

# Pool anger still simmers

OAKLEIGH-MONASH  
LEADER 12 SEPTEMBER 2006

IN RESPONSE to former Oakleigh councillor John Marten's comments, (*Leader*, August 22) I acknowledge his connection with Oakleigh Pool from its beginnings and its value to the community, but isn't it a bit rich to expect Monash ratepayers to foot the bill for any redevelopment?

As a Monash resident, my family and a multitude of others are struggling to pay our council rates each year, and the recent 9 per cent hike has added further financial burden to households.

Why should we contribute additional money to upgrading a pool that the council was happy to allow to deteriorate?

If they had maintained it properly, we would not be in this position now.

This pool has been stolen from the Monash community.

If councillors were surprised by the anger vented at them by residents at the recent public meetings, they were very much out of touch with the needs of their constituents.

**Sally-Anne Vega,  
Hughesdale.**

## Losing the green?

I LOVE the free ad for the sale of the Monash Primary School site (*Leader*, August 29). The agent fails to point out that the innocuous term "medium-density development" means

## Keep fighting for rights

I WRITE in regards to the article (*Leader*, August 29) about a Glen Waverley family of asylum seekers having to live on hand-outs for five years.

Imagine no government support, no medicare, not allowed to work or study – absolutely no rights that the rest of us take for granted.

The saddest irony of this story is this family is one of many around Australia that are forced to live this way.

August 14 was an example of the power of people, as many Australians rang, wrote letters, signed petitions and sent messages far and wide, which resulted in John Howard backing down on the proposed Unauthorised Arrivals Bill.

Why did many Australians do this? Because they knew it was wrong and they have made connections, made friends with people who, just like us, share the love of family and

three-storey concrete blocks of flats with no greenery.

Let's get some truth into the yarn that the agent, our council planners and the State Government are peddling.

**David Gates,  
Notting Hill**

## VCAT battle looms

CONGRATULATIONS Monash City Council and Central Ward councillors! You have instilled renewed faith in the local residents at the public

meeting with Monash City Council staff on the upcoming VCAT hearing for the former CSIRO car park site.

Because of

genuine fear, these people have had to leave their homeland. If the shoe was on the other foot, I hope I would be welcomed where I went and my basic human rights would not be denied to me.

To the charities and the people working towards helping people on Bridging Visa E stay afloat, you show the real meaning of a 'fair go'.

To the family in Glen Waverley and the many others like them, I pray that, like the Unauthorised Arrivals Bill, somehow people power can win the day again and you can enjoy the same rights as myself to work, study, go to a doctor and be as equals in the land of the so-called free.

**Helen Law,  
Mt Waverley.**



### Letter of the Week

This week's winner receives an environmentally-friendly shopping bag.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the paper or its staff.

meeting with Monash City Council staff on the upcoming VCAT hearing for the former CSIRO car park site.

A big thank you to councillors Geoff Lake and Dane Manzie for organising the public meeting at the Civic Centre.

About 70 local residents attended.

They listened to presentations by three senior staff from the City of Monash planning department, along with a senior traffic officer, our two councillors and a lawyer,

hired by Monash council to represent them at the VCAT hearing.

We now have no doubt about Monash City Council's determination to defend their permit refusal for the proposed nine-unit, triple-storey-plus car park development in a quiet suburban street.

Well done and thank you to all!

**Sandra Feleppa,  
CSIRO Redevelopment Action  
Group**