

This edition of **ACTIVITIES** is the Giant Economy Easter Edition, so I hope it gives you lots of ideas. Melbourne will be absolutely rocking on Good Friday, but, before setting out, perhaps take time to remember the origin of **EASTER**.
Kindest regards, Toni

Channel 7's GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL:

It's all happening @ Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre - 10am - 6pm .. It's always a fabulous day of activities! **FREE ENTRY!**



You do not need to book or buy tickets. Entry to the Kids Day Out is free, participation in activities is by donation to the Good Friday Appeal.

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) will be transformed into a wonderland for kids, with a giant roller-skating rink, laser skirmish, sports clinics, the popular Teddy Bear Hospital, kids cooking classes, rides, music and dancing and so much more.

The Good Friday Appeal telethon will be broadcast live across Victoria all day from the Kids Day Out. The telethon will continue into the evening with a Charity Gala from 7pm featuring performances by some of the biggest names in Australian entertainment. Tickets to the Charity Gala will go on sale online on Monday 16 March 2015.

Some of the activities of the Kids Day Out:

Teddy Bear Hospital

Bring your teddy or soft toy for a very special check-up.

Roller Skating

Get your skates on in the giant indoor roller-skating rink! With roller skating sessions, Roller Derby exhibition games, roller disco and skate hire.

Rides and Games

Go wild in the action zone with laser skirmish, kid's rides and jump around on the giant inflatables.

Sports

Learn some footy skills at the giant NAB AFL Auskick clinic. Race on the Little Athletics running track and have a session with Melbourne Victory and the Victoria Police Soccer Club.

Art and Play

Get creative at the BIC Kid's Museum, have fun in the kitchen with Bubble Muffin Kids Cooking classes, learn to Zumba or Belly Dance, and get your groove on at the silent disco or rock out at the kid's karaoke! Plus one lucky family will go home with a new Jeep from the Jeep and Build-a-Bear raffle!

Joy Rides

Hop aboard a Harley Davidson, take a ride in a convertible Mustang or cruise in a Hummer Limo.

Polly Woodside

Walk the plank and meet the Pirates aboard the Polly Woodside!

Meet the Channel 7 stars!

Meet the stars from My Kitchen Rules and Home & Away for a Q&A session. Entry is limited. Pick up your free entry pass from the 7News Photo Booth in the Convention Centre Foyer from 10am.

10.40AM My Kitchen Rules

12:30PM Home & Away

Food

Tantalise your tastebuds at the Woolworths Fresh Food Zone and enjoy the restaurants along the South Wharf Promenade.

Win

One lucky family will go home with a new Jeep Cherokee Sport from the Bayford Motors and Build-a-Bear Workshop raffle!

Radio broadcast

Watch all the interviews and fun of the all-day 3AW live outside broadcast.

Watch the telethon

See behind the scenes as the telethon is broadcast on Seven from the middle of Kids Day Out!

How to get to the Kids Day Out

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre is located on Clarendon Street, South Wharf, next to the Yarra River.

TRAM: Trams 96, 112 or 109 down Spencer/Clarendon Street stop at the Clarendon Street entrance of MCEC.

TRAIN: The closest train station is Southern Cross Station – then catch one of the above trams or take a 10 minute walk from the station.

PARKING: There will be limited parking at MCEC, so we recommend catching public transport if you can.

To support the day, this year parking at MCEC will be a flat daily rate of \$18.

There will also be \$10 flat rate parking at Etihad Stadium just across the river.

MELBOURNE'S GOOD FRIDAY ACTIVITIES.

Charity Gala

The star-studded Charity Gala will feature some of the biggest names in Australian entertainment alongside special guests. Join in all the fun and excitement of the telethon as we raise money for The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Tickets go on sale Monday 16 March from Ticketmaster. Tickets are \$25 for all ages, with proceeds going to the Good Friday Appeal.

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre - 7pm - Midnight

Good Friday Appeal Charity Home Auction & Family Day

Don't miss out on the action, join Villawood Properties and Henley for a fun-filled afternoon on Good Friday and help support The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. The home will be auctioned at 2pm as part of Channel Seven's live telecast. www.gfcharityhouse.com.au

16 Melody Way, Mickleham (Melway Ref: 366 B12) - 12pm - 3pm

Kidzaid CPR Challenge

Guinness Book of Records attempt - most people performing CPR at the one time. Ticketed event with proceeds to the Good Friday Appeal. All details Kidzaid www.kidzaid.com.au

Crown Palladium, Crown Complex, Southbank - 10am - 6pm

Melbourne Rebels – Turf A Teddy

Patrons will be encouraged to buy a teddy at the Melbourne Rebels game on Good Friday evening at AAMI Park and "turf" the teddy onto the ground. All teddy bears will then be donated to The Royal Children's Hospital. Proceeds from each bear sold will be donated to the Appeal. www.melbournerebels.com.au

AAMI Stadium, Olympic Boulevard, Melbourne – 7.30pm

Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt - SOLD OUT

The Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt & Family Picnic at Werribee Park on Good Friday is the largest Easter egg hunt in Australia. For all information about the Easter Egg Hunt visit www.cadbury.com.au

Werribee Park, Werribee (All tickets sold out)

Steamtrain Rides

This is your chance to jump on board a historical steam train and ride the Melbourne Metropolitan train network! Two exciting trips scheduled to leave from Flinders Street Railway Station - 10am-1pm and 3pm-5pm. Adults \$65 / Kids \$45 / Seniors \$55. Bookings essential as tickets are limited. <http://www.steamrail.com.au>. Flinders Street Station, Melbourne – From 10am

HSV Owners Club Good Friday Show 'n Shine

Take a walk along the Southbank Spillway this Good Friday and enjoy the annual HSV Owners Club Show n Shine - cars on display include VE Club Sports, a Supercharged VF GTS, HSV Caprice and more . Drop a coin in the collection tin and do it for the kids! www.hsvownersclub.com.au

Southbank Spillway, Melbourne – 9am – 5pm

Munich Brauhaus South Wharf Easter Fun Day

Family fun day, Bavarian style! Decorate an egg and hang on the German Easter Egg Tree, face painting, Kids Menu, live Oompah band and more! Proceeds from the day donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.munichbrauhaus.com. 45 South Wharf Promenade, South Wharf – From 11am

Wah Wah Lounge Good Friday Fundraiser

100% entry fee donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.wahwahlounge.com.au. Level 1, 185 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne– 10pm - 5am

Crocs Playcentres FAMILY FUN DAY

Head into one of the 8 Crocs Playcentres throughout Melbourne for a fun-filled day of kids activities, arts and crafts, competitions and giveaways. Proceeds from the day will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.crocsplaycentre.com.au

Centre locations: Knox, Pakenham, Lyndhurst, Moorabbin, Reservoir, Frankston, Clayton and Ringwood – 10am – 3pm

Abbotsfest 2015

Mr Boogie Man Bar - 160 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford – From 2pm. Located at 160 Hoddle St, Abbotsford, we are 100 metres from the Collinwood train station, Bus stop right outside the bar, both ways on Hoddle st. Ample on street car parking or just walk or peddle! 8 hard rock bands - all volunteering their time - proceeds from the door to the Good Friday Appeal.

Inspirational Good Friday Fun Day

Bring the family and enjoy activities for \$5.00 per person. Easter eggs for the kids, jumping castle, face painting and for the energetic, why not get into a gym workout. All money raised will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.inspirationalhealthandfitness.com

Unit 6, 216 Blackshaws Road, Altona North – 9am - 2pm

Showcars Melbourne Car Show

4th annual car show open to all types of cars. Raffle - great prizes - all proceeds donated to The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Westgate Indoor Sports Centre - Grieve Pde, Altona North - 8am – 4pm

Belgrave Easter Carnival

Belgrave will host an amazing family carnival complete with rides, food stalls, Easter Egg hunt, animal displays and of course, face painting and kids entertainment. Proceeds to Good Friday Appeal. www.belgravecarnival.com.au *St Thomas More Primary School, Belgrave - 10am - 3pm*

Rockn' Suzies Good Friday Fundraiser

Don't miss eleven Rock n Roll, Rockabilly, Country and Swing bands along with a hot rod show, 50's & 60's memorabilia stalls and jumping castles, face painting, temporary tattoos and free giveaways. What a fantastic day! \$15 entry fee for adults and kids under 15yrs are free. Proceeds to The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. Berwick Leisure Centre, 79 Manuka Road, Berwick - 10am – 10pm

Jeff Crouch Memorial Golf Day

An iconic golfing event with proceeds to the Good Friday Appeal. www.pattersonriver.com.au Patterson River Golf Club - The Fairway, Bonbeach – Tee off at 8am

Gangemi Fruit & Veg Good Friday Fundraiser

All proceeds from fruit and veg sold from the outside stalls leading up to Good Friday will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal. Gangemi Fruit & Veg - Shop E6, Barkly Square, Brunswick - All day

Lollipops Playland & Cafe Bundoora Family Fun Day

Family fun including hourly raffles and auctions. All proceeds from entry and the cafe will be donated to the Appeal. www.bundoora.lollipopsplayland.com.au *6/19 Enterprise Drive, Bundoora – 9am*

Chirnside Park Country Club Family Fun Day

Market stalls, food, entertainment and rides. Proceeds to the Good Friday Appeal. www.chirnsideparkcc.com.au. 68 Kingswood Drive, Chirnside Park – 10am – 4pm

Wonderland Fun Park Family Fun Day

Rides for the kids, Easter Bunny appearances and heaps more. Proceeds from the day will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.wonderlandfunpark.com.au *120 Pearl River Road, Docklands - All day*

Shadows Gym – Boxing Circuit

8th Annual boxing circuit event in support of the Good Friday Appeal. Everyone welcome. All proceeds to the Appeal. www.shadowsgym.com.au

1/23 Susan Street, Eltham – 10.30am

Vietnamese Community of Australia - Night Market

Be part of the festivities of the Vietnamese Community as they celebrate 40 Years Settlement in Australia. The night markets will feature live music, dancing, food stalls and more. Proceeds to the Good Friday Appeal. Leeds Street, Footscray: 12pm-12am

Lollipops Playland Forest Hill Family Fun Day

Annual Family Fun Day including show bags, a visit from the Easter Bunny, face painting, roving magician, balloon animals, raffles, prizes, giveaways and silent auctions. Staff donating their time. All proceeds donated to the Appeal. www.foresthillchase.lollipopsplayland.com.au

Level 3, Forest Hill Chase Shopping Centre, 270 Canterbury Rd, Forest Hill – From 9am

Circa 900 Pizzeria Napoletana Good Friday Fundraiser

Funds raised from the sale of all Margherita pizzas on Good Friday will be donated to the Appeal! www.circa900.com.au 321 High Street, Kew - 5.00pm - 10.30pm

Hawthorn Cycling Club - Good Friday Criterium Championships

A great sports day made up of multiple bike races ranging from beginners to the elites, along with raffles and a BBQ. Proceeds to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. www.hawthorncycling.org.au. Upper Loop, Yarra Boulevard, Kew – 9am – 5pm

Whittlesea Pacers State Champ Men vs Diamond Valley Eagles

Round 4 game of the 2015 Big V State Championship. Proceeds from ticket entry and collections on the night will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal.

Mill Park Stadium, Redleap Ave, Mill Park – From 7pm

Lollipops Playland Fountain Gate Good Friday Fun Day

Gather the family and head to Lollipops at Westfield Fountain Gate this Good Friday - there will be games and activities, spot prizes, raffles and an appearance by the Easter Bunny and Fox Footy's Sandy Roberts. Proceeds from the day will be donated. www.fountaingate.lollipopsplayland.com.au

Shop MM5A Brechin Drive, Narre Warren – From 9am

YMCA Cardinia Life Good Friday Fun Day

Take part in a group fitness class - \$5 per class with proceeds to the Good Friday Appeal. Staff volunteering their time on the day. www.cardinalife.ymca.org.au. 4 Olympic Way, Pakenham - 10am - 2pm

Andy Nasr Strength & Conditioning 24 Hour Treadmill-a-Thon

Two treadmills running for 24 hours - commit to a block of time and Andy Nasr Strength & Conditioning will donate per kilometre. www.andynasr.com

1/446 Church Street, Richmond – Starts 12noon

Victorian Line Dancing Association - Good Friday Dance Social

Put on your dancing shoes for a great day of fun! Food stalls, trading table, raffles and more. Proceeds from the day donated to the Appeal.

Norwood College, Ringwood – 11am – 8pm

Gravity Zone Good Friday Fun Day

Hourly sessions starting at 11am - \$15 per person plus \$1.50 for your special socks!!! Proceeds from all admission fees on the day to the Good Friday Appeal www.gravity-zone.com.au. 25 Oliphant Way, Seaford– 11am – 4pm

Bells Hotel Chicken Parma Week (YUM!)

\$2 from every parma sold during the week leading up to Good Friday will be donated. Bells Hotel, 157 Moray Street, South Melbourne - All day

Kruze 4 Kids - Car Show & Family Fun Day

Car & bike display plus lots of family fun activities including sausage sizzle, jumping castle, face painting, the Easter Bunny and more. Entry \$10 per vehicle with proceeds to the Good Friday Appeal. www.kruze4kids.com

Langam Park, Sunbury – 10am – 4pm

Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre Good Friday Fundraiser

All entry fees for the public to use the gym, pools, group fitness classes and pool inflatable will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.ilovetrac.com.au

52-76 Main Street, Thomastown - 9.00am - 1.00pm

Yoga Bugs 'Come Try for the Kids'

A range of child specific programs will be offered for a gold coin donation, plus face painter and morning tea. All funds raised to the Good Friday Appeal. www.facebook.com/yogabugswyndham

Arndell Park Community Centre, Federation Boulevard, Truganina - 9am - 12.30pm

Fitlife Good Friday Appeal Boxing Circuit

Gather the family for a Good Friday boxing circuit and do it for the Kids! Adults \$15 / Kids \$5. Trainers donating their time. All proceeds raised on the day will be donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.fitlife.com.au

Unit 5, 1154 Burwood Hwy, Upper Ferntree Gully – 9am – 10.30am

Nunawading & District Motorcross Club - Good Friday Race Day

NDMX will hold their annual Good Friday race day with all entry fees and money raised on the day donated to the Good Friday Appeal. www.ndmx.com.au

636-650 Burwood Hwy Vermont South – 8am – 5pm

For activities at Geelong and Surf Coast, Western Victoria, Gippsland, Northern and Central Victoria and Southern NSW: www.goodfridayappeal.com.au

TIMBOON: totally terrific, tasty Taxi tours!

Why? Great tour of gorgeous foods and scenery

When: By arrangement

Phone: 0438 407 777

Website: www.timboonbikerehireandtaxi.com

Where: Timboon, but visitors can be picked up from the nearest railway station

Cost: These tours are not per person but rather by per carload. The cost is \$100 an hour shared between the participants.

Timboon Taxi's have more than a pick up service. Instead they now run gourmet food tours where you are driven around in a beautiful old Jag on a route where you can make the most of this foodie paradise in an organised but leisurely fashion.

The little inland township of Timboon is perched above the Great Ocean Road. The area is now known as a foodies' haven with names such as Schulz Organics and Timboon Fine Ice cream sung loud and proud all the way back to the Big Smoke. But for tourists with a limited time frame, finding the best of the best on this enviable foodie trail, is often a problem.

What is the best route to take to incorporate the "best of the best" food stops? What places are open on which days? Will you get to meet the owners and find out how a product is made? If you have a special interest in a particular food and knock on a farmer's door will they invite you in? If you taste all the whiskies at the distillery after visiting the winery will you be over the limit and unable to drive any further?

The answer to the last question is "yes." After a few tastings of 40% per cent proof, you'll soon be calling "taxi!" Which is where the Timboon Taxi comes into its own.

Except they have more than a pick up service. Instead The tour can be tailor-made to your interests. They can ring ahead and do all the organising for you. For example, making sure the owners will be there so you can meet the makers or pre-checking on the supply of strawberries at Strawberry World so you can pick your own.

And there is a good chance they can get you into places that are not normally open to the public such as Simpson Snails, a free-range snail farm producing fresh snails for French and other gourmet restaurants and Great Ocean Ducks that cultivate free-range Allesbury ducks for some of Melbourne's best restaurants.

But their biggest asset is their driver Dave Snibson. Not only is Dave a local but he has worked as a cheese maker for a number of businesses in the area. In fact he got his start at Schulz Organics when he was still a teenager, with the legendary Hermann Schultz (now in his 90s) as his mentor and from there Dave went on to study a Diploma in Dairy Technology at the University of Melbourne. Now he is one of Australia's youngest but most experienced cheese makers.

We went on Dave's inaugural tour for this start-up enterprise and loved every sip, slurp, bite and bit of information.

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR SHOW [web: hungrycaterpillarshow.com](http://web:hungrycaterpillarshow.com)

Chapel off Chapel: March 24 – April 2

Eric Carle's timeless book; *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, has embarked on a new journey, entertaining the newest generation in a captivating live stage show using clever puppetry.

In picture book form, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, written and illustrated by Eric Carle, was first published in 1969. Eric's caterpillar with a huge appetite continues to entertain children today as he did when introduced to the world almost five decades ago.

0. If she keeps it up it should take 28 days to see the difference. Let's see in a month.

ST. KILDA RICKSHAWS - Eco-friendly Taxi Service

Why? Eco-friendly taxi service

When: By reservation

Phone: 0421 196 737

Website: stkildarickshaws.com.au

Where: Luna Park, St Kilda

Cost: taxi service \$10; tours from \$30

Free ride @MFWF courtesy of St Kilda Rickshaws and Bank of Melbourne #BED

Experience the fun of rickshaw travel in the heart of St Kilda! [St. Kilda Rickshaws](#) offer a safe and environmentally friendly alternative mode of transportation in and around St. Kilda.

Founder Michael Ferguson travelled from USA, to Melbourne, two years ago. After travelling around this beautiful country, Michael chose to make St Kilda his home, and entered this new and exciting business venture. Starting with a single custom made rickshaw, St Kilda Rickshaws has quickly grown to now have 5 rickshaws, driven by travelling backpackers from around the world.

Currently operating in St Kilda, with plans to expand to the city and other suburbs, St Kilda Rickshaws runs as a taxi service for \$10 per ride, and offers three tour options which include a 15 minute tour along St Kilda Esplanade for \$30; a 30 minute tour starting near Luna Park and ending at the Spirit of Tasmania, for \$50; and a 1 hour tour which extends the tour along the Esplanade to some of St Kilda's famous roads, for \$90. The jovial and social riders are well versed on local culture and events, and are happy to provide you with a historical overview of the tour sites as well as travelling tips for your onward journey. St Kilda Rickshaws also offers private and corporate hire for parties and events, and special occasions. Create your own personalised tour by contacting St Kilda Rickshaws on 0421 196 737 or by filling out an [online form](#), detailing your needs.

Want to try it out for free? Head down to Melbourne Food and Wine Festival until March 15th, where you can get a complimentary ride along Southbank, courtesy of Bank of Melbourne and St Kilda Rickshaws.

A comfortable, eco-friendly, and fun mode of transport - try it!

UNITE ALLIANCE - City of Greater Dandenong

Why? It's a platform for young people of all gender identities to advocate for human rights and equality whilst providing support for those who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex or Queer (LGBTIQ).

When: Every Wednesday from 4.30pm to 6.30pm ongoing till 2016 at this stage

Phone: 0414 015 919 / 9793 2155

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/unitealliance>

Where: Phone for information.

The wellbeing of LGBTIQ young people living in the Greater Dandenong region, and educating the broader community on the unique issues these young people face, is the focus of Unite Alliance.

A weekly meeting is held to develop awareness campaigns and projects, that aims to break down homophobia and discrimination within the community. It's a program that's open to ALL young people between the ages of 14 and 21, including same sex attracted, gender diverse young people, and alliances. Through a combination of support, education and advocacy, opportunities are provided to empower young people to live successful lives. As part of the alliance, your contributions to the development of an inclusive community, that's accepting of all forms of sexual and gender diversity is encouraged. The weekly meetings alternate between project development, discussion group sessions, and event participation. Check out their [Facebook](#) page .

For more information or to join the group, contact Sam on 0414 015 919 (and 9793 2155), or email skosky@cgd.vic.gov.au You can also contact Justine Irons at headspace Dandenong, on 1800 FOR YOU (1800 367 968).

PUCKER UP FOR: KISS!

Why? KISS are one of the greatest rock and roll bands of all time (?)

When: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015

Website: www.kissonline.com

Where: Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane

Cost: Varies

KISS remains one of the most influential bands in the history of rock and roll, have released 44 albums and sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. The unparalleled devotion and loyalty of the **KISS Army** to the "Hottest Band in the World" is a striking testament to the band's unbreakable bond with its fans.

KISS is celebrating two major milestones, their induction into the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame** last **April**, as well as their 40th Anniversary. **KISS 40**, a new album celebrating 40 years of Rock 'N Roll is available now.

A **KISS** concert is like no other, and with tickets starting from just \$98, it's an extravaganza that everyone needs to experience!

If you need to see one iconic rock band in your life - it's not **The Rolling Stones** - it's **KISS! Thursday October 8 MELBOURNE Rod Laver Arena.**

4 MELBOURNE CAFES Only Locals Will Know About

Everyone knows about Melbourne's popular cafes. Brunetti's is referenced frequently in articles about Melbourne, as is the underwhelming strip of Italian restaurants along Lygon St. Hipsters will be able to tell you about St Ali, Seven Seeds, Brother Baba Budan and Auction Rooms. The well-known places are all good cafes - yes, even the ones on Lygon St. But they're also crowded, expensive, and snobbish. They're so popular they don't need your business, and they know it. That's why true Melbourne coffee fanatics are always on the move: always looking for the best new cafes, where they can sit in peace and quiet with an amazing coffee. So here's a list of four quality coffee shops that don't draw crowds - at least not yet.

Steam Junkies is a little cafe nestled on the Sydney Road bike path. Its relative seclusion means that it's usually fairly quiet. The coffee is excellent, and the breakfast menu is inventive. But the real draw of this place is its location: the huge windows that look out onto the bike path and train line.

Steam Junkies is always airy, full of sunlight, and a generally wonderful place to sit with a coffee. If you drop by, don't miss the chance to people-watch the passing cyclists. Sydney Road draws a strange crowd.

Lady Bower is a Reservoir institution. Like Steam Junkies, it's a little way off a main road, which keeps it free of traffic noise. That said, it's very easy to get to: only a few blocks' walk from the train station down Broadway. The coffee is as good as you'd get from the best places in the CBD, and the food is pleasant: a pretty standard breakfast menu coupled with a nice sandwich selection. Given the dearth of acceptable coffee in the far northern suburbs, Lady Bower is an oasis. If you're anywhere near Reservoir, you owe it to yourself to check it out.

Cafeteria Luis Puckle St in Moonee Ponds has no shortage of cafes. However, as anyone who's picked one at random will know, they're strangely disappointing: mediocre coffee, expensive food, and cramped

tables. Although Cafeteria Luis looks no different from the rest, it's streets ahead in terms of quality. There's a great selection of French pastries and the coffee is delicious. The main draw is the breakfast food. The avocado is never underripe, the eggs are cooked just right, and they don't overdo the hollandaise sauce. You can't go wrong by picking something at random from the menu.

Cafe Sua Da Cafe Sua Da is a recently-opened cafe near Melbourne University, just before the corner of Lygon St and Elgin St. Students and locals might know it as the place that used to be Foo Go's. Cafe Sua Da, however, is just fantastic. There's a huge variety of Vietnamese food, the coffee is great, and - the best part - they do Vietnamese coffee with condensed milk. Cafe Sua Da will always have space for you, your friends, or your laptop, since most people get their caffeine fix from uni or from the popular hipster cafe Le Miel a few blocks away. On top of all that, the food is generous and very cheap.

[Do you know a local gem of a cafe? Share it with us!](#)

ALEX AND LUKE'S MAKE YOUR PARENTS DISAPPEAR! At MICF! (Melbourne International Comedy Festival) Ideal for all children aged 5 to 12 years and their families

When: Saturday 28th March - Sunday 12th April

Website: www.comedyfestival.com.au/2015/season/shows/make-your-parents-disappear-alex-and-luke-s

Where: The Famous Spiegeltent at Arts Centre Melbourne

Cost: \$18

Melbourne's top magic entertainers, Alex de la Rangelje and Luke Hocking, are back these Easter school holidays with their popular kids show 'Make Your Parents Disappear!'

The acclaimed interactive comedy magic show will play at the Famous Spiegeltent, Arts Centre Forecourt for a strictly limited season, from Saturday 28 March until Sunday 12 April as part of the stellar Melbourne International Comedy Festival line-up. Make Your Parents Disappear weaves unbelievable illusions and hilarious interactive comedy routines into a fast-paced family magic show.

Ideal for all children aged 5 to 12 years and their families, the show sees Alex and Luke play brothers who are up well past their bedtime. Their post-dinner plans to put on a magic show are railroaded by their mum, who tells them that they have to go to bed. Quickly, the boys come up with a solution: to make bedtime disappear they need to make their parents disappear. In their quest to create the perfect magical 'parent-vanishing' machine, Alex and Luke get children from the audience to help with their machine.

BRICKMAN EXPERIENCE - EASTER 2015

Why? A LEGO first, right here in Melbourne

When: 31 March - 12 April 2015

Website: brickmanexperience.com.au

Where: Crown Conference Centre, Whiteman Street, Southbank

Cost: \$21.90 children and concession, \$34.90 adult

LEGO Certified Professional exhibits his work in Melbourne

Forget the chocolate LEGO fans, those little bricks that you all love are about to take over the Easter School Holidays, in an *'exhibition first'* to be held at the Exhibition Hall at the Crown Conference Centre.

The *Brickman Experience* will see Ryan McNaught, aka "The Brickman"; the only LEGO Certified Professional in the Southern Hemisphere, present his extraordinary collection of LEGO works for all to see.

The *Brickman Experience* will amaze all ages, with more than 50 original works displayed in this spectacular exhibition spanning over two weeks. Who knows, maybe your own children might be inspired to follow in Ryan's footsteps to become the future "Brickman" of Australia.

Displays exhibited will see over 5 million bricks making up some of Ryan's best works, including the 4m long "Elvis" Erikson Aircrane Helicopter, and the famous 250,000 Brick LEGO "Love Boat". There will also be the chance to gain a 'behind the scenes' insight into Ryan's career with original drawings and sketches

on display, too.

In addition to Ryan's masterpieces, and for the first time anywhere in the world, works from other LEGO Certified professionals will be on display, based on the "Transport" theme from their native country.

The *Brickman Experience* will run from Tuesday 31 March to Sunday 12 April. Tickets range from \$21.90 for child and concession through to \$34.90 for adults. Family tickets are also available. Tickets must be booked for a specific session:

10:30am - Morning Session
12:30pm - Afternoon Session
2:30pm - Afternoon Session
4:30pm - Afternoon Session
6:30pm - Evening Session

Check online first because some days will not run late afternoon and evening sessions.

SKETCHY COMEDIANS SET TO MAKE MELBOURNE LAUGH THE SEXY DETECTIVES: MONO LOGS!

Why? Normal Stand Up Gives You the Skits

When: Performing 9.30pm March 25 to April 5 2015 (except Monday March 30)

Phone: Please purchase tickets via the website

Website: www.trybooking.com/113523

Where: Pleasance House Comedy at Level 4, 178 Collins St, Melbourne

Cost: Adults \$20 | Concession \$15 | Preview & Cheap Tuesdays \$10

The award winning troupe out of Brisbane delivers tight, well-rehearsed and cleverly written sketches with wide appeal. The comedy is drawn from characters and situations, steering clear of frat boy humour and gross out gags. There's a great mix of short and longer sketches, the changes between scenes are fast and the flow of the show has been well planned.

AVENUE Q AT CHAPEL OFF CHAPEL, PRAHRAN.

Why? For some side splitting laughter

When: Fri 27 March – Sat 11 April (previews Wed 25 and Thu 26 March)

Phone: (03) 8290 7000

Website: chapeloffchapel.com.au

Where: Chapel Off Chapel

Cost: \$43.50 Full, \$38.50 Conc

It's a long way from Sesame Street!

With a half human, half puppet cast, this outrageously off-colour show has been compared to Sesame St meets South park and is **certainly not for kids!**

Welcome to Avenue Q, where hilarity, racism, sexuality and all things adults-only are the norm! The Tony Award-winning musical is coming to Melbourne's International Comedy Festival opening on March 27th at Prahran's Chapel Off Chapel until April 11.

Trifle Theatre's Avenue Q stars an experienced and highly accomplished cast and crew of musical theatre professionals from stage, as well as television and is certain to leave you in stitches (the good kind!) Avenue Q opened off-Broadway in 2003 where it gained rave reviews and had its season extended four times, going on to entertain on Broadway with 2,534 performances. Described as a coming-of-age parable that satirises the issues and anxieties associated with leaving college and entering the adult world, and covers themes such as racism, sexuality and pornography.

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW 2015

Why? Enjoy the biggest show of its kind in Southern Hemisphere

When: Wednesday 25 March to Sunday 29 March 2015 9am to 5pm

Website: www.melbflowershow.com.au

Where: Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens

Cost: Adult \$27; Family (2 adults & 2 children) \$60; Concession \$22; Child:6-16 years \$10; Children 5 and under Free; Group \$22

The historic and magnificent Royal Exhibition Building and surrounding gardens are transformed as exhibitors from around the world and around Australia come to present the newest in the world of flowers, gardens, horticulture, landscaping and all thing related, making this the biggest show of its kind in Southern Hemisphere.

In 2015, the Flower and Garden Show will enter its 20th year. Public opening hours are from 9am to 5pm and [ticket prices](#) are more than affordable for the whole family to visit.

If it is your first visit, be prepared to be overwhelmed: by the grandeur, the beauty, the offerings, the magnitude, the creativity, the art, the inspiration, the *everything*. Kids can look forward to colouring, face-painting and other activities in the fairies garden. Adults will be thoroughly engaged with the workshops, presentations and the sheer beauty of every exhibit.

MATTY GREY - KIDS COMEDY SHOWCASE AT MELBOURNE International Comedy Festival 2015

When: From the 28th March till the 12th April

Website: www.comedyfestival.com.au

Where: Northcote Town Hall & National Theatre

Cost: Varies

The multi-coloured master of munchkin mayhem is back

Acclaimed children's entertainer, Matty Grey brings his rapid-fire, non-stop chaos-comedy to the Melbourne International Comedy Festival this Autumn with no less than three stellar family comedy shows:

- Age-Less 3: Dreamweaver vs The Nightmare Child,
- Matty Grey's Mega Variety Kids Show and
- Matty Grey's Grossed Out Game Show.

These energetic shows regularly sell-out and are sure to be a hit with kids and parents these Easter school holidays.

28 March to 2 April 2015 at Northcote Town hall Age-Less 3: Dreamweaver vs The Nightmare Child - Age-Less 3 is a flight of imagination that will have kids laughing and parents horrified at what ideas their kids might be getting. Complete with bed bugs, closet monsters and vomiting bunnies, this show is an ideal way to entertain little monsters during the school holidays

Matty Grey's Mega Variety Kids Show 7, 8, and 9 April 2015 at National Theatre, St Kilda, Matty Grey is back and this time he's bringing his friends; co-host Professor Kit-E-Kat and house band JEKYLL x JAMES. Mega Variety is Matty's demented and deranged version of a late-night chat show in the middle of the day. Containing his patented high-impact recipe for mirth with precise doses of magic, silliness, grossed out jokes, sight and sound gags and outright chaos.

Matty Grey's Grossed Out Game Show 11 and 12 April 2015 at Northcote Town hall. Matty Grey's Grossed Out Game Show is back for its second year. The stand out special event for kids of all ages, it is a live and interactive game show where two celebrity team captains will lead their half of the audience in a battle of physical challenges and trivial absurdities in order to win!

FAMILY EVENTS IN MELBOURNE & VICTORIA 2015 (Free & Ticketed Events)

Keep the whole family entertained

Why? The perfect Family-Friendly events that everyone will enjoy

When: 21 March 2015 - 16 October 2015

Stuck on ideas on how to keep the whole family entertained? Below is the list of both free and ticketed events that are guaranteed to keep the whole family excited and entertained:

1. Cinema Under The Stars

When: 21 March 2015: Activities start from 6pm and movie starts at 8:30pm

Where: Tirhatuan Park, Kriegal Way, Dandenong

Cost: Free. Details: There will be a special screening of Disney' movie Frozen. This family event will also include free animal farm, jumping castle and sing-a-long disco with Elsa and Anna from 7:30pm-8:30pm before the film.

2. Water to Water Festival

When: 21 March 2015

Where: Briars Historic Park, 450 Nepean Hwy, Mount Martha

Cost: Tickets: Adults: \$45, Concession: \$30, Children under 18: \$18 & Children under 5: \$5

Details: Water to Water Festival is a groundbreaking Indigenous music and cultural festival. It is a non-profit event that is designed to promote cross-cultural awareness, bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together in a vibrant, family-friendly outdoor event. There will be a showcase of music, art, dance and culture, including plenty of children activities and more... Parking is available on side for an exchange of a gold coin donation. [Click here for website.](#)

3. Children's Book Festival

When: 22 March 2015:

Where: State Library Victoria, 328 Swanston St, Melbourne

Cost: Free

Details: This is a big event for all those little readers! The festival celebrates the wonderful world of children's literature and storytelling. There is plenty to discover from diving into the pleasures of books and reading, roaming across the lawns, exploring the children's literary playground and plenty more. Suitable for ages between 5-11 years old.

4. Melbourne Star- Autumn School Holidays

When: 28 March 2015 - 10 April 2015

Where: Melbourne Star Observation Wheel, 101 Waterfront Way, Docklands

Cost: Free for Melbourne Star members or \$3pp entry fee.

Details: Old Farm favourites return for the first week of the holidays, including a visit from the Easter Bunny. Brave guests can meet and greet some of the reptilian stars during the second week of the school holidays. The farm animals will be on display from 30 March - 2 April & on 7th & 10th April. [Click here for website.](#)

5. Adventure Kids Festival

When: 28-29 March 2015

Where: Various locations across Mt Baw Baw- see website.

Cost: Tickets start from \$50pp

Details: This is perfect for children from ages 4-12 years to experience and enjoy nature-based adventure activities that include walks, runs, climbs, damper cooking, abseiling, obstacle courses, bike rides and plenty more.

6. Day Out with Thomas Event

When: 28- 29 March 2015: 10am-4pm

Where: The Bellarine Railway, Queenscliff Station, 20 Symonds St, Queenscliff

Cost: See [website](#) for ticket information.

Details: Every child's favourite steam train, Thomas the Tank Engine, will make a special appearance along with his friends Douglas, Henry, Oliver, Salty and those Troublesome Trucks and Sir Topham Hatt. The

event includes a 40 minute return train ride, activities, live re-enactments with Sir Topham Hatt, sing-alongs, storytelling, colouring competition, jumping castle and plenty more.

10. Kidsfest 2015

When: 19- 20 September 2015

Where: SPC Ardmona Kids Town, 7287 Midland Hwy, Mooroopna

Cost: Free entry

Details: There will be a large range of entertainment, educational activities, workshops, attractions such as arts & crafts, camel rides and plenty more activities and entertainment for the whole family to experience and enjoy. [Click here for website.](#)

11. Tesselaar Tulip Festival

When: 10 September 2015 - 6 October 2015

Where: Tesselaar Tulip Farm, 357 ,Monbulk Rd, Silvan

Cost: Tickets: Adults: \$22, Concession: \$18 & children under 16 free.

Details: This four week event is filled with live entertainment, variety of theme days, foods, wines, jazz, activities for the kids and of course the Tulips being the highlight of the event! [Click here for website.](#)

12. Day Out with Thomas Event

When: 10- 11 October 2015: 10am-4pm

Where: The Bellarine Railway, Queenscliff Station, 20 Symonds St, Queenscliff

Cost: See [website](#) for ticket information.

Details: Every child's favourite steam train, Thomas the Tank Engine, will make a special appearance along with his friends Douglas, Henry, Oliver, Salty and those Troublesome Trucks and Sir Topham Hatt. The event includes a 40 minute return train ride, activities, live re-enactments with Sir Topham Hatt, sing-alongs, storytelling, colouring competition, jumping castle and plenty more.

13. Mildura Show

When: 16 October 2015: 9am- 10pm

Where: Mildura Showgrounds, 12th Street, Mildura

Cost: Free entry

Details: This family-friendly event will be filled with entertainment, activities, show bags, local business and farmers showcasing their business, farm equipment and animals. There will also be rides, live entertainment, fireworks and plenty more.

MORE EASTER ACTIVITIES

1. Melbourne Star- Autumn School Holidays

When: 28 March 2015 - 10 April 2015

Where: Melbourne Star Observation Wheel, 101 Waterfront Way, Docklands

Cost: Free for Melbourne Star members or \$3 pp entry fee.

Details: Old Farm favourites return for the first week of the holidays, including a visit from the Easter Bunny. Brave guests can meet and greet some of the reptilian stars during the second week of the school holidays. The farm animals will be on display from 30 March - 2 April & on 7th & 10th April.

2. Eureka Skydeck Easter Holiday Fun

When: 28 March 2015- 12 April 2015

Where: Eureka Skydeck 88, 7 Riverside Quay, Southbank

Cost: See website.

Details: This family-friendly Easter School Holiday event will certainly keep the whole family entertained with Easter-themed badge and bunny ear making activities, the Vertigo green screen where you can get your photo taken with the illusion of falling through the glass floor and other activities can be enjoyed at this event. [Click here for website.](#)

3. Falls Creek Adventure Kids Festival

When: 3- 5 April 2015

Where: Falls Creek Alpine Resort, 1 Slalom St, Falls Creek

Cost: see [website](#)

Details: This is the perfect Easter School Holiday event that is filled with outdoor adventures ranging from walks, runs, climbs, obstacle courses, bike rides and plenty more activities for the whole family to enjoy. There is family-friendly apartment accommodation available, see website for all information.

4. Easter Family Fun

When: 3-5 April 2015

Where: Yarra Valley Chocolaterie & Ice Creamery, 35 Old Healesville Rd, Yarra Glen

Cost: Free

Details: This is one Easter School Holiday event not to miss out on, with loads of free chocolate tastings, delight in giant chocolate sculptures and free kids Easter egg hunts and plenty more... The Easter egg hunts times are: 10am, 12pm, 2pm & 4pm. [Click here for website.](#)

5. Bendigo Easter Festival

When: 3-6 April 2015

Where: Bendigo City Centre, Myers St, Bendigo

Cost: Free

Details: The oldest continuous running community festival in Australia is back on again these Easter School Holidays with children entertainment, activities, workshops, Easter egg hunt, animal farm, giant roving characters, African drumming, historic fire truck rides, live music, dance workshops, facing painting, crafts and more... The Festival also includes Chinese festivities including Awakening of the Dragon, an array of Chinese lions, dragon, drums, gongs and plenty more.

6. Easter at All Saints Estate

When: 4-5 April 2015

Where: All Saints Estate, All Saints Rd, Wahgunyah

Cost: See website.

Details: Indulge in the latest vintages and newly released wines before enjoying a gastronomic experience, discover scrumptious regional and international cheeses and local produce and of course entertainment includes tour of the castle, Easter egg hunt for the kids, jumping castle and face painting, live music and plenty more. [Click here for website.](#)

7. Brown Brothers Easter Festival

When: 4-5 & 19-20 April 2015

Where: Brown Brothers Milawa Vineyard, Milawa-Bobinawarra Rd, Milawa

Cost: Entry tickets: \$5pp

Details: There will be plenty of entertainment for the kids and kids at heart, live music, delicious festival food, gourmet produce, wines and wine tastings, farmers market, Easter egg hunt, jumping castle, petting zoo, pony rides and plenty more. Some activities require a small fee.

8. Easter Fun Festival at Churchill Heritage Farm

When: 4-5 April 2015

Where: Churchill Island Heritage Farm, 246 Samuel Amess Dr, Churchill Island, Newhaven

Cost: [see website](#)

Details: The Easter Fun Festival is turning the island into a giant LEGO playground! With 250, 000 LEGO pieces to admire, plenty of kids activities, including building your own masterpieces workshops, stilt walkers, vintage cars and caravans shows, working horse demonstrations, delicious foods , Easter egg hunt and plenty more to enjoy.

9. Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt & Family Picnic

When: 3 April 2015

Where: Werribee Park, K Rd, Werribee

Cost: \$ 15 per ticket.

Details: In its 15th year running this fund-raising event is one to certainly attend these Easter School Holidays. There will be plenty of activities ranging from pony rides, face painting, sack races, arts & crafts, carnival entertainment, Easter egg hunt and plenty more. All funds raised will support The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

10. Easter Egg Hunt

When: 31 March 2015: 10:30am-11:30am

Where: City Library, 253 Flinders Lane, Melbourne

Cost: Free

Details: This special Easter egg hunt is a perfect event to add to the Easter School Holidays activity list. The little ones can make their own delightful Easter bonnet and then of course the Easter egg hunt begins...

11. Cooks' Cottage Easter Adventure

When: 28 March 2015- 5 April 2015: 10am-3pm

Where: Cooks' Cottage, Fitzroy Gardens, Wellington Pde, Melbourne

Cost: See website.

Details: Hop on down to Cooks' Cottage these Easter school holidays and take part in the self-guided Easter Adventure with plenty of activities and adventures that the whole family can enjoy and experience.

12. Good Friday Appeal Kid's Day Out

When: 3 April 2015: 10am-6pm

Where: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf, Melbourne

Cost: Free entry

Details: The Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre will be transformed into a wonderland for kids, with giant roller-skating rink, laser skirmish, sports clinics, cooking classes, rides, music, dancing, performances and much more activities the whole family will enjoy.

Laugh out!

The (Very) Big Laugh Out transforms Fed Square and City Square into wonderlands of funny with kids' acts from the Melbourne International Comedy Festival FREE

March 27 – April 19. Details: comedyfestival.com.au

Market Day For Scouts

Boronia Scouts are holding a market day on March 28, @ the Boronia Scout Hall, Chandler Rd, Boronia. There will be a sausage sizzle, crafts, trash and treasure and much more. Money raised will help the Scouts to go to the 2016 Jamboree.

10.30am – 3pm. Contact Bridget on 0431 761 581

Let's Rock and/or Roll!

Rock and Roll dances and FTG Bowling Club are on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Friday of every month. They start @ 8pm, AS WELL AS every Sunday night from 7pm. Entry is \$10 at Glenfern Rd FTG. 9753 5888

Art Society Exhibition

FTG Art Society is running an exhibition of paintings, entitled Faces & Figures, at the Hut Gallery, Ferntree Gully, until March 29. Paintings by members. 9758 8955

The Upwey Country Music Club ☺

Presents a walk-up open mic concert at the Guides Hall in Underwood Rd, FTG, Easter Sunday, April 5, from 1pm – 5pm. Everyone welcome and new performers are greatly appreciated and warmly received. 5964 8298

Warriors Victoria

This is a not-for-profit music association. They hold monthly open mic sessions at the Knox Club, cnr Boronia Rd & Stud Rd, Boronia. Six bands will be performing on Sunday March 29, to raise funds for the Royal Children's Hospital annual Easter appeal. Part of the free and fun afternoon will be a Rock and Roll Dance Contest. 0411 146 540

Knitting Group

Join a friendly knitting group to produce items for the needy on Thursdays, from 10am-noon, from April 16, at the Knox Presbyterian Church, 358 Mountain Highway, Wantirna. 9879 3808

Men's Shed: Upper Ferntree Gully

The Gully Men's Shed meets on Mondays and Thursdays, between 9.30am-3pm, at the Dandenong Ranges National park, Upper Ferntree Gully, at the base of the 1000 steps. 0407 560 168

Playgroup

Young Mum's playgroup, Coonara Community House, 22 Willow Rd, Upper Ferntree Gully. **Mondays from noon – 3pm. FREE**

Opportunity café workshop

March 26, 10am – 4pm, @ Knox Council, Burwood Highway, Wantirna South. The Workshop will help you create new businesses and products and pitch ideas. Cost is \$60 including lunch. 8060 3504

Rowville Community Kitchen

Is holding a POP UP conference on Wednesday, March 25, lunch included, to raise awareness of the extent of food poverty within the community. Open to anyone who is interested. 0417 851 204

Rhododendron Gardens

Enjoy a family fun day at the National Rhododendron Gardens, The Georgian Rd, Olinda, on March 31. The free event runs from 10am – 3pm and has entertainment.

13 19 63

Massive Plant Sale

Monbulk Recreation Reserve, March 28, from 8am. Proceeds towards Monbulk Sports Pavilion repairs

Knox Community Arts Centre

Woody's World: The Woody & Herc Show

Thursday April 9: 11am & 1.30pm. Show is 45mins. Tickets \$10.

Woody appears to be human, but Herc is an alley cat! They have been entertaining preschools and festival crowds around the nation.. So hold onto your hats, kids, and prepare to be engrossed and engaged as they have you singing, laughing, clapping and dancing with their songs from the Woody's World's hit album 'Good Morning Kids'. Remember to wear stripey socks, because you just might need them during the show!

Meet Woody and Herc after the show and have the opportunity to purchase your signed CD and Woody's World colouring-in pack for the holidays.

www.woodysworld.com.au facebook.com/woodysworld.com.au

Bookings: 9729 7287

www.knox.vic.gov.au/theatretix // Like us on facebook.com/knoxcac

Family Fun Day Fundraiser

An all star team of Knox sportspeople has formed to put on a family fun day to help a Kilsyth family plan their future without their mother and wife. Emma Campbell died of breast cancer, after a long and brave fight against it, on Jan 28 this year. She left behind her grieving husband and 3 children aged 13, 10 & 6.

The Fundraiser is at Bayswater Football Club Sunday March 29 from 11am. Adult entry is \$20 children under 18 are free. The price includes a raffle ticket.

A fabulous day of fun filled activities, including raffles, auctions, prizes etc will be on offer to all.

All proceeds go directly to the family to help them in the future.

Mountain Gate Easter Egg Hunt

Next Saturday the 28th of March @ noon. You have a chance of winning 1 of 12 Fantastic Easter Hampers. Simply make a purchase in selected stores displaying the Mountain Gate Logo and fill in your entry form for your chance to win.

OPEN AGE EVENT: Parents & Grandparents are welcome to join the children in the hunt.

Melbourne's Psycho Expo

(um, that may be Psychic)

Sunday March 29, 10-5pm

DORSET GARDENS HOTEL, 335 Dorset Rd, Croydon

SpongeBob SquarePants & Patrick Star:

Join everyone in the 'Bikini Bottom Dance', wiggle it out with the 'Jelly Fish Jam', play a game of 'Seaweed War', put your hula hip moves to some hula hip music & jump on your surfboards for 'Surf's Up'

- Monday March 30 – Saturday April 4
- 11am & 1pm
- MEET & GREET – 12pm for 20 minutes
- Near NAB, level 1
- FREE

PLUS

From Tuesday April 7 – to Friday April 10

- My Little Craft Village
- Cat in the Hat Cupcake Decorating Village

EASTLAND, Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood. 9879 7171

Visit eastland.com.au or the relocated Customer Service Desk for more details.

Easter School Holiday Fun at Luna Park

Gentlemen of Deceit Present 'Incognito' - Melbourne

. Event: 07/04/2015 - 19/04/2015

Melbourne's hippest young magicians, the 'Gentlemen of Deceit' return this Autumn with their brand new show - 'Incognito'.

After the success of their wildly popular shows at the 2014 Melbourne International Comedy Festival - the suave trio are back to delight, astonish and amuse magic and comedy lovers alike.

Subverting the notion that magicians need to conceal as much as they can from their audience; Gentlemen of Deceit peel away the outer layers of distraction, so that the audience can scrutinise their feats like never before.

They dazzled in their 2014 Comedy Festival show – a voice in the dark requested an audience member place a shoe on the stage. The Gentlemen of Deceit entered with tape on their mouths, performing without voice for the first 5 minutes and producing bamboozling objects from the shoe – pebbles, a rock, tennis balls and a bread roll. For the climax, a freely named playing card an audience member selected turned out to be hidden in the performers' mouths from the very beginning.

Directed by Daniel Lammin (Masterclass, Fortyfive Downstairs) 'Incognito' sees Luke Hocking, Vyom Sharma and Alex de la Rambelje seamlessly combine their signature blend of narrative magic comedy with a new array of incredible illusions to create a punchy, quick-paced show.

Witness an extraordinary show of jaw-dropping magic, illusion and comedy with Alex reinventing classic magic tricks for the 21st century; Luke providing a great mix of deception and comedy and Vyom taking the art of sleight of hand artistry to a whole new level.

This unbelievable new show premieres at Trades Hall from Tuesday 7 April until Sunday 19 April as part of the 2015 Melbourne International Comedy Festival. Performances will be held on Tuesday to Saturday at 7pm and on Sunday at 6pm (no shows Monday). Preview performances run Tuesday 7th to Friday 9th April. Tickets are priced \$25 full price, \$20 concession and \$16 previews. The show is suitable for ages 10 and over.

For Ladies: Strictly Over 18's ONLY.

[Read the flyer carefully, you can't buy tickets at the door on the night.](#)

Well ladies, it's that time of the month again, the fun kind! It's Ladies Night, a night you can be free to be yourself, not someone's mother, sister, child or wife. Just you spending time rediscovering who you are as an individual, pampering and indulging yourself on all that's on offer by [Princess Events](#), because you're worth it. There's also a charitable side to this event. All proceeds after expenses will be donated to Pregnancy & Infant Loss. Read about it on their [event page](#).

Ladies Night Out



Princess Events are proud to bring you another fantastic Ladies Night.

Friday 27th March 2015 7pm - 10pm

**Absolute Kaos Indoor Play Centre
86-88 High Street. Melton**

- *First 100 ladies through the door will receive a FREE showbag
- * FREE finger food whilst you browse
- * FREE or discounted products and services on the night.
- * Tarot Readings (at a special reduced rate for this night ONLY)
- * Massage * Makeovers * Facials * Photography

www.facebook.com/princessevents5

TICKETS FOR PUBLIC ENTRY ARE \$20 EACH
THIS IS A PRE-PURCHASED TICKETED EVENT ONLY.
NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

FOR ALL TICKETS EMAIL ;

princess.events.ladiesnight@gmail.com

OR CALL US ON 0410 409 443

THIS IS AN 18+ EVENT. NO CHILDREN ALLOWED

Shop • Pamper • Eat • Drink • Mingle • Laugh

Loony times @ Luna Park: OVER EASTER

Event: 27/03/2015 - 12/04/2015

Melbourne's iconic Luna Park, at 102 years young, is playing host to a fantastic selection of egg-citing family-friendly activities and entertainment these Easter school holidays.

From Friday 27th of March to Sunday 12th of April, 2015, families are invited to take on the awesome Sky Trail Navigator Adventure Course 'Climbzilla!' This brand new attraction is an 8 metre high, double level ropes course. Children and adults 100cm in height or taller can scale their way up and to keep things interesting, there are heaps of challenging trails along the way.

It's safe and fun and sure to be a hit with kids and adults alike! Plus during the Easter Long Weekend, the annual Great Luna Park Easter Egg Hunt returns, with lots of sweet activities on offer!

On Good Friday and Easter Saturday (3rd and 4th April 2015), Luna Park will be offering all their 18 classic rides and attractions, as well as stilt walkers, face painting, an adorable 'bunny and chick' animal farm and a special visit from the Easter Bunny!

Come Easter Sunday (5th April 2015) it's all about chocolate! From midday, four mega Easter Egg Hunts will commence with thousands of eggs hidden in Luna Park's 'Garden Terrace'. Each Hunt will be split into different age groups, with entry to the Hunt free with an Unlimited Ride Ticket. The Easter Bunny and the Mad Hatter will also be on hand with even more chocolate!

With so much on fun and entertainment on offer, Luna Park is the place to be these autumn school holidays! For more information on what's on and to purchase tickets, please visit

www.lunapark.com.au

CRAZY CREATURES

Animal Craft Workshops at Dandenong Market

Event: 28/03/2015 - 12/04/2015

Free School Holiday Fun Every Market Day

When: 28 March - 12 April 2015 (11am - 3pm)

Website: www.dandenongmarket.com.au/news/school-holiday-craft

Where: Dandenong Market

Cost: Free

Returning by popular demand, Dandenong Market's kids craft workshops will run throughout the Easter school holidays. Every Market Day, from 28th March to 12th April 2015, kids of all ages are invited 'unleash the beast' with the FREE Crazy Creatures Animal Craft workshops. These fun interactive workshops are perfect for crafty boys and girls who love to create.

Run by Dandenong Market favourite and award-winning face painter, Sci Westwood, the Crazy Creatures Animal Craft Workshops are all about encouraging creativity and imaginative play. There will be new craft activities to indulge in each day from 11am to 3pm in Market Square.

In a fun and encouraging atmosphere, kids will make animal masks, menagerie mobiles, paper bag puppets and story board felt animal pictures. During Easter Week, the Crazy Creatures Animal Craft workshop offer Easter-themed activities. Dandenong Market will be open on Easter Thursday (2 April), closed on Good Friday (3 April) and open throughout the Easter Weekend (Saturday 4 April and Sunday 5 April).

Crazy Creatures Animal Craft is completely free to participate in and no booking is required. Kids can join up at any time and parents are welcome to join in the fun too!

All workshop sessions run from 11am to 3pm in Market Square on the following dates:

Saturday 28 March; Sunday 29 March; Tuesday 31 March; Thursday 2 April; Saturday 4 April; Sunday 5 April; Tuesday 7 April; Friday 10 April; Saturday 11 April; Sunday 12 April

Mandolins Victoria Launch Gala Concert

When: Saturday 28th March 2015 at 7:30pm

Website: www.trybooking.com/GVJF

Where: St Stephens Anglican Church 360 Church St Richmond

Cost: Tickets \$25.00 (Refreshments Included)

On Saturday 28th of March, 2015, Mandolins Victoria Inc is proudly presenting a very special gala concert event featuring musicians, Stephen Lalor (mandolin) Slava and Leonard Grigorian (guitars), accompanied by the combined mandolin orchestras of Victoria.

This family-friendly event will commence at 7:30pm and will be held at St Stephen's Anglican Church, Richmond. The accomplished musicians participating in this event have performed with orchestras and musicians around the world and are 3 of Australia's most highly respected and sought after artists.

This is a rare opportunity to hear them perform concertos by Vivaldi, Handel and other solo works in the beautiful setting of St. Stephen's Anglican Church. Funds raised from this event will also help Mandolins Victoria Inc. run workshops, educational programs and events that will benefit and grow the mandolin movement in Melbourne.

Tickets are priced \$25 per person, which includes a refreshment. To make a booking, please visit [Trybooking](http://www.trybooking.com). If you have an enquiry, please contact Joan Harris on 0439 012 899. For more information on this event, please visit the official [Mandolins Victoria Inc. Facebook](#).



FEATURING



Children's Festival at Sky High Mt Dandenong 2015

Event: 30/03/2015 - 12/04/2015

Why? SkyHigh Mt Dandenong invites all kids for fun activities

When: Monday 30 March to Sunday 12 April 2015

Phone: 03 9751 0443

Website: skyhighmtdandenong.com.au/childrens-festival-april.aspx

Where: SkyHigh, Mount Dandenong

Cost: Free (gate entrance applies)

Skyhigh spreading smiles across children's faces

Skyhigh Mt Dandenong is one of the most popular destinations for tourists as well as locals, and it is host to many events over the course of the year. The first term holidays at Skyhigh is a special time for children and families, as the place is transformed into a festival for children. This year, the dates for the **Children's Festival** at Skyhigh are **Monday, 30th March to Sunday, 12th April 2015**.

There is a long list of activities, events, performances and train rides lined up for children of all ages. Whether your children like arts, music, magic, mazes, golf, balloons, pony/train rides, reptiles, farm animals, face painting, there is something that will charm them for sure, so be sure to check out the long [list of events](#) and plan your day out with the little ones accordingly. The best part is that children can participate in the festival for free. The only thing that parents need to do is register their kids. This is a very popular festival and early [registration](#) is highly recommended. Gate entry applies, and good parking is taken quickly; arriving early is the key.

The best way to plan the day is to choose the activities your kids will enjoy the most and register them. Pack a picnic and invite your friends along. Once you get there, leave the picnic in the car, while your children enjoy their chosen activities. By midday, lay your picnic in the beautifully manicured gardens around Skyhigh and enjoy your feast. For a treat, try the snow cones (especially if it is a hot day) or the fairy floss.

Seeing Eye Dogs Australia's Paw-some School Holiday Program

Event: 30/03/2015 - 10/04/2015

Activities to help kids understand vision impairment

[Seeing Eye Dogs Australia](#) (SEDA) have just held their very successful and well attended Open Day and Kensington and now have something else planned specifically for the kids! These school holidays, kids are invited to take part in SEDA's school holiday program, which they claim is the 'paw-fect way to entertain and educate'. And if their recent Open Day is anything to go by, the program will be a fun-filled, adorable puppy petting day.

There's educational activities which put kids into the shoes of someone who is blind along with fun activities like making dog biscuits which can be taken home to treat their special furry friend. Kids can also cuddle Seeing Eye Puppies and watch them play in their new 'Puppy Play Centre'. The newly built National Puppy Centre has extensive viewing areas, including indoor and outdoor areas, allowing the children to view puppies playing.

The School Holiday Program

The Program runs from 9.30am - 12.00pm on the following dates: Monday 30th March; Tuesday 31st March; Wednesday 1st April; Tuesday 7th April; Wednesday 8th April; Friday 10th April

Children are to be supervised by one adult. To book call 1800 03 77 73
Cost: \$40 per child. \$35 for each additional child.

Camping @ Lightwood Creek Camping Area, Cape Schanck, Victoria

(Camping, hmmm! If you ever want to surprise me with a camping trip, it'd better be in the HYATT, OR HILTON, CROWN CASINO, etc ...)

Phone: 613 8627 4700

Website: www.parkstay.vic.gov.au/mornington-peninsula-national-park

Where: Lightwood Creek Camping Area, Cape Schanck, Victoria

Cost: \$13

Get into the bush on the Mornington Peninsula ☺

If you like getting out of the city on the weekends and spending time in nature, then camping on the Mornington Peninsula might be for you. It's a bit off the beaten track and the solitude and opportunities for animal watching are superb. The area is packed with birds, wallabies, kangaroos, and plenty of plant life.

However, the Lightwood Creek Camping Area at Mornington Peninsula National Park is not your average camping experience. For starters, it's considered a "walk-in" site and the closest car park is at Gate 3 on Rogers Road, about 1.5km away. Secondly, there are no toilet facilities or running water. You will need to pack in everything you need.

If you don't mind a short walk and want to get out away from the noise and overcrowding common at many campgrounds, it's a great option. The booking process is easy, you can [book online](#), and the fees are only \$13 a night, which covers up to 6 people. Make sure you have a copy of your permit though because the park ranger does come around and check in the morning.

I went on Australia Day weekend and even though it was a holiday weekend, there were less than 10 other people in the whole area. We did have a bit of trouble finding the parking area at Gate 3, as the GPS is only helpful up until the point where Rogers Road forks. At this point, you want to take the right fork and you will shortly see Gate 3 on your left.

The trail map is pretty easy to read, but the camping area itself is not as easy to find. From the parking area, follow the signs for the Two Bays Walking Track and you will find the camping area halfway down a steep hill. Look for a low picnic table inside a clearing and you are there. If you wake up early for sunrise, you won't be disappointed, but if you are a night owl, the stars are lovely as well.

Upper Yarra Reservoir Camping A picturesque place to pitch a tent

Looking for somewhere different to spend a long weekend away? Why not go camping and try the Upper Yarra Reservoir campground? Upper Yarra Reservoir Park is located 24km east of Warburton which is approximately 100km from the Melbourne CBD. The camp ground is just out of the town of Reefton where you are also able to pick up any get basic supplies you may have forgotten and where you can also purchase firewood.

park is managed by [Parks Victoria](#) and offers a large open and spacious grassed camp ground. Although the camp sites are not marked as such, the size of the camp ground means that there is plenty of room to pitch your tent.

Bookings are required and can be made via the [Parks Vic online booking site](#) which means you can rest assured that you will have a site when you arrive. There are lots of positives with this camp ground such as the site being largely grassed, **and there are hot showers and flushable toilets which make camping more pleasurable, especially with children. Just an update. The showers have been removed. parks had removed the showers some months ago due to a waste water issue, and there was no indication they were coming back. Lovely spot anyway, but expensive compared to caravan parks.**

There are two electric BBQs located near the wet weather hall which also has two kitchens with stainless steel benches and sinks for washing your dishes. One of the kitchens has boiling water from an urn on the wall which is also useful for that pot of pasta or that other meal you decide to cook. The wet weather hall also has a number of tables and benches should you wish to get inside to eat plus. Ice is provided via acted

chest freezer on an honesty system which is great as you don't need to drive in to town. If you feel like a nice stroll there are two walks that you can do with the whole family. The Fern Gully track is a 1km loop and there is also the Bats Creek Track which is 1.5km return.

The [park notes](#) provide more detailed information regarding the park, its facilities and a location map.

If you have never been camping before this is a great place to be introduced to bush camping. Bring the marshmallows, grab a stick and enjoy an evening campfire. There is nothing like getting away somewhere different so consider Upper Yarra Reservoir for your next camping trip away.

Cheers to all,

enjoy & stay safe!