

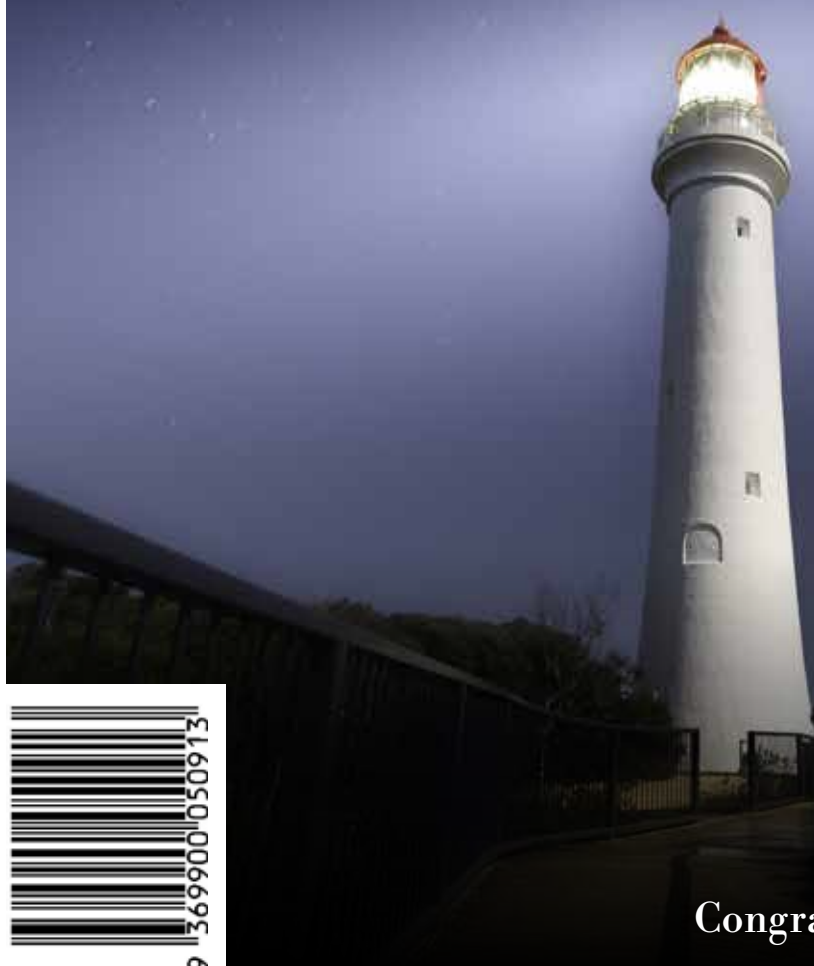
LORNE

Independent

\$4

No 287 October 2025

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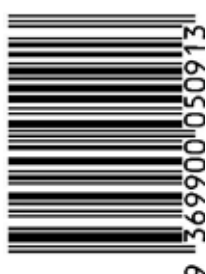


**'ECLIPSES
BRING
PROFOUND
ENDINGS
AND NEW
BEGINNINGS'**

Photo by Craig Crosthwaite

More P11

Congratulations Dolphins Reserves P22



Lorne Independent Inc.

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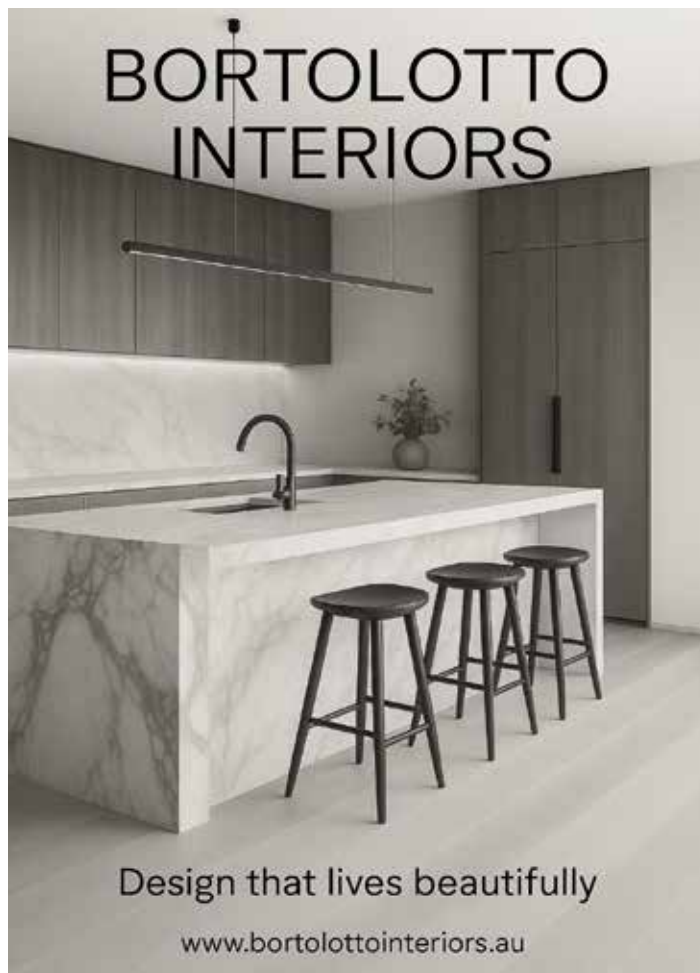
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T37 RC MODEL YACHTS

By David Lawler

Close racing during the Easter 2025 T37 RC Model Yacht Regatta on the picturesque Erskine River. From left to right, the skippers are Roger Nelson, Tony Wolfenden, Bob Sinclair, Neil Verral, Rod Van Ingen, Tom Nelson and the author, David Lawler.

Other T37 skippers include well known Lorne identities, John Barber and John Bliss.

The winds on the infamous Erskine River can be quite treacherous for the T37 RC (radio controlled) yachts. Winds can vary from being in the doldrums to the roaring forties. Seasoned yachties battle these conditions with incredible skill. Well, luck can also help. The skippers can only control the rudders, the trim of the jib and mainsail. The mainsail can be trimmed from a ninety per cent angle to almost parallel to the yacht, depending on the direction of the wind relative to the next mark. This is where the skill comes in.

Our T37 model yachts are bought from Will Lesh of Tippecanoe and arrive in kit form at the Lorne Mens Shed. We use hand tools, clamps, drills, epoxy, heat guns, lots of measuring, blue painters tape and a considerable amount of patience. The instruction manual is 83 pages long.

Construction times vary considerably. Will Lesh measures his time in days. My yacht, Smuggler, took about four months. Of course, there are a couple of Mens Shed members who have spent years on their yachts, and they are still unfinished. I am too polite to mention names.

He built the first T37 in Lorne in 2013. He then encouraged the Mens Shed to buy and construct a further seven with his considerable help. Sponsors included The Lorne Independent, Foodworks and GD Constructions. Mens Shed members also contributed funds for the construction of Magpie and Love Lorne.

There are about 3,000 T37 RC yachts sailing around the world, with the bulk in Northern America.

At the last Easter Regatta, we had thirteen T37 yachts racing on the Erskine River. A further four T37s have started construction. These are being built by Brian Tickell, David Worth, John Russel and Tom Tan. We are always looking for more T37s to add to our fleet. Contact the Mens Shed if you would like to build one.

I have set up a YouTube channel for our yacht races. If any one is interested, go to YouTube and search "Lorne Mens Shed"

The next T37 regatta will be on November 9, 2025 at 10AM

Ed Note: The number of Regattas is increasing. The Lorne Independent Newspaper will sponsor a Perpetual Trophy for one of these Regattas. There is a rumour it might be when those other Cups are being won. Not long now!





Get your trees trimmed in preparation for the Christmas season!



If you are considering having your trees cut or gardens cleaned up before Christmas, now is the time to do it. Our team at Tree Watch experiences high demand in the months leading up to the holidays, so act promptly to secure your spot! Trees that are cut in October get a chance to recover before Christmas and will look their best for the peak season.

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CHRISTOS POETRY PRIZE

Winners, Runners Up and Community Entry

Congratulations! Junior Category

Winner
Natalie Erftemeyer

AUSTRALIA

*Allows everyone to visit
Umbrellas up on wet days
Shining star above us
Trees of all sort
Rising sun on the horizon
every morning
Always someone to talk to
Lots of unique animals
I travel the world
A battlefield of noise*

Runner up
Krijan Sun am

MY SPECIAL PLACE

*My old house in Nepal
With my Grandma and
Grandpa
Five levels, very cosy,
very hot
Backflips on my bicycle
One time I bumped my head
But my mum made me feel
better
I feel happy in that house*

Middle Years Category

Winner
Paris Provan

A Shelter Made of You

*And if there was a place
that warmth cannot escape
it'll be in your arms
where cold never found its
way
I sink into the curve of you
converging into the pulse of
your heartbeat
and when night comes
and swallows the sun
I still see it linger
reflecting in the pupils of
your eyes
that carries an unmeasurable
amount of weight
I crush beneath*



*fingers traced against my
brittle skin
melting below your touch
like clay
being shaped by gentle hands
hold me against you before i
vanish into air
comfort consumed me
before any syllable
could pass my lips*

Runner up
Annie Beamish

Salt in the Air

*Waves speak in sighs,
pulling secrets from the
shore,
sand clings to skin,
like the memory of sunlight,
gulls cry overhead,
not lost, just loud,
The tide forgets nothing,
but forgives everything.
This is where I breathe the
best,
the beach is my place*

Senior Category

Winner
Mae Harper

I do not want a safe place

*I do not want a safe place
My life is filled with
nurturing love and warmth
but that is not safety.
Safety is disconnect,
the separation of 'good' from
'bad'
A blanket, too thick and soft
to feel or see the vast depth of
beauty around you
My home, my family
They are kind, foundation to
my understanding of love in
this life
But as tidal waves of emotion
crash upon jagged rock, we
all feel the spray, as beautiful
as summer showers and
thunderous rain clouds.
A mother's embrace is strong,
the gaze of a father, piercing,
both authentic, challenging
and integral, as all people
are, as we should be, to really
be known,
and to know others is to
understand this.*

*Life itself, relationships as a
facet of it, consists of paradox
when you view it clearly,
It is reliant on the continuum
of existence,
As birth becomes death,
darkness conceives light
The rotting body feeds
generative soils, land.
One cannot be separated
from the other, lest you lose
both
Safety exists antithetically to
paradox,
By concealing ourselves
behind the ruse of comfort,
Hiding from the terrible
parts of our lives, we
miss the true beauty and
understanding of that life
My special place does not
coddle me, it surrounds me,
always,
it consists of the best and
worst of times,
Love and loss, intertwined
and continual, evolving like
a dance shared by lovers,
ecstatic
And ceremonial.
I am there.*

Continued page 7


Managing Cancer

You have cancer. What now?

Join free local education sessions
and make sense of cancer

Suitable for all stages of your diagnosis and treatment.

Open to all patients, their families, friends and carers.

Cancer Wellness Workshop - 1.5hr program over 8 weeks

Venue	Lorne Community house (Neighbourhood House)
Address	16 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne, VIC
Date	7 th , 14 th , 21 st & 28 th of October and 11 th , 18 th & 25 th of Nov & 2 nd Dec. (no session Melb Cup day)
Time	2pm-3:30pm including light refreshments and small tastings from our Dietician presentation/demonstration
RSVP	Allied Health reception, please call (03) 5289 4360 Or email Patrick.Hegarty@gorh.vic.gov.au

Expert health professionals from Great Ocean Road Health will present insight and education on topics such as:

- Cancer survivorship & emotions
- Nutrition
- Exercise
- Communicating with your health care team, GP and wellbeing planning

For information about other Cancer Education Programs
please call Cancer Council on 13 11 20



From page 5

*As I walk across land, I am
there
Toes touching the salty lip of
the ocean,
A being herself as wild as
the winds that whip her
frenzied,
She is not safe.
But she may cradle a part of
your soul,
As the rolling hills and
towering gums have done
since your birth,
The arms of a mother.
Do not shelter yourself
from her beauty nor her
decompositional forces,
allow yourself to blossom
from them, for they are your
soil*

**Runner up
Eva Phan****Winding lines on leaves**

*Leaves that speak in legible
lines,
Sucked in, quickly passes
time.
Who is myself? Befriending
vampires,
faeries, and werewolves –
the lot,
I am someone else.
Plot thicker than porridge,
Twists every corner or
bridge.
A far-o land of ancient
dragons
With onyx eyes to behold.
Too many love stories to be
told.
A heist of doom, yet thieves*

*steal victory,
Daring stunts with no fear,
only idiocy,
Murder mystery – a
Fibonacci cult,
Likely someone on the
inside's fault.
People hunting their
shadows.
What is true? Friend of foe?
Courts sharper than thorns,
Most vying to decease,
A hierarchy with ranks to
climb and please.
War, battle and the red
queen,
With a crown of blood and
bone.
Gods, demi, mortals, some of
stone.
The power to destroy, yet
shattered inside.
Humans buckled in, centre
rise.
The listener, singer and song*

**Community category
John Worton****My Special Place (excerpt)**

*The most SPECIAL PLACE
I know of
is the SPACE
inside my head
it controls my general
outlook
and wellbeing that I shed.
It takes me anywhere
I wish to go
tells me anything
I need to know
Keeps me well
and so much hope
an open mind
with focused scope*

Organized by Carlo Maye
Lorne P-12 College
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carlo.maye@education.
vic.gov.au

Cover

First quick edit from the Lunar Eclipse. Headed to Split Point Lighthouse, Aireys Inlet to shoot the foreground and sky at 10pm with light from the full moon. Then returned to capture the lunar eclipse. Moons shot from 2am to 3am. Later cloud.



30 x 40 prints \$220ea

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DAN TEHAN

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WANNON



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- ☒ Pensions and My Aged Care
- ☒ Medicare
- ☒ Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- ☒ Veterans' Affairs
- ☒ Immigration, citizenship and passports
- ☒ Australia Post
- ☒ Telecommunications (broadband and mobile coverage)

Please fill
out my
30 second
survey



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Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.

Travellers Tales

AFRICA

By Meredith Jelbart, photos by Michael Prideaux

My partner, Micheal Prideaux, is a keen photographer, so in between the seasons of orchids and fungus and birds around Lorne, we packed up his camera gear and flew to Kruger National Park to photograph animals there.

We mostly self-drove, so we could make our own plans, and take as long as we wanted at any one place. There was the pleasure of never knowing quite what we'd encounter when we turned a corner.

The rules about safety remained a bit mysterious. You are told not to get out of your vehicle. But every so often there are picnic areas, where everyone climbs out to eat sandwiches, though lions may have been sighted a few kilometres down the road, and why they would not see us all as a picnic of their own seemed quite unclear. We heard that humans were not lions' favourite meal, that they preferred herbivores, though that doesn't seem something you'd want to rely on. A guide told us that the rule existed to discourage those tourists who actually wanted to take selfies with wild animals. She had had to prevent someone from hopping down to pose with a baby elephant. So cute. What could go wrong?

Elephants are incredibly charming; the body language between them as they usher around the younger ones, the very small calves; the way calves play, sliding and rolling about in mud. On a couple of occasions, a large elephant turned back from the rest of the herd and came at us. It seemed only a warning, making clear that we should go, but might have become more serious. Di Solomon, who many of you will know from the hospital's exercise programme, has the story of an elephant charging her father, getting its tusks under the front of his minivan, and lifting the thing right up into the air, leaving only the back wheels on the ground.

An explosion in the elephant population, damaging the park, means there may need to be culls. There is still shooting for ivory. At a place we stayed in the north, a group of hunters helicoptered in. The hotel owner explained that the elephants would be shot over the border in Mozambique, where it was possible to get a licence. But the

helicopter, only slightly larger than Doug Stirling's Mary, did not land on the open expanse of ground in front of the hotel, but in a very small clearing in the bush, where it was quickly covered. It seemed very clandestine.

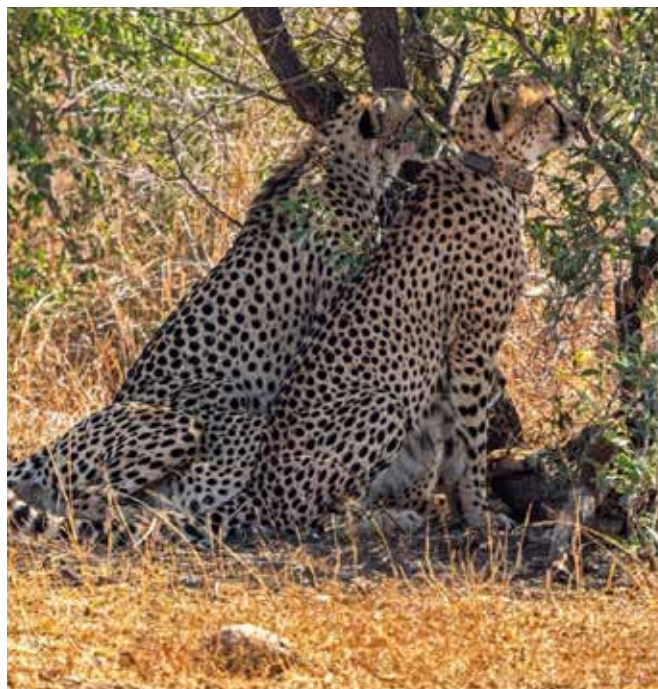
Since poachers hunt rhinos for their horns, with their supposed medicinal properties, the rhinos in the park have their horns removed.

Hippos, which seem comically rounded and lugubrious, are territorial and surprisingly dangerous, killing 500 people per year. (Each year elephants kill 700 people, lions 200, sharks 10. Each year we kill 100 million sharks.) Hippos seem to have a pleasantly secure existence, spending the day beside or in the water, coming out to graze at night. They are endangered by no other animal, having jaws and teeth strong enough to bite lions, crocodiles or people in half.

Zebras often stand in these triangle formations, the heads over one another's backs, so that they can keep check in all directions in case danger is coming. One zebra for whom this defence strategy did not work so well. A group of lions had killed it, eaten as much as they wanted, and the crocodiles were moving in.

Two cheetahs thinking very seriously about something they might hunt.

Continued page 9



From page 8

The cheetahs decided not to hunt down the ostrich.

Mongoose. Riki-tiki-tavi, from *The Jungle Book*, was the brave mongoose who saved a small boy from a cobra. They quite deliberately hunt snakes, avoiding being bitten by jumping about very fast and working in packs.

A guide told us of a snake wound round the top of a tree trunk, with his jaws and fangs pointed downward, a defensive position to save himself from mongooses below.

The seriously whacky-looking creature is a secretary bird, named after nineteenth century secretaries, who might keep quill pens behind their ears.

I think Dickens has written about him somewhere.

Back in Lorne, we've had a few of those days of early warmth when the air is full of dragon-flies, and Mike has been out in the garden with a new camera lens seeking the perfect dragon-fly photograph.





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Check out the full calendar of events at
surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PositiveAgeingMonth
 or call **5261 0600**.




ARTS IN LORNE

The committee wishes to congratulate and thank the students and staff from the Lorne P-12 College for the quality of the artworks displayed and music performed at the recent "Waking to Wonder" exhibition.

It was a vibrant display featuring work by so many talented students from all levels of the College. Part of the event was the reintroduction of the Christos Poetry Competition. This

will delight so many community members who valued Christos' commitment to the community and to poetry in particular. Poetry is a much-neglected art form and it is reassuring to see the value placed on poetry by the College. Although I suspect that most young people are unaware that hip-hop is a form of poetry, albeit spoken. It has rhythm, beats and themes and like written poetry it shares a focus on social issues, storytelling and personal experiences. Best that we don't tell them.

Results: Junior P-4 Category

Winner Natalie Erftmeyer, Runner-Up Krijan Sunam

Middle 5-9 Category

Winner Paris Provan, Runner-Up Annie Beamish

Senior 10-12 Category

Winner Mae Harper, Runner-Up Eva Phan

Well done to all contributors and to the winners and runners-up. Our thanks must also go to Carlo Maye, teacher at the College and Greg Day for their efforts to revive the competition.

Anglesea Performing Arts "Women of Troy"

What happens when the battlefield falls silent?

In June, APA Ensemble premiered a new work, Euripides' Women of Troy, adapted and directed by Janine McKenzie, which enjoyed a sold-out season in Anglesea.

For those who missed their chance to see this prescient production, fear not. Lorne Community Connect is next in line to host two performances this October.

Women of Troy brings to life the fabled ancient city, the morning after it has fallen to the Greek army. History, legend and the contemporary world blur, as audiences are

immersed in the aching aftermath of the battle to bring home the famous beauty, Helen of Troy.

APA Ensemble are a local cast with an international repertoire; the company having taken their most recent production, Shadows of Angels, to the 2023 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Women of Troy features Lina Libroaperto as Hecuba, Stacey Carmichael as Cassandra, Sarah Crowe as Helen, Libby Stapleton as Andromache, Philip Besancon as Menelaus and Steven Georgiadis as Talthybius.

Performed in the round, the cast transform from members of the Chorus to individual roles, using music and movement to evoke the emotional aftershocks of the invasion.

The Lorne season will feature Surf Coast sound designer, Lisa Singline whose original music will be performed live on stage. Costume design is by Nikki Watson, who used upcycled fabric and natural dyeing techniques to create costumes that evoke both an ancient time and the brutality of war.

APA Ensemble is delighted to return to Lorne Community Connect with this new work.

Performances of Women of Troy are on Saturday 25 October at 2pm and 7.30pm.

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1421398>

Website: www.apaensemble.com

The following outlines the Spring/Summer program at the Lorne Community Connect.

Little Hands, Wiser Hearts

An Intergenerational Program at LCC

A joyful collaboration between Lorne Kinder GORH aged care residents and support groups involved in a range of activities including a petting zoo, and an "Ahoy Maties" themed days Wednesdays 8, 15 & 22 October

Continued page 11





2025 AGM

Please note that the
Lorne Community Connect Inc 2025 Annual General Meeting
is to be held on Thursday 2nd October 2025 at 5pm,
Lorne Community Connect, 2 Otway Street, Lorne

Anyone wishing to be an office bearer or committee member
must apply in writing seven days (7) days prior to the AGM.
Please email lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com for a
nomination form.

Nominations must be signed by one financial member and
received no later than the close of business Monday 22
September 2025

From page 10**Tide to Treetops**

An exhibition by two local artists. Dee Matheson from Gherang and Veronica McDonald from Winchelsea. Both their works reflect their environment.

November 1-4, 8-9, 15-1. Open from 10 am – 4 pm each day.

The Christmas Market:

Features a range of local art and craft by local artists. A great opportunity to purchase unique Christmas gifts. Join us for this new initiative, solve the yearly problem and support locals all in one Yuletide action!

December 6th and 7th. From 10 am – 4 pm

Refreshments available.

Gary Allen - LCC

QDOS is BACK

This Opening show is on a positive note

LOVE LETTERS new works by Tonya Blizzard.

Tonya comes from a old Ballarat family with a long tradition of Artists in the family.

Father, Peter internationally renowned Sculptor, honoured by being the first Australian to exhibition at the world-famous Hakone Open Air Museum in Japan.

An Award winner in the very first Lorne Sculpture Exhibition. A leader in Sculpture in Australia with many public works scattered across Melbourne. Mother, artist also internationally recognised. Lecturer in Painting and Drawing, University of Ballarat 1986 - 1994. Brother practising artist and it goes on and on.

LOVE LETTERS

Love letters are a way to communicate feelings, often in a more personal and intimate way than casual conversation. They can be a simple note or a lengthy expression of emotion.

My work explores the conceptual boundaries between the visible and the invisible, focusing on the emotional and psychological dimensions that shape human experience.

Drawing inspiration from the intimate act of writing love letters — a medium that communicates complex, often unspoken feelings — I translate these emotional states into visual form. Through layers of colour, gestural mark-making, and fragmented text, I seek to represent the intangible: the thoughts, sounds, and feelings that define our internal worlds yet resist direct observation.

In this way, my paintings serve as a form of non-verbal correspondence, offering a visual language for emotions such as love, fear, joy, guilt and anguish. By creating works that embody vulnerability and imperfection, I aim to invite viewers into a space of emotional reflection, where abstraction becomes a means of revealing the otherwise unseen facets of the human condition.

TONYA BLIZZARD

Love Letter, acrylic, charcoal and pastel on canvas, 92 x 183 cm

Please join us for the launch by Dr Deanne Gilson, artist and a proud Wadawurrung woman
Sunday, the 12th October at 3:00pm

LOVE LETTERS

Qdos Fine Arts, Lorne



www.qdosarts.com

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From the Deck DRAGONFLIES

By John Agar

We have recently been in the grip of the annual dragonfly hatching. In the first week of September, as I sat on a rock and watched my Border Terrier, Blighty, practising his stalk + bound + pounce version of minnow fishing in the shallow mouth of the George, a clutch of dragonflies hovered, drone-like, to check me out.

This year, however, the hatchlings appear to have emerged earlier and seem more numerous than I remember from previous years—though that could just be a quirk of my memory. As we entered the Preliminary Final weekend, they were out and about in their millions.

Throughout September, driving to the George has been like driving through a living, dodging, weaving hailstorm of beautiful little prehistoric creatures. Where the river meanders across its tidal flat, the air has been thick with countless darting shapes, their iridescent greens and golds flashing in the morning sun. As they fixedly stare at me with their disproportionately large and bulging eyes, I feel like I am the one being examined and assessed rather than the other way around.

Dragonflies are ancient, primordial insects that pre-date the dinosaurs. As David Britton of the Australian Museum wrote in his July 2023 pamphlet on dragonflies and damselflies [<https://tinyurl.com/52vwv6cw>], which forms the basis of most of this article, "... one species of early dragonfly that has been found in fossil records and is known to have lived around 250 million years ago was the largest insect yet known to exist. It had a wingspan of more than 70 cm!" Imagine being buzzed by one of those while walking the dog!

With over 6,000 separate species worldwide and some 320 species here in Australia, the success of dragonflies



A Lorne Dragonfly photo by Michael Prideaux

largely stems from their incredible flying skills and highly developed eyes. They are skilled hunters of other flying insects and can hover, zigzag through the air, and even fly backwards. They are also very speedy! With some capable of speeds of 70 km/hr, the dragonfly is one of the fastest flying insects on Earth.

Many people find their size, prehistoric shape, speed, and airborne agility a little intimidating—the praying mantis fits into that category, too—yet despite having powerful jaws capable of crushing most other insects, they are quite harmless to us. They neither bite nor sting, but help us by eating many of the insects that do.

To channel Hamlet, one might ask: "Dragonfly or damselfly, that is the question," as these two insect groups are very closely related. Not that it matters much, but dragonflies tend to be larger and more powerful, with eyes so big they nearly meet at the top of their heads.

Moreover, you can claim bragging rights at your next riverside picnic by knowing that, when at rest, a damselfly folds its wings flat against its thorax while dragonflies rest with their wings held straight out. Take note, Gary Allen, as here is a question to add to your call at the weekly Trivial Pursuit games on Monday nights at the Bowls Club.

Continued page 13

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Where everybody counts

From page 12

Dragonflies enjoy water and are often seen along streams or darting across the surface of a lake, where they lay their eggs directly into the water or onto vegetation at the water's edge. Known as "mudeyes", their larvae hide under rocks and debris beneath the water, feeding on other aquatic insects and tadpoles. But as all's fair in love and war, they also meet their own end in this eat-or-be-eaten world when they become tasty treats for freshwater fish. As trout fishermen value mudeyes as bait, fly fishers spend countless hours disguising their hooks by tying flies that mimic the mudeye shape.

Dragonflies seem quite at ease mating in full view. While in flight, a male first tucks a packet of his sperm beneath his thorax, then, as he approaches a female from above and behind, he grasps her behind her head with specialised 'claspers' at the end of his abdomen. She then gracefully curls her elongated abdomen upward, forming a heart-shaped configuration as she collects his sperm.

The time spent in this position varies considerably, from a few seconds in air-based copulation to several hours for some species that prefer to settle on a perch. As dragonflies are often seen flying 'tandem', now you will know what they are up to!

Channelling Monty Python: "... and now for something completely different" ... an example of the absurdities [and traps] that AI can unleash. While seeking further references, I asked Mr Google a simple question: "What does it mean when you see a lot of dragonflies?"

My shock was palpable when the following "AI Overview" returned...

Seeing dragonflies repeatedly can symbolise transformation, new beginnings, and joy. Dragonflies are also seen as a message to live in the present moment, act, and embrace life's changes. Depending on your circumstances, these sightings may serve as encouragement to let go of the past, connect with your emotions, or stand up for your beliefs.



From: <https://tinyurl.com/4p5jazjy>

Spiritual and Symbolic Meanings:

- As an insect that undergoes a profound metamorphosis from nymph to winged creature, the dragonfly is a potent symbol of transformation, maturity, and new beginnings.
- Dragonflies are associated with joy, lightness, and the ability to embrace happiness and prosperity in life.
- Repeated sightings can be an invitation to act in your life, move out of your comfort zone, or make a leap of faith.
- Their relatively short lifespan serves as a reminder to enjoy the present moment and not let life pass you by.

Personal Interpretations:

- A dragonfly's presence might signal that it's time to release past grievances or stop dwelling on negative experiences.
- Dragonflies symbolically connect to our emotions ... "

... and on and on it went. Uplifting for some, perhaps, but not exactly the kind of answer I was expecting!

Well, la de dah, I thought, though for those with spirituality in mind, it would offer a different perspective on one of your god's creatures ... even if a little bit less scientific than I was expecting.

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Soft plastics recycling is back!

Drop off clean, dry soft plastic packaging at no charge at the Anglesea Transfer Station.

Soft plastics can be scrunched in your hand – like chip packets, plastic bags, and cling film. They also include thicker plastics like pet food bags and squeeze pouches.

This service is open to households only - commercial quantities not accepted.

Householders can drop off 0.5m³ (equivalent of five large household garbage bags). Larger amounts will be charged at \$18/m³ to help cover recycling costs.

Soft plastics include items such as:

- ✓ Bread bags
- ✓ Bubble wrap (clear and coloured)
- ✓ Cereal bags (the bag that holds the cereal)
- ✓ Chocolate & other confectionary wrappers/bags
- ✓ Cling wrap/plastic film
- ✓ Coffee bean bags with zip lock (remove zip lock)
- ✓ Document sleeves
- ✓ Fresh fruit and veggie produce bags
- ✓ Frozen food bags
- ✓ Garden fertiliser bags (must be empty)
- ✓ Magazine and newspaper clear wrapping
- ✓ Mesh bags (the ones holding oranges, onions)
- ✓ Pet food bags

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LORNE P-12 COLLEGE

Inspiring Excellence
by the Sea



From
Brush Strokes
to Beats



Lorne Community 'Waking To Wonder'

Lorne P-12 College students impressed the community with our recent art exhibition, Waking to Wonder, held at Lorne Community Connect. The exhibition featured a striking collection of sculptures, drawings and paintings, with students drawing inspiration from surrealism to create imaginative and thought-provoking works. Opening night drew a large crowd, with judges presenting awards to recognise outstanding pieces across a range of mediums. The exhibition remained open across the weekend, giving locals and visitors the chance to celebrate the creativity of the college's young artists.

Students Rock A Full House At GPAC

Our Primary Students, were joined by members of our Secondary Band to rock a packed house at GPAC last week, performing in the Wonder Schools Showcase, the students showcased their moves, voices and the fabulous talents of our musicians, to have an absolute blast. Rumours are swirling that the script for next years production are underway..watch this space!



Healthy Messaging & Art Come Together



The newest addition to our outdoor space is here! With thanks to Vic Health for funding the amazing mural by renowned artist Jeff Raglus, it is inspired by the theme of Anti-Vaping.

The theme chosen by our VCE VM students, depicts diverse community faces, promoting individualism, inclusion and encourages our students to love who they are, rather than copy others. It on full display for the community to enjoy and fosters a message for a positive and supportive school environment.



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THE LOST LORNE AVENUE OF HONOUR

A Living Project of Remembrance and Learning *By Cherie Osta*

Over a century ago, 32 former Lorne School students left their seaside town to serve in World War I. Their service came at great personal cost, leaving lasting impacts on their health, wellbeing, and families.

After the war, the town planted an Avenue of Honour of flowering gums with brass name plaques to commemorate their sacrifice along the 'library paddock'. During the 1950s, the avenue was lost to redevelopment when the Stribling Reserve oval was constructed. The Lost Lorne Avenue of Honour Project is a community-led initiative to restore this memorial and return it to its rightful place at the heart of Lorne's history. The renewed avenue is planned for the nature strip in front of the original bluestone schoolhouse on Smith Street. The restoration will serve not only as a site of remembrance, reflection, and pride, but also as a living classroom for today's young people. Students, community members, the RSL, and local partners are working together to re-establish the avenue with a stone seat, and interpretive signage that share the stories of each soldier and native plantings.

Who is Involved?

Local students are at the centre of this project. Through their VCE Vocational Major studies, students have researched the lives of the servicemen, exploring how war shaped health and wellbeing, and applying their learning in practical, visible ways.

Benefits for many:

- For students: authentic applied learning, skills in research, environmental stewardship, and community engagement, and a deeper understanding of history and wellbeing.
- For the community: the restoration of an important memorial, renewed pride in heritage, and stronger intergenerational connections.
- For the region: a lasting place of remembrance and education that attracts visitors, preserves stories of sacrifice, and symbolises resilience.

This project is more than a memorial. It is about honouring the health and wellbeing struggles of those who served, ensuring their sacrifices remain visible to future generations. It reconnects our community with its history, demonstrates to young people the enduring human cost of war, and strengthens intergenerational ties by providing a place where memory, wellbeing, and resilience come together in a shared act of respect.

You are invited to the

OFFICIAL OPENING

Lorne's Avenue of Honour - *Reimagined*

Celebrate the opening of the Lorne Avenue of Honour, a reimagined place of remembrance, reflection, and learning about 32 former students who served in World War I. Join us as we connect their legacy with our history, community, and future generations.

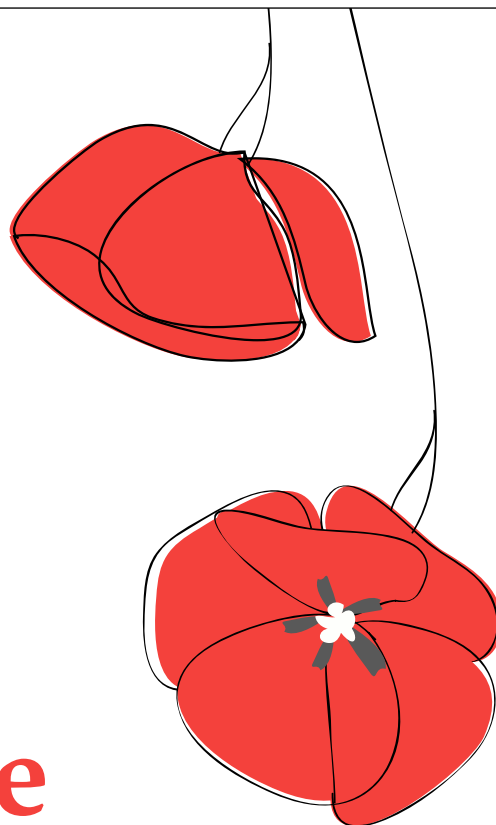
FRIDAY, 14th NOVEMBER at 11am

Lorne P-12 College, Grove Road

Please join us at the front of the school on Smith Street

Light refreshments will follow the opening in the school library

RSVP 31 October. Tel: 03 5289 1585
Email: lorne.p12.co@education.vic.gov.au



YOUR
SAY

Take the lead: Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-29



You're invited to provide feedback on the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026-29.

Thanks to those who participated in the initial survey. Your input helped shape the draft plan, which outlines how people, dogs and cats can live together safely in the Surf Coast.

Let us know your thoughts on the draft plan at surfcoast.gov.au/DAMP.

Feedback closes Thursday 16 October 2025.



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IMPORTANT COMMUNITY & ROAD CLOSURE INFORMATION - NOTIFICATION OF ROAD CLOSURES

THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025 & SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2025

THE ANNUAL AMY'S GREAT OCEAN ROAD GRAN FONDO, HELD IN MEMORY OF AUSTRALIAN CYCLIST AMY GILLET, WILL HOST THE 2025 UCI GRAN FONDO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. THE EXPANDED PROGRAM OF RACING WILL SEE ROAD CLOSURES WITH THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD TRANSFORMED INTO A COMPETITIVE ARENA FOR CYCLISTS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE, CHASING THE TITLE OF BECOMING A WORLD CHAMPION.

2025 ROAD CLOSURES

THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER

ROAD	LOCATION / CLOSURES	TIMES
GREAT OCEAN ROAD	(GREAT OCEAN RD: LORNE TO EASTERN VIEW) - TIME TRIAL BETWEEN THE MEMORIAL ARCH, EASTERN VIEW AND DEANS MARSH-LORNE RD ROUNDABOUT (BOTH DIRECTIONS) *** VICTORIA POLICE WILL ESCORT LOCAL RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS VEHICLES BETWEEN LORNE AND EASTERN VIEW AT 11.15 AM* & 1.35 PM* FROM LORNE TO EASTERN VIEW 11.35 AM* & 1.55 PM* FROM EASTERN VIEW TO LORNE * TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE	9.00 AM - 4.30 PM ***

IF AN ESCORT IS REQUIRED, PLEASE BE READY AHEAD OF TIME, AS THE WINDOW TO BE ESCORTED IS SMALL.

SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER

UCI GRAN FONDO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP & AMY'S GRAN FONDO REC RIDE & MEDIO FONDO

ROAD	LOCATION / CLOSURES	TIMES
Mountjoy Parade, Lorne	Between Otway St & William Rd	4.45am – 11.30am
Mountjoy Parade, Lorne	Between William Rd & Albert St	4.45am – 5.30pm
Mountjoy Parade, Lorne	Between Deans Marsh Rd and Otway St	7.00am – 8.00am
		8.50am - 9.30 am
Deans Marsh-Lorne Road	Between Birregurra – Deans Marsh Rd & Great Ocean Rd	6.00am – 11.00am
Birregurra-Deans Marsh Rd & Deepdene Rd	Between Cape Otway Rd & Deans Marsh – Lorne Rd	7.00am – 11:30am
Birregurra-Forrest & Birre-Deans Marsh Rd	From Rifle Butts Rd to Colac - Lorne Road	7.00am – 10:00am
Birregurra-Forrest Road	Between Deepdene Rd (Colac-Lorne Rd) & Colac-Forrest Rd	7.30am – 12.30pm
Forrest-Apollo Bay Road	Between Beech Forest Rd (Turtons Track) & Colac Forrest Rd	8.00am – 2.00pm
Skenes Creek Road	Between Great Ocean Rd & Beech Forest Rd (Turtons Track)	8.30am – 2.30pm
Great Ocean Road (both directions)	Between Skenes Creek Rd, Skenes Creek & Albert St, Lorne	8.30am – 4.30pm
Great Ocean Road	Between Hardy St, Apollo Bay & Skenes Creek Rd, Skenes Creek	11.45am – 12.30pm

CONTACT US

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO RECEIVE EVENT UPDATES, GET THE LATEST TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT ADVICE OR CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. WE ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE WE MINIMISE DISRUPTIONS TO RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.

A TRAFFIC HOTLINE WILL OPERATE DURING BUSINESS HOURS IN THE LEAD UP TO THE EVENT AND THE FOLLOWING TIMES OVER THE EVENT WEEKEND:

THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER - 5.00 AM - 6.00 PM
SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER - 9.00 AM - 5.00 PM
SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER - 5.00 AM - 4.30 PM

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Celebrating the Rainbow Community with Piano Bar



At In the Skies, Lorne Bowls Club

Join us for a fabulous night of live music and celebration with Andy Pobjoy and the Piano Bar crew. Come early for dinner or simply arrive ready for music and good vibes.

Monday 27 October

Restaurant from 5pm

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**FREE
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Or in true Monday Night Music spirit – just rock up!

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EDITORIAL

By Janet Goud

Last month's drawings of Point Grey buildings were a welcome surprise for many. The Angler's committee has pronounced itself pleased with its replacement and, although it involved some compromise, relieved at this outcome and ready to go.

Also, this was no doubt a welcome relief to the formerly besieged GORCAPA. It was pleasing to see Lorne residents engaging in constructive comments with GORCAPA reps at the pier recently.

The general comments around the COOP building were approving of its shape and look, but anxiety about its size. Most still prefer to retain as much of the 1949 original

building as possible. Many business people feel that for a viable café to be run there, it would need to be bigger to feed and shelter people from the cold winter southerly winds. Not a "public toilet with an annex attached"

Also missing is the capacity for some recent historical representation of the importance of Point Grey in the history of the area. While the 12,000 years of accepted Gadabanud use is to be rightly celebrated, the 200 years of development by European timber, tourism, and fishing industries is felt by many to be overlooked. Families of these settlers still live in Lorne and the community wish to acknowledge their contribution to creating the town we live in today.

With so much agreement and good will achieved by the consultations so far, we can only persist in pushing on to make sure the final outcome of the Point Grey development next year, is a true reflection of cooperation between the wishes of the Lorne Community and the outcomes of Government officials of GORCAPA.

LOOK UP VICTORIA. SWOOPING SEASON IS HERE AGAIN, STAY ALERT AND STAY SAFE

As the weather gets warmer and the days longer, we also start to see the occasional swooping bird. Native birds enter their breeding season in spring, and some may get protective of their young.

Lachlan Clarke, Manager Statewide Wildlife Advisory Services at the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) said: "Swooping is a normal, temporary behaviour for native birds like magpies, butcherbirds and masked lapwings to defend their eggs and chicks for a short time while their young are most vulnerable."

"Think of it as a warning sign. They're telling you to keep your distance. While it can be a bit unsettling, it's rare for them to make contact."

Swooping can occur in both urban and rural areas, including parks, gardens, and along bike paths.

"Not all birds swoop during the breeding season, so the presence of magpies or other common swooping birds does not necessarily mean you will be swooped", Mr Clarke said.

This behaviour only lasts a short time, usually ending once the young have left the nest.

If you are worried about being caught out by a protective bird this spring, here are some steps you can take to feel safe, while also protecting our native birds:

- Avoid known swooping hotspots.
- Move quickly, don't run if near a swooping bird.
- Wear protective head and eye coverings.
- Don't harass birds, as this can escalate swooping.
- Don't feed birds or destroy their nests.

Report a swooping incident on Victoria's interactive swooping bird map by visiting: <https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/managing-wildlife/swooping-birds>.

All native wildlife is protected by law. Harassing, harming or disturbing native birds and other wildlife is illegal in Victoria and penalties apply.

You can report wildlife crime such as harassing, harming or disturbing wildlife to Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000.



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SPORTSBRIEFS

By John Ford

Premiership for Dolphins Reserves!!

Lorne had an impressive Grand Final win over Irrewarra-Beeac on 20th September to claim the Reserves Premiership. The Dolphins team won by 36 points, and in fact were undefeated for the whole season! Unfortunately, the Senior team was knocked out in the Preliminary Final by Colac Imperials who were then defeated by Alvie in the Grand Final.

On the same day Lorne had two netball teams in the Grand Final, but both were narrowly defeated. Lorne's D Grade team lost by just one goal, with the 15 & Under team going down by ten goals.

Lorne's Reserves team was always in charge against their Irrewarra-Beeac opponents, extending their 17-point half time lead to 35 points at three quarter time. The Dolphins played tight football in the last quarter to win 10.5: 65 to 4.5: 29. Lorne had winners right across the ground and the forwards were given first opportunities with the dominant performance of young ruckman Cooper Mitchell. Lorne's captain Max Matthews with three goals led the way for the other forwards who all contributed well. Lorne's football manager Miah Atwell was full of praise for the team who during the season had played more than fifty players but had still maintained great system and teamwork.

Lorne's Senior team could not get through to the Grand Final after going down to Colac Imperials on a windy day in Colac. The Dolphins kicked to the favoured end in the first quarter and led by 15 points at the first break. Lorne still led by 11 points at half time but were outplayed in the third quarter and only kicked one behind. The tight contest opened up in the final quarter and Colac Imperials pulled away. The final scores of Colac Imperials 8.9: 57

to Lorne's 4.9: 33 highlighted the fact that in the difficult conditions the Dolphins did not score a goal after half time. Throughout season Colac Imperials, Alvie and Lorne were consistently the top three teams, with Alvie going on to be deserving Premiers.

LorneFNC netball wrap By Ingrid Wilson

It was an exciting September for the netballers from LorneFNC with 4 teams making the finals. The 11 & under, 13 & under, 15 & under and D Grade teams all having a great season.

The campaign started well with the 11 & under team winning their Grand final in Colac - stars of the future!

The 13 & under team won their elimination final and then their semi final in great style. Sadly, they were beaten in the Preliminary final by Irrewarra Beeac by 2 goals. Fantastic effort girls and we look forward to seeing what you can achieve next year.

The 15 & under team went all the way through to the Grand Final, putting up fantastic displays on the way. Unfortunately, they lost in the Grand Final to Western Eagles but played with great courage and resilience in blustery, icy conditions. Congratulations girls.

The D grade team - always fan favourites - played a tense game Grand Final game against the Colac Imps with the lead changing constantly. Lorne were up by 4 goals only to be pipped at the post in the dying minutes and going down by 1 goal. We look forward to watching this team grow under the tutelage of 'the mums'. Congratulations!

The CDFNL netball awards were held in Colac in the lead up to Grand Final and Lorne had plenty to cheer about.

A Grade - Rikki Van Germert - 3rd

B Grade - Lucy Erftermeyer - 3rd

Continued page 23



From page 22

D Grade - Carly Enticott - 1st
- Caitlin McCombe - 4th

With 3 players named in the netball team on the year - Rikki van Germert, Sade Stafford and Leigh Potter

In the juniors Hazel Travers was the runner up in the best and fairest for the Under 13's.

Congratulations to all our netballers - current stars and stars of the future!

**Successful Season for Dolphins**

Now that the 2025 football and netball season has finished it is natural to applaud the teams that have seen Finals success. While our teams are competing, we are all hungry for success. However, there are other important measures of success. During 2025 Lorne has fielded six football teams – from seniors down to Under 12's – and seven netball teams. This has comprised around 200 players and involved coaches, medical staff, umpires, committee and volunteers. This is an amazing effort for our small town, especially when you consider that Lorne has a housing affordability problem, and many businesses which require staffing on Saturdays! Furthermore, the club has achieved broad success in an inclusive, supportive and encouraging way. I think that I can speak for the whole town in saying that we are all very proud of the club. Well done!

Around The Green at the Lorne Bowls Club

It's good to see so many members back at the Club after the Winter break. Some have returned from overseas-surfing anyone? While others have come back from venturing around the Kimberley or lazing in Queensland. They can't be missed. All are bearing that golden glow.

A less usual way is to play Netball during the break. Congratulations to Caitlin McComb and Karen Heathcote who just missed out by the smallest margin on attaining that rare double-Div 4 Bowls Premiers and D Grade Netball Premiers.

Coaching sessions are scheduled for Monday and team training for Thursday evenings. Interspersed with this are our Club Championships. Our Open Fours competition was recently completed in testing weather and won by Brad Weetman, Shane Thorneycroft, Graeme Dickson and Steve Donne. Runners up in this tight contest were Paul Staley, Donna Issell, Jane Purdie and Col Weetman.

Our Club Championships continue in October with Mens and Womens Pairs competing over the month.

A great way to try out Bowls and play with members is to come down to the Club on a Wednesday at 10am for Social Bowls.

In anticipation of the Pennant competition starting on

Tuesday 14th for the Midweek sides and on Saturday 18th for the Weekend sides, the Club is playing a practice match at Anglesea Bowls club on Saturday 4th.

Our facilities continue to improve. The Marquee is a welcome addition for players amenity during and after matches. The green has been professionally cleaned and the Club has purchased a new Bowls Vacuum machine to maintain the green. Further, the Lorne Op Shop has most generously granted funds to the Club to double the number of rain and shade shelters and seating placed at the end of the rinks. This gift will be greatly appreciated by all players.

The In The Skies Restaurant is open for business again. Great food with such friendly service will ensure a good dining experience. Not to be missed is the Monday night Trivia Night hosted by our redoubtable Quiz Master, Gary Allen.

And remember, a Bowl in the hand is worth two in the ditch!

Cricket Registration and Membership

With only a few glimpses of spring yet, we possibly have not yet thought much about summer sport. Well why not!! Now is the time to make enquiries, register your interest and take out membership. By showing your interest now, it allows committees to form teams and register them in summer competition. Lorne's cricket team has made the Grand Final in each of the past two seasons and has included players of a range of ages and experience. Now is the time to speak with Peter Bracken or to contact the club at lornecricket@gmail.com



LORNE CRICKET CLUB IS RECRUITING

Be Part of Our Legacy in Season 2025-2026

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Scan to Register Now

Victorian Seniors Festival 2025



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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES | **LORNE & DEANS MARSH**

Lorne Men's Shed Open Day

All welcome!

Take a tour of the Lorne Men's Shed and enjoy a demonstration of our brand-new timber thicknesser and other carpentry tools in action. A great way to see what we're working on and how you can get involved.

- Saturday 4 October
- 10.00am – 2.00pm
- Lorne Men's Shed, Cnr Otway St and William St, Lorne
- Enquiries: lornemensshed@gmail.com
- Free event

Little Hands, Wiser Hearts

An Intergenerational Program in Lorne

A joyful collaboration between Lorne Kindergarten, GORH Aged Care residents, and social support groups. Activities include a petting zoo, an "Ahoy Maties" themed day, and a nature explorers' session — creating meaningful connections across generations.

- Wednesdays 8, 15 & 22 October
- 12.30pm – 2.30pm
- Lorne Community Connect
- Contact Rose: 5261 0600
- rsalvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au



Connect. Create. Celebrate.

Treats Then and Now – A Sweet Journey Through Time with Morning Tea.

Discover the flavours of the past and present! From historic sweets to today's favourite snacks, explore how treats have brought generations together. Join us for a celebratory morning tea, and if you'd like, bring a treat from your childhood to share.

- Tuesday 7 October
- 10.30am – 11.30am
- Deans Marsh Hall
- Bookings: Caroline Shelbourne 0499 851 334
- coordinator@deansmarshcottage.org.au
- Free event
- Accessible venue | Hearing loop available

Celebrating the Rainbow Community with Piano Bar

At In the Skies, Lorne Bowls Club

Join us for a fabulous night of live music and celebration with Andy Pobjoy and the Piano Bar crew. Come early for dinner or simply arrive ready for music and good vibes.

- Monday 27 October
- Restaurant from 5.00pm
Entertainment from 7.00pm
- In the Skies, Lorne Bowls Club
- Dinner bookings: 0474 260 746
- Or in true Monday Night Music spirit – just rock up!

From page 23

Women's Golf report:

September weather is always four seasons in one day...windy, cold, warm, wet - and so we approach our golf days not really knowing what we will get! ... and we have been getting all of the above! However, Springtime on our course is lovely with new life all around, the course green and firming up, and so we look forward to more run on our ball...!

Club News

- The singles Knock out competition was put on hold over the winter months, and so now the final rounds are being completed. Congratulations to Janet Higgins who recently returned in great form after 6 weeks in Port Douglas to win the Singles Knockout semi-final. It was a close match right up until the last few holes with Jan Young and Janet both leading at different stages. The final will soon be played between Janet and Chris Angus.
- We have one more Stroke round to be completed this month where the final Monthly Medal will be decided, and then the play off between this year's winners of the Monthly Medal will be played to find the 2025 Medal of Medallist's!



SWGANews

- Portarlington Carnival of golf. A team of four women entered the 4 person Ambrose event. We had a great day out, combining really well as a team, and came home with the second prize! The local team just pipped us for the win. (Our Men's team also competed well, but the winning score by the local team was unbelievable!!)
- Barwon Valley Open and Bowl - we entered our team of 3 and one of our newer member's Tina Walker, won the C grade with a fantastic 38 points! and again our team did very well coming runner-up to the home team Barwon Heads!
- The Ocean Grove Open - A team enjoyed competing on the day, finishing with smiles but no winning scores. Always good to represent our club.



We are a friendly group of women, at all different levels of golf skill and experience, and we love to welcome new members/ golfers to our group, and also welcome back those that may be "lapsed" golfers!... If you are interested in joining our group, whether new to golf or with some Golfing experience, or if you have any questions, please call Sue Neill on 0418 674 062, or Rose Wyles on 0407 860 980.

Happy Golfing - Danni De Bon.

SHAVINGS FROM THE SHED

By Allan Walls

I probably open with the same line every time which is a saying from a lawn bowls advertisement which will be familiar to many of our shedders as they too play lawn bowls.

Renowned author in our circles Garrick Fenton has just launched his latest book, 'Born to be a Farmer'. Whilst I confess I have not read it, yet, I am sure readers will get great pleasure from doing so. Garry remarked to me the following day that the drinks bill for the launching was pretty light on. I reminded him that he closed the bar for the 10-minute launch and reopened same 1 and a half hours later after the entire crowd listened to Garrick and his mates talk about the Essendon Football Club.

And one important member became so thirsty he drew attention to his plight by collapsing from heat exhaustion.

Next month being October, we as a group, with our wives and partners are heading to Meredith Farm, a 4000-acre property that has now become quite famous for their brand of goat's cheese and associated goat cheese products. Lunch will follow at their cafe in Meredith. I am sure it will be an enlightening trip. If you haven't booked you'd better hurry as we are close to capacity

Plans are afoot to do another winery trip. This time in and around the Morning Peninsula. No doubt this trip will again be well attended.

By the time you read this article Peter Spring (naturally a shedder) will have had a procedure to repair a leaking heart valve. We wish Pete a strong recovery.

Seems the furthestest thing from my mind right now but we have already booked our Christmas Party, to be held at Stribling Reserve at a date to be advised. Rod Van I is again fishing on Magnetic Island and judging by the photos catching some nice edible fish. Secretary Rod Smith has had further surgery on his back and we wish him a speedy recovery.

The Rocking Horse has not yet sold so a new marketing program is to be launched so keep an eye out around town.

A number of us visited former Lorne residents Stephen and Judith Hishon at their new McMansion in Cardigan, a fast-growing area 15mins from Ballarat. Cardigan is where they have decided to settle/retire after travelling Australia and the world for three years.

My last words are on the bin aprons. We are in the final stage of signing contracts with the Surfcoast Shire.

Our latest Member is Huuu Tiep Phan, a young Vietnamese man who we call Joey. Joey works for Foodworks and is a welcome member of the shed.



54-56 MOUNTJOY PARADE LORNE

LORNE CENTRAL | ICONIC BEACHSIDE RESTAURANT

A unique opportunity presents itself to acquire an absolute iconic Lorne business – Lorne Central – a brilliantly-established, fully licensed café/restaurant located in the heart of Lorne. Surrounded by the natural beauty of Victoria's coastline and just steps from the sand, this is a once-in-a-generation chance to secure a thriving hospitality business in one of the Surfcoast busiest tourist towns!

Occupying a high-profile position with uninterrupted exposure to both local and tourist foot traffic, Lorne Central enjoys strong year-round trade with significant spikes during the peak summer season. The business is offered as a turnkey operation with seven years remaining on the current lease (plus further options), a full liquor licence, and a complete inventory of commercial kitchen equipment, furniture, and bar fit-out.

A trained and reliable team is already in place, ensuring a smooth transition for any new owner. Further strengthening its operational appeal is the option to lease two nearby staff apartments – an invaluable asset in a tightly held coastal rental market.

\$575,000

Ian Stewart 0418 522 571

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LORNE

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Designed for those who appreciate space, style, and serenity, the residence boasts five beautifully appointed bedrooms, three refined bathrooms, and a sun-drenched open-plan living area anchored by a statement fireplace. The expansive balcony invites you to bask in the rhythm of the waves, while the lush garden and thoughtfully curated outdoor spaces provide an atmosphere of effortless leisure.

Whether enjoying a slow morning coffee with panoramic sea views, gathering in the ambient dining area for sunset feasts, or retreating to the games room for light-hearted fun, every corner of this property reflects comfort, creativity, and calm.

With free WiFi, private on-site parking, and unrivalled access to Lorne's golden beaches and the iconic Great Ocean Road, Cathedral Rock Lookout offers a sanctuary that seamlessly blends the raw beauty of nature with understated luxury.

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COUNCILLORS COLUMN

By Councillor Libby Stapleton, Deputy Mayor, Surf Coast Shire Council

It was great to gather at Stribling Reserve in recent months and listen to local community representatives consider the issues and discuss opportunities for more affordable housing in Lorne, as part of a series of workshops facilitated by Council.

Instigated as part of the \$50,000 commitment Council has made towards a Lorne-based affordable housing project, the three workshops were designed for the community to identify the specific housing problem that Lorne is experiencing and agree on a potential solution to address it.

Despite some misgivings and sentiment that “we’ve all been here before”, there was a really positive energy amongst the group, resulting in some very valuable discussions, and acknowledgement that although this has been a long-standing issue for Lorne, we have reached a sweet spot with Council support and community drive to achieve an outcome.

With Lorne business owners, key workers, community leaders, Councillors and Council officers in the room, the group developed an agreed ‘problem statement’, which was:

‘Lorne has insufficient affordable long-term rental and owned

housing opportunities. This affects the availability and quality of services by not accommodating and retaining low-medium income families and key workers in industries such as hospitality, emergency services, education and health care, to sustain a healthy, contributing community, year-round.’

It’s a mouthful, but the group agreed it nailed the essence of the issue, which was necessary to develop a targeted solution and agreement about the best way to use the \$50,000 allocation.

After developing the problem statement, the group generated a range of project ideas and ultimately narrowed down a number of potential solutions for further scoping. While I can’t say too much more about the project at this moment, I can inform readers that Council will soon consider the community-proposed project at an upcoming Council Meeting.

There are a number of elements that form the project, with work across short and longer-term timeframes, seeking to deliver more immediate as well as more sustained benefits.

If it receives Council endorsement, a community advisory group will be established to help scope and guide the project.

Affordable housing projects are also underway in other townships on the Surf Coast, as part of the previous and new Council Plan approved at this month’s Council Meeting.



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Lorne RSL Sub Branch

Remembrance Day Service

11th November 2025

10.45am to 11.15am

Please join us at
ANZAC Memorial Park
Mountjoy Pde, Lorne

*They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At
the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will
remember them.*

Lest we forget.

EVERY YEAR, VICSES RESPONDS TO THOUSANDS OF STORM-RELATED EMERGENCY CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE.

By Christopher Jones

Storms can bring down trees, branches, and power lines, damaging property, vehicles and impacting access.

It's crucial to understand the risks of a storm and take simple steps to protect your property to ensure your safety. Preparing early is your best defence against storms.

Part of our role as your Local VICSES Unit is to pass on Key information and assist you to be prepared.

This year, we are focusing on Key Messages regarding Storms and Severe Weather, Flood and General Emergency Preparedness.

Storms and Severe Weather

Severe Thunderstorms and the potential for damaging winds and flash flooding are a known risk during the Spring and Summer period – so it pays to prepare now.

- Secure outdoor furniture and trampolines
- Park your car undercover or away from trees.
- Have a plan for power and internet outages.
- Avoid driving during high winds.
- If you must be on the roads, drive to conditions. Be vigilant to the risk of dangerous trees.

Flood

- Floodwater is dangerous. Stay safe by never entering floodwater
- Flash flooding can occur quickly due to heavy rainfall, and you may not receive an official warning.

- Never drive on flooded roads – It can take just 15cm of water to float a small car. That's the height of an average pen.
- Be flood ready – Bag It, Block it, Lift It and Leave.
- Find alternative travel routes if roads or underpasses are flooded.
- Be aware of driving hazards, such as mud, debris, damaged roads and fallen and damaged trees.
- If driving conditions are dangerous, safely pull over on higher ground, away from trees. – Tune in to emergency broadcasters such as ABC local radio and designated commercial radio stations to monitor the situation.
- Remember: If you need flood emergency assistance, call VICSES on 132 500.
- If life-threatening, call Triple Zero (000).

General Emergency Preparedness

- Stay informed – monitor weather warnings and forecasts via the Bureau of Meteorology app or website, and warnings through VicEmergency app, website or hotline (1800 226 226).
- Have a plan for power and internet outages.
- Pick up a battery-powered radio.
- Know your neighbours: Research suggests that connections to those who live around you have significant benefits in all phases of an emergency.

Stay safe from the SES Lorne Unit.

For VICSES emergency response, call 132500

If your situation is life-threatening, call 000

Follow us on our Facebook page - SES Lorne Unit.



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WORKING TOGETHER TO PREPARE FOR THE COMING BUSHFIRE SEASON

By Birgitte Hutchens - Senior Forest and Fire Engagement Officer, Forest and Fire Program Coordination
Barwon South West Region | Department of Energy, Environment and Climate

As we head into the busy season for Lorne and other Otway communities it's a good time to review how we, as a community, can work with key bushfire and land management agencies to prepare for the coming bushfire season.

Last summer we saw significant bushfires in the Otways at Chapple Vale and Cape Otway, plus multiple smaller fires that were quickly contained by firefighters. It is worth noting this Christmas Day marks the 10-year anniversary of the Wye River Bushfire in 2015.

This is a reminder that Lorne has an extreme bushfire risk and while there has been some rain over the past month, there is still significant underlying dryness from over 18 months of severe rainfall deficits.

So in light of this, Committee for Lorne are working with Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMV) in partnership with CFA, Surf Coast Shire, GORCAPA and Parks Victoria, to raise awareness of bushfire risk and various preparedness activities to reduce that risk. FFMV will be reducing bushfire risk on public land with mechanical fuel treatments, including maintaining strategic fuel breaks around high risk communities, and spring planned burns (weather permitting).

These works will complement a number of planned burns around Lorne completed over the last few years. This includes modifying vegetation in strategic corridors around Lorne to support planned burns and bushfire response- particularly to keep firefighters and communities safer. Broader landscape burns over the years have created a mosaic of different fuel levels across the Otways. FFMV note the recent Chapple Vale bushfire in Nov 2024 was significantly smaller due to 2 planned winter burns which slowed the spread and size of the bushfire. This planned burn footprint also provided refuge for wildlife to escape the fire, and escape from predators.



Above: Green Break Track Planned Burn 27 March 2025.

The Committee for Lorne and fire agencies ask the Lorne community to support all these works in preparing for the bushfire season. It is the season for cleaning up and preparing your property. For instance: keep your grass below 10cm, remove vegetation litter, building materials, and other surface fuels. Move your woodpiles and other combustibles away from your house. Do your personal bushfire plans- we know every summer we hear about the traffic congestion so plan for this too.

Our local bushfire agencies are busy working in full capacity to prepare for the coming season- let's work together to support these efforts.

Find out more about property and personal bushfire preparedness here: www.cfa.vic.gov.au.

www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Emergencies-and-safety/Fire-ready

You can see more about all the strategic planning and delivery for planned burns over the next 3 years here <https://bushfireplanning.ffm.vic.gov.au/jfmp/> and register for Planned Burns Notifications <https://plannedburns.ffm.vic.gov.au/> - this is an excellent way to stay up to date and plan for upcoming planned burns. If you have any questions please email Otway.Fire@deeca.vic.gov.au

Barwon Water Community Update

Barwon Water is Victoria's largest regional urban water corporation.

We have a proud history of contributing to regional prosperity by providing water and sewerage services that support community health, sport and recreation, gardens and agriculture, the economy, cultural values and the environment.

Learn, share, and get involved! We're working together with the community to enhance our region.

Learn more and have your say on our projects and activities. Scan the QR code to find out more.



Lorne: Water, Your Say

Get involved and learn how you can contribute to a sustainable, resilient water future for Lorne.



We're here to help

If you're concerned about your water bill, we offer support to suit your situation. Get in touch to find out how we can help.



Be waterwise every day

Learn more about how you can be more waterwise in your home or business. Plumbing programs, grants, advice and resources are available to support you.



CLEMENTINE CALLING

In 1891 Lorne was visited by the famous author Rudyard Kipling (1835-1936). He came to Australia; some say to avoid a love triangle with Caroline Balestier. Although he was critical of us Aussies, he did love our coast and wrote a poem called *Flowers* which refers to the Erskine River with its ferns and lovely wildflowers. He admired the Clematis creeper which clings on to trees and shrubs and is sometimes called Old Man's Beard. The clematis will be in flower now for some months so please go and look for it in the bush. By 1911 he was the most famous and the wealthiest writer in the world.

*Lara Nicholls and her mother Helen Smith were down in the Anglers having a drink one Friday night which reminded me of happy days of the past. In 1956 The Arab, a bohemian style coffee lounge was set up at 94 Mountjoy Parade by the Smith brothers. It was one of the most exciting places to be on the Surf Coast. Those going thought that we were so cool and the espresso machine was a modern wonder to us all. We drank coffee from low cane tables, sat on cushions, listened to throbbing music and were served by bikini clad waitresses. Many romances began there. Robin Smith fell in love with a waitress called Helen Johnson and married her. They had two children Lara and a son Darcy. Lara has been studying hard at the ANU and has achieved her PHD. The title of her thesis is *Women in the Imperial Art World: Anglo-Australian Women Artists and their Transnational Careers 1885-1907*. She is currently teaching Art History at the ANU. Wow what an effort!! Well done Lara and we enjoy seeing you in Lorne.*

Mathew Vincent who lives out of town showed me pictures of the many deer which have invaded his property. At great expense he has had to erect very high steel fences to save his plants. Most of the Mountain Ash he planted have already been devoured by them. As for his Waratahs Mathew says it saves him pruning them! What are we going to do about the deer invasion? Brae is currently serving venison at their special dinners. Food Works sells it – everyone should be gobbling it up!

Down in Food Works the efficient Renee and her friendly companion Cheryl were bemoaning the fact that they had lost Hilary Forsyth to the Mantra where she now works as a receptionist. Luke Morgan's mother Anne will be pleased as she comes from Geelong every week to visit her husband David Morgan who is in the Nursing Home. She stays overnight at the Mantra and I'm sure she will enjoy Hilary's presence. Her gain will be our loss when we visit Food Works!!

They have breathed new life into the 100 year old Theatre in Rosebud too, that is it will be a performing arts hub as well as a movie house. In Lorne the theatre legacy should be maintained. It is tragic that those who live here are unable to go to the movies as we once did.

Football has been in the air the whole season with so many spectators watching our brilliant local boys and enjoying the excitement of the finals and Grand Final. Three charming not so young chaps who were once League players are Gary Fenton, Don Nicholson and Max Pitt. Patrick Dangerfield, Geelong Captain, faces the howling Southerlies in a spectacular family house in Moggs Creek and the Langdon boy's father has a house in Smith Street. Tom played for Collingwood and Ed now plays for Melbourne. Then there is the famous Brian Taylor, known to one and all as BT. He lives in splendour up on Mount St George overlooking the George River and the sea. His land is a mass of yellow flowering Boneseed, a ghastly quick spreading South African weed!! The great premier player and former West Coast Eagles coach Mick Malthouse has a house in Lorne. Handsome Ed Curnow, a former Carlton player coaches and plays for our beloved Dolphins but lives in Bells Beach. Lornies love to see Ed being ably assisted by the former Geelong VFL player Casey Tutungi who coaches from his wheelchair after a football clash in 2013. Ricky Barham had a stellar career as a dashing wingman for Collingwood and is a great mate of BT's. Jack Steven was once a champion St Kilda player but left in 2021 to play for his home club Lorne. He comes from a long-standing Lorne family.

Waking to Wonder was certainly wonderful!! The school has had a colourful and vibrant display of pupils art. A really good opening night was thought to be fun by all who attended especially Amber and Scott Dimitri and their talented son Andy who is Captain of Junior School.

*One of our very talented and senior registered nurses Kathryn Ross has put out a charming little book of lyrical poems called *Asterisks in the Pond*. Many of these verses are born of salt air, hospital rooms, gallery walls, and the weight of care for her loved ones. With her poem *Vantages* she won the Christos poetry prize in 2024. Kathryn often reads her poetry at local festivities and collaborates with fellow poets from home and the USA.*

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Exciting Upgrades For Our Lorne Campus

Great Ocean Road Health is incredibly proud to be working alongside two valued community partners, the **Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club** and the **Lorne Op Shop**, whose support has made upgrades possible.

We are pleased to announce the installation of brand new Philips 43" Professional MediaSuite televisions in all Aged Care Resident rooms and the Renal Dialysis Suite at our Lorne campus. Each television comes with Bluetooth headphones and a dedicated charging base, providing greater comfort, privacy and accessibility.

Thank you to the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club for generously funding two new televisions in our Renal Dialysis Ward, helping us continue to deliver high-quality care in a more engaging and comfortable environment.

Thank you to the Lorne Op Shop for funding IT supports for the television installation across our facility as well as funding new Air Mattresses for Aged Care Residents.

Support from our community makes a valuable difference to the comfort of our Residents and Patients. From everyone at GORH—Thank you!

Pictured: Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club Representative Jody Beaton with GORH CEO Sandy Chamberlin and Lisa Brennan, Registered Nurse.

Please Support our Annual Appeal

At Great Ocean Road Health, we're proud to provide compassionate, high-quality healthcare every day, right here in our own community. From Urgent Care and Community Services to our Acute and Respite Wards, Medical Centres, and Aged Care facilities in Apollo Bay and Lorne, we're committed to making sure you and your loved ones receive the care you need, close to home. As our community grows, so do our healthcare needs. That's why this year's Annual Appeal is focused on raising vital funds for infrastructure upgrades and essential equipment, investments that will directly benefit both our Apollo Bay and Lorne campuses.

To continue to improve health care closer to home we need your help. Every dollar counts—and every dollar stays right here, helping to support your local health service. Donate today at:
www.greatoceanroadhealth.vic.gov.au/support-us

Volunteer With Us

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community? We welcome new volunteers to join our dedicated team across a variety of roles. Whether you have a few hours a week or just a little time to spare, your contribution makes a real difference in the lives of our patients, residents, and families. Please contact us if you would like to Volunteer.

TURF TEARERS HIT TOWN By Chris Cairns

Houston, do we have a problem?

Prime turf turned to rubble. I think I know the culprits – all part of the parrot family, the mighty digging and ripping trinity. Head honcho wears a sulphur crest. His sidekick struts around with a hairdo Bob Hawke would be proud of. The third amigo is a hook-beaked ground excavator with a vaguely Italian sounding name. Take a bow the cocky, the galah and the corella.

Like many of us who now call Lorne home, these guys originally came from miles away. They are denizens of the interior dry lands now finding life more to their liking down here by the coast. Habitat loss, harassment, or even climate change means we now have them as at least semi-permanent residents. While they are here, let's assess what they do and give in return.

Step forward for interrogation The Cocky. Big fella aren't you? Noisy when you're with your mates. So selfie-able down on Mountjoy Parade. That's just one of your hangouts. You leave fingerprints all over town. All that money and time industrial design experts spent trying to bird proof our bins was just a waste. You guys cracked the bin lock code in a month or so. Ornithologists rate you as perhaps the world's smartest bird. Makes an Aussie heart beat with pride, until we see the rubbish

from your break ins in every street. Next port of call is any healthy grey gum with its lovely pale-yellow blossoms in late winter and spring. Your feeding crew leaves a mess on the ground like confetti after a big family wedding.

You have a peculiarity all your own. Your beak keeps growing throughout your life. Problem? Not for you. You just wear it down by breaking sticks and bark and digging in the ground for grass roots. A win-win for you. Uproot another food source. Just leave the Strib alone why can't you. The oval has grassless brown patches now where once was pristine turf. Another thing about the beak trimming mania. Cedar window frames, handrails on our decks, even outdoor furniture can be fair game for cockies.

Now for the galah. Clever and dressed in fetching grey and pink, you're a flocker (careful with the spelling) and partnering bird as well. It's a fabulous sight to see a hundred or more of your kind rise from the grass in a group, whirl and turn and give the inland traveller a colour blast as the underside of your wings flash pink. Like your cocky cousins, you feed in a flock. Onion weed is your favourite snack. You took just three days to scarify hundreds of square metres of ground up on the golf course. You've been spotted ploughing the Strib as well, chattering as you go.

Last of the trio is our corella. Ask a Mallee wheat farmer what is his least favourite bird and this one's name comes up. To my eye, this is the ugly parrot cousin. Something about the eyes and then of course there is the hooked scimitar beak – a trowel, a slicer and trench digger all in one. If the galahs don't get the onion weed or the roots of the oval and fairway grasses, a gang of these will do it. Number one grass rooter (spell check that one too). At least they leave the rubbish bins alone.

So, here's my point. These are wonderful examples of our exquisite local bird life. But I have a fear they are reaching plague numbers. I'm no biologist, just an interested watcher. I see more each year. They are supremely clever birds. When we offer easy pickings by leaving our bins out in the street for a week, feeding them from our decks, or worst of all, offering a chip or crust at a café, we encourage them to move in and stay. They are fast learners. Word gets around among their tribe. Too many of any one species creates an overload. As native species they are protected but allowing them to forage naturally is all fine and good, feeding them is not. Having said that, I must fess up to giving the odd handful of seed to the occasional parrot. I will try to heed my own advice in the future.

Ed note: Species overload may be interpreted differently by another perspective.



**Country
and Waters**

SURF COAST SHIRE COUNCIL E-NEWS



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Keith Miller LACC
Commodore



Club News

The plans for our new clubhouse are completed, and they are the ducks nuts! All that is needed now is approval from the relevant minister and we've been told that it's just a formality.

Our redevelopment sub-committee have put in a lot of time and effort into this attending countless meetings with GORCAPA and their architects.

Personally, and on behalf of all our members we thank and congratulate our sub-committee: Chris Tutungi, Jim Rothel, John Higgins, Ric Addison and Hutch for this great achievement. Together they have come up with a much better design than the previous one which was back in 2015 when the old GORCC decided to run a competition for architects to enter their designs. This turned out very badly, but this time GORCAPA have chosen great architects and the design is sensational. So it appears that after 17 years it's actually going to happen. We have plans on display in the clubhouse for everyone to check out and they can also be viewed here: [GORCAPA Plans 2025](#).

Recent Events

Winter Fishing Competition Number Four Sponsored By Surf Coast Gardening Rob Dalziel

This was our final Winter Cup Comp for 2025. The weather was bloody awful with near gale force winds and heavy showers, but our regular stalwarts turned up and caught some great fish despite the terrible weather. No boats were able to get out so every fish was caught off the pier. A big thank you to Mal Hunter for running the comp like an expert and Paul Spizzica cooked the BBQ without killing anyone.

Junior Winner Jack Hunter was presented his prize by his proud Dad Mal. Jack won with a salmon 2120 points. Senior Winner Steve Arundell with a Trevally 2725

Donations

This month our donation went to 3 young local blokes; Troy Fynmore, Matt Griffiths and Ash McDonald who embarked on a 7000km 30-day unsupported journey riding dirt bikes from Byron Bay to raise funds for the Black Dog Institute initiative Miles for Minds.

Their mission is to raise awareness and funds for the Black Dog Institute, supporting their mission to tackle mental health challenges through research, education and early intervention.



Their ride is about showing up for those who are struggling, it's about supporting people in your lives and proving that real strength means asking for help, checking in and being there for one another. The boys set BnB a goal to raise \$10,000 and to date they have raised \$8356.

To help the boys reach their goal and beyond please visit Matt's link to their donation page, no donation is too big or small.

Black Dog Institute - Miles For Minds

To check out their adventures please check out their Instagram page @adventure_x_charity by clicking the link.

AFL Footy Tipping Comp Party

As is the custom our AFL footy tipping comp held a party at the club at the completion of the home and away games to have a couple of beers and announce the winners. Hutch organised roast beef rolls with gravy and coleslaw which disappeared in the blink of an eye and everyone said they were magnificent. Everyone enters under a nickname so the names won't mean anything to most of you.



The winner was Wes McNamara on 158 so he won \$1080.

Above: The A Team at the A Team local legends Hutch and Marina.

Port Douglas

Recently a group of us met up in Port Douglas to then drive together up to Cape York. It seemed like half of Lorne was in Port Douglas so we had a few get togethers which was a lot of fun.

Continued page 35

From page 34

We also caught up with Jamie and Tansi Trigg who most locals will know. They now live there permanently and have just purchased a beautiful new home. It's a genuine old Queenslander that was moved there a few years back and done up with no expense spared. A quiet night at the Tin Shed with a mini-Lorne reunion. Well not that quiet.

Here we all are at the top of Australia. It was a long drive but it was great fun and a sensational experience.

**Upcoming Events**
Major Fishing Comp Number Five
Sponsored By Great Otway Construction - Andy Little

Sunday the 28th of September, the comp runs from 6am until the deadline of 12.30pm. Weigh-in starts at midday. It's free to enter for members and all competitors get a free roast lunch. Prizes are awarded for first, second and third in both the junior and senior categories. Juniors must be under the age of 18. You can only weigh in one fish each, so anyone can win on the day, and it's environmentally friendly. Come and have a crack.

AFL Grand Final Day

As usual we have a big day planned for this year's Granny with free hot dogs and other snacks. Half price pots during the quarter and half time breaks plus a free sausage sizzle. We will have 3 big TV's and everyone will be able to hear it all with our new sound system. Come along and join in.

2025 Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on Saturday 22nd November 2025 at 5pm. FoodWorks Lorne will be sponsoring it again. They have been doing this for about 20 years, and it's very much appreciated.

All members are invited to attend and as usual it will be done as quickly as possible. It will be immediately followed by our Fishing Competition Trophy Presentations. After that we will be serving free food and an open bar for an hour or so.

Raffle Helpers Needed

We badly need members to let Jody or me know if they can help out with our raffles occasionally. I've been doing the raffles for over 10 years now and Jody for a few years as well and we are getting a tad burnt out, so please contact us and we will put your name on hopefully a long list so we can contact you when needed. It will only be a couple of times a year.

Point Grey Redevelopment Report

The Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club committee is very pleased to announce that plans for our new LAAC clubhouse and outdoor area have been agreed with GORCAPA, and these plans are available for viewing.

Fishing Report**Boats**

Spring has arrived along with the strong winds so there hasn't been a lot of days that boats can get out but when they have the fishing has been pretty good with reports of; nice sized Snapper, Flathead, Nannygai, King George Whiting, Gummies and Schoolies.

Pier

The pier is still fishing well with plenty of; King George Whiting, Salmon, Mullet, Garfish, Trevally and Snapper.

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POINT GREY GARDEN

By Doug Williams

I was as interested as many people in the idea of an Aboriginal Garden as part of the proposed plan for Point Grey.

Firstly, I thought about the range of foods that would have been harvested locally but I expect it will be far more inclusive than this. It is expected that a far ranging selection of plants used by tribes in Australia will be featured to demonstrate the variety of uses many were put to by these early cultures. It won't simply include our local plants but may demonstrate that plants were used for more than a food supply and could have been used for therapy, hardware, tools and weapons. Bull roarers came from cherry ballart trees and didgeridoos, another musical instrument, come from eucalypt branches or bamboo. These have only recently been adopted in Victoria and originated probably in Arnhem Land. They can only be played by men; women are forbidden to play them.

Dodonaea viscosa, also known as the broadleaf hopbush, is a species of the *Dodonaea* (hopbush) genus that has a cosmopolitan distribution in tropical, subtropical and warm temperate regions of Africa, the Americas and southern Asia. It spread from Australasia and was the starting point of its distribution two million years ago as the seeds spread by oceanic currents around the globe. Grown most everywhere and commonly known as sticky hop bush. It was used by Aboriginal Australians for various medicinal purposes. Specifically, they traditionally used its root juice to treat toothaches, cuts, and stingray stings



– This would be useful here if they were harvesting local shellfish. The leaves were chewed and applied to wounds. Additionally, some European settlers utilized the plant for brewing beer, hence the name "hop bush".

The leaves and stems of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) were used to make baskets, necklaces, and rafts on the lakes of the Western District (Eastern Marr land); dianella was also used to make baskets as was lomandra which is still

being used to make eel traps at Lake Condah and baskets at Lake Tyers. Eels have been an important part of the traditional aboriginal diet, and this may be what prompted the Lord Mayor of Melbourne to recently suggest that we drop the current four seasons calendar, and all switch over to the six-season year as practised in native communities.

According to the Australian Native Botanic Gardens website other plants used locally would have included blackwood for making spears and shields and manna gum which provided small buckets from burls on the tree (were called tarnuks) and like banksia does it provided sweet drinks. Boomerangs were made from she-oaks which were also used to make shields and clubs.

I don't know what is planned for the native plant garden proposed for the Point Grey precinct but there are many other plants that were used by the traditional owners and I don't imagine all of them will be included but expect to see grass trees, bracken fern and tree ferns in the list. We await in anticipation.

SLITHERING INTO SNAKE SEASON

As temperatures rise, snakes become more active, emerging from a period of reduced activity to seek food and mates. While they may be more visible, snakes generally pose little danger to people when left alone.

Lachlan Clarke, Manager Statewide Wildlife Advisory Services at the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) said: "Most snake bites occur when people try to capture or kill them."

"The most effective way to stay safe is to simply leave them alone. This includes keeping pets on leads in areas where snakes are known to occur," he said.

Remember:

- Keep your yard tidy, clear away clutter like timber piles and rocks.

- Supervise pets, keep dogs on a lead and watch pets closely in high-risk areas. If you suspect a bite, seek immediate veterinary care.
- Dress for the occasion, when out walking, wear long pants and proper shoes.
- Don't try to catch or harm a snake. Call a licensed snake catcher instead.
- In the case of a bite, call 000 immediately.

Snakes are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975, and capturing, harming, or killing them is illegal.

You can report wildlife crime to Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000.

For more information contact DEECA on 136 186.

For essential snake bite first aid information, visit www.stjohnvic.com.au/news/snake-bite-first-aid-tips/

OP SHOP BUZZ

Farewells

The past few months have seen the loss of two long term, valued volunteers at the Op Shop. I would like to farewell and honour them here.



Firstly, Wendy Hemingway, who passed away peacefully a few weeks ago. Wendy will be missed by all of us who got to know her in the shop. I remember when Wendy, working the Sunday afternoon shift, would pop in Monday morning when I was “on” to ask what the previous day’s takings had been. When I told her she’d say “oh goodie” and go on her way. She worked with Lois and Vivienne, a real team

and good friends. Wendy was known for her sunny nature, love of all things yellow, her fast- walking speed of which many were envious - and I can only remember her smiling.

We had a glimpse of Wendy’s life “pre-Op Shop” through the stories told at her memorial last week. She came to Australia from the U.K in 1965 and lived and worked in Geelong until moving here for retirement in 1989. She was quickly snapped up for doing voluntary work, and it was suggested she stand for President of the shop, but she took on the job of organizing the roster for 6 years instead. Both very time-consuming roles. After Wendy’s husband died she moved to apartment living, a most sensible choice. From there, only recently, she moved to the Aged

Care Facility which she enjoyed, often seen out and about doing those daily walks. Volunteers who knew Wendy will miss her as we do all volunteers who have passed away or moved on.



Pam Hill, a volunteer from the mid 1980’s, has moved to Melbourne, downsizing and to be nearer family. I worked with Pam for many years on a Monday morning. She, myself and Jill, and more recently John, always enjoyed our time together. They were busy shifts, with many donations that people dropped in on their way back to the ‘city’. I don’t remember getting a chance to stop for a

proper coffee. Of course, we were happy to be occupied and loved seeing the new donations and chatting about pricing – Pam and I often disagreed. Pam loved Google Search and we used it many times to check the possible value of an item and sometimes just to work out what it in fact was. Pam was always calm, never flustered, a trait no doubt developed when she was Director of Nursing at the Lorne Hospital.

Through that time, she was also an Op Shop volunteer. She told us it was sometimes hard to wear both hats.

So, we say “farewell” to Wendy and Pam in different ways. At Wendy’s memorial service, through the family’s stories, we found out so much about her that we hadn’t known. Why do we only seem to gather knowledge of a person’s life when they have left us. We all move on, so before we do let’s get to know each other better!

NEW CEO APPOINTED TO LEAD GREAT OCEAN ROAD COAST AND PARKS AUTHORITY

The Board of the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) has appointed Christine Ferguson as the organisation’s new ongoing Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Christine has been interim-CEO since April and brings to the role extensive experience in the public sector, including senior executive roles in environment, land and emergency management for over 10 years.

Christine is a director and deputy chair of Triple Zero Victoria, has previously been appointed as a municipal

monitor by Local Government Victoria, is a committee member for Regional Development Australia and has received the Public Service Medal for outstanding service.

GORCAPA undertook a thorough external recruitment process to find a new CEO, with Christine selected from a very strong field of candidates.

GORCAPA is the dedicated parks manager for the Great Ocean Road coast and parks and is a key part of the Victorian Government’s landmark reforms to achieve holistic management and protection of this special part of Victoria.

LAST PRINT RUN FOR SURF COAST COMMUNITY ARTS CALENDAR COMING IN 2026

The 2026 Surf Coast Community Arts Calendar will be the last edition in print, as Surf Coast Shire Council develops new avenues for nurturing, celebrating and promoting artistic activity.

The much-loved calendar has been produced and printed annually for more than 25 years, celebrating and promoting local artists of all ages and in particular emerging creatives.

The annual community art exhibition and competition which accompanied launch of the calendar each year will continue, alongside other activities in a new Arts Initiative Program.

Submissions for the 2026 and final calendar edition are now open, and artists are being encouraged to get entries in by 21 September to help make it a grand print-edition finale.

Council's General Manager Placemaking and Environment Chris Pike said the decision to cease print editions was not made lightly.

"We know that people have great affection for the calendar, but we believe that the costs of producing them can be

used to create more opportunities for artists to develop and share their work," Mr Pike said.

"Even though our community has grown during the past 25 years the calendar is now used by a smaller number of people than its earlier days, and production demands significant funding.

From 2026-27 the new Arts Initiative Program will present an annual facilitated project that changes in theme, art form and location each year.

Council's Arts Team will be excited to share more details about the program in 2026. Future arts investment will focus on programs that:

- Engage a broader range of artists and art forms
- Introduce new audiences to creativity across the region
- Provide inclusive opportunities across age groups, and
- Align with Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Artists can find submission details for the last print calendar edition via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/calendarcomp

Entry restrictions have been lifted, allowing winning artists from the past couple of years to enter again.

COUNCIL PLAN ADOPTED TO SET STRATEGIC DIRECTION UNTIL 2029

Surf Coast Shire Council has set its strategic direction for the next four years, following the adoption of Council Plan 2025-2029, which involved extensive community consultation.

Council Plan identifies five themes, with a series of outcomes for each:

- Assets and Infrastructure
- Climate and Environmental Leadership
- Community Wellbeing
- High Performing Council
- Sustainable Communities

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, which is integrated into the Council Plan, includes the following priority areas:

- Increase Healthy Eating and Active Living
- Advance Gender Equity and Address Family Violence
- Improve Mental Health and Social Connection
- Reduce Harm from Alcohol and Vaping

- Tackle the Impacts of Climate Change on Health

Council Plan was informed by comprehensive community engagement, including a shire-wide survey and a 43-member community panel during late 2024 and early 2025. This was followed by a further six-week consultation period for the draft plan mid-year, resulting in 33 contributions.

The final Council Plan includes minor changes, including replacing outcomes with strategic objectives under the themes as well as strategic indicators for each theme.

"Development of a Council Plan is a critical part of every new Council's first year - it sets our direction and priorities for the rest of our term," Mayor Cr Mike Bodsworth said.

"Community input is a vital part of this, so it's fantastic that we received more than 1,000 contributions, in addition to the central role of the community panel."

Find out more and view Council Plan, incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029, at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/OurFocusOurFuture.

BE A HOODIE HERO:

Volunteers Needed This Spring

There is a call out for new volunteers around Apollo Bay to help protect Hooded Plover chicks this Spring.

Less than one in ten Hooded Plover chicks - known affectionately as Hoodies - survive to adulthood.

It's a sobering statistic, and one that conservation teams are working hard to change. But in Apollo Bay and surrounding areas, low volunteer numbers are leaving these vulnerable beach-nesting birds at even greater risk.

This breeding season, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority and BirdLife Australia are calling on locals and visitors to help turn things around. Volunteers are urgently needed to join the frontline of Hoodie protection along the coast.

About the size of a golf ball, Hooded Plovers nest directly on the sand between the high tide line and the dunes. Their eggs and chicks are remarkably well-camouflaged – a clever defence, but one that also makes them easy to disturb or overlook.

Off-leash dogs, foot traffic, storm surges, and predation by foxes, cats and other bird species all pose serious threats to their survival.

Volunteers play a crucial role by monitoring nesting sites, collecting data, keeping an eye on newly hatched chicks, and educating beachgoers on how to share the shore responsibly.

This year's campaign introduces Scout – a fictional chick who tells the real story of survival through social media, print and on-beach signage. Scout puts a face to the statistics: she's tiny, fragile, and urgently in need of protection – just like the real chicks on our beaches.

The Hoodies Heroes program is focused on beaches and foreshore areas between Separation Creek and Moonlight Head, where nesting activity is high, but local volunteer numbers are in decline. Locals and holidaymakers in these areas are invited to join the Hoodies Heroes team.

Whether you're a local or visiting the region, you can make a difference. Just a couple of hours a week can help give Hoodies a better chance at life.



Training is provided by GORCAPA's Conservation team throughout Spring, with ongoing support from BirdLife Australia's Beach-nesting Birds Hub and local rangers.

Our team will be on the ground at the Apollo Bay Market on Saturday, 13 September to answer any questions.

To sign up, visit <https://haveyoursay.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/hoodies>

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority
Conservation Coordinator, Scott Hives

"These little birds are tough, determined, and clinging to survival on some of our busiest beaches."

"We'd love to see more people volunteering to help authorities protect them during the breeding season."

"Come join other passionate locals volunteering every year. It is a really rewarding experience and we would encourage anyone interested to reach out and get involved."

www.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au

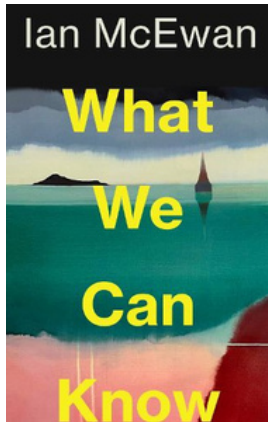


lorne books

Picks of the Month



FICTION: *What We Can Know* by Ian McEwan



What We Can Know spans the past, present and future to ask profound questions about who we are and where we are going. A masterpiece and Ian McEwan's finest novel yet.

In 2014 great poem is read aloud and never heard again. For generations, people speculate about its message, but no copy has yet been found. In 2119 an academic stumbles across a clue that may lead to the lost poem, a story is revealed of entangled loves and a crime that destroys his assumptions about people he thought he knew intimately well.

NON-FICTION: *Linger* by Hetty Lui McKinnon

The author of cult classic cookbook *Community* returns, with a cookbook about making friends and forging connection over salad.

Linger documents these intimate gatherings, with vegetable-laden, loosely seasonal menus enjoyed and photographed in real time. Through her inventive recipes for meal-worthy salads, smaller bites and simple sweets, Hetty invites you to become a part of an unforgettable shared experience of community, food and friendship.



Children's Fiction: *The Mushroom in the Sky* by Jackie French



'Christopher Forrester woke to find a dragon chewing on his face—and his heart leapt for joy! He'd been dreaming of going back to the Archipelago, the secret cluster of islands where all the creatures of myth still live, and here was his summons.'

Katherine Rundell's second thrilling installment in the Impossible Creatures series involves castles, dragons, and revenge—the things of which great stories are made. Dragons are dying from poison, a royal murder leaves the wrong man accused, and it's up to Christopher and Princess Anya to uncover the truth. Rundell's writing is as sharp and lyrical as ever, full of humour, danger, and memorable creatures.

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