If cultural heart beats faster it'll catch my city



The oversized milk crate is one of three artworks commissioned by the City of Sydney

JEFF KENNETT



I READ that the City of Sydney this week announced the successful artists and their subsequent artworks that will be commissioned as part of a \$9 million public art project.

Congratulations to the city for running such a competition, and committing such a significant amount of money to the project.

To me art is about attracting different views and opinions. The greater the debate, the greater the success of the process and the installations selected.

The debate over the three works selected has already started and will no doubt continue to rage and be reignited when they are installed.

People will always argue over any money spent on the arts, and insist it would have been better spent on education, health or some other service that already receives billions of dollars in

annual recurrent expenditure. But I have always argued that you cannot have a cosmopolitan city without it having a strong cultural heart.

That heart includes all forms of art, music, dance, theatre, architecture, sculpture and, importantly, colleges and places

I also include some of our sportsmen and women as artists. At the peak of their powers their delivery is graceful, artistic.

For instance, Sydney's new Lance Franklin, when at full speed, effortlessly bends over, scoops up the ball, continues at full pace pursued by opponents who he leaves in his wake as he charges towards the goal. And then from the boundary line, 50m from goal, launches the ball into the air, drawing from left to right, the crowd in suspense, and then after what seems minutes, the ball finds its goal.

That is art. Back to the three works

selected for Sydney. I love the Cloud Arch. It is different, it will be seen for miles and from the thousands of windows that surround it. Children will run within its form and thousands of potential artists will touch it and

be photographed with it. The oversized milk crate. So obvious when you think about it. So much part of our past lives.

Again an installation for comment, as a destination to visit, for children to enjoy, to play in and around and to touch.

Sixty bronze birds? I would have thought Sydney had enough birds in its CBD, but at least these 60 birds will not be dropping good luck charms on a bustling community below of mere mortals. Or will they?

I read with interest as The Australian's national art critic Christopher Allen expressed his view against the concept of the competition and the installations chosen. He is entitled to his view, but in my opinion he could not be more wrong. This is an exciting moment for the city, and it needs all the excitement it can get to challenge Melbourne as Australia's cultural city.

In Victoria we invested heavily and widely in major events, both cultural and sporting. We invested heavily in public art, perhaps the best known by Sydneysiders are the Cheese Sticks that act as the door to Melbourne, through which all visitors pass when arriving in the state by air.

Brightly coloured, impossible to miss, the entrance has many names, some irreverent. The art installations continue as visitors mount the Bolte Bridge and pass through a futuristic tunnel.

Art — how I love it in all its

And Sydney desperately trying to catch up. Sydney will be a better place for these three installations, and if they can encourage just one citizen to pursue an artistic career the sculptures will have done their

Stay well Sydney, catch us if

THE MEXICAN FROM THE

Jeff Kennett was premier of Victoria from 1992 to 1999.

Registration of Interest

Herston Site Redevelopment at the

CSG leaks 'equal to that of cows'

GRAHAM LLOYD ENVIRONMENT EDITOR

LEAKING methane from coalseam gas wells was not as high as feared, with each well emitting about the same as four cows, a CSIRO study has found.

A review of 43 CSG well sites in Queensland and NSW undertaken for the federal environment department found leaking from the Australian industry was much lower than in the US.

All of the methane leaks were from equipment and none due to the release of gas from outside of

the well casing. The worst leaks were from well sites that were under pressure after being put out of production.

The report found emission rates from production sites rangel from zero to a maximum of about 44g a minute. Overall, the median methare emission rate from all sources for

the wells examined was about 0.6g a minute while the mean emission rate was about 3.2g a minute, or about seven cutc

"This compares to a mean production rate of the 43 wells of 29,600 cubic metres a day aid represents about 0.02 per centof total production," the CSIRO report said. Given the relatively small number of wells tested, the CSIRO report recommended more testing as well as an assessment of other potential emission points in the gas production chain.

The CSIRO research was released as the federal government's mandatory renewable energy target review considers a radical plan that could dramatically boost the role of gas in cutting the nation's carbon emissions from electricity

In a submission to the MRET review, the Australian Energy Market Commission has suggested a new scheme based on energy

meet the nation's renewable energy target. AEMC makes and amends the rules for the National Electricity Market and elements of the gas markets. It is an independent body

sions generators to issue renew-

Energy Council. A review panel headed by businessman Dick Warburton is expected to hand down its review of the RET this month.

that provides advice to the Coun-

cil of Australian Governments'

As well as concerns about

intensity. This would allow underground water contamiefficient gas and other low emisnation the carbon footprint of gas production due to fugitive methable energy certificates and ane emissions has been a key envicompete with wind and solar to ronmental question.

Fugitive emissions from unconventional gas production have been a major concern for environmental groups because methane is a much more potent and longer lasting greenhouse gas than car-

A paper published in the American Proceedings of Science last month found electricity generated using coal-seam gas or shale gas produced less than half the carbon dioxide emissions of electricity from burning coal.

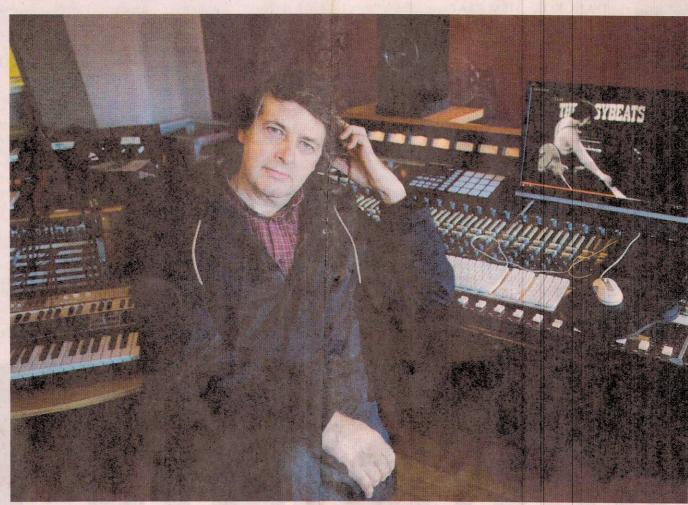
But lead author Gavin Heath, from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, said more work

was needed to better understand the impact of fugitive emissions. Results of the CSIRO study were welcomed by the Australian

gas industry lobby group, APPEA. It said the mean rate of fugitive emissions was the same as four cows. But anti-coal seam gas group Lock the Gate said the results of the CSIRO research were preliminary. "The results show that 40 of the 43 wells were still leaking," the group's spokesman,

INQUIRER P20

Drew Hutton, said.



RENEE NOWYTARGER

Smoke on the keys: Wayne Connolly with the old Nevenixing console used to produce AC/DC albums on the left

Graham

Newman, or had received any in-

formation from her regarding the

Graham would also not con-

firm whether he knew Mr Kyria-

kidis, or whether he had discussed

the matter with police. He said he

could not discuss confidential

sources. "It's been sensitive cover-

age and I can't discuss any of the

He said, like him, Ms Bacon was

sources on the stories." he said.

Abbott scholarship grant.

Home of Aussie rock still rolling

IAIN SHEDDEN

WAYNE Connolly has a bit of rock 'n' roll history at his fingertips when he goes to work every day. The music producer has his own studio in Neutral Bay, at the headquarters of J Albert and Sons in Sydney

The old Neve mixing console he works at, or at least half of it, is the same one on which classic Aussie rock albums by AC/DC, Ted Mulry Gang and the Angels were recorded in the 1970s at the old Alberts studios in the city's CBD. That partly explains why there are a lot of cigarette smoke stains on the controls.

"When AC/DC were recording there would be eight of them in there smoking continuously," Connolly said yesterday.

As producer in residence, Connolly is part of the 50th anniversary celebrations this year for Albert Productions, the record label founded by Ted Albert in 1964 that launched the careers of the Easybeats in the 1960s and AC/DC, the



AC/DC at the Neve console

Angels, John Paul Young, Filly Thorpe and the Aztecs and many more in the 70s. The label's legacy represents a golden age of Australian rock and pop.

To commemorate the 50th inniversary Alberts this month are releasing Good Times, a five-cisc collection of the greatest moments form the catalogue.

J Albert and Son chief executive David Albert is determined to see the company prosper as an iconic Australian family business long into the future. "Music is something that underpins the family," he said. "The ethos is that this is a family business, rather than a business in which the family

Revealed: Bacon, leaks and the plot to bring down an Abbott



Journalism teacher and writer Wendy Bacon

Queensland Treasury and Trade

Continued from Page 1

"Did you get it!!" Ms Newman plies 24 minutes later, saving she's on "edunoint right now and thee's very little on here but just tryinto generate a report"

She adds: "There's a bit abit Francis (sic) meeting with Leae on Feb 21 2011 and then receiving managng (sic) director scholars for 2011 three days later . . that's I've found for the moment."

In a further email to Mr Kyria idis sent 23 minutes later 6.43pm, Ms Newman, says: "§ em. Might go meet Chris now talk tactics, see you tomorrow."

New Matilda published its fir article on the issue the next da May 21, claiming a scholarsh awarded to Ms Abbott on the bas deeply involved in preparing the of merit was "contradicted by test Whitehouse scholarship story mony and documents obtained b from its inception, in her capacity New Matilda". New Matilda sai as a contributing editor and writer Ms Abbott was offered the "man for New Matilda. Asked whether aging director's scholarship" at he he had any concerns that the stufirst and only meeting with instident records of Ms Abbott and tute owner Leanne Whitehouse, more than 500 others might have

rather than undergoing anbeen improperly obtained, Graexhaustive application process. ham said: "I can't comment, but Graham would not confirm to i'm not concerned about the The Weekend Australian last night overage. I'm not concerned about whether he thought he was the my aspect of the coverage. "Chris" referred to by Ms Newman Asked whether he was con-

in her last email. He also would not erned the records of others might comment on whether he knew Ms ave been accessed by illegal

means, he said: "I don't have any knowledge of it."

One clue about the transfer of information from the Whitehouse system directly to New Matilda following the May 20 emails is that the word "managing" is misspelt in the original files, a Newman email and the New Matilda article.

Detective Sergeant Paul Grace

I'm not concerned about the coverage

CHRIS GRAHAM EDITOR OF NEW MATILDA

from Sydney's Surry Hills police station confirmed an investigation was under way following a complaint by the institute. He said it was close to completion.

NSW police are believed to be awaiting confirmation of one further detail.

Ms Newman, who did not return The Weekend Australian's calls, was a part-time night librarian with the Whitehouse Institute on May 20. She did not return to her job the day after computer files were accessed, which was also the day New MaAbbott's scholarship. Ms Newman's Facebook listing

describes her as an undergraduate student at the University of Technology, Sydney, the institution where Ms Bacon headed a journalism program until her retirement two years ago. Ms Newman is described as the UTS women's officer and is active in student politics. Mr Kyriakidis, co-founder of

the Space3 Gallery for painting and photography in Sydney's Chippendale, did not return calls. He resigned from his position as a part-time institute teacher in early June after being asked questions by management. He has an "adverse action" complaint lodged with the Fair Work Commission over his treatment by the Whitehouse Institute.

Ms Whitehouse, the institute's founder and managing director, wrote to all students vesterday to express regret after evidence had been uncovered of "an unauthorised access of confidential computer records from our computer system by a member of staff".

She told students police had informed the institute their investigations were nearing completion and they believe an offence had been committed. She said the institute was unable to determine

KiwiRail /

tilda published its article about Ms with certainty the extent of the breach of privacy, but could say with certainty it involved more than 500 current and former students. "We respect anyone's right to protest about government policies," she said. "However, there is simply no justification for such a gross - and illegal - violation of our students' privacy.

It is understood Ms Newman did not have access to the institute's computer system. According to reports made to police, a person gained access to the system using the login of another staff member. There is no suggestion the person whose login was used was connected to the alleged computer hacking. In response to questions last

night about whether she would have concerns if material from Ms Abbott's student records, and those of others, were inappropriately and possibly illegally obtained., Ms Bacon said last night: "As a professorial fellow at UTS, I give occasional guest lectures. As a journalist, I do not discuss stories involving confidential sources."

The Weekend Australian also asked if she knew Ms Newman and whether Ms Newman had been a student of hers, or whether she had had contact with Ms Newman over the New Matilda article.

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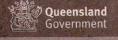
It is envisaged that health facilities will be complemented by commercial activities that enhance the overall value of the site for staff, visitors and nearby residents.

Innovative proposals are sought for developing the space at no net cost or risk to the State.

The closing date for Registrations of Interest is 12 noon 22 August 2014.

For more information please contact the Project Team at Herston@projectsqueensland.qld.gov.au or visit www.treasury.qld.gov.au/hhp

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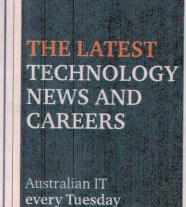
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