



March 2018

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Supported by the Community
Services Grants Program



Neighbour Day - a chance for Carlton to gather



10am - 2pm

A great opportunity for the people of Carlton to gather and enjoy our town. One end of Faraday Street, outside KSLCC will be closed to create a space for activities and stall holders. Details [here](#)

If you'd like to be a Carlton Neighbour Day supporter or sponsor, email carltonresidents@gmail.com **NOW**

CRA - AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Carlton Residents Association was held at the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre on Monday 19 February 2018.

The Annual Report outlines CRA's achievements for Carlton and the key activities of the Association in 2017. The full report can be accessed on the CRA website: www.carltonresidents.org.au

Briefly, the Planning Group participated in a number of complex objections. The redevelopment of the Old Royal Womens Hospital site by the University of Melbourne in their Carlton Connect Initiative demanded close attention, along with other strategic planning issues especially relating to Heritage.

In addition, the Traffic Transport Parking and Noise Abatement Group has covered a wide range of issues relating to daily life in Carlton.

The first Carlton Neighbour Day, held in March 2017, provided an opportunity for the community to gather around the Kathleen Syme Centre and was jointly sponsored by CRA, City of Melbourne and the University of Melbourne.

AGM attendees were treated to an exceptional panel discussion: Good governance in the 'post truth age'. The panelists – Dr Matthew Sharpe, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Deakin University and Misha Ketchell, editor of The Conversation – an independent, not-for-profit media outlet - both spoke briefly to initiate questions and comments.

(cont p2)

Working groups

AGM (cont)

Misha raised issues relating to political silencing of professional journalists and the use of the media for political advancement rather than what is best for the community. 'Journalists should be publishing in the public interest rather than political interest', he said.

Matthew posed questions relating to the challenges social media and the internet present to the function of news media, especially as internet news providers concentrate on numbers and this creates a drive to sensationalism. As community members we should stand up for the rights of journalists to report without fear or favour and encourage the rigorous sifting of evidence. It is important to understand that there will be those we disagree with, but being exposed to them is good for us.

It was further suggested that the information one gets from social media is designed to predict preferences and feed back information which will reinforce existing opinions and philosophies.

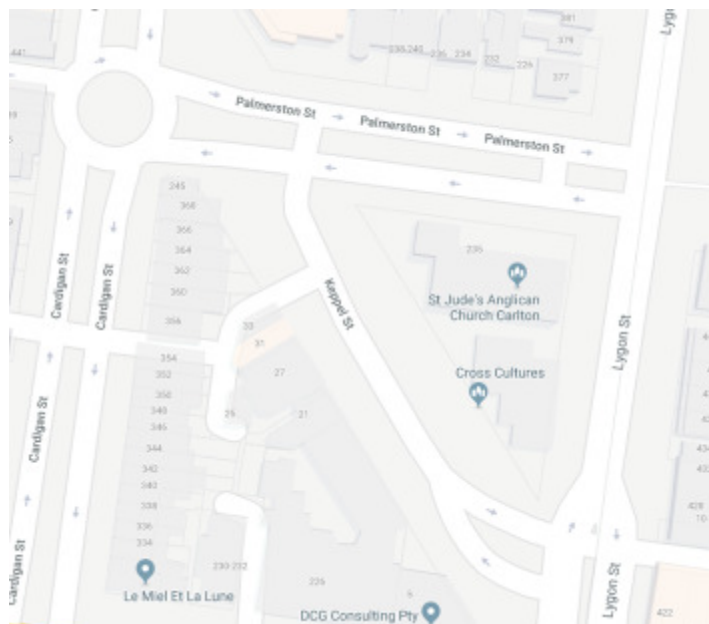
Working Groups

Parkland and Streetscapes

Proposed Streetscape Improvements to Carlton

[Carlton Residents Association](#) and [St Jude's Church](#) submitted a set of proposals to Council to improve the amenity, safety and ecology of Carlton in early 2018.

The proposals are based on our understanding of the needs and interests of residents, workers, and parishioners who make use of Cardigan, Keppell, and Palmerston streets and the area directly in front of Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre on Faraday Street.



The area in the proposal

We proposed that Council:

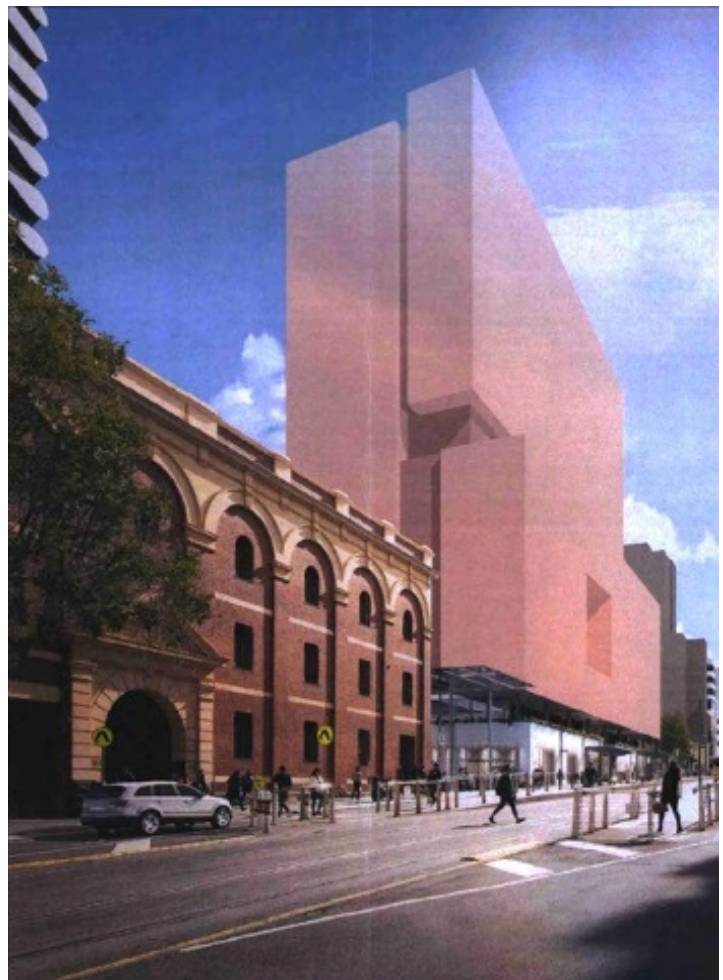
- Install a set of traffic lights across Lygon St. to connect Palmerston Street to the east and west of Lygon St. to increase pedestrian safety
- Further slow traffic on Cardigan Street
- Create a park, including a children's playground, by permanently closing half of Keppell St and half of Palmerston St to traffic
- Create a public and accessible space directly in front of the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre (251 Faraday Street) by permanently closing the southern half of Faraday Street to traffic.

CRA and St Jude consulted with CRA members and Carlton residents during Carlton Neighbour Day 2017 and Cardigan Sunday Street in 2017 and found strong support for increased open space in Carlton

Planning

Our Broken Planning System

There is no better example of our broken planning system than the latest proposal for a twenty two storey student housing/retail complex on the former Carlton Brewery site, just next to the Queensberry Hotel [see image from the Applicant's latest VCAT submission].



SOUTH-EAST PERSPECTIVE

This block was the subject of a Comprehensive Development Plan in October 2007, and, ever since then, the detailed provisions of the approved Building Envelope Plan have been the subject of regular ‘departures’.

For example, the Envelope Plan for the new building to the west of the historic Maltstore building [illustrated in the image] had a nominal height of 21 levels, but, in April 2012 a 32 storey development was approved [the Portrait Building]. And again, for the tower site on the Victoria and Bouverie Street corner, the nominal height was 66 levels, but in 2014 a 71 storey development was approved.

For the three sites at the northern end of the block, this same Envelope Plan recommended that new buildings should have nominal heights of 11, 13 and 11 storeys. Given this guidance, why did the Applicant for the current site on Swanston Street think that a thirty storey development [the original proposal] would satisfy the provisions of the Comprehensive Development Plan?

The current plans before VCAT are proposing a 22 storey tower; this proposal includes 753 student beds and 840 square metres of retail space at ground level. In height terms, this 22 storey tower is about 24 metres higher than the discretionary height recommended in the Envelope Plan [equivalent to about 6 to 8 storeys].

Analysis of the latest plans reveals that there are other significant departures from the approved Comprehensive Development Plan. For example, the Access and Circulation Plan provided for pedestrian access into the site between the Queensberry Hotel and the new development but this has been scrapped. Also, the proposed pedestrian access from Queensberry Street to the west of the Hotel and the new development has become a laneway access to a new loading zone.

In the September 2017 edition of the CRA Newsflash, we observed that the Student Housing Policy [a key local policy in the Melbourne Planning Scheme] was having negligible impact on the quality of new student housing proposals.

‘Most of the recent Applications for Student Housing Projects pay lip service to this policy. Worse still, some of the recommended benchmarks included in the policy are inconsistent with other provisions of the Planning Scheme, and therefore cannot be enforced.’

It is CRA’s view, this latest development proposal exemplifies this problem. For example, the latest plans for the site reveal

- Significant shortfall in the number of bike parking spaces [it should be noted that other provisions in the Planning Scheme would lead to a different conclusion!]
- No provision of onsite car-parking for the management and servicing needs of the building, and
- A significant shortfall in the provision of external communal space for the students.

In any performance based planning system it is argued that architects must have the flexibility to depart from the approved planning guidance, in order to achieve a quality design outcome. However, one has to query the extent, and frequency, of these departures.

Do we really want a negotiated development zone, where there is so much uncertainty over what will be approved and built in our city? One conclusion is clear, our current planning regime is NOT working well. When lip service is paid to approved planning schemes, they lose all credibility.

Ewan Ogilvy 6 Feb 2018

Community News

City of Melbourne’s Safe City Camera Program (SCCP) Audit Committee

At the commencement of the SCCP, the City of Melbourne established an external Audit Committee. The functions are to:

- provide an independent review and checking mechanism for the camera program that ensures that it meets the requirements of its Protocols and Operating Procedures
- promote public confidence in the camera program by ensuring its operations are transparent to the public and under ongoing independent scrutiny and review
- recommend action that will safeguard the camera program against abuse.

The operations of the camera program are examined by the Audit Committee to ensure that the use of the cameras

- continues to be for designated purposes only
- complies with the protocols and procedures and does not compromise the privacy and rights of the general public through any unauthorised use.

The Audit Committee provides a written audit report to Council on an annual basis. This report evaluates the operations of the camera program and compliance with the Protocols and Operating Procedures. More information and the Audit Committee’s past reports can be found here

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/safety-emergency/Pages/safe-city-cameras.aspx>

Margaret Rode - Community Member
City of Melbourne’s SCCP Audit Committee

IT'S TIME TO JOIN CRA

Join online via the following link -

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

OR, for an EFT payment—

CRA Direct Credit Details: Bendigo Bank,
BSB: 633 000 Account No.: 146960570.

Please ensure all details are included for EFT membership payments.

College Square on Swanston

The highrise student housing complex, initiated by Melbourne University in 2002, for the *Eastern Precinct* block (Swanston, Faraday, Cardigan and Elgin Streets)

THE LONG STRUGGLE

- **1960's:** University of Melbourne begins buying sites on the block bordered by Swanston, Faraday, Cardigan and Elgin Street and demolishing cottages
- **1970:** University master plan proposes expansion into area east of Swanston Street
- **1973:** City Council and residents oppose university plans to rezone the block from residential to public use
- **June 2002:** City Council proposes a maximum height of 17.5 metres for the site.
- **September 2002:** Becton, retained by the University as developer, seeks planning permission for \$70 million of student housing up to 36 metres a 632 apartment complex.
- **October 2002:** a site-specific planning overlay (DDO46) was approved by the Bracks State Labor Government. This permitted the University to bypass regular planning processes for its development of the *Eastern Precinct*.
- **December 2002 (ChristmasEve!):** Planning Minister Mary Delahunty announced her controversial planning decision to 'Grant a Permit'. She approved the Becton application for a 36m high, H block public housing style tower building, cancelling the existing 10.5m heritage overlay for the site.
- **January 2003 to June 2003:** Urgent preparation by CRA of the VCAT Appeal 'Statement of Grounds' documentation against the Grant of Permit, was required during the Christmas-New Year holiday period. The City of Melbourne and National Trust also objected to the development.
- CRA, under President, Dr Sue Chambers, rose to the challenge of supporting a six week long appeal at VCAT - probably the most challenging and lengthy in CRA history. She organised an outstanding pro-bono legal team and expert witnesses who took on the high profile team funded by developer Becton, Melbourne University and the State Government.
- **June 2003:** Council and residents challenge the Government decision in VCAT – the hearing ran for 22.5 days. See the Newsflash Archive: June 2003, reports on the VCAT hearing in the CRA website www.carltonresidents.org.au
- **October 2003:** VCAT determined to refuse the Becton plan for the Eastern Precinct development. This was a great relief to the Carlton community. The historic VCAT decision called the development a 'fundamentally flawed scheme' *This is a*

great decision for Carlton. We agree with the Tribunal that a sensible and clever design is required for development of the Eastern Precinct. We hope the University of Melbourne ensures the next plan is just that. (from : 'Special Newsflash, November 2003, Becton Decision, CRA website www.carltonresidents.org.au Newsflash Archive)

- **May 2004:** Planning Minister Delahunty announced a 'scaled back' College Square., following 'extensive' negotiations with City of Melbourne, Becton and CRA. In fact the concessions were minimal
- **July 2004:** CRA Committee decided with much reluctance to negotiate an agreement with Becton rather than Appeal the Minister's decision at VCAT. The decision resulted in a less intense development of 544 apartments with the highest 11 storey component on Swanston Street, tapering to 3 storeys on Cardigan Street, in compliance with the long-standing height and heritage overlay for that street. Most Victorian Era terrace houses around the site were saved from demolition, sold to private owners and subsequently restored. They soften the impact of the highrise buildings on the site and continue to significantly contribute to the heritage streetscape. However CRA maintained 'that the building complex will be patently visually bulky for the site, and that the development will dominate the heritage building and not provide a positive benefit to pedestrians at the busy Faraday/Swanston Street intersection'

SAVE CARLTON
STOP THIS MASSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN CARLTON'S HEART



MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL, THE NATIONAL TRUST AND THE CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ARE APPEALING AGAINST THE MINISTER OF PLANNING'S APPROVAL OF THIS PROPOSED COMPLEX TO HOUSE OVER A THOUSAND PEOPLE. FURTHER EVIDENCE WILL BE HEARD FROM AUGUST 25 TO SEPTEMBER 12.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE APPEAL IS ESSENTIAL

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

WRITE TO THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL, YOUR LOCAL MP OR THE MEDIA.

Further details can be found on the Eastern Precinct at www.carltonresidents.org.au or where The Carlton Residents Association is NOW! Visit.

Flyer distributed during the campaign



The development today towers over the Victorian buildings. Viewed from Faraday / Cardigan Streets corner.

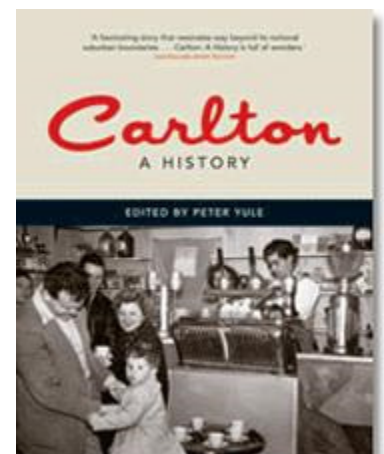
***College Square on Swanston* was a harsh experience for CRA in its dealings with Melbourne University and its voracious off-campus expansions into Carlton which continue to this day.**

It provided a VCAT experience to be long remembered.



Sue and Don Chambers, vital leaders in the long struggle

The CRA publication *Carlton: A History* (p 166-174) provides further detail on these and related matters. Currently out of print, with copies in your local library



Planning Applications

APP No./ADDRESS	DETAILS OF WORK/CRA INTEREST
<p>Previous Applications Carried Forward – TP-2016-798 197-235 Bouverie St (220-234 Leicester St) Objection</p>	<p>This is the Graduate House Development. Partial demolition of existing terrace houses and the construction of an 11 storey building at the rear. It is noted that the CoM has indicated to the Applicant that the proposal would not be supported in its present form and has suspended processing whilst the Applicant reconsiders and or redesigns. CRA monitoring.</p>
<p>TP-2016-1031 10 Magenta Place Objection</p>	<p>Change of use (from warehouse) and construction of 6 storey residential building, subsequently amended to 5 storeys with minor setbacks. CRA's concerns related to exceeding the preferred height of 4 storeys, the inadequate setback and lack of carparking. These were not fully addressed by the amended submission. Permit issued by CoM has been appealed by an objector(s), CRA is not party to this appeal.</p>
<p>TP-2017-877 10 Magenta Place No Action</p>	<p>A fresh application has been lodged for change of use from warehouse to a recreational facility (yoga studio) apparently to provide an interim use until the above application is resolved at VCAT. Permit issued.</p>
<p>TP-2016-1128 232-234 Faraday St Objection</p>	<p>A 3 storey development plus basement, incorporating restaurant and residential uses. Local policy specifically discourages restaurant use in this location. CRA also asserts that the proposal is not an appropriate response to the existing streetscape. A slightly modified proposal has been lodged , however CRA's concerns remain. Permit issued.</p>
<p>TP-2017-188 123-135 Bouverie St Objection</p>	<p>Partial demolition and construction of 13 storey student accommodation. CRA has concerns relating to height, heritage and its compliance with student housing policies. Permit Issued.</p>
<p>TP-2017-616 4-12 Leicester Place Objection</p>	<p>Demolish existing building, construct a 15 storey residential hotel. This is the site of a previous application for a 20 storey residential development that CRA had objected to and VCAT had upheld the CoM refusal of permit. CRA considers this new application is also an inappropriate development for this site. CoM Processing.</p>
<p>TP-2017-651 6 O'Connell Lane Objection</p>	<p>Additions to existing dwelling. CRA concerns related to height, overshadowing and heritage issues. An amended application addressed these concerns and a Permit issued.</p>
<p>TP-2017-714 47-49 Nicholson St Objection</p>	<p>Partial demolition and new additions to create 3 dwellings. In CRA's opinion, the proposal dominates the adjoining heritage properties and the design needs to be more respectful in character and scale. CoM Processing.</p>
<p>TP-2017-761 623-645 Swanston St Objection</p>	<p>Lincoln House (Melbourne University) A major redevelopment of almost the entire site surrounded by Swanston St, Lincoln Square South, Lincoln Place and Cumberland Place with a 13 storey mixed use development. CRA's submission is on our website detailing our concerns which relate to heritage, height, setbacks, pedestrian and adjoining residential amenity. CoM Processing.</p>
<p>TP-2017-380 131-133 Station St Objection</p>	<p>Demolish existing dwelling and construct 2 new dwellings. CRA is of the opinion that the architectural treatment is inappropriate and needs to be more recessive if it is to be respectful of the Level 2 streetscape into which it will be embedded. NOD to issue permit.</p>
<p>TP-2017-274 288-290 Drummond St Objection</p>	<p>Demolish existing dwelling and construct 4 new apartments in a 3 storey development. CRA believes that the development does not adequately respect the adjoining heritage streetscape. Permit issued</p>

APP No./ADDRESS	DETAILS OF WORK/CRA INTEREST
There have been 28 applications since the December Newsflash which generated 2 new objections.	
TP-2016-903 179 Grattan St Objection	Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of an 8 storey plus roof terrace mixed use development. CRA believes that the application fails to respond appropriately to the heritage attributes of the area, especially in regard to its height. CoM processing.
TP-2017-828 500 Swanston St Objection	Demolition of existing CFMEU building and the construction of 17 - 18 storey development for student accommodation. CRA concerns relate to excessive height (exceeding the scheduled preferred heights by approx. 100%) facade treatment, boundary setbacks, equal and equitable development rights, internal amenity and car and bicycle parking. The Applicant has appealed to VCAT on the grounds that CoM failed to make a decision within the prescribed 60 days. VCAT Hearing scheduled for 27 June.
We still await further information on eight of the new applications. Note: All CRA objections can be viewed in the Summary of Reviewed Applications on the CRA website	

The City of Melbourne has an easy to use online search facility, the *Town Planning Permits Register*, which provides information on the status of Planning Permit Applications. Searching is by application number or property address.
<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/building-and-development/property-information/planning-building-registers/pages/town-planning-permits-register.aspx>

If you are aware of any potentially contentious development that you think may warrant attention, please contact the Planning Committee at: planningcra@gmail.com

**Melbourne City Council, Lord Mayor by-election
 CRA will host a forum for all Mayoral candidates
 on Monday 23 April
 at the Church of All Nations in Carlton.**

This will be a chance for residents to meet the mayoral candidates in person, hear the candidate's positions, and engage in discussion on matters of importance. Put the date in your diary now More details to follow.

Voting is compulsory for all voters listed on the Melbourne City Council voters roll at 4.00 pm on Friday 16 March 2018. When you receive your ballot pack you must complete your ballot paper, and return it as soon as possible using the reply paid envelope.

Alternatively, you may hand-deliver your completed ballot material to the election office by 6.00 pm on Friday 11 May 2018.

Completed ballot material must be posted – or in the hands of the Returning Officer – by 6.00 pm on Friday 11 May 2018, when voting closes. Ballot material posted after this date cannot be accepted and you may incur a fine.

Monday 5 February 2018	Date of vacancy
Friday 16 March 2018	Enrolment closes 4.00 pm
Thursday 5 April 2018	Nominations open
Tuesday 10 April 2018	Nominations close 12 noon
Wednesday 11 April 2018	Last chance to lodge candidate statements and photos, 12 noon
Monday 16 April 2018	Last chance to respond to candidate questionnaire
Monday 23 April – Thursday 26 April 2018	Mail-out of ballot packs
Friday 11 May 2018	Voting closes 6.00 pm

Australian Open

Players from the Community Tennis Coaching Program (which is for families originating from the Horn of Africa) were again sponsored to attend 2 days of the Australian Open. It was part of an initiative by Tennis Australia to promote its grassroots Hot Shots children's program.

In addition to grants for the program from Tennis Victoria, Rotary Carlton and CRA, event caterer Delaware North provided vouchers for food and drink which were very welcome especially on the hot days.

It was an honour for the group to be allocated to a major venue, Margaret Court Arena, for their time on-court.



Representing Carlton Gardens Tennis Club and Church of All Nations Abel Jovani with Dominic Theim (Austria) and Denis Kudla(USA), after the referee asked Abel to toss the coin to start their match on Margaret Court Arena.

Topical issues

Breaking Down Barriers to Meaningful Work – from the office of Ellen Sandell

Ellen Sandell is the State MP for Melbourne. If you have any concerns, or would like to share your vision for our community, please get in touch at,

office@ellensandell.com or on 03 9328 4837.

Carlton is a compassionate and multicultural community, and this diversity is part of what makes it such a great place to live and work.

Our community always comes together when these values are threatened. Most recently, when Peter Dutton said we were too scared of 'African gangs' to eat out at night, we filled African restaurants to the brim. It was a heart warming response.

But we can still do more to make sure that African Australians, and people from all backgrounds and faiths, have the opportunities in life that we all deserve.

It's hard to find work in Melbourne at the best of times. It's even harder if English isn't your first language, or your education was interrupted because you or your family were escaping a warzone or famine.

It's downright unfair if you can't get a foot in the door because of your religion or the colour of your skin.

These are the barriers that many in our community face every day. They have an impact on people's ability to put food on the table or pay the bills.

We can do better.

I've been pleased to help advocate for some solutions. My first action when I was elected in 2014 was to call for the Government's Back to Work program to specifically include people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds, and the program was changed to do just that.

I was also successful in advocating for \$6 million of funding to assist African and migrant job seekers, and 3000 new public TAFE places for asylum seekers and refugees.

But we're not there yet.

I was glad to see the government's recent announcement of a new \$650,000 jobs program for residents of the Flemington public housing estate.

It really is a much-needed program. But it's a program we need right across Melbourne, not just at one public housing estate that is scheduled for an unpopular redevelopment.

We should not use employment programs as inducements for people who might lose their public housing or open space under Labor's current plans to sell off public housing land.

I have written to the government, asking them to extend this program across Melbourne. I know residents of the Carlton, North Melbourne, and Kensington public housing estates, and many other members of our community, could benefit from this program too.

If we want to create a truly fair society, we need to make sure everyone has an opportunity to find meaningful work, no matter their race or religion.

Did you know? Rubbish collection hours

The preferred pick up time for the City of Melbourne Council and private rubbish collectors, is 6 am to 11 pm.

If rubbish collection times are a problem, especially around areas with restaurants, record the license number and company of the truck and report it to:

Tom Berehe Ph 03 9658 8819
tom.berehe@melbourne.vic.gov.au