

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RIVER CITY?



MAR 2018

BrisbaneByte



THE VR TAKEOVER



NEWS & EVENTS



FRUIT NINJA FIGHT

Halfbrick's smash hit Fruit Ninja is back in a new multiplayer title called **Fruit Ninja Fight**.

Currently in open beta on Android phones in Australia and New Zealand, players face off in real time to slice fruit and get the highest score with the help of powerups and loadouts.

ARE YOU A GAME DEV?

If you create games for work, are currently studying in the field, or even dabble in your spare time, there are a bunch of events being put on by the community to help develop your skills.

Keep an eye on **Game Dev Brisbane** for their regular events. Past topics of discussion have included everything from UI to QA and GDDs. If you don't know what any of that means then this is the place for you.

The **Big Dev Meetup** is a mainstay on any Brisbane Dev's calendar. Once a month the luminaries of the industry get together at The Mill on Constance to exchange ideas and talk about what they've been up to. It's a great chance to rub shoulders with other local devs.

JMC building 2 will be the venue for the **Game Audio Brisbane** meetup on **March 21**. Special guest Anders Kile Groenningsaeter will be there to discuss his work on Think of the Children.



THE FGC IN BRISSY

Did you know about the active fighting game community in Brisbane? There are weekly meetups (Thursdays from 4pm at **Rhane Cyber Cafe** in the city) and tournaments in a variety of games.

The Sunshine Coast also has the **Reload Gaming Lounge** which regularly hosts tournaments.

NETHERWORLD IS KILLING IT!

If you're looking forward to The Rock's upcoming Rampage movie, or you're just a fan of the classic arcade game, then you'll love this. Netherworld is putting on not one but two events this month to celebrate the movie's release.

Sunday March 11 sees the **Cardboard Rampage** event happening from 11am - 1pm. Spend a couple of hours helping to create a cardboard city (or bring some pieces from home) and then at 1pm there will be a raffle with the two winners stomping through the city while they battle it out dressed as a giant dog and Godzilla.

Continuing the Rampage theme, Netherworld's monthly **Arcade Club** will focus on the 1986 classic. From 10am on **Saturday March 17** there'll be a crash course in Rampage followed by an eight game tournament.



BRISBANE MARKETS

Cafe de SOYT might be gone but the space still exists. Taking place on Sunday **March 25th** at the Albion location, these markets are sure to attract a HUGE crowd like they did in December.

Free entry and over 10,000 retro games, consoles, comics, trading cards, figurines and more.

Netherworld's Indie Dev Night will be happening again on Thursday the **15th of March**. The event is shifting to once every two months, so don't miss it if you're interested!

Monday nights are going to be jam-packed at Netherworld this month. On **March 12** from 6pm the Fortitude Valley barcade will become an RPG tavern for their **We Quest For XP** night. Tickets cost \$15 and are limited.

Monday the **19th of March** is **D&D night at Netherworld**. The \$20 entry includes a drink and snacks while you start and finish your adventure on your night. Perfect for beginners or more experienced players.



BRISBANE'S VIRTUAL REALITY



When it comes to technology, and gaming more specifically, Brisbane often finds itself in the shadow of Melbourne. The Victorian capital has had a stranglehold on game development in Australia for some time, but Brisbane is holding its own when it comes to VR.

Less than six months ago **Zero Latency** opened their second Australian location in Newstead. For the past few years Brisbane has had its own VR club. Even Brisbane's most successful gaming export, Fruit Ninja, has been turned into a VR title. Soon you will be able to add yet another name to that list.

Brisbane Byte was recently invited down to check out **Free Space VR** to receive the grand tour from the business' owner Nick Wallace.

Although the doors won't be open to the public until March 14th, the open-plan area featuring five standing stations and two sitting stations, all with HTC Vives and 1080ti powered PCs, were setup and in working order.

Here is basically how it's going to work:

If you want to play a VR game with a great group dynamic where you are exploring the level, perhaps as part of a work or birthday function, you'll probably go to **Zero Latency**.

If you're looking for an introduction to virtual reality, have some questions, or want to try some experimental uses of the technology then you might go to one of the monthly **Brisbane VR/AR Club's** meetings run by Immerse Academy at the Brisbane Powerhouse.

If what you really want is to play some of the VR titles you've heard people talking about, such as Superhot or Job Simulator, but you don't want to purchase the full setup for home just yet, you'll probably want to visit **Free Space VR** in Fortitude Valley.



MORE DETAILS

The next **Brisbane VR/AR Club** meeting is on Tuesday the 27th of March at 6pm. Entry is free.

Zero Latency is perfect for birthdays, bucks or hens nights and it is an experience you won't get anywhere else. You get to fight off hordes of zombies or rogue robots then compare your scores at the end. Win-win. Prices start at \$66 for a 45 minute session.

If you want to try racing in Project Cars 2 while the audio comes at you from all directions and the seat rumbles over every bump, try **Free Space VR**. Truly immersive and a two minute walk from Netherworld. Prices start at \$35/h for a station (friends can split the cost and take turns playing or watching).

GAMER'S DIRECTORY

DO YOU LIKE ARCADES?

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|----------------|--|--|
| Netherworld | Tue-Sun | Noon - Late | 186 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley | www.netherworldarcade.com |
| 1Up Arcade | Wed-Sun | 2pm-10pm | 230 Lytton Road, Morningside | www.1uparcade.com.au |
| Pincadia | 7 Days | Open 'til Late | 1/14 Logan Road, Woolloongabba | www.pincadia.com |

HOW ABOUT BOARD & TABLETOP GAMES?

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|------------------------|--------|------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Conexio | 7 Days | Times Vary | 3/57 Old Northern Road, Albany Creek | www.fb.com/conexiogamescafe |
| Mind Games | 7 Days | Times Vary | Shop 255, Level 2, Myer Centre (City) | www.mindgamesbrisbane.com |
| Good Games | 7 Days | Times Vary | Brisbane City / Upper Mount Gravatt | www.goodgames.com.au |
| Ace Comics | 7 Days | Times Vary | Brisbane City / Annerley | www.acecomics.com.au |
| The Magic Vault | 7 Days | Times Vary | 9 South Pine Road, Alderley | www.magicvault.com.au |
| Fastbreak | 7 Days | Times Vary | 1 Chapel St, Nundah | www.fastbreak.com.au |
| Vault Games | 7 Days | Times Vary | 123 Charlotte Street, Brisbane City | www.vaultgames.com.au |

SOMETHING ELSE?

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|----------------------|---------|------------|--|--|
| Zero Latency | Wed-Sun | Times Vary | 34 Chester Street, Newstead | www.zerolatencyvr.com |
| Free Space VR | 7 Days | Times Vary | 295 St Pauls Terrace, Fortitude Valley | www.freespacevr.com.au |
| Super Combo | Mon-Sat | Times Vary | 20 King Street, Bowen Hills | www.supercombo.com.au |

NEED SOME TECH?

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|--------------------------|---------|------------|--|--|
| MSY | Mon-Sat | Times Vary | Brendale / Morningside / Slacks Creek | www.msy.com.au |
| Computer Alliance | 7 Days | Times Vary | 1517 Logan Road, Mount Gravatt | www.computeralliance.com.au |
| Umart | Mon-Sat | Times Vary | Chermside / Eight Mile Plains / Milton | www.umart.com.au |
| MegaBuy | Mon-Sat | Times Vary | 844 Gympie Road, Chermside | www.megabuy.com.au |
| Gametraders | 7 Days | Times Vary | Chermside / Morayfield | www.gametraders.com.au |
| Super Retro | 7 Days | Times Vary | Level 1/19 Robina Town Centre, Robina | www.fb.com/superretroofficial |

HAVE WE MISSED SOMETHING?

If you know of any other related businesses in the Greater Brisbane area, including the Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, and out to Ipswich, let us know at the email below and we'll add it to the directory in the next issue.

If you have any feedback in general then be sure to get in touch. This is your community newsletter after all.