

14 March 2006

Press Update Issue No. 455

Mordialloc by the Bay Fine Food, Wine & Music Festival

Kingston's extraordinary **Mordialloc by the Bay, Fine Food, Wine and Music Festival** is celebrating a 10th Anniversary! A major highlight will be the Commonwealth Games Cultural Program that will focus on Kingston's second team – Sri Lanka. Once again the Mordialloc Foreshore Precinct will be brought to life through food, wine, arts, culture and great music over the March 18-19 weekend.

A highlight of the annual Melbourne Food and Wine calendar as well as the Jazz and Blues scene. Each year the festival attracts 50,000 people who come for their own taste of culinary delights, fine wines and world-class music.

Highlights of the **2006 Fine Food, Wine & Music by the Bay Festival** will be:

- ❑ **Jazz & Blues International** guests include Ravibandu Vidyapathy and Ensemble from Sri Lanka, Colum Sands from Ireland and The Wailin' Jenny's from Canada. Local artists include Joe Camilleri & Nicky Bomba's Limestone, Jimi Hocking, Axle Whitehead Project, Oxo Cubans, Jeff Lang, Adam Simmons, The Lemon Squeezin' Daddies, Blue Shaddy & more.
- ❑ **Master Chefs at Work Marquee** – including Cooking demonstrations on the theme *The Taste of Sri Lanka* from acclaimed Master Chefs including Charmaine Solomon, Jimmy Shu, Adam Di Silva from Longrain Restaurant & more.
- ❑ **'Songs of the Mandala'** six day Tour with the monks from the Dalai Lama's private Monastery, from Tuesday 14th – Sunday 19th March. A concert including traditional folk songs of the Tibetan nomads performed by popular Brisbane based singer Tenzin Choegyal will be included in the tour.
- ❑ **Gourmet Food and Wine** from the Mornington Peninsula (No BYO in licensed area).
- ❑ **African Drumming Workshops** with Ray Periera- Sat 1.30pm and 3.00pm
- ❑ **LATIN BEATS by the Bay** will feature DJ Mick Williams playing Latin beats long into the afternoon. Come down, groove & grind to great music or take in a dance class with Melbourne Salsa. Sunday 1pm- 6pm.

- ❑ **Main Street Jazz & Blues Stage & Traders Sunday** – featuring Josh Owen Band, Louis King & the Liars Club, Phil Manning & more.
- ❑ Other activities include Chess Championship, Trialable sailing championships, Couta Boat Races, beach volleyball, children’s marquee and rides.

Dates and Times: **Saturday March 18th 11am – 11pm** **Sunday March 19th 10am – 7pm**

Venue: Peter Scullin Reserve, Mordialloc Foreshore Precinct (Mel Ref 92 E1)

After ‘working like a dog’ local laws officer celebrates

Local Laws Officer Bronson is a dedicated, hard working City of Kingston employee who doesn’t ask for much or want to put himself upon a pedestal.

After 70 years of selfless life service to the City of Kingston a couple of cuddles here or biscuit there is more than enough to make Bronson a happy chappy.

He works hard, from 9am – 5pm every day, and tirelessly attends schools, child care centres and day care centres spreading the message of responsible pet ownership which covers caring for pets, dog safety, pet identification and basic pet laws.

Often in Kingston’s corridors and near water cooler stations, people whisper: “ Gee that Officer Bronson works like a dog”.

Bronson’s work started when he was 10 weeks old and his boss, Local Laws & Health Services Manager, Robyn Horner says it has been fun. “He was like a little fluffy bear when he started and was welcomed by staff with open arms. He has been enthusiastic about coming to work ever since,” Robyn said.

“Bronson shows children what a dog looks like, feels like, behaves and the appropriate behaviour children should have around dogs.” Robyn said Bronson loves to meet new people and friends.

“Bronson's special qualities include his depth of love for his extended work family, always having time to show them affection and making them feel special,” Robyn said.

She said Bronson could be a bit aloof when tired and always needed ‘nanny naps’.

“Bronson is an extremely intelligent dog. This is common of the Akita Inu breed. Bronson can be head strong so I needed to be a confident dog handler and trainer when raising him,” Robyn said.

“I am clearly mum in his eyes and leader of the pack. I wear the pants so to speak. He may "try it on" with others but rarely with me. Our relationship is extremely close, trusting and there is a special connection that I have never experienced with any other animal in my life.”

“When I go out canoeing across the lake at home, I always look back to find him sitting on the jetty looking across the water making sure I am OK. He is over the moon when I return to shore safe and sound.”

Local businesses rewarded for healthy food choices

Representatives from local businesses gathered on Wednesday March 8, to celebrate the 2006 City of Kingston Healthy Choice Awards.

The awards recognise Kingston food businesses that have achieved high standards in health, hygiene and environmental awareness.

The event was held at the Mordialloc Sports Centre and a total of 47 businesses across a diverse range of business categories received awards. Kingston businesses included cafes, caterers, child care centres, clubs, commercial canteens, delicatessens, hostels, aged care, fish and chipperies and specialised food outlets.

Kingston Mayor, Topsy Petchey, said the awards were important because they recognised the essential role that food businesses have in providing healthy eating options and in protecting people against infection and disease.

“Only businesses who have achieved high standards in hygiene, sun protection, cleanliness, healthy food choices and environmental friendliness received awards,” Mayor Petchey said.

“Each year in Australia, food poisoning affects more than five million people and food can be contaminated when it is handled, stored or prepared incorrectly.”

“Today we have awarded and acknowledged success, excellence and progress in the food industry. It is absolutely vital that we continue to analyse health data trends in order to prevent the incidence of food poisoning or bacterial infections.”

Council is currently developing its next Municipal Public Health Plan, a process involving: analysis of health data trends, community and health sector consultation and engagement, priority setting sessions and the establishment of reference groups. Once completed, this plan will establish Council’s strategic Public Health direction, including the selection of priorities and projects, for the next three years.

The Kingston Healthy Choice Awards are valid for 12 months and businesses are awarded after assessments by Kingston environmental health officers for hygiene, environment, sun protection and, or drink safety. A dietician also visited businesses and advised on healthy options in relation to menus and food preparation.

A Healthy Choice Award is valid for 12 months with businesses encouraged to re-apply each year.

Category Award Winners – Healthy Choice Awards 2005

There are 11 different food business categories. There are three separate awards in each category – Environmental Friendliness, Food Safety and Nutrition and an overall winner. Each of the three awards had criteria that the businesses were assessed against.

The businesses that did not win one of the three awards BUT satisfied all of the criteria were still granted a Healthy Choice Award.

Caterers

Environmental Friendliness: Smokin' Doughs

Food Safety: Geoff's Vantastics

Nutrition: Geoff's Vantastics

Overall Category Winner: Geoff's Vantastics

Café

Environmental Friendliness: Kids Space

Food Safety: The Nutmeg Tree

Nutrition: Highett Central Café

Overall Category Winner: Highett Central Café

Other winners:

- Carrum Boatshed Café
- Delicious Bites
- Café del More
- Gee Jaiz
- Deli Ambrosia
- Lollyjar Café
- Kodre Pty Ltd (Hardware Café Mentone)
- Kodre Pty Ltd (Hardware Café Oakleigh)

Hostel/Aged Care

Environmental Friendliness: Northcliff Lodge

Food Safety: Nixon House

Nutrition: Nixon House

Overall Category Winner: Nixon House

Other winners: Argyle Court Supportive Care
Corben House

Hotel/Bar/Bistro

Environmental Friendliness: Chelsea Heights Hotel

Food Safety: Aero Bar and Bistro

Nutrition: Chelsea Heights Hotel

Overall Category winner: Chelsea Heights Hotel

Other winners: The Buckingham International

Child Care Centre

Environmental Friendliness: Carrum Childcare Centre

Food Safety: Daisy Chain

Nutrition: Carrum Childcare Centre

Overall Category Winner: Carrum Childcare Centre

Deli and Specialised Food

Environmental Friendliness: Harry's Factory Outlet
Food Safety: Lamana Quality Fruit
Nutrition: Harry's Factory Outlet

Overall Category Winner: Harry's Factory Outlet

Other winner: Nutshack Southland

Take-away

Environmental Friendliness: Blue Heaven Cafe
Food Safety: Chris' Take-away
Nutrition: Tuck-In Sandwich Bar

Overall Category Winner: Tuck-In Sandwich Bar

Other winners: Kebabs on Charman
 Capella Tuckerbox
 Ichiban Noodle
 Dairy Bell Ice-cream
 JC's Snack Bar
 Golden Star Fish & Chips

Club

Environmental Friendliness: Kingston Heath Golf Club
Food Safety: Patterson River Country Club
Nutrition: Kingston Health Golf Club

Overall Category Winner: Kingston Health Golf Club

School Canteen

Environmental Friendliness: Aspendale Primary School
Food Safety: Westall Secondary College
Nutrition: Aspendale Gardens Primary School

Overall Category Winner: Aspendale Gardens Primary School

Restaurant

Environmental Friendliness: La Porchetta
Food Safety: Tokachi
Nutrition: Nello's Trattoria Bologna

Overall Category Winner: Nello's Trattoria Bologna

Other winners: Shavans Tandoori Indian Restaurant
 Anmol Indian Resturant
 Nando's Southland

Commercial Canteen

Environmental Friendliness: United Cafeteria
Food Safety: South East Water
Nutrition: South East Water

Overall Category Winner: South East Water

Kingston welcomes 2006 Youth Festival

The Kingston Youth Festival for 2006 kicks off on March 17 and finishes April 15. The festival incorporates National Youth Week with loads of new and exciting events planned.

Mayor Topsy Petchey encouraged Kingston youth to participate in the events.

“The City of Kingston has again, awarded funding grants to community-based organisations and schools, to host their own events during the Youth Festival,” Mayor Petchey said.

“The organisations that are taking part or hosting events during the Youth Festival will be Mordialloc Life Saving Club, Kingston CFA, Fusion Youth Housing Service, Peninsula Community Legal Centre and Patterson River Secondary College,” Mayor Petchey said.

“This year we also have some great sponsors that have jumped on board to support this event, Mordi Surf Centre, Victorian College of the Arts School of Film and Television and Village Cinema Southland.”

Live music events, film festival, arts workshops, expos, demonstrations, exhibitions, the list is endless. Come along and bring your friends, for what will be a festival to remember! For further information, contact Elisabeth at Youth Services on: 1300 369 436.

It's young talent time revisited at 'Talent on the Turf'

As part of the month long Kingston Youth Festival, for the first time the City of Kingston is proud to present “Talent on the Turf”- a free, outdoor talent quest for young people aged 14 – 25, at Sir William Fry Reserve Cheltenham.

Talent on the Turf will be held Friday March 24 from 2pm - 4pm and will showcase some of Kingston's best youth performances in singing, dancing and stand-up comedy.

The City of Kingston is proud to present an opportunity for talent to be explored and with the enthusiastic response from young performers, it promises to be an entertaining day.

“The City of Kingston wishes to encourage its young people to come out and display their entertaining flair,” Mayor Petchey said.

“We are happy that youth can be recognised for their talents and who knows? One may end up on Australian Pop Idol or become a comedian through this encouragement.”

Talent on the Turf offers young people the opportunity to perform to a live audience, as well as participate in a high-profile community event – the Kingston Youth Festival.

Performances will be judged by a panel and prizes awarded to each category area. So, bring a picnic basket and rug and set yourself up on the turf and watch some local talent! For more information, contact Rebecca at Youth Services on 1300 36 94 36.

Queen Elizabeth II to open Hostel Commonwealth Games

As part of the opening ceremony of the 2006 Commonwealth Games, Corben House, one of several of Kingston's residential aged care facilities, invites you to meet their version of the Queen of England on Wednesday March 15 at 2pm.

Yes, Her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2nd - aka elderly resident Roma Marks in her 90s - will dress up and lead the ceremony to mark both the start of the Commonwealth Games and games which will be played in the residential home.

Corben House is located at 9 –15 Brindisi Street, Mentone.

Mayor Topsy Petchey said it was wonderful that the Games could be celebrated in such a fashion.

“Each person in the residential care facility will play a variety of games during the Commonwealth Games period,” Mayor Petchey said.

“It will be heaps of recreation fun for the residents and a nice break from their routine.”

Mayor Petchey said after the Queen opened the Commonwealth Games games for the residents would also be in the areas of equestrian horses, swimming and a range of fun competitions and activities.

“All 46 residents, 20 staff and volunteers will be involved,” Mayor Petchey said.

Corben house was built in 1978 and has accommodation for 46 people. Each single room has an ensuite and all rooms have an outlook to landscaped gardens or courtyards.

Community celebrates new Edithvale sports pavilion

More than 100 people, families, children, council officers and councillors attended the official opening on Thursday of last week of the new Edithvale sports pavilion.

The pavilion completed in November 2005 at a final works cost of \$220,000 and Mayor Topsy Petchey said it was a bonus to the local community and would change the way sport was played.

“Edithvale Rovers Junior Football Club and Edithvale/Aspendale RSL Cricket Club are just some of the sporting groups who will be able to change in, use and enjoy the pavilion,” Mayor Petchey said.

She said after six years of lobbying by community and council groups it was great that such an outcome could be achieved.

The Mayor's comments were echoed by Braeside Park Ward Councillor John Ronke who said, "community facilities like this one are not built over night. This sports pavilion is the result of six years of consultation with community groups, Council and sporting clubs.

"We are so proud to be standing here today to witness the outcome of this achievement," said Cr Ronke.

"It is amazing what can be achieved through a dream augmented by plain hard work and the much-needed upgrade has transformed this centre into a vibrant and valued community facility," Mayor Petchey said.

She said the pavilion had been redesigned with the utmost environmental consideration because it was located adjacent to the environmentally sensitive Ramsar wetland and was part of the Edithvale and Seaford Wetlands.

"This pavilion means that parents have somewhere to sit and wait for their children while they play football. It gives a recreation area and support area when it rains and a function centre to celebrate club achievements."

"The City of Kingston's hard working council officers, sports clubs and councillors helped make this happen so we can all enjoy the benefits that this new facility will bring," Mayor Petchey said.

The Mayor also thanked the Edithvale Rovers for contributing \$9,000 to the project.

Got a great business idea?

Following the booked out workshop "Going into Business" in February, Council is very pleased to announce an additional workshop for those who missed the first one.

If you have a great product or service idea but don't really know how to go about setting it up? Why not come along to the 'Going into business workshop' on March 28.

Starting your business can be a daunting prospect – but it doesn't have to be. Mayor Topsy Petchey said the initiative was with council's partners.

"To support the growth in new business Kingston Council have partnered with the state Government Under New Management Program to deliver an innovative workshop targeting people going into business," Mayor Petchey said.

One key to running a successful business is to know where and when to get the information you need, she said.

"We have taken the hard work out of where and when so all you need to do is attend – recent business starters are also very welcomed."

The workshop starts at 5.30pm and runs until 9pm at Council Chambers 1230 Nepean Highway, Cheltenham. Cost \$30. Limited places available please book. **To register please call Fyowna Norton 9581 4786.**

Kingston sets public forum on Biodiversity study

Kingston Council invites the public to attend a Biodiversity Forum on the 29th of March to contribute to the development of a strategy for the future.

The forum will be held from 7.30pm to 8.30pm in Council's Cheltenham Office, 1230 Nepean Highway.

Biodiversity is the variety of life, the different plants, animals and microorganisms that they contain and the communities and ecosystems that they are a part of.

"It is important to our everyday lives as it provides us with clean air, clean water and fertile soils," said Kingston Mayor Topsy Petchey. "The loss of biodiversity around Australia is a major concern and one of the most serious environmental issues we face."

The Mayor said that the Forum was the first step in developing a biodiversity strategy for Kingston that the City seeks to complete by the end of the year.

In Kingston the areas of significant biodiversity include Edithvale wetlands and Braeside Park that are managed by Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria as well as smaller reserves managed by Council. The biggest issue for Kingston's 13 kilometres of foreshore is finding the balance between managing vegetation and recreation.

Speakers are Rodney van der Ree, an Ecologist from the Melbourne University's Australian Research Centre for Urban Ecology (ARCUE) and Shane Scanlan from the Port Phillip & Westernport Catchment Management Authority PP&WCMA).

When: Wednesday March 29, 2006.

Where: Kingston Council Office Cheltenham, 1230 Nepean Highway.

Time: 7.30pm-8.30pm.

For further information contact Belinda Ainley on 9584 8178; mobile 0428 336 918 or via Email: Belinda@ainproject.com.au

Previous Press Update: 7 March 2006 Update No. 454

- **City thrills as Queen's Relay Baton passes through**
- **93-year-old Kingston resident runs Queen's Baton Relay**
- **Baton runner helps children with learning difficulties**
- **Watch all the Games action at Clarinda Community Centre**
- **Trekking for Oxfam to help those in need**
- **Blitzing through art**
- **Children join hands to celebrate harmony**

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