



Balance NINJA

Ninja and gymnastics giving the gift of confidence to Yeronga

Flying through the air, walking on walls and hanging upside down - the stuff of dreams for a lot of young children and just some of the skills they can learn at the Balance Brisbane ninja classes.

"To see a child who was nervous and who wasn't confident to take up their own physical space have a few sessions and learn how to do forward rolls, or swing on the bars with one hand- those are the little victories we love."

Started in 2017 by Yeronga couple Neal McLennan and Natalie Rutsche, Balance Brisbane is a gymnastics club for the entire community.

Balance Brisbane runs classes throughout the day, after school, on weekends and also have special holiday programs.

Located on Hyde Road, Balance Brisbane offers; regular gymnastics and tumbling classes and coaching for all ages; classes for seniors, and; ninja classes for pre-school and school aged children, where they learn all the fun components of gymnastics without the pressure to compete.



"When we were looking around for a space, we knew this was needed, that we needed a gymnastics club in our local area that catered to everyone," says Neal.

"It has always been our firm belief that it needed to be for the whole community; for boys, girls, men and women."

"If you want the entire community involved then you have to engage not just kids, but also teenagers and cater to seniors as well," he says.

Neal and Natalie started the club's ninja classes in 2018 and they now account for almost half of all the members at Balance Brisbane, with members travelling from around Brisbane to be involved.

Giving children and adults the gift of physical confidence was one of the main drivers for the Yeronga couple.

"If a child can gain physical confidence, if they can learn how to manage risk then they are more likely to be confident at school and in the playground," he says.



Balance Brisbane
133 Hyde Road, Yeronga
www.balancebrisbane.com.au

History of Yeronga

Part 6

Dr. Michael Macklin

As has already been discussed, much of the Yeronga area was subjected to regular flooding during the early colonial period and this impacted negatively on farm production. A good example of such a crop was cotton.

Growing cotton as a commercial enterprise may well have occurred from the earliest days of the penal colony with Captain Logan sending some cotton to the then Colonial Governor in Sydney in 1827 who gave it "fulsome praise". The first commercial harvest from the Yeronga area was undertaken in 1854. Seventy bails and eighteen bags of seed cotton were shipped from Yeronga in what was then New South Wales all the way to Liverpool in the United Kingdom.

When Queensland became a separate state in 1859, the State Parliament at its first sitting proceeded to deal with the land issues with the passage of the Alienation of the Crown Lands Bill – the entire bill of course ignoring the rights of the original owners to the land by using the highly convenient but erroneous notion of terra nullius.

In speaking to the second reading of the bill, the Colonial Secretary referred to four principles underpinning the legislation with the third being the granting of a bonus for the encouragement of the cultivation of cotton. Cotton therefore was on the agenda from day one of the formation of the state of Queensland.

At this time, the population of the new state was about 30,000 according to the Register-General – again ignoring the thousands of indigenous people. It was also expected to be a commercial powerhouse of Australia as contemporary accounts records:

The Colony, of which Sydney is the capital, is large and prosperous. It was as large as England, France and Germany; but in 1859, it had as much as ten times the area of Great Britain separated from it for the new colony of Queensland, which, if supplied with adequate and cheap labour, may become what it has been proclaimed, a future cotton- field for England.

World events now intervened with the American Civil War breaking out on the 12th April in 1861 and raging till the 9th April 1865. This had an immediate impact on this far part of the world. The southern Confederate government decided to attempt to force international diplomatic recognition of their Confederacy by starving Europe of cotton through a self-imposed embargo on cotton exports. Cotton was stored in warehouses and used to prop up Confederate war bonds sold in Europe.

Hundreds of textile factories shut down across Europe and thousands of people were thrown out of work particularly in major manufacturing cities such as Manchester. The British reacted negatively to this attempt at economic blackmail and ramped up cotton growing in their overseas colonies such as Egypt and India. The various colonial governments in Australia were encouraged by letters from the British government to do likewise. The immediate response of the two-year-old Queensland government was a mixture of sympathy and opportunism.

In 1861, the Queensland Government published new regulations that allowed investors to take up blocks of 320 to 1,280 acres on a small deposit of two shillings per acre. If they spent £5,000 on clearing and cultivation, the deposit was returned and the land was granted free. With these incentives in place, the industry commenced in early 1862 with Yeronga in the lead.

Extraordinarily, there even seems to have been a contract for Yeronga cotton with the northern Union Army who desperately needed cotton for their 'blue serge uniforms'. However, when the Civil War ended in the northern summer of 1865, it proved difficult for the Yeronga cotton industry to find new markets and so Yeronga's involvement in this industry went into a slow but steady decline.



1. Cf History of Yeronga Part 4.
2. T ed Henzell, Australian Agriculture: Its History and Challenges, CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, 2007, p.210
3. Record of the Proceedings of the Queensland Parliament. Legislative Assembly 28th August 1860 extracted from the third party account as published in the Moreton Bay Courier of 30th August 1860, p.2.
4. The Registrar-General's Second Annual Report utilising the 1861 Census data as published in the Brisbane Courier, Saturday 17 May 1862, p. 3.
5. Frederick J Jobson, Australia; with notes by the way on Egypt, Ceylon, Bombay and the Holy Land. Hamilton, Adams, and Co., London, 1862
6. Scriven, E.G., "Yeronga: Early History", Brisbane Courier, 23 June 1923, p.20.

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Village NEWS

May 2021

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Yeronga Football Club

a community within a community

Make & Meld

Creativity, sustainability and practical skills for children



Jane's Update

Community is everything and so is Family

History of Yeronga Part 6

LJ Hooker

Annerley/Yeronga/Salisbury

Compliments of Jane Elvin

Jane's Update

Community is everything and so is Family

A year ago, my daughter Joey Elvin joined our office on a more permanent basis. She had been assisting us with reception and other tasks, but in a year that her university lectures were interrupted and diverted to Zoom this opened up more opportunity for her to work which has been a great addition to the office and also has been lovely for me to spend more time with my daughter.



Joey is 19, currently in her final year at QUT studying a Bachelor of Business majoring in management and has now taken on the property management business in our office while also assisting with sales. Basically, Joey has become an allrounder which I believe is the best way to enter the industry especially at a younger age.



To be honest, I didn't know how we would go working together, but she has shown maturity beyond her years and really embraced her role, always looking for new ways to grow the business. Of an evening it is quite common for us both to be sitting in our loungeroom, laptop open and working away while chatting away! Many an evening I also have to say, "do we have to talk about work tonight?" as she wants to chat about the day and ideas she has.

Many of you know me from the sales side, but our office also has a strong focus on property management with 500 rentals on our books in a range of suburbs but obviously with a focus locally.

With the strength of the market, we have found investors re-entering the market stronger than ever. Money is cheap, property prices are growing and investments are renting at a premium with as close to zero vacancy as you can find.

If you would like to talk about your investment property, or looking at purchasing an investment property please give Joey a call on **0457 000 897** to chat about what we can offer you.



From the experts: a broker's guide to the market to secure a property

With a high demand for stock and a low cash rate, a lot of first-time investors are entering the market in fear of being priced out, says Brisbane broker Mark Oliver.

They are joining interstate investors who are making the most of Brisbane' buoyant market and low cash rate.

Based in Woolloongabba and with a client base in Yeronga and other south-west Brisbane suburbs, Mark says a lot of first-time investors are buying in the middle ring (or up to 10kms out of the city) so they aren't permanently priced out of the market.

"We are seeing a lot of first-time investors who are renting close to the city but can't afford to purchase where they are renting so they're purchasing further out to avoid being priced out," he says.

"A lot of people sat on the sidelines last year and now they're starting to move."

Mark says would-be investors should be fully prepared before taking the plunge and making an offer.

"People need to get all their ducks in a row and ensure their finances are in order and that they have pre-approval," he says.

"If you can't do a 14-day finance clause then you are going to miss out because people who can't move quickly cannot be competitive."

Mark recommended buyers take a long-term view when entering the market.

"We know rates have never been so low so buyers should ensure they're not over-extending and can still afford their repayments if rates do go back up," he says.



Mark Oliver
The Brisbane Broker
www.thebrisbanebroker.com.au

Live, Love, Local

MAKE & MELD

Creativity, sustainability and practical skills for children at Make and Meld

One of a kind furniture, toys and trinkets are just some of the items that will come home with you from Hyde Road business Make and Meld.

No, it isn't a designer gift shop, but a business that offers children's "maker" classes that include woodwork, craft and art sessions.

Owners Emily Higgins and Helen Bankes opened the business two years ago to encourage sustainability, confidence and a sense of accomplishment in Yeronga's smallest residents.

"We provide children with the opportunity to use their hands to make things. We focus on encouraging their fine motor skills while they learn about how things work and go together," says Emily.

Using real old fashioned hand tools that they have been taught to handle safely, children learn how to plan, design and then build their own creations.

"This gives them confidence, because they can see the tangible results of their efforts and it helps them build resilience, grit and a sense of accomplishment," she says.

Emily has a background in industrial design, Helen has a background in environmental management and Make and Meld was borne when the two combined these areas as a way to link creativity with sustainability.



Make and Meld
133 Hyde Road, Yeronga
www.makeandmeld.com.au

"Make and Meld really focusses on developing a sustainable mindset in children because they make things they can actually keep and use, rather than plastic toys or other things that parents eventually have to throw away," says Helen.

Children from 3 to 13 years old are catered for at Make and Meld through weekly classes, as well as vacation care programs, incursions at local schools and kindergartens and children's birthday parties.

Ladies lunch and an Open Day for Yeronga Hyde Road Kindergarten

Support a great local organisation and enjoy an afternoon of delicious food, company and entertainment at the annual Yeronga Hyde Road Kindergarten Fundraising afternoon.

The annual lunch, held on Saturday, May 29 from 1-4pm is a Yeronga tradition and helps raise funds for the programs and facilities at Yeronga Hyde Road Kindergarten.

The Ladies Lunch will be held at Café Scenario on Hyde Road. Tickets are \$60 and include a welcome drink, gourmet grazing and entertainment. There will be a silent auction and a lucky door prize.

Purchase tickets here: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/151599661669

Yeronga Hyde Road Kindergarten will also be holding an Open Day on Saturday, June 5 from 9am. There will be a bake sale and a coffee van on site. Ph: (07) 3848 3256

Ladies Lunch

29th May | Saturday | 1-4pm
Café Scenario
\$60 per ticket

YERONGA FOOTBALL CLUB

Providing a devilish good time to local families

Cheers, cheers for the old red and black- at 111 years old the Yeronga South Brisbane Football Club (or the Devils as it is also known) has sparked a love of AFL for countless local kids and has been through a lot of change, including name and location changes.

These days, located in Cansdale Street Yeronga, the club has 350 junior players across 25 teams, two senior women's teams and two senior men's teams.

One of the women's senior teams is the reigning champions in the QAFLW league having won the 2020 Grand Final and eight of the club's women's players are listed players in either the Brisbane Lions or Gold Coast Suns AFLW teams.

The club is also working with Deaf Services to run an Auslan Auskick Program after the women's team attracted national attention for signing the team song after a win, in support of player Jamie Howell who is profoundly deaf.

Senior club president and junior club treasurer Tim Wolf said the Yeronga Football Club was unique to other clubs because of its focus on inclusion and being family friendly.

A fact that drew his family, which includes children who are 11, 8 and 7 to join the club five years ago and for Tim to sign up as a coach.

"We are not a win at all costs club, we are a club that focusses on developing skills and fitness within a social atmosphere that is family friendly and welcoming," he said.

"As a Brisbane person, I played rugby all my life, but when my children started Auskick, that got us in because not only is it fun it is a safe environment for the family to run around together, get some exercise and develop skills."

The club works closely with local primary schools to attract children to the Auskick program and it has also formed a strong relationship with the newly opened Brisbane South State Secondary College, which has an AFL Pathway.

"A close club connection with the new school means a lot to us and it is very exciting to have the new school in our area," Tim says.

"We have six players from the club who attend the new school and the club is working with the AFL Queensland and the Brisbane South State Secondary School on other connections, including the use of the field for school sport activities."



Yeronga South Brisbane Football Club
Cansdale Street, Yeronga
www.yerongafc.com.au

