



Abercrombie
The forgotten street
Story – Page 5



The Audreys
Albums re-released on vinyl
The Review – Pages 11-14

THE SOUTH SYDNEY HERALD IS AVAILABLE ONLINE: WWW.SOUTHSYDNEYHERALD.COM.AU FREE PRINTED EDITION EVERY MONTH TO 30,000+ REGULAR READERS.

the South Sydney Herald



NUMBER SEVENTY-FIVE SEPTEMBER '09 CIRCULATION 22,000

ALEXANDRIA BEACONSFIELD CHIPPENDALE DARLINGTON ERSKINEVILLE GLEBE KINGS CROSS NEWTOWN REDFERN SURRY HILLS WATERLOO WOOLLOOMOOLOO ZETLAND

New train station for Newtown



Vision for Newtown Station Artist's Impression: Supplied

SSH

Member for Marrickville, Carmel Tebbutt, has announced that RailCorp recently lodged an application with the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning outlining its proposal to upgrade Newtown Station.

Ms Tebbutt said the concept plans include the construction of a new concourse over the station with lift and stair access, new ticket office, extended platform canopies and a new public entrance to the station.

"The new entrance will feature a protective canopy from King Street to the concourse, refurbished heritage buildings and retail to create a pleasant open public forecourt in the centre of Newtown," Ms Tebbutt said. "We made a commitment to upgrade Newtown Station and I am pleased that we are moving forward and delivering on it. The Newtown Station precinct contains significant state heritage items that will be refurbished and adaptively reused as part of the upgrade."

"RailCorp plans to commence works at the site in May 2010, with expected completion in 2012. The upgrade highlights the State Government's continued commitment to improving station facilities across the CityRail network and providing safe, clean and equitable transport for the people of New South Wales," she said.

The Newtown Neighbourhood Centre has been running a long campaign calling for disabled access to the station. Lisa Burns, Coordinator, told the SSH: "It's a win for the whole of Newtown, which really is an inner hub for so many activities and services including hospitals, medical, educational, shopping and restaurants. Transport plays a vital part for the elderly, the disabled and parents with prams and young children to participate in their community. A big thank you to the community for supporting this really important issue."

Councillor Fiona Byrne commented: "The Greens are pleased to see the plans for the Easy Access upgrade of Newtown Station. It is a testament to community agitation, by local organisations like the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre and the Newtown Precinct Business Association, that this project is still moving forward and will give us our first accessible train station in the area. Using the old tram sheds site to achieve this outcome is sensible and we urge everyone to take the opportunity to comment on the plans. Improvements in our local public transport infrastructure benefit the whole community and also entice people to use it as their first option. The timeframe of completion in 2011 has been delayed by an extra year but I would hope that the original deadline could be met so that our community can finally have commuter facilities that other areas take for granted."

SSH

Critique of school league tables

KELLY LANE

The State Government will reintroduce legislation to parliament in September, attempting to overturn an amendment that penalises the print publication of tables comparing NSW schools.

NSW Minister for Education, Verity Firth, has maintained that the Government does not support the publication of what those opposed believe will become "simplistic" league tables. A spokesperson for the Minister said: "The bill will allow us to provide the NSW school information required by the Federal Government, and make it available for publication in a responsible way."

The Federal Government's transparency policy intends to use the data, which will be based on literacy and numeracy test results, as well as the School Certificate and HSC, to compile lists that compare schools with similar backgrounds.

"If two schools with similar students achieve vastly different results, then we can take a closer look to work out why it's the case. It will allow us to identify underperforming schools and target resources so we can improve outcomes," the spokesperson for Minister Firth said.

If NSW does not comply with the Federal Government's policy it will miss out on \$4.8 billion in funding.

However, opposition to the new bill has been voiced across the education sector, with the NSW Teacher's Federation, NSW Federation of Parents and Citizens' Association, Secondary Principals' Council, Primary Principals' Association and Independent Education Union all against the legislation.

Michelle Rosicky, Organiser for the Inner City Teachers Association (ICTA), said: "We're opposed to league tables in any form whatsoever. We don't want schools compared with one another."

He said that parents send their child to a school for a variety of reasons, not just for performance in literacy and numeracy.

Dianne Giblin, President of the NSW Federation of Parents and Citizens' Association, agreed that the data used to group schools would be too simplistic. "We're not taking into consideration all the other things that a school has to offer," Ms Giblin said. "If we're basing the success of a school on its literacy and numeracy results, then we're extremely narrow in what we believe is success in life. What we don't want to see happen with the league tables, and these particular tests, is that so much of the school image would be based

on the results of the NAPLAN test that we may find that the curriculum becomes distorted to ensure that the children are successful, or to ensure that they have the highest possible results."

The Government has said that the publication of data will provide parents with a more comprehensive picture of the school their child attends, with information about its socio-economic status, Indigenous population, student's language backgrounds, disabilities, attendance and sources of income.

"We believe currently that parents receive mounds of information about their child's progress and about the way the school is performing via the Annual Report, and via school reports, and we are totally opposed to comparing schools with schools when it's not contextual," Ms Giblin said.

Mr John Gauci, a teacher at Taverners Hill Infants School and the secretary of the ICTA, agreed that the publication of tables would sacrifice parts of the primary school curriculum. "Schools then start to teach to tests and so you have schools essentially dropping other areas," Mr Gauci said. "The first thing to be dropped often is the arts and languages. A lot of the schools around the inner-city teach Italian, and

- continued on page 4

South Sydney Herald

PUBLISHER

South Sydney Uniting Church
Raglan Street, Waterloo
Telephone 0400 008 338
Phone/fax 02 9698 8949

The views expressed in this newspaper are those of the author and the article and are not necessarily the views of the Uniting Church.

ADVERTISING

adverts@ssh.com.au
9319 1373

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 2360
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

LETTERS

Please send letters and emails to:
The South Sydney Herald.
Email: editor@ssh.com.au
Supply sender name and suburb.
Size: 150 words or less.
We may edit for legal or other reasons.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE



MANAGING EDITOR
Andrew Collis



FEATURES EDITOR
Dorothy McRae-McMahon



NEWS EDITOR
Trevor Davies



PHOTO EDITOR
Ali Blogg

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Esther Turnbull

DESIGNER

Robert Young

PRINTER

Spotpress PTY LTD
24-26 Lillian Fowler Place
Marrickville, NSW 2204
www.spotpress.com

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

"We gratefully acknowledge the many volunteer contributors and distributors who make this publication possible."

- Reem Al-Gharabally, John August, Laura Bannister, Jane Barton, Tara Clifford, Lindsay Cohen, Lee Conley, Wendy Collis, Pam Dagwell, Todd Dagwell, Linda Daniele, Douglas Dingwall, Flint Duxfield, Alex Fleming, Steph Gesling, Eve Gibson, Perry Johnstone, Katherine Keefe, Rebecca LeMay, norrie mAy-welby, Nicholas McCallum, Barrie McMahon, Robert Morrison, Kelly Lane, Sarah Malik, Lisa Moon, Andre Rangiah, Marg Vazey, Scott Winter, Neil Whitfield

"We are one!" Waterloo Recycling Workshop



Naomi Ward (centre) with volunteers, Diane and Russell Photo: Andrew Collis

ANDREW COLLIS

Diana Bateup collects items of furniture from streets in the South Sydney area - tables, stereo cabinets, chairs. Russell Walker works with nails, glue and paint to repair and restore furniture that is then made available

for sale at very reasonable prices each Friday from 9.00am to 12pm in the lower car park of the Turanga high-rise in Phillip Street (across the road from the Salvation Army).

Diana and Russell are two of the many volunteers involved with the Waterloo

Recycling Workshop (WRW). On August 14 the WRW celebrated its first year in business at the Phillip Street location.

Michael Neville from the City of Sydney was there to offer congratulations and support. "All this good stuff would otherwise be landfill," he reminded those gathered to celebrate over cake, tea

and coffee.

The Recycling Workshop is an activity of the Factory Community Centre in Raglan Street. Michael Shreenan of the Factory is very impressed by the success of the service. He attributes the success to the leadership of co-ordinator, Naomi Ward, and a "great team" of volunteers.

Mr Shreenan expressed hope that, building on the success of the WRW, a commercial market will soon be established in Redfern Park, with up to 100 stalls. Revenue from the market, it is hoped, will help to fund the WRW as well as the popular Bike Club, aka the Nunnery Bike Workshop, on Monday evenings at Turanga.

Naomi Ward appreciates the commitment of volunteers. "Each volunteer contributes something important - sales, repairs, cleaning up, making the morning tea." Ms Ward, who decorated the first anniversary cake, enjoys the community spirit at the Workshop.

The Waterloo Recycling Workshop is happy to receive donations of furniture and non-electrical household items. Please bring to 1 Phillip Street on Friday mornings any time between 8.30am and 12pm, or contact Naomi Ward on 9516 1491.



Graham Long with Andrew Bartlett Photo: Katrina Mathieson

Cracking down on people smuggling: the Australian way?

TARA CLIFFORD

The Federal Government is in the process of making changes to refugee policy but, according to the former Australian Democratic leader, the majority of political party members are no wiser than ordinary citizens.

Andrew Bartlett, the only Australian parliamentarian to have visited every Detention Centre in Australia, voiced his concerns over attitudes to people smugglers at the Wayside Chapel in Kings Cross last month.

"Unless you are someone who focuses on this regularly you really don't have much more of an idea than other people," says Mr Bartlett.

The Government abolished the "45 day rule" to stop the discrimination of work rights on July 1 this year but legislation to scrap detention debts has still not been passed. "There has been a big improvement but this is purely a policy decision and is not yet covered by law," says Mr Bartlett.

Mr Bartlett says 90 per cent of the refugee debate centres around asylum seekers, but little attention is given to the system as a whole.

Refugee Advocacy Group, A Just Australia (AJA), says recent boat arrivals have again brought the issue into the media spotlight. The latest report by the UNHRC, the UN refugee agency, places Australia within the context of global trends of asylum seekers and refugees.

AJA says: "Statistics from UNHRC show that Australia's recent small increase in asylum arrivals are the same increases that all other countries are experiencing."

Both the AJA and Mr Bartlett promote the importance of people becoming more aware and taking action to support refugees, who they believe take such risks when they have exhausted all other options.

As part of the AJA's ongoing campaign, its complaint to the Australian Press Council about The Australian's incorrect use of the terms "illegal" and "illegal's" within four articles and an editorial to

Trouble in Darlinghurst

JO HOLDER

In May 2009, the Federal Government gifted \$70 million from the infrastructure program to develop the Garvan St Vincent's Campus Cancer Centre on Victoria Street in Darlinghurst. The stimulus has turned into a snatch and grab on local planning controls.

The developers, Garvan Institute and the private not-for-profit entity St Vincent's and Mater Health, quickly revised and submitted a new Concept Plan. The revision has dramatically increased the built form, height and bulk of an agreement negotiated with residents just three years ago.

The Research Precinct is bounded by the heritage streetscape Victoria Street and Liverpool and West Streets, which border a conservation area dominated by Victorian terraces. The new proposal has set the Cancer Clinic on Victoria Street at 11 storeys high, half as high again as the built Victor Chang Institute on Liverpool Street. The final part of the precinct, the Institute of Virology on West Street, is an additional storey higher.

The submission to the Department of Planning utterly disregards the recommendations of the 2006 Master Plan. Just three years ago, locals agreed to non-complying design principles for Victor Chang, conditional on a less voluminous building envelope for stage 2 and a stepping-back profile that respect the established scale of Victoria streetscape.

The built mass of the Precinct has increased by approximately 60 per cent. (Buildings A, B and C are increased from 21,572 to 34,345m2.) This is a remarkable increase of 73 per cent. The car park is enlarged from 289 to 500 vehicles. Yet the area is well served

by the 311 bus and Kings Cross Station.

Darlinghurst has a high level of heritage integrity. The major increase in building bulk and height will overshadow and damage the Heritage Streetscape, Heritage Conservation area and individually listed built items. As a final snub, they also want to demolish 'Pomona' a three-storey Victorian Filigree style terrace house.

Historic Darlinghurst Public School lies to the north east of the Precinct site. Adjacent also is the old St Vincent's Hospital, a three storey Victorian Free Classical style building (1867) and little Green Park with the famous bandstand pavilion. The proposal. This charming area will be overshadowed and diminished. Any wonder locals are furious at the betrayal of trust?

The developers are confident the NSW Department of Planning's Part 3A approval powers will tick off the proposal so construction can begin "within the year".

Why do the Partners propose to develop such a clinic when the Federal Government has already allocated \$100m to a Cancer Clinic at Prince Alfred Hospital, and the University of New South Wales is developing the Lowy Cancer Research Centre?

Unconfirmed reports say St Vincent's long-term partner University of NSW is rethinking its involvement in the third and final part of the development, the proposed Institute of Virology. In times of scarce resources world class facilities could be shared more equitably and thus one of these cancer clinics should be located either in regional New South Wales, for example in Wollongong or Newcastle.

It is the view of residents DRAG and Clover Moore MP that the approving authority and the Minister for Planning, Kristina Keneally should reject this opportunistic revision.

describe unauthorised boat arrivals in April 2009 has been upheld.

Mr Bartlett suggested the idea of Australia communicating with Malaysia and Indonesia in order to assess

desirables overseas as a possible means to decrease people smuggling. "I think we are far too unnecessarily apprehensive about people who come into the country, frankly," he said.

Somewhere over Labor's Rainbow...

AMANDA LEMAY, REBECCA LEMAY AND TOM MUNRO

The usual argy-bargy outside this year's ALP Conference over bread-and-butter policy issues gave way to wedding bells with 150 couples becoming "illegally wed" as part of a national day of action in support of same-sex marriage. Protesters came from all walks of life. Teenagers walked alongside elderly couples shouting slogans like, "Gay, Straight, Black, White, marriage is a civil right!" Colourful banners calling for equality were held high as they marched through the city.

The decision by the ALP not to ratify the Marriage Equity Amendment Bill 2009, which was tabled earlier this year by Greens Senator Sarah Henson-Young, was a bitter disappointment to all those who supported the campaign. But activists inside the party and a number of high profile MPs, including front-bencher Anthony Albanese, believe equality to be only a matter of time.

Peter Johnson, a spokesperson for Rainbow Labor, a group of grassroots activists that advocates for equal rights for the LGBTI community, said the group will continue to campaign to have the laws changed. Inside the conference, and in the lead-up, Rainbow Labor played a key role in advocating for Labor policy change.

"Rainbow Labor put motions in support of same-sex marriage and civil unions through a lot of ALP branches to garner widespread support. There were also discussions with affiliated unions and members of parliament," he said. "There were obviously some



Protestors call for equality Photo: Craig Hull

quite heated discussions around the wording of the motions between Rainbow Labor and some negotiations between the right and the left factions," he said. "The final motion which was brought to conference was moved by Anthony Albanese, removed some of the discriminatory language that said that no formal relationship recognition for same

sex couples should undermine or mimic marriage. The new wording says that Labor will perform a review of recognition of same-sex couples and try to find some federally consistent way to formally recognise same-sex couples."

Mr Johnson believes that while the outcome was a step towards having a bigger debate around same-sex marriage

recognition, it was not what they wanted in terms of full-recognition. "It's a case of saying that same-sex relationships shouldn't be recognised in the same way and aren't worth the same as a straight couple. As long as same-sex couples are denied the right to marriage then they are second-class relationships," he said.

In August 2004, under the Howard

government, same-sex marriage was banned in Australia. This made Australia the only industrialised nation to have banned same-sex marriage. Australia also refuses to recognise the unions of same-sex couples from such countries as Canada, Spain and the UK.

As it stands, Labor Party policy supports state-based relationship registers, but not marriage. Kevin Rudd has made his position clear. "We went to the last election being very clear-cut about our position on marriage, under the Marriage Act, being between a man and a woman," Mr Rudd said.

But Anthony Albanese, a senior minister in the Rudd Government, who supported the Marriage Equity Bill, believes there is a clear momentum for change. "When I proposed equality for same-sex couples in superannuation in 1997 ... that was a controversial issue. Today that is an issue of consensus," he said. "I believe that the issue of equality for all is something that is unstoppable."

A recent Galaxy Poll showed that over 60 per cent of Australians support gay marriage. The Bureau of Statistics announced in May that it would count same-sex couples who declared themselves married in the national census.

The widespread community support has certainly given heart to the movement. "Seeing those rallies not only in Sydney but across the nation was really exciting, not only for me personally, but for Rainbow Labor," Mr Johnson said.

The review into same-sex marriage is due to report in November.

To make a submission: Community Action Against Homophobia (www.caah.org.au).

"What's bin happening?"

Stephen
The Waste Team

In September, if you live in a house in the City of Sydney council area, we'll be collecting your old recycling crates and giving you new wheelie bins.

We're doing this because the new bins will help make it easier for you to recycle more. You'll no longer have to separate paper and cardboard from plastic, cans and glass.

All of it can go in one bin.

Depending on where you live, you may also get a new garbage bin and there may be changes to your collection days.

Why not check out our website to find out what changes are happening in your area?

**Visit zerowaste.org.au
Call 9265 9333**

Zero Waste is a proud initiative by the City of Sydney.





Lisa Burns, Executive Officer, and Marianne Todd, Housing Worker Photo: Ali Blogg

Newtown to lose housing worker

DOUGLAS DINGWALL

A local community centre has warned that Newtown's rough sleepers will increase after its housing assistance service is reduced next March.

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre (NNC) will lose its housing worker after funding for the position expires next year.

Suzanne Kuntz, volunteer manager at Our Place, a support centre in Enmore, said that the loss of NNC's housing worker will make it harder for the area's homeless to make successful housing applications.

"It's very important to have someone who knows the ins and outs of the whole

housing application system. We need someone who knows the best way to present our clients' case to Housing NSW so they're more likely to get housing," Ms. Kuntz said.

"It's such a competitive market for our clients, whether they're applying for housing or for low-price rental properties. It's tough out there and you need all the assistance you can get," she said.

Newtown's homeless will wait longer for permanent housing without NNC's help in applying for tenancy, forcing many to sleep in local parks, said Marianne Todd, the Centre's housing outreach and development worker.

Successful applicants wait at least two years for housing during the application

process, she said. In this period they resort to rough sleeping between short stays in board housing.

Lisa Burns, the Centre's Executive Officer, said: "Without a housing worker we just cannot give long-term, ongoing support to our clients' application process. We won't have the staff to run that process."

Housing NSW will instead provide housing assistance at the Centre two days a week.

City of Sydney Council has provided temporary funding for the position since October 2008. Ms Burns said that the Council has been generous in its funding.

NNC has handed out 50 swags to Newtown's rough sleepers this winter, according to Ms Todd.

SSH

Relieving the stress of housing affordability

ALEX FLEMING

The NSW Premier Nathan Rees has introduced a new planning policy which he claims will make it easier to build affordable housing. In a prepared statement the Premier declared he had made good on his pledge to relieve the stresses of inner-city housing affordability for moderate income earners.

The announcement came as Mr Rees and Minister for Planning Kristina Keneally visited a South Sydney development site to publicise the Affordable Rental Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP). Under the new system, low-rise developments such as townhouses are permitted in all suburban areas, with over half the residences offered at 20 per cent below market value for the next 10 years.

The changes will also mean that granny flats and other secondary dwellings are allowed in all residential zones, as well as fewer restrictions on the construction of boarding houses and disability group homes.

The SEPP is the fifth instalment of the Government's promise to implement major planning reform.

Mr Rees stated the policy would provide a strong incentive for developers to invest in the construction of affordable housing, which would benefit the larger community. "This increases the supply of affordable housing stock, and increases the supply of

rental housing overall, which drives down prices for everyone," the Premier said.

The move comes as more than 862,000 Australian households are experiencing housing stress, of which roughly 65 per cent are renting. In NSW alone almost 200,000 households with low to moderate incomes are spending more than 30 per cent of their income on rent.

Housing Minister David Borger reaffirmed the benefits the Government believes the scheme will have, helping to establish the right balance between public and private housing. "This

policy will help create healthier neighbourhoods by making it easier for

Government, NGOs and the private sector to deliver more low-cost rental housing," he said.

The changes have also been welcomed by Richard Perkins, Director of the non-profit organisation City West Housing, which works to secure long-term affordable housing for people within the South Sydney area. Mr Perkins said that although it was still early days, the scheme represented a move in the right direction towards opening up housing availability and options for moderate income earners.

"From our point of view it's a very positive step, as it means the money we do have will go that little bit further," Mr Perkins said. "But from a wider point of view these changes will make development and housing more affordable, with the overall hope that moderate income earners will be able to break the rental cycle and save up to own their own homes."

While the scheme has been welcomed by the local community, doubts have been raised over its effectiveness in a city characterised by unjustifiably expensive housing.

This is something that Darlington resident Cyndi Tebbel knows all too well, having been forced to perpetually relocate in what is becoming an increasingly unaffordable inner-city suburb. "Housing affordability in Darlington today is indicative of what has been happening throughout Sydney's inner-city neighbourhoods, where a shortage of rental properties and escalating rents is forcing long-term residents out of the area," Ms Tebbel said.

Despite Government efforts to control housing affordability the growing attractiveness of inner-city residency is pushing market prices to unprecedented levels - much to the lament of struggling residents like Ms Tebbel. "It won't be too many more years before this charming neighbourhood is just another inner-city enclave for the uber-wealthy and the lucky few public housing tenants. It was nice while it lasted."

SSH

Critique of school league tables

- continued from page 1

you can see that being dropped. That would be a real pity. There's [also] lots of drama and arts programs and music programs."

Mr Gauci said the publication of league tables could create unhealthy competition between schools. "You're

pitching schools against one another and what that does is, it undermines collegiality between teachers, and that's one of the strengths of our profession, the fact that teachers share their resources and their ideas within the school and then between schools as well."

SSH



National Tree Day (August 1) saw more than 100 native trees planted to create a new garden at Pine Street Creative Arts Centre in Chippendale. Photo: Esther Turnbull

9310
4927

Pepsee

CUT & COLOUR SALON

Style cuts for a great price for everybody
276 ABERCROMBIE ST DARLINGTON

24/7 access to cars parked nearby
Sydney and Melbourne
1300 769 389
www.goget.com.au





'Abercrombie Street at 5pm' by Michael Fairweather

Abercrombie, the forgotten street

SSH

Since the SSH article on Abercrombie Street Darlington in May, Councillor John McNerney has responded with a promise of some work in the area.

In June, as Geoff Turnbull reported in his Redfern-Waterloo Updates, "Clover Moore has made a walk around. Council Officers and the Office of the Lord Mayor have also met with some residents and shop owners to discuss some of the issues needing to be addressed."

Some of the residents at that meeting later canvassed with the SSH a range of ways in which the Council and the State Government could improve the Darlington area. Most of the residents couldn't see

why the Council wanted to make any changes to the park in Abercrombie Street. The park had always been used to exercise dogs and has a good playground, so no need to touch it. It was felt that a shared traffic zone from Shepherd Street to Lawson Street would be an advantage - slowing down traffic, making it easier for pedestrians and maybe adding customers to the shops in Abercrombie Street.

One resident reminded us about the promise of a pedestrian crossing over the railway line from the Water Towers to Ivy Street in Darlington. When the previous Redfern-Waterloo Authority CEO, Robert Domm, announced this idea at a meeting of business owners and residents at Ella's Café on an earlier occasion the idea was well received.

Uni music will disturb peace, say Darlo locals

NICHOLAS MCCALLUM

A recent Development Application to allow Union Square and parts of levels one and two of the Jane Foss Russel Building on City Road to become a place of entertainment throughout the week and on weekends is under review by Sydney City Council. Public exhibition ceased in July this year, but neighbours of Sydney University remain adamant that their voices be heard before they are drowned out by live music and other student activities.

Some Darlington residents have raised objections to the application on the grounds that it is yet another way that the University is infringing on the amenities of their suburb. Many of the concerns relate to the impact that live bands will have upon the neighbourhood if they are allowed to play from 5pm until midnight on Fridays and Saturdays as stated in the DA.

"No reasonable person would expect nor want amplified music introduced into their neighbourhood, particularly during the hours proposed," Darlington resident, John Berry, stated in a written objection to the Council.

Fellow resident and protestor, Patrick Maywood, is outraged at the apparent favouritism shown by Sydney Council toward the University. "I am a rate-paying

long-term resident of the formerly peaceful, quiet and family-friendly village of Darlington, and am absolutely opposed to Sydney University's attempt at destroying the peaceful and safe enjoyment of my home," his statement to Council reads.

One question raised by the objectors was why the University has chosen a site with close proximity to a residential area when more isolated areas are available.

However, University spokesperson, Andrew Potter, was quick to dismiss the protests of what he perceives to be a minute portion of the neighbourhood.

Mr Potter stated that that the proposed activities outlined in the DA would only be a continuation of current events that have been held within the same area for the past 40 years. The Wentworth Building is the home of Sydney University Union and Hermann's Bar, which is currently a place of live entertainment for students.

He also suggested that the DA is not about increasing the amount of noise that the University is allowed to create, but utilising the Union Plaza as a place for market stalls and other activities for students. It is also hoped that the public would utilise the site.

"This is not about doubling the activity - rather it is providing students with an alternative site on which to gather ... which is in fact further away from most residential properties than the Wentworth building," Mr Potter stated, adding that the

current proposal had already been outlined in the original DA.

Council inspectors expressed their approval of the site in July, giving permission for the University to proceed. John Berry is still questioning the University's argument that music played outside will not exceed existing levels. "How can they say they will be producing outdoors music and there not be increasing levels of noise?" he asked, wondering about the legalities and an apparent double standard of noise restrictions on private citizens that don't appear to apply the University.

Despite the University's attempts to invite the local community to take advantage of the new facilities, the outrage of Darlington residents stems from a greater fear of being squeezed out of existence.

Tensions will likely continue to boil as both parties await the State Government's decision on the development of the North Eveleigh site, which was given initial approval earlier this year. Many expect Sydney University to have a major stake in the site. Some Darlington residents understand that this would be favourable over a purely profit-seeking private developer.

But the tenuous relationship of these neighbours might mean that any future DAs will be greeted by even fiercer opposition. SSH

Amanda Robb reported in May some of the ideas raised by Mr Packham, owner of the Darlington News Agency. Mr Packham suggested that a lighting audit for the street is a must for the large number of pedestrians traveling between the train station and the university at night. One

other shop owner proposed the idea of creating a more communal feel in the area, such as a community notice board, facilitating an accessible focal point for local news and events.

Mr Packham stated: "Darlington is a blank canvas with positive potential. We

are being neglected, and it is time our voice was heard, and action taken." SSH

.....
Council will release its Draft Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Plan for Darlington, from September 2. Details on Council's website for feedback until September 25.

A PAIR OF CHAIRS
by Kim Stewart

www.apairofchairs.com ~ 80 Regent St, Redfern, NSW ~ 0416 016 151
Present this ad and receive 10% discount on any purchase in September 2009

Local Action Plans

Matching Grants Program

Submissions for Community Heritage and History projects are now being accepted.

Matched funding up to \$10,000

Images: City of Sydney Archives

Ideas? Questions? Comments?
Contact the City's Project Coordinator (Local Action Plans) on: **9265 9217** or email **laps@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au**

For more information see the City's website **cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/matchinggrants**

Closing Date: 6:00pm Monday 12 October 2009.

city of villages



Have You Heard?

THE FAST NEWS

WITH TREVOR DAVIES

Rosebery, the "people's paradise"

The Rosebery Resident Action Group newsletter includes snippets of Rosebery History. There is a piece I thought people might find interesting: "In Britain at the turn of the 20th century a movement started in reaction to the squalid, unhealthy living conditions of many people in the tenements and back-to-back terraces of the inner cities. The idea was to start from scratch, creating 'garden cities', self-contained towns where detached houses had room for gardens, 'room to live and breathe'. The towns were to include sections for shops and factories close by so the residents could walk to work and market. This movement saw the establishment of three garden *suburbs*, rather than garden *cities*. Haberfield, where the homes were all in the fashionable Federation style of the time and Daceyville, where the Government architect opted for English-style architecture. The third was the Rosebery Industrial and Model Suburb of 1912. It stretched from Epsom Road to Gardeners Road, incorporating 'wide-spaced homes with adjacent factories for the residents. The building of Rosebery was interrupted by the First World War, resulting in the mix of pre-war Federation style homes and post-war Californian bungalow style homes we see today."

Newtown gets a new station – Redfern waits

Most inner-city residents are no doubt pleased that Newtown will finally have a new station with disabled access. The money comes from the State Budget. Redfern will have to wait. Why? Because, we are told, the money for Redfern's upgrade has to come from the sale of North Eveleigh. No-one can adequately explain why Redfern's upgrade is tied to the sale of North Eveleigh. Especially when we are constantly told that Redfern is the third largest in the System. With the Global Financial Crisis our upgrade may be a long time coming. Fast News can remember a meeting in Redfern Town Hall in 1997 when a RailCorp spokesperson said that nothing would happen until 2007. It's now 2009, and not much is happening. Perhaps there is a lesson here. Our Government needs to be demanding action from RailCorp and even be prepared to lend the money to RailCorp. Which could be repaid when North Eveleigh is finally sold!

Newtown Performing Arts gets a new creative space

Minister for Education, Verity Firth, joined the Member for Marrickville, Carmel Tebutt, last week to open a new \$2 million creative space at the Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. The new performing arts facility was named in honour of former Principal, Robin Amm, and P&C leader, the late Philomena Murphy. Ms Firth said the NSW Government was very proud to support the project with its contribution of over \$1.43 million. "Our children deserve the best school facilities we can provide," she said. "That's why our Government has committed

more than \$2 billion over four years to deliver the largest state-funded public education and training capital works program ever undertaken in NSW. Newtown Performing Arts is a much cherished part of the cultural fabric of the Inner-West. The school is wrapped up in the unique social and creative landscape of the local community, which adds so much to the strength of the school and the experience of its students."

Lotto - the battle is not over

A few months ago, we carried the story of the David-and-Goliath struggle between the NSW Newsagents Association and the Government over the future of NSW Lotto. The Government has put it on the market. There was a series of meetings involving the Executive of the NSW Newsagents Association and the Government. Then came the announcement that the State Government would give a guarantee that no form of business, other than newsagencies, would be permitted to sell lottery products for three years after the sell-off. The Newsagents Association says that, for the initial two years of any new owner, the lottery operator would have to give only six months' notice to a newsagent if it wanted to take away its right to sell lottery products. After five years, the operator would not have to give a newsagent any notice at all, the Association claims. Association Chairperson, Stan Cousins, says that the provision would allow the operator to close all existing lottery agencies in five years and re-open them in other retail venues such as supermarkets. He likened the prospect of newsagents losing the right to sell lottery products to a service station being told it can no longer sell fuel. "NSW and ACT lottery agents need more business tenure than three years to achieve return on their investment and satisfy other business commitments," Mr Cousins said. "Whilst we understand the Government's business case for transferring the license (to a private operator), the Association cannot let this happen at the expense of the network's small businesses."

Housing that's affordable – we need more!

Alex Fleming reports in this issue that the State Government has introduced amendments to the Planning Act to make affordable housing more doable. Now the City of Sydney has introduced an amendment to its planning policies to enable the City West Housing Company to build affordable rental housing across the City of Sydney area. Clover Moore, in her email newsletter, says that affordable housing is accommodation for people on low to moderate incomes, including "key workers" such as teachers, police officers, nurses, cleaners and service, retail and hospitality workers. Failure to ensure an adequate level of affordable housing would lock essential low-income workers out of the city as housing prices and rents become increasingly unaffordable. Fast News overheard a conversation in a shop in Redfern where a woman was complaining that she couldn't afford to buy a house in Redfern so instead she's bought a house in Roseville!



Redfern Street from Regent Street Photo: Supplied

Bush wallabies in Redfern?

GERALDINE O'BRIEN

Who could imagine Redfern as a place of swamps, creeks, stands of eucalypts and swamp mahogany, alive with ducks, broilgas and bush wallabies? Or as a place of extensive market gardens whose produce was "unrivalled in excellence"? Or as the hub of such intensive industry that three quarters of Sydney's industrial workforce laboured within a one-mile radius of Redfern Station?

These were some of the images conjured up when the City of Sydney organised a day of walks and talks at Redfern Town Hall to celebrate the area's 150th anniversary of incorporation as a municipality.

Lisa Murray, the Acting City Historian, and Heidi Norman, the 2006 Indigenous History Fellow, gave a series of talks throughout the morning and early afternoon, ranging from 'The Gardens and Nurseries of Redfern' to 'The Black

Heart of Redfern – Aboriginal People in 20th Century Redfern'.

In between these lively talks, a keen group of participants was led on a short walking tour by historian Mark Dunn of leading heritage consultants Godden Mackay Logan (based in George Street).

Mr Dunn's research provided explanations for some local mysteries. For instance, the 19th-century house on Redfern Street, which has what looks like a sub-station incongruously stuck on the front, was the home of a bank manager who decided to open a branch in his own front yard!

And Dunn dispelled a couple of local myths as well. The transported mutineer, Dr William Redfern, for whose land grant the suburb is named, never actually lived here, though he owned 100 acres between Cleveland, Regent, Phillip and Elizabeth Streets.

And contrary to popular belief, George and Pitt Streets have never been connected to their City counterparts.

Lisa Murray also told of the privately owned Albert Cricket Ground, set between Elizabeth and Moorehead Streets, a block east of Redfern Oval. It opened in 1864 and was one of Sydney's most important recreational and sporting grounds. And she told how John Baptist (who donated the fountain in Redfern Park) prospered so well from his veggie gardens that he ended up owning 37 houses in Surry Hills and another 25 in Redfern. So, presumably, he could well afford the fountain!

The Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, paid tribute to the many diverse layers of Redfern, hailing it as a unique urban village, with its mix of Indigenous culture, public housing tenants, immigrants, students and artists.

Lisa Murray is writing a history of Redfern, Waterloo and Alexandria, to be published next year. She wants to hear from residents, former residents and people with photos, memorabilia or stories about the area. Contact her at the City of Sydney.

SSH

Remember Glebe? My message to 2109

NEIL WHITFIELD

You folks probably don't remember when Glebe was one of the "City of Villages" and Clover Moore, our Lord Mayor, had this capsule buried. Yes, the narrow spit of Glebe was once a peninsula! (Sorry we squibbed so badly on climate change, people.)

A colourful place, the old Glebe. Work took me there from Wollongong in 1977 to Alexandria Road – no water views then. Heard of the Bodyline Tour? I lived opposite George Borwick, the cricket umpire in Sydney back in the 1930s and heard a lot about that from him and about life in Glebe going back 40 or 50 years. Next door: Jorge Campano, a Spanish guitarist so good that when he practised I just turned off everything and listened. Then neighbour John Waterford, a former prisoner in

Changi and on the Burma Railway, with no hatred for the Japanese. He and his family opened my eyes to politics. I met famous Labor politician Peter Baldwin through them later on. Glebe politics has always been colourful.

Lots was happening: the Church of England's old lands (or "glebes") which go right back to the First Fleet chaplain Richard Johnson, had been turned into a landmark public housing restoration where they preserved the buildings instead of building more tower blocks. Gough Whitlam did that. Great, but governments change, and the project, while still there, has passed to other hands. There was a first too: Elsie, the Women's Refuge, which had dramas including at least one shooting episode.

I was back again in 1981. After a while circumstances took me to a kind of doss house close to Harold Park, a bay in your time I believe. They used to

have the trots there in those days. Hard to believe, isn't it? But then the Gadigal could have told you that Glebe was once 15km inland compared to what it was in my day, and not on the edge of Sydney Harbour at all.

I sure met colourful personalities in that doss house. The stoned artist who kept painting the same painting on the same canvas. The schizophrenic Aboriginal woman who ended up making a lot of sense, really. She was a member of the Stolen Generation. The retired burglar with whom I wandered back alleys at times, amazed by his powers of observation. The Catholic priest who was a friend of Redfern's Ted Kennedy. The writer who invited me to become a cocaine import drop box (I said no). Real Peter Corris territory!

So many memories ...

(I didn't really put this in the time capsule.)

SSH



Redfern Street from Regent Street Photo: Ali Blogg

Redfern's future prospects

PAM DAGWELL

A stroll along Redfern Street late in the afternoon belies the fact that this centre of the old iconic suburb whose name it bears is only a stone's throw from the CBD of one of the world's biggest and fastest-growing cities.

Pedestrians and traffic are scarce, doner kebabs, fish and chips and pizzas are plentiful and the pub on the corner proudly displays a Rabbitohs banner. An old-fashioned shoe repair shop fits in with the quaint, low-roofed hardware over the road.

The Redfern Business Precinct study commissioned by City of Sydney Council has just been released. The 114-page report concentrates on the Redfern town centre and suggests strategies for bringing the area back from a 40-year economic decline.

At the August 10 City Council meeting, Greens Councillor Irene Doughty moved a point-by-point motion, seconded by Independent Councillor John McInerney, to implement the recommendations of the report. The motion was carried unanimously.

"Council has committed \$17,880 that was remaining in the Business Support Program funds to the Redfern project," Cr Doughty said. "We are about to appoint a Local Business Co-ordinator who will work out of Redfern. We will look at giving permission for monthly markets in Redfern Park and encouraging Aboriginal enterprises such as an art gallery and bookshop to showcase contemporary Aboriginal culture."

"The Redfern Waterloo Authority (RWA) is writing to local business owners urging them to 'come on board'. We will ask for shop shutters to be removed or have public art displays on those that can't be," she added. "I have lived in Redfern for a long time and I am very optimistic about the area."

The report outlines six strategies for the renewal process: a Targeted Tenancy Plan, a Brand and Marketing Strategy, Physical Place Improvement, an Events program, a Business Place Manager appointment, and initiatives to improve the social character of Redfern.

Councillor Marcelle Hoff reminded the Lord Mayor of previous Council support for the return of six one-way streets in Redfern to two-way traffic flow. Regent and Gibbons Streets bisect Redfern Street and Cr Hoff said there is community support for the change. While no commitment has yet been made by the RTA or the RWA, the report says both State bodies consider the proposal feasible. The removal of clearway conditions and the resulting limited parking would also encourage more people to stop rather than drive through the area.

Geoff Turnbull of REDWatch (a prominent community group set up to monitor Redfern and surrounding suburbs) is on the executive of the Chamber of Commerce and is also a long-time resident of Redfern. He is happy with the report up to a point. "There is too much concentration on Redfern and Regent Streets," he said. "The broader circle of Darlington needed to be included and Waterloo public housing residents use Redfern Street, too. I don't believe the report paints a good picture of Redfern Street and that is not altogether justified."

Mr Turnbull and Cr Doughty both applaud the fact that most of the major stakeholders in the area are now working together. "The RWA, the Chamber of Commerce, The Redfern Business Association, Council, South Sydney Rugby League are all communicating. The new CEO of the RWA, Ray Wakelin-King, is enthusiastic and consultative and present at every community meeting," Cr Doughty said.

The negative safety concerns highlighted by the report may be more perceptual than real, according to the owner of Seasonal Concepts, the flowers and old wares and gifts shop that opened on Redfern Street in late July. Ken Wallis owns the 150-year-old building from which his shop operates and has lived upstairs for almost three years. "We lived in Surry Hills and Darlinghurst previously. I certainly don't feel less safe here. The area feels cleaner than it used to and things have changed since the Redfern riot days but I do think that Redfern needs a 'shake-up'," Mr Wallis said. "We need to give people a reason to shop here, more variety. A lot of the food shops are closed

by 3pm. There is nowhere for people to stop for a bite to eat on the way to the station, for instance. Still, so far business is good."

Vitaly Pertasis is the pharmacist/manager of the Gold Cross Pharmacy on Redfern Street. "We stay open until 9pm at night and we don't have a lot of security issues anymore," Mr Pertasis said. "The area is changing with more and more young families moving in. There are all kinds of nationalities - Indian, Russian, Lebanese, Greek, and Indigenous Australians living together here. Many customers say they would like to see a local supermarket because they don't have cars and have to walk or catch public transport to do their shopping."

Mikaele Saili moved to Australia 15 years ago from Western Samoa. He is a boilermaker and has lived in public housing in Redfern for three-and-a-half years. "There is trouble from time to time near where we live but we keep to ourselves," Mr Saili said. "My wife would like a supermarket and butcher close by and I would like to see a gymnasium. It would help people to 'let off steam'," he added.

The 2006 ABS Census shows the percentage of public housing to all housing as 29 per cent and nearby Waterloo as 92 per cent. Geoff Turnbull wants government bodies such as DOCS, Housing NSW, and Mental Health to better co-ordinate the human services they deliver. "It is not just about funding. The important question is, how do government departments service the needs of the high priority residents they have placed in public housing?"

Cr Doughty is confident that the State Government consent finally given to the Pemulwuy Project will help attract new businesses to the area. "There will be 62 units of housing, an elders' centre, a gymnasium, mothers and children centre and more in a major redevelopment of the Block," she said. "I am concerned, though, that the public housing community of Redfern is not disadvantaged in the gentrification process. We don't just want expensive shops - we need affordable cafes, vintage clothing shops and second-hand bookstores. The whole community has to benefit from the revitalisation."

ADVERTISEMENT



Kristina Keneally MP

MEMBER
FOR HEFFRON



Photo: Tanya Plibersek MP, AHC CEO Mr Mick Mundine and Kristina Keneally MP

Pemulwuy Project to breathe new life into The Block

I was recently joined by the Member for Marrickville, Carmel Tebbutt MP, the Federal local member for Sydney, Tanya Plibersek MP, and City of Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore to announce the approval of the \$60 million Pemulwuy Project Concept Plan for The Block. This exciting project stands to deliver 300 jobs, 62 homes and over 9,000 square metres of commercial uses, shops and community and cultural space.

The NSW Government through the Department of Planning have worked closely with the Aboriginal Housing Company (AHC) throughout the assessment process. I would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work that has delivered a plan to create a vibrant, safe and sustainable community.

I would also like to thank everyone who responded to the public exhibition of the plans, which resulted in a number of amendments to improve the proposal including ensuring the design will meet a minimum 4.5 star Australian Building Greenhouse Rating.

The Block has played an important role in the history of Redfern and in our local community. This project will support and complement its history while delivering jobs and upgrading community cultural and educational facilities.

Further information regarding this important project is available at www.ahc.org.au/redevelop/redevelop.html

Kristina Keneally MP
Member for Heffron

Shop 117, 747 Botany Road, Rosebery NSW 2018
Phone: (02) 9699 8166 Fax: (02) 9699 8222
Email: kristina.keneally@parliament.nsw.gov.au



New-look Redfern RSL. Artist's Impression: Supplied

Redefining Redfern RSL

ROBERT MORRISON

The Redfern Returned Servicemen's League Board is in the final stages of negotiating plans with developers for the RSL site's new upgrades. While there are reportedly a few options, it appears the land will be bought by design and construction company, Dei Corp, who has entered into a contract with the RSL to purchase the land.

The negotiations started when early last year Redfern RSL announced it would undergo developments so as to provide new premises for current members and also coax new members to the club.

The proposed site would see the construction of an 18-storey mixed-use facility, of which the RSL would occupy the first level. There would be shops on the ground floor, fronting Gibbons and Redfern Street, and commercial offices would take up the second and third floors. Apartments would make up the upper levels. This proposal is in stark

contrast to the current two-levelled RSL building.

Dei Corp Project Manager, Greg Colbran, feels that the history and character of Redfern RSL can be retained. "We need to work with Redfern RSL authority so as to keep the character of the RSL in the public domain," says Mr Colbran. "That is something that Dei Corp has very well in mind. We understand the history of Redfern and we want the new developments not only to give back to the community but also show off Redfern Street."

Sitting upon 1638 square metres of prime real estate, directly opposite Redfern Station, the Redfern RSL has joined a number of other clubs capitalising on their capital. The Redfern decision comes after the Souths Leagues Club announced a \$35 million deal between property developer Trivest and South Sydney Rabbitohs that will see the construction of a new club combined with 10,000 square metres of commercial space.

Similarly, the Tigers Leagues Club in Rozelle is currently in negotiations with Leichhardt Council over proposed developments on that site.

While the nature of numerous local clubs is heading towards multi-use facilities, Mr Colbran feels this is just a sign of the adaptive qualities of our clubs. "[Today] clubs need to look towards diversification to survive, but that's not a bad thing. I think they're moving forward, they're moving with change."

While it has not been confirmed that Dei Corp will be the company "moving" the Redfern RSL site "forward", it is looking increasingly likely. "Nothing has been confirmed at present," says Aub Silcock, Redfern RSL Board Chairman. "[But] until such time, it's business as usual."

The Board of Redfern RSL met on August 24 and confirmed the arrangement with the developer. The Club closes in December with construction to start in early 2010.

Cycleway by RPA

FLINT DUXFIELD

The City of Sydney has rejected calls for a "no cycle zone" in front of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

The South West Sydney Area Health Service called for the zone late last year in response to Council's plans to build a two-way bicycle path along the city side of Missenden Road. In a letter to Council, Area Health Service Chief Executive, Mike Wallace, said the cycleway would pose a threat to hospital staff and patients, many of whom are disabled or elderly. "The capacity of these people to avoid collision with a cyclist ... is seriously impaired. There are regular and many complaints regarding cyclist behaviour in and around the site ... so it is inconceivable that their behaviour will be any better on the cycle path," Mr Wallace said.

But in a statement released last Tuesday, spokesperson for Council, Amy Glancey, confirmed that the "no cycle zone" was no longer being considered. "Interaction between motor vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians in front of the hospital will be managed without requiring cyclists to dismount in this zone," Ms Glancey said.

According to the Council the cycleway, which will run down the city side of Missenden Road and Lyons Road, will

provide an important link between the Wilson Street cycleway and the Glebe foreshore.

Bike Sydney Vice President, Andrew Dodds, welcomed the Council's decision, labelling the proposed no ride zone as "ludicrous". "If the Council wants this cycleway to work ... it needs to flow, otherwise you won't get people using it. Cars and semi-trailers continue to use Missenden Road every day. To say that cyclists pose more of a threat to patient or pedestrians safety than them is ridiculous."

But the Pedestrian Council of Australia (PCA) says the new cycleway would pose a problem for pedestrians, particularly along the shared cycle footpath which will run along Carillion Avenue to join Missenden Road cycleway. "Having cyclists riding on the same footpath as pedestrians is ... a recipe for disaster," said PCA Chairperson, Harold Scruby. "There are no speed limits on these shared paths and anyone hit by a cyclist can't claim insurance as they could if they were hit by a car."

The Missenden Road cycleway is part of a \$70 million Council project which will see 55 kilometres of dedicated bike paths built over the next three years. Construction on the cycleway is expected to begin in March next year.

SSH

SKYLINE PRINT & DESIGN

INSTANT PRINTING, BUSINESS CARDS & MORE

Shop 2, 100 Regent St, Redfern NSW 2016

Phone 02 9698 0088

mail@auskyline.com

www.auskyline.com

FREE BUSINESS ADVICE

Redfern-Waterloo area

Starting a new business? Growing an existing business?

Confidential, professional advice

Redfern-Waterloo Business Advice Service

Bookings 02 9202 9100



ART YOUR SERVICE

- PICTURE FRAMING • FOOTY JUMPER SPECIAL \$150
- SPECIALISING IN SPORTS MEMORABILIA

22 GARDENERS RD, KINGSFORD, NSW 2032

Phone 02 9663 4995

Female English Bulldog Puppy For Sale

\$500 (Shipping not included).

Vet checked, up-to-date shots & worming.

Home-raised with children in loving environment.

Contact: Breeders_Dollies003@yahoo.com

Getting to know Roy Wakelin-King

DOROTHY MCRAE-MCMAHON

We stand at the windows of Roy Wakelin-King's office and there is no doubt that he, like us, loves the view – Redfern stretching out towards the city. In fact, one of the strongest impressions which runs through our conversation with him is that he truly enjoys his work and his interactions with the community around him.

Roy took up his position as CEO of the Redfern Waterloo Authority around six months ago. He has academic qualifications in Business Management from UTS and in Professional Studies from the University of New England. After 12 years in the army, much of which involved work in relation to transport, Roy has held a number of NSW Government positions, also mostly connecting with transport. Then, last year, he was the Chief Executive Officer for the World Youth Day Co-ordination Authority – a position which he thoroughly enjoyed, even though he is not a Catholic.

He was attracted to the RWA position because he felt it would be exciting to be part of something which is focussed on renewal. He felt the energy of what he describes as “the small but highly capable team” of people with whom he would be working and was impressed by the variety of stake-holders in the projects and the many issues involved.

He felt he could be part of “a moment in time”, a piece of history where a diverse community could walk together towards change and creative development.

The variety of new initiatives taking place now are both challenging and promising in Roy's view. The opening of Channel Seven, with its affirmation of the area and the adding of more than 2,000



Roy Wakelin-King Photo: Ali Blogg

new workers into the community, the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence which will open in November, the new RSL Club and a number of initiatives in relation to affordable housing are just a few of these.

He sees it as his job to encourage the departments and corporations concerned

to integrate with the community as they establish their new projects. In this, Roy has been impressed by the “buzzing vibe” of groups like the Community Safety Meeting, REDWatch and the Chamber of Commerce alongside the general hospitality of people.

He believes that often small things become big things – like the exploring of

the diminishing of the roller shutter image in the shopping areas. So much is about perception when people enter an area.

He feels that underlying all that is happening is the sense of “ownership”, the lives and stories of people who have lived and worked here for many decades. They have “grounded” the community

and made important cultural and spiritual attachments. This reality is part of both the opportunity and the challenges in what lies in the future for Redfern Waterloo as the old and new come together – a delicate balancing act. Undoubtedly, Roy Wakelin-King will be an enthusiastic and respectful participant in that journey. SSH

Big heart for The Big Issue

LAURA BANNISTER

It is a sun-drenched Wednesday morning and the grounds of Sydney University are flooded with students, spilling en masse out of lecture theatres and into the cluttered streetscape. In the midst of the bustle, sitting patiently beside a small trolley packed with glossy printed paper, is a man clad in a floppy wide-brim hat and bright yellow vest.

As he has done for the past 12 years, Bill Ford smiles patiently at passers-by. When someone approaches him, his face springs to life; a five-dollar note is exchanged for a copy of *The Big Issue* magazine.

One of the oldest hands there is, Bill has been working for the venerated street publication since its inception, and even sold the second ever copy in Sydney. After following one of his first customers to the University and realising the vast selling potential, Bill has set up fort there ever since, dividing his time between the Darlington campus and Central Station.

Before our interview begins, a campus security guard heralds the vendor eagerly from afar. “You're a fair dinkum Aussie, Bill! Moved spots this morning for another mob I see.” He pauses to shake the firm, sunburnt hand, before continuing, “But everyone knows you here. You're a foundation. If they don't know you, they haven't been here long!”

The University has been Bill's unique market domain for longer than anyone can remember. His shrewdness, assertive nature and contagious vitality of spirit make him a renowned figure amongst the University staff and students. “Other vendors have tried to sell here but they don't last long,” Bill says. “It's sometimes



Bill Ford doing his job Photo: Ali Blogg

tough but I come out rain or shine. It doesn't matter what the weather is like or how I feel that day. Nothing stops me.”

Having moved constantly throughout his childhood and youth, Bill first started selling the publication when he found himself homeless. After moving between several boarding houses, funded by his newfound income, he finally secured

enough money to rent a small studio apartment in Annandale.

Nowadays, Bill's proudest achievement is a throng of regular customers who have stuck by him through the toughest of situations. He has witnessed the booming sales of his publication to the extent that a courier would drop him off extra boxes whilst he sold them, and now must face

the fact that many of his buyers have become redundant themselves.

In spite of the difficulties he has faced and will continue to face, the veteran vendor is optimistic. To Bill, selling *The Big Issue* isn't just a job; it is a way of life. “It's my reason to get out of bed in the morning. It gives me something to do each day and lets me talk to people.

You've got to get out and enjoy the world while you can.”

The Big Issue exists to offer homeless and vulnerably housed people the opportunity to earn a legitimate income. Like other vendors, Bill buys the magazines in bulk from Head Office and keeps half the cover price of each one he sells. SSH



COMMENT

Community consultation, the State Government way

ROSS SMITH

I saw an advertisement for a State Government Community Cabinet in the local paper and rang the number. I was given a 15-minute timeslot for a one-on-one meeting with the Minister of my choice. I turned up at the appointed time. I located the person that I had spoken to on the phone and had my name checked on the list. So far, so good.

I sat down on one of the chairs in the waiting area and watched as various people came into the room. There were all types, ranging from business-suited professionals to a slightly bemused little old lady. Eventually a person came in, on time, and called my name. I was ushered into another room with individual tables. I was shown to a table where the State Government Minister I had wanted

to see was seated. There also was a ministerial and a departmental staffer at the table. I was introduced and sat down. I was able to talk directly with the Minister. His staffer took notes whilst the departmental staff supplied answers when appropriate. The Minister said that there would be a report back to me on the matters I raised, in four weeks.

Another part of the Community Cabinet meeting took place later that afternoon when groups were able to talk with the individual ministers. The final part of the Community Cabinet meeting process happened that evening when there was a Town Hall type general meeting where information was supplied to the audience and some questions taken from the floor.

The contrast between this process and the process followed by the City of Sydney Council was very marked. The ability to make an appointment to

talk with a particular Minister was a pleasant change from turning up on the day, taking pot-luck that the Councillor chairing a particular committee would be in attendance, getting on the end of a queue, and hoping that you would get to the head of the queue whilst there was still some time left out of the scheduled 45 minutes before being herded into a hall to listen to presentations for an hour and a half.

Perhaps the City of Sydney Council should take a leaf from the NSW Government's book when consulting with the community, the very group which employs them. The Community Cabinet actually wanted to hear from the community and provide substantive responses to issues raised by the community. The primary purpose of the whole process was to listen to the community, not to brief them on decisions already made. SSH

Homeless, not hopeless

HELEN KWIECIEN

I was walking down the main road in my inner-west Sydney neighbourhood, watching the hustle and bustle on a sunny day and in good spirits. I came across a woman I see begging most days with dirty cracked feet and a toothless smile.

She looked hopefully at me, ready to ask the same old question, but before I could mutter one of many excuses that came to mind, a young man walked between us, struck up a friendly conversation with her, offered a cigarette and sat down with her on the kerb. Shame washed over me as I realised that I had had many opinions about her without even knowing her, and that I had failed to show her the common courtesy of a smile or a "Hello". Have you ever paused to consider what causes you to fix your gaze to the ground and walk by someone who is homeless?

She's a leech on society, sucking up my taxes - He'll only spend it on drink on drugs - It's not my problem, it's the government's - Walking by is easier than stopping - Homelessness is a life choice, she wants to be on the streets - It's just too confronting - Nits jump - I don't want to endanger myself - His

smell makes me feel sick - I'm still skint, ask someone else for a change.

I compiled this collection of thoughts from intelligent, educated people, some of whom are colleagues or friends, and I began to wonder how and why such people (including myself) could be so judgemental, so suspicious? The next time I saw the aforementioned woman, I asked her how she was doing, and now I regularly offer her my time, without seeing her as a problem or somebody who wants to bleed me dry, but as someone who has been dealt a bad hand and has the potential to turn herself around. Imagine you are running a race around a track in a large stadium and all the spectators expect you to come last. They might not even say anything, but their eyes, their body language and their silence says it all. Do you think that you would have the remotest chance of winning?

I was compelled to form a small group of people dedicated to transforming the global perception of homeless people (a tall task, I know). We have begun making a film entitled, *What's Your Happy Ending?* and are talking to people at different stages of homelessness in both Sydney and Melbourne as well as government figures in the homeless sectors. We are committed to making a

difference in this area and are protective of the homeless people portrayed in our footage. We are also tired of seeing hunched over and helpless images of the homeless in exploitative and dangerous media pieces which reveal the location and identity of individuals, thus placing them at risk.

Something that particularly resonated for me was meeting with an ex-homeless man who now works selling *The Big Issue* and lives in the Blue Mountains. He ran away from home to escape horrific sexual abuse and sought escape in drugs and alcohol. We asked him what the turning point was for him and what prompted him to get on the road to recovery. He told us about a day when an average working city man (married with three children) stopped for a chat without trying to fix him or throw money at him, and without judgement. They struck up a friendship and the fact that his new friend recognised his worth as a human being allowed him to see it in himself. He has now been clean for years and hopes to work with people who have been through similar experiences. Note: he now has hope. That's my happy ending. What's yours? SSH

.....
If you would like to get involved or have something to say on the subject, please email me at wylhappyending@hotmail.com

EDITORIAL

In South Sydney we live among an intriguing mix of the old and the new. In his interview with the SSH, Roy Wakelin-King of the Redfern Waterloo Authority (p. 9) notes that, and suggests that this invites a careful journey into the future. In producing her latest play, *Elderflowers*, Alana Valentine has gathered together the memories in many lives of long-term residents in the area. They are moving and funny, sad and celebratory - true imaging of the incredible variety of histories which have joined together here. The play reading at South Sydney Uniting Church on September 19 (3pm) is just one of several events comprising The Older and Wiser Festival 2009. Mercy Arms in Waterloo presents *The Last Hundred Yards*, a documentary film about four local "Elders", on the green between the Turanga and Matawai buildings, on Friday September 4 at 5.30pm (full list of events on pg 11). All the great cities in the world have, at their best, tried to hold the beauty and wonder of the past in buildings and cultures into a respectful merging with what is new, so that they truly add to what is there rather than take from it. Perhaps more than any suburban part of Sydney, ours is one which faces critical choices in that respect.

FAITH

God's place in the Dreaming

ALISTAIR MACRAE

Fifteen years ago, the Uniting Church in Australia made an apology to the Indigenous people of this land and handed over a substantial amount of its capital and properties to them, including some in Redfern, as a sign of its commitment to Reconciliation. Now, at its recent National Assembly, the Church has become one of the first churches in the world to move even further. Its National President, the Reverend Alistair Macrae tells the story.

The Uniting Church recently became the first major Christian denomination in Australia to commence processes to formally acknowledge, in the Preamble to its Constitution, Australia's traditional owners and their pre-existing relationship with the Creator God. The Church also acknowledged its complicity in dispossessing the First People of Australia from their land, culture and spirituality.

The Preamble was overwhelmingly supported by members of the 12th Triennial Assembly and, according to Uniting Church processes for constitutional change, will now be referred back to the State Synods and Presbyteries for further consideration.

While some concern has been expressed about the acknowledgement of Indigenous peoples having a pre-existing relationship with the Creator God, this concern is misplaced.

Aboriginal Christians are endeavouring to hold together two realities in their experience - the truth of their convictions about and experience of Jesus Christ, and the enduring power and place of their traditional law, traditions and ceremonies.

Christian mission has, with rare exceptions, tended to condemn Indigenous practice and spirituality wholesale but failed to apply a similar critique to the dominant European culture.

This tendency was evident even as we deliberated about the Preamble and may have tripped us up were it not for the commitment from everyone to deal openly with the hard truths of our own histories. Representatives of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, the Indigenous arm of the Church, repeatedly emphasised that they weren't interested in guilt or shame but in a truthful statement

about the mixed legacy Christian mission has left their people.

When Rev. Ken Sumner, Congress Chairperson, told the Assembly, "Sometimes we struggle to see God in you," it was a gentle rebuke considering the extent to which the Church's complicity in policies of assimilation and child removal, among others, has had such destructive impacts on the First Australians.

The Church's proposed Preamble now acknowledges the obvious: that God was here before European settlement. The Christian claim that God is "fully and finally" revealed in Jesus Christ is affirmed in the Preamble, and by members of the Congress.

Throughout history great evil has been perpetrated when the church has failed to acknowledge the limitation of its understanding of the mind and will of God. Good theology brings deep humility to its task.

There nonetheless remain some significant questions for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Church members. For example, at what point does God's revelation in Jesus Christ affirm or challenge values and practices in any culture?

Without idealising one culture or demonising another, how can we arrive at a shared account of "truth" (in this case the truth of the mixed impact of Christian mission on Indigenous peoples) in ways that offer a sure foundation upon which to build further reconciliation; and to deepen understanding and partnership?

The Uniting Church has embarked on a journey of truth-telling in relation to Indigenous peoples which began with a formal apology in 1994.

Fourteen years later many Australians were moved and relieved when Prime Minister Kevin Rudd apologised to the First Australians, acknowledging the truth of what had happened to them on behalf of the Federal Government.

I hope that members of the Uniting Church will continue to lay a foundation of truth that will set us free, to address more effectively the massive challenges facing Australia's Indigenous peoples, and to identify and overcome the significant obstacles to meaningful reconciliation in this land. SSH

READERS' LETTERS

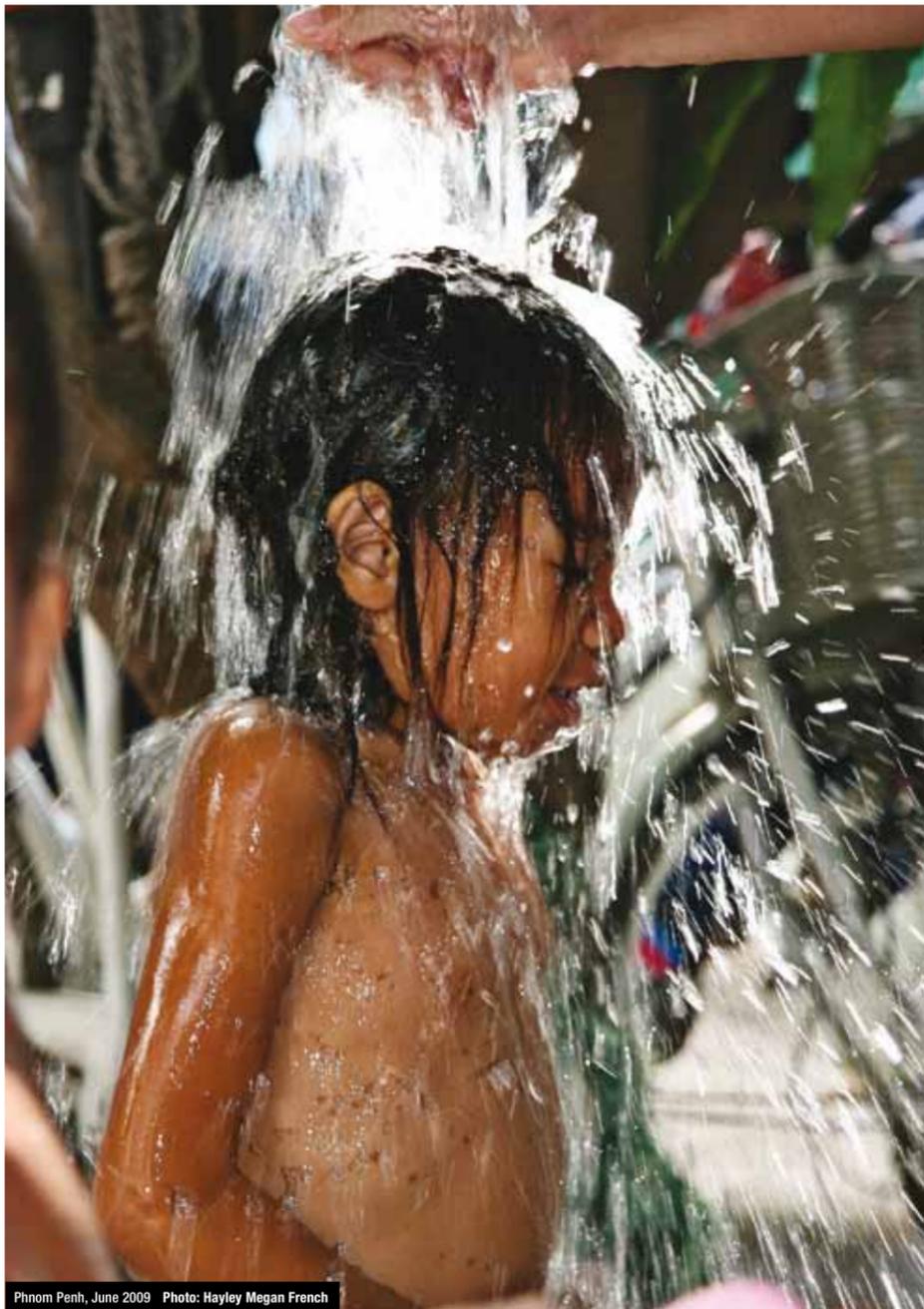
Victoria Park overshadows West Kensington

The proposed review of a previously issued DA consent for signage of the Audi Building demonstrates all that is wrong with the entire consent process of the Victoria Park development. There is no consideration for the private residents who have to put up with the presence of these monstrous buildings. Not only do we have to respond to Master Plans, Amended Master Plans, Development Applications in multiple parts for buildings and signage and then all of the

amendments and reviews of any consent which has been granted. We then have to endure industrial scale noise during construction and breaches of restrictions of working hours on numerous occasions.

The original DA consent to restrict the hours of illumination and placement of additional signage that has an adverse visual impact on the residents of West Kensington was a correct decision and should not be altered just because the applicant did not like the outcome. How about Sydney City sticking to the side of the residents who have to look at this building from their private houses day and night?

Warren Hawtin
Kensington



Phnom Penh, June 2009 Photo: Hayley Megan French

An experience not easily described

EVE GIBSON AND
ANDREW COLLIS

Young Sydney artist, Hayley Megan French, presents a series of paintings investigating the material, compositional and conceptual possibilities of Contemporary Abstract painting.

The works are medium scale, black-and-white paintings, acrylic on canvas. They are predominantly square, decentralised compositions with a concern for figure-ground relationships. Each viewer will experience the works differently. Australian artist and media arts lecturer at CoFA (College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales), Maureen Burns, comments: "They are to be enjoyed on a visual, emotional and reflective level."

"There will also be new paintings, drawing on Zen practices and aesthetics," Hayley says. Zen painting has been a long-term influence on Hayley's work, as has contemporary Aboriginal art. "I am currently researching Contemporary Abstract painting in a socio-cultural context with particular reference to

contemporary Aboriginal painting," she adds.

The exhibition will include a number of photographs, black-and-white and colour. On display will be a selection of portraits taken in the slums of Phnom Penh. Earlier this year, Hayley volunteered for three months in Cambodia with an Australian-based aid organisation called Destiny Rescue. The group operates rescue, prevention and sponsorship programs with a focus on empowering children to break free of prostitution and poverty.

The experience afforded opportunity for work on a book of portraits. The artist aims, through sale of paintings, photographs and the completed book, to raise

funds for Destiny Rescue. Her time in Cambodia was formative, artistically and personally. "It's not an easy experience to describe," she reflects. "I was welcomed into people's homes."

The book will contain stories, observations and facts. "I want it to be hopeful," Hayley says.

Hayley Megan French
New works
Abstract paintings and photographs
South Sydney Uniting Church
56a Raglan St, Waterloo
Opening: Saturday, September 5, 6pm
September 5 - October 16
Tuesday to Friday, 4.30-6.30pm
or by appointment
(phone Eve Gibson on 0406 680 336)
For further information please visit:
www.destinyrescue.org/aus

4th SYDNEY LATIN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

DENDY OPERA QUAYS 2 - 8 SEPTEMBER
CASULA POWERHOUSE 10 - 13 SEPTEMBER
MU-MESON ARCHIVES 3 & 12 SEPTEMBER

Tickets through **moshtix**
sydneylatinofilmfestival.org

ELDERFLOWERS

Stories of older people in Redfern

A play by
Alana Valentine

SAT SEP 19, 3PM
A play reading
at South Sydney
Uniting Church
(56a Raglan St, Waterloo).

SAT SEP 5, 3PM
A conversation with
Alana Valentine at
South Sydney Uniting
Church (includes
afternoon tea).

ADMISSION FREE
Contact Eve Gibson:
0406 680 336.



the Older and Wiser Festival 2009
Sponsored by the City of Sydney's Cultural Grants Program.

Schedule of Events

Monday August 31 10am-1pm	RUSSIAN GROUP OPEN HOUSE EVENT Factory Community Centre
Tuesday September 1 11am-2pm	SOUTH SYDNEY SENIORS OPEN LUNCH & MEMORY BOOK EXHIBITION Kepos Street Centre
Wednesday September 3 11am-2pm	MULTICULTURAL COOKING & ORIENTAL EXPRESS GROUP Factory Community Centre
Thursday September 4 4-7pm	TWILIGHT OLDER & WISER CONCERT (MUSIC BY THE ROBERTSON BROTHERS) Alexandria & Erskineville Bowling Club
Friday September 4 10.30am-12.30pm	SENIORS PERSONAL SAFETY WORKSHOP Factory Community Centre
Friday September 4 4-6pm	OUTDOOR CINEMA FILM: THE LAST HUNDRED YARDS + MEAT & GREET BBQ + TRIVIA Waterloo Green, or Factory if wet weather
Saturday September 5 3-5pm	CONVERSATION WITH PLAYWRIGHT ALANA VALENTINE (author of "Elderflowers") South Sydney Uniting Church
Sunday September 6 9.30am	REDFERN ANGLICANS STREET COFFEE MORNING St Saviour's Church
Sunday September 6 10am	OLDER AND WISER WORSHIP SERVICE South Sydney Uniting Church
Saturday September 19 3-5pm	ELDERFLOWERS PLAY READING South Sydney Uniting Church

For more information, transport, and to RSVP
please contact the Factory on 9698 9569

Older and Wiser Festival 2009

Community groups in Waterloo invite all to the inaugural Older and Wiser Festival, celebrating age and diversity within Redfern and Waterloo.

A program of multicultural activities will be presented. Various groups will share their heritage and stories, in celebration of older people's contributions to community life. There will be something for everyone!

The festival is organised and supported by the Factory Community Centre, Mercy Arms, South Sydney Uniting Church, City of Sydney, Safe Sydney, Housing NSW, South Sydney Community Transport, UNSW Community Development Project, Jewish Care, Spanish Community Centre, TPRS, Waterloo and Redfern NABs, Health Promotion, DADHC, Giant Vision, Burrows Photography, Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre, South Sydney Community Aid Multi-Cultural Neighbourhood Centre, Redfern Anglicans, and others.

The Reviews

Film Review by Lindsay Cohen



District 9
Director: Neil Blomkamp
Starring: The bloodied remains of CGI aliens
Genre: Sci-Fi with an accent

Finally the truth can be revealed about South African Rugby Union – Victor Matfield is an alien. How else to explain the famous second rower's towering height, the enormous reach, the awesome power? It took *District 9*, a supposed mock South African documentary about a marooned alien race forced to live in a Johannesburg slum, to lift the lid on Rugby's greatest secret.

Not only does *District 9* answer some important Rugby questions, it tackles some important South African social and racial issues too. Whether Peter Jackson of *Lord of the Rings* fame, who "presents" *District 9*, chose South Africa, or South Africa chose him, I don't know, but *District 9* is a film that is very South African.

Of course, a period of institutionalised racism is not limited to just South Africa. But with its very recent history defined by racism, *District 9* is a mirror on contemporary South Africa. For example, there is the deep irony of black South Africans complaining about the alien intruders and calling them derogatory names such as "prawns".

Racism is a science fiction staple. But whereas *Star Trek* is a long way in the future and *Star Wars* was a long time ago, *District 9* is very now, and that adds to its considerable impact, an impact that unfortunately is diluted when it descends into a standard blood-and-gore shooting match between humans and aliens.

Now if only the Wallabies could recruit a few of the aliens for their backline.

Rating: Full-price admission, 1½ choctops, large popcorn, a medium drink and a prawn cocktail afterwards.

film@ssh.com.au

Theatre Reviews by Jane Barton



Under Ice
By Falk Richter
Griffin Independent Stables Theatre
August 21–September 12
Dir: Kellie Mackereth
With: Terry Serio, Jason Langley, Adam Booth, Paris Change
Design: Melanie Paul, digital
Design: Mathew Mackereth

Choreography: Craig Macguire

If you like your theatre heavy, this is the gig for you. Falk Richter's *Under Ice* is the second of a four-part play cycle entitled *The System*; it is also the libretto for an opera. It's a challenging 80 minutes for audience and actors, with its dense lyrical script, intense physical demands and unrelenting digitised set. It charts the breakdown of Paul Niemand (Serio), an employee of an unknown Kafkaesque corporation. Niemand has failed, at work, to show suitable enthusiasm for a rendition of a duet from the *Lion King* at the company team-building event and is about to be sacked. The irony is savagely funny. Ranging widely in its themes from the colonisation of language by corporate speak to the loss of individuality, the role of the arts, the alienation of modern life and the dangers inherent in corporate fascism, *Under Ice* is not for those seeking a light whimsical night out. It is, however, an intellectual feast as Richter's unflinching search for a moral and ethical centre pushes concepts to the limit. Terry Serio is fantastic in his role as the crumbling Niemand, about to be usurped by two young corporate lions: Charlie Sunshine (Jason Langley) and Aurelius Glasnip (Adam Booth). Langley's performance is brutally poetic and horrifying. The physical theatre drops in unexpectedly and is a relief from the monologues but the content is never boring – although it does demand close listening. If you drop off for a second, you're lost. Digital artist, Mathew Mackereth's set is compelling – although it tends to upstage the actors. Director, Kellie Mackereth, comes to grips with this difficult script in the second half better than the first. The use of choreography makes the piece come alive. A little more boldness of vision would have made *Under Ice* less of an endurance test but it is a great opportunity to see a contemporary German play on stage.



Don Juan in Soho
By Patrick Marber
New Theatre
August 27–September 26
Dir: Luke Rogers
With: Blair Cutting, Matt Hyde, Hannah Levien
 Patrick Marber's script is a re-writing of Moliere's original portrait of the worst sex addict in history. "Three times a day for the last 27 years," says Stan (Matt Hyde), long suffering manservant of "DJ" (Blair Cutting). The story is reasonably straightforward. Set in Soho, a neighbourhood teeming with coke dealers, Russian sex workers, petty criminals and hens' nights, Don Juan's appetites have finally brought him undone. He is pursued by the brothers of his wife of two weeks whose heart he has broken. He and Stan are also pursued by a statue of

Charles II who doesn't say much but in a Monty Python-esque manner lets them know the end is nigh. It's a good choice of script. Marber's dialogue is full of unexpected one-liners that elicit a laugh almost against your will. The plot is racy and "adult" in a Benny Hill kind of way, so any glitches in delivery or accents that shift around are lost in the speed of the show. The cast is confident in the work which is reassuring because there is a sense that the actors make it through by the skin of their teeth. Fun teeters dangerously on the edge of farce, tipping over during the curtain call when Charles II seemed to get stuck on a piece of carpet. See *Don Juan* but have a few drinks beforehand. It'll help steady the nerves.

theatre@ssh.com.au

Music Review by Lee Conley



The Hollow Way
Genevieve Maynard & the Tallboys
Revolution, 2009

Maynard begins with an ambitious building project: "When you build her give her steel-plated ribs/ Make her heart beat like an engine and not miss/ Sandbag her against the flood or she may drown/ Termite-proof the parts of her that touch the ground/ And god knows she's seen some sad things in her time." This desire for invulnerability and peaceful reprieve in the face of sadness and loss puts its hands in the pockets of most of the songs, taking out things that tell us more about what's not there – borrowed green beads, a dead albatross, an empty beach, and enough space for listeners to find themselves.

At times sultry, at others perceptive, *The Hollow Way* leans into Lucinda

Williams *Essence*-era alt-country, with backing band The Tallboys sounding for all the world like Ryan Adams' entourage. Maynard's dry vocal lands somewhere between k.d. lang and Jane Siberry, conspiring with velvety lap steel, whispered echo backing tracks, a respectful use of fiddle and simple piano voicings to herald the arrival of a mature Sydney artist with a unique sense of restraint. After her years in Bughouse, the devolved Bug, and then as sidearm for indie-pop sensation Stella One Eleven, I'm sure it comes as no surprise to Maynard and her Tallboys that the work is this sophisticated.

Even when songs lag, redemption comes through deft production values, or a gorgeous turn of phrase. 'Earthbound' – caught too neatly in its own metaphor – offers a climbing chorus mixing yearning and frustration in equal measure. 'Wolfboy' reframes werewolf legends into a gentle remonstrance for the inner-city disaffected – replete with howling back-up singers. Here, as elsewhere, it's the wryness of delivery and lack of self-importance that save it.

It's a surprising album for Sydney. In a land worshipping summer as transcendence and the sea as unilateral freedom, Maynard is skeptical about the sun: "You're so cool, sunburnt boys I'm on to you/ You're so cool, lightly oiled, machine-tooled." And aware of the loneliness of the sea: "I woke up with the sun/ And I went down to the sea/ In case the storm in the night had brought you to me/ And I search the changing tides/ ... I miss you boy – do you miss me?"

Her refreshing belief in substance is most apt in 'Long Gone': "Red dirt stuck to my feet/ My curly hair and my Fossey's jeans/ My brown eyes made me un-cool/ With the blonde-haired tough girls at my school..." It's not hard to view *The Hollow Way* as a reaction to "Sydney cool" – a willingness in Maynard to build what she can from the remnants of her past and walk resolutely forward with red dirt on her feet.

music@ssh.com.au

The live music guide

THE KURRAJONG HOTEL
106 Swanson St, Erskineville
THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE SHINOLA!
WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE DON HOPKINS BAND
SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE THE EL CAMINO'S
WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE PUGSLEY BUZZARD
SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE JO FABRO
WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE DON HOPKINS BAND
SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE ALI PENNEY & THE MONEY MAKERS
WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY

THE HAROLD PARK HOTEL
Cnr Wigram & Ross Sts, Glebe
FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE BLUE INC
SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE THE ACCA DAIQUIRIS
TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE PRISCILLA & THE GROOVE KINGS
THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE CLAYTON DOLEY'S ORGAN DONORS
FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE JOHNNY G & THE E TYPES
SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE THE ACCA DAIQUIRIS
TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE PRISCILLA & THE GROOVE KINGS
THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE CLAYTON DOLEY'S ORGAN DONORS
FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE SHINOLA!
SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE THE ACCA DAIQUIRIS
TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE PRISCILLA & THE GROOVE KINGS
THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE CLAYTON DOLEY'S ORGAN DONORS
FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE JOHNNY G & THE E TYPES
SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE THE CONTINENTAL BLUES & BOOGALOO PARTY
SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER - 5PM - FREE JUBILATION with JOY YATES and the DAVE MACRAE BEAT
TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER - 7PM - FREE PRISCILLA & THE GROOVE KINGS

RENAISSANCE ITALY COMES TO SOUTH SYDNEY
I CANTARINI IS A NEW GROUP OF MADRIGAL SINGERS WHO WILL BE PERFORMING IN THE UNITING CHURCH IN RAGLAN STREET, WATERLOO ON OCTOBER 10 AT 2.30 PM.
 The group will be performing madrigals from Renaissance Italy. Literally thousands of madrigals were written in the 16th and 17th centuries, making them the pop music of their day – they celebrate, with wonderful music, the joys and despair of love and the beauty of nature – themes that still move us today. In old Italian, I cantarini meant a small group of (male) singers. However, around this time, madrigals began to include female singers, an innovation which became so popular that it led to opera and the ascendancy of the new stars, the prima donnas. The madrigals will be sung by a mixed group of 5-7 singers accompanied by a theorbo, a large baroque lute. For further information contact Coralie Le Nevez on 0407 077 828.

Voices from the Vacant Lot & Friends

 World Tour of Music & Songs Saturday, September 26, 2.30pm
 South Sydney Uniting Church 56a Raglan St, Waterloo Door: \$10

GENEVIEVE MAYNARD & THE TALLBOYS
The Hollow Way
 CD Launch
 Thursday, October 8
 The Vanguard, Newtown
 with the Refrains, FisherKing & Bernie Hayes
 \$14/\$18 plus b/f
 NEW ALBUM OUT NOW
 www.revolutionstudios.com.au/tallboys



The flood of success

AMANDA ROBB

South Australian band, The Audreys, known for their distinctive smoky sounds, rose to success after debut album, *Between Last Night And Us*, won ARIA fame, claiming Best Blues & Roots Album in 2006. The band took the same prize in 2008 with follow-up, *When The Flood Comes*. To celebrate, both albums have now been released on limited-edition gate-fold vinyl. Recently back on home soil, after a string of shows in LA, singer Taasha Coates talks about winning ARIAs, delving into deeper and darker sounds, and the joy of old records.

Taasha, first off I would like to acknowledge the remarkable success of the band. What was it like winning the ARIAs for Best Blues & Roots Album?

The ARIAs are a bit of a crazy night really! We actually had as much a surprise with winning the award for *When The Flood Comes* this year as we did with our debut album. We were not expecting it at all. Considering we started out as this little band from Adelaide, it is definitely a boost to know we are being supported. **Having released the band's second album a few years after the debut, I imagine the experience of recording was quite different?** The experience was quite different as this album was somewhat a challenge to create. It has a darker and bolder sound than our first one, and it is

difficult to write and produce an album that is all pretty much sung in blues. I guess it was a representation of how the band was feeling at the time. However, we are really happy and relieved with the album now. **Something you do not hear every day is that an acclaimed band has re-released albums on vinyl. Where did this idea stem from?** Well, we casually pitched the idea to our managers thinking they would not take to the proposal, and they were like, "Yeah, sure, let's do it!" Everyone in the band is a massive vinyl collector, and for us to put out a vinyl feels like we have really created something special. It is a beautiful feeling to own a vinyl. **To celebrate the vinyl release you are having exclusive vinyl launch shows. We are playing shows at the Basement in Sydney and in most other states at our favourite venues. And from what I hear, the shows will be more than just your regular gigs?** Yes, we decided to do something new and perform two sets, which will be music from *Between Last Night And Us* and *When The Flood Comes*, and mix that with some new material and maybe some covers. We have selected some amazing DJs, who at intermission will be spinning vinyls. **It sounds like it will be a very intimate performance, with just the band.** At first we just loved the notion of making this tour feel like a real show by having the two sets, but it's funny, now we are rehearsing going, "Wow, we have to play

straight for two hours!" So it will be a great experience for us to have, plus we are going to show off some of our new songs which will be on our third album. **You guys threw a competition for the public to design the posters for the launch shows. What were the results?** Oh, that was such a hard job. All the posters we received were really good! We love creativity so it was a great opportunity to receive our fans' artistic interpretation of us as a musical outfit. **How did you choose the winning poster?** Being the democratic band that we are, in the end everyone picked a favourite poster and we then chose from that. We picked the poster that inventively had the best advertising for the launch shows, and was the best representation of our music. **Keeping with the vinyl theme, have you been spinning any records lately?** Actually, my father came for a visit last week and we spent our afternoons relaxing with martinis and listening to old jazz records. **Any particular jazz crooners?** We put on Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday. **What constitutes for you a memorable Audreys performance?** Being a band from Adelaide, any show we play back home is special. I think particular venues can create a memorable show. For example, we recently had a gig in this old heritage building down in Castlemaine, near Victoria, which

Something of a thread or a theme

Artist Profile: Maxine Kauter



EVE GIBSON

Newtown songwriter Maxine Kauter, touring in August/September, talks with the SSH about her music.

What was the feeling like when you first started playing?

It was terrifying. I had been hiding in my bedroom for ages writing songs. A friend in Canada had been playing at some open mike nights and it really inspired me to think I might be able to get over the terror and actually perform. Another friend talked someone into letting me play at their gig. When I got on stage it was horribly frightening but so exhilarating that I couldn't wait to do it again.

What is the song-writing process for you?

Generally, it is mostly about sitting in a room and playing. Playing a lot of crap and then slowly starting to uncover something of a thread or a theme. Then I begin to get a clue as to what I'm writing about and I begin writing a lot of things using that language. Sometimes there is something that seems like it's

getting close to communicating that innate and specific idea and those are the songs I continue to play.

Can you tell us what your most memorable gig was?

Oh, this is easy! The one I was at when I first kissed my girlfriend. It was at the Hopetoun Hotel and it was very memorable. I had played and then a wonderful band called Grandbanks took to the stage and the rest is ... the rest.

What's next for you and your band?

My band (Shannon Haritos and Steven Beverley) and I are great friends so we do enjoy the odd pastizzi together. We are always trying to do more with the music we're making so we'll continue doing that too I hope. We are also on the *Lies* tour at the moment and will be travelling around, Canberra, Wollongong, Newcastle, Brisbane and Sydney to play. We are also in the process of finishing a new record, which will be released soon.

.....
Maxine is playing in Sydney on: September 2 at the Sandringham Hotel (w/ Kristy Apps), 10 September 10 at the Vanguard, September 15 at the Arthouse Hotel. www.myspace.com/maxinekautermusic

had the most beautiful atmosphere. That was an unforgettable show. We have been asked to play in

Canberra at a Nick Cave tribute night in a few weeks which I imagine will be a memorable night.

Sometimes you need to take a break Artist Profile: Dave Barrie

ANDREW COLLIS AND EVE GIBSON

Alexandria-based singer-songwriter, Dave Barrie, will soon pack his Maton acoustic and move to Boston for a year. Before he goes, he will release a debut EP, *Don't Break*, with a launch at the Supper Club in Darlinghurst on September 30.

Barrie hails from Brisbane, where he grew up listening to a variety of music – from John Farnham (a boyhood hero) to the Dave Matthews Band. "I really liked INXS, especially *Kick*," he adds. "And the Rolling Stones, U2, Cat Stevens, Powderfinger."

Manager of a café-restaurant in Coogee, Barrie recalls a chance meeting with Powderfinger guitarist, Ian Haug. "That was a thrill," he says. "He came into the café one day, and was really happy

to talk, very approachable."

Don't Break showcases Barrie's talents as a writer and performer. The five "radio-friendly" tracks (from an original set of 14) are emotive, epic, swampy, melodic. Recorded (relatively) quickly with drums (Danny Heifetz), bass (Andrew Covell), guitars (Sean Carey of Thirsty Merc), and keys (Barrie, who also contributed percussion and guitar), the process was a lesson in song-craft. "I learned that you can't just sit around waiting for a finished song," Barrie explains. "I learned to deal with what I had – to just put something down and to work with it. Change the time signature, go for a different feel. Sometimes, though, you need to take a break, go for a walk and come back to it."

Opening track, 'Waiting For You', is a standout. The vocal is warm and present, the mood intimate. "I didn't think I had a chorus for that

one," Barrie recalls. "I thought it was a kind of pre-chorus, but Andrew [Covell] liked it and I think it came out all right." The song is available for listening on Barrie's MySpace page (myspace.com/davebarrie).

A regular Sunday afternoon performer at the Robin Hood Hotel in Waverley, Barrie enjoys playing live. "It's rare these days for a pub to support live music – to actually pay the live acts," he says. "I'm looking forward to the launch – playing with a band will be great."

Barrie will be joined at the Supper Club by rootsy blues combo, Iron Bar Hotel, and Sonarc. 16-18 Cross St, Darlinghurst. Doors open 8pm.

.....
The SSH has five copies of *Don't Break* to give away. Simply tell us something you'd least want broken (eg. heart, hip). Send email to editor@ssh.com.au



Dave Barrie Photo: Luke Bubbs

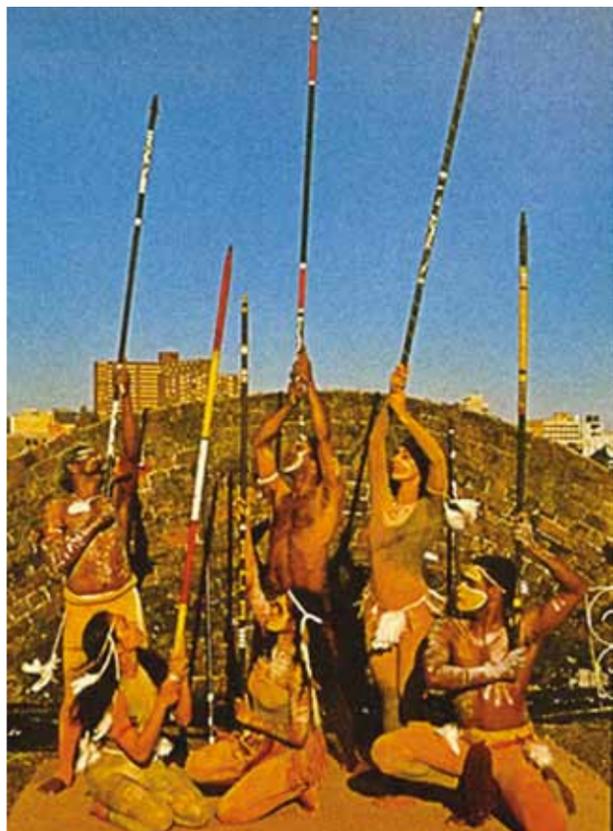


Photo: Elaine Syron. The Birth of Bangarra (posters for sale: www.blackfellasdreaming.com.au)

FIRE – A RETROSPECTIVE

Bangarra's 20 Year Anniversary Gala Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House

August 28 to September 26

Saturday, September 26 at the Sydney Opera House. Exclusive Gala tickets at \$120 pp includes a Gala Performance of FIRE – A RETROSPECTIVE, a talk from Artistic Director Stephen Page, and a Post-Show Reception of canapés and cocktails on the Northern Boardwalk Marquee of the Sydney Opera House with the dancers. Tickets: Sydney Opera House Box Office.



The cast of Avenue Q. Photo: Supplied

X-rated puppets and sensitive issues

MICHAEL SLEZAK

You get the feeling when watching Avenue Q that everyone is getting a real kick out of watching cute puppets swear and have sex. And why shouldn't they? It's bloody hilarious.

But if that was all this show had going for it, I wouldn't tell you to see it. Peter Jackson did that and much more 20 years ago with his seriously disturbing *Meet The Feebles*.

Luckily, *Avenue Q* packs in, alongside the X-rated puppet action, wonderfully enjoyable songs and some astoundingly good performances.

The story follows eight characters (people and puppets) living in a friendly, downmarket part of New York City. Each is troubled by the pressures of modern life. These pressures, such as finding a "purpose", a partner, a career, love, and generally fitting in, provide the backdrop to the show's dark but unusually

uplifting satire.

Perhaps most surprisingly, *Avenue Q*'s puppets provide a sensitive treatment of a number of social and political issues – all without sacrificing a laugh. Sexuality, poverty, race, and depression are just some of the serious themes of the play.

The song, 'Everyone's A Little Bit Racist', might be one small exception to the generally sensitive handling of serious issues. On the one hand the song makes the valid point that a lot of people are racist even

when they think they are not. Kate Monster sings: "No one's really colour blind/ Maybe it's a fact we all should face/ Everyone makes judgments based on race."

But on the other hand the song implies that it's okay to be racist when Kate sings: "Ethnic jokes might be uncouth but you laugh because they're based on truth/ Don't take them as personal attacks/ Everyone enjoys them so relax!"

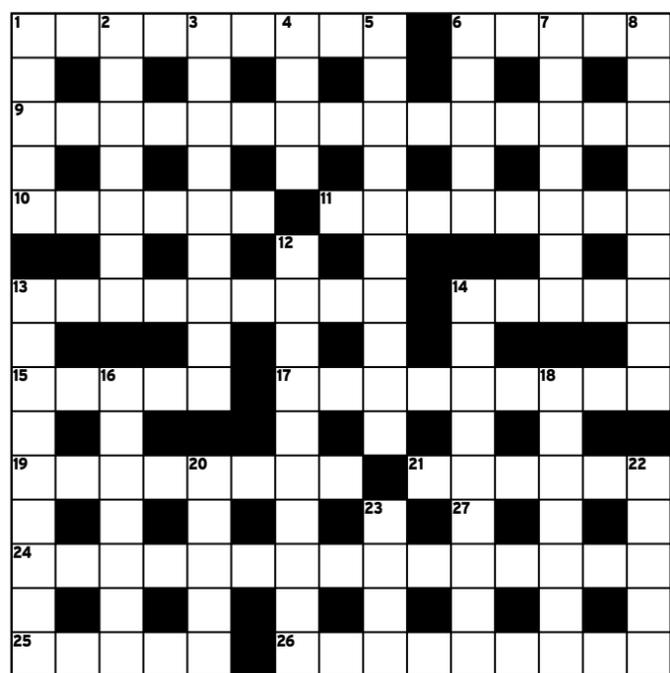
It feels a little too obvious to say that *Avenue Q* is *Sesame Street* for adults. The title alludes to the children's television classic, and several characters seem close relatives of Jim Henson's Muppets.

Ernie and Bert are clearly the inspiration for Rod and Nicky, two fabulous male characters who live together in twin beds and which provide the fodder for one of the most entertaining songs of the show: 'If You Were Gay (That'd Be OK).'

Moreover, it would be only partly true to describe *Avenue Q* as *Sesame Street* for adults. Many of the jokes are unashamedly juvenile and perhaps well suited for older children.

But letting loose for an evening and laughing at jokes that many theatre-goers would be too "sophisticated" to tell themselves is enormous fun, and I suspect, good for the soul.

South Sydney Crossword



First correct entry received by Sept 30th will win a mystery prize. Send completed puzzle to: South Sydney Herald Crossword PO Box 2360 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012.

Crossword by D.P.

ACROSS

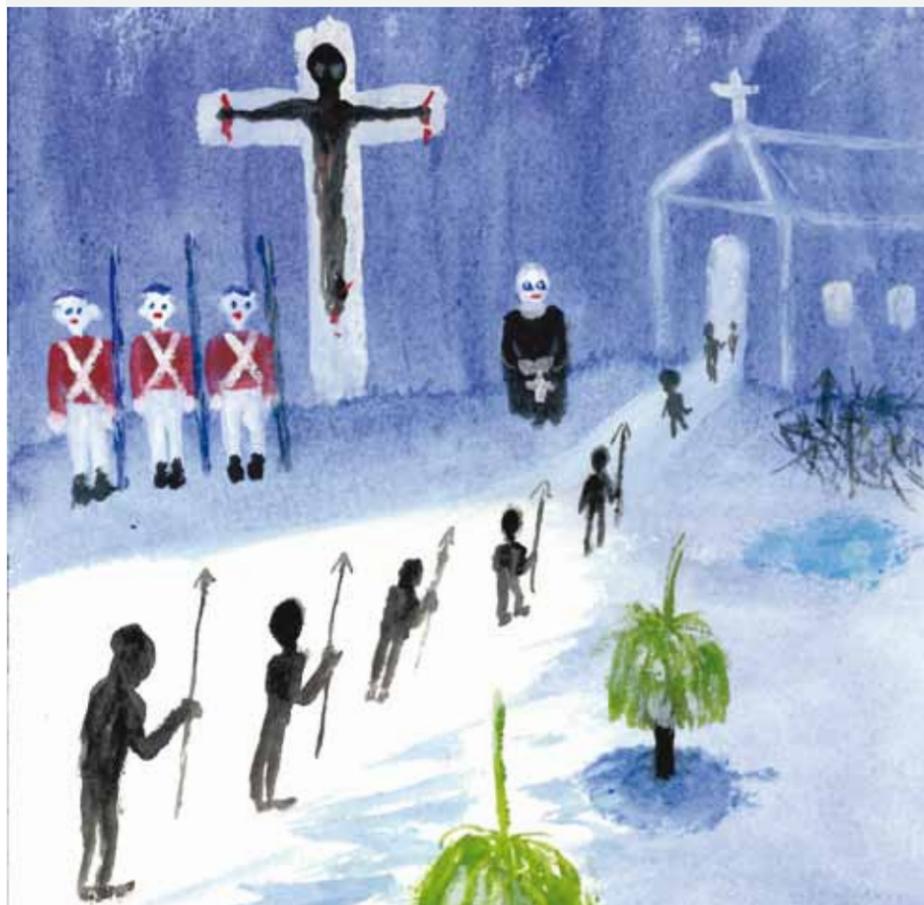
- 1) Fast hothead elicits deep sigh (4-5)
- 6) Peel b-back elongated pip (5)
- 9) Metaphorically meteorologically low (5,3,7)
- 10) Its let out of dirty singlet on the line (6)
- 11) Raise Cain amid lama's dilemma of madness (8)
- 13) A description of some number (9)
- 14) Nuts and ... streaks of lightning (5)
- 15) Cute little Rabbitoh! (5)
- 17) We've Adam's conundrum (3,3,3)
- 19) Boot in return for a slice of the pie (8)
- 21) Shipboard murder shows expertise (6)
- 24) Peak exuberance (2,3,2,3,5)
- 25) Incessant as inferno (2,3)
- 26) Green lady may be mystical (9)

DOWN

- 1) Badger like a dog (5)
- 2) Yddig? Come on! (5-2)
- 3) Peculiarly misspelt gernalyst (9)
- 4) Hello hello! What's this? (4)
- 5) Needing a lift (4,2,4)
- 6) Dreamtime spirit of botany distinguished in Redfern Park (5)
- 7) Moral disturbance of the laic (7)
- 8) Rewritten plays read as powerless (9)
- 12) Cruel Lucifer hides behind regular surname (10)
- 13) In the dark awkwardly bunkering down after grid outage (9)
- 14) All Blacks wannabe holding iconic Ozzie bird (5,4)
- 16) Nike etc. don't usually make this apparel (7)
- 18) Raise air alarm, rout disease (7)
- 20) Bizarrely shaped on the outside having two feet (5)
- 22) Alas Gladys doesn't begin reforming (5)
- 23) Best hugger has an unlikely central character (4)

SEEKING BENEFACTOR:

Precious and unique collection of Indigenous Contemporary Art



'Civilising the Natives' by Gordon Syron, 2009

A benefactor is required to establish a 'Keeping Place' with this collection as a foundation. Viewing of this collection is by request only.

For an appointment to preview The Keeping Place please call Gordon on 0421 031 392.

For more information please visit: www.blackfellasdreaming.wikispaces.com



food distribution network
home delivery of low-cost fresh fruit & vegetables

The Food Distribution Network is a not-for-profit organisation that delivers boxes of fresh and inexpensive fruit and vegies to older people, people with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS and carers who live in the City of Sydney and need assistance living independently at home. For \$9 you can have a box of 6-8kg of fruit and/or vegies delivered to your door each week or fortnight. Please call 9699 1614 or e-mail enquiries@fdn.org.au for more information. These services are funded by the Home and Community Care programme and the AIDS Trust of Australia.

SSH advertising works:
"Since our ad has been in the SSH, it's been phenomenal. It has really raised our profile in the community. Interest has increased ten-fold from the old way of letterbox dropping." Wayne Blindeman, Food Distribution Network, Waterloo

Donations to the SSH

The South Sydney Herald is an independent not-for-profit community newspaper, produced mostly by volunteers, published by the South Sydney Uniting Church, distributed without charge to 30,000 readers from Zetland to Woolloomooloo. The SSH gratefully accepts donations and in-kind support. If you would like to make a contribution you can do so, anonymously if you wish. By mail: PO Box 2360 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012. By electronic transfer: BSB 062 231 ACCOUNT NO. 1021 8391. Contact the Editor: editor@ssh.com.au

Uniting Churches



South Sydney Uniting Church
56a Raglan St Waterloo
Worship (Eucharist) 10am Sunday
Bible Study & Discussion
September 10, 7pm
Rev Andrew Collis 8399 3410
Welcoming people of all ages, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations and identities. Peace with justice, integrity of creation.

Tongan Uniting Church
(South Sydney)
Worship 1pm Sunday
Mid-week service Friday 7-8pm
Ps Sione Hau 0431 144 247

Glebe Cafe Church
Cnr St Johns & Cambourne Sts
Glebe
Gathering Sunday 7pm
Free For All/Eight O'Clock Sharp
Music nights Thu 8pm
Steph Gesling 9518 9413

Newtown Mission
280 King St Newtown
Worship 9.30am & 6pm Sunday
Rev Ps Doug Clements
9519 9000

Paddington Uniting Church
395 Oxford St Paddington
Church Open 10am-2pm
1st and 3rd Saturdays
Worship Sunday 7.30pm
Church Office 9331 2646

Pitt Street Uniting Church
264 Pitt St, Sydney
Worship 10 am Sunday
& 6 pm (2nd and 4th Sundays)
Rev Ian Pearson 9267 3614

Ultimo University Church
Cnr Bulwara Road and
Quarry St, Ultimo
Worship 6.30pm Sunday
Rev. Dr John Hirt 0408 238 117

Wayside Chapel
29 Hughes St Potts Point
Worship 10am,
Bible Study 5pm Sunday
Ps Graham Long 9358 6996

ALL WELCOME!
A special service of worship at South Sydney Uniting Church
(56a Raglan St, Waterloo)

THANKSGIVING FOR CREATION
10am Sun Oct 4
For all creatures great & small
(yes, bring your pets!)

A collection will be taken
in support of
MONIKA'S DOGGIE RESCUE
(www.doggierescue.com)



Celebrate St Clare & St Francis of Assisi
The service of worship will include a blessing of animals as well as writings & prayers by St Clare & St Francis of Assisi
Contact Rev'd Andrew Collis on 0438 719 470

ALL WELCOME!
South Sydney Uniting Church
(56a Raglan St, Waterloo)

ART CLASS
12-4pm Sat Sep 12
For more info phone 8399 3410.

Previous and new participants,
adults and children welcome.
All materials provided.
Gold coin donation.



Drawing by Jan Short

BABANA
Aboriginal Men's Group

The next BABANA meeting is on Friday Sept 25,
12-2pm, Redfern Community Centre.
Contact: Mark Spinks 9243 3546.




The Annual
General Meeting of
**The Factory Community
Centre Incorporated**
will be held at
67 Raglan St., Waterloo
5.00 for 5.30pm
Tuesday 22nd September 2009

All Welcome. The meeting will be followed by light refreshments.

RSVP to:
Patrick Russell
Coordinator
The Factory Community Centre
Ph 9698 9569 Mob 0437 300 022

**WHAT IS HAPPENING IN
REDFERN WATERLOO?**
Get the latest from www.redwatch.org.au
email RWIU@turnbulls.au.com for free email updates
or call Geoff on 9318 0824



The Lions Club of Redfern-Waterloo & the Tribal Warrior Association Inc, Invite you and your family and friends to:
An Aboriginal Picnic on Clark Island
Sunday, October 18

You will be taken to Clark Island on the Tribal Warrior boat which will leave from Man-O-War Steps on a continuous service from 9am.

\$70 per person (includes food & drinks)
RSVP by Monday October 12

Norma: 0404 094 249 Graeme: 0414 816 408 John: 0416 048 932
pfls@optusnet.com.au, gfreer@gmail.com

Please transfer your payment (with note "Aboriginal picnic") to:
Westpac Admin Account (Lions Club of Redfern-Waterloo Inc.):
BSB: 032006 / Acc: 349170
or post your cheque to: Redfern-Waterloo Lions Club,
PO Box 3250 REDFERN 2016

YOUR LOCAL MEMBERS



Tanya Plibersek MP
Federal Member for Sydney
111-117 Devonshire St, Surry Hills
NSW 2010
T: 02 9357 6366
F: 02 9357 6466
Tanya.Plibersek.MP@aph.gov.au



Malcolm Turnbull MP
Federal Member for Wentworth
Level 1/5a Bronte Rd, Bondi Junction
NSW 2022
T: 02 9369 5221
F: 02 9369 5225
Malcolm.Turnbull.MP@aph.gov.au



Verity Firth MP
State Member for Balmain
112a Glebe Point Rd, Glebe
NSW 2037
T: 02 9660 7586
F: 02 9660 6112
balmain@parliament.nsw.gov.au



Kristina Keneally MP
State Member for Heffron
Shop 117, 747 Botany Rd, Rosebery
NSW 2018
T: 02 9699 8166
F: 02 9699 8222
Kristina.keneally@parliament.nsw.gov.au



Clover Moore MP
State Member for Sydney
58 Oxford St, Paddington
NSW 2021
T: 02 9360 3053
F: 02 9331 6963
Sydney@parliament.nsw.gov.au



Carmel Tebutt MP
State Member for Marrickville
244 Illawarra Rd, Marrickville
NSW 2204
T: 02 9558 9000
F: 02 9558 3653
Marrickville@parliament.nsw.gov.au



Andrew Collis, Adam Hill and Trevor Davies Photo: Ali Blogg

Running in the footsteps of Pemulwuy

BRENDAN WONG

South Sydney Herald editors, Andrew Collis and Trevor Davies, are putting their bodies on the line when they participate in the 2009 Blackmore's Sydney Running Festival this month (on September 20).

Andrew and Trevor hope to raise \$5,000 to support the Aboriginal Housing Company's Pemulwuy housing project on the Block.

"I've been a resident of Redfern for at least 30 years and have seen how badly the local Aboriginal community has been treated by successive governments," says Trevor. "This is their land and future."

Andrew adds that Pemulwuy is and can be "a symbol of hope" in the community. It will generate pride and showcase a proud urban Aboriginal culture. "Redfern has an international profile. Pemulwuy is a big and positive story."

Local artist, Adam Hill, has created special T-shirts for the event. The design features the number "221", a reference to the 221 years since European settlement/invasion (1788). Pemulwuy led a resistance against the colonisers and was lauded as a clever, brave and independent character - qualities evidenced in respect of the AHC's housing project.

Andrew ran the Sydney Half Marathon in May this year. "Although it was hard I enjoyed the challenge - physical and

mental," he says. "So I thought I'd register for the Marathon. Maybe it's a mid-life crisis [but] it will feel so good to cross the finish line. I've been reading a few books on long-distance running [the marathon is 42.195km] and one of the best tips I've read is to eat dried figs along the way."

Andrew has been running every second day for the past few months, while Trevor jokes he has probably not prepared well enough. He will go as far as he can, and that will be a real achievement for him - and for Pemulwuy.

You can support Andrew and Trevor by sponsoring them and donating directly to the Aboriginal Housing Company. Visit www.gofundraise.com.au/pemulwuy



Kyle Lodge races in for Newtown's first try against Wests Photo: Supplied

Young Jets in landslide Test win

GLEN DWYER

Newtown's SG Ball Cup campaign ended some weeks ago, but two members of that talented young Jets squad were key players for the Australian Schoolboys rugby league representative team against the Great Britain Lions on Saturday, August 15.

The Australian Schoolboys demolished Great Britain 66-0 in the First Test played at Canberra Stadium as the main curtain-raiser to the Raiders-Dragons NRL match.

Newtown's Cheyse Blair (centre) and Jacob Miller (halfback) were standout players in the Australian Schoolboys resounding win, and they will be back on national team duty for the Second Test match to be played this Saturday (August 22) at the St Mary's Leagues Club Stadium at 7pm.

Blair and Miller are regarded as outstanding prospects and they are both on sporting scholarships with the Sydney Roosters. They also have the honour of being the Newtown club's first-ever representatives in the prestigious Australian Schoolboys rugby league team.

In NSW Cup news, the Newtown Jets have edged into eighth place on the table following their 22-14 win against Western Suburbs at Henson Park on Saturday, August 8. The Jets also retained the Tom Raudonikis Cup for 2009 as a result of this win. Newtown led by 12-10 at halftime and protected what proved to be their eight-point winning margin for the last 20 minutes of the game.

The Jets face tough assignments at home against the Sharks and the Tigers in coming weeks as the battle for places in the finals series intensifies.

Newtown's next match is against Cronulla-Sutherland at Henson Park on Saturday, August 29 with this *West Side Story* encounter timed to kick off at 3pm. The Jets need to win this match to book Newtown a place in the 2009 NSW Cup finals series.

Coming up:
Saturday, September 5 -
Henson Park - Newtown v Balmain -
Kick-Off: 3.00pm
Annual Newtown Jets Reunion
Day and the deciding match for
the 2009 Ryan-Pringle Shield

WANT TO GET FIT?
WORK OUT AT REDFERN'S WORLD FAMOUS
TONY MUNDINE GYM
WHERE GIANTS ARE MADE SINCE 1985

COMMUNITY GYM - BOXING
WEIGHT TRAINING - CARDIO
KICK BOXING - FITNESS & DANCE STUDIO
OPEN MON-FRI 9AM-2PM & 5PM-9PM
CORNER EVELEIGH & VINE STREETS REDFERN
9319 0316

Troy Horse

Celebrating 21 years of Industry experience & service

CD & DVD Manufacture

- ★ Website Services ★
- ★ Graphic Design ★
- ★ DVD Authoring ★
- ★ Interactive Media ★
- ★ Video Post Production ★

FREE DELIVERY

44 - 54 Botany Rd, Alexandria NSW 2015
PO Box 7, Alexandria NSW 1435

E: ssh@troyhorse.com ★ P: 02 9319 1799
www.troyhorse.com ★ **FREE ONLINE QUOTE**