during lockdown. They kept up their own creative work from home and are now back in their workspaces by the river.

Pauline Delaney is organiser of CoLab Arts in the Park (News, spring 2021), with seven of its eight artists having links to River Studios.

“I was really pleased that our exhibition at the Pavilion in Fitzroy Gardens has been extended to 19 December. We also have some great workshops lined up, including sketching in the park, screen printing calico bags and designing cityscapes from trash,” she says.

The CoLab exhibition features Pauline’s blown glass vases and lampwork beads; Roze Elizabeth’s screen-printed serving boards and tea towels; Vincenza Fazzalori’s ceramic pots, jewellery and ornaments; Laurie Franklin’s landscape paintings; Elsa Thorp’s nature art; Nancy D. Lane’s found object assemblage sculptures;



CoLab Artists exhibition in Fitzroy Gardens continues until 19 December.

Chris Morton’s etched, linocut and encaustic images; and Kerri Ryan’s Japanese-vintage inspired bags. Dwayne Hutton (News, spring 2021) paints colourful abstracts with a sense of depth. “The last 18 months have been a wild ride. I’ve lost count of how many exhibitions and opportunities have had to be postponed, rescheduled or cancelled,” he says. The threat of lockdown led Dwayne to stop expending energy on exhibition opportunities. He opted to focus purely on painting and his cancelled solo exhibition

will be held in the middle of next year. “I brought home the materials from my studio, set up space in my garage, and now have a body of work to share,” he says. Simone Deckers of Femke Textiles screen prints fabrics using designs featuring Australian flora and fauna (News, spring 2019). She used lockdown to upskill in the area of digital design. “This included teaching myself to draw using Procreate and designing a range of greeting cards and wrapping paper,” she says. These products feature native

flora such as gumnuts and eucalyptus leaves, an extension of the designs she normally prints on fabric. Unable to screen print at home, Simone hand painted fabrics using textile inks and textured brushes, which proved a hit. She is now working on new products for Christmas, such as linen bread bags and cushion covers.

Milos Pelikan (News, summer 2019) normally creates large-sized 2D- and 3D-sculptures from parts of electronic equipment that is no longer functional. He uses Liquid Nails to cover and bind them, then spray paints them a single colour to emphasise their texture. “COVID put the brakes on big time for me, both from a creative output perspective and an exhibition perspective. Because of the size of



Simone Deckers’ bread bags.



Dwayne Hutton in his garage studio.

my works, it was just not feasible to relocate my work to my home,” Milos says. Instead, he went back to his ‘first love’ in art: drawing. During the recent lockdown, which he says was certainly the hardest, he drew up a storm and has been using Instagram as a virtual gallery.

Nancy Lane writes regularly for the News.

Want to know more?
CoLab Arts in the Park: www.instagram.com/colabartsinthepark/
Dwayne Hutton: www.instagram.com/hutton.painting
Simone Deckers: www.femketextiles.com.au/
Milos Pelikan: www.instagram.com/milospelikan/



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Bowling is back

Ann Leonard

The City of Melbourne Bowls Club is nestled in West Melbourne's pretty Flagstaff Gardens, our home since 1879. We are delighted to be open again after the long lockdown and preparing for another season of pennant bowls. Members, guests and barefoot bowlers are all back and out on the greens.

The pennant competition commenced in mid-November and we have entered teams in Divisions 3, 4 and 5 for Saturday afternoon competition. We will also have a team in the Saturday morning Division 8. This competition proved very popular last season as it gave new members and beginners a pathway to play with experienced bowlers and to learn the game. We will also field teams in Divisions 2 and 4 in Tuesday



Bowlers are happy to be back on the green at the City of Melb Bowls Club in the Flagstaff Gardens.

pennant and we're delighted to have entered our very first team in Thursday pennant. The Wednesday night intra-club competition is back in full swing and is a perfect way for new bowlers to try their hand in the sport (we'll help with coaching) and to enjoy some outdoor socialising. If you are interested in joining the club and/or learning to play bowls, a good time to visit is Wednesday from 5.30 pm.

We are keenly aware of the need for sustainability and our goal is to reduce our waste going to landfill by 70 per cent. Keen News readers will recall our report in March that the club had commissioned its closed loop composter. The composter had lain dormant through the various lockdowns but has recently been cranked up, with hungry bowlers and visitors now enjoying a snack or a meal after their exertions on the greens.

We are now composting all food waste onsite and we're processing up to 20 kg of waste in 24 hours. We recognise that single-use plates and cutlery constitute a worryingly large proportion of our landfill. To reduce such waste, the club no longer permits disposable culinary items. Our catering partner, Spitting Image, now provides crockery and cutlery for all events as part of their packages.

The club has crockery and cutlery available for BBQs and self-catered events. What's even better, we do the dishes afterwards! Please note that, as a hospitality venue, the club can admit only those who can demonstrate they are fully vaccinated.

Ann Leonard is secretary of the City of Melbourne Bowls Club.

Want to know more?
Visit the club website: citybowls.org

Danielle's lockdown honeymoon put icing on her cake

Lizzy Footner

Danielle Johnson started as a volunteer at Hotham Mission in Curzon Street and is now a coordinator across several of the Mission's programs. Her tertiary studies in finance and international business never aligned with her own interests. "I knew I didn't want to go the full finance and international business route and I found I really enjoyed volunteering here with the homework program," she says. Danielle loves her work at Hotham where she deals with both primary and secondary children, and laughs as she admits they sometimes make her feel old. "You think you're young inside, then you talk to a primary school kid and you've no idea what they're



Danielle Johnson with some of her tasty treats.

talking about. But I haven't fallen into the TikTok rabbit hole." Danielle recalls the start of last year's lockdown for a more pleasant reason. She was married one day before strict restrictions were

imposed. "We had to move the whole ceremony outside, but it was a perfect day. We were just super lucky." While lockdown denied the newlyweds a honeymoon, it

brought an unexpected bonus. "We were able to pay off the wedding with our honeymoon money because we weren't going out, and we got refunds on the accommodation," Danielle says. When lockdown came, it inspired her to resume an old interest in cake decorating. "To be honest, I don't even like cake, but if I did I'd go for a salted caramel-filled chocolate cake with Italian meringue buttercream on the outside," she says. Danielle also enjoys Korean drama but says she isn't totally absorbed by Squid Game, the cult South Korean survival drama. "My husband urges me to watch it, but it's a bit predictable. Before it even started, I knew what was going to happen. It's not the 10 out of 10 everyone's saying."

However, she does speak highly of her favourite local Korean restaurant, SinJeon K-Street Food, in Blackwood Street, North Melbourne. "I usually get fried chicken and rice with dumplings on a cute little tray. It's fabulous. And now my co-workers at Hotham usually go there too." With lockdown now a memory, Danielle is delighted that Hotham's homework club is again up and running. Many of the children had struggled under remote learning and their confidence and skills had suffered, but she says they are now back on track. "Many of our kids go to different schools, but they've become friends because of our program. That's a nice thing."

Lizzy Footner writes regularly for the News.

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A life goal met in the hockey net

Laura Misale

North Melbourne local Helen Cusack doesn't do her birthday celebrations by half. For her 40th, she competed in her first marathon. For her 50th, she jumped out of a plane. For her 60th, she trekked the Kokoda Trail.

Three years ago, the teacher turned masseur celebrated her 70th with a flight to Barcelona where she competed in the Grand Masters Hockey World Cup.

Helen loves outdoor adventure activities but happily admits that hockey is her passion. She started playing in high school and continued while an arts student at the University of Melbourne.

Teaching took her across Victoria, first to Casterton in the far west then to Echuca on the Murray. In both towns, football and netball reigned supreme and hockey teams were thin on the ground.

"I started a team in Echuca from school, and we would go down to Bendigo every weekend to play. We only had half a team sometimes because a lot of the girls had weekend jobs," she says.

Hockey has remained the centre of Helen's life. For the last 30 years, she has represented Victoria in the Hockey Australia Masters, even making the Australian side for the Trans-Tasman competition.

Helen loved playing for Victoria. She would even dye her hair with dark blue streaks before games so as to match the state team's colours.



Helen at the 2017 masters championships in Newcastle.

"I'd tell the hairdresser on Errol Street, it has to be Victorian dark blue, not the Kangaroos' royal blue," she says.

A hockey highlight was playing with her daughters at PEGS Hockey Club in Keilor Park, but she admits there was a downside. "They'd tell me off for not passing them the ball," she laughs.

Another high point was the 2018 Grand Masters Hockey World Cup in Barcelona where she represented team 'Alliance', with players from Holland, Spain and Hong Kong.

"The two Spanish girls didn't speak English so they couldn't understand our American coach. I'd been learning Spanish so I tried to translate for them," she says.

Helen had her ticket ready for the 2020 Grand Masters in Cape Town in South Africa when she began to feel very unwell. "After Barcelona I had just got sicker and sicker," she says. "I was going to Spanish class but I couldn't see the board and I was getting headaches and

falling down the walls. I had fungal meningitis."

Helen's treatment was dramatic. "I ended up having 12 lumbar punctures and spent two and a half months in hospital," she says.

"When I finally came out of hospital, I was on a walking frame. For a while I couldn't run, but that's behind me."

During lockdown Helen regularly made her way to the outdoor courts at the North Melbourne Recreation Centre.

"A couple of friends came with me and we'd do our own exercises. I went through my old pre-game warm ups," she says.

Helen is planning to get back into hockey and again going on family skiing holidays at Buller.

This inspiring dynamo hasn't yet announced how she plans to celebrate her 80th birthday. It probably won't be in a rocking chair, sipping tea, with a rug over her knees.

Laura Misale writes regularly for the News.

Rotary Club meetings zoom back to normal

Neville Page

Last month the North Melbourne Rotary Club was able to return to our normal meeting cycle.

Our first post-lockdown get-together was a fun information meeting focussing on our newer and prospective members. Prior to this we had been forced to conduct 13 consecutive meetings by Zoom.

However, we had used this time well by engaging some really interesting speakers. We were delighted that the ones who proved most interesting to our members were those from our own local community.

Lucia Halliburton from AMES Australia spoke to us about the hundreds of Afghani refugees whom they are looking after right in our own backyard. A good relationship has been established with the club, and AMES knows they can come to us for donations or advice.

Jacinta Bongiorno from the River Nile Learning Centre talked about this independent school that is operating right on our doorstep in Capel Street. She outlined how their full-time programs are delivering the Year 12 VCAL program.

This excellent work re-engages refugee and asylum seeker school-aged young women who may have had disrupted schooling, are newly arrived in Australia or who find a flexible learning environment most suitable.

Our club has also been assisting River Nile by linking them with the Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency



Rotary Club president Sainab Sheikh with club member Cheryl Dorgan.

Relief Network for which our club provides volunteers. The relief network has already helped families of students attending the school by providing furniture at no cost.

We are looking for volunteers that would like to help out at three-hour sessions at the network. If interested, please contact Judy Page on 0425 741 624 or judydpage3@gmail.com.

The branch is also supporting new member Herbson Singo who is concerned with the plight of starving families in his native Malawi. Many are in desperate straits, battling a drought and the ravages of COVID-19.

Through Herbson's efforts, the club has already provided enough food to feed many families for a year. We will report more fully early next year on this wonderful project.

Neville Page is past president of North Melbourne Rotary.

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- Workcover;
- Transport Accidents claims;
- Medical Negligence;
- Superannuation;
- Public Liability;
- Sexual Assault; and
- Employment Law.

Rubicon Compensation Lawyers

It's so sad that much of Melbourne's more recent architecture makes me think of the word Lobstrosity. This is a Stephen King invention from his magnificent Dark Tower series of eight books and one short story. Lobstrosity describes mutants that have come out of The Badlands. Warning for readers who don't like the Evil Television Beast – during the mad time of Covidery, I seemed to watch and write about a lot of things that I viewed.

★ ★ ★

Remember the protests we all watched during lockdown? If we Extinction Rebellion people had protested and blocked traffic in the CBD and walked on the West Gate Freeway throwing things at cars and disrupting traffic while marching towards the Bridge, we would surely have all been arrested. Actually, I hoped the protestors tried to walk the Bridge. The police and riot squad could have blocked both ends and arrested and fined them all.

★ ★ ★

VERY IMPRESSIVE

The first-ever time I saw Sir Kurt Fearnley was on a Sunday way back in 2000, I believe. I was on a train (one of those rattle-rattling trains that had no air-conditioning but had windows that actually opened) and we stopped at Spencer Street station. A hot hot day it was, and the train stayed at the platform for at least 10 minutes. Then someone opened the door and I saw on the platform the Most Handsome Man I Had Ever Seen.

★ ★ ★

This Most Handsome Man was a magnificently red-bearded man, with the best beard ever seen, and he was sitting there on a skateboard. Then the train doors suddenly closed and he was gone again. This morning I saw him on the ABC News talking about how yesterday he was on *Play School* and



how his kids don't care a bit about the three Paralympic Games gold medals he's won. But there's HUGE kudos with having their Daddy on *Play School*.

★ ★ ★

John and his wife Anna unofficially adopted me as their fourth son when my dad kicked

me out of the house for shaving my first Mohawk. I lived with them and went to college for about a year. John is now dying of a fast version of motor neurone disease and he's not expected to last until Christmas. So people are hearing me say something they never expected. "I desperately want to be in Blenheim." It's in New Zealand, where my parents grew up.

★ ★ ★

Yay. I'm going back to my favourite thing today. My Beyond Rest, the isolation tank place, is open again. Floating in darkness in a magnificently warm saltwater solution is the most amazing and restful thing I've ever discovered. I missed it during that long lockdown, whenever it was. I can't recall. Some people don't even remember the days of the week. Like Homer Simpson, I know which day of the week it is by what I'm seeing on TV.

Very Impressive shares his views on life in each issue of the News.

Suburban footy fields in the '50s left fans on the outer

Remember the first line of L P Hartley's *The Go-Between*, "The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there"?

In the 1950s, football at Arden Street, North Melbourne's old home ground, was definitely a different world, a much simpler one.

Back then, footy wasn't the big-money industry it is today. The only people who were paid were the coach and players (£3 a game, about \$105 today). All others at the club – trainers, doctor, property steward and timekeeper – did it for love.

Like all clubs of that era, North was kept going by the loyalty of its members, almost all working people who signed up each year to have their membership card clipped or who handed over cash at the gate.

The club had no money and no club had sponsors. The only income to put a team on the field came from members and fans.

TOBIN'S TALES
Gavan Tobin

With lots of red ink at the end of a season, committeemen would, in the slang term of the era, 'pony up' to keep the club running.

My father, Phonse, and his fellow committeemen would reach deep into their own pockets. I'm sure Mum never knew how much he tossed in to help keep the club afloat. Perhaps it's just as well she never asked.

The oval, so green and lush today, was then simply a bog. Each winter saw the centre become a sea of gluey mud because of the cricket pitches. Often the umpire would have to bounce the ball in a marked circle on the grandstand wing.

Off the field, it was even worse. Toilet facilities in the outer were third world. Things were little better in the members and I recall the queues snaking outside the female toilet block – so degrading to the women, who endured it only because of their loyalty to the club.

Most spectators watched from outside the members. While life in the outer was not as bad as at the notorious Victoria Park and Brunswick Street, it was not for the faint hearted. While veteran fans recall suburban footy with nostalgia, the spectator experience was spartan.

Heavy drinking was rife. Men arrived from nearby pubs with clinking Gladstone bags full of 'long necks' wrapped in newspaper to keep them cool, then drank them straight from the bottle. After the game, the outer resembled a beach covered in brown seaweed.

The fruity language of the outer kept women away from the terraces. Brawls were common, and from the safety of the grandstand I recall cops wading into the crowd to break up punch-ons. After halftime, the outer would disappear in a fug of cigarette smoke.

At the siren, the police horse raced out to protect the umpire as fans leapt the fence to request an autograph from their muddled heroes. The drinkers headed off to a nearby pub to join in the infamous six-o'clock swill.

Gavan Tobin writes regularly about his memories of North Melbourne long ago.

Roden Street's history lost to industrial development

Roden Street in West Melbourne is thought to have been named after an Irish Tory politician, Robert Jocelyn, 3rd Earl of Roden.

The street crosses King, Spencer and Adderley streets and ends at Railway Place near the train line between Southern Cross and North Melbourne station.

An old map shows numbering on Roden Street began in the north at number one near the National Trust-classified West Melbourne State School that was built in 1875. In 1992 the building and playgrounds were sold to the Salvation Army.

In 1874 at number two, opposite the school, T. Richardson & Co operated a boot factory that employed many locals. The site of that unique early Victorian building is now a five-storey block of flats.

In 1895 Roden Street contained 92 Victorian terraces and 22 detached triple-fronted dwellings, the state school, eight vacant blocks and iron and steel merchant Briscoe & Co on the northern corner of Roden and Adderley streets.

One of the gems sadly lost was Bayview Terrace, a group of three dwellings at

RIGHT UP OUR STREET
Stephen Hatcher

numbers 14 to 20. Built and owned by contractor John Falvy, their image endures in a photograph in Geoffrey Cumberlege's 1950s' book on early Melbourne architecture. Much else of Roden Street has been lost.

Two-thirds of the original heritage buildings has been replaced by factories. It's a pattern similar to the recent explosion of blocks of flats with no private backyards for people to unwind in or grow their own produce.



View of Roden Street. Photograph: Stephen Hatcher

If it were still standing, the last house at the street's southern end would have been number 241. Once a fine late-Victorian, triple-fronted two-storey detached mansion, it's now a single-storey industrial storage shed.

From today's viewpoint, 74 of the original 114 historic Victorian-era residential dwellings in Roden Street have been lost. However, number 68, the old home of Irishman Peter Madden, has been saved and restored to its Victorian splendour.

Viewers of the ABC's *Restoration Australia* will know that heritage homes like number 68 can be revitalised, regardless of their condition. Such restoration benefits residents and also maintains the architectural continuity of the surrounding streetscape.

If you know more about North and West Melbourne and would like to share your stories or old photos, contact Melbournestreets1@gmail.com. Discover more about Roden Street at melbournestreets.com.au/roden-street.

Stephen Hatcher writes regularly about local street names for the News.

Nancy's lockdown silver lining

Flora Sciarra

Local artist Nancy Lane found lockdown a real downer. "I had five exhibitions either postponed or cancelled, though most of them have been rescheduled," she says. On a brighter note, lockdown also allowed Nancy's creativity to thrive. It gave her the time to put together her new exhibition, *In the Drawer: The Silver Lining*, which opens in mid-December for three weeks at

the Melbourne City Library Gallery. During lockdown, Nancy used her approved exercise time to walk five kilometres each day. "I was in tourist mode down North Melbourne's laneways and I kept finding junk, some really quite old things and interesting things I hadn't seen before," she says. "I kept finding all these drawers from desks and from bureaus. Some still had shelves, others were falling to bits. They seemed quite symbolic

of our being isolated and boxed up under COVID." The old saying 'One person's trash is another person's treasure' certainly rings true for Nancy. The remnants of broken furniture, together with pieces of metal, nuts and bolts she picked up, proved the grist to her artistic mill. The inspiration came from the residents Nancy met on her walks and others she connected with on social media. When she asked people what they had done in lockdown, their answers sparked her artwork.

She says her artistic challenge was to represent the feelings of people who were working from home and needed some light relief. "It's hard to do something representational when you've only got the junk you find on the street to work with. All my pieces are slightly abstract, some more representational than others." Each of Nancy's creations has its own story. A broken drawer became a zoo scene depicting giraffes and elephants in metal. The idea came from a chance discussion. "Someone told me they'd been livestreaming from the zoo during lockdown," she says.



Nancy creating a zoo in a broken drawer.

A second piece, inspired by a couple who had survived the 2020 bushfires only to be hit by COVID, used pieces of burnt wood. Another came after she saw a dad with his son who was playing hopscotch and bouncing a ball at the same time. A fourth took shape after Nancy heard her husband boast of his greatest achievement during lockdown. "He said, 'I cleaned the garage,'" she laughs.

Nancy's artworks have been helped by a City of Melbourne arts grant she won a year ago. Her creations range from the sad to the whimsical and show how lockdown affected us all in different ways.

Flora Sciarra writes regularly for the News.

Want to know more?
Nancy's solo exhibition *In the Drawer: The Silver Lining* will run at the Melbourne City Library Gallery from 15 December to 9 January.



A selection of Nancy's *In the Drawer: The Silver Lining* artworks.

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Screen life with credits

Annette McQuarrie

North Melbourne local Rod Mullinar's outstanding acting career has spanned four decades.

He has starred in iconic productions such as *The Term of His Natural Life* (alongside American film star Anthony Perkins), *Eureka Stockade* and the classic *Breaker Morant*, in which he played Major Charles Bolton.

"With *Breaker*, we were all mates. Jack Thompson and I stayed in the same pub, and Ed Woodward was next door. *Eureka Stockade* with Tom Burlinson and Bryan Brown was great. That was when he and Rachel Ward were romancing," Rod says.

Rod is co-starring with Jacki Weaver in the original series *Bloom*, now streaming on Stan. He previously worked beside Weaver in the successful TV miniseries *Water Under the Bridge* in which he was perfectly cast with his rich vocal tones and abundant charm as heart-throb Don Brandywine.

It has been a long journey from the England of the 1950s. His father, Michael, was a classical musician, and he attended a progressive school filled with budding actors and artists. After choosing to pursue acting, Rod learnt the craft at London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

After graduating, he worked in repertory theatre and television, in shows such as *Z-Cars* and *Peyton Place*. It was in these years that he met first wife Liz.

"One day she was in London, it was pissing down and she ducked into Australia House to shelter. And she just happened to pick up some immigration forms for Australia."



Actor Rod Mullinar enjoys a cuppa in a local cafe.

He knew little about the country. "I knew Bill Hunter whom I'd met in London in the 1960s, he would always say Australia was great. So, Liz and I thought, why not?"

They arrived just as Australia was moving from radio to television. *Homicide* had just started and the ABC was thriving. Rod became mates with Scottish actor Mark McManus, later of *Taggart* fame, and he became part of an energetic and hard-drinking acting community.

In the 1970s television was still relatively new and technically raw. "The production crew was a tripod and a camera. Or somebody was being pushed in a pram holding the camera. Often, they would just stick a camera on a car bonnet and hope it didn't fall off," he laughs.

Rod won a starring role in Crawford Productions' *Ryan*, which

ran for 40 episodes and co-starred Pamela Stephenson.

When his marriage ended, he met actress Penny Ramsey of *Prisoner*, *Homicide* and *No 96* fame. They shared 40 years and two children before she passed away in 2009.

While Rod is kept busy with acting and voiceover work, and occasionally does footy for Seven, he is also a passionate gardener.

"My lovely neighbours and I have a communal garden, and we grow enough vegetables to feed three households," he says. (See page 2) Will this self-confessed leftie and climate changer write a memoir? Rod pauses, looks thoughtful then smiles broadly. "I don't think I've led a very interesting life."

I beg to differ, Mr Mullinar.

Annette McQuarrie writes regularly for the News.

Choir sings a song of joy

Rosie Greenfield

Our Sing NoW community choir is back in full voice. Those awful lockdown restrictions are just a fading memory.

Zinging along as we Zoomed sure made rehearsing a challenge. However, the remote experience wasn't all bad. At least choir members were able to continue our connection with the singing we love. Rehearsing remotely also meant no one needed to miss out, wherever they were. We even had one member singing along happily from a hospital bed.

Our Zoom sessions also enabled us to be introduced to fellow singers' pets. We were able to see how our friends connected to music outside of the choir and this gave a sense of community and connectedness.

However, we have some disappointing news. Choir leader Jane Yorke has stepped down from her role. After joining us at the start of term 2, Jane had taken us through a difficult time and, both in person and on-line, had led us with warmth and resilience.

We're delighted to report that Susie Kelly is our new leader. Susie comes to us with decades of choral experience, having led and sung in a range of choirs.

She plays a saxophone in a Cuban salsa band as well as playing keyboard and sax and providing backing vocals with a '60s to '90s covers band.

The choir is now back together again, and it feels so good. We're again singing our hearts out at our home at Sokol Melbourne at 487 Queensberry Street. It's a sheer joy to again be raising our voices in harmony and feeling the vibe of friends around us.

With lockdown behind us, we're



New choir leader Susie Kelly with her sax.

ending the year with joy and hoping for a reinvigorated 2022. Why not join us? If you've ever wanted to sing with a group, this is for you. Maybe you sang at school long ago or maybe you've been told you can't sing.

Just come along and we'll build your singing confidence and competence. It doesn't matter if your voice is high or low, powerful or soft. Just come and experience the joy of singing with others. We can vouch for the good vibes of singing together.

If you join our rehearsals, health orders require you to provide either full vaccination proof or a medical exemption. QR code check-in is also essential.

Rosie Greenfield is a member of Sing NoW.

Want to know more?

To find out more, visit The Centre at 58 Errol Street North Melbourne, check their website www.centre.org.au/contact_us/ or phone 9328 1126.



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Genie’s lamp sparks Jean Greenie

Rashi Jain

A small Jean Genie snuck off to the city / Strung out on lasers and slash back plazas / And ate all your razors while pullin’ the waiters / Talking bout Monroe and walkin’ on snow white
The Jean Genie
(David Bowie)

David Bowie’s *The Jean Genie* inspired Carla Kavanaugh and Daniel Browne to name their organic Jean Greenie grocery at 79 Errol Street. Carla and Daniel’s own inspiration is to provide locals with the pleasure of easily accessing organic and natural vegan food and beauty products.

Lockdown led many of us to adopt new habits and to be more mindful of the food we eat. “It helped us get feedback from our customers and we discovered that Aussie brands were more in demand than internationally imported brands,” Carla says.

The store reviewed its inventory and decided to choose more Australian-made items. As a result Jean Greenie stocks brands from different parts of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

Carla and Daniel offer many popular products including handcrafted tea canisters from Love Tea in Geelong; oils and incense from Elanora Australia in



Carla Kavanaugh inside Jean Greenie.

Queensland; and vegan handcrafted chocolate from Treat Dreams in Sydney. Some of their taste-tempting creations have been deservedly recognised. Their ‘Aussie Pavlova Bar’ flavour won this year’s award for best vegan chocolate at the International Chocolate Salon. This incredible taste is waiting for you! Jean Greenie stocks specialty products for all dietary needs. It provides supporting ingredients for a ketogenic, gluten-free or FODMAP diet. All tastes and preferences are catered for. Drop in to the store and you’ll find all your Christmas

needs can be met. There is lots of giftware, delicious sweets, ethically sourced crystals and stoneware. Carla and Daniel’s current goal is to distribute their products all across Australia. They have just launched a website with the aim of offering subscription plans to their customers. Carla’s eyes shine as she enthuses about North Melbourne. “We love that so many locals care about where their food comes from. That’s why we love this caring community and we want to do more.” Rashi Jain is distribution coordinator for the News.

Kryptic Kwiz

Maurice Gaul

Here are 30 names of streets, roads, places and lanes in North and West Melbourne:

Blair	Carrolls	Cathay	Coode	Costello	de Feu
Drakes	Enterprize	Harcourt	Hardwicke	Hawke	Homebush
Ireland	Kerrs	Lancashire	Lennon	Lonie	Mighty Apollo
Moss	Mugg	Munster	Pampas	Pies	San Marco
Temperance Hall	Tyrone	Warwick	West End	Willow Ware	Zeplin

Can you link them to the (cryptic or slightly silly) clues?

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. I’ll race you back to the Sydney Olympics | 17. I’ll take you with me to a lovely green land |
| 2. I’ll take you o’er the sea to the China of old | 18. I’ll frown on you if you get seriously sozzled |
| 3. I hope to sail all the way around the globe | 19. I’ll recall our disgraced governor-general |
| 4. I’ve got a soft-sounding alliterative name | 20. I’m where an AFL premiership coach may live |
| 5. I spell my name the way the Yankees do | 21. I’ll fly sky-high with you on a famous airship |
| 6. I’m a Labor PM who forgot about Kiribilli | 22. I’ll offer a snack if you bring the dead horse |
| 7. I’ll take you to a show in a London theatre | 23. I’ll bash you up then I’ll offer you a drink |
| 8. I share my name with a now extinct beetle | 24. I share my name with identical AFL twins |
| 9. I’ve got the same name as a Liberal treasurer | 25. I’m thinking of apples in a goldmining town |
| 10. I have vampires and werewolves in my family | 26. I know the French would get fired up here |
| 11. I wore the tightest-ever shorts in the AFL | 27. I’ll take you to a county to see lots of orange |
| 12. I grow only red roses in an English county | 28. I’m a road that recalls an ugly local island |
| 13. I promise I’ll stay square with you in Venice | 29. I share a name with a legendary strongman |
| 14. I always sing joyful songs on Christmas Eve | 30. I stretch all the way across South America |
| 15. I share my name with a recent British PM | |
| 16. I’m a place for rolling stones to stay smooth | |

Maurice Gaul is editor of the News.

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Stewart lifts men lost in life

Katianna Grosser

Stewart Park is the chaplain at the Flagstaff Crisis Accommodation Centre in West Melbourne.

He says he never planned to be a chaplain. “At 18 I got a job in a bank and thought I’d be there for life. Then, in my 20s, after my brother died, I had a mid-life sort of thing and decided I needed to do something other than worry about other people’s money.”

Disarmingly honest, Stewart admits he had been terrible at school.

“English was by far my worst subject and I couldn’t really read for most of high school. I couldn’t take in and understand what I read and I couldn’t write. So I did really poorly all the way through school,” he says.

A taste of work in disability support led him to consider full-time formal study. “My wife and I had three children under five and she wasn’t working, but she told me to go for it. Financially, it wasn’t a great option,” he says.

However, it proved to be a life-changing decision. After his studies, Stewart spent 18 years working with adults with disabilities and then 10 years working in the welfare area. Family issues led to another watershed moment when he enrolled in a self-reflection course in clinical pastoral education.

The course led him to his current work at the accommodation centre. He applied for an advertised chaplaincy role at Flagstaff and felt



Stewart Park takes a break in the park.

his stars were in alignment when he was told that his course was a prerequisite.

“I didn’t do the course to get the job. However, I’ve been there for well over four years now,” he says.

Stewart’s chaplaincy work at Flagstaff links with the centre’s many services that offer shelter, case management, and drug and alcohol support for men facing homelessness. “We have people from many different backgrounds, and I develop a relationship with them while they’re living here.”

He stresses that he doesn’t aim to solve the men’s problems or to convert them.

“I’m here to do pastoral care, to listen to their stories and the journey they are on. I just take the guys down to a local café for a

coffee. Everybody has a different story to tell.”

Stewart says his job and the courses he has taken have helped him to understand who he is as a person.

“You get to really know who you are and this can be quite scary. You think that when you get to your sixties you’ll know who you are, but we’re always changing.”

Each day he rides his bike for an hour on his journey home from Flagstaff. It’s good thinking time and he says he often recalls his mother’s wise words.

“She always said, ‘You have two ears and one mouth so you should listen twice as much as you speak.’ It’s good advice for a chaplain.”

Katianna Grosser writes regularly for the News.



A memorable Nicholson cartoon from 2019.

Drawing on polities in cracker cartoons

John H. Smith

North Melbourne resident Peter Nicholson’s brilliant career as a political cartoonist had a low-key start.

“Nation Review paid me \$5 for a scratchy cartoon about a barely recognisable prime minister dressed as a lion tamer,” he says.

Peter admits he didn’t know what to do at university so he enrolled in law but left when the Vietnam War was raging. “The Murdoch press had sided with the angels. I loved cartoonist Bruce Petty’s style and wished I could do that.”

After a drawing course and some freelancing, his first contract with *The Age* was formative. “There were four or five cartoonists, all at different stages, working in the same room. I was the youngest. It was very positive and it was fun,” he says.

Peter stayed for 17 years and loved it. “*The Age* was a broad church, inclusive and tolerant of dissent. It regularly developed new sections and had a vast appetite for cartoons.”

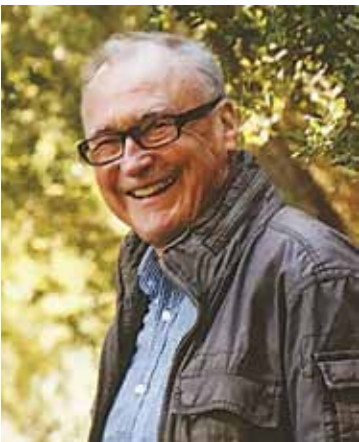
That period produced a memorable cartoon. “Gough and Margaret Whitlam were in bed in China when an earthquake struck. I drew Gough asking, ‘Did the earth move for you, darling?’ The media were outraged but Gough said it proved his potency.”

Peter and his family spent 1980 in Italy where he discovered his skill for sculpting.

“It improved my cartooning and inspired the animated *Rubbery Figures* TV series,” he says.

He was later commissioned to create a sculpted portrait of Bob Hawke in the Prime Ministers Avenue in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens.

He ended up creating five busts of leaders from Hawke to Julia Gillard,



Cartoonist Peter Nicholson.

later adding one of Malcolm Fraser.

He recalls it as a fantastic experience. “I had to measure the size of their heads with callipers then film them on video. Bob Hawke had the biggest head,” he grins.

He says that Julia Gillard was the hardest to draw. “I wasn’t allowed to talk as she sat working at her desk for three hours. She didn’t even notice when I left.”

While he admits he could have chosen sculpting over cartooning, it was his excellent cartoons that won him five Walkley awards.

“I was lucky, it was the golden age of newspapers and there was unlimited work. It’s much harder for cartoonists today,” he says.

In 1993, Peter moved to the *Australian*, but political differences emerged. “They didn’t want my cartoons and I didn’t want to do the cartoons they would have liked, so I moved to the business section.”

His years in cartooning took him into the thick of the political action in the Canberra press gallery. “It was hard work, but it was fun,” he says.

Peter retired from the *Australian* in 2016. His creativity has since blossomed on his property in Mornington as the pivotal member of the Friends of the Beleura Cliff Path that gives access to the beach.

The area alongside the path has been replanted with indigenous flora. “I have moved from pictures to plants,” he says.

John H. Smith writes regularly for the News.

Want to know more?

To find out more about Peter’s work, go to nicholsoncartoons.com.au.



On show at the Meat Market Stables

Local artist Mike Nicholson is exhibiting his paintings at the Meat Market Stables, 2 Wreckyn St, North Melbourne until mid-December. For more information, visit michaeljohnnicholson.gallery



Photographer captured history in black and white

Felicity Jack

Charles Nettleton was one of Australia's most acclaimed photographers of the second half of the 19th century, the age when photography was taking off worldwide.

Described in his obituary as a "most genial and popular citizen", Nettleton was born in the UK in 1826 and married Emma Miles in London in 1851. In 1854 they arrived in Melbourne and he soon gained employment with the firm of Duryea and McDonald, and was assigned the task of taking outside photographs.

The limit of three minutes between taking a shot and having it developed meant that he had to transport a portable darkroom with him in the form of a tent. But more amazing was his ability to take clear shots with an exposure of five or, by some estimates, six seconds.

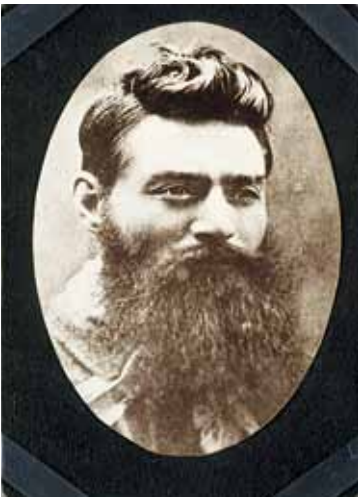
Nettleton's reputation grew and he was soon managing all the government and Melbourne Town Council contracts to photograph the glorious public edifices being built on the proceeds of the gold rush, as well as many of its public utilities.

After three years he was able to set up his own studio and

continued to concentrate on outdoor photography. He was also employed as a police photographer for many years, and in this capacity he took his most famous portrait, one of Ned Kelly the day before he was hanged in 1880.

Nettleton gained a worldwide reputation, exhibiting at many international exhibitions, including London (1862), Dublin (1865), Paris (1867), and Melbourne's 1881 Centennial Exhibition (First Order of Merit).

In 1867 he was official photographer to the Melbourne visit of the Duke of Edinburgh, second son of Queen Victoria



Charles Nettleton's famous photo of Ned Kelly the day before he was hanged.

and the first member of the royal family to visit Australia. It would have been a difficult task because of the dissension that the visit caused, leading to riots and other disturbances.

Nettleton was unable to keep up with the developments that were taking place in the practice of photography. In April 1885 he was declared bankrupt due to "falling business and his property being distrained upon by his landlord for rent".

His expenses would have been considerable because he had a wife and ten children to support. Following his bankruptcy, he was able to rebuild his business.

Nettleton's steady hand and eye, so important for his photographic work, also made him a first-class bowler. He had been a member of the West Melbourne Bowling Club since its inception in 1879, and he was link captain and secretary for many years.

He demonstrated great resilience. Despite the death of three of his 13 children and his bankruptcy, his skills and good nature ensured that he was admired and respected. He died in January 1902.

Felicity Jack is a member of Hotham History Project.



Photographer Charles Nettleton

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We're drips if we waste our water

John H. Smith

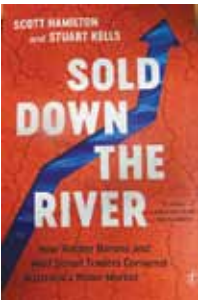
The Institute of Postcolonial Studies in Curzon Street has been running seminars on the critical issue of the future of food. More than 70 people took part in Running Out, the second in the series. Discussion focussed on *Sold Down the River: How Robber Barons and Wall Street Traders Cornered Australia's Water Market* by Scott Hamilton and Stuart Kells.

The book investigates how the principles of water management for the Murray-Darling Basin Plan have changed since Federation.

At the turn of the century, founding father of irrigation Alfred Deakin didn't provide for the rights and knowledge of First Nations people. His approach to water management was cooperative and community oriented at a time that the private monopoly of water could never have been imagined.

A Running Out participant described our current system as an "unworkable mishmash". Federal and state governments and administrators have allowed the ownership of land and water to be separated. Indigenous knowledge and rights have still not been integrated.

A Wall Street-style 'rentier capitalism' applied to water, monopolised by profiteering hedge



funds, has been allowed to take hold in the Basin.

Competition has taken hold *within* the water market, degrading public governance and democracy, and now there is competition *for* the water market.

Australia's precious water is being traded away without a connection to food production.

In *Sold Down the River*, Kells has described the market failure as an outrageously sad story. "The present scheme has failed to recognise Indigenous science and climate change," he writes.

At risk is the future of food, the existence of Indigenous and rural communities in Australia's food bowl and the sustainability of the food bowl itself.

Kells' co-author Hamilton is equally scathing. "What First Nations managed for tens of thousands of years has been destroyed by the market. A huge water crisis is coming. Water is used to make money, not what is good for food, the environment or communities."

John H. Smith writes regularly for the News.

Want to know more?

To learn more about the Institute of Postcolonial Studies, visit ipcs.org.au



IPC's Stefano de Pieri inspects the depleted Darling/Barka River. Photograph: Melinda Hinkson

BETWEEN THE COVERS

Chris Saliba



Vandemonians: The Repressed History of Colonial Victoria

Janet McCalman
Miegunyah Press, RRP: \$39.99

Vandemonians were convicts originally sent to Van Diemen's Land who later migrated to Victoria. They were an underclass much despised by Victorian society. Many hid their convict past, even from their own children, and made up fake identities, backstories and names.

Their history is one of violence, alcohol, poverty, disease, starvation, repeat court appearances and jail time. Careers in crime could be multi-generational, passed down the family tree. Children often died young from disease, hunger or neglect. Sexual abuse was shockingly common. In short, the odds were stacked against ex-convicts, and they often failed to produce a lineage, making them lost to history.

Historian Janet McCalman has written a sharp, intellectually bracing portrait of this doleful cohort of settlers. Based on research from the Ships Project, McCalman presents a gallery of tough, tragic and yet resilient battlers who carved out a precarious existence in a hostile world.

With a strong grasp of the economic, social and historical forces that entrench poverty and disadvantage, *Vandemonians* illustrates how so many of these problems are still with us today. A first-class history that will surely become a classic.



John Le Carré
Viking, RRP: \$32.99

Julian Lawndesley is a former city trader who, having made his money, has retired to a pleasant little village to open a bookshop. Better Books doesn't do a roaring trade, or even turn a profit, but it keeps Julian contented. One day the affable and charming Edward Avon turns up. A preliminary conversation reveals that Edward was friends with Julian's father.

It doesn't take long before Edward's wife, Deborah, invites Julian to dinner. It turns into a rather uncomfortable evening, as the imperious Deborah picks a quarrel with her generally unflappable husband. Things get curiously and curiously until a byzantine plot is revealed, at the heart of which is the British Secret Service.

Edward Avon has a dark backstory, involving clandestine involvement in the Bosnian war. Has he revealed too many secrets during his patchy career, and how is he to be muzzled?

Silverview is acclaimed spy writer John Le Carré's final novel, published posthumously. Its plot is finely tuned and ticks with perfect timing, carefully peeling back the layers until the tragic heart of the story is revealed. With its cast of eccentric old spies and dry British humour, the novel is sure to please Le Carré fans.

Chris Saliba is co-owner of North Melbourne Books, 546 Queensberry Street. He writes regular reviews for the News.



Favel Parrett
Lothian Children's Books, RRP: \$19.99

One day a dingo cub finds himself grabbed by a giant eagle and taken from his family home in the mountains. When he is later dropped in a suburban garden, a kindly human looks after him. But he can't stay there forever and is passed from human to human until he makes friends with Lyn, a worker at a special sanctuary for dingoes.

Lyn names the little cub Wandilong, which means "manifestation of spirit". Wandi soon makes several friends at the sanctuary, and becomes especially close with a female cub named Hermione.

Wandi is adult fiction writer Favel Parrett's first book for children and was inspired by her work at the Dingo Discovery Sanctuary and Research Centre. It's a beautifully written chapter book with delightful illustrations throughout. Children will learn much about the ecological importance of dingoes, how they contribute to controlling pests and their now precarious state as an endangered species.

An illuminating author interview is included and an afterword by sanctuary supervisor Kevin D. Newman, a friend to the real life Wandi. Children and adults alike will find much to learn and enjoy from this touching story.

ELLEN SANDELL

STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

Hi, I'm Ellen. I'm passionate about a fair and liveable Melbourne. Tell me what's important to you.

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Tasty treats from kitchen garden

Kristen Re and Erin Reynolds

North Melbourne Primary School is a member of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, which recently celebrated 20 years of kitchen gardens in schools.

The program began in a single school when a committed team joined Stephanie Alexander in establishing what became a template for schools and services across the country.

While no kitchen garden is the same, the common denominator is children and their enthusiasm, and the communities that gather around them.

Students at North Melbourne Primary begin with garden classes from Prep to Grade 2 and are introduced to the kitchen program from Grade 3. Each week the children create a different menu, along with their teachers and the school's kitchen garden specialists.

When lockdown finished, the kitchen garden specialists finally met their Grade 3

students for the first time in the kitchen. It was exciting to meet face to face after a month of remote cooking classes.

Grade 3 student Winter caught the mood of the first class. "It was amazing seeing everyone again and the cooking was super fun," she said.

Top of the menu at the first face-to-face meeting was Muhalbiya al-ruz, a milky rice pudding flavoured with rosewater and cardamon, served with cinnamon spiced apple.

Nasturtium, calendula and borage were harvested from the garden to garnish the delicious dish, which immediately won top marks from Grade 3 student Phoebe. "It tastes like porridge and it was really lovely," she said.

In the second week, students had fun preparing a Mexican feast of tortillas with refried beans and guacamole. It prompted positive comments such as "Mashing avocado is fun" and "I'd never eaten Mexican and I really enjoyed it".

An unexpected benefit of lockdown was



Grade 3 students and teacher Jaimi enjoy a lunchtime feast.

that the school garden had thrived. Thanks to Tess our gardening specialist, we now have plenty of greens, herbs, and edible flowers available to support our meals.

The kitchen garden program at North Melbourne Primary is a proven winner in teaching students how to cook nutritious and tasty meals.

Kristen Re and Erin Reynolds are the kitchen garden team at NMPS.

Cops and robbers take over Errol Street (just for a while)



Photographs: Tom Robertson

If you tried to go to the North Melbourne Post Office over a few days early in November, it may have seemed that lockdown had taken us all back a few decades.

The street shop signs, the parked cars, even the parking meters had a definite retro feel. Then there were the police in old-style uniforms chasing a man along Errol Street and George Johnson Lane, between the Post Office and North Melbourne Library.

You weren't imagining it. Errol and Queensberry streets had become part of *Shantaram*, a 10-part television series adaption of Gregory David Roberts'

best-selling novel based on his life on the run after his escape from prison.

Queensberry Street was used to shoot a scene based in Bombay, India, in the 1980s. To achieve the look of Bombay, the crew used large Bluescreens on Queensberry Street.

A bit of background. In 1978, Roberts was sentenced to 19 years in prison after being convicted of a series of armed robberies of building society branches, credit unions and shops. In July 1980, he escaped from Pentridge Prison in broad daylight, becoming one of Australia's most wanted men for the next 10 years.

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BOOK ONLINE via royalparkmedical.com.au
or via facebook.com/royalparkmedical

Bill, a Collection of Writings, edited by David McRae and consisting of about 50 of Bill Hannan’s poems and a prose memoir about his family, was published last year and distributed to his friends.

The book is divided into thematic sections. The Neighbourhood section includes this poem, *the amenity*, Bill’s loving creation of Shiel Street.

Bill Hannan has been a towering figure in Victorian education since the 1960s – as English teacher, writer, editor, union official, deputy general manager of the Victorian Education Department and chair of the Victorian State Board of Education.

David’s perceptive foreword to Bill says: “His professional writing gave substance to shared experience and ideas but also established directions about what education could and should become.” Every teacher in the state system in the past 50 years is deeply in Bill’s debt.

the amenity – Bill Hannan

in the words of the developer’s hoarding
we live in an amazing lifestyle amenity
who’d have thought it

there was not much amenity to amaze
fifty years ago when we moved in
among old terraces and decaying cottages
packed with workers and immigrants
expecting to die or move on
to dreamlands out west

our spinster neighbour welcomed us
with some biscuits for the kiddies
she lived with her fading mother
and after her mother died
fell to arguing rather loudly with a phantom
and sometimes with us through the fence
until she too died
a gaunt old bloke used to lean
doubled over the verandah rail
of a timber shack that he just outlasted
I remember other deaths
Rosario who had made fireworks back home
my friend Ian whom I helped towards his death bed
the disabled lad who caught a fatal cold

it is said that Burke and Wills rode along our street
Burke plotting to nick back to a lover
Wills fretting about the camels

the houses on our side of the street
are the even numbered ones
opposite us is a long tin fence
with only a number five at one end
and a ninety-nine at the other
number five bruits the amazing amenity

ninety-nine is the state archives
where elders prise out family stories
our side is shaded by plane trees
that make throats dry and eyes water
the fence side has a track under the elms
a tree of political kidney says Wikipedia
school children scooter hopefully towards the future
as our own once did forty years ago
on foot mind you no scooters then

the only commerce in the street
is café 99 in the archives
the motor body works at number five is abandoned
and promising the amazing amenity
there are no halls or churches
but there is the bishop’s palace
that’s right a bishop’s palace
attached to the great domed church behind
whose presence probably saved us from destruction
way back in the time of grandiose slum clearance
when the streets that bookended ours
gave over their lives to a plan
to circulate the underprivileged

dog owners obey the signs
to be sure to pick up pet poo
Palma’s tabby cat
holds court beneath the plane trees
and warms itself on car bonnets

at dusk the sunset flames
above the elms
across the blue lake
that once bordered our street
before the tin fence

FROM THE ARCHIVES
Michelle Brett

The *North Melbourne Advertiser* was distributed in the North Melbourne area from 1873 to 1894. Some of the most intriguing articles involved the criminal cases heard in the North Melbourne Court. Here are some of the stories that ran in early December, nearly 140 years ago.

Shonky Sinclair slyly states self as a seller
(1882)

Local resident Hugh Sinclair was charged with falsely claiming to be a licensed auctioneer. Witness Harold Cook testified Sinclair held no such licence. Mr Molt, for the defendant, argued there was no proof that Sinclair was not an auctioneer and claimed that Cook was a notorious professional informant. The bench dismissed the case.

Not-so-sober Sarah is partial to her daily sip
(1882)

Sarah Cockburn prosecuted her husband, James, for using threatening language. In turn, he claimed that she was constantly drunk and made his life miserable. Their children stated that their mother was sober only about twice a week and left them to do all the housework. The bench ordered that Sarah should mend her errant ways.

Sticks and stones threaten bones of cop
(1884)

Thomas Purcell, a notorious larrikin, was charged with throwing a stone at Constable McGrath in Abbotsford Street. After the policeman had confronted Purcell, the lad picked up two large stones, giving one to a mate and ordering him

to smash McGrath’s head in. The bench fined him £15 and sentenced him to four months jail.

Dodgy George sells milk diluted with a dash
(1886)

Mr Magnus, the inspector of nuisances, charged George Liversidge with selling adulterated milk. Analysis showed that one-fifth by volume was actually water. Liversidge’s defence argued that there had been no fraud because Magnus had been clearly informed that the liquid was sold as milk and water. The bench imposed a £5 fine.

Reluctant Roger finds tripe not to his taste
(1888)

Roger Killen was charged with absenting himself from his employment with local butcher Michael Chapman. Killen received a weekly wage of £1 and keep, but it seemed he didn’t enjoy dressing tripe. In court, Chapman testified that he had to do this task by himself. The bench ordered that Killen serve a week in jail.

Open door on a hot night in Errol Street
(1882)

Henry Sweeny met trouble for selling calico after hours in his Errol Street shop. Constable Hunt claimed the lights were on and the doors open. Mr Fogarty JP was sympathetic, noting the open door may have been due to the hot night and no illicit trading could be proved. However, he fined him one shilling for the technical offence.

Michelle Brett writes regularly for the News.



Something to share?

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Arden Precinct plan pluses and minuses

Arden Structure Plan and draft Amendment C407

In October, the North and West Melbourne Association (NWMA) made a submission to the Victorian Planning Authority on the proposed development in the Arden Precinct. The following is a condensed version of our submission.



Density and building heights

The proposed buildings, density and heights for the Arden Precinct are considered grossly excessive for this location and should be reviewed. The plan is clearly an over-development and inappropriate for North and West Melbourne and nearby Kensington. It appears to many that this is just an attempt to emulate a 'Docklands' type development in an established mixed-use/residential area.

The building heights throughout the Arden Precinct are of concern, particularly those that border the established suburbs of North and West Melbourne. These border heights need to be respectful of the existing communities.

The Association is particularly concerned about the proposal for a 40-level building on the banks of the Moonee Ponds Creek. This is a discretionary height limit, so a building of possibly 70 or 80 levels could be considered.

Lost opportunity for public housing

This plan appears to be a lost opportunity to address the serious shortage of affordable social and public housing in inner Melbourne. Merely 'supporting and encouraging' a six per cent affordable housing target is grossly inadequate. A requirement for at least 25 per cent should be mandatory across the study area.

Active transport

While an 'active transport' policy is widely supported, we question the ability to deliver it. The long-term local traffic impacts of the Arden Precinct, combined with the West Gate Tunnel Project south of Arden in Dynon Road, do not appear to be adequately addressed in the supporting documentation.

Open space

Many of the proposals are great ideas but how they will work

is unclear. It is important to understand how the 'integrated stormwater management open space' actually functions and what the situation would be during and after flooding.

The North Melbourne Recreation Reserve performs a significant regional role far beyond the two-kilometre catchment referred to in the documents. Also, Clayton Reserve has a far wider catchment than the 300 metres mentioned.

We believe a review of the role of these two facilities is essential. Further, we note that Macaulay Road and Canning Street Reserve and the Railway Place and Miller Street Park identified in the documentation are not actually in the study area and are separated by major roads with high traffic volumes. More usable open space is therefore necessary.

Conclusion

Arden Precinct offers a fantastic opportunity to make a significant contribution to Melbourne with quality development. Let's not repeat the mistakes of the past. Excessive height, massive densities and the destruction of amenity, whilst profitable, are not sustainable in the long term.

Inner-Melbourne communities are long-time supporters of good design and sustainable development. Height and over-development are not the answers.

THE LIFE OF THE PARTY Ellen Sandell



During the pandemic, our local community became even more important to me.

As we spent nearly all day inside, previous government and council decisions to do with our parks, housing density and apartments' access to fresh air, were shown to have been extremely important.

Lockdown got me thinking about how our local suburbs are planned – or not planned. Unfortunately, state governments often give huge swathes of land to developers and let them do the 'planning', resulting in profits for developers rather than a quality of living.

We now have the opportunity to see whether our government will do things differently.

The government has released its plan for the new suburb of Arden, to be built around the Arden Street Oval and North Melbourne train station, and eventually be home to around 15,000 people.

Looking at the plan, I think they have got some things right. There's decent access to public and active transport, a pleasing amount of open green space, and good provisions for flood management.

But there are some glaring omissions. There's no requirement for public or affordable housing. The government has said it will aim for six per cent 'affordable housing' but, with this made discretionary, it's unlikely to happen.

No new public housing has

been announced, despite 100,000 people being on the public housing waiting list. The location of Arden, with easy access to the city, public transport, and hospitals, makes it an ideal spot for social housing.

Also, the plan for Arden includes only one primary school and no secondary school. This for a suburb that's the same size as Bairnsdale. Local schools are already full. Where will children go to school?

I'm also concerned about density and the bulkiness of the towers that are the dominant building type in Arden Central. I'm concerned we'll see a proliferation of small, potentially poor-quality one-bedroom apartments with little access to sunlight or outdoor space.

I don't want this suburb to be another missed opportunity. If the government were to do this well, Arden could be incredibly liveable. Instead, I fear we may see another development that puts the profits of property developers over community.

I've let the government know my views. I encourage you to contact Minister for Planning Richard Wynne to express yours.

Ellen Sandell is the state MP for Melbourne.

Want to know more?

Let me know what you think about the plan for Arden or share any concerns you have about your neighbourhood. Contact office@ellensandell.com.



Artist's impression of Arden Precinct. Image: Victorian Planning Authority



Ellen Sandell waiting for a tram in Errol Street.



Premier Health Partners

A warm welcome to

Dr Bee Meng (Bambie) Lee

Dr Lee's areas of interest include paediatrics, women's health (including Pap smears), chronic disease management, dermatology, preventative health and mental health.

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School's out ... homework's in

Jack Yang from the Home Away from Homework Club sent these photographs of the juniors enjoying getting together again.

Out and about after lockdown



Pom had prize in the bag

Zoey, the Pomeranian cross, and her owner, Julia English, won the prize for the best dog/owner fashion sense during the "Dress up your dog" weekend as lockdown lifted in late October.



Halloween fans haunt the streets

Local children (and their parents) got in the Halloween spirit on 31 October at Clayton Reserve. Vivienne and Amin, with Harriet in the background, (above) were among the costumed crew touting for treats.

Get involved through The Centre

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? The Centre has lots of them, from office administration to event management. Or we can point you towards other organisations that also rely on volunteers.

Take a walk with a purpose

If you enjoy walking around North and West Melbourne, a great way to explore areas you may not usually visit is to help with delivery of the North & West Melbourne News to homes and businesses.

If you are interested, please email admin@centre.org.au



Help us find out what the community needs

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to The Centre's North & West Melbourne Community Needs Analysis to date. We're well on the way to understanding the strengths, aspirations, gaps and needs of our local community. Local resident and expert community researcher Sarah Dyer and The Centre's new community development coordinator, Alex Gyles, have heard from dozens of local people and

organisations. We're still keen to hear from others and encourage anyone with something to say to join a quick conversation at <https://bit.ly/northwestmelb>, or drop by 58 Errol Street for a chat.





On the road again

The monthly Centre Adventures bus trips resumed in October with a visit to Daylesford. Seven happy trippers joined Craig Barry and Megan Fitzgerald, stopping for morning tea in Gisborne then moving on to The Convent in Daylesford for a tour led by the women responsible for its conversion to a gallery. Lunch at the Mill Markets was followed by a wander around the Market and then the lake. The next trip will be in February (usually the fourth Tuesday of the month). Book online, or by visiting or phoning The Centre.



From little things, big things grow

Regular visitors to Royal Park welcomed the arrival of Mum and Dad Duck in late September, and the nine little ducklings soon after. The Duck family made themselves very comfortable on the Australian Native Garden pond, taking advantage of the rocky outcrops to stay safe from over-eager dogs (and children). We watched the youngsters grow from a little fluff balls (left on 2 October) to almost as big as the adults (above on 19 November).



ADAM BANDT MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MELBOURNE

FOR THE MANY, NOT THE FEW.

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Fly a flag for North and West Melbourne

Last issue, we asked readers to show their community pride and design a flag for the suburbs of North and West Melbourne. Twenty entries were received, some of which are displayed on this page.

An expert judging panel will select the winning design. The winning design will be printed by West Melbourne’s own flag printers, Evans & Evans, and will be flown from the flagpole in the reserve at the corner of Hawke and Victoria streets.

Now it is over to you to judge the People’s Choice award. Visit The Centre at 58 Errol Street, North Melbourne, or participating local shops to vote in person. Or visit <https://bit.ly/3lfNeOa> to see all the proposed flags and read the full description of each design. One lucky voter will receive a \$50 gift card from the North & West Melbourne Precinct Association to spend at local shops. Voting closes 29 January.



SOPHIE
My inspiration was the flag of Victoria. I included the flag’s colours and the crown. I added the letters N and W to represent our local area, North and West Melbourne.



GEOFFREY
I used Australia’s colours, green and gold. The rectangle in the middle represents Melbourne, the blue stripe our waterways, the grey stripe our tram and train lines.



RAJ
My flag design includes an M for Melbourne and a clock tower as symbolic of North Melbourne. It also shows St Mary Star of the Sea in West Melbourne.



JASMINE
I enjoyed learning about flag design at the workshop. This is my idea for a local flag.



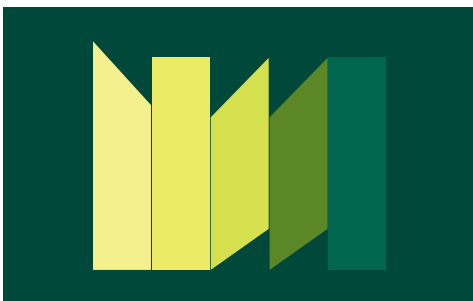
NIGEL
I used three colours – blue (local waterways), gold (the land and the goldrush that shaped our area), and white (reconciliation between residents and the traditional owners).



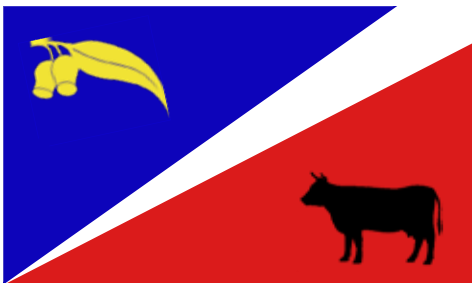
ELLIE
My flag represents inclusivity. We are a good community where everyone is welcome.



JAY & ANTHONY
The yellow leaves represent our local silos, the blue leaves a local creek. The green stands for growth in our area. The background is the colour of our famous bluestone pavers.



SYLVIA
Left: Industrial buildings made out of letters meet native landscapes. Right: Young, vibrant and fun. North and West Melbourne United.



PAT
My inspiration is our local history and heritage. The gum links to our local gums and the Wurundjeri traditional owners. The cow links to the Queen Vic market. Victoria Street is represented by the white stripe (left), and the yellow cross (right), the other axis being Moonee Ponds Creek. The red is for West Melbourne, blue for North Melbourne.

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Bild Architecture

36 Cobden St, North Melbourne
9018 8187
bild.com.au
Facebook: [BildArch](#)
Insta: [@bild_arch](#)

Common

36 Cobden St, North Melbourne
9925 2000
common.site
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Elyte Focus, architect & builder

117 Howard Street, North Melbourne
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elytefocus.com.au

Folk

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9671 3777
folkarchitects.com

Greenway Hirst Page

3 Leveson St, North Melbourne
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ghp.biz
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Haskell Architects

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OUTLINES, Uban Design

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Insta: [@outlines_la](#)

Shinita Roy Architect

636 Spencer St, West Melbourne
0435 563 310

Visionary Design Development, built environment accessibility specialists

Our Community House, 552 Victoria St, North Melbourne
0409 404 941
vdd.com.au
Facebook: [VisionaryDesignDevelopment](#)

2BSCENE DESIGN

Level 1/40-42 Errol St, North Melbourne
9329 0282
2bs.net.au
Facebook: [2BSceneDesign](#)
Insta: [@2bscene_design](#)

ART & GALLERIES

Alexandra Paris, Visual Arts

631 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
Appointment only
0449 202 451
Insta: [@alexandraparis_artwork](#)

CharlesandCalypso

By appt Mon-Fri
0417 553 566
Insta: [@CharlesandCalypso](#)

Ed Zhao Arts

edzhao.com
Insta: [@ed_zhao_arts](#)

Galleriesmith, contemporary art gallery

170-174 Abbotsford St, North Melbourne
Tues to Sat 11am-5pm
9329 1860
galleriesmith.com.au
Facebook: [galleriesmith](#)
Insta: [@galleriesmith_](#)

Julia Powles artist

0439 991 869
juliapowles.com.au
peterwestwoodartist.com
Insta: [@juliapowles](#)

Kimberley Sachs artist

0490 943 802
Insta: [@kimbl.bags](#)

One Star Lounge and Gallery

301-303 Victoria St, West Melbourne
Wed-Fri 3-7pm; Sat 1-7pm
0432 357 537
Facebook: [onestarloungeandgallery](#)
Insta: [@onestarlounge](#)

Terry Matassoni art

terrymatassoniart.com.au
Insta: [@terrymatassoniart](#)

West End Art Space

112 Adderley St, West Melbourne
Wed to Sat 11am-4pm
0415 243 917
westendartspace.com.au
Facebook: [westendartspace](#)
Insta: [@westendartspace](#)

BAKERIES

Bread Club

558 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7am-3pm; Sat 8am-3pm; Sun 8am-2pm
8528 8993
breadclub.com.au
Insta: [@breadclubofficial](#)

Ferguson Plarre Bakehouses

27 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 6.30am-4.10pm; Sat 8am-2pm; Sun 9am-2pm
9329 3588
fergusonplarre.com.au/north-melbourne

BEER & WINE

Fixation Brewing Co. Pty Ltd

0499 034 200
Facebook: [fixationbrewing](#)
Insta: [@fixationbrewing](#)

Parkhill Cellars

43-45 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Wed, 10am-8pm; Thurs-Sat 10am-9; Sun 11am-7pm
9328 1132
parkhillcellars.com.au
Insta: [@parkhillcellars](#)

BIKES

Ponybikes

199 Victoria St, West Melbourne
Tue-Fri 10am-6pm; Sat 10am-2pm
9939 6773
ponybikes.com
Facebook: [ponybikes](#)
Insta: [@ponybikes](#)

BUSINESS SUPPORT

A1 Used Computers, repairs and updates

630 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
0411 644 612

Odd Jobs – From Admin to Marketing

Unit 107, 2 Hawke St, West Melbourne
0417 372 194
odd-jobs.com.au
Facebook: [OddJobsAus](#)

CAFES – DAYTIME

Affinity On Errol

116 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon 7.30am-4pm; Wed-Fri 7.30am-4pm; Sat & Sun 8am-4pm
9193 8227
affinityonerrol.com
Facebook: [AffinityOnErrol](#)
Insta: [@affinityonerrol](#)

Apollo Cafe

109-111 Hawke St, West Melbourne
Mon- Fri 6.30am-2.30pm; Sat & Sun 8am-2.30pm
9068 5698
apollocafe.com.au
Facebook: [Apollo Cafe](#)
Insta: [@theapollocafe](#)

Auction Rooms Cafe

103-107 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7am-5pm; Sat-Sun 7.30am-5pm
9326 7749
auctionroomscafe.com.au
Insta: [@auction_rooms](#)

Beatrix Bakes

688 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
Tues to Sat 9am-2pm
0403 698 836
beatrixbakes.com
Insta: [@beatrixbakes](#)

Collector

Shop 4/522 Victoria St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7.30am-3pm; Sat 8am-3pm; Sun 8am-2pm
0431 600 222
collectorcoffeewine.com
Insta: [@collectorcoffeewine](#)

Errol's

69-71 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7am-9.30pm; Sat-Sun 8am-9.30pm
9326 6610
errols.com.au
Insta: [@errols_nthmelb](#)

Fandango Cafe

97 Errol St, North Melbourne
Tues-Fri -7.30am-3pm; Sat & Sun 8am to 3pm
9329 0693
fandangocafe.com.au
Facebook: [fandangomelbourne](#)
Insta: [@fandango3051](#)

Hotham Juice and Gelati

29 Errol St, North Melbourne
1pm to 10pm
0426 390 328
hotham-juice-gelati.business.site
Facebook: [Hothamjuicegelati](#)
Insta: [@Hothamjuicegelati](#)

Le Bajo Milkbar

8-14 Howard St, North Melbourne
Tue-Fri 7:30am-4pm, Sat & Sun 8am-3:30pm
0435 565 124
lebajo-milkbar.square.site
Insta: [@lebajo_milkbar](#)

Mörk Chocolate

150 Errol Street, North Melbourne
Every day 10am-5pm
9328 1386
morkchocolate.com.au
Insta: [@morkchocolate](#)

Mr Tucker

17 Melrose St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7am-3pm; Sat & Sun 8am-2pm
9328 5108
mrtucker.com.au
Facebook: [mrtuckermelbourne](#)
Insta: [@mrtuckermelbourne](#)

Palette

610 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
Every day 7.30am-3.30pm
9326 8648
Insta: [@palette_melbourne](#)

Reynolds St Sandwich Bar

19 Reynolds St, North Melbourne
Monday to Friday 6am -2.30pm
9328 4741
Insta: [@reynoldsstsandwich](#)

Snax Cafe

81 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 8am-4.30pm
9328 3994

Sublime Cafe

16 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm; Sat 9am-4pm
0419 875 724
sublimecaterers.com.au
Insta: [@sublime_cafe_caterers](#)

Toast Kitchen Cafe

13 Errol St, North Melbourne
7 days 6am-2pm
9329 9322
toastkitchencafe.com
Insta: [@toast_kitchen_cafe](#)

Twenty & Six Espresso

594 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
Every day 8am-3pm
9326 9239
twentyandsix.com.au
Insta: [@twentyandsix](#)

Wonky Trolley

47 Errol St, North Melbourne
10am to 10:30pm
0422 345 111
wonkytrolley.com
Insta: [@wonky_trolley](#)

279

279 Victoria St, West Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7.30am-3.30pm; Sat-Sun 8am -3pm
0435 565 124
279victoriast.co
Insta: [@279victoriast](#)

SHOP LOCAL

North and West Melbourne



CARS/CAR REPAIRS

Melbourne North Service Centre

175 Arden St, North Melbourne
9328 4237

mnscc.com.au

Facebook: MelbNthServCentre

Nick Theodossi Prestige Cars

185 Arden St, North Melbourne
9373 7777

nicktheodossi.com.au

Insta: @nicktheodossiprestige

CATERING

Refresh Hospitality

56A Steel St, North Melbourne
0402 401 611

Facebook: refreshhospitalityx

Insta: @refreshevents

Sublime Caterers

16 Errol St, North Melbourne
0419 875 724

sublimecaterers.com.au

Insta: @sublime_cafe_caterers

COMMUNITY GROUPS

City of Melbourne Bowls Club Inc

Flagstaff Gardens, West Melbourne
0417 156 925

Noon to 8pm

citybowls.org

Facebook: citybowls

Hotham Mission (part of Mark the Evangelist Congregation)

2 Elm Street, North Melbourne
9326 8245

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

hothammission.org.au

North & West Melbourne Precinct Association

PO Box 5, North Melbourne, 3003
0415 227 653

northwestmelbourne.com.au

Email:northwestmelbourneprecinct@gmail.com

Facebook: northwestmelbourneprecinct

Insta: @northwestmelbourneprecinct

The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne

58 Errol St, North Melbourne

Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Fri 10am-3pm

9328 1126

centre.org.au

Facebook: @thecentrenorthwestmelbourne

West Melbourne Baptist Church & Community Centre

4 Miller St, West Melbourne

8394 7139

wmbc.org.au

Facebook: westmelbournebaptistchurch

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Knext Career Design

2 Hawke St, West Melbourne

0466 443 534

knext.com.au

tinai.colawai@knext.com.au

Logitrain

53 Dryburgh St, West Melbourne

03 9191 1701

logitrain.com.au

MBG Education

70 Little Lothian Street North, North Melbourne

0411 204 817

North Melbourne Language & Learning

Ground Floor, 33 Alfred St, North Melbourne

9326 7447

nmll.org.au

Facebook: northmelblanguagelarning

Email: enquiries@nmll.org.au

FASHION/DESIGN

CLOTHE Creative Patternmaking

0401 445 356

clothecreative.com

Facebook: clothecreative

Insta: @clothecreative

Fabric Drawer

0413 819 206

fabricdrawer.com.au

Facebook: fabricdrawer

Insta: @fabric_drawer

Manfred's Shoe Lounge, shoes and repairs

62-64 Errol St, North Melbourne

Mon-Fri 8am-5.30pm; Sat 9.30am-3pm

9329 0715

manfredsshoelounge.com.au

Insta: @manfredsshoelounge

Martin Fella

556 Queensberry Street North Melbourne

Wed/Thurs 11am-4pm, Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm,

Sun 11am-2pm

0411 641 269

Insta: @martinfella

GIFT SHOP

Damsel Store

690 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne

0416 652 223

Tues-Wed 9am-5pm; Thurs-Fri 9am-7pm; Sat 9am-

5pm; Sun 11am-4pm

damselstore.com.au

Insta: @thedamselstore

GRAPHIC /WEB DESIGN

Avion Agency

134 Langford St, North Melbourne

0403 660 716

avion.agency

Insta: @avion_agency

Facebook: avion.agency

Studio Vico

40-42 Leveson Street, North Melbourne

0424 290 097

studiovico.com

Insta: @studiovico

SWIM Communications, website design + digital marketing

134 Langford St, North Melbourne

9326 8000

swim.com.au

Insta: @swimcomm

GROCERIES

Jean Greenie

79 Errol St, North Melbourne

Tue-Fri 8am-6:30pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-3pm

9042 0094

jeangreenie.com.au

Insta: @jean_greenie

7/11

83 Errol St, North Melbourne

9326 5095

HAIR & BEAUTY

Airs + Graces Beauty

285 Victoria St, West Melbourne

Tues & Thur 10am-8pm, Wed 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-

7pm, Sat 9am-5pm

airsandgracesbeauty.com.au

Insta: @airsandgracesbeauty

kenny and the sunshine girls, hairdressing

113 Errol St North Melbourne

Mon10am-5pm; Tues 10am-8pm; Wed 10am-6pm;

Thur 11am-9pm; Fri 11am-6pm; Sat 9am-4pm

9041 0143

kennyandthesunshinegirls.com.au

Facebook: kennyandthesunshinegirls

Insta: @kennyandthesunshinegirls

Meticulous Room, barber

95 Errol St, North Melbourne

Tue-Wed 9am-6pm, Thurs-Fri 9am-8pm

9052 4623

meticulousroom.com.au

Take Off Skin & Body

Level 1, 1-5 Errol St North Melbourne

Mon 10am-6pm, Tue-Thurs 10am-8pm; Fri 10am-6pm,

Sat 9am-4pm

0400 114 992

takeoffskinandbody.com.au

Facebook: takeoffskinandbody

Insta: @takeoffskinandbody

HARDWARE

AWM, Electrical supplies

142-148 Stanley St, West Melbourne

Mon-Fri 7am-5pm; Sat 8am-11am

9329 8340

HEALTH & FITNESS

BFT West Melbourne

97 Dudley St, West Melbourne

Mon-Fri 5.30am-7.30pm; Sat 7.15am-noon

0402 937 934

bodyfittraining.com/club/westmelbourne

Facebook: @bft.westmelbourne

Insta: @bft_westmelbourne

evryfit

online only

9005 6992

evryfit.com

Facebook: evryfit

Insta: @evryfit

TicTok: tiktok.com/@evryfit_tok

F45 Training North Melbourne

409 Flemington Rd, North Melbourne,

6am-7pm

0418 528 777

f45training.com.au/northmelbourne

Facebook: f45northmelbourne

Insta: @f45_training_north_melbourne

Fitin2it Personal Training

83-85 Flemington Rd, North Melbourne

6am-9pm

0406 454 750

fitin2it.com

Insta: @fitin2it_personaltraining_melb

Functional U

25 Stanley St, West Melbourne

Mon-Fri 5.30am-8.30am, 9.30am, 4.30-7.30pm

9077 6824

functional-u.com.au

Facebook: FunctionalU

Insta: @crossfitu

North Melbourne Football Club

204-206 Arden St, North Melbourne

9320 2400

Insta: @nmfcofficial

HOMEWARES & GIFTS

Ace Antiques

555 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

Tue-Sat 11am to 5pm

0412 883 112

ace-antiques.com

Facebook: Aceantiques

Insta: @Aceantiques

Champ

631 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

Appointment only

0414 250 062

champ.co

Insta: @champ.co

Metta Chai

104B Errol St, North Melbourne

Tues 12-4pm; Wed-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat 10am-3pm; Sun

11am-3pm

0435 916 058

mettachai.com

Insta: @mettachai1

North Melbourne Books

546 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

Tue-Fri 10am-5.30pm; Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 10am-4pm

9041 4216

northmelbournebooks.weebly.com

SPIELEDLUXE

566 Queensberry St, North Melbourne

11-4pm

8394 7589

spieledeluxe.com

Facebook: spieledeluxe

Insta: @spieledeluxe

Stranger Than Paradise

101 Errol St, North Melbourne

Tues-Thur 10am-4pm, Fri 10am-5pm Sat 9am-3pm,

Sun 10am-3pm

0421 753 521

strangerthanparadisegifts.com

Insta: @strangerthanparadisegifts

The Artisans Bottega

317 Victoria St, West Melbourne

Mon-Fri 9.45am-5.45pm; Sat 9am-1.30pm;

Sun 10am-2.30pm

artisansbottega.com.au

Facebook: theartisanbottega

Insta: @artisans.bottega

HYBRID KITCHEN

EziKitchen Corporation Pty Ltd

275 Macaulay Road, North Melbourne

0431 577 508

ezikitchen.co

Facebook: ezikitchens

Insta: ezikitchens

MUSIC

Heartland Records

420/422 Victoria St, North Melbourne

Tues-Wed 11am-5.30pm; Thurs-Fri 11am-6pm;

Sat-Sun 11am-5.30pm

9329 9636

heartlandrecords.com.au

Facebook: heartlandrecordsnorthmelbourne

Insta: @heartlandrecords

Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio

15 Dowling Place, North Melbourne, 3051

9329 7177

Wed-Fri 1-10 pm; Sat/Sun 1-5pm

mess.foundation

Facebook: MESSLtd

Insta: @mess_ltd

The Violineri

309 Victoria St, West Melbourne

Wed-Fri 10am-6pm; Sat 9am-1pm and by appointment

0481 463 373

theviolineri.com

Insta: @the_violineri

NEWSAGENCIES

North Melbourne Lotto

25 Errol St, North Melbourne

Mon-Thur 7.30am-4pm; Fri 7.30am-noon;

Sat 7.30am-4pm

03 9328 3926

SHOP LOCAL

North and West Melbourne



Bobbie Peels
351 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
Tues-Thurs 4-10.30pm; Fri noon-11pm; Sat 4-11pm
bobbiepeels.com.au
Facebook: BobbiePeels
Insta: @BobbiePeels

Drunken Poet
65 Peel St, West Melbourne
Tues-Fri 3pm-1am, Sat noon-1am, Sun noon-11pm
9348 9797
thedrunkenpoet.com.au
Facebook: drunkenpoetmusic
Insta: @drunkenpoetmusic

Errol's
69-71 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Fri 7am-9.30pm; Sat-Sun 8am-9.30pm
9326 6610
errols.com.au
Insta: @errols_nthmelb

Hello Jose
85 Peel St, West Melbourne
Tues-Sun 5pm-late
9326 3934
hellojose.com.au
Facebook: hellojose3003
Insta: @hellojose_au

Hotham Juice and Gelati
29 Errol St, North Melbourne
1-10 pm
0426 390 328
hotham-juice-gelati.business.site
Facebook: Hothamjuicegelati
Insta: @Hothamjuicegelati

Le Taj Restaurant
70-74 Rosslyn St, West Melbourne
Mon-Sun for dinner 5-10pm
Tues-Fri for lunch 12-2pm
03 9329 8402
letaj.com.au
Insta: @letajmelbourne

Three Crowns
365 Victoria St, West Melbourne
Tues 4pm-11pm; Wed-Sun 12pm-12am
9326 5033
threecrownshotel.com.au
Insta: @threecrownshotel

Town Hall Hotel
33 Errol St, North Melbourne
Mon-Thurs 3pm-1am, Fri-Sun noon-1am
9328 1983
townhallhotelnorthmelbourne.com.au
Insta: @townhallhotelnorthmel

Westwood
313 Victoria St, West Melbourne
Wed-Fri 3pm-late; Sat 8.30am-late; Sun 8.30-4pm
9348 9406
westwood3003.com
Insta: @westwood3003

Willows & Wine
315 Victoria Street, West Melbourne
Weds-Thur - 10am-9pm; Fri-Sat 10am-10pm;
Sun 10am-7pm
9958 8675
blackbooksbar.com
Insta: @willows.wine

Wonky Trolley
47 Errol Steet, North Melbourne
10am -10.30pm
0422 345 111
wonkytrolley.com

SIGNAGE & DIGITAL PRINTING

Alpha Lewis Signs
242 Dryburgh Street North Melbourne
9329 1244
alphalewisigns.com.au
Insta: @alphalewisigns

TATTOOISTS

Vic Market Tattoo
324 Victoria St, North Melbourne
9326 5530
vicmarkettattoo.com
Facebook: vicmarkettattoo
Insta: @vicmarkettattoo

WEB DESIGNERS

Digital Services Lab
552 Victoria St, North Melbourne VIC 3051
0405 475 504
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm
digitalserviceslab.com.au
Facebook: digitalserviceslab



The Centre Courses & Activities (Jan – Apr ‘22)

The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne hosts programs and activities for local residents.

Book online at www.centre.org.au, by phone on 9328 1126 or in person at The Centre, 58 Errol Street, North Melbourne.

Our programs are responsive to the community: if you have an idea for a course or activity or if you have some skills that you would like to share with others, please contact us. All programs are subject to COVID restrictions

Health & Wellbeing

Pilates

Pilates aims to improve your awareness of how to use your body correctly and strengthen your postural muscles to allow you to support your spine. Pilates classes are graded so it is possible to find the level that suits your ability, experience or limitations. Exercises can be adjusted to suit all ages. Graded classes are taught by Brazilian-trained physiotherapist Fernanda Cury. Classes are relaxed and a great way to meet up with other locals.

Intro to Pilates /Rehab

Suitable for those who are completely new to Pilates or have an injury. Program includes posture basics, finding your neutral spine, weight bearing, abdominal activation and breathing.
Tuesdays 8 pm-9 pm
(starting 1 February for 10 weeks)
Meat Market, 5 Blackwood St, North Melbourne

General/Intro to Pilates

A class that caters for all levels of experience.
Tuesdays 6:45pm - 7:45pm
(starting 1 February for 10 weeks)
Meat Market, 5 Blackwood St, North Melbourne
Wednesdays 9:15 am-10:15 am
(starting 2 February for 10 weeks)
Legion Hall, George Johnson Lane (behind North Melbourne Library)

Pilates and Older Adults Exercise Classes: \$19.70 (\$14.40) per class when booking for the term.

Health & Wellbeing classes run via Zoom if government restrictions prevent in-person gatherings

Programs with low interest may not go ahead.

Beginners

The basics are still covered but some knowledge is assumed. Over the term the exercises will progress to more challenging options as you build strength and flexibility.
Thursdays 5.30 pm-6.30 pm
(starting 3 February for 10 weeks)
Meat Market, 5 Blackwood St, North Melbourne

Intermediate

This class provides the next step up with more challenging exercises. Strengthen your postural muscles and exercise in a manner that is safe for all your joints.
Tuesdays 5.30 pm-6.30 pm
(starting 1 February for 10 weeks)
Plus summer specials 11, 18, 25 January
Thursdays 8 pm-9 pm
(starting 3 February for 10 weeks)
Meat Market, 5 Blackwood St, North Melbourne

Intermediate Plus

Our hardest class is suitable for people with a good level of body awareness and strength. Designed to improve your trunk strength and provide a really stable base for your other sports or daily activities.
Thursdays 6.45 pm-7.45 pm
(starting 3 February for 10 weeks)
Plus summer specials 13, 20, 27 January
Meat Market, 5 Blackwood St, North Melbourne

We don't want cost to be a barrier to participation. Those with the means are encouraged to pay a bit more so that others can also participate. If you would like to take advantage our flexible pricing policy, contact The Centre.

For Seniors

Older Adults Exercise

A general strengthening class for those 60+. Includes low impact aerobics, balance exercises, strengthening exercises using exercise band resistance for all parts of the body. Suitable for people of all abilities.
Cost: \$19.70 (\$14.40) per class when booking for the term.
Wednesdays 10.30 am-11.30 am
(starting 2 February for 10 weeks)

Young @ Heart Dance Club

Join Claudia for a fun dance class for seniors. One part zumba, one part cha-cha-cha and three parts laughter. It's a super-fun , follow-the-leader community event, where you can meet other local seniors. All levels, genders, abilities and dance skills welcome. Improve co-ordination, keep active, and dance to beautiful music from all over the world.
Cost: \$15 (\$12 Concession) per class when booking for the term.
Mondays 12 noon – 12.45 pm

Community Morning Teas

Join this group of multicultural seniors for an informal chat over morning tea – a place where friendships can flourish. Sometimes with a guest speaker. \$5 per session.
1st Tuesday each month 10 am – 12 noon (ongoing)
The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

(starting 31 January for 10 weeks)
Legion Hall, George Johnson Lane (behind North Melbourne Library)

Centre Adventures

Visit historical, cultural or horticultural places of interest and significance. Normally a full-day bus trip, Centre Adventures are a great way to socialise and get out beyond the everyday. \$43 (\$33 Concession).
4th Tuesday each month 9.30 am – 5 pm
Departing from The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

Come & Try Day

Not sure what course or activity is right for you? Learn more about what is on offer and participate in a range of free taster sessions.
Saturday 29 January 2022
Various venues in and around The Centre, 58 Errol St. North Melbourne
Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/BVZAE>
FREE



Bicycle Users Group

A group for cycling enthusiasts who live and work in North Melbourne and West Melbourne. A new group, we are getting established to provide a friendly network of locals who love to ride.
Second Tuesday of the month (not January), 6pm- 7.30pm
The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne
Or via Zoom if required

Computers, Tech & Digital

Computers: Digital Essentials

Make your computer work for you. COVID showed how important it is to engage in the digital world. Lou will guide you to maximise your productivity and minimise frustration. Cost: \$60 (\$45 Concession)

Wednesdays 10am-12:30pm
(starting 2 February for 10 weeks)

The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne OR via Zoom when required

iGadgets

Develop the skills and knowledge in using your mobile device to its fullest potential. Calendar, email, accessing files, social media and online accounts.

Cost: \$30 (\$20 Concession)

Fridays 10am-12 noon
(starting 4 February for six weeks)
The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne



Creative Arts

Sing NoW Community Choir

A renewed version of the much loved Errol's Angels. Join new music director Susie Kelly in this inclusive community choir for adults of all ages. The choir sings music from across the world and spanning many decades. No previous experience required.

Cost: \$17.50 (\$11 Concession) per session when booking for the term.

Thursdays 7 pm-8.30 pm (starting 3 February for 10 weeks)
Sokol Melbourne, 497 Queensberry St, North Melbourne
OR via Zoom if required

Music Club

Bring your current favourite music track. Share what you love about it and expand your musical knowledge by listening to others. Every genre is welcome. BYO dinner and drinks if you want. **FREE**

Monthly on last Wednesday of the month (not January) 7 pm-8.30 pm
The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne
OR via Zoom if required

Community Walks

A walk for neighbours around the neighbourhood. Each month join a special guest with in-depth knowledge about a particular area or aspect of North & West Melbourne. Visit those pockets not on your radar or learn about the hidden history of those places you walk past every day. **FREE**

Last Saturday of the month 10 am-11 am
Leaving from The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne

For Kids

Home Away From Homework Club

Friendly and inclusive, students come to complete their homework (or our extra material) with the assistance of tutors. There are also games, and a nutritious snack and drink provided. For children in Grades 4 to Year 9. **FREE**

Wednesdays 3.30 pm-5 pm (during school term)
– **The Centre, 58 Errol St, North Melbourne**
Wednesdays 4.30 pm-6 pm (during school term)
– **North Melbourne Language & Learning,**
33 Alfred St, North Melbourne

New Courses

The Centre is offering a range of new courses in the first half of 2022. With support from the Victorian Department of Education & Training, these introductory vocationally oriented courses – run by industry professionals and trained teachers – can lead to further study or direct employment.

We will only run the courses if there is sufficient interest, so make sure you **register your interest** as soon as possible. Courses will run to suit your needs and timetable.

Understanding Finances

Gain better financial independence. Take control of issues such as budgeting, credit, buy-now-pay-later, savings goals and bank accounts. In this course, you will develop an individual budget and have an action plan with long and short term financial goals, plus strategies to help reach those goals. Better financial management means better relationships, job prospects and educational possibilities.

3 x 3 hour sessions

Working in Hospitality

Hospitality is Hiring! Learn the fundamentals of working in restaurants, cafes and functions. Students will learn foundation skills in both front and back of house elements, including customer service, teamwork, coffee making, using hospitality-related technology, health and safety and hospitality industry pathways.

8 x 3 hour sessions, plus practical experience working at a hospitality function

Working in Retail

Post-pandemic, the retail industry is experiencing staffing shortages. This course will help you understand areas such as customer service and sales, working in a team, workplace health & safety, using point of sale, merchandising and after-sales service. At the conclusion of this course, you will feel confident applying for Customer Service or Sales Assistant jobs in retail shops large and small.

8 x 3 hour sessions

Event Management

If you are curious about what goes on behind the scenes to make a festival or event come to life, this course is for you. You will gain an insight into what goes into designing, developing and implementing an event, such as a local-based community festival. The course covers topics including event concept and design, community development principles, marketing & sponsorship, event staging and logistics, financial management, risk, safety, staffing, volunteers and event evaluation. Participants will get to work on one of The Centre's festivals, Spanish Language Fiesta or Holi.

8 x 3 hour sessions, plus a full day at a festival

Horticulture & Permaculture

Whether you have limited gardening experience, or you are a keen home gardener, this course will focus on garden basics, safety, tool use and maintenance, composting, mulching, sustainable gardening practices, an introduction to Indigenous plants, organic weed and pest control, propagation methods, and growing ornamentals, herbs, vegetables and fruits. A hands-on practical course in the Docklands Community Garden.

8 x 3.5 hour sessions

Community Media

Covering newspapers, zines, digital publications, podcasts and radio, the course is designed to give you an insight into how community media operates, the roles involved and the key skills needed to progress in the sector. Students will have an opportunity to create content for a community media outlet as part of the course (maybe even here in the North & West Melbourne News).

4 x 2 hour sessions

Take a walk into history

1. Errol Street, from the corner of Queensberry, outside the post office

John O'Shanassy's words in Victoria's Legislative Council on 8 July 1952 shaped this area. The *Argus* reported that he urged land be surveyed in "convenient sized allotments" so as to "enable purchasers to erect thereon houses of timber in sufficient numbers to provide that house accommodation now so imperatively required by the rapidly increasing population arriving in the colony". Errol Street doesn't honour a particular person. Rather, it's a medieval Scottish family name and a reminder that Scots were prominent among the early settlers.

2. The drinking fountain outside the town hall

In the 1870s this drinking fountain stood on a plinth in the middle of the Errol and Queensberry intersection. Traffic soon led to it



being moved onto the footpath. The inscription tells us that the fountain was a gift to the people of the municipality from Thomas Henderson, a one-time mayor of Hotham. On the fountain you'll find 'Lead on', the family motto of Sir Charles Hotham, a governor of the colony of Victoria. The fountain with its beautifully crafted kangaroo is largely the work of long-time Hotham Hill resident Nancy Hawkins.



3. South down Errol Street to George Johnson Lane

George Johnson Lane is named after the architect of the town hall, now known as Arts House. Records show that a foundation stone was laid at the time of building but it was not inscribed. So no-one now knows which stone it is or even if it is one of the stones you can see. Naming the lane was the best that could be done to recognise George Johnson and his work. Lanes were a familiar feature in early North and West Melbourne with many still paved with bluestone klinkers (this one is not).

Lorna Hannan takes a closer look at Errol Street, in this fifth walk in our series.

Want to know more?

Hotham History Project researches and records the history of our surroundings and runs regular walks, talks and workshops. A number of books it has published can be purchased through the website. The Project is keen to attract new members and encourage people to participate in whatever way they can. Details: www.hothamhistory.org.au



4. The old North Melbourne town hall

The present building is the second Hotham town hall to be built on this site. The first was a single-storey brick box until the councillors of the day wanted and needed something fancier. This was good news for architect George Johnson. It was his first town hall and he later designed others in Collingwood, Northcote, Maryborough, Daylesford and Kilmore. All these buildings have survived though they have changed their use. You can read about the building of the town hall in *Pride of Hotham* by Bill Hannan.



councillors – Lorna Hannan for the City of Melbourne and Linda Hoskins for the City of Yarra. It was placed there when the two cities were partners in a regional library and reads: *In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge that this library is located on land for which the Wurundjeri and their forebears are the traditional people and we recognize the cultural and spiritual significance of the land to the Wurundjeri.*

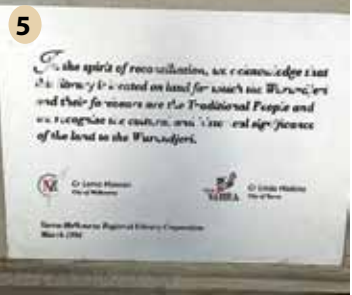
6. South down Errol Street to number 58

Notice that the shops follow the same design. Together with the town hall and library building, they set a tone for the street and establish an identity that has survived for more than 100 years. The Errol Street look is no

accident. Some 10 years after he had designed the Hotham town hall, George Johnson also designed these very shops. They were council property and their rent was to be council revenue. The verandahs and the frieze that runs down both sides of the street are not Johnson's work, but they set it off.

7. On the street wall between numbers 54 and 56

The plaque, dated November 1985, records that a time capsule in the wall of the municipal building celebrates Victoria's 150th Anniversary. The capsule contains the names of boys and girls in local schools and of people living in North and West Melbourne at the time. The plaque does not tell us where the capsule is. Does anyone know where it is?



5. Near the library entrance

The significant 1998 plaque on the street wall is getting harder to read as the letters drop out. It bears the signatures of two



NOTICEBOARD

Welcome back to The Centre!

Is there a single word that means both 'exhausted' and 'enlivened'? I'm feeling both conditions at the moment and I think it's a widespread feeling in our community.

While it's possible that COVID-19 has another twist in its tail, it seems as if we have overcome the worst of this virus. Thanks to everyone who, by getting vaccinated, has enabled us to get back to doing the things we love.

Here at The Centre, we are proud to have reopened our doors and to have recommenced most of our programs in person.

Congratulations to all community members who persisted through the long lockdown and stepped up when it mattered.

Whether you made calls or took supplies to isolated community members, survived remote schooling, donated to our toys campaign to help kids and families,

FROM THE CENTRE DIRECTOR Ariel Valent



or simply willed yourself to get through, we salute you.

Thanks for your help

A special note of thanks to all who helped directly with the campaign to assist children and families by donating more than \$1,000 and more than 80 toys, games, books and items of sports equipment.

Through your generosity we have assisted dozens of families, particularly those who are isolated.

Were you lucky enough to come across one of our 'gifts of spring'? This campaign saw more than 40 gifts placed around North and West Melbourne. While it was The Centre

that got the ball rolling, I really saw this as a gift to the local community from the local community.

Community needs

Looking to 2022, The Centre's program will be shaped by the findings of our ongoing community needs analysis research. While we've already had many fascinating and insightful conversations, we'll be continuing our work before we draw our final conclusions.

You can still participate in the SMS conversation about our community needs analysis. Use the QR code on page 18 or you might prefer to email or phone The Centre to give your thoughts.

Even better, drop in to see us at 58 Errol Street and share your ideas about the project. We could have a chat in the newly created space outside where we're inviting all passers-by to take a seat, enjoy a drink, have a yarn and perhaps play a game.

Come and Try Day

Please register for the Come and Try Day on Saturday 29 January. It will allow you to sample, at no cost, a number of our programs on offer in North and West Melbourne.

Thanks to all who have enquired about Ragn, a steadfast presence at The Centre's front desk. She has successfully undergone foot surgery during the lockdown and is recovering well at home.

We expect Ragn to return in January. In the meantime, drop in to The Centre where you'll be met by the smiling faces of Karen, Yulay and Kath.



The North & West Melbourne News is a quarterly publication produced by volunteers predominantly from North and West Melbourne. Readers' contributions and letters are welcomed. Where relevant the News may seek alternative opinions in the interests of balance. Contributors' opinions are their own, however, and the News takes no responsibility for them. We reserve the right to edit or omit articles considered unsuitable or when space is limited. Send articles by email to editorial@centre.org.au. Please send photographs of suitable resolution for reproduction as graphic files attached with the article.

Finance

The News is a program of The Centre: Connecting Community in North & West Melbourne Inc, a registered charity. Costs of producing the News are met through advertising, sponsorships, subscriptions and donations. Donations of more than \$20 are tax deductible through the ANHCA Public Fund for DGR.

News distribution

The News is distributed free throughout North and West Melbourne. Get in touch if you know of anyone not receiving their copy. Copies are available from The Centre, North Melbourne Library and online at www.centre.org.au. Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$20 per year (four issues) sent anywhere in Australia.

Volunteers

The News welcomes new volunteers. If you have skills in writing, drawing, photography, archiving, subediting and proofreading, computer technology, social media or design and layout, please consider joining the team.

Editor: Maurice Gaul

Production: Anne Burgi

Advertising: Janet Graham

Distribution: Rashi Jain

Proofreader: Suzie Luddon

Writers: Michelle Brett, Lizzy Footner, Maurice Gaul, Katianna Grosser, Stephen Hatcher, Very Impressive, Rashi Jain, Alexandra Kent, Nancy Lane, Annette McQuarrie, Laura Misale, Geoff Pound, Flora Sciarra, Zoe Sheridan, John H. Smith, Gavan Tobin

Publisher: Ariel Valent

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5 Jones Road, Morwell 3844



NWMN advertisement sizes and rates for 2022

Size	Colour	Mono
Full page (24 cm wide x 34 cm high)	\$1765.00	\$1485.00
Half page (24 cm wide x 17 cm high or 12 cm wide x 34 cm high)	\$855.00	\$745.00
One-third page (24 cm wide x 12 cm high)	\$620.00	\$545.00
One-quarter page (24 cm wide x 8.5 cm high or 12 cm wide x 17 cm high)	\$460.00	\$395.00
One-eighth page (12 cm wide x 8.5 cm high)	\$230.00	\$200.00
One-16th page (12 cm wide x 4 cm high)	\$124.00	\$107.00
Business card (in Services Directory) (9 cm wide x 5.5 cm high)	\$107.00	\$90.00
• Prices inclusive of GST		
• Book a repeat advertisement for four issues for a 20% discount, total amount payable at time of booking.		
• Prices are for supplied artwork (high-resolution PDF). Layout services are available — talk to us about how we can help.		
• The News reserves the right to reject advertising bookings that are outside the standards for a community-based publication.		
• For info and bookings, email: advertising@centre.org.au		

Send contributions, letters and feedback to:

North & West Melbourne News
The Centre, 58 Errol Street, North Melbourne 3051
Email: editorial@centre.org.au **Telephone:** 9328 1126

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Publication date: Friday 11 March

Winter 2022 issue:

Copy deadline: Friday 13 May
Publication date: Friday 10 June

Spring 2022 issue:

Copy deadline: Friday 12 August
Publication date: Friday 9 September

Summer 2022–2023 issue:

Copy deadline: Friday 4 November
Publication date: Friday 2 December

Kryptic Kwiz (page 11) answers

1. Homebush 2. Cathay 3. Drakes 4. Willow Ware 5. Enterprize 6. Hawke
7. West End 8. Lennon 9. Costello 10. Munster 11. Warwick 12. Lancashire
13. San Marco 14. Carrolls 15. Blair 16. Moss 17. Ireland 18. Temperance Hall
19. Kerrs 20. Hardwicke 21. Zepelin 22. Pies 23. Mugg 24. Lonie
25. Harcourt 26. de Feu 27. Tyrone 28. Coode 29. Mighty Apollo 30. Pampas

Christmas Services, North and West Melbourne

St James Old Cathedral, Anglican

Corner King and Batman streets, West Melbourne (opposite Flagstaff Gardens)

Sunday 19 December 10.00am Nine Lessons and Carols

Friday 24 December 11.00pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion

Saturday 25 December 10.00am Christmas Day Holy Communion

All services live-streamed on [youtube.com/stjamesoldcathedral](https://www.youtube.com/stjamesoldcathedral)
For more information visit www.sjoc.org.au



St Mary Star of the Sea, Catholic

Corner Victoria and Howard streets, West Melbourne
Not available at time of going to press

St Mary's, Anglican

Corner Queensberry and Howard streets, North Melbourne

Friday 24 December 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Saturday 25 December 9.00am Christmas Day service

Sunday 26 December 10.00am normal service

St Michael's, Catholic

456 Dryburgh Street, North Melbourne
Not available at time of going to press

Saints Peter and Paul, Ukrainian Catholic

35 Canning Street, North Melbourne (corner Dryburgh Street)

Saturday 25 December 10.00am Divine Liturgy

Friday 7 January 10.00am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian Christmas)

Uniting Church, Mark the Evangelist

51 Curzon Street, North Melbourne

The congregation meets in the church hall, 4 Elm Street.

Sunday 19 December 10.00am Advent Cycle of readings and hymns with Eucharist

Saturday 25 December 9.30am Christmas Day service

26 December 10.00am Sunday worship

Services via live-stream at: www.marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au

West Melbourne Baptist Church

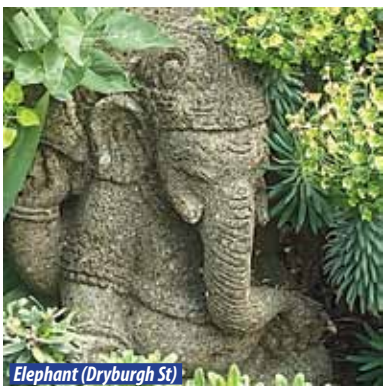
4 Miller Street, West Melbourne

Sunday 19 December 5.30pm Community Carol Singing with items and musical leadership from the Melbourne Chamber Choir. Christmas supper to follow. All are welcome.

Enquiries: 8394 7139, hello@wmbc.org.au



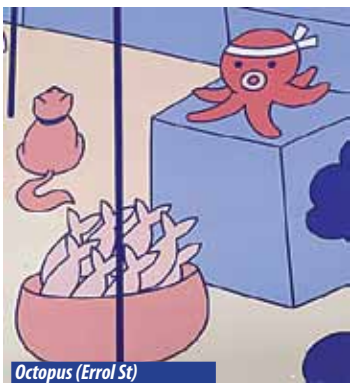
Owl (Purcell St)



Elephant (Dryburgh St)



Seahorse (Carroll's Lane)



Octopus (Errol St)



Unicorn (Adderley St)



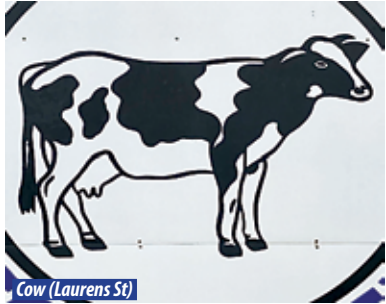
Rabbit (Queensberry St)



Kangaroo (Miller St)



Possum (Errol St Reserve)



Cow (Laurens St)



Dodo (Errol St)



Gecko (Errol St)



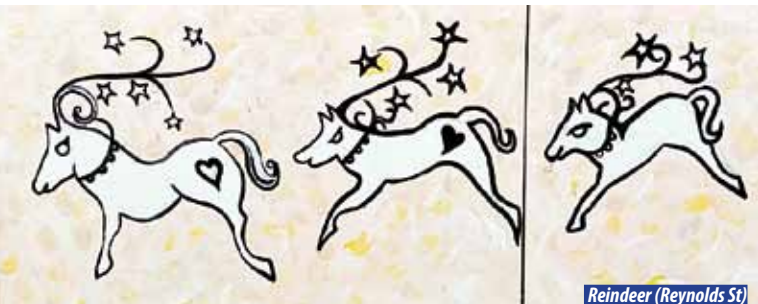
Fox (Strang Lane)



Bear (Haines St)



Bull (Victoria St)



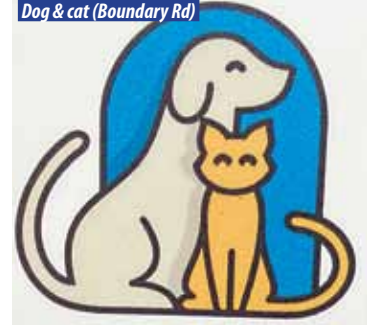
Reindeer (Reynolds St)



Rooster (Melrose St)



Shark (Errol St)



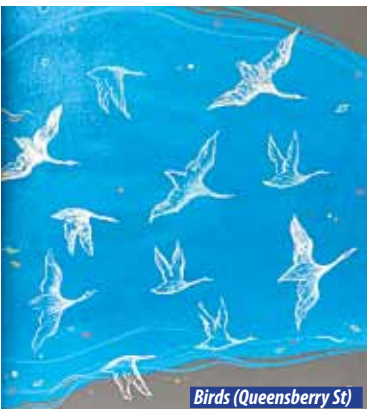
Dog & cat (Boundary Rd)



Dolphins (Victoria St)



Duck (Trafalgar Place)



Birds (Queensberry St)

Our animal neighbours

North Melbourne and West Melbourne boast many animal mascots as shop signs, logos, street art and garden statues.

Take yourself, your friends or your family on a walk to see how many of these animals you can spot. Warning! All these animals were resident in November but some may have moved on by now.

Word and photographs: Nancy Lane

I HAVE CHANGED MY OPEN HOURS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

BUT MY CUSTOMERS AREN'T AWARE!

LEAVE IT TO US!

CLICK!

TAP!

NEW OPEN HOURS

NEW OPEN HOURS

RIPPER! NOW EVERYONE KNOWS WHEN I'M GOING TO BE OPEN

THE ADVENTURES OF... YOUR LOCAL CREATIVE HEROES!

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- SOCIAL MEDIA
- GRAPHIC DESIGN & PRINT
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