



Residents connect with local business ...

Residents 3000's moto is to 'Connect, Inform and Support' members and guests with their community. The last regular monthly event was turned into a marketplace where residents were able to connect with some City of Melbourne (CoM) agencies and Melbourne's wonderful small businesses that contribute a special something to life in the city.

The event, held at the Kelvin Club in Melbourne Place, offered participants the opportunity to (for example) taste local honey made in the city, discuss the restoration of their old but much loved jewelry pieces, investigate the magic world of hobby construction kits, see the nearly finished colour version of the Melbourne Map, taste locally grown tea or find out about projects run by CoM agencies.

Exhibitors included from the CoM were:

- Participate Melbourne;
- Library Services;
- Green Money;
- Busking and Street Trading; and

from the city's small business sector were:

- Balthazar Jewellery;
- Clementine's;
- Gray Reid Gallery;
- Hearn's Hobbies;
- Laneway Learning;
- Marea Bright Milliner;
- Melbournalia;
- Melbourne Athenaeum Library;
- Melbourne Men's Shed; and
- The Melbourne Map.

Melbourne is famous for its laneways and quirky little corners where you can find local brands. Melburnians love to shop for the quality and uniqueness found in these small local stores. Prices can still be competitive, but it is the extra value in a product being made locally or one where the design cannot be found elsewhere, that attracts.

The marketplace event was inspired by Australia's Neighbour Day which is held annually on the last Sunday in March - the weekend preceding the Residents 3000 event. Neighbour Day is Australia's annual celebration of community, encouraging people to connect with those who live in their neighbourhood. For CBD Residents it is about building connections between a diverse community of residents, small businesses and CoM agencies, projects and departments.

The concept of Neighbour Day was conceived by a Melbourne resident Andrew Heslop (see <https://neighbourday.org>) with the first event being observed on Sunday 30th March 2003. Since that time, Neighbour Day has progressed from a reminder to connect with elderly neighbours to an annual celebration of strong communities and friendly streets – including in our case, vertical streets.



People of all ages participate because everyone, everywhere is a neighbour no matter where you live or your personal circumstances. Not only do residents and office colleagues hold barbecues and street parties on front lawns and in the car parks of business areas to celebrate, councils and other local government bodies also hold major festivals and community events.

Neighbour Day has now been endorsed by the Prime Minister, State Premiers, Lord Mayors and local government Ministers. In 2008 founder Andrew Heslop spoke at the United Nations in New York about the development of Australia's annual celebration of community, Neighbour Day.

"We all want to lead a good life, at the heart of a thriving community, among people we trust and within an environment of mutual respect. Neighbour Day gives us an opportunity to reach out to connect and to become more engaged with our local community. Neighbours don't have to be best friends – but the role of neighbour is a distinct and precious one." Neighbour Day Ambassador – Hugh Mackay AO.

Next month at Residents 3000

It's the popular Trivia Night again. Come along with your thinking cap and your best, most knowledgeable mates to join your team. Prizes are awaiting the best team, followed by the usual refreshments after such hard work answering all the questions.

Keep up to date with happenings in Melbourne through the Residents 3000 web site:
<https://www.residents3000.com.au>.

(Note: Photo next page.)

