

EAST MELBOURNE JOLIMONT 3002

community magazine

HAVE YOUR SAY

on what life should be like
in east melbourne

**5x4 HAYES LANE
PROJECT**
an exciting building

**CONCERN ABOUT
AIRCRAFT NOISE**
taking off

WINTER
2013



FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW

5X4 PROJECT

*East Melbourne is
home to a very small
but very exciting
building project.*

Siusan MacKenzie

This is a unique inner city dwelling set on an unusually small footprint. It has been designed, built and powered with passive and active eco-driven processes, materials and performance considerations.

This is the idea of client and project manager Ralph Alphonso who has already built townhouses in Hayes Lane. His father's throw-away question about what he was going to do with the adjacent leftover land, which housed a lean to shed, had Ralph's head spinning with ideas.

Through his work as a photographer Ralph has been exposed to much innovative architectural and construction work. He has drawn on this experience and his contacts to bring to fruition his dream of turning the 5m x 4m pocket of land into a sustainable living space he himself would want to live in.

After much world-wide research about the use of small spaces he became very aware of how he was using and wasting his existing living space. This all served to inform the design of the project.

The One Planet Living principles will be used as a guide for the physical design of the project, with adaptation around behaviour to reduce ecological footprints in a city. It will also provide a platform for educating people about the process.

The 5x4 Hayes Lane Project will demonstrate and encourage debate around sustainable living, a healthy form of settling the city of Melbourne more closely and how to achieve these aims through best practice design and living.

The project was presented to the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio, Brazil in 2012 and is supported locally by groups such as The Conservation Foundation, City of Melbourne and Beyond Zero Emissions. You can follow the development of the 5x4 project at www.fivexfour.com