

Feature Article Years 7 - 9: History tour by iPhone

## History tour by iPhone

*Most Melburnians are aware the city is full of hidden gems. One innovative local has taken it one step further, with an iPhone travelogue that profiles more than 100 of our quirkier sites, SAEED SAEED reports.*

IT IS easy for tourists and Melburnians alike to miss the gargoyle outside St Patrick's Cathedral. Tucked away on the church's eastern side, the gargoyle bears an eerie resemblance to former Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett.

As Tim Richards - creator of the iPhone travelogue, Melbourne Historical - found out, this was an intentional political statement. "It was deliberately designed by the stonemason to look like the premier of the day," Mr Richards said.

Mr Richards, a Melbourne resident and travel writer, has catalogued more than 100 of the city's quirky locations in Melbourne Historical. He said the whole point of the program was to expose tourists and Melburnians to the most interesting aspects of the city, which were often small, obscure and right in front of our noses.

"For example there is a building in Richmond near Victoria Gardens where the opera singer Dame Nellie Melba was born and there is a little plaque there showing you that," he said.

Other offbeat entries in the program - which Mr Richards continually updates - include the iron urinals at the rear of the Rialto which in the 1890s earned the city the unwanted tag of "Marvellous Smellbourne".

Mr Richards said another favourite historical spot was the Edith Cavell Memorial in Kings Domain. "It is a statue that people drive past of this woman (Cavell) who was a nurse in World War I and was executed by the German army," he said. "It was a famous story and quite a big cause at the time. But no one remembers

Headline to catch reader's interest (sentence case)

Catchy headline using assonance

Subheading provides angle or point of view; byline

Interesting imagery to begin article and hook readers; angle of article about quirky sites otherwise missed by people

Language choice is mainly formal

Historical background

Uses mainly present tense

Figurative language may be used to engage the reader's imagination (eg. *right in front of our noses*)

Specific information interests reader about quirky sites

Facts or evidence validates the writer's viewpoints

Relevant historical jargon adds authenticity to information presented and builds relevance of the app

who she is now.”

Mr Richards said Melbourne continued to surprise residents and tourists because of its vibrant history. “The joy is not in the big attractions, but in the small little granule and quirky things which have survived,” he said.

Mr Richards said publishing on iPhones was exciting because it allowed information to be updated quickly.

With the phone’s inbuilt GPS, Mr Richards said travellers could find the nearest tourist spot without trawling confusing travel maps. “It will not revolutionise the industry exactly,” he said. “But it will make guide books more accessible and useful.”

Variety of long and short sentences

Conclusion links to introduction and angle of the article

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