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Community News

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Supported by the Community
Services Grants Program



Reference Group Reports

Traffic and Transport and Parking

East-West Road Link vs Doncaster Rail

Transport options to deal with traffic congestion in the north of the City have been headline news in recent months, including concerns about prioritising funding for the \$15 billion East-West Toll Road Link rather than for Doncaster Rail.

The Toll Road Link was 'declared' under the Major Transport Facilitation Act in December 2012, which gives the Transport and Planning Ministers statutory authority over the project, but with public information obligations.

CRA was subsequently involved in a meeting convened by Protectors of Public Lands with the Linking Melbourne Authority (LMA) on 3 April 2013 regarding the route and design for the controversial Toll Road Link, which will have major impacts on Collingwood, Fitzroy, Carlton and Parkville. LMA was tight-lipped, claiming that, as the Link was part of the State budget process, no details would be released. The City of Melbourne considered the matter at its Future Melbourne Committee Meeting on 9 April and concluded that while the LMA proposal will likely have significant impacts, no information was available. Speculation is set to continue in this information vacuum.

The Yarra Campaign for Action on Transport (YCAT) met in Collingwood on 30 March to consider options for the ongoing community campaign, supported by the City of Yarra, in favour of Doncaster Rail (*Newsflash*, Spring 2012). The aim is to keep the rail proposal in the public consciousness despite the Government's roads-centric agenda.



YCAT meeting in Collingwood

In parallel with the roads debate, the Government released its Doncaster Rail Study, Phase 1, on 14 March. The proposed route is along the Eastern Freeway reservation between Doncaster Park & Ride car park and Collingwood Station (see www.doncasterrailstudy.com). Costs of \$3 to \$5 billion are envisaged, together with major additional rail upgrade costs to

Reference Group Reports

accommodate the new rail traffic. This Study contrasts negatively with the 2012 report of the Doncaster Local Government Group, which estimated a cost of around \$1 billion for a much more extensive rail proposal servicing the major population centre around Doncaster Shopping Town rather than just from the remote Park & Ride site near the Freeway (*Newsflash*, Winter 2012). Perhaps Doncaster Rail is yet another overpriced and poorly conceived government public transport project destined for the dustbin of history. The matter was further considered at a public meeting at the Fitzroy Town Hall on 30 April. High costs, the questionable rail route and related issues were debated, including the critical need for a Phase 2 assessment of the project. A rail line to Doncaster has wide community support.

The Auditor General entered the fray by questioning the role of the E-W Link in reducing traffic congestion from the Eastern Freeway ('Auditor slams plan for road tunnel', *The Age*, 18 April 2013). The Auditor concluded that new roads increase traffic, and that strategies for constraining road demand by the largely driver-only traffic should be implemented. Greens MP, Greg Barber, commented: 'the only cure for congestion is better public transport'.

The transport debate is now firmly on the public agenda. This could ensure the most cost-effective and sustainable outcomes will be achieved. In the meantime, road congestion and public transport overload will continue as Melbourne's substantial population growth and urban sprawl continues.

Responses to the Doncaster Rail Study may be emailed to info@doncasterrailstudy.com by 28 June 2013.

STOP PRESS

The State Budget, released on 7 May, included additional information on Government transport policy:

- The 6km eastern section of the East-West Toll Road will be built, commencing in 2014 for completion by 2020. Cost will be upwards of \$8 billion.
- The road will be a 'city bypass', along the lines of the Eddington Report (2008), with no CBD access ramps.
- Traffic congestion on Princes Street/Alexandra Parade, from the Eastern Freeway, will likely continue at present levels, as 85% of traffic is destined for the CBD and further south.
- The toll road will be tunnelled all the way from Hoddle Street to City Link. The tunnelling process through Royal Park (bored or open-cut) has not been revealed and the siting of exhaust stacks is unknown.
- The Business Case has not been released. For the similar Eddington Tunnel, benefit-cost was 0.5 (50c benefit for every dollar spent).
- The funding process is unclear. It appears that major financial input from Government (State and Federal) will be essential.

Various rail proposals, such as for Doncaster, Tullamarine and Rowville are now deferred indefinitely.

Approval of the massively expensive and controversial East-West Toll Road demonstrates yet again the influence of the powerful roads lobby on government transport policy. Environmental and economic issues have been ignored. For Carlton, it means that the destructive impact of ramps and flyovers has been avoided, which is good news. However, high traffic levels and congestion will continue to blight our environment. The decision to favour roads over public transport continues to be the long-term government policy.

AND NOW!!



Planning and consultation for the East West Link is underway

Community members can learn more and have their say about the East West Link project with the formal planning process officially underway.

A high level project corridor has been developed and now we are seeking feedback from the community before finalising a more detailed design for release over the coming months.

Planning process

The Minister for Planning has determined that a Comprehensive Impact Statement (CIS) is required under the *Major Transport Project Facilitation Act 2009*. This process will provide a clear, transparent planning and assessment process involving community feedback. There will be a range of technical studies in areas such as social, heritage and environmental impacts to help understand any issues for the project. The final CIS documentation is expected to be on available for public comment by the end of this year.

[Read the media release \(PDF 135KB\)](#) [View the project animation video](#)

Public information displays

We are holding a series of public information displays over the coming weeks. Come and learn more about the background work undertaken to date, the East West Link project corridor and the planning process.

Members of the community will be able to talk with the project team, view maps and provide feedback into the development of the East West Link.

The displays will be held on the following dates:

Saturday 1 June, 11.00am to 3.00pm at St Brendan's Hall, Corner of Church and High Streets, Flemington

Sunday 2 June, 11.00am to 3.00pm at Collingwood Masonic Hall, 141 Gipps Street, Collingwood

Monday 3 June, 5.00pm to 8.00pm at St Michael's Parish

Hall, 14 McIlwraith Street, North Carlton
Thursday 6 June, 5.00pm to 8.00pm at the State Netball and Hockey Centre, Brens Drive, Parkville.

Connect with us on social media

Did you know that we're on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube? Follow us for all the news and latest updates on the East West Link project.

Twitter: www.twitter.com/linkingmelb

Facebook: www.facebook.com/linkingmelbourne

YouTube: www.youtube.com/linkingmelb

More information

For more information about the East West Link project: call (03) 8562 6800

email contact@lma.vic.gov.au visit

www.linkingmelbourne.vic.gov.au

Be sure to have your say!

Carlton Gardens and REB - World Heritage Forum

On 21 April 2013, a Forum was conducted at the Melbourne Museum to celebrate World Heritage Community Day. The occasion attracted local residents to Victoria's only world heritage site, the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens. Many residents were curious to learn why the building and gardens are so significant that UNESCO, in July 2004, declared them worthy of 'world heritage' status. The panel of speakers included representatives of the Carlton Residents Association, Fitzroy Residents Association, Residents 3000 and Eastenders, ably supported by the staff of Museum Victoria (MV).

Linda Sproul (MV) opened proceedings by introducing Adam Bandt MP, Federal Member for Melbourne. Adam's recent funding bid for REB restoration works and promotional activities was successful when \$20m was included in the federal budget in May 2012. Adam spoke of the site's significance for the first indigenous people. He also recalled that the resident groups had first called for the restoration of the Dome Promenade, and for public access to this space. He expressed the view that, as the REB was the site of the first Australian parliament, it would now be a suitable democracy education centre.

Graeme Davison, Emeritus Professor History, Monash University, recounted a fascinating range of important episodes in the history of the Eastern Hill site, starting with the laying of the foundation stone 135 years ago, followed by 19th-century international exhibitions which showcased 'Marvellous Melbourne'.

Krystal Buckley, lecturer in Cultural Heritage, Deakin University and, since 2005, International Vice-President of

the International Committee of Monuments and Sites, explained the important elements of the World Heritage nomination and citation process. She said that UNESCO does not hand out citations lightly and there are many strings attached. Krystal set out the obligations of responsible authorities and governments to ensure the future protection, conservation and preservation of the site and its surrounding precinct. One such obligation is local community participation.

Charlotte Smith, Senior Curator, Politics and Society, Museum Victoria, provided an opportunity for the audience to understand history through photography. She spoke about the qualities that make the REB special, including the surrounding gardens and buffer zone.

Margaret O'Brien, local resident and spokesperson for the resident groups, presented a statement summarising the UNESCO world heritage vision. This statement, presented in Kyoto (November 2013), declared that UNESCO's aim is 'to give heritage a role in the life of the community'. She described this vision as inspiring and profound. Margaret announced that our resident groups have decided to join UNESCO's Friends of World Heritage partnership program. This program encourages grassroots community groups to join this global entity for learning and for mutual support.

Expressions of interest from everyone with an interest in the newly formed Friends of the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens should be directed to the FREBCG website: www.frebcg.com.au or email: frebcg@outlook.com

Carlton Police Station: the end game!

The historic former Carlton Police Station, vacant since 2010, is for sale via Public Tender, closing 29 May 2013. Despite CRA's best effort to retain the 1878 building complex as a community asset, neither the Council nor State Government was in agreement. The buildings are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register which should protect them from demolition or major modification. It is distressing to see these fine old buildings now lost to our community. We can only hope a new owner will restore them for housing or commercial use.



***Aerial view of Carlton Police Station Complex (courtesy
Jellis Craig Real Estate, Clifton Hill)***

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)

The City of Melbourne has an easy to use online search facility for the Planning Register, which provides up-to-date information on the status of a Planning Permit or current application, searching by application number or address.

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

APP No./ADDRESS	DETAILS OF WORK/CRA INTEREST
<p>Carried Forward from 2012</p> <p>TP-2012-767 - Refused 13 Faraday St</p> <p>TP-2012- 1044 - Ongoing 139-155 Queensberry Street</p>	<p>An application to construct a 5 storey apartment building was opposed by CRA and individual residents, on multiple grounds citing, scale, bulk and heritage grounds. The CoM agreed by refusing the application on 5 March 2013. The applicant has the option of appealing the decision, however, the multiple grounds stated by the CoM in their refusal would make it difficult to appeal without major redesign.</p> <p>An application to construct a 15 storey apartment building adjacent to the ETU building was opposed by CRA and individuals. A consultation meeting was held on the 18 April, however no concessions were offered or given and the application will now be assessed by the CoM.</p>
<p>January - 7 Applications, 1 Objection</p> <p>TP-2013-18 - Refused 331-335 Lygon St</p>	<p>Jimmy Watson's - Objection lodged to the proposal to erect canopies over the footpath outdoor dining area which were considered to be an inappropriate corruption of Robyn Boyd's modernist façade. Apparently CoM agreed and the application was refused.</p>
<p>February - 7 Applications, 0 Objections, 1 Under watch</p> <p>TP-2013-63 – Monitoring 183-185 Palmerston St</p>	<p>Insufficient information available at this stage to make an assessment however this application for an additional dwelling at the rear of 183-185 Palmerston St is being monitored.</p>
<p>March - 9 Applications, 0 Objection</p>	<p>No serious grounds for objection identified in the 9 applications viewed.</p>
<p>April - 7 Applications, 4 Under watch</p> <p>TP-2013-246 - Monitoring 65 Kay St</p> <p>TP-2013-256 - Monitoring 206 Rathdowne St</p> <p>TP-2013-267 - Monitoring 181 Elgin St</p> <p>TP-2013-287 - Monitoring 70 Carlton St</p>	<p>Extension to existing residence</p> <p>Alterations and additions to top floor of residence</p> <p>Internal works within 181 Elgin St & 8 Raffa Pl</p> <p>Small addition at rear including a roller shutter door</p>
<p>VCAT Decisions</p> <p>TPM-2011-30 - Refused 593-597 Swanston St</p>	<p>An application by Queensberry Hotel to install 30 electronic gaming machines was approved by the Gaming Commission however refused the relevant planning approval by the Minister of Planning. The applicant appealed the decision at VCAT. The Minister, CoM ,CRA and individual objectors made submissions which culminated in VCAT upholding the refusal</p>

Planning and Development

Cancer Council building sold

Concerns have been raised by CRA members over the sale of the landmark Cancer Council building on the corner of Victoria and Rathdowne Streets, Carlton. It is believed the building has been sold to overseas developers (*The Age*, 24 April 2013). The two-storey building could be either demolished or renovated for housing. The matter is of concern to CRA because of its location within the precinct of the World Heritage Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens. Given that Planning Minister Guy could approve building heights far in excess of the building's current 16m height overlay, future development activity on the site will require our close attention. CRA wishes to ensure that any future building conforms to the constraints of the current planning scheme.

VCAT presentations

VCAT rejects more pokies for Carlton

CRA supported the Minister for Planning and City of Melbourne in objecting at VCAT to the installation of 30 Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs, i.e. poker machines) at the Queensberry Hotel, Corner Swanston and Queensberry Streets, Carlton. The Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation had approved the application in December 2011.

While the proposal would have fallen within the cap for EGM numbers in Carlton, there were concerns over problem gambling and the proximity of vulnerable communities living in nearby social and public housing. These needed to be considered together with the impact of the major shopping complex being developed on the adjacent former CUB site. Regulations prohibit gaming machines in or near shopping centres. We left the vigorous four-day VCAT hearing somewhat despondent at the probable outcome and were pleasantly surprised with the decision *Not to Grant a Permit*. The decision was in line with several recent VCAT decisions which gave significant weight to community opposition to additional EGMs within vulnerable communities. Warren Green represented the CRA; Ian Bird

and Mark Brown (Drill Hall) represented the public interest at the VCAT hearing.

Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre (KSLCC) Redevelopment

The City of Melbourne has called for Tenders (Contract No. 8494A) to redevelop the Kathleen Syme building into a facility '...to house community rooms and a library'. (*The Age* 27 April 2013).

We are deeply concerned at the timing of this tender, as our understanding is that final refurbishment decisions are due for presentation to the Future Melbourne Committee in May 2013. In addition, we understand that service providers have been consulted extensively on their needs for KSC. CRA and other stakeholders in the community have had no comparable opportunities to have their requirements for the community rooms noted. These requirements include storage space, working space (e.g. 'hot desks'), historical displays, toy storage/library and shared use on a booking basis of all community rooms. We have expressed grave concerns to council about these matters.

Our understanding is that the KSLCC is a facility for the community in the broadest sense. Council decided in 2012 that *all* spaces – community rooms and facilities – could be booked by all community stakeholders and organisations such as U3A, CAE and RTOs (Registered Training Organisations). Any working areas and storage spaces should be available to all significant community groups.

Exclusive use of space is at odds with Council decisions about KSLCC. Given that service providers are dependent on short-term funding, and have their own premises for storage and interviewing or counselling, the KSLCC design should not be tailored to their current specific needs.

At the last CRA Xmas party, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle (guest speaker) congratulated CRA on our long and arduous campaign. He recognised that Council's purchase of KSC is due entirely to our extensive efforts. CRA has appealed to him personally to ensure that the building will be refurbished for full library services and shared-use facilities for all Carlton.

CRA Coffee Club

We had fun! A most enjoyable inaugural meeting of the CRA Coffee Club was held at Jimmy Watson's in April. CRA members, friends and neighbours are invited to meet for an hour over a cup of coffee and a chat. There's no agenda, just conviviality over coffee and an opportunity to develop relationships. Local issues are discussed without a big time commitment or a formal and daunting agenda. These meetings do not replace committee meetings but allow genuine community/member interaction under the CRA banner. Judging by the success of our first coffee club meeting, the get-together fits the bill.

The coffee club will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 10.30am.

Jimmy Watsons, 333 Lygon St. If weather permits, in the "Wolf's Lair", rear gardens, upstairs.

You are warmly invited to join our monthly social get-together, and to bring a friend or neighbour.

Police Community Consultative Committee (PCCC)

City of Melbourne (CoM) support for the local community in Kensington/North Melbourne: Kristin Proud from CoM reported that the aim is to provide similar support to that in the Opportunities for Carlton project

- **Violence Against Women project:**
Nancy Pierorazio from CoM spoke on the City of Melbourne's approach to this issue. She pointed out that one in five women have experienced sexual violence and that it occurs mainly within the age range of 15 to 44. The consequences include ill health and premature death. CoM has a draft plan to address this issue. Details of the plan et cetera will be available once it has been approved by council. Nancy is willing to provide further information.
- **Police family violence team:**
This team has been diligent in responding to reports of family violence. Whilst there has been an increase in the number of incidents, it is hoped the increased police response will have a positive effect.
- **Carlton Rotary Breathalyser project:**
Eight devices have now been installed with another four in the pipeline.
- **Crime report:**
Progress has been made in reducing street robberies, the rate of burglaries is down, and there were fewer serious injuries and fatalities on the roads. On the less positive side, there has been an increase in bicycle thefts.

Community News

Did you vote at the Council Election?

In *Newsflash* Spring 2012, we reported the low (60%) voter turnout for the Council election last October. The City of Melbourne has sent out 19,000 penalty notices, each with a fine of \$70, to those individuals and businesses who failed to vote. This might serve as a timely reminder to us all: remember to vote in the forthcoming Federal Election on 14 September 2013

Council electoral review

Following the controversial City Council elections last October, with claims and counterclaims of bribery and corruption (*Newsflash*, Spring 2012), Local Government Minister Powell promised 'to close voter loopholes'. The Local Government Inspectorate discovered around 440 suspect voting applications. At a recent council meeting Cr Jackie Watts called for a wide-ranging review of the City of Melbourne electoral system to bring it into line with every other municipality across the State. Lord Mayor Doyle used his casting vote to defeat the review proposal.

Carlton Gardens Primary School celebrated Harmony Day

On Saturday 23 April, the Carlton Gardens Primary School's 270-plus students, representing 42 different nationalities, were joined by large numbers of local residents as they enthusiastically celebrated Harmony Day in what turned out to be the school's BIGGEST international festivity ever!

Harmony Day is part of the Australian Government's 'Living in Harmony Program'. It aims to promote mutual respect, Australian values, participation in the Australian way of life and a sense of belonging for everyone. It embraces common values of respect, fairness, participation, acceptance and a fair go for all. VIP guests were introduced by the amazing Chinese Lion dancers, and included Adam Bandt MP, Federal Member for Melbourne; Jennifer Kanis, Member for Melbourne; Cr Jackie Watts, City of Melbourne; and Danny Doon, President, Chinatown Precinct. Chin Tan, the Chairman of the Multicultural Commission, delivered a deeply moving opening address. Carlton resident Trish O'Loughlin translated all the speeches into Auslan.

Although the day had a serious underlying message, everyone had a great deal of fun with fabulous entertainment, huge rides and wonderful international food and drinks.

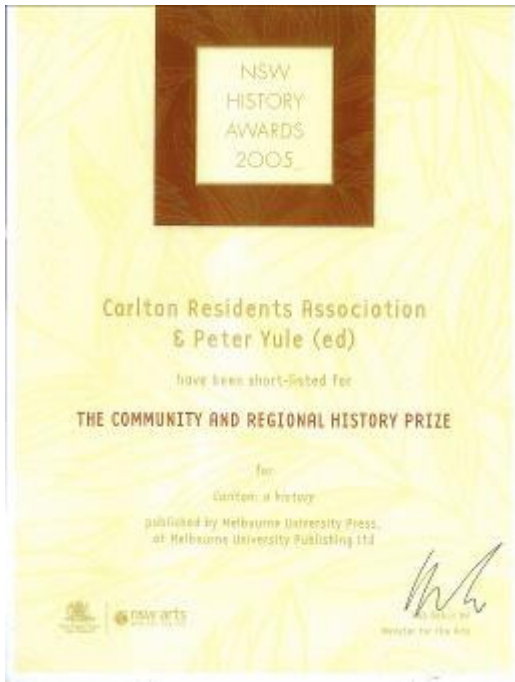
Generous sponsorship for the event was provided by Melbourne City Council and local businesses, including Woolworths and the Bank of Melbourne.

The thriving Carlton Gardens Primary School is grateful for the wholehearted support it has received from the community, parents and staff over its long, 128-year history. It has many strategic partners in the area and has taken on board the needs and demands of stakeholders, including the national campaign to encourage Asian literacy. There is also a dedicated Mandarin teacher, and after-school Chinese and Hindi classes. In addition, the school has maintained its successful Premiers Reading Challenge results for the last six years!



Carlton: a History

This acclaimed history, edited by Peter Yule, was co-authored by 36 members of CRA, including academic historians and local specialists. Published by Melbourne University Press in 2004, the book was shortlisted for the 2005 NSW Community and Regional History Prize (pictured).



This book, encyclopaedic in its scope, is a wonderful celebration of Carlton's past, and commemorates the changing modes of community activism and the dogged determination of the CRA.

In the mid 1960s, the Victorian Housing Commission demolished hundreds of nineteenth-century Carlton houses to make way for public housing tower blocks. Residents banded together to prevent further 'slum' clearance, and soon had a membership of more than 2,000 plus the support of the National Trust and of the Builders Labourers Federation. This Carlton Association was described as '... the most influential suburban watchdog in Melbourne with the biting power of a yard full of Doberman Pinschers' (*The Herald*, 24 Dec 1971). It successfully saved hundreds of houses, was responsible for re-routing the F19 freeway and prevented the University of Melbourne's expansion into residential areas. It also sponsored arts festivals, and worked to provide for the needs of residents.

The association was revived in 1996 in order to fight the university's proposed expansion to the east, including wholesale demolitions and the erection of a fifteen-storey accommodation block, and 'to maintain the ambience of the suburb' (Yule 2004, p. xii). As before, there have been protest meetings, and also lengthy submissions to council and government on a wide range of issues, as well as involvement with council at VCAT to improve public amenities and ensure the views of residents are considered in planning processes.

Unfortunately *Carlton: A History* is currently out of print, and it contains too many pictures to digitise. Melbourne University Publishing has no immediate plans to republish,

but will consider doing so in the future.

CRA (and the Melbourne Museum Bookshop) receives regular enquiries from people seeking a copy. If you have one lying dormant and unwanted on your bookshelves, would you please contact CRA at carltonresidents@gmail.com

Galati Tailor

The sign on the front window of the Galati Tailor Shop reads

Ladies and Gents Tailor
Alterations and Repair
Leather garments

A headless dummy stands in the window wearing a semi-constructed jacket marked with long white stitches. At its base is a carpeted dais scattered with books of suiting samples from Holland and Sherry, Savile Row, London. These books contain squares of fabric with names such as 'luxury worsted flannels', 'worsted plains', 'gabardines', 'hopsacks', 'cavalry twills' and 'whipcords'. The last mentioned is described as 'suitable for city or country wear', and is 'ideal for suits, trousers, riding breeches and overcoats'. Cardboard advertisements for these fabrics complete the window display.

Mr Gabriele Galati uses these fabrics to make fifteen to twenty bespoke suits a year. The traditional techniques he uses are seen on the window dummy's jacket, in which layers of canvas and suiting are joined with white tacking stitches. The collar, which needs extra reinforcement, is supported by transverse rows of tape. Mr Galati says this lining technique is the key to good tailoring. The different lining materials give substance to the finished product so it sits well and lasts longer. Without this reinforcement, he says, 'a jacket looks just like a shirt'. His approach differs from modern techniques in which the lining material is fused to the suiting. The problem with this, he says, is that the fabric forms bubbles on the surface, and after a while, 'it looks rubbish'.

The suit style he recommends as flattering to every shape and size is a classic two-button jacket with one vent, and cuffless trousers with a waistband pleat. After deciding on the fabric, and joining it to the linings, two or three fittings are needed to achieve a perfect fit. The suit is then hand finished with outline stitching on the pockets and lapels to give them a precise edging. Whilst a suit made in this time-consuming way is not cheap, it represents good value: worn every day it will last for five or six years. In addition to tailoring for men, Mr Galati does clothing alterations for both men and women. Leather garments can be repaired and re-fashioned. All the work is done in the shop, with nothing outsourced.

Gabriele Galati's tailoring work began at the age of twelve in the small town of Acquaro, near the provincial capital of Vibo Valentia in Calabria. The reason for this early work experience was simply that his parents wanted him to be in a safe indoor place after school hours. This is because Gabriele and some of his friends had nearly lost their lives when playing outside; they were on the edge of a river bed when a flash flood descended.



Four years after his first 'apprenticeship', at the age of sixteen, Gabriele Galati moved to Rome, where he worked for a high-class tailor, Mr Marconi. The job was promising but short-lived, and ended dramatically. The young apprentice, when delivering a suit to an army colonel, invited the maid of the house for a coffee. She declined the invitation and Gabriele returned to work, a little dejected. The next day the colonel, in full military attire, appeared in the shop. He accused the young man of making advances to his maid, drew his sword from its scabbard, and chased him around the room. Gabriele escaped through a back door. When he returned some time later, Mr Marconi, instead of sympathizing with his frightened employee, gave him the sack 'for upsetting the customers'.

In 1960, after a year's tailoring work in Turin, and 18 months' military service, Mr Galati joined his sister in Australia. At that time he only intended to stay 'for four, maybe five years'. His first job, making suits in the Wilson factory in Johnson Street Fitzroy, lasted five years, after which he spent another five years in Elgin Street Carlton. He then bought a partnership in a Rathdowne Street Carlton business before moving to Elite Tailors in Malvern. Eleven years later, when the lease on the Malvern shop expired, he saw an advertisement in *Il Globo* for his present tailoring business in Elgin Street Carlton. He has been in the same premises for the last seventeen years.

Mr Galati has stayed on in Australia because he has had a good life here. He enjoys the physical space, the detached houses with gardens, as well as the possibility of financial

security. He sent his five children, four girls and a boy, to private schools, and is proud of their achievements. One works as an accountant, another in a bookshop, one is raising children, and two are teachers. He has helped each one to buy a property.

None of his children has been interested in taking up tailoring as a career. Mr Galati says it is now harder to make a living from the trade, as the traditional tailoring methods he learned as an apprentice are dying out. Hand-made techniques are no longer viable given the competition from ready-made clothing manufacturers. For Mr Galati, who has an established reputation and clientele it is still a good business, but he believes it would be hard for a younger person to break into the bespoke tailoring profession.

Mr Galati derives great satisfaction from the positive feedback he receives for his hand-tailored, professionally-finished suits and jackets. Tailoring is a form of artistry he says, not simply a set of techniques to master, and its practice continues to give him pleasure. Although he is now 75 he does not intend to give up work.



For anyone wanting a hand-made suit, and reliable alterations at a reasonable price, Galati Tailor is at 198 Elgin St, Carlton, near the corner of Elgin and Lygon Streets, just down from the Astor Hotel.

Opening hours

8.30-5.30 Monday to Friday, 8.30-12.30 Saturday.

**IT'S TIME TO JOIN
CRA : DO IT TODAY!**

carltonresidents@gmail.com

download the membership form

Take a look at the website for

Up to date information

www.carltonresidents.org.au