



# THE CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC. NEWSFLASH

Winter 2011

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## *At last, a local Councillor*

It is wonderful to at last have Carlton Residents' Association (CRA) Member, Dr Jackie Watts, as a councillor of the City of Melbourne. She is one of three who live and work in the municipality. Jackie has excellent local knowledge and will be highly competent. Upon Cr Peter Clarke's resignation to head the State Government's Urban Renewal Authority, Jackie was confirmed as the new councillor in a by-election, held via count-back.



*Lord Mayor Robert Doyle inducts  
Jackie Watts as Councillor*

Heritage listed Carlton Gardens, to a more appropriate location. Her recent community activities include the reunification of North and South Carlton within the City of Melbourne.

**Hearty congratulations and our very best wishes to Jackie as our new councillor.**

## *Reference Group Reports*

### *Kathleen Syme Centre*

#### *KSC - Carlton's Community Centre / Library?*

On 4 July 2011 the Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy and Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, announced transfer of the Kathleen Syme Centre from the State Government to the City of Melbourne.

We were delighted to announce that the many years of passionate community campaigning for a centrally located Community Centre/Library

Jackie has worked tirelessly for the Melbourne community, and is well informed on community issues. She has played a leading role in CRA and has campaigned indefatigably over many years for a Community Centre/Library in Carlton. Planning issues have also occupied much of her time. As convener of CoRBA (Coalition of Residents and Business Associations - Melbourne), Jackie has lobbied for Council electoral reform, including the re-introduction of wards and attendance voting. She has campaigned for greater protection of heritage and neighbourhood character, and for the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show to be moved from the World

### *KSC continued from page 1*

for Carlton by CRA, Carlton's Arts and Literary community, Business Association and a wide cross section of community members, was rewarded with success.

Congratulations and deepest thanks to all for your long-term commitment to this vital project.



*KSC handover: La Mama staff & director Liz Jones (partially hidden), Greta Bird (CRA), Mark Rubbo (Readings), Cr Peter Clarke, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, MLCs Matthew Guy and Craig Ondarchie, CRA members*

**However our euphoric celebrations, of at last achieving our long sought Community Centre/Library at the Kathleen Syme Centre, ended in shock and deep dismay** when we learned that the Lord Mayor is non-committal in relation to establishing a library in the KSC. It seems that this Council is not bound by resolutions or plans agreed under the previous Council.

**It appears we will need to pick up the cudgels and re-launch our campaign to establish our right to a library in Carlton.** CRA led the fight for the KSC because the CoM always promised us that if we found the space, a library/community centre would be realised. We have the space - now the game has changed.

Carlton has no library, town hall or public buildings - and like other communities in Victoria we are entitled to these fundamental community resources. Our united vision for a centrally located Community Centre / Library is that it will facilitate integrated activities – learning / developing / building / sustaining community / creating well-being - space where all Carlton's disparate groups can be community.

The CoM promises that a community consultative process will occur before the uses of the KSC are finally established. In the short term, CoM staff and services displaced during renovations to the Carlton Baths are to be relocated to KSC.

**The campaign for these essential community services is far from over.**

### **Traffic and Transport**

#### • **Demise of Car Dependence**

Car use (km per capita) in Australia peaked in 2004, according to transport academics Professors Peter Newman and Jeff Kenworthy, in their landmark research paper '*Peak Car Use: Understanding the Demise of Automobile Dependence*' (Curtin University, WA, 2011). This largely unpredicted world-wide phenomenon has been driven by rising fuel costs, traffic congestion, people moving back into cities and a personal desire to reduce car dependency. The International Energy Agency warns that ever increasing fuel costs will further drive down the popularity of private motoring over the next decade, despite the potential for alternative energy sources. Australian motorists have been protected from the full fiscal impacts of rising oil prices by the currently high value of the \$A.

While research confirms that the car remains a significant status symbol for some people, it is much less so for many teenagers than in earlier times. According to Professor Newman '*there is a growing culture of urbanism among the young ----- they actively prefer using public transport because you can wire up your devices – ipod, computer, phone – in a way you can't do when you're driving --- . In many ways the car is reaching its limits in the cities of the world*'.

In Melbourne, road traffic congestion has reduced tram speeds by 15% since 1999. The Council, in its Draft Transport Strategy Update, is considering a 'congestion charge' to rid the city of traffic jams, as other cities have successfully done. Improved public transport, cycling and walking are essential precursors to reduce Melbourne's car dependency into the future.

#### • **Major Roads Projects**

Over the past decade, road projects have received four times more funding from Federal, State and Local Government, than have rail projects (*The Age*, 27 April 2011).

**In Victoria, despite the major boom in public transport patronage, most funding continues to be allocated to roads.**

Following years of neglect of public transport by successive State Governments, the newly elected Baillieu Government promised a new authority to oversee transport policy. Unfortunately, little more has been heard of this 'authority' as it fades from the agenda, just as a long list of public transport plans did during the Bracks/Brumby Government era.

A recent Auditor General's report confirmed the long-held view that road building induces traffic growth; precisely as found by a UK Royal Commission as far back as 1994. State Governments of both major political persuasions have ignored international best practice for many years and

allowed VicRoads to continue to dictate roads based transport policies, to the detriment of public transport and long-term transport sustainability.

Prior to the State election last November, the Brumby Government approved a costly and controversial freeway, *Peninsular Link*, through a heritage listed green wedge bushland property, *Westerfield*, which included a UNESCO biosphere reserve. It was claimed at the time to be a 'shovel ready' project and approved in the name of economic stimulus. The roads lobby continues to advocate for other multi-billion projects, such as the Eddington East-West road tunnel project through Carlton and beyond, now firmly back on the agenda (*The Age*, 27 June 2011), while public transport projects languish amid 'feasibility' studies.

Voter discontent over stalled public transport projects seems set to escalate as successive State Governments continue to pander to the 'big end of town' and its costly and unsustainable roads-centric agenda. In May 2011, the Metropolitan Transport Forum summarised the situation as follows: *With a clear community mandate for better public transport, it is also concerning to see so many 'shovel ready' road projects in the [State] Budget, while public transport projects – rail to Doncaster, Rowville and the airports – are only in the planning stage.*

### ***Public Housing Redevelopment: the reality!***

Now that the first stages of the Rathdowne Street Public Housing Estates redevelopment is complete, and public and private tenants and owners are moving in, the stark reality of the outcomes is self evident. This exclusive, 'gated' development is an antithesis to the socially inclusive outcomes promised by the Brumby Government and Office of Housing.



*Recently completed two blocks of private housing (left & right), with its overshadowed exclusive garden area between and security 'wall'; the new public housing block is visible at the rear. In the foreground is an area cleared in preparation for further private housing construction on the Estate (Rathdowne St).*

It is a disappointing architectural outcome given the imaginative alternatives which might have eventuated, as

discussed at the Panel Hearing in 2006. The opportunity for a sunny north facing inclusive garden area (on Princes Street), shared by all residents, surrounded by a horseshoe shaped public and private housing complex to the south, east and west, has been lost. Social inclusion has given way to exclusivity.

In Carlton, we must live with the outcomes of the Public Housing Estates redevelopment for decades into the future, with potentially regrettable social and liveability implications for public housing tenants, private residents in the redevelopment and the broader community.

### ***Public Housing Redevelopment: in addition***

**Past and present.** A pictorial image of the Lygon Street Social Housing -

<http://www.markfarrellyphotography.com.au/more-images-social-housing-carlton>

#### **The future?**

The Community Consultation Process has been promised plans for how these new, mixed public and private developments may work together. One hopes that, despite the difficulties with the buildings, a new successfully integrated community can still be created in the redevelopment.

#### **Stage 3 Elgin/Nicholson Redevelopment**

CRA participated in the design review of the above by the Community Liaison Committee (CLC). A summary of the meeting, held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2011, is available on the CRA website under Reference Groups / Planning and Development.

<http://www.carltonresidents.org.au/referencegroups/PublicHousing.html>

In brief at this time:

- There has been no repeat of the fenced/gated open space for the private apartments, all open space is shared.
- A limited number of private and public apartments have ground level courtyards.
- The proposed design lacks accommodation for cultural or interest group gatherings.
- There has been no provision for local service providers.

### ***Opportunities for Carlton (OFC)***

The OFC project is now 2 years into the 3 year project. A summary of the projects, involving over 250 individuals and 70 agencies, is available at the following website: [http://carlton.vic.au/assets/document/1310522311-opportunities\\_for\\_carlton\\_midterm\\_review\\_july\\_2011.pdf](http://carlton.vic.au/assets/document/1310522311-opportunities_for_carlton_midterm_review_july_2011.pdf)

Community input and partnerships have been fundamental in the delivery of these outcomes. Four key projects need to be highlighted:

*OFC continued from page 3*

- **Kathleen Syme Centre**

With community infrastructure long identified as a priority across Carlton, OFC looks forward to working with the Carlton community to identify the best use of the Kathleen Syme Centre and the services that it will house.

- **New Partnership between University of Melbourne, City of Melbourne and the Carlton Local Agency Network (CLAN)**

In August, a Memorandum of Understanding between University of Melbourne, City of Melbourne and the Carlton Local Agency Network (CLAN) was signed. The aim is to build sustainable partnerships that will go beyond one-off projects into a lasting structure which may include research, student involvement, and increased pathways into the University.

- **Environmental Action in Carlton**

A key community priority is environmental sustainability across Carlton and the Eco Carlton project is further developing. Over the coming year, Council will be working to increase community awareness and participation in climate change adaptation and mitigation and the 'Eco City' programs. We hope to link into the resident networks such as the CRA to see this action take off as broadly as possible.

- **Bendigo Bank Connected Communities Committee**

The Bendigo Bank Connected Communities committee (which includes both OFC and CRA membership) has now reached the target of 150 pledges which will enable the committee to start the process setting up this sustainable community fund and planning for its distribution to the community projects.

## ***Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens***

Brian Falconer has contacted the Royal Exhibition Building & Carlton Gardens Steering Committee at Heritage Victoria, requesting to speak to the written submission which was lodged on behalf of the CRA on the 8 August.

In summary, the written submission made the following key points:

- The draft World Heritage Management Plan has been produced without public consultation.
- The draft does have a vision nor clear strategic settings for the site's future – statements that the public can embrace. It seems to primarily aim to meet the requirements for accreditation under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.
- The use of public open space (the Gardens) for

commercial purposes such as exercise classes and events such as the annual Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show should not be permitted.

- A high level of co-ordination is needed for high quality outcomes to be achieved within budget and time targets. One body is needed to span the various authorities and provide order.
- A public register is needed which lists all individual elements of the World Heritage property by means of a heritage survey to ensure effective and transparent planning controls.
- A clear management plan is needed so that everyone knows what is appropriate (or will be allowed) in World Heritage Areas.

*(The full text of the written submission is available on the CRA website: [www.carltonresidents.org.au](http://www.carltonresidents.org.au) .)*

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

The June meeting of the PCCC identified the following points.

### **General matters:**

- Police can issue on the spot parking fines on Housing Commission sites.
- The Youth Camp was very successful--funds were provided from NRMA.

### **Crime in our area:**

- There has been an increase in the number of domestic assaults (North Melbourne area); some car thefts (North Melbourne and University Square car park); some handbag thefts (Lygon St and Melbourne University library)
- Crime rate is down by about 14.5% - the apprehending of one bicycle thief has reduced that crime considerably.
- Police bicycle patrols have been very effective - more so than foot patrols.

### **Community patrols:**

- The aim is to train Housing Estates residents to be vigilant and report suspicious behaviour to Police. A flyer is being distributed inviting people to training sessions - not to produce vigilantes but to encourage reporting to Police. It is hoped that as a consequence, likely offenders will be deterred. If the scheme works locally, it will be used in other estates.

### **Pedestrian matters:**

- A request to adjust/increase pedestrian crossing times across Faraday/Lygon Sts is under consideration by Vic Roads.
- The matter regarding bicycles and pedestrians movements during the Garden Show has been noted by PCCC for action for next year. PCCC will act regarding signage and bike lanes.

## Planning and Development

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

- overlooking or any other loss of amenity to neighbouring properties.
- loss of amenity to the wider surrounding area (bulk, aesthetics, car parking).
- whether the application complies with the council's heritage overlay and height restrictions.
- internal amenity (chiefly in multi-dwelling developments).
- whether the proposed development threatens residential diversity (e.g. oversupply of student housing).

The City of Melbourne has an easy to use online Search facility of the Planning register, which provides up-to-date information on the status of a Planning Permit or current application. Searching by date or suburb is also possible.

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

### Summary

Since the last Newsflash, the Planning Sub-Committee has reviewed 47 Planning Applications for Carlton, and submitted 1 objection to the City of Melbourne. Details of which are below.

In three other cases, applicants have appealed to VCAT against the City of Melbourne's decision or conditions imposed in granting a permit. CRA has lodged a Statement of Grounds or has supported the City of Melbourne in each of these instances. Refer below.

In addition, a submission was made to the Panel Hearing, convened to review the City of Melbourne's Planning Scheme Amendment C162-The Municipal Strategic Statement. A copy of the submission may be seen on our website.

The number of applications and associated objections appear to reflect a reduced level of activity in the construction and development industry.

### Details

APP No./ADDRESS	DETAILS OF WORK/CRA INTEREST
<b>April</b> – 11 Applications; 0 objections	
<b>May</b> – 15 Applications; 1 objection TP-2011-112 517 Swanston St (ETU building cnr. Queensberry St)	Construction of a multi-storey residential building with ground floor commercial space Permit granted 11/7/2011 – 17 objections The CRA objected on 4 grounds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Height</li> <li>• Car parking</li> <li>• Urban context – response to site</li> <li>• Amenity to residents</li> </ul>
<b>June</b> - 13 Applications; 0 objections VCAT-Lodged Statement of Grounds-1 TP-2010-318 73-81 Cardigan St	Applicant lodged appeal with VCAT against conditions of permit The CRA agreed with City of Melbourne on all conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater articulation of front façade required</li> <li>• To uphold amenity &amp; overlooking of neighbouring properties</li> </ul>
<b>July</b> - 9 Applications; 0 objections. VCAT-Lodged Statement of Grounds-2 TP-2010-319 69-71 Drummond St (Cnr Queensberry St)	CoM Refused Permit Applicant lodged appeal with VCAT The CRA supports the City of Melbourne on the grounds for refusal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Height</li> <li>• Amenity</li> <li>• Heritage</li> </ul>
TP-2010-630 52-54 Rathdowne St	Applicant lodged appeal with VCAT against conditions of permit The CRA agreed with City of Melbourne both conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Height limit (3 stories not 4 as per the original proposal)</li> <li>• Section 173 requirement to not alter the ground floor slab in the future without approval</li> </ul>

### *CRA/Carlton Traders' meeting*

A recent meeting between CRA members and Carlton Traders was the first joint meeting since 2006. Guest speaker at the meeting was Don Parsons, Centre Manager of the Block Arcade, who spoke about the challenge doing business in a capital city, which brings both constraints and opportunities. He spoke of the absolute necessity for the City of Melbourne councillors **and** bureaucrats to work **with** the community of the city – traders, residents, tourists, and businesses - to market and maintain the city successfully. A key aspect to the need for excellence in outcomes and service was 'housekeeping' – taking responsibility for knowing what's going on, for finding out what the community sees as important, passing on information, looking out for value for money.

After considering previously raised issues (such as pavement conditions, cleaning and maintenance, lighting, begging, retail mix), the meeting discussed future issues. These included:

- **Elgin / Lygon streets intersection** – needs to be seen as a whole; so many bodies and constraints impinge here. While the CRA has promoted ideas in the past, they have not been acted on. They could be considered again, especially the issue of flooding.
- **Shop locally** – need to find ways to promote a variety of retailers and encourage locals. It is important to decide what the area should be known for. Any campaign for change is difficult and relates to affordability.
- **Graffiti** – seems to have increased.
- **Spruiking** – especially bad south of Grattan. This has been addressed in conjunction with contravention of footpath use (eg restaurants placing tables outside the designated area). Some places were fined and sent letters of compliance. Also of concern is the lack of attention to spacing of outdoor screening, leaving too few pedestrian gaps and too close to parked vehicles.
- **Plaques** – should be placed on buildings to indicate historical use.
- **Trader delegate at CRA** - to increase contact between retailers and residents.

#### **CVs**

The recent joint meeting of CRA and Carlton Traders was held at CVs, which is Carlo and Vito. Both have spent much of their younger years in Carlton and are passionate about customer service. and giving back to the community.

At CVs, enjoy coffee, cakes and drinks at breakfast, lunch or dinner., alone or with friends. The team at CVs take great pride in ensuring that the experience exceeds your expectations.

CRA thanks CVs for their hospitality

### *Carlton Alliance*

The primary goal of the Carlton Alliance is to explore the case for re-unification of North Carlton with South Carlton. It held its first public meeting on Sunday July 24th at the George Harris Room, Carlton Football Club, North Carlton to launch the document "Why Re-Unite Carlton", and to report to the community on the progress of its campaign for the re-unification. In addition, background presentations were made by Trevor Huggard (former Lord Mayor of Melbourne) and Dr David Dunstan (Monash academic).



*Cr Watts addressing Carlton Alliance meeting.  
Angela Monroe (chair)*

The meeting, which was attended by 40 members of the Carlton community, passed three resolutions unanimously:

1. That this meeting strongly endorses actions taken to date by the Carlton Alliance:
  - To develop the case for reunification of Carlton within its traditional, original borders, ie pre -1993.
  - To publicise and advocate the case for reunification within the Carlton community and to Federal, State and Local Government.
  - To fundraise in support of the above objectives.
2. That material be developed for a communications strategy to fully inform the whole Carlton community, as resources allow.
3. That a general public meeting be called, as part of the communications strategy for the reunification of Carlton within the City of Melbourne.

Further information about the Carlton Alliance group is available from Philip Watts (Ph: 0412 167640) and a copy of the "Why Re-Unite Carlton" document is available on the CRA website.

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

## La Mama Theatre

*“A log fire, fresh coffee and ample discussion will await you as usual.”*

- Liz Jones, La Mama newsletter issue #1, 1981

In 1981, writers, directors, player and theatre enthusiasts across Carlton received a special document. Consisting of two A4 white sheets stapled together and covered in black text, the first newsletter of La Mama theatre typified the characteristics that have pervaded the theatre's history since its opening in 1967 – modesty accessibility and a warm welcoming atmosphere. Reading through La Mama's newsletters is like reading through 30 years of letters to an old friend, discussing upcoming reading and performances and budget cuts and sponsorship, grieving the death of members of the community, celebrating the success of others or just extending a warm invitation to the log fire. As the theatre grew to include several venues and was added to the National Trust Register, the newsletter also grew to a quirky, innovative design with illustrations. Artistic director Liz Jones continues to engage the La Mama community openly, honestly - as if to an old friend.

Betty Burstall opened La Mama in 1967, into a lively, student-filled Carlton and a virtually non-existent Australian theatre scene. Leasing 405 Faraday from the Del Monaco family, Betty developed the old underwear factory with inspiration from the “off-off-Broadway” scene in New York, providing budding writers and directors with a place to develop, create and bring their works to life. When Liz Jones took over as artistic director in 1976, the theatre had already created a strong and thriving community.

Over the following decade, La Mama would grow to develop programs across the theatre spectrum. 1985 saw the first Opera performed at the theatre, *Coronation of Poppea*, and the beginning of what would be a fruitful and lifelong association with various festivals such as The Fringe Festival, Lygon St Fiesta, Next Wave and New Mood. In 1987, La Mama celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday by winning the Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award.

Anniversary celebrations would go on to be somewhat of a speciality at La Mama, which celebrated its silver anniversary in 1992 with “a retrospective marathon of theatre film performance, poetry prose and song,” to which members of the community were asked to suggest and contribute. The 90's were an exciting time for the theatre, which grew exponentially to include a new venue at The Courthouse, develop a La Mama Trust, win three major art awards and go on the road with “La Mama on Tour” in 1998.

Since then, there has been no stopping La Mama. The small theatre has developed to be an integral part of Carlton and a vital contribution to the Victorian theatre and performing arts scene. Recognising this, the CRA campaigned for La Mama to be added to the National Trust Register and the National Heritage Listing in 1999 and 2002 respectively.

The greatest thing to be said about La Mama, however, is the *feeling*. On walking into the tiny brick building, one feels simultaneously at home and on an adventure. The curious mixture of homeliness and mystery is what makes La Mama so unique; knowing that what is awaiting you is a warm fire and hot coffee, as well as the almost certainty that you will be challenged and surprised out of all your convictions.

*(See the ‘Community News’ article on the following page about the ‘La Mama forecourt opening’.)*

## Heritage

### • Walking Tours

As part of the State Design Festival 2011, the Heritage Council of Victoria has developed a self-guided audio walking tour, Moving Through Time. Four of Melbourne's leading architects talk about how they transformed derelict industrial and mercantile buildings into vibrant, award winning spaces.

- Princes Walk Vaults- Mark Healy, Six Degrees, the project—Riverland Bar.
- Signal - Chelsea Scanes , City of Melbourne, - a new youth arts space in a disused signal box
- Immigration Museum - Daryl Jackson , Jackson Architecture - its transformation from the Old Customs House
- Goods Shed North- Callum Fraser, Elenberg Fraser - Goods Shed's revitalisation.

Download from: [www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/walkingtours](http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/walkingtours)

### • National Trust Newsletter

To catch up with National Trust news go to:

<http://create.newslettersmelbourne.com.au/t/r/e/trydfy/bbduukx/r/>

### Join the Carlton Residents' Association

**Annual Membership subscription!**

**Full member (if you live in 3053):**

**Single \$25 Family \$40**

**Concession: Single \$15 Family \$25**

**Friend (if not in 3053): \$15**

**CONTACT: Secretary: [secretarycra@gmail.com](mailto:secretarycra@gmail.com)**

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

**PO Box 1140, Carlton 3053**

### • A Word from Don Chambers

Many CRA members will have fond memories of Don Chambers. He was a stalwart member and great support for foundation President, Sue. A historian by profession, Don made major contributions to our publication of *Carlton - a History* and led many memorable historical walks around Carlton. Now living in Canberra, he is writing his 'memoirs' and looking forward to the birth of his grandson, Jonathon Russell Chambers, in USA in November. Don bravely continues his long battle with cancer.

*Hullo everybody! Saw my cheerful oncologist today, but I seem to be frailer with each visit. Not too surprising in the circumstances. At least my brain and typing fingers still seem to work, which is a great blessing. Looking in the mirror, I seem to have aged from a 'sixtyish' look twelve months back, to a 'mid-eightyish' look today. Quite fascinating! The oncologist's message is that my time is running out fast. They are giving the liver tumour a concentrated blast of radiation over four weeks (almost daily on week days) in hopes of putting off the inevitable and reducing some current unpleasant symptoms. We are extremely fortunate to have the amazing medical and related services of Canberra working for us. It is all pretty tough on Sue, of course, but we have done our best to ensure her security and comfort when I am no more.*

*The people who will carry on my 'Chambers' name when I am gone will be natives of America's 'deep south' – my first American grandchild being named after a citizen of Tallahassee, capital of the State of Florida. Doubtless his American grandfather will introduce him to shooting the wild boar on his swampland estate out of Tallahassee. Some change from my early experience of catching rabbits in the Strathbogie Ranges. Best wishes to you all.*

*Cheers,*

**Don Chambers**

### • Music programs for parents and children

A3 Australian Arts Alive will be conducting 2 free music programs at the Multicultural Hub (506 Elizabeth St, near the Queen Vic Markets). The first program is targeting mums and bubs or grandparent and grandchild to a movement and song class. It is on Wednesday mornings, 10-11am, from 3 August to 19 October. The other is an afterschool activity for both child and parent and is on Thursdays 4.30-5.30, from 4 August to 20 October. Interested people can contact the Hub on 9092 1500.

### • Carlton Conversation @ the Clare

The next 'conversation on what I believe and why' will be on Thursday 15 September, 6.30 - 8pm, with Keith Storage, Manager and Psychologist, Community Support &

Medicine. Royal Melbourne Hospital.

### • Fundraising activity for Somalia

The Church of All Nations African Family Centre program is holding a fundraiser on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 6-9pm, at the Clare Castle Hotel at 421 Rathdowne St, Carlton. The event will donate proceeds to the Red Cross East Africa Drought Appeal, and will involve dinner, drinks, music and speakers from the local Somali community residing on the Carlton housing estates and active in the Church of All Nations program aimed at supporting settlement for refugees in the Australian context.

For further information about the event, contact Sarah Howe, ph: 9347 7077 or [sarah.howe@carlton-uca.org](mailto:sarah.howe@carlton-uca.org)

### • La Mama Forecourt Opens



*Opening of Del Monaco Place by  
Hon Nicholas Kotsiras MP  
and  
Susan Riley, Deputy Lord Mayor*

It was a very special occasion for La Mama and the entire Carlton community with the opening of *Del Monaco Place* by Hon. Nicholas Kotsiras MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship, and Deputy Lord Mayor, Susan Riley, on 11 May 2011. In the words of La Mama's Artistic Director, Liz Jones:

*'Open to the Carlton community and beyond, the forecourt is a symbol of our gratitude for the enormous community support La Mama received during the campaign to buy the theatre. Our desire to rename the forecourt site, Del Monaco Place, is a fitting tribute to the Del Monaco family's wonderful contribution to the history of La Mama and the ultimate success of the campaign to secure our precious theatre's future for generations to come.'*

We rejoice with Liz and the La Mama family in the realization of *Del Monaco Place*: a tranquil piazza for us all to enjoy.