

# C O M M U N I T Y



## Station Café

Station Street, Werribee, Victoria

City of Wyndham  
*Client*

Cowland North Pty Ltd  
*Architect*

City of Wyndham - Architect Coordinated  
*Builder*

Dunham Engineering and Welding  
*Products*

The Station Café is a unique building which adds life and colour to a desolate and unfriendly railway station by unusual use of new and recycled materials, the significant proportion of which is metal.

The Café is located in a railway subway below the Werribee Railway Station. This Met and V-Line station is a key commuter interchange which connects passengers from the rail service between Melbourne and Geelong to the Werribee CBD and connecting bus services and cars.

A universally friendly image was required, one that was strong enough to demand the attention of the hurried commuter yet friendly enough to avoid intimidating the unhurried shopper.

The search for this universally friendly image resulted in a unique architectural creation, with the shell of an obsolete Met train carriage being salvaged to create a building. The warm lighting, glass and stainless steel are a glossy contrast to the drab concrete and poorly lit interior of the subway. The train windows frame images, snap-shot style, of a welcoming environment offering respite from the outside hurly-burly.

The interior of Station Café is modulated by unusual curved steel benches, for serving and sitting. These benches wind their way around existing concrete columns, (which support the train tracks above) and provide horizontal balance to the heavy vertical elements. Inside the Café the railway theme continues, with the re-use of train seats in dining booths.. A hos-



pitality space is created to allow ease of use and efficiency of service. There are expansive stainless steel bench spaces and sinks, shelving and cupboards for storage and easy retrieval, plus the full range of kitchen equipment. The design of the Café means that food preparation is disguised from customers, whilst allowing them to see staff bustling around in an efficient, gregarious atmosphere.

