

3002 INSIDER

ISSUE NO.02

AUG 2024

PRODUCED BY GUS & THE TEAM AT

The
TIPPLER
& Co



Cover: Artwork from the children at East Melbourne Child Care Co-Operative

A MAGAZINE FOR THE 3002 COMMUNITY

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the second issue of the 3002 Insider Magazine.

My name is Gus McAllister, and as the owner of The Tippler & Co for the past decade, I am thrilled to see the positive response to our inaugural magazine issue. Your feedback has been heart warming, and it's wonderful to see our community spirit growing stronger.

With this second issue, I'm excited to see contributors like Ingrid, Gregory and Adriano coming forward to share their insights and uncover more of East Melbourne's rich history.

It's also fantastic that the East Melbourne Group will now have a regular page in every issue and the great community initiatives like the seed library and local choir.

Your stories and contributions are what make this magazine truly special. I'd love to hear more from you, so please get in touch and help us continue to celebrate and improve our beloved East Melbourne.

Cheers, Gus McAllister, Owner of The Tippler & Co



PEOPLE & PETS

Amy & Dune

It is amazing how well an "Aussie Camp Dog" has taken to East Melbourne.



Local resident Amy brought Dune with her from Yuendumu, central Australia, 293 kms from Alice Springs (Mparntwe), home to a thriving community of Warlpiri and Anmatyerr Aboriginal artists with minimal infrastructure and no vets.

Amy found Dune cared for by Gloria Morales, Warlukurlangu Art Centre's assistant manager, supporting Yuendumu, Nyirripi, Yulamu, and nearby areas. Camp Dogs like Dune and dingos are vital to Aboriginal people, valued as companions, protectors, water seekers and for warmth.

Dune's bloodline of coexistence with humans is evident in her friendly vibrance around people, playful curiosity and adaptability. They feature strongly in Jukurrpa (Dreaming and Dreamtime), playing key roles in Creation stories, songlines, and ceremonies.

To foster a dog like Dune or offer support, visit: <https://aussiedesertdogs.org/>

Cecelia Sweetman

Living Local Legend, Ceceila Sweetman is turning 100 this August.



For the last year, Cecelia has lived at Berengarra aged care home, after residing all over East Melbourne for over 60 years. Starting at an East Melbourne home for girls in her teenage years, her love for our suburb took her to apartments in Victoria, Albert, Vale, George, and Hotham Streets.

Many of you may have seen her plodding along with her walker to Holy Trinity Church each Sunday morning or with friends for cappuccinos at the East Melbourne General Store. She maintains her sharp wit, quick mind, and boundless stories. She is an inspiration to us all. A brief bio of Cecelia will feature in the next edition of the East Melbourne Historical Society Newsletter.

The East Melbourne General Store has collected birthday gift contributions and has a card for signing, and Holy Trinity will be hosting her Centenary Celebration.

TALES OF A GUERRILLA GARDENER

Written by Gregory Ladner

As a long-time resident of East Melbourne, I grew tired of the neglect towards the center plantations at the bottom end of Hotham Street. Deciding to take matters into my own hands, I embarked on a personal remake of the streetscape.

I chose succulents because they are easy to maintain, even when I am away for months at a time. I started with the plantation directly opposite our residence and then tackled the others on both sides, one by one.

Apparently, someone lodged a complaint, and Parks and Gardens came to investigate. Fortunately, I was working on my most recent plot when they arrived. They were thrilled with my efforts and commended me on my community spirit. They even offered to complete the last four plantations, which was welcome news.

Although their style was a bit more formal than my random planting, they incorporated the same succulents, resulting in a cohesive overall streetscape.

* * * * *

Gregory Ladner is one of Australia's most enduring fashion designers, with a career spanning over four decades across Australia, Europe, and Asia.

His memoir, "A Boy and His Bear," recounts his journey from dressing his teddy in working-class Melbourne to designing for high society and is available at East Melbourne General Store.



Gregory in front of one of 4 planter boxes



LIFE IN 3002

Written by **Adriano Cea**

It has been 43 years since my dad, Nino Cea, fulfilled his dream of opening his beloved “Geppetto Trattoria” in 1981.

Papà, with his warm smile and southern Italian hospitality, brought a slice of our Pugliese heritage to the neighborhood of 3002. Named after the carpenter from the old Italian tale “Pinocchio,” Geppetto became more than just a restaurant—it became a haven where patrons were greeted like family and every dish told a story.

Each morning, dad can be found at dawn, hand-selecting the freshest ingredients from the local markets, which he then prepares with our amazing chefs, while I look after the front of house and have been doing so for almost 20 years. Our strong passion for Italian home-style cooking has always been our focus.

Our daily rotating blackboard specials are adored by our clientele. Braised wild rabbit, pasta al forno, roasted porchetta, eggplant parmigiana, and baked crusty focaccia are just a few of our dishes.



Over the years, Geppetto Trattoria grew into a local institution, not just for its authentic cuisine but for the memories woven into its walls. Regulars return for our friendly team's jovial conversations and warm hospitality. 78a Wellington Parade, East Melbourne, has become a place where birthdays are celebrated with tiramisù, anniversaries marked with Chianti, and quiet moments savored over espressos.

Thanks for making this place feel like home. Without you, our faithful clientele and neighbors, it would not be possible to keep our doors open and be a part of this amazing suburb, which continues to be so incredibly supportive, and more importantly, allowing us to be a part of such a wonderful community.

Here's to at least another 43 years –
Grazie mille!

* * * * *

*Geppetto Trattoria is open for:
Lunch (11am): Tuesday to Friday
Dinner (5pm): Tuesday to Saturday*



SOWING THE SEEDS OF COMMUNITY

Written by Jenny Owen

Opened in 2006, the architecturally uplifting and spacious East Melbourne Library sits calmly and quietly amongst its residential, heritage-listed neighbours. It's the community who inhabit and inspire this library, and if you visit on the first Wednesday of the month, you'll see a group of industrious locals tending, planting, and nurturing the East Melbourne Community Herb Garden.

Community-driven and established in 2018, this ever-changing, dedicated group of locals has maintained a wide collection of herbs available for everyone to jazz up their evening meals or lunchtime salads. It's not uncommon to see visitors enjoying the fruits of their labour, as sharing is a big part of the idea.

Now, in 2024, with the support of the City of Melbourne Wellbeing Team and a City of Melbourne Community Grant Program, our latest initiative has been to expand the garden and develop a seed library exchange. This means our group of volunteers grows, collects, packages, and distributes seeds for free at the library.

The aim of the seed library is to collect and distribute seeds to the local community to help build food resilience and promote sustainable gardens by sharing seeds and encouraging the community to grow their own produce.

Anyone can join the growing community of locals by visiting the East Melbourne Library Seed Library. You will be able to collect seeds for your own garden and return some to contribute to the Seed Library for others.

The entire community is invited to participate in the program. Whether you love to garden, grow plants, or would rather just meet up and package seeds on a regular basis, there's something for you.



You can also help us grow our Seed Library by harvesting seeds and donating them back to the library. We would like to give a big thank you to Alissa Duke, a librarian and local urban sketcher who designed our seed library packaging. If you're interested in joining our group of volunteers, please contact Jenny Owen at owenjenn@gmail.com or ask the friendly staff at the East Melbourne Library for more details.



EAST MELBOURNE TRIVIA NIGHT HITS HIGH NOTE

Written By Deb Brown

A truly local event was the East Melbourne Trivia Night which was held on a wintry July night. More than 80 people came along to the Unitarian Church hall. The tables were decorated with flowers and gifts, reminiscent of a country town at supper time. There was a busy trade in raffle tickets, and tables were laden with gourmet platters, nibbles, and fine wines as everybody took their places for an earnest competition.



There was a hush as the quiz master began. Bill and his daughter had prepared a series of general knowledge questions, as well as many questions about the suburb of East Melbourne. We thought we knew it all, but the questions showed that we are all lifelong learners.

Many East Melbourne traders and businesses sponsored the East Melbourne Trivia Night. The table of prizes was extensive as happy winners made their choice. Prizes on offer ranged from dinners at local restaurants, outdoor furniture, coffee shop vouchers, beauty products, floral tributes, photography sessions, gourmet food hampers, and more. Thank you to all these traders for their generous donations.

The Trivia Night is a popular annual event in East Melbourne. This year, the event raised money for the local East Melbourne community choir. The choir gave a performance during the night to much applause. The East Melbourne choir meets every Tuesday evening at 7 pm in the Unitarian Church Hall. We have a trained choir master and an accompanist. Everybody is welcome to join.

* * * * *

*The EMG successfully raised over \$3000
for the choir!*

* * * * *

Upcoming EMG Events

*Aug 14th-Fondue Night @Life's too Short
Oct 3rd-Gala Night at Alexandra Club*



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by emailing president@emg.org.au

A group of five professionals (three men and two women) standing in front of a modern building. The man second from the left is wearing a blue blazer and light blue shirt. The man in the center has his arms crossed and is wearing a dark blazer and white shirt. The woman on the far right is wearing a black dress. The man on the far right is wearing a dark blazer and white shirt. The woman second from the right is wearing a black dress. The man on the far left is wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants. The woman on the far left is wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants. The background is a modern building with large windows and greenery.

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BRING BACK THE HERALD OUTDOOR ART SHOW!

Written By Ingrid Braun

Recently I was visiting a mate at his mother's house in Hotham Street, East Melbourne. Suddenly I found myself staring fixedly at a classic 1970's abstract oil painting. All gold and earthy colours, it was a perfect example of 1970's abstraction. My friend and his partner pondered the origins of the multicoloured extravaganza but despite my many years at art school, I couldn't for the life of me nail the artist.



"It's an amateur painting" exclaimed my friend suddenly, "mum bought it at the Herald Art Show!"

My friend then took me through the house (still replete with chocolate brown shag pile carpet and 1970's Tessa leather furniture). We tried to identify the various artworks that must have had their origin at the Art Show, as he related memories across the years of his parents proudly bringing home numerous purchases to varying expressions of approval from the rest of the family. It all took me back to the days after my parents had bought me my first set of oil paints. From the age of 8, I was planning to be a painter. Of renown, of course.

Held annually each December from 1953 until 1999, The Herald Outdoor Art Show was on the calendar of every self appointed Melburnian art sophisticate. From semi professionals to enthusiastic amateurs, artists from everywhere would hang their paintings (because it was all pretty much painting), in the hope they would sell a piece of contemporary art to an appreciative member of the public. The punters would crowd through the gardens, and happily oblige.

My mother, a self appointed art critic and aficionado, would carefully peruse the pickings, pointing out the various semi masterpieces and future art stars with indisputable self assurance. We never bought anything. It was all about the spectacle and the crowd, the variety and the setting.

As I pondered my future career. Was I better than these Sunday painters, semi professionals and art dilettantes? I stared with wonder at their efforts, trying to picture myself as one of those optimistic vendors, hoping for a sale, and thus validation of their efforts. Could I make a living with this gig? Alas, after several years at art school, I took another path. I can't even remember when the Herald Outdoor Art Show had its last year. But I often think, with a twinge, how I could've stuck it out. How, indeed, the Outdoor Art Show could also have stuck it out.

What happened? Did the crowd move on? When did the Herald decide that the Outdoor Art Show had had its day, and was no longer relevant to an increasingly fast paced and cynical public? I, for one, would welcome the return of the Herald Outdoor Art Show, no matter who would choose to sponsor it.

There was something marvellous about the embrace of amateurism, audience curiosity, and a beautiful blue bird Sunday in the Treasury Gardens. Perhaps that's what Melbourne needs more of. Perhaps one day, it will return..



Images: Left: The artwork that sparked the conversation. Above: Ingrid and her Mum circa 1969

RECAP: BALZAC'S EVENING OF STORIES AT THE TIPPLER & CO

Written by Gus McAllister

Last Thursday, The Tippler & Co hosted "Balzac's Evening of Stories," celebrating the history of our venue as "The Balzac". The evening was a wonderful success, featuring a five-course dinner that delighted everyone with original 1950s recipes.

Held in the cosy Mural Room, the event offered an intimate atmosphere. Each dish was carefully prepared, capturing the spirit of classic French cuisine. The paired French wines were a perfect match, bringing out the best in each course.

Special guests Lily Mora (Mirka's Granddaughter) and Lesley Harding (Artistic director at Heide MOMA) shared captivating stories about Georges and Mirka. Their engaging tales added depth to the evening, making it more than just a dinner but a walk through history.

The response from guests was fantastic, with many appreciating the blend of history, food, and wine. The success of this event has led to plans for another on August 29th, with special guest: Kendrah Morgan, co-author of the book *Mirka & Georges a culinary affair*. If you missed this one, make sure to join us next time for another night of great food, wine, and stories. We hope to see you there!

* * * * *

Balzac's Evening of Stories will be held on Thursday 29th August in the Mural Room
Tickets: www.thetipplerandco.com/whats-on



Claude's Boeuf Bourguignon

EAST MELBOURNE HERITAGE REVIEW

Come join us to explore
East Melbourne's potential heritage



Share your knowledge of local history, stories, memories, and experiences in East Melbourne through a number of exciting ways to engage during August.

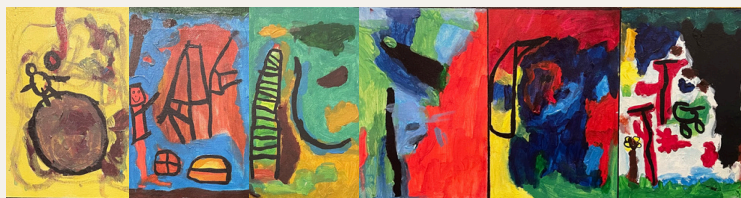
participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/east-melbourne-heritage-review



COLORFUL INSIGHTS

In a recent project run by the East Melbourne Child Care Co-Operative on Powlett Reserve, children were asked four questions about their community:

What do you think about the community? What do you need to feel safe? What would you like to see provided for you? What helps you be happy and thrive?



Here are some of their responses with the artwork above reading left to right:

Conor: "Neighbourhoods can have a pool and get to do a big splash."

Felix: "We need people who are strong to move heavy things out of the way. This man has a rope over the branch that's tied to the boulder to lift the heavy boulder."

Mason: "Somewhere for kids to play, like a slide and a ladder to climb up. I feel happy when I go to the playground with my mum and my brother."

Amelie: "A neighbourhood is somewhere you live and people live in houses. If there were no houses, we'd have nowhere to live. They would have to live in trees and bushes."

Isla: "We need playgrounds and activity centers like Bounce. And we need medicine, a treehouse... I have a treehouse in my backyard."

Beatrice: "We need flowers. My mum likes flowers. They're important because I like them too and I have them at home."

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The Melbourne City Council elections

You have until **6 August** to enrol

CITY OF MELBOURNE

Register to vote! Melbourne City Council elections will be held by postal ballot in October. Check eligibility and enroll by 6 August.

<https://elections.melbourne.vic.gov.au/>

East Melbourne will have two independent candidates for the upcoming election: Lord Mayor - Gary Morgan, Powlett St resident and City of Melbourne business owner, and Councillor - Greg Bisanella, East Melbourne Group President and committee member since 2017.

THE TIPPLER
TUESDAYS

STEAK NIGHT

Grass Fed, MB2+ Porterhouse, Red Wine Jus, Potato Rösti & Mixed Leaf Salad

\$25



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EVENTS NOTICEBOARD

August events

5 Aug: TAG - The Actors & Artists Group
Networking Event @ Roccella

14 Aug: EMG Fondue Night @ Life's too Short

9 - 20 Aug: The Twenty Melbourne Painters
Society Annual Exhibition at Victorian Artists
Society (VAS).

29 Aug: Balzac's Evening of Stories II -
Original recipes, paired wines and special
guests.

September events

6 - 23 Sep: Spring Select Exhibition @ VAS

28 Sep: Grand Final Day

October events

3 Oct: East Melbourne Group Gala Night @
Alexandra Club

11 - 21 Oct: Edward Heffernan Drawing
Exhibition @ VAS

Recurring:

East Melbourne Community Choir: Tuesday
7:00pm - Unitarian Church



**SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR EVENT DETAILS &
TICKETS**



EVENT DETAILS

*Live link! Save this
in your phone to
see what's
happening in 3002*

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Calling all residents and workers! We're eager to feature new voices in our upcoming issue, so if you have stories, ideas, or feedback, please reach out to us at info@thetipplerandco.com.

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We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and their Elders past and present, who are the Traditional Owners of the land this magazine is produced.