



September 2024

**Lord Mayoral Candidates forum**  
**Tuesday 15 October**  
**Joint venture Carlton Inc and CRA**  
**Don't miss this opportunity to hear**  
**what the contenders are wanting for Carlton**  
**More information on page 2**



**A Message from the President Page 2**

**Traffic Plans for Queensberry Street Page 3**

**escooter traffic lights Page 3**

**News from the City of Melbourne Page 4**

**They're racing in the CoM Election Page 5**

**What's Happening At La Mama? Page 6**

**Lygon Street Market Page 6**

**Heritage and QVM Page 7**

**Greening the Cemetery Page 7**

**CRA survey results Page 8**

**CCHG latest Page 8**

**Carlton Italian Festa Page 8**



Supported by the Community  
Services Grants Program

The Carlton Residents Association Inc.  
PO Box 1140 Carlton, 3053  
carltonresidents@gmail.com  
www.carltonresidents.org.au  
A0034345G ABN 87 716 923 898



### A Message from the President—Trish O’Loughlin

**September 2024**

In the aftermath of relief at the demise of the dreaded e-scooters, I decided to stroll to the light display at the banks of the Yarra. Hallelujah- I could walk without the fear of landing in Hospital Emergency.

This is only one of the exciting events in Melbourne which we are fortunate to have on our doorstep.... at the State Library, the Museums, the Town Hall, the NGV .... The list goes on.

What is also on the list is the Royal Exhibition Building and the Carlton Gardens (REB&CG) our very own UNESCO Heritage listed site and one of only a few primarily cultural sites in Australia.

At the recent meeting with Hon. Sonia Kilkeny (Minister for Planning) and the delegated responsible authority, protecting Heritage values of the site on behalf of all Australians, CRA emphasised the need to remove any doubt in the Design and Development Overlays (DDO) and height limits and by making them mandatory. When the rules are finally transparent this will surely prove an asset to the Minister.

A recent issue of the *Planning Matters* newsletter (1 August 2024) notes that there has been a further delay, until 31 January 2025, in finalising the heritage controls for the Carlton area. This is very disappointing news.

On a similar note, this UNESCO site deserves proper governance, the same as the other Australian World Heritage sites. We also encourage the State Government to establish a separate independent statutory authority for the World Heritage REB&CG and the surrounding 55.26 hectares of the World Heritage Buffer Zone.

The REB&CG is only part of one of the five priorities we decided on at our recent successful **Planning Session** following **the CRA survey** which was returned by many members, thank you. Also at our Planning Session Nicholas Reece, our incumbent Lord Mayor, spoke to us about his plans and policies and Angela Buckingham from La Mama spoke about the reasons for La Mama’s lack of funding.

The results of the survey gave us an excellent window to decide on our 5 top priorities.

1. Retaining a HERITAGE feel & challenging inappropriate development.
2. Improving the GREEN ASPECT of parks and streetscapes.
3. Improving the SAFETY, MOBILITY and WALKABILITY of Carlton.
4. Minimising TRAFFIC and NOISE.
5. Advocating for AFFORDABLE HOUSING in the community.

Managing these priorities is always a juggling act, each priority changes in importance as the need arises. Any suggestions from members are always appreciated.



*Trish with Nick Reece, celebrating his becoming the 105th Lord Mayor of Melbourne. July 7*

**Lord Mayoral Forum    Carlton Inc and CRA invite you to attend  
on Tuesday 15 October for 6.30pm ..... this is a free event  
at Science Gallery Melbourne Connect    Cnr. Swanston and Grattan Streets  
Register at [www.carltonresidents.org.au](http://www.carltonresidents.org.au) on the right hand side of the page  
Click ‘book’ under Lord Mayoral Forum  
Enter your name and email address  
Click ‘BOOK NOW’**

## Mobility

### Traffic Plans for Queensberry Street

As part of the new underground rail line work, Grattan Street was closed and Queensberry Street was upgraded from one traffic lane each way to two lanes each way to provide adequate cross Carton traffic. Central street parking was removed.

The City of Melbourne (CoM) made an informal commitment to reinstate the former one lane traffic condition when Grattan Street reopened. With some urging from the CRA the council has prepared a draft traffic plan for public comment.

The CRA made a submission to the CoM supporting the proposed changes and noted that additional tree planting should be included as part of the works. We noted our support for-

- The incorporation of safe bike lanes that are in line with the CoM masterplan.
- Additional planting and the retention of most existing trees.
- Improved intersection treatment with added pedestrian areas.
- One lane each way.
- No central parking.

Improved turning lanes at intersections including hook turns.

The CRA suggested a way to increase parking bays could be by reducing the length of the slip lanes in Queensberry Street for vehicles turning into that street. For example, vehicles travelling north on Rathdowne Street could turn into a single lane rather than two lanes that merge after some distance. This would give space for additional parking.

It could be replicated at the other intersections in Queensberry Street.

The changes would make it safer for pedestrians and bike riders and additional greening could be introduced.

Peter Sanders for the CRA



*Queensberry Street could be similar to recently changed Grattan Street*

### escooter traffic lights

The red light for the 'green' and 'orange' will see the Lime and Neuron e scooters disappear from the streets, footpaths, laneways, parks and gardens of the City of Melbourne following the Council decision to ban their use!

The escooter shared scheme operated by Neuron and Lime will hit a cul de sac within 30 days. The decision of the Melbourne City Council to vote for a ban was surprising to many and even some councillors were caught unaware of the ban proposition.

However email inboxes of councillors had been inundated for some time with emails and letters opposing the continuation of the scheme and providing anecdotal evidence of misuse and exposing the positive claims by the companies.

In fact each extension of the trial over the past two years seemed to dig the State Government and the Council into a deeper hole as they stumbled to deliver good public policy as the companies drained their social licence by failing to implement controlling measures.

*Continued on page 4*

*Continued from page 3*

Lord Mayor Reece led those supporting the e scooter ban despite in recent weeks showing strong support for their role across the municipality. Arron Wood, former Deputy Lord Mayor and candidate for the Lord Mayoralty, proposed a ban in the Hoddle Grid only, that seemed to force the hand of the council.

It certainly raised the ire of residents living in the neighbourhoods. Under such a limited ban our neighbourhoods would become the playground and parking lot for escooters.

Support for the ban came from Lord Mayor Reece and Councillors Campbell, Louey, Griffiths, Le Liu and Chang. They focused on the disruption caused to other modes of mobility especially walking, the failure of the State Government to construct a trial with a regulatory and compliance framework and the rate of accidents as reported by the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Those opposed to the ban included Councillors Leppert, Ball, Hakim and Doidge.

The cul de sac may well be just a parking lot for e scooters, as their return following the election is a possibility. The CRA will be seeking a strong regulatory and compliance framework for the future use of the e scooter shared scheme to ensure that they integrate and do not disrupt mobility across the municipality.

Martin Brennan for the CRA



*Where do these belong?*

## Topical Issues

### City of Melbourne - CoM - your closest level of government

#### Cr Dr Olivia Ball, local resident and City of Melbourne Councillor

Friends and neighbours,



This term of Council is coming to a close and it has been my honour and pleasure to serve as one of your 11 councillors on Melbourne City Council.

#### Smoke-free Vic Market?

If you are [subscribed to Participate Melbourne](#), the interactive web portal where Council tests community sentiment on various proposals, you'll be aware that we recently asked the community about the possibility of the Vic Market being made a smoke- and vape-free zone. The City of Melbourne has an award-winning policy on smoking in public places which prioritises high density retail and tourist areas as potential smoke- & vape-free zones. Currently, the municipality has 13 smoke-free areas, including Bourke St Mall, foodie lane Equitable Place, shopping mecca Howey Place and the new(ish) Market Street Park in the CBD. We found there's strong support among shoppers, market staff and local businesses including Vic Market traders themselves, and strong support from public health advocates, for making the Vic Market a place where

smoking and vaping are not permitted outdoors within the precinct. (The Market's indoor areas are already non-smoking.) Council will consider this input in September.

Sign up for Participate Melbourne notifications here: <https://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/>

#### **Volunteer locally**

Council is looking to recruit 24 passionate people to bring to life Council-led community projects in Carlton. We're looking for Carlton locals who are good communicators and curious about their local community. We would particularly love to hear from people under 30, with a disability, from a minority background and/or the queer community.

*Continued on page 5*



## Continued from Page 4

What's involved:

- training (Oct to Dec 2024; lunch provided)
- 9 in-person meetings
- support Council staff at community events and help with set up/pack down
- write a blog post

Time commitment:

Oct – Dec. 2024: up to 6 hours/week

Feb – May 2025: 4 hours/week

June 2025 – May 2026: 2 hours/month

Perks:

- a waterways tour
- explore Melbourne Town Hall and Council facilities
- celebration during National Volunteer Week in May
- a 7-day free pass for City of Melbourne recreation centres & 30% off membership
- professional development

Find out more & apply, or share with someone you think would love this:

<https://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoods/volunteer-program>

## Avoiding disruptions

There's always a lot happening in and around the city. Whether it's construction works, utility upgrades, road closures or major events, disruptions can impact whether and when you get to your destination. If you ever want to check what's happening in the city, Carlton or elsewhere in the municipality, the [City of Melbourne website](#) details what's going on, and when it's due to end:

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/getting-around-city?sfnsn=mo> (doesn't include protests)

**Cr Dr Olivia Ball**

*Olivia is a human rights professional and passionate Carlton local*

## They're racing in the Melbourne City Council Election.

As the days and weeks roll by those seeking to fill the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and the nine councillor positions on the Melbourne City Council increase exponentially along with their policies and promises.

There is no doubt we need to be careful what we wish for in deciding who will occupy Town Hall for the next 4 years.

We need a council that reflects strong local experience, an understanding of how the city works, and a council that represents the diversity of interests including those of residents. We need real responses to the challenges and opportunities that confront the city and not bland slogans and throw away headlines.

The result of the forthcoming Melbourne City Council election will however reflect the gerrymandered electoral provisions of the City of Melbourne Act, the product of consecutive State Government Premiers, from Kennett through to the present day. The electoral provisions favour celebrity and cashed up councillors supported by donations from developers and then declared after the election.

For residents the absence of Wards and attendance voting plus the 2 to 1 voting gerrymander in favour of non resident property owners and corporations, results in an unrepresentative and unresponsive council.

Opportunities to meet the candidates across the municipality will be provided by a number resident and business groups. We need to engage with candidates and gain a deeper understanding of their policies.

The Carlton Resident Association has recently conducted a survey of members and has developed an 'Agenda for Carlton'. The Agenda summarises the priorities the CRA will pursue during and after the election.

Martin Brennan for CRA

### What's Happening At La Mama?

If we ask “What makes Carlton - Carlton?” part of the answer has to be the iconic La Mama Theatre. On Faraday Street, La Mama has been a creative space providing intimate, fast, raw, furious, funny theatre since 1967. Post Covid, La Mama has come roaring back with strong audience demand, tickets selling well and artists clamouring to get back on stage. Shows that started at La Mama last year have already gone on to tour Victoria, tour across Australia and two shows have gone international, with rumours that there may even be a Broadway season in the near future. In some ways this is the best of times, with a strong spirit of creative revival. La Mama offers more than just creative character to Carlton - in recent audience surveys we found nearly 30% of our audience spend \$100 or more in the Carlton area before or after visiting La Mama so we are a significant contributor to the vibrancy of local businesses too.

However, this year, we've had a major set-back in that the Federal Government did not select La Mama for four year arts funding. This leaves a significant hole in La Mama's budget. La Mama has two small venues and is not a commercial enterprise – rather it's an incubator for great theatrical works and talent. It's nationally regarded as a key part of Australia's theatre culture.

With the determined spirit that drives independent theatre, the La Mama team is working to find long term solutions to keep our local “big dreams” theatre working for artists and audiences.

We've made the tough decision to pause theatrical productions next year. We don't have the budget to support the theatre productions in 2025 and we need to direct our resources into finding real solutions so our theatre stays part of Carlton's future.

We're taking next year as an opportunity to think deeply about how we best support our creative and local communities. We're also looking for collaborations and opportunities to ensure our doors stay open for at least the next fifty years.

So in the latter part of 2024 - make sure you catch a show! The Explorations Season, now on, is a great way to see what is coming in Australian theatre. In late November 2024 starts a fun, exciting, community-led, giving-campaign to fund our big thinking next year and invest in the future of La Mama. Please keep an eye on our website and be part of Australia's theatrical future.

Angela Buckingham Writer [hello@angela-buckingham.com](mailto:hello@angela-buckingham.com)



**LYGON ST MARKET**

- \* **Launch!**  
Sunday 1st September  
10am - 3pm
- \* **Lygon St. Festa Weekend**  
Saturday 5th October  
10am - 3pm
- \* **Sunday 3rd November**  
10am - 3pm
- \* **Christmas Market**  
Sunday 1st December  
10am - 3pm

**CRA members, Marissa and Lachlan, at their stall at the first Lygon Street Market, September 2024**



FRIENDS OF QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET INC.

## Mary-Lou Howie - President, Friends of Queen Victoria Market Inc writes:

You might be confused by the recent media narrative by the City of Melbourne in the Lord Mayoral race regarding the protection of heritage.

Recently the Minister for Planning has approved the three mega towers on Franklin St that will loom over Queen Victoria Market which is on the Victorian and National Heritage listing. The plans also involve appropriating the Market car park and converting it into a park/event space. Amazing, considering it is opposite the 7.2 hectares of the Flagstaff Gardens.

In the State Government and City of Melbourne PR there are conflicting statements and some are plainly untrue.

*Kerstin Thompson, the architect behind Tower 3, said "There's no such thing as good heritage when it's dead heritage," Ms Thompson said. "This is going to bring a whole lot of activation ... and add to that [heritage] with the new buildings."* (CBD News September issue)



The Queen Victoria Market, while not as busy as it once was due to the Market 'renewal' and management incompetence, is still the most vibrant part of the CBD and not a 'dead heritage' site.

*At the time of publishing, more than 3000 people had [signed a petition](#) to "Save Queen Victoria Market", calling on the council to ensure its renewal protected the market's "viability as Melbourne's traditional, fresh food and general merchandise market" and a place we all love and want to protect.*

Please sign our petition: [www.facebook.com/FriendsofQueenVictoriaMarket](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofQueenVictoriaMarket)

## Carlton community update from your State MP Ellen Sandell

### Greening Melbourne General Cemetery

Thousands of people pass by or through Melbourne General Cemetery every day. It's bigger than the Botanic Gardens, and right in the heart of our city.

As well as being an important historical site, and a place to remember loved ones, lots of people use this space to walk their dogs or get some fresh air and enjoy the open space.

But it could do with some improvements.

Across Australia and around the world, many cemeteries are maintained as peaceful havens and even tourist destinations. They can be beautiful picnic and walking spots, sanctuaries for local wildlife, and a peaceful green space to remember the past and loved ones.

This is the vision that the Greens and I have for Melbourne General Cemetery.

Over the past few years, I've been working with Greens MP for Brunswick, Tim Read, Melbourne and Yarra Greens councillors, and the local community to get the government to commit to breathe new life into the cemetery.

I recently visited the cemetery and saw the work that residents have been doing to make the cemetery greener, including planting native grasses and creating Blue Wren habitat.

It was incredible to see these improvements, but so much more work is needed. We need a big-picture plan for the cemetery - a plan that thinks about it as both a place to commemorate those who have come before us, and a peaceful, green space to visit. And we need a commitment from the state government to make it happen.

This is a precious piece of inner-city land, with views of the CBD and the Dandenong Ranges. We need to take care of it and make it the very best it can be. The Greens and I will keep pushing for that.

If you'd like to know more or get involved, please get in touch at [office@ellensandell.com](mailto:office@ellensandell.com).



*Greens MP's and councillors  
at Melbourne General Cemetery*



# CRA Survey 2024

Thank you for your responses  
53 responses / 38% member response rate

**[Access the survey results here](#)**



THE CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

**CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

## **September Edition of Carlton Chronicles From the Carlton Community History Group**

Find out about the Yellow Cabs' entry into the Australian market in 1924, Andrew's recollections on Carlton, Irish political activist Hugh Brophy, the ill-fated Burke & Wills expedition, Australia's first professional tennis player, and the last tram to leave the depot in Nicholson Street.

<http://www.cchg.asn.au/chronicles34.pdf>

Committee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (excluding January and November) at the Carlton Library in Rathdowne Street, North Carlton.

**[Contact us](#)** if you wish to receive email notifications of CCHG meetings and events.

Read more at <http://www.cchg.asn.au/>

## **Melbourne Italian Festa 2024**

**Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October  
Royal Exhibition Building and Museum Plaza  
Free Entry**

Find out more here: <https://www.melbourneitalianfesta.com.au/>