

# Kerrie Kena Cakes

Cakes and music, a winning combination for Kerrie Kena



If you have a celebration planned it's a good idea to have Yeronga woman Kerrie Kena's number in your phone.

Not only can she make you a mean celebration cake, she can also keep you and your guests entertained and ready to party.

Kerrie, who has lived in Yeronga since the nineties, runs both her cake decoration business called Kerrie Kena Cakes, and plays music with her husband and daughter.

Along with husband Vic she is part of a long-standing and successful band called Wildcard that plays at functions and local clubs and pubs. The couple are also part of The Kena's, a band that includes their daughter Georgie on bass Guitar.

The family will also perform at the Winton Way Out West Music Festival next month to showcase the condensed format of their Australian Ukulele Show, called "The Aussie Uke Show" which takes the audience on a journey through the history of Australia.

"Helping people make memories that will last forever, that's why I love both my cake business and our music," she said.

"I once read that people usually remember the cake and the band at a party, so I think I've covered the bases".

Kerrie started Kerrie Kena Cakes nine years ago after building a reputation among family and friends as the parent who made her children the best birthday cakes.

Her little side earner grew from there and now she is sought after around South-East Queensland.

Her cakes are bespoke and she also specialises in cookie bouquets and macarons.

"I really like to focus on cake designs that suit the person's individual personality and I like having those conversations to work out exactly what it is that the person wants," she said.

"Cake making is so diverse and the options really are endless. I have made cakes with camping themes, cars and under the ocean themes. Whatever suits that particular person. I love getting detailed and giving them something they will always remember."

Kerrie said some of the most sought-after trends in 2021 were the tall (double barrel) drip cakes, however on the humorous side, she found "Corona" beer bottle and "toilet paper" roll cakes to be in hot demand.

"The best thing about these cakes are that you can personalise them to suit anyone."

Kerrie Kena Cakes 0421 848 742 or @kerriekenacakes

# History of Yeronga

Part 5

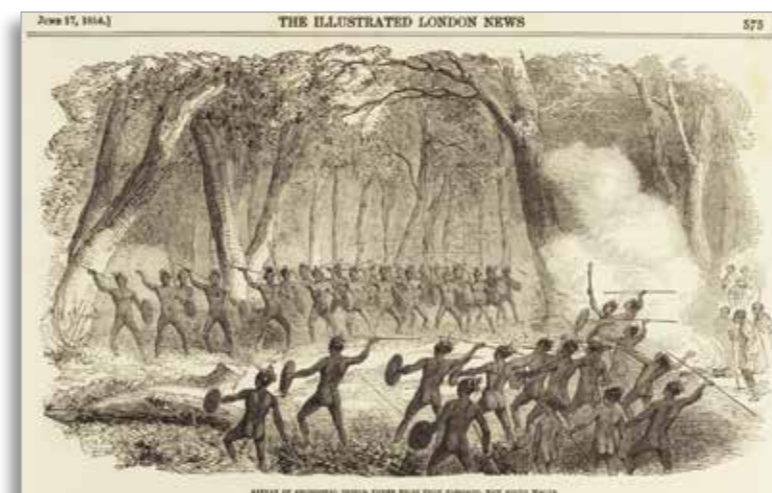
Dr. Michael Macklin

It is interesting to see that the Yeronga area was making international news as early as the 1850s.

An account in *The Illustrated London News* of 17th June 1854 describes a "war of fight" between the "Amity Point, Logan, Bribie Island, and Ningy-Ningy tribes" about a mile beyond Burnett's Swamp (now Stones Corner) to settle a dispute over the kidnapping of a woman. The exact site of this *pullen pullen* is disputed but recent work by local historians suggests that the "fine green flat" referred to in the article seems to have been the area from near the Yeronga Memorial Park stretching as far as Yeerongpilly. The article finishes with the following revealing comments that give us some insight into the mindset of that time:

"...it is the imperative duty of the Government to step in...to put a stop to a murderous practice, one of the remnants of that barbarism which sixty-six years of active occupation of the country by Europeans has not been able to efface...it must be recollected that the European having seized to himself the lands of the aborigines, the least return he can make is to bestow on them the benefits of that civilization which is the white man's proudest boast, and which has been the means of enabling him to render subservient to his power and will his sable brethren whenever he has found them."

It is probable that the Yeronga area was chosen for this *pullen pullen* because of the local Yerongpan's standing among the various surrounding groups. This has clearly been a well settled area even prior to colonization and would have been acknowledged as such by other groups. For example, Tom Petrie talks about a number of separate camps of about two hundred each spread across a wide area. Much larger figures than these were mentioned in newspaper reports as far back as 1847 with talk of up to two thousand people per camp/village.



Clearly this was only possible in areas where food was in abundance such as was the case in the Yeronga/ Yeerongpilly area. It would seem that it was a good place for a get-together even of this belligerent kind since significant numbers lived in this area in substantial dwellings with no issue about supplying an additional one to two hundred for a visit. This description from 1848 well illustrates the situation:

"...they have fixed habitations, dwelling in little villages of six or seven huts in a cluster. Some of them are of great length, extending upwards of eighty feet, and covering a considerable space of ground ... One of them was in the form of a passage, with two apartments at the end. The arches were beautifully turned, and executed with a degree of skill which would not have disgraced an European architect."

Nice to think that when the Egyptians were putting up their pyramids, the locals in Yeronga were building some rather nice homes for themselves and welcoming visitors even then.

1. John Oxley Library, Brisbane Suburbs and Localities. *The Illustrated London News*, Saturday 17 June, 1854, pp575-576.
2. James Devaney, 'Records of Brisbane Blacks,' BC, 21 May 1932 p. 19 & James Devaney, *ibid.* Ray Kerkhove "Indigenous Aboriginal Sites of Southside Brisbane. Accessed online 16 August 2019 at <https://mappingbrisbanehistory.com.au/brisbane-history-essays/brisbane-southside-history/first-australians-and-original-landscape/indigenous-sites/>
3. Petrie, Tom, 1901, 'Ethnology' *The Old Brisbane Blacks. Letter to the Editor* *The Brisbane Courier*, 28 September 1901, p 624
4. Ray Kerkhove. "Aboriginal Camps: Foundation of our towns, suburbs and parks? Evidence from South-eastern Queensland." Paper delivered for the AHA Conference: 'Foundational History' University of Sydney 8 July 2015
5. *Moreton Bay Courier*, 17 June 1848, page 3.



Annerley/Yeronga/Salisbury

Jane Elvin,  
LJ Hooker Annerley/Yeronga  
M: 0408 344 417  
E: j.elvin@ljhookerproperty.com.au

# Village NEWS

April 2021

Tai Chi  
waking up Yeronga  
locals on the Corso

The Village Yeronga  
a community within a community

Kerrie Kena Cakes  
cake and music a winning combo



Market Update  
is it now time to sell?

History of Yeronga Part 5



Annerley/Yeronga/Salisbury

Compliments of Jane Elvin

# Market Update

## Is now the time to sell?

Firstly, I wanted to say thank you for the calls and message I receive around the publication of the Village News. A lot of work and thought goes into it so knowing the magazine is being well received definitely puts a smile on my face. This year we are going to go into a monthly publication and keep making changes around the format to keep it interesting. I am a real estate agent, but I really want to make this magazine about our wonderful community and try and keep my property insights to a limit. You can call me if you want to talk real estate and the market!

What a start to 2021. For property owners I don't think you could wish for a better time than now in the market. In my 10 years in the real estate this is the strongest I have ever seen.

I felt a definite change in our market mid-February, it was like the "property switch had been flipped" and everything just took off, each week stronger than the last, a pace in the market I have never experienced. It's become a seller's-market and I can't lie, I am so happy for many, particularly our retirees and our flood impacted property owners.



Our retirees deserve to see their biggest asset perform at the best level. For many this is their life all rolled into one investment and they deserve the privilege of selling, downsizing and putting money in the bank for lifestyle. This part of the market I must admit is probably my most rewarding to work with and an area I really would like to specialise in. Our flood impacted property owners saw their properties drop dramatically in price, 2011 was a tough year. But that gap between flooded and non-flooded is narrowing and this part of the market is resurging. Now could not be a better time to sell if that is what you have been contemplating.

## What a buyer needs to do to secure a property

Let's talk about what a buyer needs to do to secure a property, it's a seller's-market and our buyers are struggling. As a buyer you need to get all of your "ducks in a row" and that means:

- Talk to a mortgage broker and get your pre-approvals in place – if you need a good local broker please let me know.
- Obtain an understanding of your finances, ask "can I bid under auction conditions?" If you can, you don't have to be at an auction to use those conditions. Use them to secure a property now.
- If you want to add special conditions to a contract get those conditions from your solicitor now ready to copy and paste them into a contract. You might find a property will be sold by Sunday while you are waiting to get to your solicitor on Monday.
- Don't put an expiry date on your offer pressuring a vendor. You are one of many buyers, this type of behaviour gets you nowhere.
- Don't offer high thinking you will negotiate out in building and pest – make sure you can afford the offer you put on a contract as there may be no negotiations post contract if there is a line-up of back up buyers.
- Stop treating agents as your enemy, tell them your story, what your budget is, what you want to buy let them know about your finances.
- The more an agent knows you the more confidence they can give the seller, we talk through not only the offers but the people too.
- If you want an agent to call you back, leave a message, but also if we call you for feedback answer our calls – it works both ways.
- Attend the first open home, there is a good chance it may not be available by the second open home.
- If you are in multiple offers and asked for your last and final, it means give your last and final, you more than likely will not get another chance. It's easy to say you would pay more after you have lost a property, pay that when you are offering.
- Be prepared to pay more than what you think a property may be worth if you want to get into the market.

Most importantly, hang in there, keep putting your best foot forward. This strength is not disappearing any time in our market in the near future.



# Live, Love, Local



## TAI CHI Meditation in motion on the Brisbane Corso

On a Wednesday morning, when it seems like most of the world is rushing to start their daily lives, there is a small but growing group of people in Yeronga, focussed on their mind, body and spirit.

Annerley woman Chunmei Yang has slowly but surely grown her group of avid Tai Chi enthusiasts over the past five years.

Every week on Wednesday at 8.30am, more than 20 Yeronga locals gather on the Brisbane Corso, near the Somerville House boat shed for an hour-long session, which is part of the Brisbane City Council's free active and healthy events program. Afterwards why not stroll down to the Baladi Coffee van and enjoy a coffee on the river?

"Tai Chi has started to become more popular recently because I think a lot of people are really understanding why it is so good for both their mental and physical health," she said.

"When I first started holding classes in Yeronga, not many people would get involved, but now I have students that have been with me for years."

"I once did a letterbox drop about my classes and one of my students saw my letter and said that little piece of paper saved his life."

Everyone is welcome at the classes, which attract people from 19 to 85 years old.

"Tai Chi is a gentle and low impact exercise that is very good for muscle strength, improved balance, reduced falls, reduced pain and improved chi," Chunmei said. Tai Chi



**Where:** John Walker Place, on the Brisbane Corso (near the Somerville House boat sheds)

**When:** Wednesdays at 8.30am

**Cost:** Free



originated in China as a martial art and is often described as "meditation in motion" and many practitioners use it to enhance physical strength, boost mood and even improve the immune system.

## THE VILLAGE YERONGA

### A community within a community

It is the residents themselves who make The Village Yeronga a great place to live, with many choosing their home based on its location, excellent facilities and close-knit community.

Located on Hyde Road, The Village Yeronga offers residents the opportunity for independent living without the worry of managing their former family homes.

One of the newest residents Lyn Nicholson said she quickly found a community to bond with when she moved to The Village Yeronga.

"I had a friend who already lived here so I found that helped me to connect with people straight away, but it really is a good place to meet people if you want to," she said.

"It is also a great place to be if you want to lead your own life."

Lyn decided to move to The Village when she was downsizing from her former Yeronga townhouse that she sold through Jane.

"I really wanted a decent apartment in that Hyde Road pocket of Yeronga, so The Village ticked a lot of those boxes," she said.

Lyn enjoys being able to walk where she wants and she loves her spacious new three-bedroom apartment.

"The grounds at The Village are lovely and I can swim every day in the pool, which is something I have always wanted to do," she said.

Another resident, former university professor Ortrun Skerritt, 84 moved into The Village four years ago after she "decluttered" her life and property portfolio.

"The Village provides all of the residents with a good option for independent living in a way that keeps us connected to a community," she said.

"I know from living alone in a big house that it can be very isolating. Even if you live in a city apartment and are surrounded by people, it can still feel isolating."

"We all love the community we have here and that there are activities for everyone to enjoy."

### Keeping active in retirement is a breeze at The Village Yeronga

With a vibrant community of active retirees, it's no wonder The Village Yeronga was able to provide its residents with an innovative way to keep fit during 2020's COVID\_19 lockdown.

The Village Yeronga sales manager Kath Gilhooley said the main focus during that time was on maintaining the health and wellness of the residents.

"Last year, when our community facilities had to close down, I was very aware of how this would impact our residents, particularly because the gym is very important, so together with our physio we organised vertical exercise classes for the residents to do on their balconies," she said.

"With all apartments enjoying spacious balconies and many overlooking green space (either Hyde Road Park or the Yeronga sporting fields), The Village Yeronga consulting physio was able to demonstrate from the parks, while residents followed the exercises from the comfort of their balconies."

The vertical exercise classes attracted attention, featuring on the local TV news.

There is no doubt, The Village Yeronga's location on Hyde Road is a major drawcard, as is the opportunity it presents for residents to alleviate the burden of the family home.

"Now that life is returning to normal, The Village Yeronga's residents are able to embrace the usual dynamic and active lifestyle they are used to," Kath said.

"Nestled amidst an array of wrap around green parkland space, there is simply no better destination, than The Village Yeronga."

More than 400 residents, that live across 285 independent apartments, call The Village home and all contribute in their own way to this tight-knit community.

Contact: Kath Gilhooley 3892 5454

