



## The Carlton Residents Association Inc.

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# Newsflash

To: CRA Members  
From: Sue Chambers, President

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Re: The Latest News  
Date: April 6, 2004

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Dear all

The Carlton History book was well and truly launched by David Williamson last Thursday. What a great day: sunny, in the forecourt of La Mama: icon of Carlton, with some 250 people celebrating the launch. Thanks go to La Mama for hosting the venue; MUP for hosting the event; Lord Mayor John So for speaking for MCC; our Editor Peter Yule for achieving our vision together with a stairway of contributors; Carlton Business Association and King and Godfree for supplying food and drink; Brunettis for breakfasting the contributors; Eugene Schlusser for looking most impressive filming the occasion and the host of MUP staff and Jeff Taylor from MCC for making the event happen. It was a huge red letter day for the Association with plaudits for the project from all quarters. In the evening at Federation Square, MCC hosted a Melbourne Conversation session on "Celebrating Carlton" with Andy May-Browne as MC, and John Button, Peter Yule, Judy Watson, David Williamson, Celestina Sagazio and Arnold Zable reminiscing about Carlton and their own Carlton experiences. Very impressive: not sure if the success was related to the excellent Carlton football result on Saturday: could be!

Our next occasion is a General Meeting at the Kathleen Syme Centre from **6 to 7-30pm on Tuesday 20th April**. Our speaker will be **Dr Paolo Tombasi**, Senior Lecturer in Architectural Design and Practice, Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning, University of Melbourne. His topic is "**The Horizontal City**". This should be a refreshing contrast to the vertical developments so popular in Melbourne through the Melbourne 2030 process. He is currently supervising a 4th year design student project on alternative designs for the Eastern Precinct student accommodation development. In the past three years he has also supervised projects on the Queen Elizabeth Hospital site. Dr Tombasi will include comment on these projects in his presentation.

The recommendation to DSE by Council in its response to the revised Becton plan was a great disappointment to the community members who presented at the special Planning Meeting on 24th April. With respect to the reduction of scale, Council recommended further reductions but only to the extent of 2 storeys at the southern end of two of the

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tower buildings and 1 storey on a 5 storey building. These reductions are much less than the model proposed by Peter Sanders, on behalf of the Association, (see attached). Peter's proposal allows for about 400 units and 588 student beds: still bigger than any other development on Swanston Street or any other residential college around College Crescent. A decision by the Minister for Planning is expected soon. If approval is given with little reduction in scale required, our Association may appeal again to VCAT on the grounds that the development proposal does not meet the planning controls for the site. The Council's decision is available at [http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/committees/meetings/COUNCIL\\_59\\_20040325.pdf](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/committees/meetings/COUNCIL_59_20040325.pdf)

Those of you who live near the Carlton Gardens will have been aware of the Melbourne International Flower Show hosted at the Gardens. Together with the Carlton Gardens Group and the East Enders we expressed concern in the media that the ineffectiveness of the new license conditions to achieve more exhibits on the hard surfaces in the block rather than on the grass areas. The progressive damage to the Gardens area is seen as unsustainable. There were also many parking infringements associated with visitor car parking, including parking on the medians in Drummond Street. These issues relate to general public perceptions of the Carlton Gardens. Are they of world heritage significance? We should hear in the next few months the outcome of the UNESCO World Heritage listing application for the Royal Exhibition Building and the Carlton Gardens. We do know that the site is at the top of the National Heritage listing recently announced by the Federal Government. With such a high heritage significance recognition, it is hoped that there will be greater attention given to ensure that the Carlton Gardens are enhanced, not degraded. The Carlton Gardens Masterplan is presently being developed and submissions are due 8th April. The weblink is: <http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/parks/default.asp?casid=731&docid=602&type=1>

Another document out for public consultations concerns body corporation legislation. A **Future Directions Paper** has been prepared by Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) to encourage further contribution from the community. A public Forum organized by the Coalition of Residents Association (CoRA) on the State Government Review of Bodies Corporate will be held in the Supper Room, Melbourne Town Hall, Thursday May 6, 7-30 to 9-30 pm. The paper can be read at [http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/cbav/fairsite.nsf/pages/of\\_hottopics\\_bcreview?OpenDocument](http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/cbav/fairsite.nsf/pages/of_hottopics_bcreview?OpenDocument) All are welcome. There is a pre-forum planning meeting. If you would like to attend, or have issues you would like raised, please let me know.

In the meantime, have a restful Easter holiday.

Best wishes



President

