

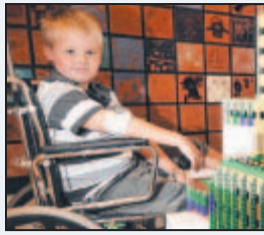
REVIVAL HOPE



Stones Corner, once a retail hotspot, has 20 empty shop fronts. But a revival may have been glimpsed. **FULL STORY BELOW**

HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Roman Fleming is part of the Mater Hospital Special School serving day students and hospitalised children at the South Brisbane hospital. Students can also be from regional Australia visiting while a parent is hospitalised. Phone 3004 7888.



SUMMER SCHOOL

Griffith University students from the Lisa Gasteen Opera Summer School will present a selection of opera arias, ensembles and scenes from mainstream Italian repertoire tomorrow night at Conservatorium Theatre from 7pm. Visit www.qtix.com.au

Aldi move a Corner stone to overhaul

RETAILERS UPBEAT: A NEW STORE AND COUNCIL FUNDING FOR STREET REVAMP WILL GIVE AREA LIFT

ALDI would replace the IGA on the Stones Corner strip, with the independent grocery chain leaving on December 14.

State manager Peter Lee said Ritchie's Supa IGA on Logan Rd would close despite having "good patronage from the customers around Stones Corner".

More than 20 shops remain vacant in the precinct, but Stones Corner retailers believe the good times are about to return after Brisbane City Council gave the go-ahead for a \$550,000 revitalisation project.

The project will see new street furniture and gardens installed along with a landmark artwork by acclaimed Queensland artist Scott Redford.

Stones Corner Community and Economic Development Association president Simon Clarke said retailers in the strip were optimistic.

"There are a few empty shops but I can guarantee there are no more empty shops now than there were two years ago." Mr Clarke said the completion of the eastern bus corridor, regular Jan Power markets and the opening of several new coffee shops were signs of confidence in the future of the shopping precinct.



Businessman Peter Donelan (pictured) recently expanded his basketball specialty store at Stones Corner.

Despite empty stores on the strip Mr Donelan said the future looked bright. "Several women's dress shops have opened recently which is promising, we need more retailers here to complement one another," he said. "Being close to the major stadiums on such a busy road has been good."

Sam Kroeger, general manager of Stockwell Property Management which manages Stones Corner Village, said both the opening of Aldi and the centre refurbishment would bring life to the precinct.

But when her husband and fellow musician Kim Ambrose first played her the Brazilian music he had grown up listening to, she knew she had found her niche.

"My response to the music was immediate and very deep," Ms West recalled. "It was a really big moment in my life and I felt immediately that was what I was going to do. "I didn't know the language but then this whole world of music was opened up and I was off."



BIG MOMENT: Brazilian music introduced to her by her husband changed Anje West's outlook on life.

Singer rejoices in sounds of Brazil

ANJE West's vocal skills run the gamut from intimate blues to three-part harmonies.

The self-taught Fairfield musician has since learnt to speak Portuguese and even compose her own songs in Brazil's official language. She will perform some of her original work at SOULO Voices at Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts on Friday. The songstress will be joined by Tenzin Choegyal, Alan Kelly and Nadia Sunde for the one-off cabaret show. Ms West said the four would each perform an individual set as well as a few group numbers including at least one "surprising song choice".

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Tickets: judithwrightcentre.com.au

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