

# The South Sydney Herald

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Regular customer, Roy, at the MKR Restaurant and Café on Redfern Street. 'The food is awesome!' Roy says. 'The café is neat and clean, and the service is excellent.' Photo: Andrew Collis

## Internet café with Indian cuisine

### LOCALS

ALLISON FORREST

**REDFERN:** Amid rapid change on Redfern Street, it's nice to know that some things remain. Bucking the trend toward more small bars and gourmet coffee shops, MKR (My Kitchen Rules) serves up fish and chips, burgers, veggie rolls and a variety of Indian dishes, all cooked according to family recipes. The daal is delicious, the butter chicken and veggie curry options very popular.

Badi, who moved to Australia from Bangladesh 16 years ago, works at MKR most days. Diners are greeted with a smile and the service is prompt and friendly. Badi prepares all menu items, ensuring the chips are crisp and hot, the mango lassis fresh and cold. The pita bread is especially good – soft and warm.

Badi explains that some dishes are adapted for western tastes. "Locals seem to prefer their meals not so sweet as Indian families," he says,

with reference to the beef vindaloo and goat curry. "Some things are traditional, though," he adds. "The meat is cooked on the bone."

Established in 2011, the casual mood of MKR is perfect for an afternoon or evening with friends. The large restaurant table and high-backed cane chairs are ideal for meetings – and the big-screen TVs will soon be functional again. Computer terminals are set up for internet browsing, with fax, print, photocopying and scanning facilities too.

The décor is welcoming, multicultural. There's a large print of Charlie Chaplin on the wall, with posters and flyers promoting arts and sports of all kinds. At the counter there is a donation box "for the vulnerable and destitute communities". MKR is open daily, 10am to 10pm and offers eat-in and takeaway service. Home delivery via DoorDash is also an option.

**MKR Restaurant and Café**  
127 Redfern Street  
Phone: 9698 9334



'We are in the 11th hour and urgently need to take global climate action', said Gillian Reffell (bottom left) at Newtown station in an action organised by the Sydney Buddhist Centre as part of a Global multifaith day of action on March 11. Photo: Allison Forrest

## Faith communities 'sound the alarm' for climate justice

### ENVIRONMENT

MIRIAM PEPPER

**FAITH** communities in South Sydney and Australia-wide "sounded the alarm" on March 11 for climate justice. One hundred and thirty-five events – some making a noise, some holding a silence in noisy places – took place across Australia as part of a global multifaith day of action on the climate involving faith communities in 43 countries.

These communities from diverse religious traditions are alarmed at the yawning gap between what is required to limit global temperature rise and actual commitments by governments and financial institutions.

In a "Sacred People, Sacred Earth" statement, they released a set of powerful demands for world leaders to address the injustice and impacts that the climate crisis is inflicting on communities worldwide.

The statement calls on governments and banks to immediately end their support for new fossil fuel infrastructure and tropical deforestation, commit to universal access to clean and affordable energy, enact policies creating green jobs and a just transition for impacted workers and communities, respect the rights of first nations peoples, secure policies and funding supporting those forced to migrate due to climate impacts, and more.

Australian signatories call on the Australian government to commit to higher greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference later this year that are in line with a net zero target by 2030. Instead of a "gas-led recovery", they want post-Covid recovery

spending to be on low carbon jobs, and for finance to be provided to the UN Green Climate Fund for developing countries.

The Moderator of the Uniting Church in NSW and the ACT, the Rev. Simon Hansford, said:

"The UN Climate Change Conference in November is another opportunity for Australia to do the right thing.

"We are on a path to food shortages and ecosystem collapse as early as 2030 and as a leading coal and gas exporter, Australia is a major global contributor to emissions.

"Our Australian communities include some of the most vulnerable people who, we know, will be disproportionately affected.

"There are environmental, scientific and economic solutions and we are urging those in power to be courageous. Appropriate action taken now will encourage our Pacific neighbours, urge others to take further action and have hopeful consequences for the world in which we live."

Actions in inner Sydney on March 11 included a demonstration and meditation outside NSW Parliament House; a gathering of "Contemplative Rebels" in Hyde Park; a bagpipe parade from the Pitt Street mall to Pitt Street Uniting Church; a meditation at Newtown station; actions at St Vincent's Catholic Church Redfern, Christ Church St Laurence and more. Further afield there were vigils and demonstrations outside the offices of Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, as well as other politicians across Australia.

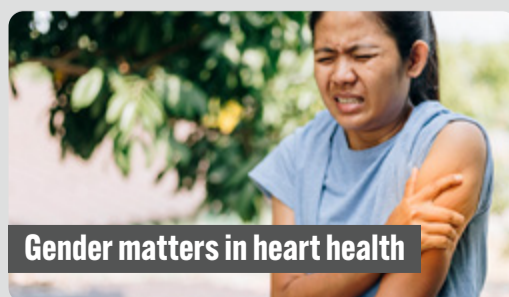
The demands and actions were coordinated globally by the GreenFaith International Network, and in Australia by multifaith organisation Australian Religious Response to Climate Change.



Women aren't angry, we're tired'



Supper series supports refugees



Gender matters in heart health



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**Jenny Leong MP**  
STATE MEMBER  
FOR NEWTOWN

**Community Action**



**Rainbow Pride**  
Mardi Gras 2021 was a different one that's for sure, but from the march down Oxford Street during the day, to the parade at the SCG in the evening, it was an incredible day of celebrating our LGBTIQ+ community and standing up for their rights and freedoms. That's what Mardi Gras is all about.



**Wendy Bacon: Newtown Local Woman Of The Year!**  
Wendy is a Walkley Award winning investigative journalist and political activist and has been a stalwart of the activist community in Sydney for almost 50 years. Amongst her many other achievements, Wendy co-founded the support group, Women Behind Bars, was a central driver in the campaign to stop WestConnex, and has most recently turned her attention to exposing issues with air quality in inner and western Sydney. What a powerhouse – thank you Wendy.



**March 4 Justice**

We are still drawing strength from the massive women's marches, and doing what we can in the Parliament to make the changes we need now – starting with enthusiastic consent. Enough is enough! Watch Jenny's speech by following the QR code.



*Jenny Leong*

**Jenny Leong, MP for Newtown**

If you have a question or are keen to be involved, send a text to 0421 665 208 with your name, suburb and message and we'll give you a call or you can email newtown@nsw.greens.org.au

Authorised by **Jenny Leong MP**, funded using parliamentary entitlements.

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Detail of the renewed mural on the corner of Eveleigh and Lawson streets. Photo: Andrew Collis

**Renewal of mural on Eveleigh Street**

**SPONSORED**

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**REDFERN:** The "Welcome to The Block" mural on Eveleigh Street has been renewed.

First painted in 1994, the mural project was funded by South Sydney Council, with the oversight of a working party which included representatives of Council, Aboriginal elders and organisations. The working party consulted widely, selected the artists and developed the design brief.

"Welcome to The Block" was designed and painted by artists Danny Eastwood and James Simon. Local residents contributed to the final product.

In February 2021 Danny Eastwood set about renewing the mural, making a few changes to the composition and colour scheme. With the help of son Jamie and his friend John, Danny completed the renewal in late March, following days of torrential rain. The new mural looks great as part of the Pemulwuy development.

The former mural features in images of Redfern residents photographed by Patricia Baillie in 2003-4 and available to view here: [bit.ly/31N5h4r/](http://bit.ly/31N5h4r/).

Authorised by Michael Mundine, CEO, Aboriginal Housing Company Limited



**Waterloo South planning taken from Council**

**URBAN DESIGN**

GEOFF TURNBULL

**MINISTER Stokes and the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE) are now responsible for determining the future shape of the Waterloo South public housing redevelopment. City of Sydney Council (CoS) and the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) were unable to reach agreement by the Minister's deadline.**

An independent advisory group (IAG) will advise DPIE. It includes Geoffrey London, former Government Architect in Victoria and Western Australia; Sue Holliday, former Director General of the NSW Department of Planning; and James Cain, former Executive Director of Major Projects Victoria, and former Lead Lease General Manager for Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia.

The IAG is to explore the differences between CoS and LAHC proposals, establish the project's economic viability and make a recommendation to DPIE. Both LAHC and CoS will make presentations and respond to queries. DPIE will do its usual "gateway" review and Minister Stokes will sign off on the resultant proposal.

A different section of DPIE will act in Council's place to finalise

the documents and organise the public exhibition. Under the minister's 10-week timetable a planning proposal should be decided within DPIE by the end of April with exhibition possible in early June 2021.

Representations were made by CoS, local NGOs and public housing tenants to Minister Stokes for tenant input into the process. You can see some of these letters and the concerns raised on the REDWatch website home page and its Waterloo South tab.

**North Eveleigh Vision Consultation extended**

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) will now accept community feedback on its Strategic Vision for North Eveleigh until April 23. While the Vision document on exhibition only deals with North Eveleigh, DPIE has also issued broader study requirements that cover the station and development above platforms 11 and 12, as well as the need for TfNSW to address wider connectivity concerns. Also released is the report from last year's place design forum.

Searching "Redfern North Eveleigh" will bring up the TfNSW consultation site and the DPIE website with all these documents or head to the North Eveleigh tab on the REDWatch website for the documents and some of its concerns.

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This page is sponsored by AC Law Group in memory of Trevor Davies, the *South Sydney Herald's* founding editor and a friend to all in the community.

AC Law Group - your criminal lawyers contactable 24/7 on 8815 8167 or visit [www.aclawgroup.com.au](http://www.aclawgroup.com.au) (AC Law Group has no editorial influence on the content of this page).



# 'Wake up – for the fire is among us'

## ENVIRONMENT

MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES

IN the crucible of Australia's Black Summer Danielle Celermajer pondered the personal and broader implications of the climate catastrophe. Her book *Summertime: Reflections on a Vanishing Future* offers new language and concepts to help us tackle it. Danielle explains the book's origins, development and call to action.

"In the fires of December 2019, we evacuated all our 'domestic animals' including our rescued pigs, Jimmy and Katy. Tragically, Katy and Jimmy were evacuated to a place that itself become the fire zone. Katy was killed. Jimmy survived, but was deeply traumatised and grieving the death of his sister. I started to write about the grief I was seeing. What drew attention to this story was the poignancy and starkness of his grief and the reality that we humans were not the only ones experiencing and trying to navigate this enormous loss.

"From this initial story, I then realised that I needed to address the larger background problem – that beings, other than humans, occur to us as resource or material for our use, whereas they too are the centres of their own experience. As we in the west are beginning to appreciate, humans are deeply entangled with other beings. Indigenous peoples have long understood this, and their philosophies and lifeways recognise that agency and sentience are not the sole preserve of humans. In this regard, the destruction of environments and the destruction of Indigenous peoples have gone hand in hand. We need to appreciate that environmental



Academic and author Danielle Celermajer launched her new book in February. It offers fresh insights into how people need to live and interact in a world hurtling towards climate catastrophe. Image: Cover courtesy Penguin Random House

justice and Indigenous justice cannot be separated. "Everyone needs to be in action; in their own sphere (workplace, school, community) and then in their role as citizens. Our political representatives need to know that we cannot continue to build infrastructures and economies that are destroying the conditions of life. None of us can solve this individually, but we all have a responsibility to engage in collective action for radical change. Everyone reading this can join an organisation, organise with their family and friends and community and tell our federal government that acting in the interest of the fossil fuel industry is not in the interest of Australian citizens. We need to make clear that our collective survival is not a partisan issue."

See the full Q&A with Danielle Celermajer at [southsydneyherald.com.au/](http://southsydneyherald.com.au/). *Summertime: Reflections on a Vanishing Future* by Danielle Celermajer (Penguin Random House, \$24.99)



Being visible and vocal about inclusion, services required, and the realities of elder abuse was important said panellists in a recent Mardi Gras 2021 webinar. Photo: Supplied

# Webinar helps safeguard Rainbow elders from abuse

## HUMAN AFFAIRS

MARJORIE LEWIS-JONES

THERE'S a free webinar, recorded as part of Mardi Gras 2021, for people concerned about Rainbow community elder abuse.

Moderated by Julie McCrossin AM (66) and sponsored by Elder Abuse Action Australia (EAAA) and LGBTQIA+ Health Australia, prominent community members (including 78ers) shared how they protect themselves and how mainstream service providers were often ignorant of LGBTQIA+ identity-related abuse which perpetuates barriers to suitable care, but they also pointed people to useful resources and LGBTQIA+ -friendly aged care service providers.

Joe Ball (40), Switchboard Victoria CEO, said it had identified abuse in aged care facilities and people's

homes via its Out and About visitation service for older LGBTQIA+ people.

"We've definitely seen people in aged care facilities where all the clothes they've been given are of the gender they were assigned at birth and not the gender they've lived their life in."

Ball was devastated when "an older gay man's child had threatened to cut off contact if he chose to be visited by Out and About."

McCrossin said given some "real difficulties in the appropriateness of services and in safety, quality and kindness" the Rainbow Tick is useful.

Jude Munro (69), Chair of the Victorian Pride Centre, agreed the Tick "is a recognition of the rights and the lives of people in the LGBTQIA+ community and it means staff get trained in that – in what our lives are like including those of trans and gender diverse people."

Paul van Reyk (68), Inclusivity Working Group of the Seniors' Rights Centre, said the 10 questions to ask an aged care provider on the Compass website helps people assess a service's Rainbow friendliness. "Just take it and give it to them to answer," he said.

Panellists acknowledged that because most non-metropolitan settings don't have specialist organisations for the Rainbow community it's crucial to encourage generalist organisations to get the Tick, and for all to be visible and vocal about inclusion, services required, and the realities of elder abuse. It's also important to write your life story to ensure carers would know and acknowledge you'd had a "big life" and see you as a whole person worthy of respect and sensitive treatment.

If you or someone you know needs help to tackle elder abuse see [www.compass.info/](http://www.compass.info/).

# Opera for good that's accessible for all

## MUSIC

MENILA MOINEAUX

DRAWN from the Greek mythology of the Atreidae and based upon Euripides' account, *Iphigénie en Tauride* premiered late in Christoph Willibald Gluck's career, in Paris, 1779. It explores the stories of Iphigenia and Orestes, their lives clouded by the shadows of their parents, and forever altered by the devastation of the past. Yet this opera isn't just the story of one family as it invites us to consider the cyclical nature of violence, and asks how we may

disrupt these cycles in the world around us.

The Cooperative is a young opera company/social justice project, which is currently grateful to call South Sydney Uniting Church home. Founded in 2019 with a mission to create opera to inspire social change, The Cooperative believes passionately in increasing opera's accessibility, through pay-as-you-feel entry and by taking the art form out of a traditional context and into the world around us.

Our inaugural production of Menotti's *The Consul* premiered in late February 2020 – two weeks

before Covid-19 forced widespread arts cancellations – and we've re-emerged with a full season planned for 2021. In February this year, we performed Holst's beautiful chamber opera *Sāvitrī* at Observatory Hill Park, and at present we're performing Gluck's haunting *Orfeo ed Euridice* on the rooftop of the Sydney Harbour YHA. *Iphigénie*, to be staged in late April 2021, marks our fourth venture, and one we're excited to embark upon with a wonderful cast of young artists.

The Cooperative is dedicated to providing performance experience and opportunities for young and emerging artists, especially those



*Sāvitrī*, 2021. Photo: Simon Ross and Antoine Veling

underrepresented elsewhere in opera, and affirm that opera needs to benefit its wider society – as such, all profits are donated to charities thematically connected to the work performed.

Menila Moineaux is a Sydney-based soprano and founder of The Cooperative. More information about both The Cooperative, and *Iphigénie en Tauride*, can be found at [www.thecooperativeopera.org](http://www.thecooperativeopera.org)

## TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

Federal Member for Sydney

### JOBKEEPER

It is expected that between 100,000 to 150,000 Australians will lose their jobs due to Scott Morrison and Josh Frydenberg axing JobKeeper for more than one million workers.

Labor has said all along that JobKeeper and other support should be tailored to the economic conditions.

Small businesses and workers have been warning the Morrison Government for months that cutting JobKeeper will see jobs go, but those pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

Nobody is saying that JobKeeper should go on forever, but it should be tailored and targeted to what's actually happening in industries and communities.

In Sydney, cutting JobKeeper means 9,290 businesses, employing 28,591 people are losing \$13.8 million per week between them.

We still haven't seen a plan from the Government about how they will create good, secure, well paid jobs.

### COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Phase 1B of the vaccination rollout is now underway. People who are eligible for the vaccine under phase 1B are:

- Elderly people aged 70 and over
- Healthcare workers currently employed and not included in Phase 1a
- Household contacts of quarantine and border workers
- Critical and high-risk workers who are currently employed
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 55 years and over
- Adults with an underlying medical condition or significant disability

It is anticipated that all approved COVID-19 vaccination clinics will be listed on Healthdirect's National Health Services Directory (NHSD), with contact details and information about online booking services (if available).

If you believe you are eligible for this phase and require help in locating a suitable clinic, **you should contact the National Coronavirus Helpline on 1800 020 080.**

## TANYA PLIBERSEK MP

Federal Member for Sydney

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# Cancer Council NSW and the University of Sydney partner to enhance research capacity

## SPONSORED

STEPHEN GARTON

**CANCER Council NSW and the University of Sydney have announced a joint venture to create the Daffodil Centre, combining the strengths of the two institutions to build a globally leading research centre on cancer control and policy.**

Officially opened on March 30 by the NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, the Daffodil Centre's priority will be to provide timely and relevant evidence to state, national and international policy makers to inform decisions in cancer control. The Daffodil Centre will help to clarify and quantify the best, evidence-based investments in all aspects of cancer control.

Minister Hazzard said the Daffodil Centre will play a key role in enhancing cancer research.

"This partnership presents an exciting opportunity for ongoing collaborative, multidisciplinary research to reduce the impact of cancer through primary prevention, screening, early detection, cancer treatment, care and survivorship.

"With one in two people in NSW diagnosed with some type of cancer in their lifetime, the Daffodil Centre will play an important role in working towards a cancer free future," Mr Hazzard said.

The increased research capacity resulting from the partnership will mean new findings and discoveries will be more quickly and efficiently translated into tangible policy change, such as better prevention, early detection and care strategies – ultimately saving many more lives across



Launching the Daffodil Centre (L-R): Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Health Professor Robyn Ward; Chancellor Belinda Hutchinson; Cancer Council NSW Chair Mark Phillips; Minister Brad Hazzard; Vice-Chancellor and Principal Professor Stephen Garton; Cancer Council NSW CEO Jeff Mitchell; at the University of Sydney. Photo: Nicola Bailey

NSW, Australia and globally.

Inaugural director of the Daffodil Centre, Professor Karen Canfell says that the research opportunities presented by the centre will help reduce the impact of cancer in Australia.

"The Daffodil Centre partnership represents a milestone in Australian cancer research. By bringing together researchers from both partner organisations we will enhance the research capacity and expertise of both institutions and broaden impact. This means our research will be more efficiently and more widely translated into life-saving cancer control policies and programs.

"Combining the university's biomedical, public health and behavioural research expertise with our well-established capability in epidemiology and our connection to community as the state's largest cancer charity will also enable us to address existing inequities and to pivot rapidly in response to urgent and emergent public health issues."

University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor and Principal

Professor Stephen Garton said the partnership has the potential to dramatically accelerate cancer research and the evidence-base behind prevention, treatment and care: "The Centre brings together the brightest minds, state-of-the-art resources and valuable community connections to strengthen NSW and Australia's position as a leader in cancer research," he said.

Professor Robyn Ward, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the University's Faculty of Medicine and Health concluded: "This is an extraordinary opportunity to bring together the expertise of two organisations who are committed to improving cancer control and possibly one day a cancer-free future."



Authorised by Vice-Chancellor and Principal Prof. Stephen Garton.  
Enquiries: 9351 2000  
info.centre@sydney.edu.au

## Vale Pruny

### LOCALS

ESMEY HERSCOVITCH

**REDFERN: On Friday March 12, many of the Redfern community gathered to farewell Linda Pitt/Kemp known to her family and friends as Pruny. The celebration took place at St Vincent's Church, and was presided over by Father John Ford.**

Born in Moree in 1952, Pruny's life was full of challenges and struggles. Her birth at Moree Hospital in the segregated section was the beginning of those challenges. She was one of four children, having three brothers.

Following the death of her mother, Pruny, then aged two, was adopted by her aunt. They lived on the Aboriginal Mission where she attended the primary school, after which she went to Moree High School until she was 16. She described the



Linda Pitt/Kemp 'Pruny' with the then Governor of New South Wales Marie Bashir at the formal opening of Jarjum College on April 13, 2013. Photo: Supplied

circumstances of her life as comparable to life as depicted in the movie *Lousy Little Sixpence*.

Later on, finding herself homeless in Redfern, she met up with her brother who was living in the Catholic presbytery (now Jarjum College) with Father Ted Kennedy and Mum Shirl.

He invited her to join him, which she did. This proved to be a happy period in her life.

Finding herself unable to care adequately for her children, Pruny had them adopted out to good families rather than have them taken by DOCS.

A high point for her and several other Aboriginal people was the trip to Rome for the canonisation of St Mary MacKillop. It was a memorable and satisfying experience – the flight, the sightseeing in Rome, the ceremony of canonisation, not to mention the unexpected meeting with Kevin Rudd in the street!

Pruny died in St Vincent's Palliative Care unit, with her four children by her side.

Her life was dedicated to helping others and she spent many years caring for others in home care, but also cared for her own people whenever someone was in need. She is widely remembered for her generosity and care of others – so her funeral celebration brought people from near and far to share memories.

Pruny's body was taken the following Monday for burial at Moree.

Vale Pruny.



cartoon: norrie MAy-welby

## Help the Bower aid jobless to rebuild

### EDITORIAL

SSH

**THE federal government's JobKeeper scheme ended on March 28. And by its own estimates, between 100,000 and 150,000 JobKeeper recipients will lose their jobs in coming weeks.**

In Greater Sydney alone, that translates to 22,000 – 33,000 people.

That's a large number of individuals facing "the JobKeeper cliff" – and for many forced into unemployment, falling off a cliff may well be what it feels like.

Nationally, the end of the wage subsidy scheme is set to cause the biggest economic shock since the pandemic itself. Sectors hit hardest by job losses will be those still dealing with pandemic disruptions including tourism, hospitality, and arts and entertainment.

Those who lose their jobs should be able to shift to JobSeeker – but this has been reduced from its peak of \$1,115.70 to \$620.80 a fortnight.

Last year, the Bower Reuse and Repair Centre in Marrickville expanded its humanitarian programs in response to the pressure the pandemic was placing on people's lives, and the extra calls for help it was receiving.

It had already been running House to Home to support victims of domestic violence and asylum seekers. Based on that experience, it launched HomeKeeper to provide free or heavily subsidised household items for people doing it tough through the loss of their job, income or other hardship.

When bushfires devastated the South Coast in the summer of 2019-20, and residents lost their homes and everything they owned, the Bower was

there to help out, delivering emergency supplies, including tents, tarps and sleeping bags. It continues to help families in these areas as they rebuild their homes through the provision of furniture and other items.

Closer to home, the Bower assists locals. One example of this was when it distributed clothing and essentials to help members of the homeless community who'd established a "tent city" and communal kitchen in Martin Place in response to a lack of housing options and government support.

With JobKeeper ending, the Bower needs your donation to ensure its HomeKeeper program can continue to support those experiencing hardship.

Whether people need a fridge, a washing machine, a wardrobe, crockery or a bike for transport they can choose what they need on the strength of your generosity. SSH

To donate go to: [bit.ly/3mj8L89](https://bit.ly/3mj8L89)

## Building trust and empathy with the 'other'

### FAITH

ZALMAN KASTEL

ONE recent evening I got a lift home with a Chinese Australian dentist. As we drove, I thought about the report that one in three people of Chinese heritage in Australia had been subjected to mistreatment such as being called names. My companion told me he had an unpleasant experience himself on a shopping centre escalator. He was walking quickly up the escalator in the early days of Covid but was stopped by a hostile looking man who told him to stop!

I cannot know for certain what motivated the man on the escalator to order my companion to stop. It is likely that the Chinese appearance of the dentist might have alarmed. Fear of the other is often the way prejudice and generalisations are expressed. In fact, as an Australian of Jewish heritage acknowledging fear and bigotry was an important part of my Passover celebration on March 27 when we commemorated the exodus of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. The slavery was the consequence of the Pharaoh designating the Hebrew as a threat to Egypt.

Passover is a time for gratitude and memory about the Jewish experience, but also calls Jews to stand against prejudice against others as we remember that we were mistreated as strangers in Egypt.

One highlight of Jewish memory on Passover is singing my maternal grandfather's song. The song recalls his journey from Vladivostok during World War II. He told us how he and hundreds of other Yeshiva

students danced on a rickety boat singing one of the Seder songs: "and it is this (divine promise) that has stood by our fathers and by us, because it is not just one (enemy) who stood against us to annihilate us, but, in every generation ... and the Holy One Blessed Be He saves us from their hands".

But I know that Jews are not the only group subjected to bigotry. One of the most potent elements to counter racism is when we feel empathy with the "other". Yet, experts tell us that "we have more empathy for those we see as (being) like us" and "empathy leads to helping only in cases when the person in need is a member of the in group". This sounds like a catch-22, empathy is key to countering prejudice, yet empathy is least likely in cross-cultural situations, unless of course one can come to see "them" as one of "us".

Once we identify with the other, our fear should decrease, and trust should increase. Trust is a combination of a choice to put our faith in others and a response to information available to us. I certainly felt little trust in my neighbours not buying up all the pasta and toilet paper in the supermarket in early Covid days because I was shocked and unsettled by the sight of the empty shelves. Ensuring everyone has what they need certainly helps with trust. Yet, there is mistrust that is not based in fact. The dentist has not recently arrived from Wuhan, he lives in Sydney and his family is from Hong Kong. SSH

**Rabbi Zalman Kastel AM is National Director of Together for Humanity, which fosters interfaith and intercultural understanding**  
[www.togetherforhumanity.org.au](https://www.togetherforhumanity.org.au)

## Online threats to teens closer to home

### HUMAN AFFAIRS

AMY CHENG

**SOME of the greatest online dangers to teenagers come from their peers, a recent report has revealed.**

The report from the eSafety Commissioner surveyed 627 teenagers aged 12-17 in September 2020.

It found that, out of those surveyed, 30 per cent said being contacted by a stranger was their top negative experience. However, almost one third, or 30 per cent, said that their negative online experience related to bullying that occurred at school. This included being deliberately excluded from events or social groups (16 per cent), receiving online threats or

abuse (15 per cent) and having things said online that damaged their reputation (15 per cent).

Dr Luci Pangrazio, Alfred Deakin Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Deakin University, conducts research on young people's digital worlds.

"We tend to think about risks and harm as if it's out in the world, but often a lot of the challenges that young people face are things far closer to home," she said.

"It's not just leaving them on their own [online]. I think too often we just assume that they're going to be all right, we'll just make them aware of the stranger danger and that's the end of that, but it's far more complicated."

Paul Haskell-Dowland, Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Computing and Security

in the School of Science at Edith Cowan University, said teenagers don't have the capacity to make judgements about safety because they don't have that life experience.

"They believe what they see, they want to trust other people and, in many cases, they're evolving physically, emotionally, sexually and looking for opportunities to explore their character as they're evolving, and they'll often take risks," he said.

"On the internet, you are milliseconds if not microseconds away from the world.

"And that exposes you to a broad range of dangers where individually you have access to every conceivable form of inappropriate content of different kinds of harm."

Professor Haskell-Dowland



Children and teens are in close contact with the world and its dangers – so assisting them to use these platforms critically and safely is vital. Photo: Supplied

said it is important to not undervalue the benefits of social media to young people.

"It is a very positive thing for them and, when it works well and when it's respectful with appropriate boundaries, it is a significant part of their social bonding, and it is every bit as important as in our childhoods of going to the park with your friends," he said.

"So, to say 'no, don't use it' or 'it's terribly dangerous', in a way, is reckless because it is going to be their future.

"And not being a part of it is likely to be just as debilitating for a school child now as being grounded would've been for us as children." SSH

See [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au) for online safety resources.

# The Review

## Arts & Culture in Your Neighbourhood

### 'Conversations with Margaret Preston'

#### EXHIBITIONS

ANNA NORTH

**ZETLAND:** In its second major show of the year, Sullivan+Strumpf presents the latest offerings from one of Australia's most exciting young Indigenous artists, Tony Albert, in a symbolic collaboration with one of the country's leading early 20th century modernists, Margaret Preston.

Margaret Preston believed that the richness and sophistication of Indigenous Australian iconography should be incorporated into a national visual language that would set Australia apart. She was one of the first non-Indigenous Australian artists to use the unique designs and motifs and natural-pigment colour schemes of local Aboriginal artists in her work.

Albert concedes Preston's intentions were sound however he is aware that her artistic and commercial success opened the door to cultural pillaging, with many Aboriginal designs and motifs appropriated for decades to come.

This is a complicated collaboration. It explores Preston's desire to create a visual national identity, and the fact that her artistic influence created a mass market that naively and stereotypically depict Aboriginal people and their culture. By contrast the intentions around Albert's work have always been personal, attached to his life, and seen through the prism of an Aboriginal experience of living and working in Australia.

Albert explains: "I came across this discarded ephemera in secondhand shops and fell in love with it. It represented my family and the people I loved that



Tony Albert reclaims the designs and motifs from Margaret Preston's Aboriginal woodblock prints, to honour the subjects and voices of the work's original creators. Photo: Rhett Hammerton

surrounded me. The objects and the images of Aboriginal people are beautiful. As the collection grew, so did I. I started to understand its problematic undertones. I have had to reconcile with the nature of the collection as I got to know more about it, but also understand the social, political and environmental aspects. I am ever fascinated by the collection and it is still growing. While a lot of the work I do with the collection is hard-hitting, a little bit of me still looks at the imagery through the loving eyes of my childhood. It is this juxtaposition and tension which fascinates me."

*In Conversations with Margaret Preston* Albert turns the tables on history and reclaims the designs and motifs from Preston's Aboriginal woodblock prints, to honour the subjects and voices of the work's original creators. What a glorious take back it is. See it.

**Tony Albert: Conversations with Margaret Preston** is at Sullivan+Strumpf Sydney, 799 Elizabeth Street, Zetland, until Saturday April 10. View online at [www.sullivanstrumpf.com](http://www.sullivanstrumpf.com)

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### Universe behind closed doors

#### THEATRE

SSH

**WHAT'S happening in our private moments that no one else might be able to see or understand? What are the rituals we perform, or methods of self-soothing that help us make sense of our place in the world? Who are we "out there"? Who are we outside of our own tiny universe?**

This is the first time Milk Crate Theatre and Shopfront Arts Co-op will join forces on a bold new intergenerational work, bringing together a combined 60 years of

impact in the arts. Working with performers spanning the ages of 23 to 63, *Tiny Universe* looks into what is happening for people behind closed doors. How do we cope when no one else is looking?

"We are so excited to be bringing our dynamic theatre organisations together on this project. Our performers are exploring the very painful as well as the very funny experiences of life – and the reasons why sometimes it is easier to just hide away. What we're finding is that the issue of self-discovery is something that affects us at all stages of our lives – maybe when we are older we just get a little more used to

the uncertainty," says Margot Politis, Artistic Director of Milk Crate Theatre, who is co-directing the show with Shopfront Arts' Creative Director Natalie Rose.

*Tiny Universe* will show at PACT Erskineville for two weeks in May.

**Tiny Universe**  
May 20-29

PACT, 107 Railway Pde, Erskineville  
[milkcratetheatre.com/tinyuniverse](http://milkcratetheatre.com/tinyuniverse)  
BOOK:  
[shopfront.org.au/tc-events/17039/](http://shopfront.org.au/tc-events/17039/)



How do we cope when no one else is looking? Photo: Joshua Morris and David Molloy (overlay)

# The Reviews

## Film Review by Lindsay Cohen



**Judas and the Black Messiah**  
**Director:** Shaka King  
**Starring:** Daniel Kaluuya, LaKeith Stanfield, Jesse Plemons  
**Genre:** Black Powerful

Good films educate. They provide insight and cause reflection. *Judas and the Black Messiah* is a good film.

Like most Australians, my knowledge of the Black Panther movement pretty much started and ended with the image of two black-power-saluting American athletes and the supportive Aussie, Peter Norman, on the dais in Mexico City in 1968. But the movement is so much more important than that one historical and striking sports photo.

What *Judas and the Black Messiah* taught me were important history lessons.

The Black Panther movement rose to prominence partly as a sometimes violent and political response to the assassinations of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. Its figurehead was the radical left-wing firebrand Fred Hampton (Daniel Kaluuya). The FBI used blatant and deadly force and infiltrators such as William O'Neal (LaKeith Stanfield) to wage a war against the movement, assassinating Hampton

and undermining the movement but ultimately doing nothing to prevent the march of civil rights.

The reality is a lot more complicated than that, but interestingly the only real disappointment of *Judas and the Black Messiah* is when it tries to capture some of the complexity and touch on the lives of supporting characters. The film is too long as a result and loses focus. So, it's ironic that both Kaluuya and Stanfield received Oscar nominations for Best Actor in a Supporting Role and neither was considered to be the lead.

Kaluuya is the favourite with the bookies at \$1.25. *Judas and the Black Messiah* is a roughie to take out Best Picture at \$19, but irrespective of winning or losing, it's still great value. Rating: Four clenched fists.

» [film@ssh.com.au](mailto:film@ssh.com.au)

## Theatre Review by Catherine Skipper



**The Secret of Chimneys**  
**Writer:** Agatha Christie  
**Director:** Molly Haddon  
**Genesian Theatre**  
**March 6 - April 17, 2021**

An evening at the Genesian with Agatha Christie is always a pleasure,

and the present production, *The Secret of Chimneys*, is particularly enjoyable. The context is England of the 1920s – the age of the “bright young things” – and the play is a heady and hilarious mix of frothy badinage, girl power, romance and political thriller.

The narrative not so gently satirises the British establishment. Following the discovery of oil in the Republic of Herzoslovakia, its Prince and British representatives rendezvous under the guise of a house party at Caterham. Neither the easily panic-stricken George Lomax (Victor Moore) of the Foreign Office, nor the pale financier Banks (Thomas Southwell), are figures to induce confidence in government policy.

The women gathered in the house are much more inspirational and resentful of the assumed authority of Lomax. They include the elderly and worldly-wise Lady Caterham (Sandra Bass), her vivacious niece, Lady Eileen Brent (Dominique Nesbitt), and Lomax's secretary, Billie Eversleigh (Abbie Love). Billie's sophisticated friend, Virginia Revel (Rachele Edson), is surprised by a tall, dark stranger (Hamish Macdonald) who tries to blackmail her about the contents of a letter.

Also noteworthy are the amazing Superintendent Battle (David Stewart-Hunter), the franglish English of Monsieur Lemoine (Jack Elliot Marshall) of the Sûreté, and the weirdly impressive antics of Boris Andrassy (also Hamish McDonald).

After the mysterious Anthony Cade (Patrick Tangye) arrives at Caterham a corpse is discovered and he is nervous under police scrutiny. The confession of his *third* name brings the tangled tale to its fairytale conclusion.

*The Secret of Chimneys* is lovely fun. There's a body, a stolen letter, a secret code, a hidden necklace and a missing person, along with a gallery of beautifully performed characters under the strong direction of Molly Haddon.

» [theatre@ssh.com.au](mailto:theatre@ssh.com.au)

## Book Review by Catherine DeMayo



**The Freedom Circus – one family's death-defying act to escape the Nazis and start a new life in Australia**  
**Sue Smethurst**  
**Penguin, \$43.99**

With fewer and fewer living witnesses to the horrors of the Nazi genocide, every firsthand account takes on more importance in the struggle for remembrance. The story of Mindla and her husband Kubush, as told by Sue Smethurst, the wife of their grandson and a senior writer with *The Australian Women's Weekly*, is a stark reminder of Nazi atrocities; it is also a tale of courage, resourcefulness, audacity and the

life-saving kindness of others.

We first meet Mindla in 1930s Warsaw, working her fingers to the bone in a tannery to help support her parents and many siblings. A chance encounter with Kubush – a clown with the famous Circus Staniewski – ultimately turns to love, and the couple marry and have a child, Gad.

The Nazi invasion of Poland, of course, spells immediate danger for Mindla, Kubush and the entire Jewish population of Poland (which numbered some 3 million in 1933). The Circus Staniewski was, for a time, a safe refuge for Kubush as the occupying Nazis loved it, and allowed it to flourish.

The family's hazardous journey to eventual safety in Australia takes them to Moscow, Uganda and then a refugee camp in Rome. In the 1950s they arrive in Melbourne. Most of their extended families perish at the hands of the Nazis.

Mindla and Kubush work long hours in factories, until, in 1959, Kubush gets a job as Sloppo the Clown in the Tarax Show, a children's program on Channel 9.

*The Freedom Circus* shows us humanity at its worst, and its best. While Kubush and Mindla are eminently resourceful, their survival is also thanks to the kindness – and, often, courage – of others.

» [books@ssh.com.au](mailto:books@ssh.com.au)



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# Stop at South Eveleigh for school holiday fun



It's time to unleash your junior Einstein with science workshops at South Eveleigh this Easter school holidays. Photo: Supplied

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**SOUTH Eveleigh is up and running with Locomotive Street in motion, ready to provide visitors and locals**

**with the latest food, health, wellness and beauty offerings.**

This Easter there are a host of fun School Holiday Workshops for kids while parents and carers can explore what else is on offer. Try some yoga at Egg of the Universe,

a session at Xtend Barre or workout at Bodyfit gym. For something more indulgent, head to the Depot Nail Bar or get a trim at The Color Lounge.

If it's medical care or beauty products, Priceline and Myhealth South Eveleigh have also been welcomed to the neighbourhood.

On the kids' workshop lunch break, visit one of the several cafes or enjoy new casual eateries in Locomotive Street where you can choose anything from a sandwich or fish and chips, to Middle Eastern, Vietnamese pho, sushi and healthy poke bowls.

### Workshops

Grades K to 6, \$55, drop-off Tree Ants Child Care Centre, 5 Central Ave, South Eveleigh, 8.45am for 9am. Please bring a snack, lunch, drink and hat for your child. If attending a morning and afternoon session, lunch is fully supervised by Fizzics Education.

### Monday, April 12

#### Robot Making & Coding

Both littlies and older kids can learn how to program awesome robots using easy to use step-by-step coding. For a full day, book the *Holiday Coding* session.

### Tuesday, April 13

#### Chemical Concoctions

Explore colour and physical changes, chemical reactions and even the science behind acid rain. For a full day, book the *Marvellous Materials* session.

### Wednesday, April 14

#### Moving Parts

Race your friends to the finish line by making a mini-spool racer you get to take home! Use gears, pulleys and more with our Lego Technics building challenges. For a full day, book the *Maker Mayhem* session.

**This article is an advertorial sponsored by South Eveleigh.**

**To book or for more details, go to [southeveleigh.mirvac.com](http://southeveleigh.mirvac.com)**

# Perry ready for battle across the ditch

**SPORT**

STEVE TURNER

BACK in national colours for the first time in a year, Ellyse Perry says the Australian men's tour of New Zealand has provided valuable reconnaissance as they prepare to battle the Kiwis. The Southern Stars are currently on a six-match tour of New Zealand, with three T20s before three one-day internationals.

"I'm especially excited. I think we all are in a lot of respects," she said. "I haven't played in 12 months but the girls have only played once in that 12 months as well ... international matches at the moment are few and far between."

As we go to print, Australia has registered a thumping six-wicket victory over New Zealand in the first women's one-day international in Mount Maunganui.

**No overseas spectators at Olympics**

Organisers of the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics recently announced overseas spectators would be barred due to Covid-19 concerns. The news means families of athletes across the globe will not be able to attend.

For 20-year-old Australian swimmer Ariane Titmus, it means



Ellyse Perry. Photo: Supplied

mum, dad and younger sister, Mia, will have to cheer from Australia during her first Olympic Games. Titmus is regarded as one of Australia's best medal chances in the pool, after winning gold in the 400m Freestyle at the 2019 World Championships, in which she beat US legend Katie Ledecky.

Steve Titmus has been waiting 10 years to watch from the grandstands as his daughter swims for Olympic gold. Now, he will have to wait another three. "It's obviously massively disappointing," Steve said. "We've been looking forward to the Olympics for a decade. What we've been dealt is what we've been dealt and we've just got to live with it."

**Rabbitohs in good form**

Rugby league reporter John Lanzky says: "Souths are moving up the ladder. In recent weeks I have seen the left-side combinations improving. Damien Cook, Latrell Mitchell, Cody Walker and Adam Reynolds, with Dane Gagai hanging back, waiting for the opportunities. Then, the forwards. They keep pushing up with real gusto - too many names to mention them all. But Tom Burgess is in his best form since joining the Bunnies. Coming up we face the Broncos, Tigers, Titans and Raiders. With a reasonable draw in April, Souths are well placed to stay in the top four."

SSH

## Volunteers' News

PAT CLARKE

**Farewell and thank you!**

Allison Forrest is leaving us as distribution coordinator after 12 months to complete her training as a deacon of the Uniting Church. Taking up a placement with the *South Sydney Herald* during lockdown and physical distancing meant Allison had to spend the first months working from home, but then she soon got into the swing of things. She initiated coffee meetings with volunteers, coordinated online volunteers' meetings, and visited distributors in their homes. Her warm personality made Allison an asset to the local area, and she will be missed, though I'm sure she will keep up the friendships she has made. Our very best wishes go to Allison for her future.

**And now ... a few words from Allison herself**

"The April issue of the SSH is the last one that I will be working on as distribution coordinator because my student placement is coming to an end. I have so enjoyed supporting and getting to know our wonderful, energetic distributors. And I have also been so encouraged by the commitment and resilience of everyone involved with the SSH during the most challenging year of the paper's life - but surely also a year which has proven the importance of local and independent media. My time as a student minister

here is ending, but be assured I will continue to be a friend to the SSH and the community served by this wonderful paper."

**Seniors Festival April 13-24**

The theme this year is "in our nature", and there are many activities you can find on the website: [www.seniorsfestival.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.seniorsfestival.nsw.gov.au/). You can also win tickets to the Premier's Gala Concerts, headlined by Human Nature on April 21 and 22 at ICC Darling Harbour.

**Sydney Writers' Festival April 26 to May 2**

Within Reach - A Festival for Readers, Writers and Thinkers. There are some 112 events this year, some are free but most require bookings, with Carriageworks being the main venue. Tickets on sale at [www.swf.org.au](http://www.swf.org.au)

**Free public tours of NSW Parliament - Fridays until December 17**

These are one-hour tours, commencing at 1.30pm. You can contact the tours officer on 9230 3444 or the NSW Parliament website.

It's a relief, finally, to be almost back to normal, though as we've seen recently, we should still take care and be vigilant in public spaces, and wear masks if you feel confident by doing so.

Until next time,  
Pat Clarke

SSH

[volunteers@ssh.com.au](mailto:volunteers@ssh.com.au)

**Free drop-in space for young people**

The Fact Tree in Waterloo is a free and safe space for young people aged 11-18 years old. We run activities, go on excursions, plus the centre has a pool table, Playstation, internet access and more.

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<b>Saturday</b>	4.00pm - 10.30pm

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