



## # 64

With Christmas fast approaching we are capping off the year with a Landscape spectacular. We wish you a safe and happy festive season as we look forward to 2017.



Aspire at  
Evanston South

## Our Team

The landscape team at Swanbury Penglase is headed up by Cecilia Tang and Lana Greer. Cecilia has been with the firm since 2009 while Lana has been with us since 2014. Both of our landscape leaders are graduates of Masters of Architecture, lending them added flexibility and a broader understanding of our built environment. Their youth has injected new energy, and drive for innovation both into the office and our recent projects.

If you've missed us in recent Landscape Architecture networking or awards events, it's only because we have been absorbed in our projects. One of these is the Aspire Residential Development at Evanston South which took out a National Excellence Award at the UDIA awards this year.

## Landscape Architectural Conference

Cecilia and Lana attended the recent Landscape Architectural Conference in Canberra, titled "Not In My Back Yard", nicknamed NIMBY. As jovial as the name sounds, it was not always so light hearted. The talks and discussions dealt with global issues in the Anthropocene (termed as a new geological period defined by the fact that the earth's systems are now fundamentally determined by human activity) such as climate change, population growth and the impacts of increasing agricultural needs/land. Despite the helplessness we felt as landscape architects to change the world alone, we were told that it might just be ok if the world immediately prepared for the worst case scenario instead of pretending it isn't happening. There is hope, if we drive less, eat less beef, use less packaging and give back a little bit of land for increased habitat conservation.

## Education Work

Enthusiastic about the future of the profession, Cecilia and Lana have been actively lecturing and tutoring at the University of Adelaide for the past few years. Back at the office the trend in projects this year has also been in education. We have seen an amazing range of project types, from 30 year plans, landscape masterplans to playgrounds and courtyard upgrades. Currently, we are very excited to be in construction of play spaces at St. Andrew's School and landscape upgrades at Blackwood High School.

## Public Work

In addition, we've been equally busy in the public realm. You might have seen our Health Innovation Building for University of South Australia grow on North Terrace and along the Morphett Street Bridge. The Urban Park between the two university buildings will begin to take shape very soon. Although each of the two University design teams have personalised elements in their respective halves of the Urban Park, we have collaborated closely to ensure that the park appears and functions as one for the public.



Glenside New Health Facilities

Swanbury Penglase is pleased to work with Prospect Council again on some streetscape improvements. One of these projects, at the junction of Prospect Road and Percy Street seeks to acknowledge the heritage of R.M. Williams in Adelaide. 5 Percy Street has been stamped on the bottom of thousands of pairs of boots sold by R.M. Williams, bought both in Australia and even throughout the World, a significant achievement to be celebrated.

## Staff Notes



**Name:** Lana Greer

**Position:** Landscape Architect and Graduate of Architecture

**Current projects:** Playford International College, Thebarton Senior College, Adelaide Shores Caravan Park

**Fav building/space:** The Jantar Mantar in New Delhi, India is great. It's a set of 13 architectural astronomy instruments built in the 18th Century, each one has a unique purpose and they create some really interesting spaces. There are five 'Jantar Mantar' spread across in India – the one in Jaipur features the world's largest stone sundial! It's top of the must-see list for when I return.

**Best thing about living in Adelaide:**

Throwing Fruchocs at kids coming down the slide at St Kilda while drinking a Farmer's Union Iced Coffee.

**Next holiday destination:** Heading to Iceland for New Years... going to try and catch the Aurora Borealis and go ice-caving (it'll be deep winter! ...yikes)

**Meet one person dead or alive, who would it be?** I reckon Nikola Tesla would be worth meeting... in addition to his well-known contributions to the design of the modern electrical supply system and many other lesser-known inventions, he had a hilarious feud with Edison and he also tried to build a Death Ray that one time.

**Currently Listening to:** I'll admit, acoustic versions of Christmas songs.... In my defence, 'tis the Season.

**Favourite Movie or TV Show, why?**

Gilligan's Island – because I'm a nut for hard hitting documentaries.

**Superpower (if you could have one):** Not accidentally saying "you too" when cinema staff tell me to enjoy the movie.

**One 'cause' you feel strongly about:** Just returned from the International Festival of Landscape Architecture where the 'NIMBY' Conference illustrated how the Earth's systems are now fundamentally defined by human behaviour. A quote that stayed with me from the conference's New Views panel: "We need to start managing our Natural capital the same way we manage our Financial capital."

**Memorable SPA (by this I mean Swanbury Penglase) moment:** There have been many. Let's go with the ensuing chaos that followed the office-wide email containing that dress that appeared to be either blue or white depending on... each person? The quality of their eyesight?? The time of the day that you looked at the photo??? The position of the moon???? Witchcraft!

## Office News

Welcome aboard to new staff members Simon Best (Project Director), Kate Beerworth (Senior Interior Designer) and Cameron Keene (Graduate of Architecture) who have joined our expanding team within the past three months.

Sitenotes takes this opportunity to farewell and thank Lauren Solomon who has been caretaking the front desk during Felicity's maternity leave. Lauren has done a great job, including assisting Sitenotes and we wish her all the best for this next chapter.

In October, Stephen Penglase became a grandad for the first time when his daughter Anna and husband Tom welcomed baby Toby, weighing 3.25kg. Some of you might remember Anna, also an Architect who worked with SPA for some time. Congratulations!

Congratulations also to Landscape Architect, Cecilia Tang in announcing her engagement to fiancée Oliver Burgess. All the best for the wedding preparations.

SPA has been well represented at recent conferences, including Wayne and Justin attending the School Planning, Design and Construction Conference in Sydney; Cecilia and Lana attending Not In My Backyard 2016 International Festival of Landscape Architecture in Canberra; and Kon helping to organise the STEMworks conference. We look forward to bringing both the information and inspiration to our future projects.

Our run of broken collarbones has now extended to three as Peter Morris had a heavy fall from his bike whilst on a Sunday ride. An unfortunate consequence of the popularity of bike riding, though we can report Peter is now on the mend.

Kate, Cameron and Simon



Toby



Cecilia and Ollie



Our office will be closing on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December and reopening on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Sitenotes would like to wish our readers a happy and safe holiday break and will see you again in 2017.

