

Did you miss kerbside collection? Have a few broken appliances you don't know how to dispose of?

There's a solution right on our doorstep at Yeronga – and not only will you be clearing some cupboard space at home, but also helping people with a disability learn new skills.

eWaste Connection is a social enterprise established to provide skills, training, support and friendship through electrical waste recycling.

It was started by Monique Lowndes, whose personal story saw her leave her tax accounting profession after 25 years and pursue something very different. Monique's son Joshua, now 22, had epilepsy which resulted in an acquired brain injury and intellectual impairment at a young age.

She noticed he had an interest in taking things apart, which led to her starting a centre where electrical materials could be pulled apart and recycled. The Kenmore eWaste Connection site opened in 2016, the Yeronga facility followed in 2020 and a workshop at North Booval has just opened.

"I was looking for something more meaningful and engaging than cooking and bowling," Monique says.

Monique says eWaste will take anything with a "cord, cable or battery" – this means computers, laptops, monitors, televisions, printers, coffee machines, fans – basically any obsolete or unwanted electrical equipment.

Workshops are held where volunteers can come in and take apart electronic items and sort materials for recycling.

The program builds fine and gross motor skills and encourages problem solving among its participants.

Students from Autism Queensland, the Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School, at Tennyson, and Western Suburbs Special School, at Durack, also come in on a weekly basis and help disassemble appliances, gaining valuable real world exposure to work and social skills training.

Yeronga eWaste Connection manager Ben Fehres says participants help the community by recycling, while building social and verbal skills.

"We offer the opportunity for people of any ability to come in and feel welcome in a calm, non-judgmental environment," Ben says.

"For a lot of people, it's their job. They put on their uniform and come to work. It puts a smile on their faces. For some of the school kids, it's a transition from school to the workforce."

eWaste Connection receives no government funding, so workshops are mainly staffed by volunteers – and new helpers are always welcome.

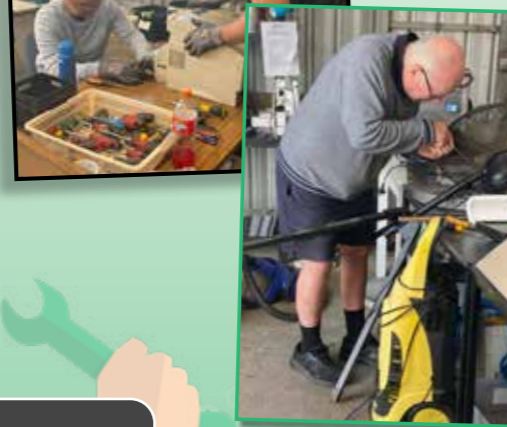
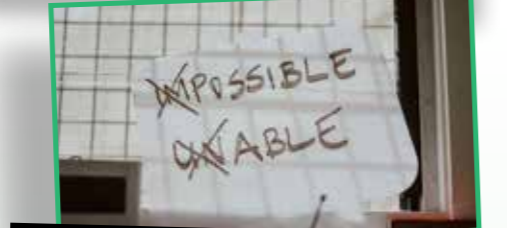
The centres raise money to help cover rent costs through scrap yard runs and small shops, where people can buy goods for a small donation.

A visit to the Hyde Rd premises reveals a real treasure trove for collectors and hobbyists – who are welcome to come and look around.

On the day I visit, I met a local artist who makes art installations using old television screens. He has a collection of more than 100 television sets, and visits eWaste Connection weekly.

"We are working hard to grow our locations and capacity to support many more people to lead a meaningful and purposeful life," Ben says.

Cages are located outside the Yeronga workshop to allow for easy, 24-hour drop of old appliances.



The History of Yeronga Part 18

Dr Michael Macklin

Origin of the Yeronga Train Station

With the new 2023 Yeronga train station up and running, it is timely to reflect on the history of the original station 139 years ago.

Charles Buzacott became Postmaster-General in January 1879 and was responsible for linking Brisbane to London by telegraph, plus the introduction of the telephone. He accepted a lifetime appointment to the Queensland Legislative Council in 1894 but resigned in May 1901. In 1880, he purchased the controlling shares in the Brisbane Newspaper Company, owners of the Brisbane Courier and The Queenslander and was managing editor until 1894.ⁱ

Buzacott's papers immediately began using the name 'Yeronga' to distinguish the area from Boggo. Untangling where Buzacott himself obtained the name suggests that it originally existed in some form as an Indigenous name for the area.ⁱⁱ Buzacott used it himself for his own home.ⁱⁱⁱ The house was on a large block which went down to the river, on the corner of Feez and Kadumba streets, and called "Yerong-lee" - with no "a" at the end.

It is not hard to see why the railway department picked up on the 'Yeronga' name and used it for the railway station when it opened in 1884. Interestingly enough for such an important project, the line did not have a formal opening but simply commenced in revenue service on June 2, 1884, with three trains arriving daily at Yeronga Station at 5.56am, 11.51am and 6.01pm. The new Yeronga station is on the site of the original but other stations towards the city had to be moved as a result of the disastrous floods of 1890 and 1893, with a new line built on higher ground in 1896.

Although there had been much written about the benefits of rail, its arrival to the area was not without problems. There was even an attempt to derail a train at Yeronga on March 1, 1887, by putting nine large stones on the rails.^{iv} It seems that this may have been more than hooliganism, for the following year a large local meeting was held and chaired by Mr Grimes to express concern about the new railway not serving the needs of the area - both by timetable failures and high price of tickets. Time and again in the meeting, the view was expressed that the various problems did not 'encourage settlement' of Yeronga.^v The cost of a train fare at that time from South Brisbane to Yeronga was five pence in first class and three pence in 2nd class.^{vi}

i. C Lack, Buzacott, Charles Hardie (1835–1918), Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/buzacott-charles-hardie-3133/text4669>. This was published first in hardcopy in 1969, accessed online 24 September 2015.

ii. Rev. W Ridley, Kamilaroi and Other Australian Languages, 1875, pp. 84, 133; see also the paper Untangling 'Stories of Stephens' Place Names' by Neville Buch, Ray Kerkhove and Michael Macklin for an extended discussion of this issue.

iii. Sunday Mail, 18 March 1984, p. 18; Ros Gillespie, Boggo, Yeronga and Beyond: leaving footprints, making pathways: Yeronga State School - the story of 125 years: a school, a community and a locality, Yeronga, Qld. Yeronga State School Parents and Citizens' Association, 1996, pp. 5-6.

iv. 'Queensland News', Morning Bulletin, Wednesday, 2 March 1887, p. 5.

v. 'Meeting at Yeronga', BC, Saturday, 22 September 1888, p. 4.

vi. Pugh's Almanac and Queensland Directory for 1894, Gordon & Gotch, Brisbane, p. 226.

Jane Elvin - LJ Hooker Annerley/Yeronga/Salisbury

M: 0408 344 417

E: j.elvin@ljhookerproperty.com.au

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Village NEWS

Edition 2 2023

Golly Gosh!
Sweet tooth or savoury inclined –
a Yeronga café has all the bases covered



eWaste Connection
helping people with a disability learn new skills.

Showcase Framing
Salisbury business is leading the way in
customised frame design

Roomi
alternative options for affordable accommodation

History of Yeronga
Part 18

Jane's Update
Another interesting month in the real estate market.

Compliments of Jane Elvin
All About People & A Bit About Property

Jane's Update



Welcome to the latest edition of the Village News.

It's been another interesting month in the real estate market. The listings are tighter than ever, and demand is the strongest I have seen since the interest rate rises started to kick in and the market adjusted. Both buyer and seller are playing the same game, the buyer is sitting back wondering

what is going to happen, they are still inspecting properties but worried they might pay too much & hoping prices drop. Sellers are behaving the same way, they are standing back, considering their options, getting financial advice from their accountant and in the words of Johnny Cash deciding "to hold 'em or to fold 'em". Unfortunately, more property owners than ever are deciding to hold.


For property owners if they hold, they have the benefit of increased rents. Also, with all the talk around the Olympic Games and the impact they will have on the Brisbane property prices, they could benefit from the growth that their property may experience. This is particularly the case in that inner south ring of Brisbane. The indecisiveness sits on both

sides and unfortunately for the buyers the seller no matter what they decide will probably make the right decision, in that if they hold the property, they have increased rental return and future growth, if they sell the property supply is low and demand is high, so sale prices are strong.

It's rare for the buyer and seller to be on the same page, but it's also rare for the option to sell or rent to be on the same page, as in no matter what you decide you will make the right decision.

If I put my property hat on and you have been deciding whether to sell now or wait and see what happens, now could be that window that might actually provide you with an above market result. The best time to buy is when the competition is down, but also that can be the best time to sell. If you hit the market now you might find you actually are not in competition with any local properties and have the full attention of some motivated buyers.

With the start to the new financial year upon us, take that opportunity to do a health check on your property, whether that be to understand value to sell or to rent to help you make informed decisions down that track. We would love you to reach out and chat whether you are ready to make a move or not.

 Jane Elvin - LJ Hooker Annerley/Yeronga/Salisbury
M: 0408 344 417
E: j.elvin@ljhookerproperty.com.au

WHAT ASPECTS OF THE JOB DO YOU ENJOY MOST?

I'm enjoying learning so many new skills which I never imagined I would be doing at this stage in my life. Meeting new people and getting out and about. I'm excited to see how much experience I can gain and grow in my new role.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?


The biggest challenge for me has been learning the programming and computers in general. My ex-hospitality life didn't entail using much more than an iPhone and an inbox! It hasn't even been two months yet, but having the steady, patient and knowledgeable guidance of our head property manager Jess has made it a lot easier to adjust.

ARE THERE ANY SIMILARITIES BETWEEN RUNNING A COFFEE SHOP AND WORKING IN REAL ESTATE?

The main similarities between real estate and hospitality are the need to be able to multitask to the max and being a "people person". These transferable skills have made it a lot easier to adjust.

FINALLY, WE JUST HAVE TO KNOW, WHAT'S YOUR COFFEE ORDER?

A small, strong soy flat white.

 Leticia Cowburn - Assistant Property Manager
P: (07) 3848 7369 E: pm1@ljhookerproperty.com.au

MEET OUR NEW RECRUIT Leticia Cowburn

YOU'RE A FAMILIAR FACE IN THE AREA LETICIA, HAVING OWNED DUDLEY ST ESPRESSO FOR MANY YEARS, FOLLOWED BY MISS MILLY'S. HOW DID YOU END UP ACROSS THE ROAD, IN A REAL ESTATE OFFICE?

It started by simply chatting with Joey and Nick most mornings at the café while they were waiting for their coffee orders. I mentioned to Joey last year that I was keen for a career change and she said come and have a chat with Jane. I love that they were willing to take a chance on me.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

I'm currently on reception and also an assistant property manager. It's a great way to learn it all.

ARE YOU ENJOYING THE CHANGE OF CAREER?

The career change has been a big one – though I am enjoying it a great deal. It was a massive decision to leap into something I had no experience in, but having such a supportive team, teaching me how, has made the transition a lot easier

Live, Love, Local

GOLLY GOSH!

Sweet tooth or savoury inclined – a Yeronga café has all the bases covered

There's a line on the Golly Gosh menu that really sums this café up:

"Whether you are looking to take a load off or stack a load on, we got you!"

In a competitive dining market, where the emphasis seems to be on green and lean, Golly Gosh at Yeronga is bucking the trend – and they're drawing a crowd from all over Brisbane.

James Caden and Tamara Boniface opened Yeronga's Golly Gosh – their second café – in November. Mother's Day was their highest sales day and it is not uncommon for long queues at the weekends. The original Golly Gosh, which they opened two years ago, is going strong on the northern beaches of Sydney.



James prides himself on delivering big, home-cooked meals, presented well, with a 'wow' factor.

"Providing a 'Golly Gosh' experience is at the core of everything we do," James says.

"When Tamara and I were living in Sydney we found it hard to get a good meal at a café. Portions were small and it was all a bit overdone. We are really big on customer service and our food. It's big and over the top. People are coming a long way for the service."

Golly Gosh experience. We purposely don't have QR codes on our tables (for ordering). We're keeping that customer service."

For anyone wanting to indulge their sweet tooth, Golly Gosh won't disappoint.



Waffle stacks feature prominently – decide if you can between Nutella Heaven, Biscoff and White Chocolate, Sticky Date or Choc Peanut Butter Pretzel – just to name a few.

James is working on improving Golly Gosh's gluten free offerings, and recently introduced GF crepes. Think Biscoff and Banana, Berry Passionate and Nutella Explosion. If you can't decide between sweet and savoury, Golly Gosh has you covered with the brunch share board. Described as the ultimate brunch experience, it features everything from mushrooms, roasted tomatoes, avocado, halloumi to Belgian waffles, strawberries, grilled banana, Nutella and maple syrup.

The menu is extensive and if you are looking for a healthier option, smoothie bowls and bagels are available as well as burgers and toasted sandwiches.



There really is something for everyone, but if it wasn't for COVID there may never have been a Golly Gosh.

Brisbane-born and raised James and Tamara moved to Sydney to take on a gym franchise on the northern beaches. They were open only seven weeks before COVID and the ensuing lockdowns hit.

"It was pretty tough and we actually lived in the gym for four months," James says.

"Tamara and I had both been in hospitality, so we went back to that. We found a café, refurbished it and our Golly Gosh brand was created."

 Golly Gosh! Café
Unit 1/92 Hyde Rd, Yeronga QLD 4104 | Hours: Daily 6:30am - 2:30pm
W: <https://www.opentable.com.au/r/golly-gosh-yeronga?ref=11025>



SHOWCASE FRAMING

A beautiful piece of art deserves to be framed well and one Salisbury business is leading the way in customised design and attention to detail

Business is slow for Salisbury picture framer Erin O'Keefe – she often only gets a handful of customers a day. But she continues to work and frame, as she did during the pandemic, when business was even slower.

Erin loves her craft, the creativity and challenges it presents and, of course, the finished product – when she has enhanced a piece of artwork.

Most customers who do come into Showcase Framing have often been there before – and that speaks volumes for the attention to detail and respect for a project that Erin prides herself on.

"If it's important to you, it's worth framing and doing it well," Erin says.

"You only have to look at the renovation shows to see frames can add value to your home. If you want something ordinary for your wall, but can afford something more, I think that's a shame."

Erin got into picture framing through her daughter Tay, who owned boutique portrait studio Sublime Photography at Graceville for 10 years.

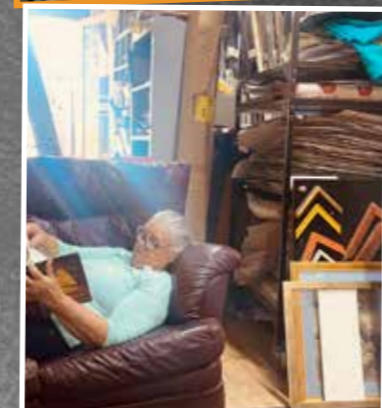


When Tay took over Sublime it was equipped with everything for framing except a framer. Enter Erin. She learnt from the previous framer and a friend, who was a framer and previously owned their Salisbury business. A former antique buyer and seller, Erin discovered she had a real skill and passion for framing.

"Every day and every job you're confronted with something different," Erin says.


"I treat what people bring in with the utmost respect, whether they are starting out as an artist or bring in something rare."

Erin has forged a good relationship with the artists at Artelier – an art school and gallery next door. She will advise and frame to suit an artist's work, and has now starting producing and selling prints of their original paintings.



Showcase Framing also has thousands of art books on its shelves – which are for sale – some new, some collected over the years.

Tay has big plans for the space at Showcase Framing, hoping to set up an area for paint and sip classes. Her son is showing a keen interest in photography, and there are plans to set up a space for him to take pet portraits.

 Showcase Framing
M: 0434 513 322
Hours: 9:30am - 4pm Mon-Fri | 9:30am - 2pm Sat



Business is booming for a Salisbury company as people look for alternative options to help combat the lack of affordable accommodation

A Salisbury company is making giant strides in the tiny house market as people look for affordable options in the midst of a national housing crisis.

Roomi builds affordable, relocatable buildings for commercial and domestic purposes. And the good news? The most expensive unit in the Roomi range is under \$30,000 – that's with A/C, kitchenette and bathroom.

With 10 workers in its Salisbury factory, Roomi is producing three to four tiny homes a week.

The units come in a range of sizes. Frames are made from galvanised steel, walls and roof are insulated coolroom panels finished with your choice of cladding colour.



It's been a wild 18 months for the guys behind Roomi – Cody Freeman and Oliver Gilbert-Roberts.

The pair had a car yard at Moorooka for 10 years, but as a side project built a couple of tiny homes on trailers.

They then modified their design by building on steel skids, allowing for easy transportation on a normal tow truck.

"We put an ad up for one and people were climbing over each to buy it," Cody says.

As demand grew they got out of the car game and started making tiny homes fulltime. They've been at their Salisbury factory for about a year.

"It's been full steam ahead since, a bit like being strapped to the front of a rocket ship," Cody jokes. *"It's really picked up since the state government changed the laws about granny flats (September last year), allowing property owners to rent them to people other than family."*

"People are buying them because their parents are getting old, some want to get their teenagers out of the house and then you get kids in their 20s moving back home to try to save money to buy a house. We also do some work with the NDIS, building independent living houses, as well as small offices and home studios."

Cody says Roomi prides itself on having one of the lowest price points and best lead times – eight weeks from when an order is placed to delivery.




"They're designed to be easy in every way," Cody says.

"They can be transported by a normal tilt truck and/or craned into position. Electrically, they're like a caravan but can connect to the grid."

"They can be dropped off, plugged in and ready to decorate. The only thing you need is a plumber."

There are Roomi units spread far and wide across Queensland and New South Wales.

 Roomi
4/45 Textiles Crescent, Salisbury QLD 2420
W: roomi.au | P: 1300 176 664 | E: roomi@roomi.au
Hours: Mon - Fri 9am - 3pm, Sat 9am - 1pm, Sun - Closed