

# MERCURY

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TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2016

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JUST \$3 WITH TOKEN PAGE 2

**ANZAC COIN**  
TODAY: RATS OF TOBRUK  
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## STREET STABBING

PROBE: Police investigators at the scene of the man's death in a Lutana street.  
Pictures: RICHARD JUPE

# KIDS WATCH FATAL FIGHT

### EMMA HOPE

TWO young children witnessed a pre-dawn suburban street fight that has left one man dead and another in police custody.  
A seriously injured man was able to speak briefly to officers respond-

ing to emergency calls to Anear St, Lutana, about 6am yesterday.  
But the 39-year-old from Goodwood died from multiple stab wounds during the ambulance trip to hospital.  
Police said he had breached a family violence order by going to the

home of his 36-year-old ex-girlfriend. It is believed he was confronted by a 46-year-old Moonah man.  
Tasmania Police Detective Inspector Craig Joel said the death appeared to be the result of "tragic and avoidable circumstances".

CONTINUED PAGE 2



## Green light for \$90m arts hub

JESSICA HOWARD  
Urban Affairs Reporter

THE University of Tasmania's \$90 million cultural and performing arts hub has been hailed as one of the most important new projects for Hobart after receiving unanimous approval from the city council.

The Academy for Creative Industries and Performing Arts is billed as a world-class performing arts centre, which will be located on the corner of Collins and Campbell streets.

The university has previously said the academy is expected to attract between 3000 and 8000 new students and



GO-AHEAD: An artist's sketch of the project.

generate more than \$660 million in direct and indirect economic benefits over the next seven years.

Key components of the integrated centre include a studio theatre, recital hall and education spaces.

The project, designed by Liminal Architecture in conjunction with Singapore architects WOHA and Sydney planners Arup, will also encompass an upgraded Theatre Royal, a new Conservatorium of Music and the Creative Exchange Institute — a research institute focusing on performance, design and creativity.

UTAS acting vice-chancellor Mike Calford told the Mercury the Hobart City Council's approval last night was an important milestone.

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Editorial Page 14

Federal funds to help upgrade attractions

# Tourists' warmer welcome

FUNDING aimed at increasing the visitor experience at Port Arthur Historic Site and providing a bigger welcome for those walking the Three Capes Track has been announced.

More than \$250,000 of Federal Government funding was announced for projects on the Tasman Peninsula.

It includes money for a feasibility study to identify investment opportunities in the region to grow accommodation offerings and increase the length of stays.

"The Port Arthur Historic Site Visitor Centre will receive a \$206,125 grant for the redevelopment of tourist facilities, including upgrading the centre to have the capacity to welcome and process all walkers on the recently opened Three Capes Track," Lyons Liberal MP Eric Hutchinson said.

The funding was provided under the Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure Program to help drive tourists into regional Tasmania and in turn generate jobs, investment and growth.

A \$36,000 grant to create a Port Arthur and Coal Mines Theatrical Interpretation Program was also announced.

Minister for Tourism and International Education, Senator Richard Colbeck, said tourism was one of five super growth sectors for the Australian economy.

Senator Colbeck said the Government was committed



EMMA HOPE

to ensuring regions benefited from the growth.

"With 44 cents of every tourism dollar spent in regional areas, driving tourism demand to areas including the Tasman region will have a flow-on effect for employment and the local economy," he said.

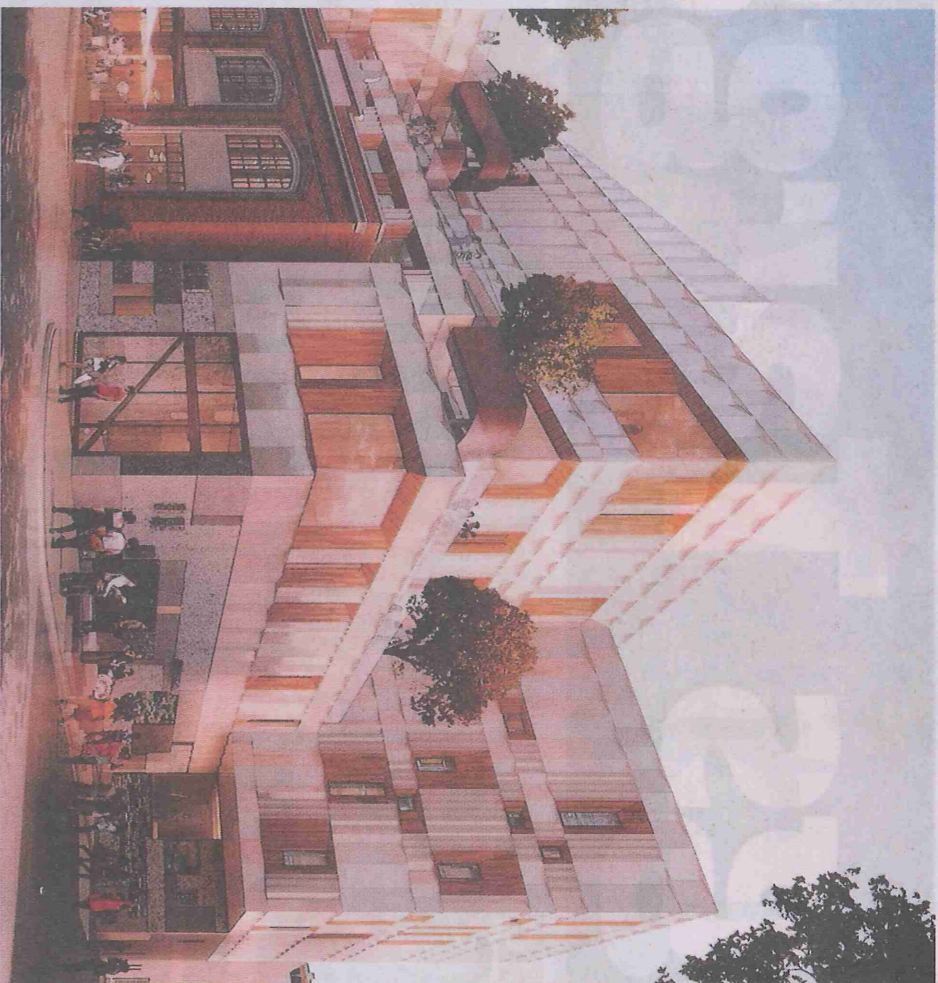
Lyons State Liberal member Mark Shelton welcomed the Port Arthur funding.

"The Hodgman Liberal Government is a proud supporter of Tasmania's booming tourism industry, which has developed a world class reputation for delivering unique and exciting tourism experiences," Mr Shelton said.

The total number of visitors to Tasmania for the year ending December 2015 was 1,153,300, up 8 per cent from 1,068,100 the previous year.

There was no word yesterday on committing federal funds to extend the walk to the third cape on the Three Capes Track.

The State Government has allocated \$4 million to build the final section to Cape Raoul. But the Federal Government remains silent on matching it to come up with the funds it needed to finish the job.



ARTISTIC VISION: The proposed University of Tasmania Academy of Creative Industries and Performing Arts in Campbell St, by Liminal Architecture, WOHDA and Arup.

## Councillors back \$90m inner-city uni arts hub

FROM PAGE 1

"We are delighted to have secured the community's support — through the unanimous council decision — for our vision for this project," Professor Calford said.

"The cultural and performing arts precinct embodies the power of partnership — the result of alignment between the university, the government and Theatre Royal.

"It is the next important step in our goal to be a university deeply embedded in its community and, along with other projects such as the NRAS Melville St student apartments, will dramatically lift the life and dynamism of our city heart."

Tasmanian College of the Arts head Kit Wise said the university would now be at the forefront of the nation and among the best in the world with the facilities in place.

"This building, in one of the most beautiful waterfront cities of the world, in the midst of an artistic and cultural resurgence across the state, will be a magnet for a new creative cohort of students, teachers and researchers," he said.

The new building will be connected to the Theatre Royal by a glass walkway, separating old from new.

Upgrades to the theatre will include a new public entrance, expanded bars and toilet facilities, the replacement of the ageing Backspace Theatre with a purpose-built studio theatre, new ticketing and cloakroom areas and a suite of dressing rooms.

Alderman Jeff Briscoe said at the council meeting that the project would be iconic for both the university and the city.

"This is probably one of the most important buildings that will go up in Hobart in the lifetime of this council," he said.

The academy is part of a wider vision by the university to move into the CBD.

It also plans to move its science, technology, engineering and maths research and training facilities to the corner of Argyle and Melville streets.

That site is close to the university's \$65 million, 15-storey student accommodation development under construction on the corner of Elizabeth and Melville streets.

Other university buildings in the city include the Centre for the Arts in Hunter St, the waterfront Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, Medical Sciences buildings 1 and 2 and the Domain campus.

The university also recently bought the Theatre Royal Hotel for \$1.7 million, with a view to creating a social hub for its growing inner-city campus. The target completion date for the project is 2018.

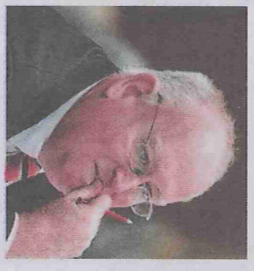
## Same name gaffe leads to secure data access

ROB HARRIS

ACCESS to a confidential database that held federal Cabinet ministers' personal contact details and politically sensitive documents was issued to a non-government employee because he shared the name as a current political staffer.

In an embarrassing breach of the Liberal Party's "secure" website protocols ahead of this year's federal election, an adviser to a crossbench senator was issued with personal log-on details to the site, which contained confidential internal Government documents and policy briefing notes.

An email sent on behalf of Liberal Party federal director Tony Nutt gave Chris Evans, an adviser to Independent Victorian senator John Madigan,



Tony Nutt

a password to the site while it also outlined security protocols around its strict access.

Government sources yesterday said it should be viewed as potentially a "serious security breach" and labelled it "incredibly sloppy".

Approved access to the site known as Jeparit Town, a reference to the rural Victorian birthplace of Australia's longest serving prime minister Sir Robert Menzies, was reserved only for "approved personnel" including Liberal MPs and senators, candidates and senior staff. It included personal phone numbers of parliamentarians and staff.

A Liberal Party spokesman said the "minor clerical error" occurred because a new staff member shared the same name as one of Senator Madigan's staff.

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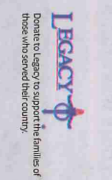
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# Your Tasmania

THE VOICE OF TASMANIA

## MERCURY

# Hobart first, regions next

**H**OBART'S move towards being a genuine university city took another significant step forward last night, with Hobart City Council approving plans for the University of Tasmania's new \$90 million cultural and performance precinct.

The development aims to tap into the state's Mona-led cultural resurgence and will create a hub to work with the state's emerging creative and design industries — the latest example of the uni crossing the threshold to work with industry, as it has with the likes of aquaculture and education.

There will be a custom-built new home for the Conservatorium of Music. There will be performance spaces for the community. It will house the Creative Exchange Institute — a new research institute with a focus on performance, design and creativity. It will connect to the Theatre Royal by a glass feature.

It is the latest chapter in the university's bold expansion plans, which to date have included the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, the Medical Science Precinct, the Centre for Arts in Hunter St and the \$65 million, 15-storey student accommodation development under construction on the corner of Elizabeth and Melville streets.

And it is a good thing for the city. Education and international students are among the key pillars for the development of the Tasmanian economy and will be an important plank for the State Government in realising its plan to dramatically increase the state's population.

Clean air, good food, a comparatively safe community and world class infrastructure are key selling points for the likes of the Chinese middle class,

**Tasmania is a state, not a capital city. The parochialism of the North/South, North/North-West etc etc etc divide is absurd**

India and, as we have more recently reported, South America.

The long-term game should be to get the kids here, give them good reason to stay and then, with a bit of luck, bring their families across.

And to build a city which can accommodate them, with first class public transport, education facilities, job prospects and clear employment pathways.

Hobart is on its way. There is no doubt about this. The overwhelming challenge now for Tasmania is to ensure the regions are not left behind.

Tasmania is a state, not a capital city. The parochialism of the North-South, North/North-West, etc etc etc divide is absurd.

As a state we need to realise we are only as strong as our weakest link and at some point we need to draw a line in the sand and dismiss this notion of division for the nonsense that it is.

The Federal Government has a chance to make a statement as to how it truly views Tasmania in the Federal Election, earmarked for July 2.

Does it believe enough in Tasmania to invest in our future?

If so, it has a prime opportunity to show leadership and work with the university to help its expansion plans for Launceston and Burnie.

Education is helping to transform Hobart for the better. There is little doubt it can have the same impact on our cities in the North and North-West.

This can lead to deep-seated cultural change, leading to families and thereby communities having something tangible to which to aspire. It is a legacy of which any politician would surely be proud.

## Put the Palace on Mac Point

HOBART seems to have a need for additional hotel rooms and economic development. Some Hobartians seem not to want high-rise development. Why not arrange a swap of equitable land space between two parties that want development?

The proposed multi-storey Palace Hotel, mooted for Elizabeth St, could be built on a portion of the Macquarie Point site and started, presumably very quickly.

The Macquarie Point Corporation and the proponent could then start the \$40 million, 73-metre-high development almost immediately on, or near, either of the areas called the Red Shed or Round House. The proponents say they have the money and want to start the Palace Hotel and the Corporation says it is eager to get going.

If the Palace Hotel were at Macquarie Point it would be on a clear site. The top of the Palace Hotel would be like a beacon and could have an illumination at the top, focused down river like a lighthouse during the night. Maritime heritage, tourism and economic development, and a kick start for Macquarie Point.

**Dennis Keats  
Howrah**

### Trashing Hobart

BEFORE we rush to trash Hobart with several generic, high-rise hotels to "service the tourist demand" we need to ask why Hobart, and Tasmania generally, is attracting so many tourists. All the opinion surveys of both actual and potential tourists show a consistent set of attractions, these can be summarised as clean, green and small in an attractive architectural setting. This is diametrically opposed to the "let's make a quick buck" development proposals. What is being proposed is to destroy the very thing that brings tourists here and will sabotage the tourist industry leaving Hobart with a set of ugly and empty hotels.

**Richard Goodram  
Mt Nelson**

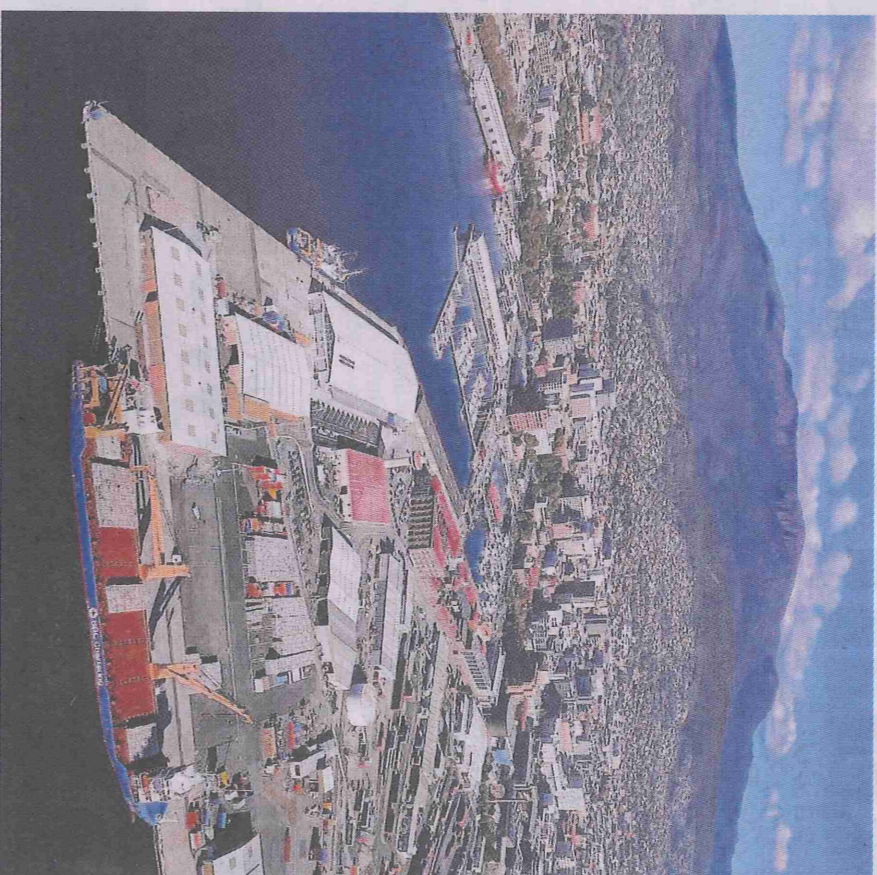
### Stop carping

I REALISE the Opposition must be seen to be doing its job but Bryan Green is continually whingeing. He is not showing anything but angst and does not come up with any productive ideas to help Tasmania. Between him and Cassy O'Connor there are very poor alternatives for governing this state. The pair of them are just perpetual knockers and have not got a decent thing to say. In an ideal world all members of Parliament would work together to achieve better outcomes that would benefit all electors. Give us a break guys and stop carping as we are sick of it.

**Scott White  
Sorell**

### Budget magic

WHAT a revelatory article by John Lawrence that gave us enlightenment on some



**SPOT ON:** The high-rise Palace Hotel could be like a beacon at Macquarie Point.

intriguing accountabilities that Treasurers use when divvying a given position on governmental finances ("Four common budget myths busted", Talking Point, *Mercury*, April 6).

I will here readily admit to being a somewhat laggard when it comes to matters of high finance. Yet I have received an educational jolt through this Talking Point article which has bolstered my insight to the machinations of mathematics, colloquially known as "creative accounting".

In this mode of figuring and counter-figuring, the deck chairs on the Titanic are here.

The Treasurers' magic wands, at both state and federal levels, will certainly hasten, as we approach the Budget period. Rabbits will, no doubt, fly out of hats — as we are cajoled, dear citizens, in the spectacle of smoke and mirrors.

**Jack Buzelin  
Taroona**

### Confusing move

WHEN I saw the heading of the Talking Point column by Madeleine Ogilvie, I thought, "Wow. Progress at last" ("Law around end of life decisions needs to be clearer and simpler", *Mercury*, April 6).

But as I read the column itself, alarm bells began to ring. At "Palliative care professionals are up to speed ..." the dim became tormenting. I can agree that some palliative care professionals are up to speed, but I have read more than half of the submissions to the recent "Inquiry into end of life choices" in Victoria. Palliative

care professionals are certainly not of one mind on this issue. I didn't analyse the submissions well enough to be precise, but to "back of an envelope" accuracy, it is clear to me that at least one third of people claiming to be palliative care professionals have weird definitions of most of the relevant terms, and seek to force their patients to accept their "Doctor knows best" definitions.

As described in the Talking Point column, the Bill that Madeleine Ogilvie hopes to introduce seems to do very little and might even make matters worse. I notice that "many suggestions for improvement" have been made. If she genuinely, honestly wants to be part of the solution, then she should liaise with her colleagues, Lara Giddings and Cassy O'Connor. They seem to be progressing in the right direction towards a simple, sensible, reasonable and safe solution to the problem, not towards a confusing red herring.

**Keith Anderson  
Kingston**

### Power problems

IF we are serious about electricity why are the lights on in government buildings all hours of the days and nights of the weekends? The last person to leave please turn out the lights. Also, with drooping water levels in hydro dams, the problem of silt in the turbines will cost a lot of money to fix and would take the turbines off line and cause power outages.

**Jan Smith  
Blackmans Bay**

## Let Canberra fund the health system

FOR goodness sake, when is someone in our Federal Government (ideally the Health Minister) going to put their foot

down and accept healthcare should be funded by the Federal Government, and that the tertiary care hospitals should be allocated funding using a formula that takes into account population, population density and distance.

It is bizarre that people expect to have a tertiary standard intensive care unit in

Surely one doesn't have to be a rocket scientist to sort this out. And people must accept that if they choose to live in a rural or remote area, part of their understanding must be that tertiary care is never going to be just down the road.

Please can someone, anyone, stop this ridiculous debate about health care funding?

**Jane Marstrand  
Lenah Valley**