



Abbotsford Convent artists proved on the weekend that despite recent controversy over the future directions of the organisation, the sprawling buildings continue to foster talent, creativity and passion. The newly refurbished Mercator Building – formerly the “lower laundries” – has been transformed into light-filled spaces for 10 artists and artisans. They include glass blowers, jewellery designers, artists and a DJ. Hundreds took advantage of Sunday’s warm weather to potter about the convent and check out the artists’ wares and work. Abbotsford Convent is home to more than 100 small businesses and creative enterprises. The Mercator Building renovation was funded by a grant from the Sidney Myer Fund 2009 Commemorative Grants Program.



1. Glass blowers Phillip Stokes and Scott Redding; 2. Lauren, Oscar and Finn look on as ceramics artist Ilona Topolcsanyi works; 3. Phoebe Porter and Kathryn Leopoldseder; 4. artist and master of stencil and screen art Ralf Kempfen.