

Cockle Bay Wharf Redevelopment (Concept Proposal) - SSD 7684

Dawn's brother, the late Eric Kuhne, was asked to replace Harry Seidler as the civic designer for Darling Park and Cockle Bay Wharf. He was appointed by Lendlease because of his passion for designing civic spaces that would welcome the public.

Eric transformed the civic space of Darling Park and Cockle Bay Wharf. There appears to be no other design that intentionally represents so much of Australia's iconic imagery through its design.

Eric's progressive philosophy of civic-design captured the history and story telling quality of cities in all his projects.

The content in the cathedral-like space of the Star Court epitomised that philosophy:

<https://www.civcart.com/darling-park>

The ship-like shape of Cockle Bay Wharf with its attention to detail and representation of iconic Australian imagery is such a beautiful contrast to the bland shopping centre with its ugly green roof on the opposite side of Darling Harbour.

<https://www.civcart.com/cockle-bay>

The success of those projects resulted in Eric designing Bluewater, a magnificent story telling commercial retail complex in Kent, UK.

<https://www.civcart.com/bluewater>

Eric then redesigned the centre of Solihull, Birmingham called Touchwood. Words fail to adequately portray the rich story telling quality about Solihull that was sewn into that architecture.

<https://www.civcart.com/touchwood>



Eric escorts Her Majesty, the Queen at the opening of Touchwood

When Lendlease was in danger of losing the bid for Barangaroo to Multiplex, former CEO, Stuart Hornery, told the executives to hire Eric. In a period of four weeks Eric transformed the design. Lendlease won. They paid Eric off and then desecrated his design with Packer's casino.

<https://www.civcarts.com/barangaroo-foreshore>

His many designs, both built and unbuilt, provide eloquent commentary of his philosophy of civic design. They can be found on the website of Civcarts through any of the above links.

Eric's crowning design before his untimely passing at he age of 64 in 2016 was Titanic Belfast, now regarded as the most popular tourist icon in Europe.

<https://www.civcarts.com/titanic-belfast>



Sincerely,

John and Dawn Howell

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