

Still hungry for our help

SOME of Melbourne's best-known eateries took part in a special event last week — a soup kitchen with a difference. It was an opportunity for restaurants including MoVida, Ian Curley's The European and The Point to provide the soup that helped raise money for Feed Melbourne.

This was just one event that has helped drive donations to Feed Melbourne at a time when a hearty and hot meal is beyond many people in Melbourne.

Feed Melbourne is a campaign run by Leader Community Newspapers and food charity FareShare. The money raised goes to charities so they can buy vans, fridges and freezers to transport and store food that may otherwise be wasted. It is a simple but powerful antidote to the creeping menace of hunger across our communities.

Going hungry at any time is devastating but being without food at the start of a cold and wet winter has been heartbreaking for many families. During the past two years, Feed Melbourne has raised more than \$500,000 — the equivalent of a million meals.

This year, all donations up to a total of \$250,000 will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation. And restaurants Groove Train and Grill'd Healthy Burgers are also supporting the campaign, along with the Pratt Foundation and Linfox.

There is still time to donate — the campaign ends this week. The sad fact is that there is sufficient need again this year to require the generosity of thousands of Leader readers to help make a difference to many of their neighbours who face the gnawing emptiness of hunger.

Opinion

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Animal rights paramount

THERE are four abattoirs in the state of Victoria that were exempted two years ago from a rule requiring animals to be stunned before slaughter.

This is done in order to meet halal and kosher export contracts.

I cannot believe that the federal and state agricultural ministers are permitting this cruel method of slaughter to be carried out in Australia where animal rights are paramount to the Australian culture.

It may enlighten you to know the true meaning of the word 'halal'.

Halal means that animals cannot be dead prior to slaughter. Stunning does not kill an animal; it only renders them unconscious.

This is Australia in the 21st century — not Islam in the 9th century.

Jennifer Sutton, Park Orchards.



Reader Jennifer Sutton has expressed concerns about halal slaughtering methods.

N48WG000

Better aged-care services

AT the May meeting of Manningham Council, an agreement between Manningham Council and the Manningham Centre Association was approved by a substantial majority of the whole council.

I felt obliged to write to dispel any concerns the Manningham community may have after reading the comments of Cr Graeme Macmillan in the Letters to the Editor on June 22.

The Manningham community and residents have nothing to be concerned about.

MCA has entered into a new four-year agreement with Manningham Council that will see the responsibility of aged-care services now delivered by MCA, transferred from council to the direct control of the MCA for that period of time.

The new agreement will achieve better outcomes for Manningham's ageing community by maintaining and even improving the delivery of aged-care services.

The new agreement requires the MCA to meet strict key performance indicators and it provides for the MCA to develop a long-term business plan for aged-care services in Manningham that will require the approval of council before it is implemented.

Bill Larkin, MCA board chairman.

Many park opposite each other and are close to intersecting streets.

Apart from the inconvenience to other residents and motorists, they could cause real problems if emergency vehicles needed to gain urgent access.

These residents appear to have little or no consideration to other motorists who pay for the right to use these streets safely and without hindrance.

It is also surprising that most appear to have adequate parking within their respective properties.

Maybe these residents should require special parking permits, as an additional cost on their rates, to hopefully limit this practice.

Name withheld, Templestowe.

Inconsiderate parking

I AM concerned about residents parking private motor vehicles, on a permanent basis, in narrow suburban streets.

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LEADER DYMCKS LITERARY EVENTS

Alan Kohler

Alan Kohler is the finance presenter on ABC News and host of *Inside Business* on ABC TV.

When Tuesday 5 July, 2011
Time 6.30pm
Venue Ebony Quill Café, 793 Burke Road, Camberwell
Tickets FREE, bookings required

Marion Grasby

Marion was a popular contestant on *Masterchef* in 2010 and now presents her own cookbook.

When Wednesday 6 July, 2011
Time 6.30pm
Venue Ebony Quill Café, 793 Burke Road, Camberwell
Tickets \$50 Dymocks Booklover Members
\$55 General Admission

Christine Nixon

Former Police Commissioner Christine Nixon presents her first book *Fair Cop*.

When Wednesday 10 August, 2011
Time 6.30pm
Venue Upstairs at Georges, 819 Burke Rd, Camberwell
Tickets \$62 Dymocks Booklover Members
\$67 General Admission

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