



Carlton Gardens Morton Bay Fig in the Morning



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A Message from the President—Trish O’Loughlin

FURIOSA in the Flesh.....



That’s what is happening on Carlton Streets. A Mad Saga, but one that’s not a “post - apocalyptic action adventure”. This Mad Saga is real life drama and it’s happening all around us every day and every night.

We didn’t ask for this drama. This drama arrived unbidden.

Its unasked-for arrival was silent and stealthy. It even looked a bit like an “action adventure”. Oh, how wrong we were.

Help! These stealthy, silent killers are torturing us at every corner, every pathway and every pedestrian crossing. Navigating our streets in Carlton is a no action adventure, it’s a nightmare. No longer is it a pleasure to stroll around the inner city. No longer can we wander deep in thought, listening to Richard Fidler, MBS, Fitzroy Diaries.... A Kamikaze rider (or riders) can silently whiz by so close that you know one tiny move can land you in hospital or worse. Doesn’t matter if it’s a oneway street, a lane, a pedestrian crossing – we need eyes in the back of our heads. We also need to look out for delivery e-bikes a they quietly speed along our footpaths.

Now these e-scooters and their discarded helmets are everywhere, on the footpaths, in the gutters, in the parks, on nature strips, lying on the roads.

As we now know they are accidents waiting to happen, in fact they are highly dangerous. Just ask the Triage at the Royal Melbourne Hospital or St Vincent’s Hospital.

Ah Life has changed. What can be done? Begorrah! We want them banished.

Working Groups

Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens

THE MISSING JIGSAW PIECE

MIGFS v MIFoF

The missing jigsaw piece in the coverage of the future of the Melbourne International Garden and Flower Show (MIGFS) and the future of the Royal Exhibition Building & Carlton gardens (REB&CG) is the CRA proposal to rebrand the MIFGS as the Melbourne International Festival of Flowers (MIFoF) and expand its impact by relocating it to the CBD.

Birrarung Marr, Federation Square and the Greenline on the north bank of the Yarra River, along with public and private spaces across the CBD, would act as supporting locations for the two week festival. The blooming of the City would enhance its reputation as a green city and boost its economic viability.

Other cities, both in Australia and around the world that have bloomed, include Canberra’s Floriade Festival and Adelaide’s Cornucopia: Gardens and Gardening that reveal the rich heritage of gardening and landscape in South Australia.

But worldwide, cities promote their greening through flower and garden shows, including the Chelsea Flower Show in London, the Brussels Flower Carpet, in Ottawa the Tulip Festival, the Portland Rose Festival, the Feria de las Flores in Colombia and the Chiang Mai Flower Festival.

The CRA has therefore called on the Lord Mayor and councillors to honour the current 3 year contract with IMG Event Management Australia, whilst reviewing the impact of the MIFGS on the Carlton Gardens and investigating a City based and appropriately named Melbourne International Festival of Flowers for the city’s environment and economic future.

Martin Brennan

Mobility

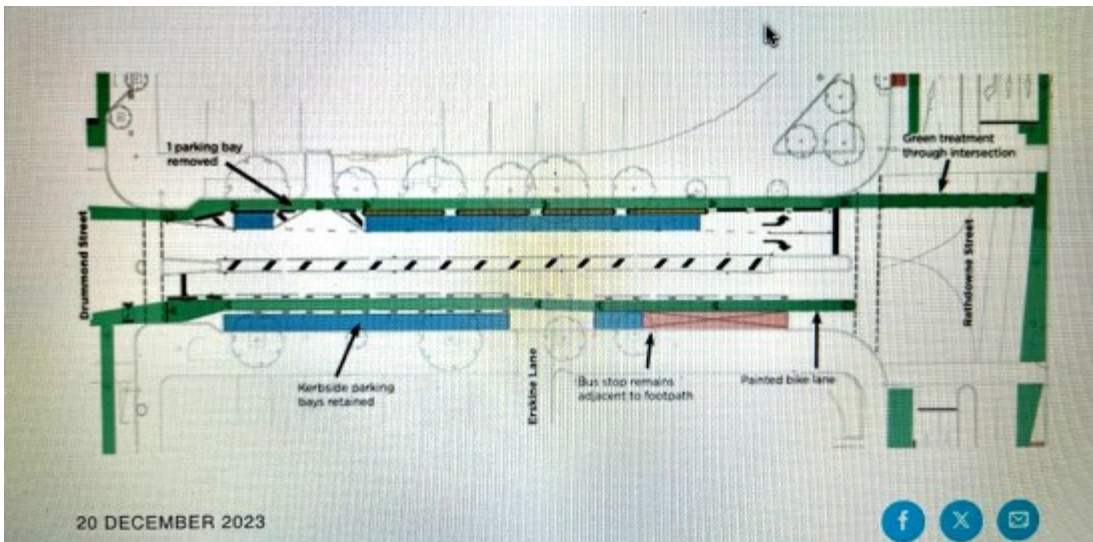
GRATTAN STREET TO OPEN

Grattan Street is scheduled to open in the middle of this year.

As part of the work area for the underground railway it was closed for several years and Queensberry Street traffic was changed to two lanes each way to compensate for the reduced cross Carlton traffic flow on the understanding that it would revert to its former capacity when Grattan Street reopened.

Approximately three years ago the City of Melbourne (CoM) advertised proposed changes to Grattan Street. The works to Grattan Street, as summarised by the CoM:

- Bike lanes protected from traffic by kerbs and parking bays.
- Adjustments to parking to allow for bus stops and lane changes.
- Two lanes for turns at major intersections including hook turns at Cardigan, Drummond and Lygon Streets.
- An additional bus stop between Swanston and Bouverie Streets.



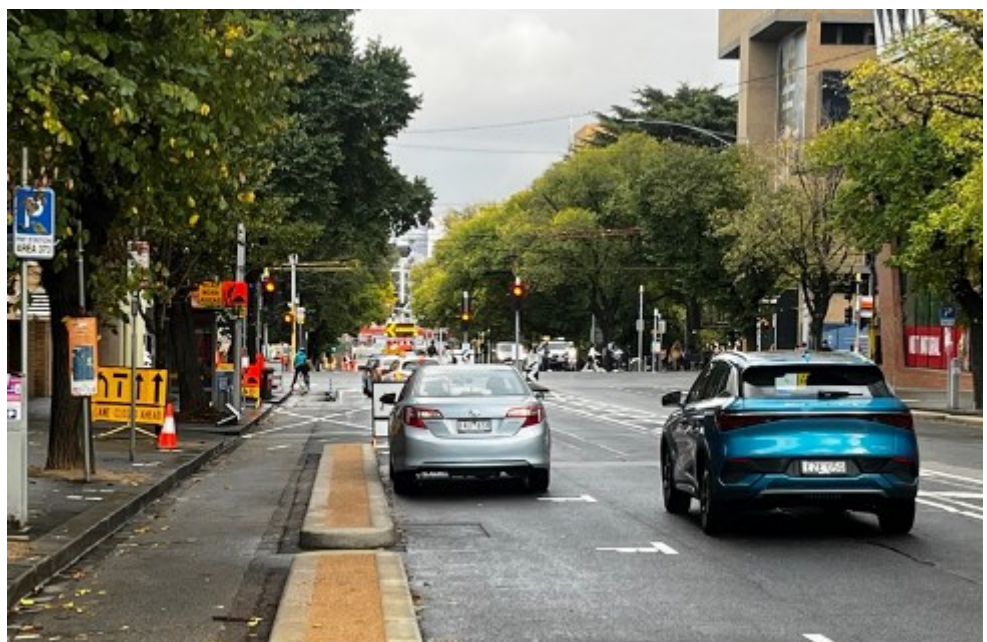
The Carlton Residents Association (CRA) agreed with the proposed changes.

An example of works to Grattan Street from a CoM plan (Drummond to Rathdowne Streets)

The roadworks from Bouverie to Rathdowne Streets are almost complete with only the eastern end to be finished.

The CRA asked for the retention of historically significant basalt pitches that were to be removed from the gutters to allow for kerbside bike lanes. The pitches were removed.

On the right, the work underway west of Lygon Street.



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Further west, Grattan Street work from Flemington Road to Royal Parade (between the hospitals) is almost ready to reopen.

Work from Royal Parade to Bouverie Street, south of the University of Melbourne campus, which includes the new rail station entrances is also well advanced including hard landscaping, seats, bus stops and bike paths.



On the left, a section of these works with the new station entry on the right, a bus stop and bike lane.

Cr Olivier Ball has advised the CRA that Grattan Street is planned to open in ‘the middle of the year’. The section from Flemington Road to Royal Parade will open in the next few weeks and Royal Parade to Bouverie Street will open to bike and pedestrian traffic soon with vehicle traffic flowing when the station work is complete.

On the right the illustration prepared by the CoM shows bike lanes for Carlton including Grattan Street.

Cr Ball also informed the CRA that although ‘no formal decision’ was made for Queensberry Street reinstatement, plans are being prepared for reversion to one lane in each direction and additional trees and landscaping in the street median. She noted that concept plans will be available for public comment in June or July.

She also reported that the changes will reduce the traffic flow with reduced traffic lanes and the introduction of protected bike lanes.

The CRA wrote to Cr Ball noting that existing trees should be retained and additional greening added.

Peter Sanders for the CRA



Topical Issues

Ellen Sandell, State MP for Melbourne writes:

Greens join public housing residents in fight to stop Victoria's privatisation of public housing

You may have heard that the Labor Victorian Government is planning to demolish every public housing tower in Victoria.

That's more than 6,660 homes in 44 towers – 8 of which are in Carlton.

Some of these buildings could certainly do with an upgrade, but unfortunately that's not the government's plan.

Instead, they're going to sell off the majority of this public housing land to private developers to build private apartments for 20,000 people and make mega profits.

They've said they will also replace the demolished towers with 7,100 new 'social' homes on these sites between now and 2051.

Let me explain why this is a lot worse than it seems.

Firstly, Labor wants to knock down 6,600 public housing homes, and build 7,100 social homes over the next 28 years. That's only 440 extra social homes - or 15 new social homes per year! There are 125,000 people on the public housing waiting list in Victoria. 15 new social homes a year isn't going to cut it!

To essentially give public housing land to developers to make a huge profit - and only provide 15 extra new social homes a year - is a bad deal.

Secondly, the Government has refused to commit to any of the newly built 'social homes' being public housing. 'Social housing' can mean either public housing or community housing. Community housing is run by private organisations (sometimes 'non-profits') and can often have higher rents and fewer rights for tenants than public housing. On some other estates where Labor has demolished public housing, none of the new housing has been public housing at all.

Residents are understandably concerned they'll be moved away from the family, hospitals, and community services they rely on.

This plan is going to fundamentally change the nature of our suburb, with more expensive apartments and public housing residents being pushed out.

The Greens and I believe public housing land should never be handed over to private developers. It should be used to build 100% public housing.

A local resident has started a petition to Parliament that calls on Labor to stop the privatisation model of public housing and asks for more public housing to be built. The Greens are supporting this petition, and if we get 2000 signatures, we can force a special debate in Parliament.

In the meantime, we're also supporting residents who need assistance to understand their rights.

If you'd like to join the campaign to save public housing, get in touch at: office@ellensandell.com



Ellen with local public housing residents



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

Residents of Carlton – please sign our on-line petition to Save Vic Market

You have a heritage treasure in your neighbourhood – and are losing it.
It's the Queen Victoria Market.

Queen Victoria Market is a National Heritage-listed, working public market of unique social and cultural significance for the people of Melbourne, Victoria and Australia, and more broadly to our international visitors.

The City of Melbourne's 'Renewal' Plans for Queen Victoria Market (QVM) threaten its viability as our traditional, low cost, fresh food and general merchandise market. Traders are struggling amidst chaotic and ill-conceived 'Renewal' plans for Queen Victoria Market which aim to transform the Market into an entertainment/hospitality precinct.

This Friends of QVM petition is calling on the City of Melbourne (CoM) to pause the 'Renewal' and to ensure that any changes actually protect and prioritise Queen Victoria Market's viability as Melbourne's traditional, fresh food and general merchandise market. We urge the CoM to genuinely listen and respond to long-held community concerns.

Why it's important now: Vic Market will lose its authenticity and integrity as a genuine, produce market. The outcome will result in higher prices and significant heritage loss for the community and Australia. From 2025, traders will pay service fees (water, electricity and waste disposal) on top of their rents – all due to 'Renewal' works no one wants. The result will be higher prices for customers.

Currently, the City of Melbourne's Renewal Plans will:

- Downgrade Vic Market's traditional function as a low-cost historic 19th century public market, the last one in Melbourne
- Impede both customer and traders' access to the market by removing the on-site car park
- Weaken the role of independent family traders who are, effectively, price regulators in opposition to supermarket chains particularly in the current cost of living crisis
- Downgrade QVM as a significant Melbourne tourist attraction.

Please sign our petition and share it with others who might understand the loss we all face .

www.facebook.com/FriendsofQueenVictoriaMarket

<https://www.friendsofqvm.org/>

Share this petition in person or use the QR code for your own material.

[Download QR code](#)



**Melbourne Italian
Festa 2024**

**Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October
Royal Exhibition Building & Museum Plaza
FREE ENTRY**



**Jay Sinclair Answers the Carlton
Questionnaire
Chainsaw Massacre Hairdresser
Established 1996**

**190 Elgin Street, Carlton, Carlton, VIC, Australia,
Victoria (03) 9348 1177**

We are taking a few small liberties (thank you Vanity Fair) to ask local merchants and long lived residents a few questions about themselves and what they think about Carlton as a way of introducing themselves.

On the left Jay in the salon

- What was your first impression of Carlton?** It was exciting! A friend recommended a pizza place here and I liked the pizza!
- Why did you stay in Carlton?** Business has always been good.
- What is your idea of perfect happiness?** Everyone that I love is healthy and happy
- Where would you like to live?** Richmond – but only because I don't want to live near where I work!
- What is your most treasured possession?** My children.And my drum kit
- What is your greatest fear?** My children getting sick
- What words or phrases do you most overuse?** I say YES too much!
- What is your most marked characteristic?** I'm upbeat
- When and where were you happiest?** NOW!
- What is your current state of mind?** I always think about work. I wish I had something else to think about!
- If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be** I'm perfect as I am (HA)
- Who is your favourite hero of fiction?** Batman
- What is your favourite occupation?** Hairdressing and playing music
- Who are your heroes in real life** My mum and dad
- What do you most value in your friends?** Love
- Who are your favourite writers?** I did like the book of ACDC – Highway to Hell about Bon Scott
- What is your motto?** Don't worry, be happy
- What are your favourite names?** Saskia and Olivia
- When can people come to visit your shop to meet you in person?** Any time! Tues to Sat open all day!!



Tramways toilet finally replaced in Swanston Street

GIANCARLO CAPRIOLI OF UNIVERSITY CAFÉ

-----23 May 2024

The recent death of University Café owner and personality **Giancarlo Caprioli** is a great loss and the end of an important era in Carlton. He was one of the treasures of the early Italian migrants that made an enduring impact on Lygon Street.

Remember the film ‘Si parla italiano.’

In 1960 Giancarlo, while the manager of Don Basilico café, was entranced by Beverley, a new employee, and they married soon after.

In 1961 they opened an espresso bar and kitchen, called Cafe Sport, next door to Watts Store on the corner of Lygon and Grattan Streets. Café Sport was an icon in Lygon Street for decades. On weekends Beverley also worked at the nearby University Café, honing her skills as a pasta maker.

In 1978, the Milani family, owners of University Café, entrusted the business to Giancarlo. Beverley soon joined him.

Giancarlo with his great charm became the front man, while Beverley supervised the quality of their Italian menu.

They obtained Melbourne’s first ‘on road’ liquor license enabling wine to be sold at the footpath tables.

The family tradition continues with Beverley, son in law Paul (married to Lara) and granddaughter Gabriella (Gaby) now running the café.



Giancarlo and Beverley with Paul, Remy (grandson) and Gaby.

Greening

Wildflower meadows and rare blooms boost biodiversity in Melbourne

Where to spot native flora in your neighbourhood

From the vast collection of exotic, rare and endangered species at the [Royal Botanic Gardens](#), to the peaceful Trin Warren Tam-boore wetlands in [Royal Park](#) or the floral clock in [Queen Victoria Gardens](#), there are so many places for plant lovers to explore in the City of Melbourne.

Browse the CoM [guide to parks and gardens](#) to explore more locations in your neighbourhood.

“Immerse yourself in the beauty of city gardens and take the time to notice the plants around you. The plant diversity found in various landscape types and garden beds is truly remarkable,

Coming soon | CRA member & friends Survey

- A short 10 question online survey is coming your way soon. It would be fantastic to have as many members and friends complete it as possible.
- The aim is to help the committee further understand and prioritise member and friends views and aims when planning short and longer term goals for the association.
- The survey is anonymous and the results will be shared in aggregate once analysed.

