



Newsflash

To: CRA Members

From: Sue Chambers, President

Re: The Latest News

Date: 31 January

Dear all

Much for us to look forward to in 2004: both celebrations and challenges. The celebrations are

- **AGM:** We will hold our 8th Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24th February from 6 to 7.30pm in the Kathleen Syme Centre, Faraday Street (see Agenda details attached). Lindsay Tanner, MHR will speak on the topic of "Relationships, Neighbourhoods and Local Government". Yesterday Lindsay was appointed to an additional Shadow Ministry portfolio of "community relationships" to translate ideas from his recent book "Crowded Lives" into policy for community building. His AGM presentation should be most interesting to see how these ideas relate to the Carlton community.
- **Nominations:** You will be pleased to know that we have a full complement of Committee members for 2004: just enough nominations to cover all positions; so there will not be a need for an election. The following people were nominated: Sue Chambers (President), Greta Bird (Vice President), Jacqueline Ots (Secretary), Warren Green (Treasurer), Anne Ritter (Committee member), Jacqueline Watts (Committee member). Aren't we fortunate! Don Chambers will continue to advise on heritage matters and to attend PCCC meetings. Members of the Planning Group meet

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monthly to review Carlton town planning applications. They are Murray Dovey, Warren Green, Victoria Hamer, Peter Sanders and Dennis Toth.

- **Carlton History** The launch of our book will be on April 1st at 11am at La Mama Theatre, with an MCC "Melbourne Conversation" at Federation Square in the evening with Carlton Stories as the topic. You can order copies of the book at Readings Bookstore (discount for orders before April 1st)
- **Carnevale on Lygon:** this is a new event for Lygon Street reminiscent of the Carnevale in Venice. The event is the initiative of the Carlton Business Association, the business organization supported by the Melbourne City Council for the Carlton precinct. The dates are the last two weeks of February starting with a Masquerade Ball at the Melbourne Town Hall on St Valentine's Eve (Friday 13th February). **An invitation to the Ball is included.** If you would like to contact other CRA members forming a table, contact us. Twenty participant restaurants on Lygon Street will be decorated and have a banquet table and entertainment during the Carnevale. There will also be Italian films shown on three evenings in the weekends, with free admission. Laurel and Hardy and Fellini films have been selected. La Mama Theatre is also running a special program for the Carnevale. Should be fun. A detailed program will be displayed at participating restaurants and on the website www.carnevaleonlygon.com. We welcome your comments on this event, since it is planned to be an annual event which is good for residents and businesses in Carlton. If there are suggestions for improvement we will pass them to the organizing committee.

The big immediate **challenge** is our response to the revised Becton plan for student accommodation on the Eastern Precinct block (Swanston, Faraday, Cardigan, Elgin Streets). You will remember our euphoria last year when the tribunal of VCAT decided to refuse the plan for a 633 unit student accommodation development, following a 23 day hearing (see <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/vic/VCAT/2003/1525.html>)

Key Tribunal statements in their decision to refuse the initial application are

182. It is the choice of built form that ultimately fails the tests. We agree ... that large scale built form is contemplated on this site, but it must be more sensitively and cleverly designed.

187. But a logical and consistent analysis ... leads to the irresistible conclusion that the cliff approach does not achieve the level of respect that needs to flow between the prominent Swanston Street precinct and the culturally valued Carlton heritage precinct.

190. ... we think that what is required to achieve an acceptable built form outcome for this site necessitates a fundamental redesign which goes beyond the scope of what could be accomplished by amending plans.

The revised Becton plans were submitted in mid January . Following further information being supplied to the Department of Sustainability and Environment

(DSE), there will be a public advertisement period (possibly 9-23 February) when members of the public can view and lodge objections. MCC is being asked to submit its recommendation. The revised plans will be considered at the 4th March meeting of the Planning Committee at 5.30pm, Melbourne Town Hall, Committee Room, 2nd Floor. The MCC number for the plans is TPM 04/2.

The CRA Committee has seen the revised plans and we have decided that the revised plan does not pass the Tribunal's test, being still too bulky and out of scale with the surrounding low scale heritage context to the east and north of the block. Peter Sanders and I will prepare CRA submissions to DSE and MCC objecting to the revised plans. Our experts have agreed to provide an opinion on the revised plan, and we will invite our community witnesses to provide their comments.

We encourage other members to sign the petition at Readings, consider lodging an objection (DSE and MCC do record the number of objections), and attend the MCC Planning Committee meeting to show Councillors the strength of the Carlton community support for recommending a refusal of the revised plans. We also have some "Save Carlton" posters for members who would like to display one in their window in support of refusal of the plan. If you would like further information contact us or check our website at <http://www.carltonresidents.org.au/Current/EasternPrecinct/EasternPrecinct.htm>

We will be doing some extra printing and distribution, so small donations or offers to help with distribution would be appreciated. The elevations for the revised plan are attached. We look forward to widespread community support to make sure that such a bulky and out of scale building will not be built in the heart of Carlton. The revised plan is not scaled back enough for it to be a "sensitive and clever" design. Now is the time to express your view. Some of you will remember the push to have more Housing Estate towers built in the 1960s pushing further into North Carlton. Carlton residents made sure that did not happen.

The revised Becton Plans can be seen at Nauru House & objections can be lodged at the following address:

Department of Sustainability & Environment

Mr John Phillips Manager Development Approvals
Central City & Alpine
Level 21/80 Collins St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
Phone 9655 6666 Fax 9655 6752

Contact for MCC Planning & Development Committee correspondence

Cr Catherine Ng, Chair C/ Sheriden Taylor, Council Secretariat
Phone 9658 9867 Fax 9658 8084
Email shetay@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Membership

Membership Renewal

A gentle reminder that membership renewals are **due now**. If you need a form contact us on 9349 1558 or download one from our website. We do depend on your support and participation. If you have ideas about activities or issues you would like CRA to consider, do let us know: most of you do that anyway!

Other ongoing issues

CRA has been represented at several meetings considering the International Flower Show (CRA supports exhibits to move from the Gardens to the hard surface between the Museum and Royal Exhibition Building); Carlton Access and Parking Study (CRA supports the proposed MCC policy plus a visitor voucher scheme); Municipal Strategic Statement (CRA supports the Coalition of Residents Association approach which aims to provide greater protection of residential amenity and heritage significance). If you would like information on any of these initiatives please contact us.

Regards



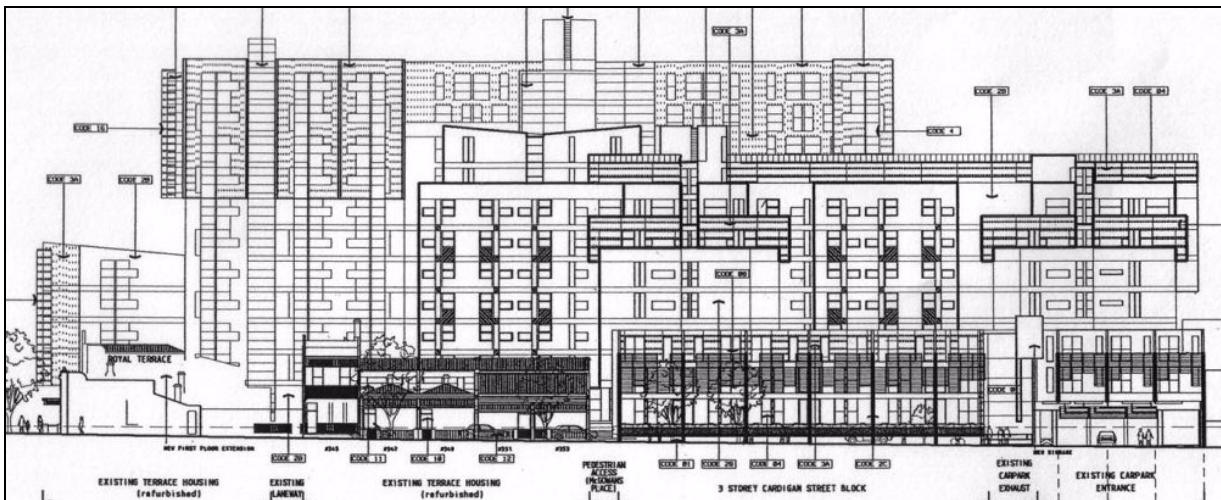
Sue Chambers
President

**Elevations and Photomontage for plans "College Square on Swanston
submitted in January 2004, for Becton Corporation**

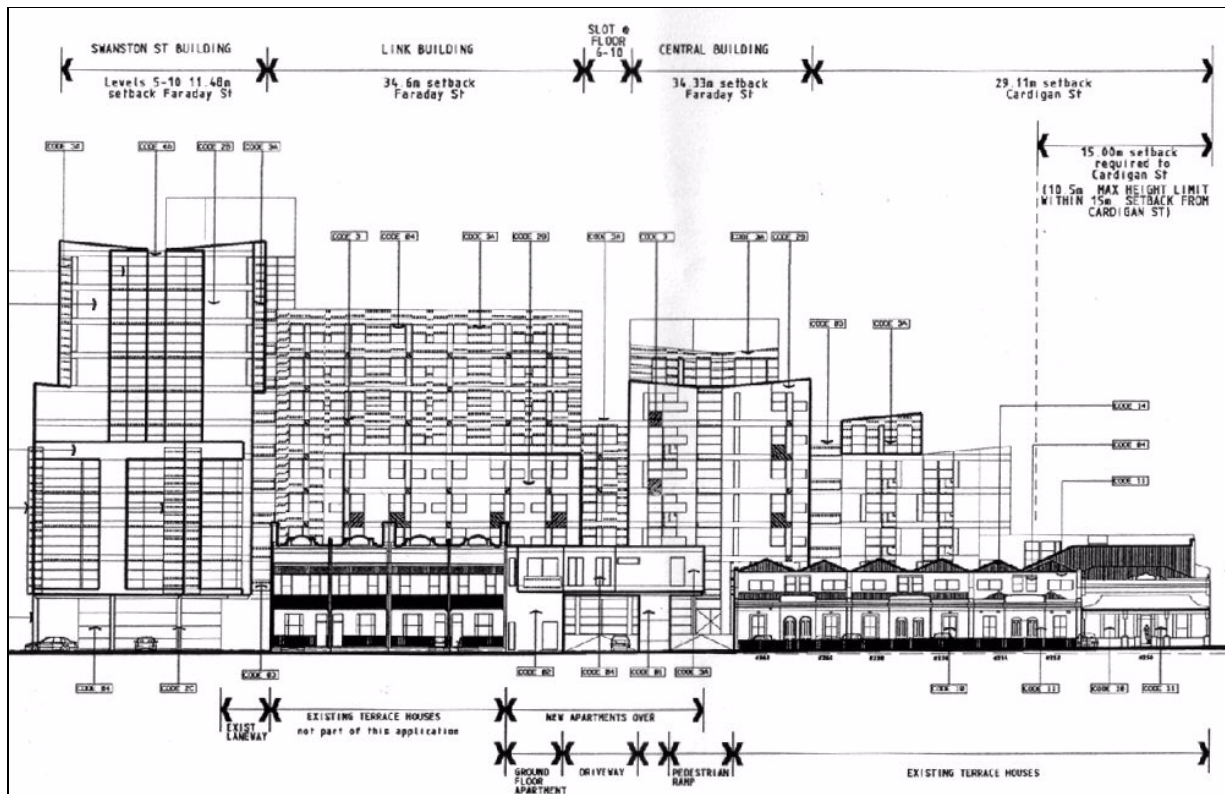
The plan proposes 544 units and 796 beds. The building along Swanston Street is eleven storeys, with a five storey section on the corner of Swanston and Faraday Streets, and buildings in the centre of the block ranging from 9, 8 to 6 storeys in eight with a 3 storey building on Cardigan Street. It is proposed to allow for up to 100 car spaces for annual renewable parking in the underground carpark of the Eastern Precinct block.

Note: The following copied documents are made available for the sole purpose of enabling its consideration and review as part of the planning process under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

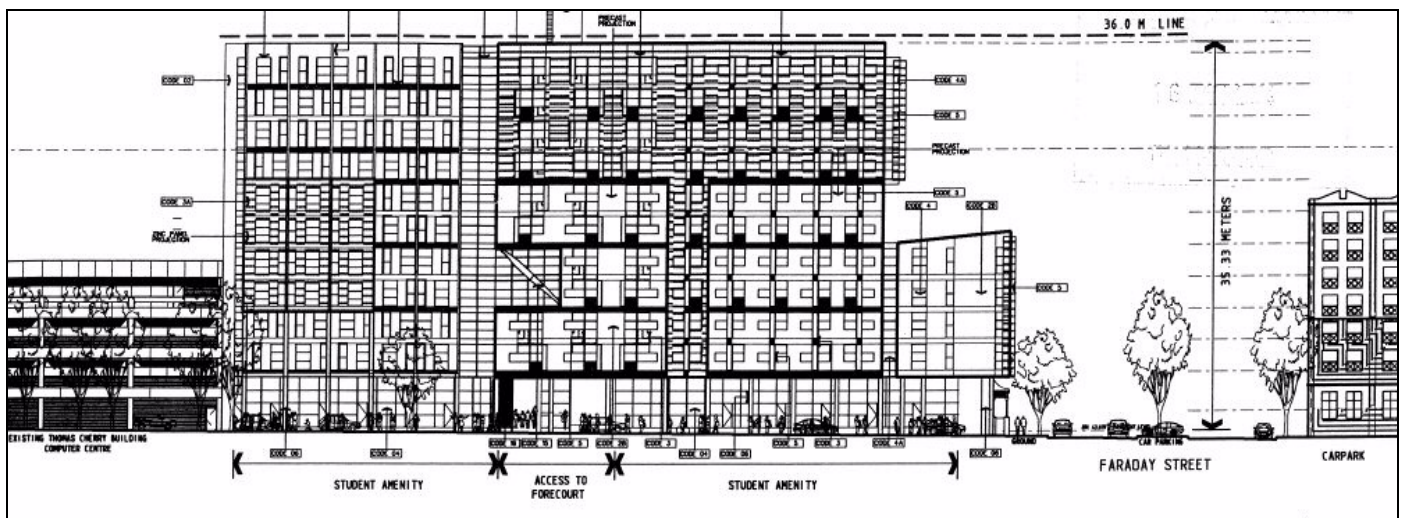
These documents must not be used for any purpose which may breach their copyright.



Cardigan Street elevation



Faraday Street elevation



Swanston Street elevation



Faraday/Cardigan Street Corner photo montage



Swanston Street photo montage

Notice of 8th Annual General Meeting

Carlton Residents Association

To be held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 24 February 2004

Room KSEC2, Kathleen Syme Centre, 251 Faraday Street Carlton

Guest Speaker: Lindsay Tanner

"Relationships, Neighbourhoods and Local Government"

Agenda

Attendance

Minutes of Previous AGM

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Fees

Membership fees for 2005

Recommendation: That the CRA membership fees for 2005 remain the same as for

Election of Officers and Ordinary Members of the Committee

Nominations have been received for the following positions:

President Sue Chambers

Vice President Greta Bird

Secretary Jacqueline Ots

Treasurer Warren Green

Ordinary Member Anne Ritter (Membership Secretary)

Ordinary Member Jacqueline Watts

As only one nomination was received for each position as shown by the closing date, the nominees are declared elected to the CRA Committee for 2004.

Other Business

After the Guest Speaker, a light supper will be served. It is planned that the Speaker will begin at 6:30 pm and that the talk will be open to members of the public.

Contact List

Members of Parliament

<p>The Hon. Steve Bracks 1 Treasury Pl, Melbourne 3002 (PO Box 4912VV, Melbourne 3001) Tel: 9651 5000 Fax: 9651 5054 Email: steve.bracks@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>The Hon. Mary Delahunty Minister for Planning Level 21, Nauru House, 80 Collins St, Melbourne 3000 Tel: 9655 8900 Fax: 9655 6304 Email: mary.delahunty@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>
<p>The Hon. Bronwyn Pike, MLA Member for Melbourne 484 William St, West Melbourne 3003 Tel: 9328 4637 Fax: 9326 8747 Email: bronwyn.pike@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>The Hon. John Thwaites Level 3, 1 Treasury Pl, Melbourne 3002 Tel: 9651 1222 Fax: 9651 1188 Email: john.thwaites@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>
<p>The Hon Glenyys Romanes, MLC 484 William St, West Melbourne 3003 Phone 9329 8377 Fax 9329 4834 Email: glenyys.romanes@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>The Hon. Gavin Jennings, MLC Suite GO1 60 Leicester Street, Carlton 3053 Phone 9348 2622 Fax 9348 2699 Email: gavin.jennings@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>

City of Melbourne

Council Members

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Newspapers

<p>The Age, Letters Editor, 250 Spencer St Melbourne 3000 Fax 9601 2414 E mail: letters@theage.com.au</p>	<p>The Herald Sun PO Box 14999, Melbourne City MC, 8001 E mail: hslettere@heraldsun.com.au</p>
<p>The Melbourne Times Box 208, Carlton South, 3053 Fax 8417 7088 E mail: letters@metmedia.com.au</p>	<p>The Melbourne Yarra Leader Editor, PO Box 155 Northcote 3070 Email: melbourne@ldr.newsltd.com.au</p>