



THE CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

NEWSFLASH

A Message from the President Melbourne 2050 Pages 2,3

Home is a Distant Shore CoAsIt Page 6

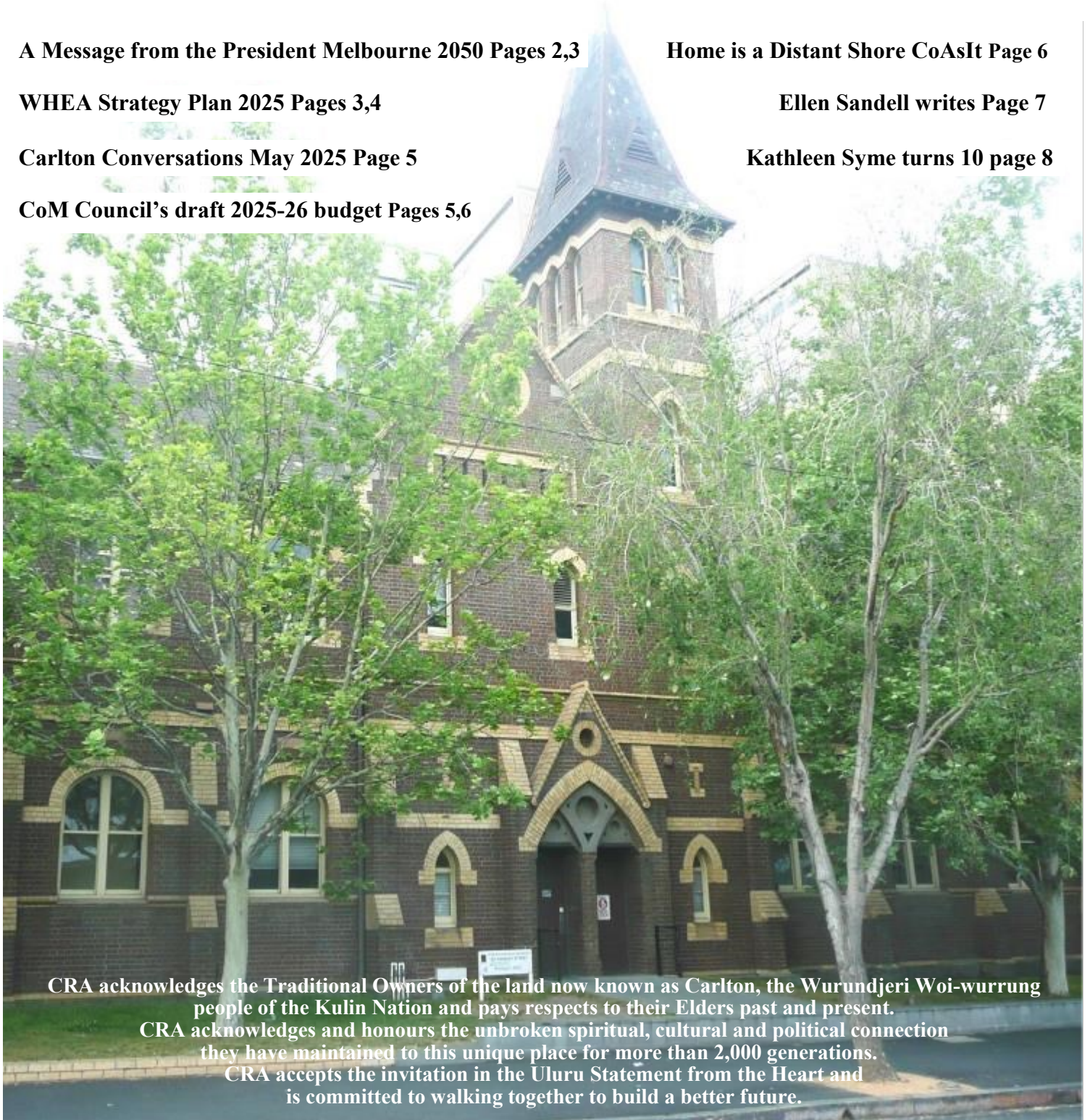
WHEA Strategy Plan 2025 Pages 3,4

Ellen Sandell writes Page 7

Carlton Conversations May 2025 Page 5

Kathleen Syme turns 10 page 8

CoM Council's draft 2025-26 budget Pages 5,6



CRA acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land now known as Carlton, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation and pays respects to their Elders past and present.
CRA acknowledges and honours the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection they have maintained to this unique place for more than 2,000 generations.
CRA accepts the invitation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and is committed to walking together to build a better future.



Supported by the Community
Services Grants Program

The Carlton Residents Association Inc.
PO Box 1140 Carlton, 3053
carltonresidents@gmail.com

A Message from the President—Trish O’Loughlin

Melbourne 2050



mosaiclab.com.au

On April 22, 2025 this email landed in my inbox.

“Congratulations! We are pleased to inform you that you have been selected as one of 50 individuals to participate in the Melbourne 2050 People’s Panel”.

Intrigued, I read on.

(Back story). A couple of weeks previously, after attending a Summit meeting in Melbourne Town Hall with 999 others, (which I had seen on the Participate Melbourne website) I registered my interest in a People’s Panel as it sounded worthwhile and thought no more about it until the above email arrived followed by a letter in the snail mail. When I realised the commitment was three weekends as well as two other sessions I put the whole idea aside.

Ever curious, I looked at it again two days later, read it properly and also found out I’d be paid for this time and effort. Halleluliah. Yes. Thanks. But at that stage I had no idea how or why I was selected but knew I had just become a “People’s Panel Member in the **Melbourne 2050 People’s Panel**. And off I went on a fascinating journey.

City of Melbourne residents, business owners and workers registered their interest in being on the panel. The final panel was randomly selected to broadly represent and reflect the City of Melbourne based on key demographics including gender, age, location and size of business.

We were sent a digital copy of the information pack which included a panel handbook with all the essential background information, key details about the panel, the process, and our roles, along with a background information paper.

What was the People’s Panel and How was it selected?

The Melbourne 2050 People’s Panel was made up of 48 people, selected to develop principles to inform the vision for Melbourne in 2050.

The City of Melbourne hired independent facilitators MosaicLab to conduct recruitment for the panel. MosaicLab chose a representative group of people from residents, businesses, workers and property owners based within the City of Melbourne. Eight thousand invitations were posted to a random selection of business and residential addresses within the City of Melbourne. A page was also set up on Participate Melbourne and promoted to the wider community seeking expressions of interest in the panel. The MosaicLab Team – Lyndal, Melinda and Aaron (and Nicole) and Gus made it all happen during those sessions with a wonderful mix of personal and professional good humour and kindness.

Why have a People’s Panel?

Following the Victorian local government elections in October 2024, councils are required to develop a new four-year Council Plan and update a range of supporting strategic documents. Together these documents aim to set the direction and areas of focus for the council over the new council’s four-year term.

This year the City of Melbourne, in addition to developing the Council Plan 2025-2029, is also embarking on an ambitious program to create a long-term 25-year vision for the city – **the Melbourne 2050 Vision**.

Melbourne City Council’s remit: *Our city is evolving, and this presents opportunities and challenges for all. Where do we want to be in 2050 and what do we need to do now to get there?*

Who are these other people, they look so young.

I arrived and looked around to find myself the only Nonna. Most of the panel were aged between 16 and 34. Only two of us were over 70, two were between 60 and 69, 4 were between 50 and 59 and 9 were between 35 and 49. This panel turned out to be a fabulous experience, having meaningful discussions with a huge range of very different people, making friendships and having fun along the way as well as coming up with guiding principles.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Participating in a “[deliberative democracy](#)” process to discuss, consider, deliberate and agree on principles in response to Council, to inform its next 4-year Council & Health and Wellbeing Plan, Asset and Long-term Financial Plans was both exhilarating and exhausting.

We were told as members of the Melbourne 2050 People’s Panel, we will play an important and influential role in representing our broader community to help shape these documents, setting the strategic direction for the City of Melbourne for the next four years **and beyond**. The enthusiasm was infectious.

The Panel’s Progress.

Through a structured, deliberative engagement process over 5 sessions and 3 weeks, this disparate group of people put forward a set of guiding principles for the benefit of the council to aid with planning the ambitious goals of setting Melbourne up to succeed by 2050.

We, the panel finally identified 8 principles to guide council strategic planning and priorities into the future. Reaching this point together in our pursuit of Principles required a significant effort, but the feeling of accomplishment we shared late Saturday afternoon made it worthwhile.

Look out for the eight Principles in the next NewsFlash and see if you agree.

Trish O’Loughlin

CRA President

CRA membership renew or join now:

Use Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/CWHNC>

OR, for payment - CRA Direct Credit Details:

Bendigo Bank, BSB: 633 000 Account No. 146960570.

**Please ensure all details, especially your name,
are included for EFT membership payments**

Working groups

World Heritage Environs Area (WHEA)

PROTECTION FOR ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING SURROUNDS

The area around the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens (REB + CG) has been given substantial protection with the recently approved World Heritage Strategy Plan for the World Heritage Environs Area (WHEA) 2025. The City of Melbourne (CoM) has modified the Melbourne Planning Scheme to substantiate the changes.

The whole WHEA, in the Cities of Melbourne and Yarra, is now covered by a Design and Development Overlay (DDO4) that will protect views to and from the REB + CG and set controls for any development. Importantly it establishes mandatory height limits. The new height limits are generally the same as those contained in previous discretionary controls.

Maps showing these new maximum heights have been published in the Age (8 May 25) and the previous Inner City News, although with some errors. 'For example, the area between Victoria, Grattan, Rathdowne and Drummond Streets that doesn't have a number, should be shown as area 18 with a new mandatory maximum of 10 metres with some higher areas set back from the street frontages, such as areas 20 that will be 16 metres maximum.'

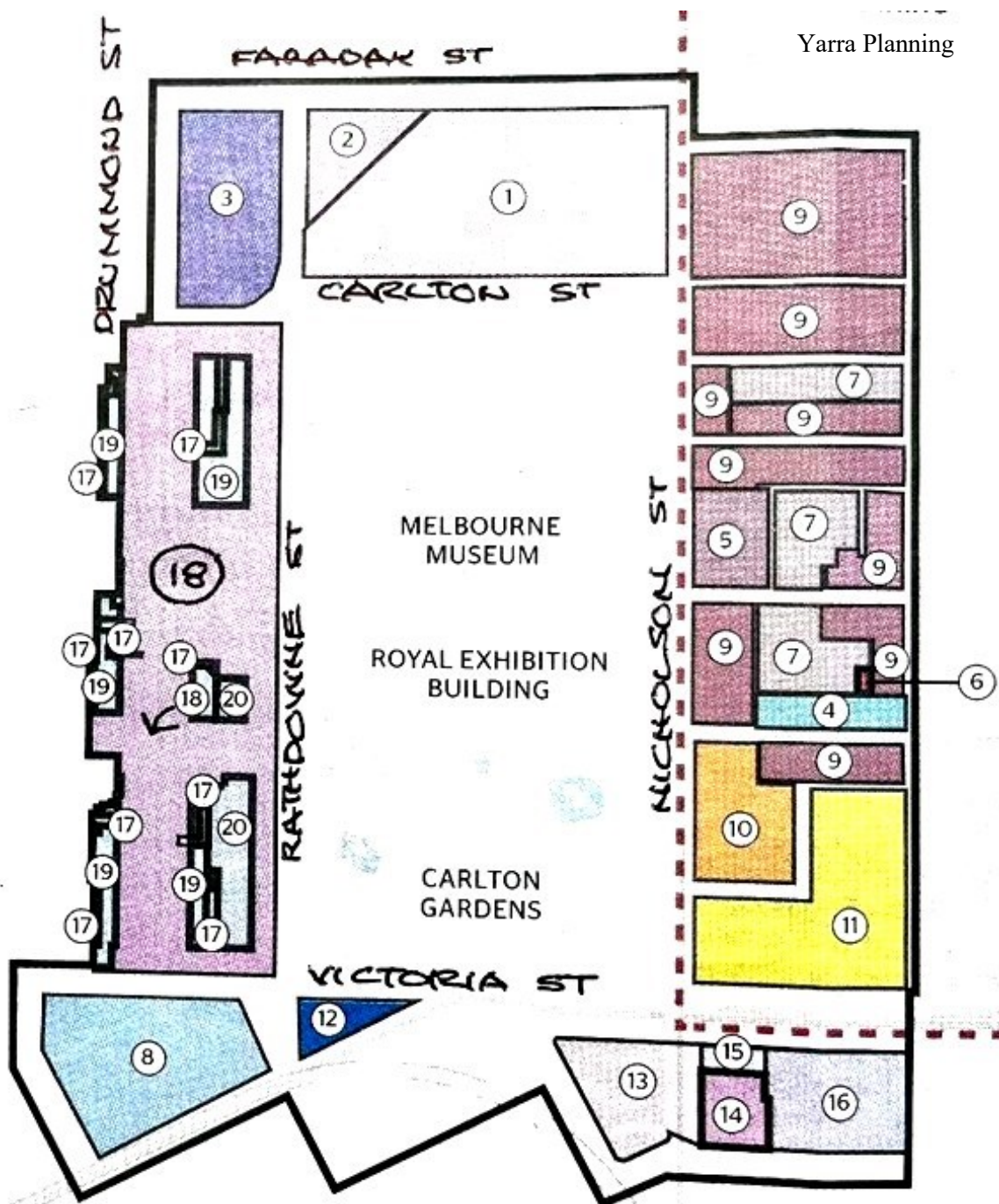
Any applications for new or altered buildings above 11 m or 2 storeys must be referred by the CoM to Heritage Victoria. The CoM has nominated Heritage Victoria as a ‘Recommending Authority’. They recommend to CoM whether, on heritage grounds, to refuse or accept the application or accept with conditions. If the CoM cannot agree with the recommendation the matter is then referred to VCAT.

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

NEW PLANNING RULES AROUND THE ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING

Yarra Planning



	Preferred maximum building height	Mandatory maximum building height
①	None specified	9m
②	None specified	11m
③	10.5m	11m
④	None specified	11.2m
⑤	None specified	11m
⑥	None specified	10.5m
⑦	None specified	9m
⑧	None specified	69m to 127m*
⑨	None specified	9m
⑩	None specified	13.5

⑪	53.9m	None specified
⑫	53.9m	None specified
⑬	None specified	15m
⑭	74m	None specified
⑮	15m	None specified
⑯	25m	None specified
⑰	None specified	8m
⑱	None specified	10m
⑲	None specified	13.5m
⑳	None specified	16m

*Maximum height of existing building

Carlton Conversations Monday 26 May, 2025

Jeff Atkinson, local historian and member of CRA gave a most interesting and informative presentation: Carlton during the Second World War. The very comfortable room at Brunetti Classico was full. Guests were welcomed with a drink and a delightful array of platters to enjoy.

Jeff has written several books on local and Australian history. He regularly leads historical walks through Carlton. He is a member of the Heritage Advisory Committee for the City of Yarra, and the Heritage Committee of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, whose mandate is the preservation of important heritage places in Victoria.



Make sure you look out for the next Carlton Conversation. carltonresidents.org.au

City of Melbourne - CoM - your closest level of government

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



Friends and neighbours,
Do you remember Pamela Bone? She was a beloved Melbourne columnist and author who died in 2008, at the age of only 68.

I'm often reminded of a column she once wrote about homelessness. I must paraphrase from memory, because I can't find the column; but she said she would think of people sleeping on our cold, hard streets, as she got into her warm, comfortable bed at night. And she thought: if only those of us with means all got together and paid a little bit each, we could surely end homelessness.

And of course we have a system like that, she wrote. It's called taxation.

Council's draft 2025-26 budget

Melbourne City Council has published a [draft budget](#) for the coming year, seeking public input.

This budget is over \$72m smaller in real terms than last year's, with significantly less provided for green open space, and for protected bike lanes, which make cycling safer and more appealing for everyone, and reduce congestion on our roads.

Is this what you want? The Council welcomes your views on how it should spend public money.

Verbal submissions may be made in person or by zoom to a Council meeting at Melbourne Town Hall from **5:30pm on Tue 17 June**. Further information [here](#).

After adjustments to the budget, a final version will be adopted at a special meeting of Council on **Monday 30 June**.

Significantly less next year

This draft budget is \$732m in total. In real terms, that's *over \$72m less* the Council plans to spend than it did this current financial year (\$781m + CPI of 3% = \$804m).

Significant cuts are planned in capital expenditure.

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Unless amended, 2025-26 will see the lowest spending on new and expanded parks in the City of Melbourne since 2021:

2020-21: \$14.51m

2021-22: \$32.06m

2022-23: \$16.92m

2023-24: \$25.18m

2024-25: \$18.03m

2025-26: \$16.88m* *draft only. Subject to amendment if there is sufficient public demand.

Rates rise rebate

Victorian Councils are restricted by state law in how much they can increase rates in a given year. This ‘rates cap’ is currently 3%. Councils may increase their rates by anything up to 3%, or not at all. As a general rule, it makes sense to increase rates in line with inflation, so Councils can continue to provide the level of services and infrastructure we all rely on daily.

The [draft Revenue & Rating Plan](#) currently out for public comment proposes increasing rates by 3%, but rebating that rise to ratepayers in the first year (2025-26). So your rates (if you’re a ratepayer) will rise by 3%, but you won’t have to pay it in the first year of this plan. The following year, when Council raises your rates again by 3%, it’ll be a 6% rise, compared with this year.

The value of that 3% increment that will be rebated (refunded to ratepayers) next year depends on the value of your property, but it might be \$50 or maybe \$100 – something in that order.

[62.9% of households in the City of Melbourne rent](#) (compared with 29.2% of greater Melbourne) and renters don’t pay rates. Cutting rates (or rebating rates rises) is inequitable and regressive. It’s a handout to people who can already afford to own property. It’s very unlikely landlords will pass on this marginal saving to tenants – whether their tenants are residents or businesses – in the form of a rent reduction.

Meanwhile, [any ratepayer who is suffering financial hardship](#) has access to the most generous rates hardship policy in the state, including payment plans, deferment, waivers and reductions.

So this tiny rates rise rebate will not benefit the majority of residents and businesses (renters), but applied across the whole city, it adds up fast. It amounts to \$10.3m lost to Council’s budget. Council services and infrastructure must be cut by \$10.3m to be able to provide this tiny saving to a minority of our community who need it the least.

I believe that in an inequality, biodiversity and climate crisis, we should be increasing progressive forms of taxation in order to act at the scale and speed proportional to these crises – to save ourselves from the consequences of these crises, and to save in the longer term the mounting costs of inaction.

That seems to me fair and fiscally responsible.

But let’s hear from you:

Olivia is a human rights professional and passionate Carlton local, on Melbourne City Council since 2020.

Memories that Make Us: Home is a Distant Shore

CoA As It - 20 March 2025

‘Memories That Make Us: Home is a Distant Shore draws on the individual and collective memories of Italian migrants who made Victoria their home after World War Two. From the ruins of post WW 2 Italy hundreds of thousands of people migrated to Australia. The exhibition explores the cultural and social stories these immigrants carried with them, what they left behind, and how their traditions and experiences evolved over time’

Presented by Co As It and Deakin University it was a night of nostalgia, celebration, reality and myth. It told the story of why many of us have kept retuning to

Lygon Street over six decades and more to take advantage of a language, a culture, a spirit, and certainly a food that instilled in us what it meant to be Italian. But importantly it enabled us to be the other.



Ellen Sandell, State MP for Melbourne writes:

I'm so sad to lose Adam Bandt as our Federal MP for Melbourne. I know many of you will be feeling sad too. Since 2010 Adam has tirelessly served the Melbourne community, taking local issues and resident voices to Canberra.

He's delivered so much for our Carlton community: from providing small grants for local projects like Community Grocer at the Carlton public housing estate, solar panels for the Church of All Nations, a composting hub at the Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre or upgrades to the Carlton Scout Hall - not to mention the \$20 million he secured to restore the dome of the Royal Exhibition Building.

Then there's the dozens of local organisations he's supported; our local Mosques, FC Birrarung, Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House, CAN Community Support - the list goes on.

A steadfast defender of public housing, Adam helped secure \$3.5 billion for social housing. And you don't have to go far in Melbourne to find someone that Adam and his office have personally helped.

Adam has been a fearless champion for climate justice, and like me, he was motivated to enter politics because the major parties weren't taking the climate crisis seriously. It's why he quit his job to run for Parliament - and what a phenomenal impact he's had in 15 years.

When Adam was elected in 2010, his role in the minority Gillard Government got a price on carbon, \$10 billion invested in renewable energy, and created clean energy organisations like the CEFC and ARENA that still exist today. This was a steep change in climate action in Australia, and seeing his impact on climate is what propelled me to put my hand up to run for State Parliament.

People in our Melbourne community will be sad to lose their local champion, someone who took their progressive values to Canberra. We're going to miss that enormously, but politics is never a sure thing. To win in Melbourne we've always had to poll higher than the Labor and Liberal vote combined. It's a hard ask and we've done it before, but this time we came up just short, even though Adam received the highest vote. Ultimately, Adam's seat of Melbourne had its boundaries changed, and preferences from One Nation and Liberals have gotten Labor over the line this time. We also saw a swing to Labor nation-wide as people voted to keep Dutton and his Trump-style politics out of Australia (which we were also campaigning for!).

The Greens achieved our highest vote ever, and will play a vital role in the next Parliament, holding the sole balance of power in the Senate.

Adam has been a huge personal support to me and I'll miss that enormously. But we're still here fighting for our local Melbourne community and progressive values. I congratulate the new MP Sarah Witty and look forward to working with her to represent the wonderful people of Carlton and Melbourne.



Adam and Ellen

HOW CAN WE KEEP YOU SAFER?

Complete the Community Sentiment Survey

NOW OPEN

Scan the QR code or head to engage.vic.gov.au/vicpol-2025

OUR COMMUNITY • YOUR SAFETY • OUR PRIORITY




This third annual police survey runs from Monday 2 June to Monday 30 June at midnight

Access it at [here](https://engage.vic.gov.au/vicpol-2025):

Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre

Come Celebrate 10 years

Saturday 21 June 2025

11am to 2pm

A Brief History

1874: Opened as the Faraday Street Primary School SS 112.
(Architect Joseph Reed)

1972: School closed. Building transferred to Royal Women's Hospital (RWH) to establish the *Kathleen Syme Education Centre (KSC)*.

2000: CRA gained use of KSC Lecture Theatre & Auditorium for quarterly General Meetings, until 2005.

2005: Transfer of RWH to Parkville was announced by Bracks ALP Government. CRA initiated a six year-long intense community campaign: rallies, letterboxing, emails, lobbying etc., for the Council to acquire KSC to develop a Library & Community Centre. Carlton has no Town Hall or public meeting space.

2008: RWH transferred to new Parkville site. CRA stepped up its campaign to establish a Library & Community Centre at KSC. Melbourne University (MU) cites KSC as its *Knowledge Transfer Centre*.

2010: Brumby ALP Government favoured MU use of KSC. Coalition Opposition and Greens were supportive of the CRA proposal.

2011: Recently elected Baillieu Coalition Government agreed to sell KSC to the Council to establish the CRA proposed Library & Community Centre. Council began discussion, design and renovation work. CRA continued irregular use of KSC facilities in 2011 & 2012.

2015: Facility formally opened, 3 July; made available to the community, 4 July

Read about the opening, go [here](#) to download the 2015 Winter Newsflash

