Summit summons the power of social good

VANESSA CARTWRIGHT

PEOPLE, planet, peace, partnerships and prosperity. Can these five powerful forces align successfully to improve human development? The United Nations certainly hopes so, as do many Australians. The aspirations, goodwill, knowledge and enthusiasm of participants at the Social Good Summit Australia continued the climate of change set in motion by world leaders and grassroots advocates alike.

Inspired by the 2015 Social Good Summit in New York, Australia’s own Social Good Summit was held at the University of Sydney on October 10, 2015. The crowd and guest speakers were invited to consider the question, “What type of world do I want to live in by the year 2030?” The hashtag #2030NOWAU trended on Twitter as excited participants live-tweeted their reactions to the event.

A major focus of the Summit were the 17 sustainable development goals ratified by 193 countries at the UN General Assembly on September 26, 2015. These goals continue the mission of the millennium development goals, but with a new target in mind: the year 2030. “These are actually global goals; they are universal...while they are aspirational, they are incredibly powerful,” stated Tara Dermott, a guest speaker from IOM, the International Organization for Migration’s campaign to stop human trafficking. Dermott listed three simple actions for Migration’s campaign to stop trafficking: “Learn, Act, Share.”

The potential to use media, technology, and business for social good initiatives continues to grow. “At the Social Good Summit Australia and many other leading events, we are seeing the potential to use media, especially given the increasing contributions of social media and especially given the increasing contributions of social media and businesses to social good initiatives,” said Professor of Policy Studies, Susan Goodwin. “Short-term, environmentally careless strategies to make money are no longer feasible.” Continuing this theme, Adam Mooney, CEO of Good Shepherd Microfinance, stressed that Australians must have a “shared vision” and “move away from the partisan political point-scoring” in order to cultivate social good. He spoke of how money is a means to an end, to “a full life that has meaning, that has dignity.”

Unfortunately, many Australians are still lacking such a life. As speakers Brendan Ferguson and Leah Armstrong pointed out, although Australia ranks second in the UN Human Development Index, we would be approximately 122nd if people with disabilities. Two of the most thought-provoking comments were made by Kristy Sanderson, CEO and Founder of the Voice humanitarian organisation that helps people in crisis in Cambodia. On the problem of human trafficking in the fishing industry, Sanderson remarked: “It bewilders me that we have dolphin-free tuna, but we don’t have slave-free tuna.” Sanderson also said that when people enquire how she summons the strength to help people in poverty, she answers, “How do you not?” This comment sums up the prevalent attitude of audience members at the Summit, an inspiring event that reinforced the necessity of social good for the peace and prosperity of our planet and its people.

For more information on the Social Good Summit Australia and a full list of the speakers who presented, visit www.socialgoodsummit.com.au.
Trouble with private certification

BEN AVELING

ALEXANDRIA: A newly constructed apartment building, the “Joshua” at 33-49 Easton Road, does not comply with the terms and conditions of its development approval, and as a result now faces an uncertain future.

The building construction was privately certified. Under state legislation, private certifiers are responsible for ensuring that building works comply with the approved construction certificate. In this case, the private certifier allowed the building to be completed, despite it being noncompliant with the approved plans in several important respects. Perhaps the most important violations are that the top floor was supposed to be stepped back from the street, and has not been, and that the driveway is steeper than it should have been – possibly dangerously so. These deviations, and others, were confirmed by a Council audit of the site. In response, the developer applied for retrospective approval, which Council has refused.

In a letter to residents, sighted by the SSH, Lord Mayor Clover Moore wrote that “the City has refused this application and is considering further action, including issuing a Notice of Intent to demolish and to rebuild the building in accordance with the conditions of consent”. The letter further confirms that the City of Sydney has “REFERRED the Private Certifier to the Building Professionals Board for issuing an interim occupation certificate when they should not have and for failing to enforce the conditions of consent”.

Although the private certifier issues an Interim Occupation certificate prior to the Council audit of the site, the City has not issued a Final Occupation certificate and has no current plans to do so. Local residents were glad that the City has taken action, but were critical that action was not taken earlier, while the building was still under construction. “If the developer gets away with this, it will be a green light for future developers to ignore their own DA’s,” said one. Anyone who has bought an apartment in the Joshua building is strongly advised to seek independent legal advice.

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People's Climate March

Come see on our course to BUILD THE FUTURE

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Come see on our course to BUILD THE FUTURE

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As the world moves towards a warmer planet, the people of the world are called to action. The People's Climate March is a global event held on September 21st, 2014, to raise awareness and demand urgent action on climate change. The march is led by a group of activists and supporters from all over the world, who are calling for a real and effective global response to climate change.

The march is expected to attract millions of participants, making it the largest ever demonstration on the issue of climate change. The march will take place in various cities around the world, including New York, Paris, and London, with more than 400 events scheduled in over 100 cities.

The People's Climate March is not just a march, but a movement. It is a call for a genuine and inclusive transition to a sustainable and just future. The march is a symbol of the power of the people to change the world, and a call for leaders to take action on climate change.

As we move forward, we must remember the importance of unity and solidarity. The People's Climate March is an opportunity for us to come together, to stand up for the planet, and to demand action. Let us make our voices heard, and let us build a future that is sustainable, just, and united.

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Construction certificate. In this case, legislation, private certifiers are faces an uncertain future.

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REDFERN’S NEWEST MEDICAL CENTRE

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7-9 Gibbons Street (Opposite Redfern Train Station)  www.citydoc.com.au

100% BULK BILLING
COMMUNITY TRIES TO CLAIM THE ALEX HOTEL

BEN AVELING

ALEXANDRIA: At 9.30am on Wednesday September 30, a crowd of over 100 residents and concerned citizens attended what was to be a “conciliation meeting” at the Alexandria Hotel. The meeting was ordered by the Land and Environment Court, in the hope that Sydney City Council and Centennial Property Group, the would-be developer of the site, might be able to find some mutually acceptable compromise.

Instead, the meeting was cancelled a few minutes before it was supposed to start. Centennial Property Group had indicated its intent to withdraw its appeal to the court and, with the consent of the commissioner, the meeting was called off.

Local residents were not happy. Although the withdrawal of the objection all but guarantees heritage protection for the Alexandria Hotel building, it does not yet ensure the survival of the hotel as a business.

At time of writing, the developer is believed to be still considering whether to submit a new development proposal. A new proposal would need to preserve the existing building. For example, the developer might keep the front of the hotel intact, while building on part or all of the current beer garden, and possibly even building “into” the upper level of the building, and preserving the lower level and shell of the building.

What might save the hotel are the technical difficulties to do with developing the site. A train line passes directly under it, quite close to the surface. Furthermore, the site is only a few metres above the water table. Both factors, especially in combination, would significantly increase the cost of any potential development. What is certain is that any potential future development proposal will face significant and well-organised opposition from the community.


To be informed of development applications near you, you can register for notifications at www.planningsafts.org.au, or visit www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/subscribe/email-newsletters and subscribe to “DA listings” newsletter.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Reflections on Mental Health Month

ANNE CAMAC & LAURA BUZO

October was Mental Health Month. Each year there are more programs about mental health on TV, radio, and in the papers. This year many people living with mental illness shared their stories with us.

There is so much power in sharing a story. Although everyone is different, there were some common themes in the stories we heard.

So many people have had symptoms of mental illness for years before they get professional help. Many have used alcohol or drugs to try to get some relief. They often talk about “battling” with their symptoms.

Even when they are improving with treatment, they often don’t let others know. And the treatment for many people leaves them feeling disempowered - rundown hospitals where your shoelaces are taken away, police forcing people to go to hospital under the Mental Health Act.

For most, some sort of professional help is often needed. Finding a health professional you respect and get along with and trust is crucial, as are friends or family. Many of those sharing their stories were hesitant to take medication, but were helped by it - even if there were side-effects and quite a few did not need to stay on medication.

Thanks to all who shared their stories with us.

Between them, Anne and Laura have over 30 years of experience as mental health professionals. That said, this column is not intended to replace professional advice when it is needed.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

North Eveleigh Community Workshop

Date: Thursday 12 November 2015
Time: 6pm to 9pm including light refreshments (registrations from 5.30pm)
Venue: Bay 4 Dining Hall, Australian Technology Park, Locomotive Street, Eveleigh
Pedestrian access: From Redfern station via Bay 1, through the Blacksmiths’ Workshop heritage display, or main building entrance via Bay 8
Register: By Monday 9 November 2015 at www.centraltoeveleigh.com.au or on 1800 756 953

To register: www.centraltoeveleigh.com.au or call 1800 756 953
For more information: www.centraltoeveleigh.com.au

Translation and Interpreting Service (TIS)
Call 13 14 50 if you need help understanding English and TIS will phone UrbanGrowth NSW for you at no cost.

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UrbanGrowth NSW
Rescue dogs and cats are in our hearts

BLAIR SILVERLOCK

WATERLOO: Monika’s Doggie Rescue (MDR) received the money collected at a Blessing of the Animals Service held at South Sydney Uniting Church on October 4. The annual service is held on the Feast Day of St Francis and St Clare of Assisi. These saints are remembered especially for their love of and respect for all animals, making the feast day appropriate for a service where people are invited to bring their pets to church.

There were about 60 creatures present at this year’s service: humans, dogs, photos of cats and even one axolotl. The nine chickens and four ducks in the Eden Community Garden behind the church also received a blessing.

Ivana Prazic of Glebe was present at the service. “I was here for my two cats Lily and Mr Darcy. I especially came because Lily is actually dying and needs extra care and love from every single source she can get.” Ivana brought along a photo of her cats, which was placed on the altar table in the church together with pictures and collars from about ten other cats. She commented, “It is nice and generous and kind that people want to share their stories about their own animals and think of each other’s animals. By focussing on animals and enjoying animals’ love we realise that as humans we are not the centre of the universe.”

Lisa Boag from Boag’s Newsagency in Waterloo, a volunteer with MDR for about 20 years, addressed the congregation and explained the work done by MDR to rescue dogs and cats from “death row” at various pounds around Sydney and then carefully re-homes the dogs. Many of the dogs stay at the MDR shelter in Alexandria, however, a large proportion are fostered in homes by caring volunteers. MDR has also recently begun to rescue cats.

Every Saturday the organisation sets up a customer service stand outside the Pet Barn store in Alexandria. The volunteers usually bring along four or five rescue dogs to interact with visitors to the stand. There are small cages at the stand to house the dogs during the day, however these dogs are rarely in the cages, spending most of the time receiving individual attention and being walked by a small team of volunteer dog walkers.

Yulius Santosito of Kensington has worked for ten years as a volunteer at the stand. Yulius said he became involved with MDR when he first fostered and then adopted a rescue dog. This dog, named Miriam, spent the last ten years with Yulius and was the centre of much love and adoration, but unfortunately she passed away a couple of years ago. Yulius is currently still grieving the loss and said he is not ready to foster or adopt another dog just yet. When he became a volunteer he had to help her to learn to socialise with other dogs: “That was her main problem.” I had her.

Yulius is proud of his work for MDR: “Someone has to stand up for dogs. They are selfless and unconditional in their love. MDR is self-funded and relies on volunteers. I really believe these dogs deserve a second chance. People always think it is hard work looking after rescue dogs, however, the benefits outweigh the troubles.”

North Eveleigh development fast-tracked

GEOFF TURNBULL

THE Newtown end of North Eveleigh will undergo a short sharp consultation in November before UrbanGrowthNSW prepares new plans to be submitted for exhibition early next year. The site had an approved Redfern Waterloo Authority Concept Plan. Only the access road and the Platform affordable housing building have been built to date.

UrbanGrowth proposes a slightly expanded park on the western end of the site with the heritage Clothing Store becoming community and retail space rather than residential units. With 48-98 more units overall on the site and the clothing store units relocating, the trade-off is higher buildings near the railway line. The two tallest buildings are proposed to be 20 storeys – two higher than the buildings near Redfern station. There will also be 566 parking spaces in the entire development.

UrbanGrowth says North Eveleigh will demonstrate how the vision, planning principles and other studies it is developing, also to be exhibited early next year, will be applied to other Central to Eveleigh neighbourhoods.

With 20 storeys for the Newtown end, heights are expected to be much higher closer to Redfern station with 48-98 more units overall. This would be consistent with density diagrams already used at UrbanGrowth premises.

You can read more about Labor’s plan for higher education at: www.nodebsentence.org/laborsfairerplan

Tanya

Authorised by Tanya Plibersek M.P. Labor Member for Sydney

150 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008 9379 0700 | tanya.plibersek.mp@parl.gov.au

Labor's Fairer Plan for Education

Over the last two years, one of the key community concerns about the Abbott Government has been their pursuit of a university fee deregulation which would have lead to $100,000 degrees.

Following the strong community campaign, Mr Turnbull and his new Education minister have announced that they will not move to introduce Chris Pyne’s twice-failed higher education legislation this year – it’s too late in the year to have new course prices in place for next year anyway.

Unfortunately they haven’t ruled out bringing back deregulation for 2016 or after.

Investing in education is one of the most important things we can do to grow our community. That’s why Labor has announced a plan that focuses on creating more opportunities for people from all backgrounds to undertake tertiary study if they want to support people while they are studying or looking for work and developing opportunities for people to learn the skills that will be crucial to the jobs of the future. Labor will:

• Vote against $100,000 degrees every time they are brought to the parliament.
• Introduce a new Student Funding Guarantee to remove the need for higher fees. From 2018 we will invest $2500 more per undergraduate, per year which will see universities more than 40% better off by 2026.
• Invest an additional $31 million to boost the quality of teaching and resources in our universities.
• Create a Startup Year for final year uni students to develop their ideas and connect with mentors and investors.
• Prioritise study in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) at university and coding in schools.
• Create a Youth Jobs Connect training program to get unemployed young people into work.
• Guarantee funding for TAFE.

You can read more about Labor’s plan for higher education at: www.nodebsentence.org/laborsfairerplan
People like us – trying to change hearts to change policies

EMILY STRANEY

AUSTRALIA’s ever-changing refugee and asylum seeker policies are hard to keep up with, even for those who remain actively informed. Yet without this knowledge there is no way of shaping the conversation and thus changing the Australian government’s treatment of refugees.

That is why People Just Like Us, an NGO set up to educate Australians on the plight of asylum seekers and refugees in Australia, have partnered with the Refugee Council of Australia and the City of Sydney. They hope to remind us that refugees are people just like us, and by changing the hearts and minds of citizens, they hope to change government policies.

The first of a series of talks designed to encourage community unity was held on Tuesday September 29 at the Reginald Murphy Community Centre in Potts Point. People Just Like Us invited displaced peoples who have become refugees in Australia to share their stories. Among a panel of six sat two Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka, Rohingya refugee from Myanmar and three advocates of refugee rights in Australia. Rebecca Langkod, from the Refugee Council of Australia, said, “What we are doing is not only morally bankrupt, it is illegal. Seeking asylum is not illegal; our current policies are.” A one such policy is the indefinite detention of refugees who have received adverse security assessments from the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation (ASIO). In July 2013, this policy was found by the UN Human Rights Committee to be in breach of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Ms Langford continued that Australia’s offshore processing policy is not working. “More people have died in detention than have been resettled. At the moment we are resettling no Rohingya people from Malaysia. How can they come the right way when we’ve stopped the right way?”

Salemul Kalam, a 24-year-old Rohingya man, born stateless in Myanmar, said, “Those who are lucky like me reach Australia.” Mr Kalam and his family had fled Myanmar in 1997. However, with no documents, no chance of education and no future there, Salemul brought his brother with him to Australia as refugees three years ago. He doesn’t show despair. He shows pride, at being able to offer his 10-year old brother a new life full of opportunity. “I feel proud, at being able to offer his 10-year old brother a new life full of opportunity.”

The president of the Refugee Council of Australia, Phil Khodabande, and poets Hani Abdile and cellist Minerva change.”

Several speakers highlighted the particular disadvantages affecting refugees from minority groups, such as women, Muslims, and LGBT refugees. Mehran Paragi said that Islamophobia and racism were more rampant today than when she arrived in Australia in 1992. The symposium was directed by Ita Buttrose, the founder and filmmaker Saba Vasefi, whose short film Symphony of Strange Waters was shown. The night gave us the feeling of loneliness and I’m so happy that I’m not lonely any more in Australia,” said Ms Vasefi. “I strongly believe that prominent figures from our arts and cultural communities are capable of initiating change.”

There were performances by hip-hop artist Kween G, cellist Nivorna Khodabande, and poets Hani Abdile and Michelle Cahill. Other featured artists were Stuart Rees, Wendy Bacon and Sahar Amer, and there was active Twitter commentary taking place with the hashtag #refugeerights2nite.
JENNIFER KILLEN

"HAVING our olive oil in Australia brings such good memories," said Reeda Kassis, a Palestinian Australian who was born in the village of Burqin, a name which means “a well of olive oil”.

"It makes us so proud as Australians of Palestinian background to see products of Palestine here in Australia, despite all the obstacles Israel puts in the way with its illegal occupation of our country," Reeda told me when we broke the news that Palestinian products will now be available from the Fair Trade Emporium at Addison Road Community Centre.

Of course, in biblical times Palestine was known as the land of milk and honey, and today olive oil and couscous, za’atar and sesame are well-known and popular around the world. Now these organic and fair trade delicacies, which have long been available in Europe and America, are here for Sydneysiders to enjoy.

To give people a taste of the Palestinian products, the new organization, Palestine Fair Trade Australia, celebrates its launch with a tasting in the Stirrup Gallery at Addison Road Community Centre from 5 to 7pm on Sunday November 15.

As well as a wide variety of olive oils, you can try new taste sensations such as za’atar, a topping of thyme and sumac with hand roasted sesame seeds, or a unique olive honey spread, which combines organic black and green olives and olive oil with Palestinian honey. Other products, prepared in the traditional way by women’s cooperatives, include hand-rolled couscous and freekeh, which is roasted green wheat made from ancient varieties of grains grown in Palestine from time immemorial.

These wonderful delicacies come from the ancient village of Burqin, where our partner organisation, Canaan Fair Trade, is based. Burqin is situated in the north of occupied Palestine on the ancient road between Nazareth and Jerusalem. Burqin has the third oldest Christian church in the world, the Church of Ten Lepers, believed to be the site where Jesus performed the miracle of curing the ten lepers.

The story of Canaan Fair Trade is perhaps a modern miracle story. Canaan Fair Trade, which began in 2004, aims to empower the small farmers of the region, providing them with a means of staying on their traditional lands, maintaining their livelihoods and their culture. It sources its products exclusively from co-operatives and farmers’ associations, to help sustain vulnerable Palestinian rural communities.

Palestine Fair Trade Australia is proud of supporting Canaan Fair Trade and invites Sydneysiders to consider buying such sustainable and great-tasting products in time for Christmas.

Cheers,

Jenny Leong MP

STATE MEMBER
FOR NEWTOWN

Do you rent?
We want to hear from you

More than half of the residents in the Newtown electorate rent, but they are getting a raw deal in an overstressed housing market.

In the coming months the NSW Government will begin a review of the Residential Tenancies Act – and we want to make sure the voices of people who rent their homes are heard.

If you are a renter – we want to hear from you. Fill out our survey at www.jennyleong.org/renters_survey

Rental properties are people’s homes – but too often they are used as a way for dodgy landlords to increase their profits, at the expense of people’s security and safety.

This needs to change – we need to balance the rights of renters with the interests of landlords. Both landlords and tenants benefit from stability and certainty.

We have a plan to protect renters against excessive rent increases and unfair evictions. The Greens plan will:

• Increase security for renters through an end to “no grounds” evictions.
• Limit excessive rent increases by allowing no more than one rent increase a year
• Cap rent increases at no more than CPI (which is on average 2-3% per annum)

We know that being a renter, dealing with the challenges around finding a place to rent, putting in requests for maintenance and coping with the threat of constantly having to move has a serious impact on the well-being of people, families and communities.

That’s why we want to ensure that we are standing up for renters’ rights when the review of the Residential Tenancy Act begins.

So please take the time to fill out our renters’ survey at www.jennyleong.org/renters_survey or call our office so that we can send you a survey in the mail.

Thanks.

Jenny Leong MP

Can we help?
If you are concerned about a local issue or office can assist you with a specific matter, please get in touch.

Authorised by
Jenny Leong MP
State Member for Newtown
383 King St, Newtown, NSW 2042
T: 02 9517 2800 F: 02 9230 3352
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Organic and Fair Trade gifts from the land where Christmas began

To change or not to change?

CATHERINE SKIPPER

THE NSW Council of Social Service (NCOS) works with and for people experiencing disadvantage and poverty to achieve positive changes towards a more equitable society for all. NCOS marked its 80th anniversary of working to promote social justice by holding a festival at Carriageworks on October 14 during Anti-Poverty Week.

The creation of an expo-style “village” provided an opportunity both for the public to connect with the work of organisations involved in the pursuit of social justice and for the members of those organisations to share their knowledge and networks. The booths making up the village represented a wide range of social, economic and legal agencies – for instance, Mt. Druitt Ethnic Communities Agency, Church Housing Inc, National Women’s Alliances and Welfare Rights Centre. In addition, the festival provided a program of panel discussions and keynote speakers that focused on the challenges and means by which society can arrest growing inequality.

An address by the forthright Professor Gillian Triggs, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and well known for her opposition both to keeping refugee children in detention and to turning back refugee boats, was a highlight of the conference. Professor Triggs made the point that the failure to incorporate human rights treaties, to which Australia is a party, into Australian law undermines our international credibility at a time when the nation is seeking election to the UN Human Rights Council for 2018 and is an obstacle to the achievement of social justice for all within our own country.

Other highlights of the festival were a high-energy performance by Wiradjuri poetry slammer, Lorna Munro, and keynote speakers, Maha Abdo (United Muslim Women Australia) and comedian and writer, Corey White.
New Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student scholarships

The University of Sydney is delighted to announce the creation of two new scholarships specifically for Indigenous students, through our Campus Infrastructure and Services (CIS) unit.

The scholarships of $34,000 each ($18,000 per year for three years) in Project Management and in Architecture Leadership will be available in 2016. The CIS sponsorship of these scholarships is an extension of our commitment to increasing Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander student numbers at the University of Sydney.

In support of the key strategies behind Wingara Mura, CIS has committed to assist the two recipients financially throughout their studies and to provide them with valuable work experience and mentoring within our business units.

CIS staff and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy and Services), along with academics and Student Services, have collaborated to create these opportunities for future students and will continue to work as a team to support the scholarship recipients and ensure their journey at the University is positive and successful.

The University hopes these scholarships will attract more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who can bring a broader and deeper perspective to the areas of Project Management and Architecture.

Applications for the scholarships are open now and interested individuals are encouraged to apply. The scholarships are available for students of all ages and not limited to school leavers, and we are promoting them throughout Australia. Should prospective applicants wish to meet with students or staff from Architecture or Engineering, this can easily be arranged.

For further information on the Scholarship in Project Management please contact the Scholarships Officer on 8627 0248 or email engineering.scholarships@sydney.edu.au. Applications for the Scholarship in Project Management close on 6 January 2016.

For further information on the Scholarship in Architecture Leadership (either a Bachelor of Design in Architecture or a Bachelor of Architecture and Environment) please contact the Student Administration Centre on 9351 3248 or email arch.academic.liaison@sydney.edu.au. Applications for the Scholarship in Architecture Leadership close on 16 January 2016.

We are offering a complete support framework for a student to study, and a real stepping stone into their profession. At CIS we can provide the students with a wide range of experiences, building a solid foundation for their future career.

Please promote these two wonderful CIS opportunities among your community.

The University also offers other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholarships. Further information can be found at sydney.edu.au/scholarships/current/indigenous_students.shtml.

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A GOOD EGG

I did this the other day. I pulled the eggs out of the fridge and then stood there totally flummoxed. There was no use-by date on the box. No stamp, no nothing.

I did this the other day. I pulled the eggs out of the fridge and then stood there totally flummoxed. There was no use-by date on the box. No stamp, no nothing.

I opened the carton hoping the eggs had a date stamped onto them as they sometimes do. No, I was at a loss.

I didn’t buy the eggs. My other half is a better shopper than me so he does it. I had no idea if they were new or old. Yes, I was desperately hungry, however I didn’t want to engage with an egg that had gone bad.

I had no clue as to how to test for a bad egg, but thankfully the internet provided an answer. Turns out it’s a simple test.

All you need is a see-through glass or bowl with some water in it to put the raw egg into. If the egg floats, that’s bad. It’s bad because the inside of the egg has changed. The shell is porous so air gets in and dries it out and that is what makes it go off. Please dispose of the egg as it cannot be eaten.

Now, if the egg goes to the bottom and sits up on its pointy end, then it’s still good to eat but should be eaten quickly.

The one we all want to see is when the egg sinks to the bottom as it means the egg is really fresh. You can save those for later or do as I did after my testing and enjoy a lovely poached egg.

I was relieved I didn’t have to get rid of all those eggs. I was struck with guilt at the thought of the waste. You see, I’m trying to be more mindful of what is in the fridge. So much food is thrown away into rubbish and it’s not only costing us but more importantly it’s bad for the environment.

Now I can be sure my eggs are good for eating, and you can too. – Louisa Dyce
**Editorial**

**SSH**

Mental Health Month has passed but opportunities for further education continue. A new Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) program, coordinated by Dr Julianah Onwumere of King’s College London, aims to provide cutting-edge mental health education for carers and everyone else who wish to better support those with schizophrenia. MOOCs are free and provide certificates of attainment.

Rob Ramjan, CEO of Schizophrenia Fellowship NSW, was consulted during the development of the program and assisted with initial trials. Throughout November, community volunteers have opportunity to enrol in a new MOOC course, Caring for People with Psychosis and Schizophrenia. The courses are available worldwide in 2016 after review of feedback. This new course explores some of the key issues and questions relevant to a carer supporting a relative with psychosis such as: (1) Why is schizophrenia described as psychosis? (2) How can we best understand psychosis and its key symptoms, such as hallucinations? (3) What are the links between cannabis use and developing psychosis? (4) Can psychiatric medication help? (5) How do medications in psychosis work and what effects can they have? (6) In what ways are the experiences of people with psychosis affected? (7) How can psychosis affect a carer’s health and relationships?

“When a person first develops a psychotic disorder such as schizophrenia, they will need support from friends and family and so many other countries families and friends are also affected,” Dr Onwumere says. “Their social world can become very small, comprising only a handful of close others, such as parents, a partner or siblings.” Several factors can contribute to this, including fear, stigma, and the sheer coercion of others about how best to understand and respond to confusing and distressing illness experiences, such as hallucinations and delusions. In recognition of the many difficulties faced by families, treatment guidelines in different countries across the world now stress the potential to offer educational support to the families of individuals with psychosis. These educational interventions are designed to provide a better understanding of the illness as well as the use of helpful strategies which can improve coping, and to reduce the negative impact a psychotic illness can have on families and friendships.

*But meeting these recommendations is a challenge, particularly at times when services and organisations have reduced resources, funding, and support. As a result, carers may have little time available in their day-to-day lives, as they deal with a parallel set of challenges, such as working and caring for other family members.*

Online educational interventions have the potential to offset time and cost considerations and help reduce the burden on families and friends. With large numbers of families on a global scale.

Over 21 million people worldwide are living with schizophrenia. Having the support of families and friends can improve outcomes and help with recovery. However, family and friends support needs too. Supporting families with their understanding of the illness and the impact on their wellbeing and the outcomes of the relatives they care for.

For course details and enrolments visit www.sydneyonline.com.au

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**Features**

**Geoff Turnbull**

**Lawson Street bike and pedestrian improvements**

The plans can be viewed at Council’s Redfern Neighbourhood Service Centre, 158 Redfern Street, or on the web at www.sydneysurveys.com.au/LawsonStreet

**Chris Brennan**

**AIDS – a perspective of hope and faith**

AIDS is a story that can easily be told in terms of global despair and devastation. Many of us know that story (an important one that should never be told), but this story is one of hope, faith and compassion. We are convinced that the fourth decade of a world with AIDS is a story of recovery and support. The creation of a raised pedestrian crossing at Lawson Street close to Little Eveleigh station will encourage Lawson Street and Little Eveleigh-Square pedestrians and bikes to cross to the northern side of Lawson Street and for pedestrians to better use of that footpath. A speed hump will be introduced near Gibbons Street to decelerate traffic and improved around the station and to reinforce the 40 km speed limit in place for Lawson and Aberserome Street.

The existing bus stop in Lawson Square will be relocated to Redfern Street and the new Lawson Square bus stop will be located on Lawson Street to be relocated to Little Eveleigh Street. The de facto “kiss and drops” in Lawson Street and Little Eveleigh and Eveleigh will be lost to footpath widening.

**Dorothy Mcevan-Mcmamon**

**One of the strengths of Hebrew Scriptures is the inclusion of books like Job and Habakkuk. In these two books, the writers ask hard questions of their God. This is a daring thing to do in a religious environment, as many religious people would feel they had no right to do that because it would reveal a lack of faith. There are some Christian church communities today in which this would be the opinions offered by leaders.**

However, some people of religious belief would claim that the reverse is true. We would say that to ask the hard questions of God is an act of faith in itself – it conveys a profound trust in the understanding and grace of our God. We would encourage the development of communities of our faith which dare to ask the hard questions out loud, to believe that genuine and honest humans do that when life challenges our faith and the nature of our God.

The book of Habakkuk is quite brief. It says written to God: “O God, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry you ‘vindictive’ and you will not save?” Habakkuk then goes on to describe all sorts of injustices and tragedies in the world around him. God responds to his cries with instructions to “write a vision” and to stay with that vision no matter how long it takes to bring it to life.

In the end, Habakkuk says: “The spring tree will not blossom, the vine will not bear fruit … but I will exult in the name of my God who carries my feet into the high places.” This is, of course, a statement of faith. No matter what life brings, Habakkuk is going to hold onto his dream of hope for what lies ahead. Faith is not about denying the realities which surround us, but being determined to live as though good change and justice is possible. If we look at our world and our country at this time, it is surely difficult to sustain hope and a commitment to work for change. Everywhere we look we see people in need and refugees crying out for help while we turn our faces away. We see people with disabilities struggling to survive, women dying almost every day from domestic violence, injustices in workplaces and children in detention.

It is tempting to just live as comfortably as we can and think that it is impossible to bring in the changes needed to make a difference. Every faith tradition invites us to have a greater vision and to bring a different example into the community around us – to inspire others to join us for a greater good. That is true faith – hard to sustain, but infinitely rewarding if we will hold onto each other as we go and never give up.
Eastern Turkey – excavation vacation

South Sydney Herald distributor Eleanor Boustead has been fortunate to visit a different country every few years. In May and early June this year she spent four weeks in Turkey as part of a BC Archaeology Study Tour, which took a group of Australians to many unique ancient sites in eastern Turkey.

ANDREW COLLIS

ELEANOR first visited Turkey with her son and late husband back in the 1970s, and has long been interested in its culture, from prehistoric to the Assyrian, Hittite, Roman and Byzantine periods, the Ottoman era and modern times as a republic.

A flight across Turkey took the tour group to Kars in the northeast. It was spring but it felt more like winter. “We arrived in Kars on a cold, wet day in May. We could see the snow-capped mountains in the background [comprising part of the Turkish Armenian border],” says Eleanor, who returned with more than 2,000 photographs. “There were 12 of us altogether,” she explains. “Our tour guide Michael, a local guide and driver, plus nine others.”

The tour’s first site of interest was the remains of once wealthy medieval city Ani, a former capital of Armenia on the silk route. Located in the Kars province, on a little plateau surrounded on three sides by a steep gorge, Ani was well fortified. Its massive walls resisted military attack on many occasions, but finally succumbed to an earthquake. Eleanor recounts stories of lives lost and the city and was invaded though never by the Russians, who occupied much of eastern Turkey for about 50 years, until about 1920. You can see that in the architecture.

“It’s soon apparent that for Eleanor travel is motivated by more than mere curiosity. She is indeed curious, but also respectful of cultures other than her own. Her attitude is one of openness – to people, places, customs, ways of life. “A vacation by the pool has never appealed to me,” she says. “I like to do something different, to learn something – and to challenge myself.”

The tour bus made its way south to Lake Van, Turkey’s largest lake. Like the Dead Sea, it has no outlet due to a blockade caused by a volcano or earthquake. The water is alkaline, as normal river salts remain after evaporation. There are few fish species. “On a previous trip I saw a group of people there washing a fleece. The water helps to whiten the wool.”

There is an island on which still stands a lonely former Armenian church. It has been there for 1,000 years and its outer walls feature reliefs of biblical stories. The surrounding monastery is gone yet these unique reliefs remain. The Van region is also famous for its unusual cat breed. The cats are pure white, with one yellow and one blue eye. The local university is breeding them. Visitors can buy small sacks of food to feed the cats in the cattery. The bus continued to Diyarbakir.

“The same happened elsewhere, again like new. I love the bridges, which tend to have a peculiar peak in the arches.”

The bus continued to Diyarbakir. “We learned there’s no evidence of food to feed the cats in the cattery. The same happened elsewhere, again like new. I love the bridges, which tend to have a peculiar peak in the arches.”

The main mosque in Diyarbakir had been built before the Ottomans because of its rectangular style. In Sich CE the Byzantine emperor built Hagia Sophia, which remained for about 900 years. In its time, it was the most famous church in Christendom due to its dome and size. Then the Ottoman Conqueror entered the city. It is said that he admired this building so much that it became the style for all Turkish mosques. This can be seen in Sydney, in the Gallipoli Mosque in Auburn, a gift from Turkish Australians. The next destination proved to be the most ancient – 12,000 years! In the southeastern Anatolia region lies the site of an unexplained structure. Göbekli Tepe (“Potbelly Hill”) comprises massive carved stones, chalked and arranged by prehistoric people who apparently had not yet domesticated animals, cultivated cereals, invented writing, developed metal tools or even pottery. Unearthed just 20 years ago, the tell (archaeological mound) is currently undergoing excavation by German and Turkish archaeologists. It’s a fascinating find. Evidence suggests multiple sites over millennia; megalithic pillars linked by coarsely built walls to form circular or oval structures. “We learned there’s no evidence of people having actually lived there,” Eleanor explains. “It seems they attended the site for some kind of ritual activity. It reminds me of Stonehenge, but Göbekli Tepe is 6,000 years older. Unlike Stonehenge, the pillars bear animal reliefs – lions and boars, birds and insects. I just find it mind-boggling. It’s a big mystery.”

Near Adiyaman, on top of remote Mount Nemrut (in Roman times called Commagene), the group visited the site of an independent kingdom. About 2,000 years ago the king had built a burial structure consisting of colossal statues and tumulus (mounds of stones or small stones). “It’s a great feature. The kingdom lasted for only a little while but this was a time when the monarch represented all the gods within his person. King Antochus I (69-31 BCE) was a typical megalomaniac. The statues represent gods – in the form of a lion, eagle and human – and the king. At some stage an earthquake knocked off the heads of the statues, which now lie near the bodies.”

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All this was forgotten until 1855 when the site was rediscovered.

Eleanor describes a joyful scene on a bridge over the Tigris river. “Young men started dancing, spontaneously. The same happened elsewhere, again on a bridge. I thought it was great! These old stone bridges are so well built that with some work they look like new. I love the bridges, which tend to have a peculiar peak in the arches.”

On her visits to Turkey, Eleanor says, she has always felt safe. “This was the case during the general election on June 7, the result of which was unexpected. The long-standing ruling party did not win the necessary majority seats. For the first time ever, the Kurds did win seats. Since then a coalition has not been formed, which is why the country is holding another election on November 1. The recent killings, since July, may have something to do with this uncertainty. “A history of violence and distrust is not easily overcome,” Eleanor says. Before going to Turkey’s capital, Ankara, the tour group visited the site of Catal Huyuk, founded almost 9,000 years ago and believed to be one of the oldest towns in the world. The population is thought to have been between 3,500 and 4,000. Evidence shows that houses were of mud with only a common wall between. They did not have doors or windows. Access was by way of the roof. Tools were made of stone and obsidian (volcanic glass).

Ankara is well known by tourists for its Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. “We saw an obidian mirror that had been found in Catal Huyuk,” Eleanor says. “The museum contains a large collection of stone, pottery and carvings from the Hittites. These people occupied Turkey for about 1,000 years. The earliest known pottery peace treaty was between the Hittites and the Egyptians in 1295 BCE. They are also mentioned in the Bible.”

Did the tour live up to expectations? “Yes. Our world is full of wonders, and history shows that humans don’t change that much. It’s fascinating to find out how knowledge is passed from one culture to another. I did find it hard sometimes to cope with the walking and climbing. On occasion, my arthritis made twists known but it had a helper for those times and I took a walking stick with me,” Eleanor smiles.

www.bearcheology.com
Posing a triple threat

SSH

IT is often said that timing is everything. Timing is absolutely crucial if you are an artist trying to break into the mainstream.

This month sees the opening of Guy James Whitworth’s fifth solo Australian show, Artist/Activist/Arsehole, at the M2 Gallery in Surry Hills. Coincidently, the show synchronises with the London premiere of a documentary about Guy’s work, filmed over the last 12 months. Unplanned by Guy, both the film and exhibition open on the same night. Timing, indeed, is everything.

The exhibition’s title, Artist/Activist/Arsehole, is in reference to the three separate elements Guy believes any good artist needs to create: the practical ability, the wish to make social change and the ego and ambition needed to put that work out into the world.

Guy James Whitworth is certainly an artist with the ambition to go places. He is an upcoming artist to watch, but also an artist to listen to. Later this month he will be speaking about his series of bike paintings at the City of Sydney’s Rides the Night Festival, in the Botanic Gardens, in front of an audience of thousands of bicycle riders.

(As if the above weren’t enough, this month also sees the opening of The Saloon Des Refusés in Victoria. The exhibition contains Guy’s celebrated portraits of national treasures William Yang and Michelle Frances Colloff.)

Whitworth is an artist with an agenda, using his work to bring together communities and attempting to break down the social barriers of prejudice and intolerance. And yet, he is still mostly unknown, even within the LGBTQI community that features in his work or the vegan community with whom he campaigns for animal rights and food equity.

Timing is everything and now more than ever is the time to catch Guy James Whitworth before he goes onto even more exciting things.

Artist/Activist/Arsehole
Guy James Whitworth
M2 Gallery
4/450 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills
November 26 – December 2, 2015

The Review November '15 11

Brittany Johnson

YOU might have seen Chris Broadbent on your TV screen recently. The Tasmanian-born actor has starred in 7 Place to Call Home and Australia: The Story of Us. Next up the Alexandria local will appear in Australian sci-fi feature SFv1 and has his sights on a role in long-running soap Neighbours.

How did you become interested in acting?

When I was still living in Tasmania I was surrounded by actors and musicians but my career was heading towards professional soccer. When I was 18, I broke my leg and could no longer pursue soccer so I decided to move to Sydney. About six months later I was scouted at a bar on Oxford Street and the agent said I should give acting a go and gave me his card. I didn’t follow it up but it got me thinking about the idea of becoming an actor. I soon enrolled in classes at the Actor’s Pulse in Redfern and took it from there.

What steps did you take to get to this stage of your career?

I studied the Meisner Technique at the Actor’s Pulse and graduated last year. In my last year of study, I focused on my acting craft but also made it a priority to learn as much as I could about the industry, particularly film and TV, so that by the time I graduated I knew the steps to take to get myself in the business. Soon I was doing a lot of work on projects like short films and student films.

It can be tough though. Sometimes I would have to get up at Sam and drive out to Richmond to film a scene and I wouldn’t be getting paid for it but I take everything as a new experience that I can always learn from. With a lot of graduates it can take time to get your foot in the door but I’ve been very fortunate to have had consistent work so far this year.

I’ve just wrapped filming a new Australian feature film with Hollywood actor Kellan Lutz, called SFFV1 and directed by Shane Abbess. Other film and TV projects I’ve been fortunate enough to work on recently have been A Place to Call Home, Australia: The Story of Us, The Spirit of The Game and Catching Mike. I also had a role in Stair The Play by Patricia Cornelius for the Sydney Fringe Festival, which wrapped two weeks ago.

Why are you so passionate about acting?

I like the idea of storytelling and the opportunity to be able to give something to the audience.

What is in the pipeline for next year?

I am currently focusing on securing a role in Neighbours, which is really exciting. I am also focusing on the American market and am currently building contacts within their industry. My mentor and I are also developing the script for a crime genre feature film set in Tasmania. We have just sent off the first draft to a writer in New York to read over so that’s another exciting project we are enjoying working on.

What is it that you love about living in Alexandria?

It’s a great culture – it feels like home. I can walk down my street and have at least six people say hi to me. It’s really nice to have that relationship with your neighbours. And when I go to Social Laneway Espresso in Redfern and they don’t even need to ask me what I want – they know me that well there. It’s nice to have that.

What is your advice for aspiring actors?

Be prepared to work hard. There are a lot of people who want to become actors but you need to realise it takes a lot of commitment and hard work to make it in this industry.

Do you have any advice for aspiring actors?

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What do you find is the biggest challenge when you are preparing for a role?

I guess it would be building the foundations for a character and figuring out who they are – how they think and act – and embodying that character. It is challenging but very rewarding.

Have you found it a challenge to establish your career?

There are always tough moments. You have to be realistic that there will be difficult times but if you are serious about becoming an actor, you don’t even allow the idea of giving up as a possibility.

What is it that you love about acting?

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The Reviews

Film Review by Lindsay Cohen

The Martian

Directed: Ridley Scott
Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Kristen Wiig
Genre: Lost in Places

12

little green men.

...away. Indeed quite the opposite is and the audience will not be scared lost on Mars struggling to survive. fem-bots or laser guns. Just a scientist believable. There are no monsters or is easily result works because of its plausibility. making in Australia alone, and counting).

Trek and Star Wars counterbalance to the “soft” and genre of DIY “hard” science-fiction tape and you kind of get the idea.

Science-fiction films. It also puts the science-fiction films. It also puts the genre of DIY “hard” science-fiction

To keep up with all the latest event
information, and to find out when the next Sunday Youth Session is being held, visit www. gasolinepony.com or www.facebook.com/TheGasolinePony/timeline, or go to TIS Marrickville Road to check it out for yourself.

film@ssh.com.au

Music Review by Emily Straney

Sunday Youth Session
Gasoline Pony, Marrickville
October 11, 2015

Tetsuya Mori Marie Healy Sergio Plata

Tetsuya Mori and Marie Healy are given the perfect place on any given afternoon.

TheGasolinePony/timeline, to check it out for yourself.

By Catherine Skipper

BEYOND MYSELF, SOMEWHERE

Sergio Plata uses different references in his paintings to express his fear of death. Sergio Plata's work defies expectations and finds something beautiful in the ugly, the ordinary, and the unexpected. His paintings are a testament to the human condition, showing how our inner worlds can be so different from the world we live in. Sergio Plata's work is a reminder that beauty can be found in the most unexpected places.
Post – Dominoes”. Beyond us.” Mini Graff depicts Millers happening in Millers Point – but also home and community as commodity. and photographic work “For[ced] Sale” Easterbrook’s site specific installation as a Millers Point Terrace as its shell/heart and home, depicted a snail with “Not 4 Sale” which, in an analogy of eviction from home and community. wharf workers and he is now facing the space of his home. His family were the letter. Tamara Dean’s work “Barney Dawes Point” situated the exhibition Bennett’s three oil paintings, “Sirius”, housing, home and community. Jane the universally applicable context of compelling story of Cara Martinez THE Point is… The community was galvanised into action and gathered its supporters. Ian Milliss’ artwork “We. Together. Then – We. Together. Now.” placed the current struggle squarely in a historical context, reminding the viewer that “at the heart of the Green Ban movement was the idea that the city is a commons, a cultural artefact created and owned by all the individuals and communities that have lived in it and not … the property of developers or governments who incrementally grab control of bits of it”. Reg Mombassa’s work “No Surrender” was symbolic of the enduring struggle against “ruthless wealth and power”. Mombassa states: “Removing a thriving, long-standing community of working people because their real estate is now coveted by the wealthy is plainly the wrong thing to do.” Sally Cushing safely questions the morality of the sell-off through her abstract painting “Reading Blake (and thinking about James Packer’s Soul)”. Jo Holdre adds: “Millers Point has a history of significant counterparts between the dissident voice, the resistant voice and the government and the developers.” This history and the heritage aspect of the living Millers Point community was raised by Ruark Lewis’ work “Housing the Seafaring Nation”, in collaboration with Holdre. “I Heart ICAC” by Sarah Goffman and Cleave /Winston and the government corruption and dodgy deals behind the sell-off (B.U.G. includes Raquel Ormeilla, Madeline Kelly, Sarah Goffman and Bec Dean). Deborah Kelly’s work “My Sydney Summer” was a photomontage of various protest marches and vigs that the artist had attended around the world, presented in one large banner that visitors interacted with. Kelly states: “I loved how people used it (as a backdrop) to create dynamic and passionate social movement selfies; a solidarity trope feed at last.” Paddy O’Leary’s three collages of photographs and flyers amounted to the community’s actions with themes of Community Spirit, Resistance, Postot and Solidarity: Blue Lucine’s preview of “Forced Out” places the viewer alongside the locals throughout the struggle, inviting a “personal look inside the lives of those at the heart of the sale”. Margaret Bishop and John Dunin’s work “Eighteen Months” encompassed photo-documentation and Facebook posts by John, with artwork and intricate handmade banners by Margaret in a collection documenting the embrace of community and ongoing support. The act in this exhibition was not for and of itself, but rather art for social context, art for community, art as documentation, art for activism, art as activism. Our main concern was that the art was relevant and meaningful to both the community and the broader and ongoing contexts. It was important to keep it real, as it were, and looking back on it, we achieved that. Cara Martinez was co-curator (with Paddy O’Leary) of The Point is… exhibition at 107 Projects in Redfern, October 7-11, 2015. The keynote speech at the opening was given by Eva Cox AO, with live entertainment by Choir Rocks & Jacinta Tobin. 107projects.org

‘Cleffies’ and friends in concert

SSH FRESH from their hugely successful winter tour in New Zealand, the Cleffomaniacs community choir is now tuning up for a summer concert, Summer Harmonies, with guest choir Coro Austral and special guest soloist Kristen Turner. The “Cleffies” will be clapping and clicking, singing and swaying to get into the mood for summer. And there’ll be something on the program for everyone.

The Cleffomaniacs rehearse at the South Sydney Uniting Church in Waterloo but draw their 30-plus membership from all across Sydney – from Dee Why to Oyster Bay and from Bondi to Merrylands, with all stops between. Led since 2003 by musical director Gary Smith, a graduate of NSW Conservatorium of Music, the choir’s repertoire is as varied and eclectic as its members. Gary states: “For theatre’s “a capable”, meaning without instruments. They aren’t purists, they just love to sound as beautifully harmonic as they can, in as many different styles of music as possible. Coro Austral, led by Margot McLaughlin since it was formed in 2010, are an acoustic Spanish and Latin-American music with their recent spring concert offering an exciting, imaginative and colourful repertoire straight from Cuba, Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia.

Soloist Kristen Turner specialised in voice for her Creative Arts degree, and since qualifying has been actively engaged in both performing and vocal teaching. She has toured nationally and internationally with many performance choirs and a capella ensembles. You can’t afford to miss this concert. Glebe Town Hall, Sunday 29 Nov. 4pm (doors open at 3.30pm). Tickets $30 (Concession $25). Kids under 12 FREE! Ticket includes light refreshments. Bookings: www.barndoorscafe.com.au (subject to limited availability on the door. thecleffomaniacs.com

Artists’ pointed remarks

Cara Martinez

THE Point is… exhibition told a compelling story of Millers Point in the universally applicable context of housing, home and community. Jane Bennett’s church oil paintings, “Sister”, “This is My Home” and “Merriman Street”, along with Reg Mombassa’s glitch point “The Opera House from Dawes Point” situated the exhibition in its geographical context, leading the visitor straight into the community.

Alison Alder’s screen-print on rice paper, “Get Out Quick”, was a reworking of the evictions letter received on March 19, 2014, placing the viewer in the position of a resident receiving the letter. Tamar Dean’s work “Barney Gardner” documents a man born and raised in Millers Point, in the intimate space of his home. His family were wharf workers and he is now facing eviction from home and community.

Emotionally informed People’s drawing “Not 4 Sale” which, in an analogy of heart and home, depicted a snail with a Millers Point Terrace as its shell/ home. Alison Alder’s “Real Estate” references housing lotto and Nikki Eaterbrook’s site specific installation and photographic work “Top [ed] Sale” was a playful and serious statement on home and community as commodity. Co-curator Paddy O’Leary writes: “It was important to highlight what is happening in Millers Point – but also beyond us.” Mini Graff depicts Millers Point as the epicentre of a mass sell-off with a dominio effect in “Popped at the Post – Dominos”. The community was galvanised into large wooden table by the back window. The wide table, constructed by Josh, comfortably seats 10. Group bookings for breakfast, lunch and dinner are welcome. Patrons are impressed to learn that Josh has made all the bottles and steels in the café. Much of the artwork on the walls is Josh’s too (a hobby, he says, and a form of relaxation). His first love, however, is hospitality.

“I really enjoy working in the kitchen,” says Josh, who has worked as a chef and bistro for more than 20 years. “I love cooking and baking – we bake our own flatbreads, as well as gluten-free pumpkin and kale bread.”

Josh and Priscilla are positive about the future. Their two young children love coming to the cafe every day. Redfern is a lively place and the people are friendly. There are quite a few cafes now,” Josh says, “which means business is good, especially over the weekends. There are so many people out and about.”

Barn Doors Cafe 108 Redfern Street, Redfern Tues-Sun 8am-3pm Wed-Sat 8am-6pm, 6-10pm. Closed Mondays. Phone 9698 8036 www.barndoorscafe.com.au

Barn Doors open nights

Andrew Coley

REDFERN: You hear a lot of good things about Barn Doors Cafe (108 Redfern Street). Locals and visitors alike praise the fine food and genuine hospitality. The interior is clean and well lit, the community of working people because their real estate is now coveted by the wealthy is plainly the wrong thing to do.” Sally Cushing safely questions the morality of the sell-off through her abstract painting “Reading Blake (and thinking about James Packer’s Soul)”. Jo Holdre adds: “Millers Point has a history of significant counterparts between the dissident voice, the resistant voice and the government and the developers.” This history and the heritage aspect of the living Millers Point community was raised by Ruark Lewis’ work “Housing the Seafaring Nation”, in collaboration with Holdre. “I Heart ICAC” by Sarah Goffman and Cleave /Winston and the government corruption and dodgy deals behind the sell-off (B.U.G. includes Raquel Ormeilla, Madeline Kelly, Sarah Goffman and Bec Dean). Deborah Kelly’s work “My Sydney Summer” was a photomontage of various protest marches and vigs that the artist had attended around the world, presented in one large banner that visitors interacted with. Kelly states: “I loved how people used it (as a backdrop) to create dynamic and passionate social movement selfies; a solidarity trope feed at last.” Paddy O’Leary’s three collages of photographs and flyers amounted to the community’s actions with themes of Community Spirit, Resistance, Postot and Solidarity: Blue Lucine’s preview of “Forced Out” places the viewer alongside the locals throughout the struggle, inviting a “personal look inside the lives of those at the heart of the sale”. Margaret Bishop and John Dunin’s work “Eighteen Months” encompassed photo-documentation and Facebook posts by John, with artwork and intricate handmade banners by Margaret in a collection documenting the embrace of community and ongoing support. The art in this exhibition was not for and of itself, but rather art for social context, art for community, art as documentation, art for activism, art as activism. Our main concern was that the art was relevant and meaningful to both the community and the broader and ongoing contexts. It was important to keep it real, as it were, and looking back on it, we achieved that. Cara Martinez was co-curator (with Paddy O’Leary) of The Point is… exhibition at 107 Projects in Redfern, October 7-11, 2015. The keynote speech at the opening was given by Eva Cox AO, with live entertainment by Choir Rocks & Jacinta Tobin. 107projects.org

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Local named world’s best bartender

SSH
SYDNEY’S very own Dula Lorensuhewa took on the rest of the world in the International Bartenders Association (IBA) Competition in Bulgaria last month. The 64th annual cocktail competition saw Ms Lorensuhewa competing against bartenders from 63 other countries, coming out on top, to bring home Australia’s first win in over a decade.

Undertaking this competition was no easy feat. First Dula had to triumph in the Australian national finals, held in June of this year, where he won the cocktail competition with his Herradura tequila-based tiki cocktail.

He was then entered as the single competitor to represent Australia on the world stage. Dula attended the week-long congress, held in Bulgaria’s capital Sofia, with representatives from the Australian Bartenders Guild. Dula was able to take in all of the cultural appeal that the country had to offer, and extend the friendship and hospitality that Australians are renowned for.

Sponsor companies for the competition included: Finest Call, Routin 1883, Fabbri, Angostura, Havana Club, Finlandia, Monin, Grand Marnier, Beam Suntory, Real and Dr. Kaper. Competitors got the once-in-a-lifetime chance to learn from and mingle with the representatives of sponsor companies, such as the Master Distiller and CEO.

Dula conducted himself charismatically and professionally in a speech on the inspiration behind his rum-based after-dinner cocktail. Having only seven minutes to make five identical drinks to his cocktail recipe, Dula made every second count. He placed his final garnish with moments to spare, while the judges watched for deductions, ranging from spillages to lack of elegance.

After what seemed an eternity, Dula was invited onstage to the sound of Queen’s “We Are the Champions”. He was presented with the IBA prestige award, an award that industry professionals strive their entire careers hoping to receive. Dula is now ranked the best technical bartender in the world.

So what’s next for Australia’s top, to bring home Australia’s technical bartender in the world.

Wordplays
Italian Sonnet
She wonders why her life was spent Among these walls of brick and glass Not thinking of what would come to pass Or what the days and years had meant. She’s thinking now of time’s extent Its creeping ways as quiet as grass The way it admits of no lament Or tries its own length to surpass. She’s lost the art of keeping track Of how her days and hours revolve Or what the days and years had meant. Of how her days and hours revolve Or tries its own length to surpass.

– Catherine Skipper

SSH Instagram Gallery
SELECTED BY CLAIRE MAHJOUB

Tag your Instagram pics #sshphotos and we will include 5 of the best photos, from all suburbs in South Sydney, here each month. See all photos online: southsydneyherald.com.au

South Sydney Puzzle
Problem
From ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR, FIVE, SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT, NINE, TEN write down a series of words in such a way that (i) no word is used more than once; (ii) no two consecutive words share a letter; (iii) the total of the numbers you have written is as large as possible. For example, you could write SEVEN, FOUR, EIGHT giving a total of 19, but this is nowhere near the largest possible.

FIRST CORRECT ENTRY WINS A PRIZE.
Send to South Sydney Puzzle, PO Box 3288, REDFERN NSW 2016.

Last month’s puzzle
Adam, Betty, Clara, Dan and Ellen have 10 coins, all of equal value, and are going to share them by the following procedure.

* Ellen will propose a distribution of the coins (so many to herself, so many to Dan and so on). The other four will vote on it. If 50 per cent or more of the votes are in favour of Ellen’s proposal it is accepted and the coins are distributed accordingly.
* If Ellen’s proposal is rejected then she receives no coins and goes home. In this case Dan makes a proposal which is voted upon by the other three. Once again, if 50 per cent or more are in favour then Dan’s proposal is accepted; if not, Dan goes home with nothing.
* As long as proposals are rejected, the procedure continues, with one person fewer each time. If, eventually, Betty has a proposal rejected, then Adam gets all the coins.

If all the participants can foresee the precise consequences of their actions, and a person proposing or voting on a distribution of coins will always act entirely in their own (monetary) best interests, how many coins will each person receive?

Last month’s solution
Adam thinks: If Betty makes any proposal at all I can vote against it and get all 10 coins for myself. Betty thinks: I know what Adam is thinking. If I have to make a proposal he will vote against it, I will lose and will get nothing at all. So if Clara makes a proposal which offers me one coin or more I will vote for it.

Clara thinks: I know what Betty is thinking. She will definitely support me if I offer her one coin or more; on the other hand, Adam will never support me, so there is no point in adding my vote to that. So if Dan’s proposal is defeated, my best course is to propose 9 coins for myself, for Betty and 0 for Adam. Betty will vote for this (because if it is defeated she gets nothing) and so it will be accepted.

Dan thinks: I know what Clara is thinking. She is planning to offer Betty 1 coin and Adam nothing, and they must realise this too. So to get two votes and have my proposal accepted, I need to get them onside by offering them more. Clara will vote against me (and in any case I don’t need her vote) so I won’t offer her anything. I will propose nothing for Clara, 2 coins for Betty and 1 for Adam. Betty will vote for this (because if it is defeated she gets nothing) and so it will be accepted.

Ellen thinks: I know what Dan is thinking. I need two of the four votes to get my proposal accepted. The “cheapest” way for me to do this is to offer 1 coin to Clara and 2 to Adam: they will then vote for me because they know that they will do even worse if my proposal is defeated. So, the outcome is that Ellen will receive 7 coins, Dan 0, Clara 1, Betty 0, and Adam 2. This distribution will be proposed by Ellen: Clara and Adam will vote for it and so it will be accepted. In the event, nobody other than Ellen ends up actually making the proposal they were intending.
UNITING CHURCHES

South Sydney Uniting Church
56a Regent St, Waterloo
Worship (Eucharist) 10am Sunday
Rev. Andrew Collis 0438 719 470
mustardseed.unitingchurch.org.au

Leichhardt Uniting Church
3 Wetherill St, Leichhardt
Worship 10am & 6.30pm Sunday
Rev. Dr. John Net 0409 238 117
leichhardtuniting.org.au

Paddington Uniting Church
56a Raglan St, Waterloo
Worship 10am Sunday
Rev. Dr David Gore 0449 875 065

Leichhardt Uniting Church
3 Wetherill St, Leichhardt
Worship 9.30am & 6pm Sunday
Rev. Dr Margaret Mayman
29 Hughes St, Potts Point
Office 9267 3614

Worship (Eucharist) 10am Sunday
Rev. Andrew Collis 0438 719 470

Leichhardt Uniting Church
3 Wetherill St, Leichhardt
near Norton St, free parking behind church
Worship 10am & 6.30pm Sunday
Rev. Dr. John Net 0409 238 117
leichhardtuniting.org.au

The Sacred Lounge
Cnr St Johns Rd & Coburra Ave, Glebe
Worship ‘7pm Sunday
‘Coburra Ave’ intimate candlelit concerts 8pm Thursday
Office 9108 5413
www.sacredlounge.org.au

NEWTOWN MISSION
280 King St Newtown
Worship 9.30am & 6pm Sunday
Rev. Graeme Tutt
9518 9800
newtownmission.org.au

Pitt Street Uniting Church
264 Pitt St, Sydney
Worship 10am Sunday
Rev. Margaret Mayman
Office 9817 3614
www.pitstreetuniting.org.au

Wayside Chapel
29 Hughes St, Potts Point
Worship 10am Sunday
Rev. Graham Long
Office 9581 9100
www.thewaysidechapel.com

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Help distribute the SSH in your area
‘Every month I do a little service for each and every household in my neighborhood and I am rewarded with smiles, the joy of exercise and community involvement. Sometimes there is a challenge, when someone says they don’t want unsolicited mail, but when I ask them “it’s the South Sydney Herald, the local independent not full of real estate ads but real community news, their eyes light up, and they ask eagerly if the delivery will be regular” (Norrie, Erskineville).’

If you’d like to help distribute the SSH in your local area, we’d love to hear from you. Please contact the South Sydney Herald: distro@ssh.com.au

VOLUNTEERS’ NEWS
PAT CLARKE

It seems that because it’s now less than two months until Christmas and the end of 2015, we all think of the dreaded Spring Cleaning. I know I’ve been trying it, with limited success – I think I’m just a hoarder at heart. A very good site to help with this and other advice is City of Sydney’s Green Villages News. It is full of useful tips on recycling, cutting down waste that goes into landfill, gardening hints, balcony vegetables, worm farms, etc. www.greenvillages.com.au

November 15. White Ribbon Day is Australia’s campaign to prevent men’s violence against women. The statistics of domestic violence and death of women are horrifying. See www.white.ribbon.org.au

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F: 02 9230 3352
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FIND YOUR LOCAL MEMBERS

Henley Brook Wallaby MP
Cnr Laidley Ave & Dyson Ave, Westmead
0408 959 405
henleybrookwallabymp@gmail.com

Cheers Sydney locals 15
Winning team, winning culture

An interview with Michael Maguire

MICHAEL PAGE

It’s not easy to get to know the real Michael Maguire. Win, lose or draw, the coach's demeanour and mantra tend not to waver. The team is always “working on a few things”, “working for each other” and “growing stronger”. While Maguire might come across as a reserved and private man, his new book, A Year to Remember, offers a refreshingly unique perspective on the man – as well as the hard work, passion, pain and meticulous planning that saw Souths claim their first premiership in 43 years.

“The reason I wanted to do the book was to share what happened over the year, week in week out,” Maguire said. “It’s about the journey we went through, the ups and downs and how we got there. I’m hoping fans will see the dynamics of what was going on, have a look at those games and compare that to what I was saying and doing as coach, and bring back a few memories.”

Arriving at Redfern in 2012, with no previous connections to the club or the area, Maguire was quick to appreciate the importance of community and culture. “From the community point of view, it’s been special to see how people have grown from hope to happiness. At Souths, it’s not just about a football club, it’s about culture. It’s about people – all the different mixes of life. They can see that, after what the team has gone through, we’ve been able to find success, and it becomes a real symbol for a lot of people.”

After a disappointing start to the season, for which Maguire himself has shouldered some criticism, the book offers a refreshing reminder of the dizzy days in 2014 and just how much it takes to win an NRL premiership. It’s easy to forget the many bold and high-yield decisions Maguire made on the road to glory: the replacement of Redfern favourite Nathan Merritt with try-scoring ace Alex Johnston, whose try-scoring feats were rewarded with a selection in the Kangaroos team at season end; the ascension of unknown centre Matthew Wright; the replacement of captain John Sutton in his customary five-eighth position with the skilful running of Luke Keary adding a new dimension to Souths’ left-side attack.

Possibly Maguire’s most contentious decision was the much criticised signing of the ageing Lote Tuqiri. After a couple of injury-ridden seasons at the Tigers many thought the dual international’s best days were behind him. “Talking to Lote I completely understood where he was at and what he was trying to achieve,” Maguire recalled. “It’s not something an everyday supporter would understand straight away. Coaching is about those little things that happen that supporters don’t always see or understand. It was obvious to me watching Lote playing for Norths [Souths’ feeder team] that he was focused and wanted to do something in the NRL season.”

The most compelling chapter of Maguire’s book is the final one. Having read the Roosters, Maguire talks of how important it was for the players to “snap up” the surge of fans’ emotions during grand final week. “There were a massive number of fans at training. The build-up on grand final day all added to the emotion and that’s what drew the emotion at the back end of the game.”

The grand final victory scenes remain indelibly in Maguire’s memory: “To see them crying, and GI and Sammy embracing, it was above foofy. The players knew what it meant to everyone, not just Souths people but rugby league all over. It was the story of the fight-back and the return after marching on the streets. To see young Jason Clark, who was at the march, embrace his dad, to see him running around in a grand final team, that’s a special moment for a kid who was brought up in that era and in the area.”

For Maguire the post-grand-final bus trip to Souths Juniors was unforgettable: “The smiles and the celebrations in the streets were unbelievable. After the game, we got on the bus and what was going on around Redfern was absolutely amazing. You have to work to experience moments when you can say to the coaching staff and the team, ‘Look at this guys, you’ve created. You appreciate it comes from a lot of hard work over a long period of time.”

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Celebrating the stories of Redfern through art

Join us in listening to community leaders and artists talk about the history and restoration of the 40,000 Years mural and be part of a discussion about the future of public art in Redfern.

Speakers at this Redfern mural gathering will include: Nathan Moran, Carol Ruff, Djon Mundine, Matt Poll and members of the Redfern Station Community Group.

All welcome! A delicious lunch will be provided by Gardener’s Lodge Cafe.

Redfern Community Centre
29-53 Hugo Street, Redfern
Friday 13 November, 2015
9.30am-5pm

www.downcitystreets.com

For catering purposes please let us know you’re attending. Please email Margo Daly: downcitystreets@gmail.com by Monday 9 November.