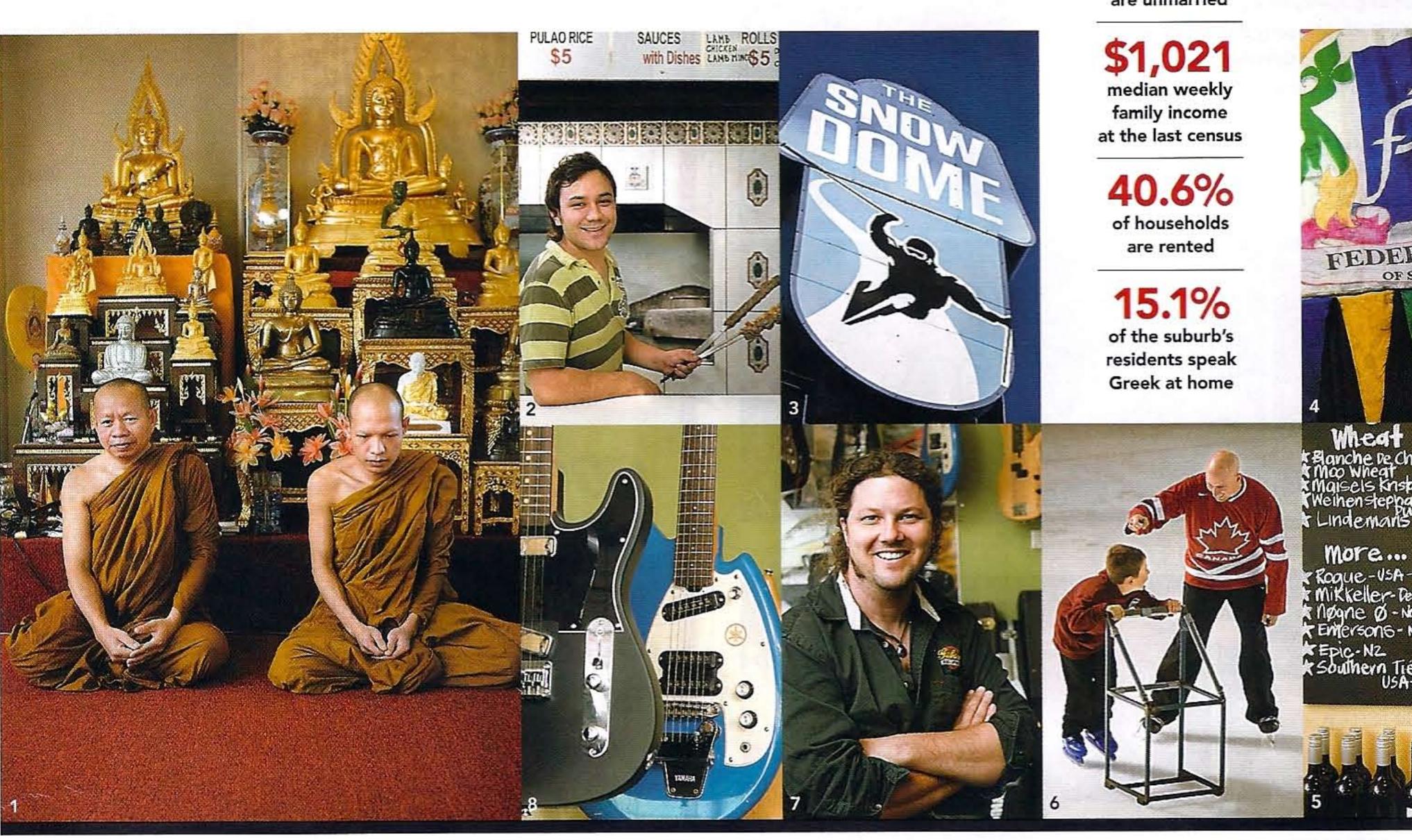
## postcode 5031

A favourite with students, inner-city Thebarton is enriched by a diverse community spirit

words andrew schurgott photography james knowler



chant Hidden down a side street is peaceful Buddhist temple Wat Rattanaprateep Vihara (1). Open to all, it hosts chanting and meditation sessions nightly from 7pm, and its regular Thai festivals offer fantastic food. 45 Smith St, 8443 5856, watrattanaprateep.multiply.com.

indulge Lawash Bakery (2) is a local secret. Run by the Ahmedi family who arrived from Afghanistan a decade ago, you won't find more authentic Middle Eastern street food in town. Try their charcoal-grilled kebabs and flat bread. 115 South Rd, 8354 0707.

skate Just about everyone has been here, strutting their stuff or sprawled on the ice. Yes, the Ice Arena (3) is still in action, with yet another generation of preening teens and beaming beginners gliding by (6). 23 James Congdon Drv, 8352 7977, icearena.com.au.

sing International artists, acoustic music and folk-dancing feature at the Folk Centre (4). Coordinator Tamarra Latham is working to promote local artists, and also puts on regular singing jams and bush dancing. Cnr South Rd and George St, 8354 4606, folk-sa.asn.au.

drink Real beer backers Emily, Jade and Liz took over the Wheatsheaf (5) in 2003 and the place has prospered. It has an interior that does justice to the original, as well as art, bands, boutique beers - and not a pokie or pre-mix in sight. 39 George St, 8443 4546, wheatsheafhotel.com.au.

play Salvi's (8) is a must for guitar lovers. Eponymous owner Steve Salvi (7) has been lovingly repairing and crafting guitars since he was just 17. He has shared his passion at this location for seven years. Salvi's Fine Guitars 54 George St, 8443 8272, salviguitars.com.au.

1839 first subdivided for housing

49% of Thebartonians are unmarried

