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## *Victorian Election*

85 interested voters attended the 'Meet the Candidates Night' at Church of all Nations. 3 prospective candidates addressed the meeting, sponsored by Carlton Residents Association and the Church of All Nations and chaired by John Evans.



*Election Forum- Ellen Sandell (Greens), John Evans (Moderator), Jennifer Kanis (ALP), Joel Murray (Aust. Sex Party)*

## *Election Outcome*

The outcome of the Victorian election is now known. Ellen Sandell, the Greens candidate has won the seat of Melbourne while the Labor Party was elected as the new government. Of particular interest to CRA, the Labor Party has promised to stop the East West Link project. Our Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, described this election as a referendum on the East West Link, with the Liberal Party committed to building it and the Labor Party opposed to it.

### **VCAT decision on 15-31 Pelham Street**

Three CRA members, two owners corporations and a local resident attended a 6 day VCAT hearing in support of the City of Melbourne's defence of its decision to refuse planning approval for this 8 storey redevelopment. On December 8 the Tribunal reported the decision **not to grant a permit**. The order states:

- **The decision of the Responsible Authority is affirmed.**
- **In permit application TP-2013-630 no permit is granted.**

Read the decision in full here: <http://www.carltonresidents.org.au/referencegroups/VCAT.html>

### Traffic, Transport & Parking

#### *East West Link contracts signed*

On 29 September 2014, amid on-going controversy and active court cases, the Napthine Government signed secret construction contracts with the East West Connect consortia, led by Lend Lease. These contracts probably include at least \$500 million compensation should the project not proceed. At \$1 million per metre, the Link is the most costly roads project in Australian history, by a large margin. Yet it was never part of any transport plan or road reservation process, which is why it has attracted so much community angst.

Signing of the Contracts was the culmination of Government policy to finalise East West Link (EWL) contracts prior to the State Election and to never release a Business Case for the project. The ALP Opposition claims that contracts signed during court proceedings are invalid and unenforceable. The Napthine Government is moving with all speed to ensure contracts are locked-in: compulsory property acquisitions were Gazetted on 16 October using the *Major Transport Facilitation Act 2009*, introduced by the ALP Brumby Government, to bypass the need for enabling legislation and parliamentary scrutiny of the EWL (as was required for all previous major roads projects in Victoria). Initial work on the Link could proceed in the near-term.



*An impression of the Hoddle St. flyover which takes out heritage Bendigo St. Collingwood and Noone St. Clifton Hill, and fatally compromises many adjacent properties and streets. Note also the EWL tunnel entrance near the Shot-tower.*

#### Link impacts escalate

Commentators have noted that ‘Matthew Guy (Planning Minister) has sneakily Gazetted additions to the [EWL] project area, including large parts of Royal Park, Essendon Community Gardens, areas at Dights Falls and extra land at various interchanges and adjacent roads. He has also revoked 15 of the *Performance Requirements* he approved in June 2014 – further distancing himself from the Independent Assessment Committee’s recommendations.

He has made further unspecified changes in relation to open space. The actual changes are being kept secret’. (Andrew Herington, [www.ycat.org.au](http://www.ycat.org.au)),

A major electrical substation to power tunnel boring

equipment will be established on Royal Park. The Zoo has been granted an additional 1.2ha carpark on Royal Park as a ‘legacy’ bonus from the EWL, despite its close proximity to excellent public transport. Overall impacts on parkland and private property are yet to be fully announced; new revelations are regularly tabled. It seems no impact is so horrendous as to be unacceptable for the EWL; we’ve not seen the end of it yet!

#### Legal actions

A Supreme Court win for Yarra and Moreland Councils, in their case against Ministerial use of the *Major Transport Facilitation Act* (above), gained ‘discovery’ rights over documents considered by Planning Minister Guy during the Link approval process. The Councils also won most of their costs from this successful action against the Government. On 16 October, Moonee Valley Council resolved to also take legal action over the Link approval process.

Community legal action (Murphy vs LMA and others) won appeal rights for a retrial which seeks access to the Business Case. This action is supported pro-bono by Ron Merkel QC and Julian Burnside QC and their associated legal teams. This case will be reheard prior to the Election.

Under the above legal pressure, the Government changed tack in its efforts to avoid scrutiny of the secret Business Case and documents relied on for EWL approval. It is now using ‘Public Interest Immunity’ ie. the public has no right to know financial and other implications of the Link, rather than its previous ‘Commercial in Confidence’ claim, which infers business activity denied in Court.

#### On-going objections to the Link

Widespread community based protests, rallies etc to the EWL, have ramped up since construction contracts were signed. *The 2014 Transport Election – we demand our say* was a major rally on **Saturday 15 November, 1pm.**



*Sit-down protest at Transport Minister Mulder’s Office*

#### Political implications

The ALP Opposition claim ‘Only Labor can stop the East West Link’. However this stance critically depends on success by the Councils in Supreme Court action after the Election. An elected ALP Government would not oppose



the Councils in Court. The Consortia would likely seek to join the Case in opposition to the Councils, to protect its commercial interests. If the Napthine Government is re-elected the project would proceed without question. The Greens claim only they truly oppose the EWL.

The Government is continuing its \$multi-million publicity campaign in support of the Link and is again 'talking up' public transport projects as a diversionary tactic (just as it did in 2010). Numbers of unplanned and unfunded public transport projects have been announced (or re-announced). Further \$millions are being spent on legal action to defend the EWL approval process in Court and to avoid scrutiny of the Business Case. Transport policy in Victoria is in a shambles!

A celebratory dinner at the exclusive 'Vue de Monde' restaurant, involving Consortia members and LMA staff, following contract signing, drew media derision (*The Age*, 9 October 2014). Whatever happened to 'frank and fearless advice' from public servants to Ministers? LMA appears to have entered the political fray with its enthusiastic involvement in the EWL

### **Calls are being made for a Royal Commission into the East West Link and its controversial approval process.**

For further information : [www.lma.vic.gov.au](http://www.lma.vic.gov.au) and [www.ycat.org.au](http://www.ycat.org.au)

### **Charter on Public Transport**

A Charter on Public Transport, developed by Protectors of Public Land Victoria, for the incoming Government was presented to the public, Government and Opposition parties at a rally on Thursday 16 October 2014 on the steps of Parliament. The rally was timed for the last day of the term of the 57th Victorian Parliament, before the 29 November 2014 State Election. Speakers included representatives from ALP, Greens, Mayors of Yarra and Moreland, PTUA, PPL, YCAT, Tunnel Picket and others.

### **Overview/ Context for production of a Charter on Public Transport**

According to *Plan Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Strategy May 2014*, which 'sets out the government's vision that will guide the city's growth to 2050', public transport should play a much greater role in future than it has in the past, with reliance on public transport needing to increase so that a greater proportion of all trips will need to be taken by public transport (*Plan Melbourne*, p. 84).

In spite of this telling observation in *Plan Melbourne*, Melbourne is at crisis point because of the failure of successive governments to provide for integrated transport and land-use planning.

The Charter cites 15 major requirements, including extending heavy rail services, abandonment of the discredited East West Link, high capacity rail signalling, demand management of the road network and the Melbourne Rail Project.

For further information please contact Julianne Bell, Secretary, Protectors of Public Lands Victoria: [jbelle5@bigpond.com](mailto:jbelle5@bigpond.com)



*Dr Tony Morton, President, Public Transport Users Association, addressing the Rally.*

### **Inaugural Paul Mees Public Debate**

**That public transport planning is too important to be left to politicians:** this was the topic of a lively debate at the RMIT Capitol Theatre, 14 October 2014, in loving memory of debater extraordinaire and transport guru, the late Associate Professor, Paul Mees OAM, (RMIT) who died in June 2013 (*Newsflash* Winter 2013).

Jon Faine of ABC Radio fame was MC.

**For the affirmative:** Senator Janet Rice (Greens), Cr Jackie Fristacky (Mayor, City of Yarra), Professor Carolyn Whitzman (University of Melbourne).

**For the negative:** Assoc. Professor Wendy Steele (RMIT), William McDougall (consulting engineer), Rod Quantock (comedian & community activist). All spoke highly of Paul and his meritorious contributions to the transport debate over many years. Rod Quantock stole the show with his hilarious analysis of Napthine Government transport policies.

On a show of applause for each team, the Affirmative team was declared winner by the MC. The very thoughtful debate raised many issues around public transport and roads priorities, including the very topical East West Link. Participants were thanked by Erica Cervini (Paul's widow) and Dr Jago Dobson (Paul's close friend and colleague at RMIT). It was a wonderfully memorable evening and a fitting tribute to our fond memories of Paul who we sadly miss in the transport debate. At CRA we recall his wise counsel on transport matters. The audience included a number of CRA members and friends.

A book: *The Public City – essays in honour of Paul Mees* is in publication by Melbourne University Press. Many well-known and respected commentators have contributed. For more information or to register an interest in the book please visit: <http://eepurl.com/4osiD> and enter your contact details.

## Community mural painting

A very colourful and striking mural, 80m long, has been painted by local artists and assistants (some from CRA) on the rear fences of homes in Bendigo Street Collingwood, facing Hoddle Street. These beautifully restored heritage houses have been compulsorily acquired by LMA for demolition to accommodate the massive Hoddle Street overpass to the Eastern Freeway, associated with the East West Link (page 2 in this *Newsflash*). Currently 102 properties have been compulsorily acquired for the Link; a further 80 are under consideration.



**The mural captures the theme:  
*Stop dud East West Tollroad. More Public Transport.***

## Streetscapes

### *Re-imagine University Square?*

The northern section of University Square (*cr Grattan, Leicester and Barry Sts*) was devastated by The University of Melbourne (MU) in 1999 when it razed the Victoria Bowling Club to construct an underground car park associated with its failed University Private enterprise. (CRA actively opposed this process; see *Carlton, a History* p.167-9). This once green area was replaced with the present 'brutalist' concrete surface now referred to as a plaza, and with four ugly air vent stacks. Additionally, there are two structures which house car park stairwells, covered with University self-promotion placards. Some shallowly planted trees aim to soften the impact. This treatment of University Square starkly contrasts with underground car parks within the university grounds, which were constructed with hollow columns that open to the surface and provide deep pots for growing large, healthy trees.

The City of Melbourne (CoM) is now planning to 'revitalise' this unique urban space within the confines of the inflicted damage, and to 'improve quality and use of the University constructed 'plaza space'. Community input was requested for ideas on 'reimagining' the Square.

CRA expressed concerns about the CoM's previous attempts to improve quality and use of Carlton's other squares, Argyle and Lincoln, which fatally compromised the squares and the purpose for which they were originally

designed. The costly cobbled surface of 'Piazza Italia' on Argyle Square is a heat bank and usually empty of people, the bocce court is likewise unused, while people enjoy the ambience of the trees and grass of the 'undeveloped' southern half of the square. Council's concreting the entire eastern section of Lincoln Square has turned it into a noisy skateboard park.

CRA has strongly advocated that University Square be fully returned to parkland, to the passive recreation space for which it was originally designed; a scarce commodity in Carlton:

- that the Square retain all present trees, indeed that additional shade trees be planted
- that grassed green spaces be increased where possible
- that there be absolutely no additional paths, and/or hard surfaces and other intrusions
- that the [severely degraded] 'plaza space' be resurfaced, and restored to green space
- that the invasive air vent stacks be camouflaged with greenery
- that University advertising be removed from the car park staircase entrance
- that University Square be recognized for its heritage status as part of the original Hoddle Grid of Melbourne, and that this be taken into account in any redesign.



*University Square November 2014*

## **Police Community Consultative Committee (PCCC)**

There have been discussions regarding the closure of PCCC groups. The local group feels that it works effectively. This is supported by Troy Burg the senior police officer at North Melbourne, who is the chair of the local PCCC.

Matters from the October meeting:

- the annual toy drive will be around the 20 December.
- cyclists are still of concern, especially in Royal Pde
- laptops figure highly in the lost and stolen items
- mental health is an issue. The force spends a great deal of time with people who have mental health problems and who might harm themselves and others.

## Planning

APP No./ADDRESS	DETAILS OF WORK/CRA INTEREST
<p><b>Carried Forward - From July 2014</b></p> <p><b>TP-2013-630-</b> 15-31 Pelham St - <b>Objection</b></p> <p><b>TP-2013-947-</b>123-127 Bouverie St/ 116-128 Leicester St - <b>Objection</b></p> <p><b>TP-2013-1059-</b>932-944 Swanston St- <b>Objection</b></p> <p><b>TP-2014-59</b> – 205-223 Pelham St <b>Objection</b></p>	<p><b>Permit Refused.</b> The applicant has appealed the decision , VCAT hearing commenced on 24 November. This appeal will be a test of the heritage controls put in place to protect the World Heritage values of the Royal Exhibition Building. The grounds for CoMs refusal are on the CRA website. (<a href="http://www.carltonresidents.org.au">www.carltonresidents.org.au</a>)</p> <p><b>Permit Issued.</b> An application for a 15 storey development by Melbourne University for use as student accommodation and ground floor retail. CRAs objection was against the proposed 49 metre height, which exceeds the recommended limit of 40 metres set by DDO61.Negotiations between. CoM and MU resulted in the elimination of one storey and other design improvements.</p> <p><b>NOD</b> Alter existing building and construct a new 3 storey building for use as student accommodation. This is the historic “Fleming House” site. CRA expressed concern regarding the impact of the new building on Fleming House and requested that a heritage report be commissioned. Negotiations between CoM and the Applicant over the heritage issues resulted in some improvements and a notice of decision (NOD) to approve has been issued.</p> <p><b>Permit Refused.</b> Reece Plumbing Site. A 15 Storey apartment building proposed. CRA has lodged an objection on the grounds of excessive height, inadequate setback, heritage issues and wind effects. Refer to our website for details of the submission. Applicant has appealed the decision. VCAT hearing expected - scheduled for 23 February 2015.</p>
<p><b>August – 17 Applications - 1 Cause for Concern</b></p> <p><b>TP-2014-640</b> – 599 - 605 Swanston St</p>	<p>This application for a multi-storey development at the N-W corner of Swanston &amp; Queensberry Sts has lapsed. The site has been sold and a fresh application can be anticipated</p>
<p><b>September – 13 Applications –</b> <b>1 Cause for Concern</b></p> <p><b>TP-2014-734</b> – 66 – 88 Lygon St.</p>	<p>Awaiting further details on multi-storey development proposed for S-E corner of Lygon &amp; Queensberry Sts (Downtowner Motel) Anticipate an objection.</p>
<p><b>October - 19 Applications</b></p>	<p>No grounds for objection identified for 16, awaiting additional information on 3 applications</p>
<p><b>November - 10 Applications (to 21 Nov)</b></p>	<p>No grounds for objection identified for 16, awaiting additional information on 3 applications.</p>

At the beginning of each month, the CRA’s planning sub-committee meets to consider the previous month’s planning applications for the 3053 postcode area. The committee is particularly alert to the following:

- overlooking or any other loss of amenity to neighbouring properties
- loss of amenity to the wider surrounding area (bulk, aesthetics, car parking)
- whether the application complies with the council’s heritage overlay and height restrictions
- internal amenity (chiefly in multi-dwelling developments)

The City of Melbourne has an easy to use online search facility for the Planning Register, which provides up-to-date information on the status of a Planning Permit or current application, searching by application number or address.

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/BuildingandPlanning/Planning/Pages/PlanningRegisterSearch.aspx>

If you are aware of developments needing attention, please contact the Planning Committee: [planningcra@gmail.com](mailto:planningcra@gmail.com)



## Planning (cont)

### *Old Royal Women's Hospital Redevelopment*

Written submissions to **comment on Planning Scheme Amendment C173 Carlton Connect and a proposed development plan for the site closed on 24 November** . These submissions will be public documents and made available on the Council's website. The Future Melbourne Committee will consider submissions to determine the appointment of an independent panel for review.

#### **In summary [from the CoM website]**

- *The land and the Carlton Connect project are owned by the University of Melbourne. The City of Melbourne has prepared this planning scheme amendment at the university's request.*
- *The amendment seeks to change the zoning of the land from its current Public Use Zone to the Capital City Zone, accommodating new research, development and education facilities in addition to community, commercial, residential and retail spaces and student housing.*
- *The amendment will include a Development Plan Overlay (DPO) to guide the long term development of the hub.*
- *Three main buildings currently occupy the former Royal Women's Hospital site with a height range up to 47 metres. The Amendment, as currently proposed, allows new development on the site to range from 25 metres to 59 metres.*

#### **The CRA submission.**

The existing 12 storey [plus ground floor] 3AW block, which may be retained, already exceeds the preferred height for this part of Carlton by several floors. The University wants to add more floors to this building and redevelop the western [Swanston St] section of the block with a building taller than the existing 3AW block, and the eastern [Cardigan St] section with a 40 metre high structure ... about ten floors.

- **This redevelopment will not 'provide the opportunity for development of a transitional nature between the Carlton neighbourhood and the retail core'; developments higher than 40 metres [about 10 floors] would not be approved in the retail core of the CBD.**
- **The existing 3AW block already casts significant shadows over Grattan Street during the middle of the day for 6 months of the year. Adding extra floors to this building and replacing the two storey A J Cunningham building [on Swanston St corner] with a building taller than the existing 3AW block will not improve the pedestrian amenity of Grattan Street.**

**To facilitate this development a rezoning to the Capital City Zoning is proposed. This effectively EXCLUDES the community from ANY further say over the detailed use and development matters. The notice, decision requirements and review rights of the planning act are effectively scrapped for ALL but a limited number of uses.**

- **If the University is seriously wanting to engage with the Carlton residents, it would never approve this Capital City Zoning option.**

The new Development Plan Overlay includes many laudable objectives, with considerable emphasis being given to the Environmentally Sustainable Design measures [ESD measures]. At the Development Plan level it has been determined to use the Green Star Communities Rating Tool Pilot ... a Green Building Council of Australia initiative. While it is possible that the redevelopment may include cutting edge ESD initiatives, there are no guarantees.

- **While comprehensive, point scoring ESD rating tools will not ensure [for example] that this development will generate all its own energy with renewable resources or capture and treat all its water.**

### *New Residential Zones - City of Melbourne Carlton Residents Association*

In September this year the CRA presented its Submission to the Residential Zones Standing Advisory Committee [RZSAC]. We welcomed the inclusion of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone [NRZ] option for parts of Carlton, but submitted that the Council should have been more generous in the allocation of this zoning option.

#### **Why the NRZ Option?**

We submitted that the NRZ option should not be seen as a way of locking up areas from re-development, but, as a way of facilitating development that respects the valued heritage attributes of the inner city. We also saw the retention and re-cycling of building stock **without special heritage attributes** as an important environmental initiative. This has been acknowledged by the City of Melbourne in their Local Heritage Policy Reviews ... 'The identification, conservation and integration of the heritage fabric can reduce building demolition and new construction waste and conserve the embodied energy of existing buildings.'

#### **The Guiding Principles must be modified.**

During the hearing there was considerable debate over the application and relevance of the Guiding Principles [developed by the State Government] to the inner areas of Melbourne. This was particularly important in relation to the 80% 'detached dwelling threshold'. As the City has acknowledged, there are very few detached dwellings in the municipality; accordingly, this guideline required modification.

There was also much discussion over the NRZ provision that addressed the number of dwellings per lot. The inner city, and Carlton in particular, has many terraces and row houses where more than two dwellings are included in the Plan of Subdivision, but from a streetscape perspective, these terraces are indistinguishable from terraces where each dwelling is on a separate 'block'.

Note the examples below.



*44-48 Macarthur Place North*



*870-874 Swanston Street*

### **Carlton's Contribution to the Stock of New Housing**

There were many other issues canvassed in the CRA Submission, but perhaps none more important than the suburb's contribution to the housing supply. It has been argued that the inner city, and Carlton in particular, needs to make a fair contribution to the supply of new residential stock. In this context, the NRZ should be applied very sparingly! However, it must be acknowledged that Carlton is already making a massive contribution to the supply of new housing stock in the municipality....

- recently the Council endorsed a vast expansion of the Capital City Zone into South Carlton. All that area south of Grattan Street, between Elizabeth and Swanston Street has now been set aside for significant re-development, and
- in the Carlton Housing Precincts, 100's of units are coming on stream in 4 to 8 level developments. Even larger housing developments are either under construction or being proposed for the old Carlton Brewery site [Swanston, Victoria and Bouverie St block] and at the top of Elizabeth Street [the Royal Elizabeth]

As there was considerable debate during the hearing over the status of submissions which argued for an **extension** of the NRZ option, the CRA took the opportunity to argue why

the NRZ was important, rather than the merits of the additional areas recommended for the Carlton area.

The City of Melbourne came in for particular criticism from a Collective Group of Industry Professionals. This Group argued that the City should have maintained its original position ... where all the old Residential 1 Zoned areas were 'translated into' the General Residential Zoning option. In the view of this Collective, the NRZ option would have the effect of locking out developers and lead to inappropriate development outcomes [a position which the CRA contested].

### **Where to Now?**

The hearings in relation to this Amendment concluded on the 19 September, and the Report from the RZSAC was to have been provided to the Minister for Planning on Friday 17 October. As there is no requirement for the Minister to release this report, we may have to wait for some months before knowing the outcome.

## *Topical issues*

### *Big Population Debate*

This topical debate was hosted by Planning Backlash, a State-wide coalition of community and residents groups (including CRA) at Deakin Edge Theatre on Monday 13 October.

The question *Will Melbourne still be the most liveable city by 2050* was debated by Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle: *Population growth is inevitable in our great urban centres so we need to plan for it* and Kelvin Thomson MHR (Federal Member for Wills), President, Victoria First: *Population growth is neither inevitable or desirable, it damages our way of life and our children's future*. The Moderator was Michael Short, *The Age* Editor of 'The Zone'. Questions and discussion concluded the informative evening.

The growth lobby and big end of town push migration (240,000 in 2013) and overall population growth (around 400,000 in 2013, not including the 13,000 humanitarian intake, New Zealanders, 457 visa holders, overseas students etc), because it provides a market for the building and construction industry and the businesses that supply materials, white goods, and all the other items required by new households (Jack Roach, Boroondara Residents Action Group). Current rapid population growth, (three times that evident in 2000) drives inappropriate housing development in Melbourne, which is all too evident in Carlton. Australia's annual population growth is 1.82%, twice that of USA and UK and three times that of NZ and France. Melbourne's population will double to 8 million by 2050 at current growth rates.

The large audience was widely supportive of the Thomson view that population growth is not inevitable and was



generally hostile to the unstoppable growth mantra of the Lord Mayor. The idea of a referendum on immigration levels gained enthusiastic support. Many thanks to Mary Drost and Jack Roach and their committee for organising such a noteworthy event.

## Community News

### MCC democracy project

In August 2014, Melbourne City Council recruited a "People's Panel" of everyday Melburnians to make recommendations on how the council should prioritise spending over the next decade. 46 Residents, including a CRA member, were representative of a broad cross-section of the community.

When the council's draft 10-year financial plan is released in April 2015, the panel's report will be included in its entirety, with an explanation on each recommendation.

<http://www.theage.com.au/comment/for-democracys-sake-give-power-to-the-people-20140831-10akn1.html>

and

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/citizens-jury-of-melburnians-will-guide-6-billion-spend-20140707-zsz7i.html>

### Carlton Gardens Tennis Program

For 10 years, the Carlton Gardens Tennis Club has conducted free tennis programs aimed at assisting local primary school children, many with a refugee background and living locally in the public housing estate. The Club's latest program has been developed in partnership with the Church of All Nations, Carlton and Tennis Victoria which makes it different, primarily because traditionally the partnership is with a local primary school and Kids Tennis Foundation. Also, the group of 15 players for this program, in the main, do not attend local primary schools as they travel further north for a Muslim or Christian (Catholic) education. The parents are from Ethiopia, the Sudan and Eritrea. Furthermore, the program is held on Saturday afternoons rather than on weekdays during school hours.

Tennis Victoria supplied new tennis shoes, T-shirts, caps, racquets, water bottles, kitbags and low-compression tennis balls. Rotary of Carlton and Carlton Residents Association assisted as sponsors to cover the cost of a pair of tennis socks and shorts. The Club arranged the coaching staff and provided 2 courts free of charge whilst the Church of all Nations, Carlton organised the parents and players.

The program ran for 10 weeks and ended on Saturday 13 December with a BBQ and awards. Tennis Victoria announced a day visit by the players and their parents to the Australian Open in January. Free day passes and show bags will be supplied and an organised tour of the precinct will be conducted. Another sponsor will provide lunch, also free of charge.

There have been several unexpected and positive outcomes from the program: several mothers undertook to supply Ethiopian food to the tennis club members playing social tennis in the evenings. This involved 40 customers and helped promote this social enterprise. Also other African families have arranged to take separate tennis lessons. The tennis club and Tennis Victoria have linked up with Victoria Police Fitzroy to conduct a similar program, after school on Tuesdays, for young students from the Atherton Gardens Estate.

Whilst planning commenced in July, recent developments in international affairs has meant this program has become more significant for the Carlton community. It is a tangible sign of community co-operation and social harmony, when there could have been a tendency to marginalise refugees, particularly from the Horn of Africa, many of whom are Muslim. Through tennis a divisive and challenging social problem has been addressed. The consensus is that the program has been a wonderful experience for the families and it has helped to build bridges for a more inclusive and safer Carlton. Our tennis club will continue to work with Church of all Nations and Tennis Victoria to ensure the program ends on this high note.



*The tennis programme in action*

**IT'S TIME TO JOIN CRA :  
DO IT TODAY!**

Take a look at the website for up to date information

[www.carltonresidents.org.au](http://www.carltonresidents.org.au)

Now Joining/rejoining CRA is even easier!

Do it online via the following link -

<http://www.trybooking.com/DXAZ>