

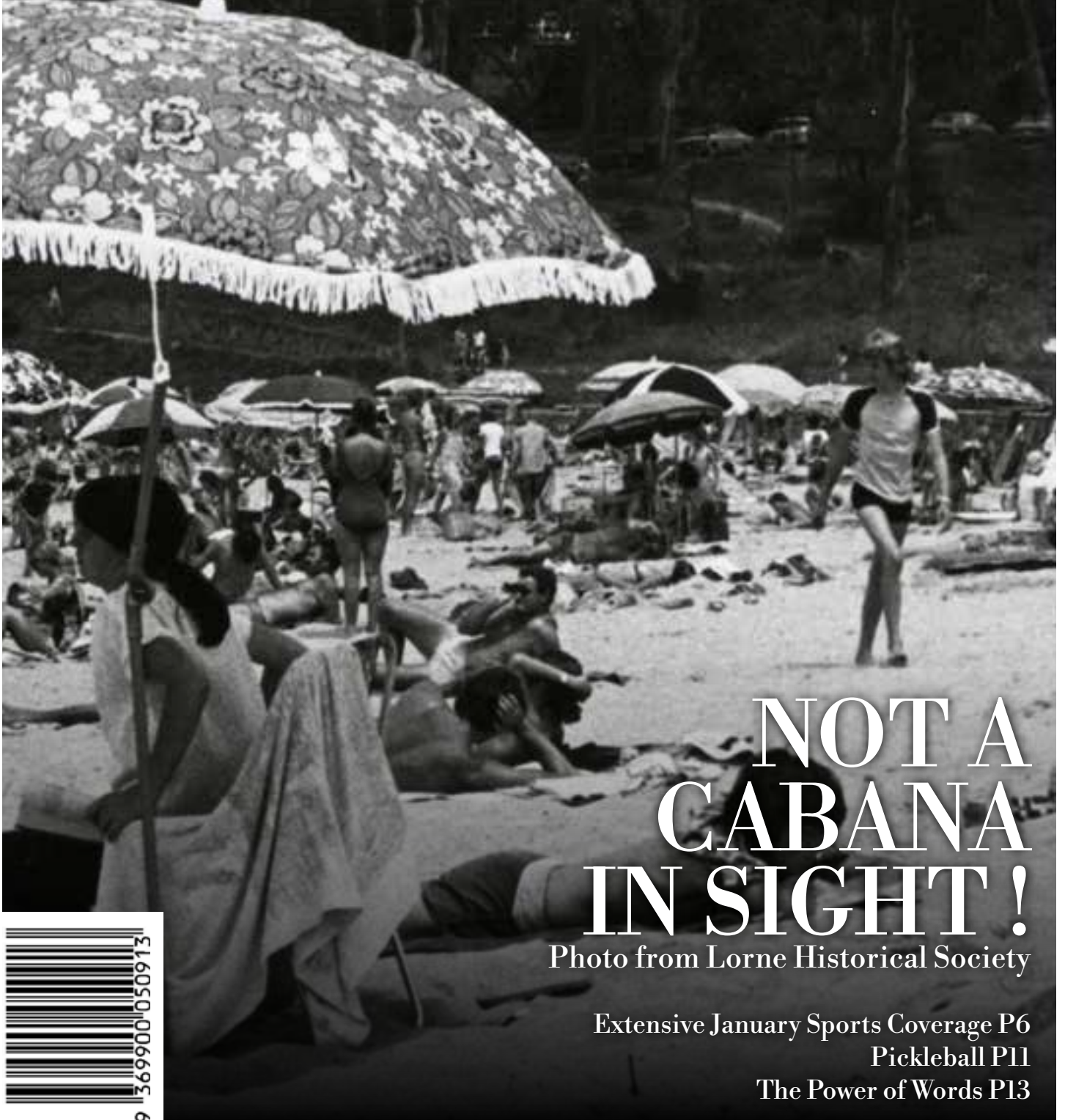
LORNE

Independent

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No 279 February 2025

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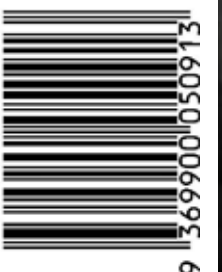
NOT A CABANA IN SIGHT!

Photo from Lorne Historical Society

Extensive January Sports Coverage P6

Pickleball P11

The Power of Words P13



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LOCAL MARKETS

Torquay Farmers Market
 Every Saturday 8.30AM to 1PM

Winchelsea Community Market
 First Sunday of every month 9AM to 1PM

Cowrie Market Torquay
 16 FEB, 16 MAR, 20 APR 9:00AM to 2PM

Aireys Inlet Market
 9 FEB, 9 MAR, 20 APR, 4 MAY, 8 JUN, 13 JUL 9AM to 1PM

Anglesea Riverbank Market
 9 MAR, 20 APR 9AM to 4PM

GOTTA LOVE THE STRIB

Sent with love from an aspiring writer

On any day in January, you are bound to find a varied assortment of people wearing out the grass on The Strib. Forget for a moment that this is one of Victoria's most picturesque recreational facilities, there is serious user intent out here.

Let's start with the aged grandfather pushing his wonky knees to their limit trying to keep up with a dynamic seven-year-old who gleefully dribbles a soccer ball around him and sinks it into the corner of the portable soccer net left out for anyone to enjoy.

Nearby a trio of long-legged female sprinters appreciate the smooth grassy cover as they work on their technique. Their run throughs have grace and style.

Out in the middle, on the cricket pitch, a patient father is flinging balls down to a young batsman who dreams of wearing a baggy green cap. His back foot defence still

needs a little more work. It's so convenient being able to use the movable cricket net to cut down on the time wasted fetching any balls which get past his bat.

Over in the forward pocket, in front of the pavilion, four young blokes refuse to believe that mid-summer is not a perfect time for a kick of the footy. The thwack of boot on leather is followed by cries of, "Snagged it, just like Daicos! Now watch me do it on my other foot!"

It wouldn't be a real oval if there weren't a few pairs of joggers plodding round the boundary working up a sweat and checking their progress on their smart watches.

Today's final cohort of Strib users is the one who are out here all year, come rain or shine. The tools of their trade are a plastic ball flinger and a ragged tennis ball. Watching their border collies, oodles, Jack Russells or kelpies run those balls down somehow gives you an inner joy. Makes you think that free-to-all shared open space like The Strib gives perhaps the true meaning of 'Commonwealth'.



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Image: Sharyn Cairns

REIMAGINING TOURISM ON THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

By Peter Christoff, Great Ocean Road Communities Network

Can we imagine a future where tourism remains a major economic force but without the downsides that come with unrestrained growth? The Great Ocean Road Communities Network has organised a free webinar series about this challenge for our region.

The webinars aim to provoke residents, business owners, holiday homeowners and visitors to think ahead and shape policies that will preserve our environment, way of life, and economy. Featuring Anna Pollock and Dianne Dredge, internationally renowned experts on tourism, the program will provide examples of regenerative tourism in Australia and overseas.

They and other speakers will outline a more sustainable model of tourism and debate how a transition to this model could take place.

Public agencies, including the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) and Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism (GORRT), will discuss the increasing

pressures and impacts they face and outline their responses.

The five sessions will be on Monday 24th and Thursday 27th February, Monday 3rd March, Wednesday 12th March and Wednesday 19th March. All sessions start at 4pm and end at 5.30pm.

For more information visit the Eventbrite page – Tourism Reimagined and the Great Ocean Road. Or scan the QR on the image to register.



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SPORTSBRIEFS

By John Ford

Cricket Under Lights!

Lorne Cricket Club defeated Forrest in an exciting twilight match at Stribling Reserve on Friday 10th January. Forrest won the toss and batted first and were cruising along at 2/92 at the drinks break. However, some very disciplined bowling put the shackles on the batsmen who were restricted to 8/167 at the end of their forty overs. Josh O'Brien taking 3/32, Louis Coates with 2/25 and Zav Hollmer 1/12 were Lorne's best bowlers.



Lorne's innings began with confidence and flair with Ed Erftemeyer and Josh O'Brien punishing the bowlers. Josh fell for 35 but Ed went on to (compulsory) retire at 75. Harvey Atwell was next in making 18 and at this stage the run rate was 6 per over, well above that required. However, Lorne suffered a collapse with three batsmen not able to reach double figures, and after a while Lorne seemed to be in the doldrums at 6/155. Lorne was able to steady with the not out batsmen Will Seymour and Louis Coates getting Lorne over the line, finishing on 6/172 after just thirty overs. This was a very good match between the top two teams.

Pink Stumps Day

On Saturday 18th January Lorne hosted Apollo Bay in the 'PINK STUMPS DAY' to help raise money for the McGrath Foundation. The twilight event was held in the Stribling Reserve pavilion overlooking the field of play and was very well organised. Supporters, dressed in their pink attire, enjoyed a range of foods as well as 'pink drinks'. The event raised more than three thousand dollars which the McGrath Foundation uses to help fund cancer care nurses Australia wide. The committee, sponsors, players, families and volunteers should all be very pleased on organising and delivering such a great event.

Meanwhile there was a cricket match taking place which was exciting right through to the last ball bowled. Lorne won the toss and batted first compiling a very good score of 7 for 208 off their 40 overs.



Ed Erftemeyer and Harvey Atwell with 40 and 33 runs respectively gave Lorne a very good start which was extended with 77 not out from Michael Edmonds.

Apollo Bay lost an early wicket in what seemed to be a difficult run chase. However their batsmen were able to blunt Lorne's bowling and maintained the required run rate by way of disciplined, positive batting. Lorne fought back with late wickets, but Apollo Bay was able to safely overhaul Lorne's total with just three balls to spare! The thrilling finish saw Apollo Bay score 7/211 compared to Lorne's 7/208. Ed Erftemeyer was the best of Lorne's bowlers with three wickets, but the honours on this occasion go to Apollo Bay's batsmen for chasing down this very good total under lights. Lorne's next three matches are away to: West Warrion, Simpson and Carlisle River, before heading into the finals as one of the two or three top teams.

Mountain to Surf Run

The annual Mountain to Surf Run was held on Friday 10th January on what was a beautiful morning for running. The 8-kilometre course proved to be no obstacle for Ed Marks who won in an amazing time of 21 minutes and 49 seconds. This was a minute faster than Tom Bowers who came in second, with Ed's time breaking the course record set by Steve Moneghetti set some eighteen years earlier! I want you all to imagine how difficult it would be to run those eight hilly kilometres at a rate of less than 3 minutes per kilometre!

The times recorded by the women were also exceptional, with Sarah Klein winning in 25 minutes and 12 seconds, from Amy Robinson 25 min 34 sec and Annabelle Eastman 28 min 46 sec. Well done to all the thousands of runners who took part, especially those who were able to record their personal best times for the event.

Continued page 7

From page 6

Pier to Pub Swim

The annual Pier to Pub swim was held this year for the 45th time, and this year the conditions were almost perfect to record fast times. The temperature was in the mid-twenties, a light breeze, low tide and gentle waves.

Almost six thousand swimmers took part in twelve categories based on age, gender and experience. In a very entertaining Women's Open event, Lani Pallister won for the SIXTH time in a row! She ran up the beach to the finish line in 11 minutes and 24 seconds, removing her cap as she went. Second was Madison Cooper in 11 minutes 44 seconds. Fastest male was Nick Sloman in 10 min 12 sec, ahead of Sam Short 10 min 27 sec.

All swimmers are to be congratulated along with the Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club, Lifesaving Victoria and this year's sponsor Powercor. Our Surf Lifesaving Club trains people to not only swim, but to learn a range of lifesaving, surf rescue and watercraft skills. We all need to heed the message to be responsible beachgoers and to stay safe! The constant message is to SWIM BETWEEN THE FLAGS!

Vale Michael Turner

The broader football community has been saddened by the recent passing of Michael Turner after an ongoing illness. Michael played 245 games for Geelong between 1974 and 1988, kicking 285 goals, and going on to captain the team in 1984.

Geelong supporters will clearly remember Michael's silky ball skills, great balance and exceptional speed. As a St. Kilda supporter I remember so many matches at Moorabbin and Kardinia Park where he would usually be, playing on Russell Greene and both players would dominate for their team.

To Geelong and Lorne's great benefit he was very active in retirement playing important administrative roles with the Geelong Falcons and the Dolphins. The Geelong Falcons identify and nurture talent in junior footballers providing pathways to senior competitions including the AFL. The importance of a person like Michael Turner to a country football club cannot be understated, as it helps build a positive culture and helps attract others with experience at the highest level.

Lorne Football Netball Club President, Carly Enticott, expressed the club's gratitude for his encouragement of the junior players, his building strong links between players, sponsors, supporters and volunteers, and the way that he was so generous with his time.

An example of how he valued every member of a club was when he noticed that my wife Wendy and I were volunteering on gate duty on a cold windy afternoon, and he personally went and supplied us with Dolphin's weather jackets – to keep. This was despite the fact that it was a busy match day for him, and his own health at the time was

being seriously challenged. He was so positive and yet so realistic as to the medical treatments that he required and the likely outcomes.

When this article gets to print, Michael's funeral will have already taken place at Mantra. It is sure to be attended by people from all backgrounds wanting to pay their respects, and our deepest thoughts are with Karen and the extended family.

Vale Marie Bannister

Sportsbriefs is sad to report the recent passing of Marie Bannister after a short illness. Marie had been a tennis player in a Premiership team for Lorne Country Club, going on to become the co ordinator of junior tennis at the club. Marie was Assistant Tennis Captain to John Norton over many years, and later to me in this role. Her valuable service to the club saw her being awarded Life Membership, as well as being awarded Life Membership of the Geelong Coast Junior Tennis Association for her ongoing role on that committee. Marie was also keen on golf and a tireless community volunteer for decades. Our sympathies go to Gordon and the extended family.

Lorne Bowls Club

One of the signature days for the Lorne Bowls Club is the Stribling Memorial Day, celebrating with the Stribling family the efforts of Hector Stribling to the establishment of Lorne Bowls Club.



Representing the family were Stewart Stribling and Stephen Sprague with President Jeff Reddie.

14 teams played with the honour of winning 1st prize \$450.00, 2nd \$150.00 and third \$60.00

And the winners were Highton Bowls Club, Anne Maree McCaskell, Chris Savage, Dawn Moloney.

Money raised from the day was donated to the Lorne Kindergarten.

Pennant bowls back in action for 2025 year with the continuation of the 24/25 season with Midweek pennant starting Round 11 on 14th January.

Continued page 9



Dry and Itchy Skin? You might have Eczema!

Eczema is a skin condition that causes dry and itchy patches of skin. It's a common condition that isn't contagious. Symptoms of eczema can flare up if you contact an irritant or an allergen.

At TerryWhite Chemmart Lorne, we have a whole range of treatments available to help you manage symptoms. Come in and have a chat with our pharmacists and pharmacy assistants, we are here to help!



From page 7

Lorne 1 played at home and drew with Cobden 2, Lorne 1 60 shots 7 points to Cobden 2 60 shots 9 points. Lorne are 6th on the ladder.

Round 11 weekend pennant started back on 18th January, with Lorne 1 playing at home against Colac 2, Lorne 1 won with 98 shots and 16 points and Colac 2 64 shots and 2 points. Lorne 1 are top of the ladder.

Lorne 2 travelled to Winchelsea and came away with a win, Lorne 2, 72 shots and 16 points to Winchelsea 3 44 shots. Lorne 2 are on top of the ladder.

Round 12 Midweek Lorne 1 travel to Colac to play City 2 next to the football ground, sadly Lorne 1 Lost 44 shots to City 2 82 shots 16 points, Lorne 1 sit 7th on the ladder.

Only a few rounds to go before we enter finals phase for the season.

competed in teams of two over four 8-game sets. A perfect balance of men and women made for a fantastic day of tennis.

Winners: Sue Cox (26 points) Paul Carr (27 points)

A special thank you to Suzanne Diviny for her exceptional catering. One enthusiastic participant remarked, "Suzanne's chicken sandwiches were the main reason I signed up!"

Junior Tennis Clinics

Under the guidance of coach Marvin Barker, junior players enjoyed four mornings of tennis clinics from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The clinics were well-attended and fuelled by excitement for the Australian Open, inspiring the next generation of tennis talent.

Here's to a summer filled with great matches, fun events, and lasting memories at the Lorne Country Club!

Summer of Tennis at Lorne Country Club

Kevin Diviny, Tennis Captain

January was a thrilling month for tennis at the Lorne Country Club! The courts were alive with activity, with members and visitors making the most of the summer season. Highlights included the Tennis Club Championships for Singles, the annual Mixed Doubles Round Robin, and tennis clinics led by our talented coach, Marvin Barker.

Women's Singles Championship:

In an intense and competitive match, Steph Fry triumphed over Georgie Howson to claim the title. The final scores told the story of a hard-fought battle: 7-5, 0-6, 6-0. Congratulations, Steph!

Men's Singles Championship:

The much-anticipated final between Josh Frydenberg and Matt Hayward is set to deliver an exciting showdown.

Josh won! 6.0 6.2.

Mixed Doubles Round Robin – Saturday, 25th January

This year's Mixed Doubles Round Robin was a resounding success, with all five courts buzzing as 20 players



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PICKLEBALL!

By Brian Tickell

You'd be forgiven if you haven't yet heard of Pickleball ... but some might also wonder if you've been living under a rock for the past two years.

First invented in the USA in 1965 as a game for kids, it's since developed into a sport that approximately 50,000,000 adults have played at some stage across America (The Association of Pickleball Professionals (APP)).

While Pickleball Australia introduced the sport nation wide in 2020, it wasn't until November 2024 that new Lorne resident Brian Tickell brought it to our cozy, coastal town.

Brian had been holidaying in Lorne since childhood but recently made the move to Lorne with his partner, Jo. Though it was a holiday to America that made Brian fall for the sport.

As a tennis enthusiast, when he was introduced to Pickleball by family in Texas, he loved that people of all ages - from 10 to 80 plus - were able to pick up a paddle and play together.

The sport felt wholesome, it got people on their feet and connecting. It was perfect in its simplicity. So, Brian went back to Australia and kept playing in his hometown of Balwyn.

When he moved to Lorne, Brian was excited to get involved in the community and thought Pickleball could be a fun way to meet new people.

When he realised Pickleball hadn't reached Lorne, he raced to his old local Pickleball Haunt and managed to scrounge up some paddles and nets.

Scouring the town, he ended up at The Lorne School with a few people, set up the nets and got to playing. As the summer days passed, a few became 10. 10 became 30. 30 quickly became 50 ...

Since November, over 250 people have come along to join Brian on the courts. The joy and energy when you're amongst the throngs is palpable, and it wouldn't be a surprise if it soon transitioned from a local

neighbourhood game to a full-blown club. As 'Pickleball Lorne' continues to grow, Brian's hope is that they can set up proper courts where the once loved trampoline park used to be. Though to him, no matter where the paddles swing, it's really about the love of the game, and the friends you make along the way.

If you'd like to get in on the fun, you can email Brian Tickell at lornepickleball@gmail.com



Community Satisfaction Survey 2025

On Now



Random phone interviews with 600 Surf Coast Shire ratepayers are taking place until mid-March for the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

The annual survey which takes about seven minutes to complete provides us with feedback to help understand community perceptions about council, and identify improvement opportunities.

The Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is carried out by the Victorian Government.

For all those who don't or won't celebrate Valentines Day

But believe in LOVE

How do I love thee

by Elizabeth Barrett Browning
(1806-1861)

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways
I love thee to the depth and breadth
and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of
sight
For the ends of being and ideal grace.
I love thee to the level of every day's
Most quiet need, by sun and
candlelight.
I love thee freely as men strive for right
I love thee purely as they turn from
praise.
I love thee with a passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my
childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints- I love thee with the
breath,
Smiles, tears of all my life! – and , if
God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.



And one for more modern times

Aden Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

by W B YEATS (1865 – 1939)

Had I the heavens'
embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and
silver light,
The blue and the dim and the
dark cloths
Of night and light and the half light,
I would spread the cloths under
your feet:
But I, being poor, have only
my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under
your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my
dreams.

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THE POWER OF WORDS

By Sandra McComb

If you are reading this article you are using the power of words to understand a message. It is written in English using the letters or symbols of the current Alphabet.

The words we write, read, speak and hear are fundamental to our very existence as human beings. Above all else words are the tools for thought. Just how deeply words reflect who we are as individuals, and as a society, is often ignored. Yet words can be rewarding and inspiring, demeaning and destructive.

English words form a particularly widespread and powerful language that is everchanging. English words have been threatened throughout history, invaded by German vocabulary, by the Vikings, by the French - but have survived and are peacefully borrowed in other languages; for instance le weekend creeping in to French.

Not so peacefully, English words have been used to dictate to entire countries as in the days of the Indian Raj from 1848 to 1947. Hindi by no means disappeared but for decades the power of British English ruled the country. Similarly in Australia, or Terra Nullius as it was then termed, James Cook had landed in 1770 bringing British English to eastern Australian shores. The Aboriginal languages were for centuries suppressed assuming that the 'natives' had no words and thus no means of communication or cultural expression. But Cook and others borrowed sounds from Aboriginal people, converting them to spoken and later into written words, such as kangaroo and yakka.

By 1899 British Australian ethnographer AW Howitt was exploring Aboriginal message sticks or 'blackfellows', letters' seemingly used for trading and communication, saying the carved markings on the wooden sticks 'could be read and understood by the person to whom they are sent'. Not unlike Egyptian cryptographs.

Of course Howitt himself wrote as a 'whitefellow' and his written word prevailed. But Howitt was proved correct as research continues today. Aboriginal message sticks are a fascinating insight into a complex system of written communication. 'The conversation: January 15, 2025 6.10am AEDT.' Today in Australia there is a growing melding of English words and traditional Aboriginal words the latter being written down, recording a way of understanding and appreciating an ancient society.

At times words take on new meanings through common usage. A simple example: cool which now means great as well as semi-cold. Or more complicated: woke which has varied in interpretation since its original meaning: Being aware or well informed in a cultural or political sense. The Oxford Dictionary has recently updated its

definition to: Alert to injustice in society, especially racism, to reflect its use in society, particularly in black America. Perhaps, unfortunately, woke has now become a politically divisive word as conservatives use it as a negative. The dictionary might be the guardian of words in context, but how people use words is an open book, sometimes abused, sometimes expansive.

Australian English words are always developing according to use. During the 1980s I managed the first publication of the Australian National Dictionary. This work awakened me (or woke me) to the substantial amount we rely on words to express our separate national culture. New and adapted words tell our story being created, used and captured by human beings. We all know what fair dinkum, digger and arvo mean. As we do with Australian slang, at its most lively.

Change in language has been evident throughout history. But surely it has taken the human voice to infuse words with shades of deeper meaning. We as intelligent humans must listen and think, adapt and act. Should we not be monitoring a media that is now often 'curating' articles rather than researching and writing words! Curating is defined as organising existing words, objects, etc. Should we not always be looking for new ideas, for imaginative writing?

Which leads me to wonder. What of so-called Artificial Intelligence: a term that has been used for over 50 years is suddenly set to affect many aspects of our lives? I am convinced by talking to people already involved, by using AI for simple writing tasks, that efficiency will be a winner by recreating word banks, removing unnecessary jargon, improving time management. Let us not be negative about this.

Think for a moment how the digital world has already improved so many facets of life. Think how communication in medicine and scientific research might benefit. Think what AI might do to the power of the word. It can already create poetry but can it capture human emotion?

Perhaps if left to run without monitoring, AI might replace all the light, sparkle and imagination necessary for original writing.

The questions seem to me to be: does AI assist intellectual insight, artistic creativity and all other human faculties? Will it explain consciousness? And what, if we hand our lives over, will we become? Perhaps we as a society should put the brakes on and firstly resolve what the word intelligence means in human terms before we accept artificial versions.

PS I did not use AI to write this article.



Picture by George T.
Grade 2 (2024)

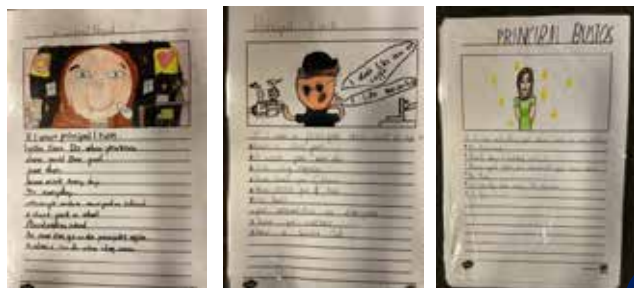
If Grade 2/3s Were Principal for a Day...

Our Grade 2/3 students recently stepped into the shoes of the school principal for the day—and their big ideas did not disappoint! From no uniforms and no school on Fridays to discos every week and ice cream cakes for every birthday, the students had plenty of exciting suggestions for how to make school even more fun.

Other creative ideas included shorter school days with afternoons spent surfing, skating, or playing at the beach, a wave pool and water park on campus, more dress-up days, pets at school, and free food for everyone. They even wanted Science Week every week!

While some of these changes might take a bit of time (we're dreaming big about that water park and wave pool!), the experience provided valuable and authentic feedback from **the most important voices—our students!**

From their fantastic ideas, we're already planning to add more casual dress days, integrate more beach, pool, and water sports activities, and more special learning events that are heaps of fun. A big thank you to our creative and enthusiastic future leaders for sharing their vision for our school!



LORNE P-12 COLLEGE

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VCE Students Soar into University Success!

Lorne P-12 College is thrilled to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our VCE students as they embark on the next stage of their educational journeys. This year, our graduates have secured placements in a diverse range of prestigious university programs, demonstrating their dedication and hard work throughout their schooling.

Among the highlights are admissions into Health Sciences (Associate Degree) and Aerospace Engineering (Honours) at RMIT University, Cyber Security at Deakin University, and pathways into Nutrition Science and Social Work/Psychology (Honours) at leading institutions. Many students have also shown a strong interest in Health Sciences, pursuing both diplomas and degree pathways at Deakin University.

The surge in interest toward health sciences and engineering, particularly aeronautical fields, reflects our students' ambition to pursue cutting-edge and impactful careers. Their success is a testament not only to their academic capabilities but also to the well-rounded skills they've developed both inside and outside the classroom.

We wish our graduates all the very best as they take this exciting step forward. With their determination and the solid foundation, they've built at Lorne P-12 College, we are confident they will achieve great things.



THE WILD SIDE

By Liz Brown local vet.

Gerald Durrell was my hero. I spent hours reading his books, copying his illustrations and hunting for the weird and wonderful in our back yard.

Having survived eighteen months of intense, mainly small animal practice, in West Yorkshire, it was time to treat myself to journey through Africa. Africa is an amazing continent, but we had a saying, "Africa wins again" as many well-made plans were thwarted. I was determined to return to enhance my chance to be accepted in a trainee ship at the Royal Melbourne zoo.

Letters were sent to every game park, I could find an address for, hoping that I could visit and compare them over the course of six months. Answers were there were none. As if they'd want some young vulnerable girl getting in the way of their day-to-day existence especially as she had nothing to offer! I had to change tack and came across a capture care course, that I could pay for, that ran for two weeks in Kruger national park, South Africa. It was an amazing time to visit post apartheid South Africa as the rugby was being played there at the time and the nationalistic feelings were running high. It was a relief when the Springboks beat the Wallabies as I was rather outnumbered, I wasn't that sure of the rules of the game, but I was aware that a chair had been placed in the

back corner with my name on it should the wrong team win.

I was privileged to join a group of American vets who were documenting the effects of FIV infections on the lion populations. To do this a zebra, that had been mortally wounded, was sacrificed to lure the lions in. We hid in an open sided van with recordings of hyenas at a kill screaming out into the night relying on our night vision to discern the predators as they silently approached.

The gentleman with the dart gun was an expert and we soon had 3 sleeping male lions to take samples from. FIV in lions causes progressive retinal detachment so they are no longer able to hunt. Unfortunately, the three brother lions all had the disease, so they were unlikely to survive longer than six years.

The actual course capture care was amazing, but it would be considered unethical in this day. We practiced our darts on elephants that were being held in quarantine and had a chance to dart zebras, with water, from helicopters. I got the certificate and bought the book but realized that being a zoo vet wasn't for me.

Instead, I've been lucky enough to have been able to work on some of our native fauna. Living in Streaky Bay, South Australia, working as the only vet for a radius of 400km meant it was me or nothing. We saved a baby sea lion from malnutrition, raised our own western grey kangaroo called Lily and raised a Nankeen kestrel called Harold.

Wildlife Wonders from Apollo Bay has generously allowed me to take part in their animal health program. We had to castrate a number of brother sugar gliders that were unable to be rehomed and a quoll with a prolapsed vagina responded well to some surgery. We've taken samples from all the emu chicks to work out what sex they are and investigated a female kangaroo that was losing weight. Next up is sterilizing some of the female kangaroos to prevent a population explosion.

I love the challenge of the unusual especially when the outcome is positive and feel so honoured to be able to have a go. My master's studies were in conservation veterinary medicine which I still have not made good use of. What's next?

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GREAT OCEAN ROAD HEALTH NEWS

LORNE
medical centre

What's On At GORH

FEBRUARY is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

- 4th FEB: World Cancer Day
Physical Disability Awareness Day
- 7th FEB: Summer Raffle Ticket Sales sold outside
Grandma Shields Bakery 10am—1pm
- 11th FEB: Heart Failure Awareness Week
- 11th FEB: Summer Raffle Ticket Sales sold outside
Grandma Shields Bakery 10am—1pm
- 21st FEB: Summer Raffle Drawn

A Message From Our CEO

What incredible events the Lorne Pier to Pub and Mountain to Surf are. Lorne was packed full of active, excited people, not a park to be found. For Great Ocean Road Health this is one of our busiest weekends, not necessarily because of the events as the medical centre set up at the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club supports both events. The set up is amazing with equipment from Epworth (and GORH) and specialists, GPs, paramedics and nursing staff volunteering to create an incredible mobile medical centre. This allows GORH to provide care to the 35000 other people who may need it in Lorne that weekend. We of course treat clients from the swim and run, who might need to have an Xray or other tests, and lets face it the Mountain to Surf run can be an ankle breaker. Thanks very much to the volunteers who assist at both events.

Sandy

Great Ocean Road Health 2024-25 Annual Appeal

This year we would like to make some well needed infrastructure improvements to our facilities, to continue to provide greater care for our community. We can't do it alone—we need your help! Examples of improvements we are fundraising for include improvements to patient rooms such as installing a tracking and hoist system in all rooms to increase patient mobility and reduce staff injury, expand our ground floor balcony and reconfigure the hospital reception and waiting room areas to increase patient capacity, have a dedicated patient triage section, improve security, increase the number of patient rooms, hospital roof repairs, as well as new painting and carpet.

To learn more visit our website: [Support Us | Great Ocean Road Health](https://www.greatoceanroadhealth.vic.gov.au)

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1st Prize – Luxury Escape in Apollo Bay: 2-night stay at Chocolate Gannets, 15-minute Helicopter Flight with Apollo Bay Aviation and \$150 Casalingo dining voucher.

2nd Prize – Cottage Retreat in Johanna: 2-night stay at The Boomerangs Cottages at Johanna for 2 people. Plus, a \$150 Casalingo dining voucher.

3rd Prize – Ultimate Lorne Escape: 2-night stay for 2 people at the Cumberland Resort Lorne in a one-bedroom ocean front apartment. Plus, a \$100 Totti's Lorne dining Voucher.

4th Prize – Paradise at the Mantra Lorne: 1 night stay in a Heritage Room at the wonderful Mantra Resort, Lorne with breakfast included. Plus, a 20% off voucher for a stay at the exclusive Elysian Guest House in Apollo Bay.

Tickets are \$10 each. Raffle will be DRAWN on 21st February.

Proceeds will support infrastructure improvements such as ceiling hoists in Aged Care rooms, Urgent Care medical equipment purchases, and hospital refurbishments such as roof repairs, switchboard upgrades and external building repairs.



Casalingo Apollo Bay

CUMBERLAND
LORNE

The Boomerangs at Johanna



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

I am a scientist. I follow the mass of available verified evidence and will happily update my understanding of how the world works given new information. We currently live in a time when people doubt a large quantity of trusted evidence, but would rather follow a convenient opinion or feeling, rather than look to verified trusted sources for real understanding.

Recently, I was reminded of heat waves we used to have, then to be told the climate is not really warming. What is important to understand is that an isolated fact does not make a trend. The evidence from a range of trusted sources tells us, we have a trend that clearly shows global warming is very real. We know glaciers are melting and shrinking in many places. We know sea levels have risen, as some islands in the Pacific are no longer habitable. We hear of vineyards in Victoria that are no longer viable because of the higher temperatures and now need to source grapes from Tasmania.

We need to understand the effect of carbon and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases act like a blanket on the world. If you add another blanket to your bed in summer, you will find yourself uncomfortably hot. This is what is happening to the world.

Google carbon in the atmosphere, and you will find that carbon dioxide in 2024 is 427 parts per million, a 50% increase since the start of the Industrial Revolution. You might argue Australia only contributes 1.5% of the world's emissions, however Australia's carbon emissions per capita are higher than the world average and are among the highest in the world. The rise in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is the result of all the burning of fossil fuels over the last two hundred years in first world countries like Australia.

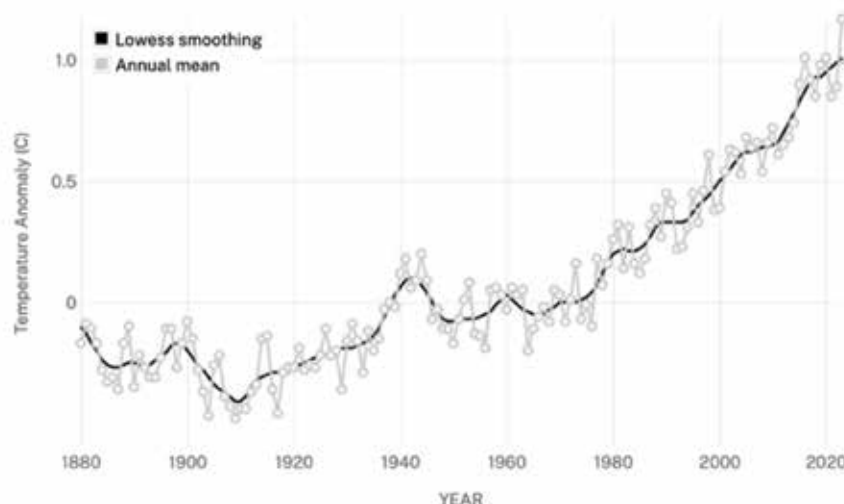
Rises of global temperatures will make more parts of the world uninhabitable. It means there is much more energy in the ocean and atmosphere which leads to greater damage from floods, droughts, storms and sea-level rise. This means huge costs to governments and its people to live comfortably. Already we know home insurance costs have dramatically increased, even making it impossible for some people to afford house insurance.

The overwhelming evidence strongly shows that global warming is real and needs to be urgently addressed so our grandchildren can inherit a comfortable habitable world.

Linton Ferguson

GLOBAL LAND-OCEAN TEMPERATURE INDEX

Data source: NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS). Credit: NASA/GISS



Dear Editor

I just wanted to pass on my congratulations and feedback on how good the new look Lorne Independent is recently!

Janine and I only spend approximately 30% of our time in Lorne currently but this will increase as we approach 60.

I am an Angel Flight Pilot, and I fly a Bonanza A36 (6-seater). If anyone in Lorne ever needed assistance (medical) in getting to Melbourne (free flight) I can assist. My aircraft is at Colac, and we land in Moorabbin in less than 30 minutes.

I regularly fly regional community members to and from Melbourne for treatment through Angel Flights and would be more than happy to help Lorne Community members wanting to save the drive during busy periods. I can take them up to Colac also...

Angel Flight Australia - www.angelflight.org.au

Anyway, well done on the new look and very impressive 'Local Rag'.

All the best.

Kind Regards,
Anthony Turner.




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OP SHOP BUZZ

Back to the future. *By Wendy Jarratt*

By now, most of you will have visited our newly renovated Op Shop at 98 Mountjoy Parade. We have been very pleased to receive lots of compliments on the design, fittings, flooring, colour and lighting to name a few.

Our work room has also seen a major redesign and is much more user friendly, with a big processing bench, sky lights (it used to be difficult to see stains on clothing), cupboards and shelving for everything, even a niche for volunteers' handbags. In the little kitchen corner, we have a tiny dishwasher for cleaning donated glassware and china. There's even an ironing board tucked away in a drawer for touching up rumpled clothing. For our donors there are trolleys in which to put your items. In doing so we ask that you take away your cartons and plastic bags. We are trying to cut down on the rubbish we produce out of environmental and cost concerns. We take unsaleable sheets and towels to Sheridan outlets where they have a recycling program, and we no longer use plastic to bundle our sheets. These and other initiatives have the future in mind. Please help us achieve this goal and if you have any ideas, please let us know.

Visitors and residents alike have been pleased to see two Op Shops running this summer. Many times, volunteering I have been asked "Is there another Op Shop in Lorne?" I laughingly answered "Goodness no. Where would we find enough volunteers?" Well, this summer we did, many people doing two, three or even more shifts a week to keep both 6A and 98 Mountjoy Parade open seven days a week, 10 till 4. WHAT A WONDERFUL EFFORT by all concerned.

All the important thank yous, and there are many, will be made on February 28th when there will be an official opening. I believe it will be after "shop hours" – most fitting, not wanting to stop trading. When the Op Shop opened as a brand-new building in 1971 the volunteers didn't take the time to celebrate. It was back to business, as it will be now.

Renovation of the shop has always had as its main aim to plan for the future – future volunteers, future donors, future customers. The present volunteers are only the custodians of the shop. Hopefully we will be granted another 50 odd years with, for a while, the same happy faces, but then the volunteers of the future whomever they might be.



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Smart, sleek and functional kitchen with stone bench top, ample cupboard space and quality appliances, flowing through to light filled dining space and spacious living zones warmed by wood fire. A west orientation provides warming afternoon sunshine opening to the undercover deck space that takes in pleasant views of the third fairway of Lorne Country Club.

The upper level accommodates two spacious bedrooms with a central, modern bathroom, entry foyer/laundry, large Nor-east front deck perfect for entertaining with the whole the family.

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LORNE HOUSE FOR SALE



LORNE

MINTY'S BEACH HOUSE

Escape to Minty's Beach House, a cosy retreat where the bush meets the beach. This renovated single-storey holiday home, offering modern amenities, spacious living areas, and a tranquil enclosed yard—perfect for families, friends, and furry companions alike.

Inside, the home welcomes you with a blend of thoughtful design and homely touches. Three spacious bedrooms offer comfortable bedding and ample storage along with panel heaters and ceiling fans for all-season comfort. Two modern bathrooms, including a bath and laundry facilities, cater to large groups with ease.

Enjoy cooking at home in the well-equipped kitchen and relax around the indoor dining table bathed in abundant natural light with a northerly aspect. Open the bifold doors and enjoy a BBQ on the deck, which leads to an enclosed backyard for your furry friend. In cooler months, the wood fire offers a cosy ambience to curl up and read a book, play a board game or enjoy a film on the large smart TV with surround sound.

The deck is a peaceful place for your morning coffee and yoga (two mats are included). Wildlife from the neighbouring forest abounds, so be on the lookout for our adorable resident koalas, kookaburras, echidnas, and parrots.

LORNE HOLIDAY RENTAL

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From the team at
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CLEMENTINE CALLING

Xmas day was a nice hot day which necessitated a trip to the beach for a swim after consuming too much tucker and a few drinks. From Scotchmans Hill, right down to the lawns beyond the Life Saving Club I experienced the joys and aroma of the Punjab Outdoor Café! There were masses of well-behaved Indian family groups, enjoying the beauty of Lorne. They came complete with food and heating utensils and the cooking gave off the most tantalizing smells of aromatic curry, fragrant spices like cumin and garam masala. My nose was twitching – it was a complete olfactory Indian experience! Did I fail to mention the rubbish left behind....

...then Nippers began, with those controversial blue and white striped cabanas going up very early in preparation for a day on the beach. Keen parents could be seen urging their pink clad offspring onto victory – all great preparation for the rat race that is ahead of them. The stars are the volunteers who help teach the kids beach safety. After a swim, small spoilt girls, unattended by their mothers, take for hours sharing showers in the Life Saving Club completely unaware that one day we may be short of water and not caring about adult members of the Club waiting to have a shower. Gone are the days when they put in 20 cents and when the money ran out the shower turned off. For the Lorne water supply it was a good system. Parents, please supervise your kids, make them get out of the showers and teach them NOT to waste our precious water.

Op Shop workers say that it is a joy to work in the newly renovated shop. Jane Orr has been a marvel all summer, judiciously arranging the roster for two Op Shops - nothing short of a miracle with the small population we have. Lenny Tank generously gave the CCTV system.

All sorts of celebrities visit lovely Lorne! Down on the beach with their two corgis were Stephen Ryan and his partner Craig Lidgerwood, an accomplished botanical artist. Stephen is a famous horticulturist and runs Dicksonia a rare plants nursery in the heart of Mount Macedon. Stephen is much travelled and has published books on rare plants and whilst chasing dogs and throwing balls was chatting about the discovery by one of the Botanic Garden experts of a crab eating pitcher plant. Plants people are so interesting.

7.30 am Friday morning, the day of the very successful Mountain to Surf Run there was our Hutch from the Aquatic Club leaving Food Works burdened down with armfuls of ice. Bravo Hutch!! Here's hoping pouring all those icy cold drinks didn't wear him out.

Isn't it great that we now have a local as President of the Lorne Life Saving Club - Heath Armstrong, who is a director of the building firm Sam I Am. We see their trucks all over town. Heath now has the responsibility of steering the Lifesaving Club in the right direction. Heath is a legend – way back in 2018 – he received the Lifesaver of the Year award for his “outstanding” contribution to lifesaving. He's a decent chap and was recently seen giving a lift to one elderly lady pedestrian on her way to the Op Shop. Good on you Heath.

Compliments to the Lifesaving Club for providing those diligent Life Savers who are there doing such a good job during the summer holidays. Two hugely successful events were organised by the Club – the Pier to Pub and the Mountain to Surf foot race.

Well done Lorne for providing so many volunteers making the events safe – our doctors and nurses worked together to make a great team. The activities of the Club attract a huge number of visitors to our town – so beneficial for restaurants and shops but the traffic is ghastly.

Listening to the ABC at 6.30 am on the morning of the Pier to Pub I heard Mark, a veteran of 41 years, discussing what he was going to wear in the Pier to Pub – not a wetsuit but bathers, made of the same material as Budgie Smugglers but which are larger than Budgie Smugglers!! His 28-year-old son was swimming too. Mark doesn't like swimmers getting too close to him. I hope other swimmers kept well away and he didn't get tangled up in the seaweed.

Mysterious and glamorous large paintings appeared on the walls of the Uniting Church much to the delight of all the exercise people who use that hall. Clementine, the sleuth was able to work out that they are the paintings of the very talented Lara Bardsley.

Well done Harvey Marriner, a very sympathetic nurse and paramedic who has joined the CFA. He says that the brigade fosters an environment that promotes and encourages leadership development. Young people in Lorne should be encouraged to join the CFA and help save the town from fires. We need all the emergency service volunteers we can muster! Huge works are going on in the back garden of his grandfather's home! David Mariner owns the historical home, Varna. This mansion built in brick and timber in 1881 for Charles Beal later had a long-time association with one of the Western District pastoralist families – the McIntyres who ran sheep on Mountside, Winchelsea.

In our community there have been two sad deaths recently. First was Marie Bannister. On a lovely sunny morning many of us took part in a very fine service for Marie under the big gum trees overlooking the sea at the Lorne Cemetery. Marie was much loved by her family and friends. Then we celebrated the life of Jack Ngatai, our dear taxi driver, who waved to us all whenever he saw us. His event was held at the Lorne Football Club with many thoughtful speeches.

Down on the beach at the George River Estuary was the Barrister Stephen Jurica with his wife and teenage daughters. He once played for Richmond in the AFL and now lives in Ballarat with his wife and teen-age daughters. Stephen speaks Croatian, Spanish and Italian and has a house in Otway Street.

Good news! Our champion cray fisher Kaid Love, grandson of Henry, although having moved his boat to Apollo Bay still loyally sells his live crays to Lorne residents.

Dan, down in Food Works was nearly passing out with fatigue after the huge efforts to stock the shelves at Xmas time. We all appreciate the service and gourmet delicacies that Food Works provide. Thank you, Food Works, for the super fish and....crays!!

Finally thank you to all those who generously gave to make the fireworks on New Years Eve so beautiful. They get more spectacular every year. Some of us regret what goes into the ocean after such an event....

Don't be too envious of the blue striped cabanas! Just remember that the people who are leading a high life are not necessarily as happy as those without. Money and fame don't bring happiness. It is us who are privileged to live in such a beautiful place, the beach is heaven, the bush is full of wonders. Go out, breathe in the fresh air, swim, walk and love it – it's all there on your doorstep. Leave the junk behind at home

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CUMULUS HOUSE WYE RIVER

Traveller's Tales

THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS *By Janet Goud*

These 127 rocky volcanic Islands, islets and rocks are on the Equator, (as is Ecuador, the mother country 1000ks away). There are 19 large islands with only 4 inhabited today. 97% of the emerged surface of islands was declared a national park in 1959 and this is surrounded by the huge Galapagos Marine Reserve. The area draws hundreds of visitors every year, but the islands are not the tropical islands of most people's imagination. Although tropical blue, the water is quite chilly from the cold Humboldt current which comes up the coast from sub Antarctica and there are few recognisable tropical plants. Any pretty plants are invaders, according to the locals.

Once called the Enchanted Islands, they were originally named in Spanish by a Spanish bishop sailing to convert the Incas in Peru, in 1535.

Later the British Buccaneers who spent many years waylaying the Spanish galleons laden with Inca gold and silver, used the many small islands to hide amongst. They often complained about the lack of permanent water but enjoyed the plentiful meat from the Giant tortoises who give the Islands their Spanish name.

These islands have been formed by recent Volcanic activity which continues today. The area is located where 3 major tectonic plates: Nazca, Cocos and Pacific meet at the basis of the ocean and also located at the confluence of 3 major ocean currents. This, plus their isolation, has resulted in the many weird and wonderful plants and animals found nowhere else in the world.

There are few trees and little vegetation on many islands, and many have no water. It is the friendly inhabitants, made famous in Europe by Darwin as a "showcase of Evolution", that draw the crowds. The wildlife has never developed a fear of humans due to the isolation and development with out any large predators, so they occupy equal spaces with humans. This close contact is irresistible to animal lovers like me as well as making scientific research so much easier.

Realising the increasing interest in these fragile islands the Ecuadorian Government has passed laws regulating tourism to protect the environment and the unique creatures, and managing the waste, the inhabitants (30,000) and the visitors (300,000). Last year in August my partner and I were excited to fly out of Guayaquil, the main port city of Ecuador, to land at the AEROPUERTO ECOLOGICO GALAPAGOS. Immediately I was thrilled to see tiny finches, land iguanas and bright red crabs. Frigate birds flew around us as our luggage was dumped unceremoniously on barge to cross to the main island of Santa Cruz.

Our guide was a local man, born and raised on the islands. He was saving up to buy some land to help raise and protect the famous Giant Tortoises. These amazing creatures can live to 150 years, weigh up to 400 kg and wander freely in the "high lands" of Santa Cruz. People own land there



called ranches, but the tortoises roam unrestricted and the tourists, after donning gum boots can wander amongst them taking photos and keeping a safe distance so as not to disturb their consumption of the grass and other vegetation. These amazing creatures can live without food or water for over a year, a fact which led to their quick reduction in numbers as the buccaneers and passing sailors saw an easy way to have fresh meat on long sea voyages. Today introduced rats that eat their eggs are their main predators.

En route to the ranch for lunch we were stopped by a large fellow asleep in the centre of the muddy road. It took two strong men to pick the big creature up and move it to the edge of the road.

In Puerto Ayora, the Santa Cruz village we visited the Charles Darwin Research Station which operates as a base for all scientists researching on the Galapagos. The remarkably diverse populations of plants and animals which developed so differently from the mainland led Darwin to develop his Theory of Evolution. The 18 different finches and 4m species of mockingbirds even developed different beaks on different islands due to the available feed and are known as classic examples of adaptive radiation. Here we met with the famous marine iguanas which have adapted to the marine environment and swim to feed on seaweed and reefs. They are the only lizards in the world to do this.

Cactus trees made very strange forests. Related to our invasive Prickly Pear they grow tall and provide food for the tortoises, land iguanas, finches and mockingbirds.

Continued page 25



From page 24

Walking down Puerto Ayora's was an education in sea lion behavior. They happily conduct their lives with the locals and visitors wandering past. After a day or two it seems quite natural. The pelicans are brown and friendly. They sit watching for fish and are very tame. Early one morning we set off in glorious sunshine for a three-hour trip to the little islet of Bartolome, home of the Galapagos penguin, the

smallest penguin in the world. Here we could snorkel with the colourful fish, green sea turtles and penguins. The water temperature was ok for this Lorne couple, but most others donned wet suits. We also climbed a volcano to a viewing site of the surrounding area, including a submerged lava cone and the only plant – the lava cactus. A fabulous experience with a rough ride home to the Santa Cruz Island. Next day, next island San Cristobal.



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This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Festivals Australia program, Regional Arts Fund, Visit Victoria, and Surf Coast Events.

Lorne Sculpture Biennale acknowledges the Gadubanud of the Eastern Maar Peoples as the traditional custodians of the land on which we exhibit. We pay respect to their Elders past and present.

www.lornesculpture.com



**2025 LORNE
SCULPTURE
BIENNALE**

ARTS IN LORNE

QDOS: Exhibition.

Marriage flew Sisca to Port Moresby. Drawing and painting became her tool to see past colonial symbolism. She showed three exhibitions focused on realistic portraits of individuals and illustrated for the Moresby Department of Education.

The next seven years brought Sisca first to Europe for a year, where she hand-coloured maps, and then she and her family returned to Melbourne. Sisca worked in galleries, immersing herself in the world of Australian art and painting hibiscus flowers. Her illustration work continued with Eleanor Spence's book *The Seventh Pebble*.

A move to Manila brought Sisca back into her love of portraiture. Inspired by the drapes and fabrics of Botticelli, she focused on nudes and family portraits, blending impression with realism. The Philippines seduced Sisca with colour. She began her practice of juxtaposing two colours and celebrating the relationship between them. Painting became a discovery, searching for serendipity.

Returning to Melbourne, Sisca dived into study at first Melbourne University and then Monash. Her time in Manila demanded that she gain a deeper understanding of politics, philosophy and social work. With no studio,

she used the dining room table, and her medium shifted to bright ink and chalk paintings on parchment. Her investigations of colour became more exuberant, pushing the limits. Sisca illustrated two books over this period, Mem Fox's *A Bedtime Story* and another called, *A Giant Cake* by Bookshelf Publishing.

Over the next two decades, her relationship with the land has shifted. Earlier, the breadth of the landscape dominated. With time, Sisca has fallen into the details of flower and bird. Realism and gravity began to feel like constraints... She began to look for freedom.

The ocean becomes the ultimate emancipation.

"When you go under water, you are diving into a limitless environment, abstract as you like." Sisca's current work submerges beneath the limits of the dry world of expectation. She has spent years scuba diving, and now her work is going deep, to find those intense, hidden currents and to bring them into colour.

Sisca is an Australian painter, deeply inspired by the exacting, high standard of craftsmanship of the European masters. Her work emerges from process and craft. The symbols, colours, political and aesthetic qualities are each discovered, then celebrated.

Strength grows from serendipity. Sisca can only paint strong works.

Ben Storch

Wave Form Sculpture and Metaphysical Explorations

Internationally recognised sculptor Benjamin Storch explores the intersection of natural forces, mathematical patterns, and sculptural form.

Through metal sculptures and immersive digital experiences, the exhibition reveals how simple orbital movements create complex, flowing geometries.

These works bridge physical and virtual space, inviting viewers to experience the fundamental patterns that appear throughout nature, from quantum to cosmic scales.

Crossing The River Series

The origin for this series comes from our unique and repeated experience of physically crossing a river.

We cross the river on foot, in gumboots and with the aid of crutches, to reach our place on the far side.

Inaccessible by vehicle, crossing by foot is the only way in and out. A fine balance between risk and great care is necessary to navigate submerged rocks and varying river flow, focusing on what is visible and not visible beneath our feet.

All this close attention to the water and rocks has evolved to become the inspiration for this series of paintings.

Continued page 29



SISCA VERWOERT

12th January 1st February 2025

Launched by Anne McGraive-Wright,
an Arts Management Professional with over twenty years
of experience in Victorian, Western Australian and
International State Art Galleries,
Private Galleries and Cultural Institutions & Museums.
Sunday, the 12th January at 3:00pm.

Qdos Fine Arts Lorne



www.qdosarts.com

Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm TFSM

A woman with glasses and a red patterned shirt is painting a wooden sculpture with a brush. The sculpture has a geometric pattern of red, black, and white.

ALEXANDRA COPELAND
February 2 - 22

A close-up of a bronze sculpture of a person's torso and arms. The sculpture is dark and textured, with a large, ornate metal clasp or buckle on the side.

GARY RANCE
January 26 - February 15

A landscape painting showing a body of water, a sandy beach, and a dark, stormy sky. The painting is done in a realistic style with visible brushstrokes.

RICHARD J MANNING
February 16 - March 8

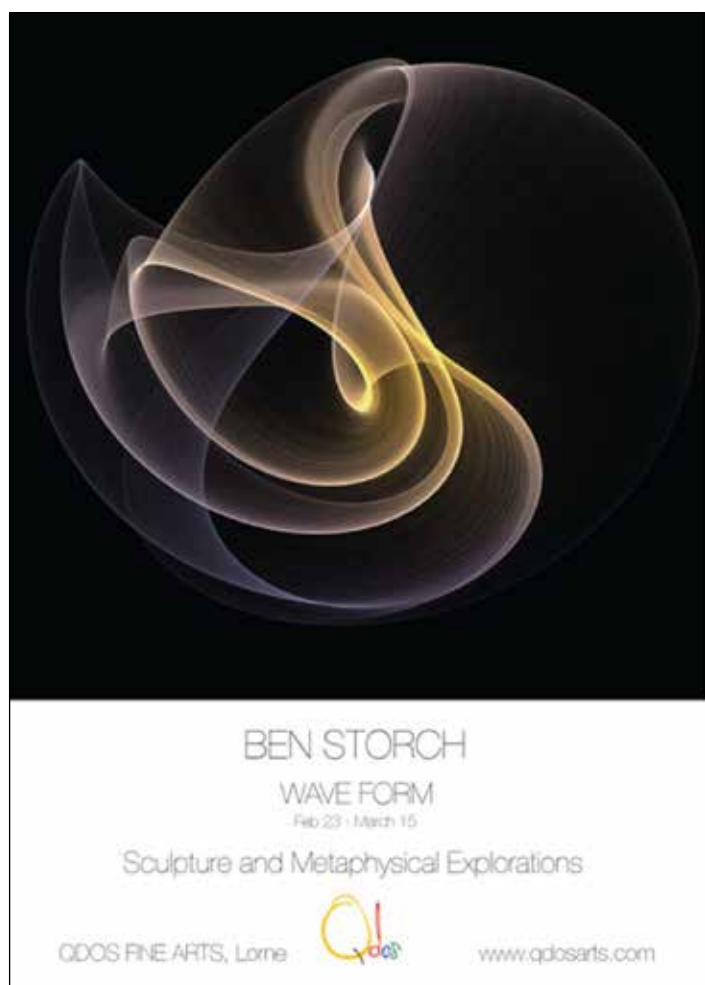
A large, abstract sculpture made of a dark, metallic material. It features a large, curved, bowl-like shape in the center, surrounded by other curved forms. The sculpture is set against a white background.

BEN STORCH
February 23 - March 15

www.qdosarts.com
Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00pm TFSSM



From page 27



Looking closely at first for practical necessity and then actively looking again to explore the fascinating and infinite interplay of light, colour, reflexions and movement.



After many years of hard work and fund raising by the Lorne Sculpture committee, President Andrew Stobart is proud to announce the commencement of the Lorne Sculpture Biennale on Saturday March 1st. Due to popular demand the Biennale will run over four weeks for the full duration of March closing on Sunday March 30 allowing everyone plenty of time to get to Lorne and enjoy the exhibition.

Lorne Sculpture Biennale 2025 showcases a series of site-responsive artworks by established and emerging artists, exploring how contemporary art can respond to, articulate, and augment our experience of place. Titled STRATA and curated by Simon Lawrie, the Biennale's artistic vision derives from the iconic geology of Gadubanud Country—the stratified landscape of the Great Ocean Road serves as an analogy for the fact

that one place is many places, layered both physically and experientially through time, culture, and species. Across 16 precincts from 1–30 March 2025, the outdoor exhibition presents sculpture and spatial practice more broadly, encompassing sonic art, ephemeral installations, and landscape interventions. Throughout the Biennale a suite of public programs, performances, and presentations titled Sculpture+ will be held at set times. A Small Sculpture Exhibition with works for sale by Biennale artists will be held at Lorne Community Connect, and a film commission series will be screened at Mantra Hotel.

M: 0412 376 205

www.lornesculpture.com

Andrew Stobart - President



What's happening at Lorne Community Connect

In a world that often feels chaotic and fast paced, the beauty of routine and ritual can provide a sense of grounding and connection. We invite you to participate in our upcoming photographic exhibition themed "Routine & Ritual."



De Landre, who is an artist and lecturer at Deakin University, living in Torquay.

To enter please refer to website:
www.lornecommunityconnect.com

Artist In Residence:

LCC is thrilled to be hosting Kerrie Poliness as our next AIR. Kerrie is a contemporary artist, known for her rule-based painting and drawing works that revisit the ideas and practices of conceptual art. You will be able to see Kerrie's work as she is a participant in the Lorne Sculpture Biennale.

Lesley Goldsworthy- Lorne Community Connect



From the Deck

LADYBIRDS, WHAT'S IN A NAME?

By John Agar



Copied from Wikipedia — with gratitude.

I have noticed an unusual number of lady beetles [ladybirds, or in the US, ladybugs] in my Lorne garden this summer ... though I am sure that Doug Williams would likely claim the lack of aphid care, I give my rose stems to be most likely cause. As yet another stunningly beautiful little red hemisphere-on-legs alighted on the back of my hand today, I was reminded of one of the most loved nursery rhymes:

*Ladybird, Ladybird, fly away home,
Your house is on fire and your children all gone.
All except one, and that's little Anne,
And she's crept under the warming pan.*

Nursery rhymes evoke deep childhood memories. Most of us learned them as infants or pre-schoolers and can still recite several by heart, with 'Ladybird, Ladybird' being one of the most memorable. As the wee beastie peered up at me, I wondered where—and how—these rhymes begin.

While many minor variations of this well-known English children's song exist ... the name [Anne, Nan, or Little Ann] and the hiding place [a warming, porridge, pudding, or frying pan] can change ... its most cited origin stems from the Tudor era.

In 1517, Martin Luther posted his Ninety-five Theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Then, in 1534, Henry VIII's Reformation Parliament passed laws that abolished papal authority in England, enacted the Act of Supremacy, and declared him the Supreme Head of the Church of England in place of the Pope. This split the Christian religion of Western Europe into two bitterly opposed sects—the Catholics and the Protestants.

A period of brutal religious suppression, persecution, and war ensued. As the King and his 'Protestants' gained the upper hand, fines, imprisonment, and even death soon threatened any Catholic who practised 'the Papist religion'.

As the Ladybird was a common symbol for the Virgin Mary at that time, the Ladybird rhyme was used as a warning to Catholic families to hide away their children if a Protestant posse was 'coming a-burning'.

This historical period—known now as the Reformation—triggered all the classical adolescent fantasies ... priest holes, hidden doors and passages, messages written in invisible ink, escapes into the night, skulduggery, and cloak-and-dagger intrigues ... that captivated the over-ripe imagination of my youth. It was chock-full of them.

There are other more benign interpretations of the rhyme. One from the Middle Ages held that children would softly blow on lady beetle—the 'Beetle of Our Lady'—to urge them into flight while singing the ditty and making a wish that the voracious aphid predators would help save their family hop crops from destruction during an aphid plague. As lady beetles were known to lay their eggs where aphids were most abundant, both adults and larvae could then feast on their favourite food.

As lady beetles were among the few insects most people liked and the tiny jewel-like insect was revered, the rhyme would be recited after the harvest but before the farmers set fire to their stubble fields so that the beetles could be saved. Duly warned, the adult ladybirds could then fly away, though any remaining larvae would be doomed.

A final possible origin for the term 'lady' beetle links the seven-spotted bright red species prevalent in Europe to the red cloak worn by the Virgin Mary [the Catholic 'Our Lady'] in much of the early Renaissance art and the Virgin's supposed seven joys and seven sorrows. Never my strong suit, I had to look these up and even then, I confess they held little immediate meaning for me. Nevertheless, the shared livery of the Virgin and the beetle seems to have struck a chord with the beetle-namers of the Middle Ages, who clearly saw an instant connection, though perhaps the exquisite beauty of the beetle should have been enough.

Wikipedia notes that "... more than 6,000 species have been described and are found on every continent barring Antarctica [see: <https://tinyurl.com/bdearrt9>]. They sport a range of conspicuous 'aposematic' [warning] colours and patterns ... brilliant reds, oranges, or yellows, all with prominent black spots ... to warn potential predators that "I taste bad".

Continued page31

From page 30

“Yet while warning off others with their gaudy displays, they are carnivorous predators and prey on insects such as aphids, scale insects, and fungi. Their useful diet ensures a peaceful coexistence with humans, who are quite happy to see their gardens and crops protected by armies of tiny jewel-like beetles that seem to do us no harm at all. Though some species can attack crops or infest people’s homes, most consider them beneficial insects.”

“They are described as promiscuous breeders ... an odd descriptive term as I find it odd to think of an insect as ‘promiscuous’... and reproduce in spring and summer, laying their eggs near colonies of prey [aphids especially] to provide their larvae with a food source.”

As I have always enjoyed seeking the origin of words, the scientific name for ladybirds, Coccinellidae, derives from the Latin word coccineus, meaning ‘scarlet’.

Another derivative word, ‘cochineal’, describes the red dye made from scrunched-up scale insects that the Aztecs used to make the scarlet, crimson, and orange pigments the Spaniards first introduced into Europe from Mexico.



Beyond the colours, ladybirds’ double-wing structure is one of their most extraordinary features. Few things are more beautiful to watch than the complex tucking and folding as the two half domes of its carapace open and close.

Gently coax a ladybird into flight and watch how its wing structure folds and unfolds. Only the rear wings are used in actual flight ... the dome-shaped and hardened forewings that form its colourful ‘elytra’ [or shell] are simply protection for the single pair of soft membranous hindwings that fold away for protection on landing.

But, frustrating to many researchers, the elytra permanently closes before the complex folding away of the flight wings is complete, making the folding sequence for its enormous flight wings impossible to understand fully.

One thing can be certain ... nature run rings around humankind when it comes to exquisite design!

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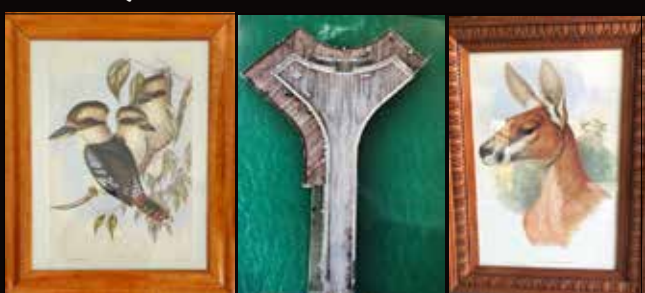


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RARE DAFFODILS

By Doug Williams

Santa has jumped into his sleigh and tootled off home to the North Pole for a bit of a rest and to put his feet up after another busy season and looking through the Christmas cards I was curious to see penguins and polar bears smooching to each other on a front cover of a Christmas card. Penguins are only to be found south of the equator so will never do a love-in with the bears but for those visiting high to the north of the world polar bears will come across the smallest living tree up there; the dwarf willow grows up to six centimetres tall, deals with harsh conditions and can live for over two thousand years.

There is a need for buyers of racehorses who will fly lead sleds into small breeding areas like Scone in NSW (Singapore-Sydney-Scone) to only view stock standing in grass around ten centimetres tall. Nothing else will do. This leads to many of them contracting laminitis which can only lead to further veterinary bills for stud farmers. Differently, the Socceroos like to get out onto grass cut to four centimetres for their practice sessions at Homebush.

Greg and I are looking for worms to bait hooks for river fishing but don't want to come across the longest ever garden worm found which clocked in at forty centimetres when discovered in the United Kingdom. That's nearly half a metre long. We're just after fat scrubbies to pick up a bream or a mullet. Smaller worms can be held in the cheeks of platypus – since they don't have stomachs they can carry up to six hundred worms in their cheeks at one time. Where are they finding all these worms at this time of year?

It's like the joke about what's worse when biting into your apple than finding a worm? The answer isn't two or three, it's half a worm. Of the 7,500 varieties on the planet forty-seven per cent are grown in China, nine times as many as are grown in the United States which comes in at a distant second place.



Photo by Michael Prideaux.



Here at home in my own garden I'm thinking about the first tomato pick which hopefully is not too far distant. Meanwhile I'm pretty much stranded with my small crop of rare daffodils because I can't find a wholesaler willing to buy from my stock. "There's just a lack of interest", I was told. I came across these one year while driving

through the back blocks near to where I knew there to have been an early settlement. It was one of those spots that once would have had a rudimentary school and a handful of cottages as pioneers worked their arses off trying to make a living. In the end they all pulled out around the time of the Spanish Flu epidemic one hundred years back as wet seasons and dreadful roads made getting crops out to markets become completely unfeasible. Sometimes we'll come across an ancient rose or a scrap of fuchsia in areas like this.

The daffodil I have is *Narcissus dubius* Gouan. It's from the western Mediterranean and in 1952 it was coded as JuJuJuJuTzTz and 'it is the only fully fertile hybrid species in the *Narcissus* order' (Anne P. Wylie). It has the most chromosomes of any narcissus. If anybody would like a few, let me know.

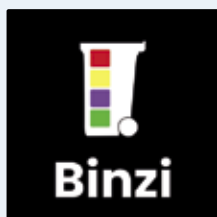
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GO WHERE THE TRADIES GO

Men of the Men's Shed

DAVID WORTH

By Garry Fenton

David was born in Adelaide in 1950 and went to Rose Park Primary school then went through to matriculation at King's College (now Pembroke). "School was just school, but I really enjoyed playing football and sport, and I wished I had played a lot more", he commented.

Obviously, he did ok academically and won a Commonwealth Scholarship and went to Adelaide University. After getting his Economics degree he started working for an accounting firm, Arthur Andersen & Co in Adelaide, before being transferred to Melbourne in 1974. During this period, he qualified as a Chartered Accountant. He was then transferred to London where "I was an accountant and had a lot of fun bumming around Europe as young people do, before taking up permanent residency in Melbourne in 1976", he laughed while reflecting on those years.

At this point he spoke about meeting Helen, his future wife who has always claimed they met in Russia, but David can't remember! He thought Vodka may have had something to do with this memory lapse! We were now entering dangerous territory, so I steered David in a different direction.

After David returned from London, with a short return stint at Arthur Andersen he joined, Linfox unofficially in 1976 while undertaking their first audit but then formally in 1977. The early days were challenging and it's hard to believe it has grown into what it is today. He worked there for twenty years as an executive director and learnt so much about having great relationships with staff, customers and suppliers. David was involved in running many and varied projects. For one year he commuted between Melbourne and London. Nine trips in the first year after his son's birth. "Working at Linfox was a terrific time; towards the end I was privileged to be sent to Harvard Business School. Not long after being back, I decided to go out on my own."

A few years later David received a call from Linfox asking him to return to assist with some major projects. The major project was to develop a strategic plan, which identified new logistics skills were required. This resulted in the acquisition of another Logistics business of comparable size. Over a three-year period he had established the strategy headed up the acquisition team and then managed the successful integration of the two businesses. "We worked unbelievable hours, but it was "fun" and definitely worthwhile."

Through his contact with Linfox, David has organised three separate Men's Shed excursions. In 2019 we travelled to Docklands to see the Lindsay Fox Car Museum and later



in the year the Sheddars visited the Fox family's Anglesea Proving Ground.

More recently in 2023 the Sheddars again travelled to the Avalon Airport where we were given a conducted tour of the vast expansion as major companies such as Australia Post, Petstock, and Cotton On establish distribution centres.

Between leaving Linfox in 1996 and up until now he has undertaken multiple consulting projects including being involved for almost fifteen years as a Director and Shareholder in a property development business.

A couple of years before COVID David and Helen renovated their Lorne holiday house of twenty years into a permanent home. That was a great decision, and they really enjoy being part of the Lorne community.

When David was asked about his knowledge of Men's Sheds, his answer was like many members before him. "Nothing.... I didn't even know it was being built until I stood at the footy in Colac with Allan Walls and he gave me a spiel about how I needed to join!"

David said he hadn't been a regular but now he has fully retired he will be attending more often. "The Shed is always so welcoming. On the days its open you can always turn up, have a relaxed coffee and a chat. Whether I will ever do much in the workshop is problematic. But you don't have to and that is the real strength of this group".

David remembered bringing his little grandson to "Grandfathers Day" which he thought was a great idea. We should do it again at some stage.

David tells me he can do small jobs at home and in fact he did do woodwork at school. He even made a small stool once "but I don't think Helen thought much of it. She may have even thrown it out"?

Perhaps David has some hidden skills that could be worked on. When asked if he would recommend the Shed to anyone who may not be aware of its existence, David quickly answered "Not only would I recommend it, but I have recommended it to several men."

David was very careful with his answer when asked about the standard of coffee. You could see David's mind ticking over for a politically correct response. "It's more than drinkable", wondering who he may have offended, so he quickly followed up with, "It's definitely worth coming for the coffee and camaraderie."

When David was asked for a final comment, he hesitated before saying, "The night we had the Ten-Year Dinner, was possibly the best night Helen and I have experienced since we have been permanently in Lorne."



Keith Miller LACC
Commodore



Club News

Well, here we are halfway through the silly season, my first notes for the year and my 8th year as Commodore.

We have broken every record in the book so far this summer and I reckon it's mainly because of the sensational weather we've been having. The other reason of course is our world's coldest and best beer, our magnificent location, our generous low prices, our Lazarus Lounge allowing everyone to spread out and be safe and comfortable, our free sausage sizzles, our free live music, Hutch and his team working hard to keep everyone hydrated and being the friendliest, happiest, fun club on the planet. Remember our facilities are available to members all year round for Weddings, Party's, Anything. You just need to book well ahead with Hutch.

Recent Events

Hawaiian Shirt Wednesdays

Winners on third evening: Ben Clutterbuck. This bloke is a ripper, he goes all out and never misses a Wednesday. He generously shouted his mates with his winnings. Our Very Own Janet 'The Snapper Slapper' Higgins. Me in there for some reason. Rodney Van Ingen. This bloke somehow found the worst photo of me and had his shirt made with my boof head in the pineapples. I'll be moving a motion at our next meeting to have Rodney banned for life.



Special Raffle Winner

We are raffling a very special photo of the 1985 Pier to Pub Start. It was the first Pier to Pub with 1,000 competitors and the last time they all took off at the same time, including juniors and ladies. The photo captures several swimmers in mid air as they jump off the pier. The photo was taken by local photographer extraordinaire Tony Stribling and it can be purchased from his daughter Karen Stribling at Great Ocean Road Real Estate or call her on 0439 650 838.

Pier To Pub Day/Night

As usual it was our biggest day of the year with free entry and members only. We had live music with the sensational The Vulkans. They are one of the best and most popular bands in south west Victoria.

Long time member and local identity Peter Morgan who only took up ocean swimming later in life and has now competed in the last 19 Pier to Pubs. This year he won the over 80's in his first swim in that category. It was a great achievement. People don't realise how competitive some those old blokes are.

Another Famous Visitor



Every summer we get lots of famous visitors with most of them going unnoticed. Caps and Sunglasses are a great way to stay incognito. This bloke in the photo below was too easy to recognise. The very famous Angler Malcolm Hunter with some bloke called Adam Gilchrist

Vale John McKenzie (aka Lou or Macca)

John was a legend at the Rusty Anglers Club in Anglesea. He was a man who gave back much to those in his community before he passed away just before Christmas, leaving behind his loving family, wife and daughters. John was a man of stature and was passionate about his club, helping people and fighting for their rights to fish. He tried very hard to protect the Anglesea River to bring about changes and gain acknowledgement of the damage being done to the river by those with vested interests. His life has left many indelible memories in the lives of those who were lucky enough to have known him.

Continued page 37

From page 36

This is an extract from Garry Kerr's article in the Surf Coast Times.

The following is a footnote from Chris Tutungi.

John, Macca, Lou McKenzie had many friends here in Lorne and surrounds. He enjoyed catching up with them when he could, particularly with a beer at our club. John worked for Victorian Fisheries for many years in research which he particularly enjoyed as it involved lots of field work in many locations across the State. His experience and understanding of fish behaviour and their habitats made him a very valuable and respected scientist. He was often called upon by others for his knowledge. He helped develop radio tagging of Murray Cod to better understand their movement patterns and habitats. Assisted in design of Williams Carp Cage to reduce carp movement upstream but allow native fish to pass through.

He became a leader in electro fishing development to better understand species types and numbers in rivers and streams, this work even took him to Fiji as a consultant.



Personally I first met John at our club when Tull introduced me to him. He was one of those rare blokes that the minute you meet them you instantly warm to them. He will be sadly missed by his Lorne Friends.

Upcoming Events

Sponsors

We have two spots available for sponsorships. If you are interested please contact me by email keith.miller@live.com.au.

These notes go out to 4,500 email addresses and the readership is way above the average so having your name displayed is seen by a large number of people.

Mick Turner Memorial

Mick was an invaluable member of the Lorne football community, who worked tirelessly in all areas of the club - both on and off the field. Members will remember him

helping on the field, in the rooms, securing and working with sponsors, always positive and enthusiastic.

There will be a service at Mantra Resort in Lorne in early February to celebrate Michael's life and many achievements. Details to come. Our thoughts and hearts go out to Karen, Levi and Che and their families. Mick will be sadly missed - never forgotten.



Mick was a long-time member and a regular at the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club. He will be missed by us all.

Fishing Report

Boat:

The boat fishing has been reasonably good with the weather allowing us to go out about 3 times each week which is pretty normal for January.

Flathead are still biting extremely well and they are a good size. They are everywhere at the moment from 10 metres to 40 metres. They are mostly Sand Flathead with the odd Tiger and Yank amongst them.

Snapper are scarce but if you are lucky enough to come across a patch of them they are biting well.

Gummy and School Sharks are being caught in good numbers with some big ones being landed.

King George Whiting are biting well with some thumpers being caught. There's a few Blue Morwong, Teraki, and Nannygai's being caught when fishing for snapper.

Pier:

The pier is still performing well with good catches of Salmon, Snapper, Flathead, Trevally, King George Whiting, Mullet, Sharks and Calamari.



INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Changes for your kerbside FOGO bin

Council's compost contractor has made some changes to the items you can put in your kerbside FOGO bin.

These items are no longer accepted in your FOGO bin:

**pet poo**

(even inside 100% compostable bags)

**kitty litter**

(even litter made from recycled paper or wood)

**teabags****tissues**

and large amounts of paper towel

Put pet poo, kitty litter, teabags, tissues and large amounts of paper towel in your landfill bin (red lid).

**paper**

e.g. shredded paper, paper bags, office paper, wrapping

**cardboard**

e.g. boxes

Clean paper, cardboard boxes and packaging goes in your recycling bin (yellow lid).

Never put bags of rubbish or plastic bags in your FOGO bin.



surfcoast.vic.gov.au/FOGO



SUMMERTIME IN LORNE

By Chris Jones

VICSES Funding Update

Last year, the Victorian State Emergency Services (VICSES) volunteers engaged in concerted professional respectful lobbying to access sustainable funding, which brought about an awakening of the value of emergency services.

Recently, the Victorian State Government announced a funding package inclusive of VICSES and outlined planned changes to the current Fire Services Property Levy to include VICSES and other agencies under the new 'Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund' (ESVF) from 1 July 2025.

The package will provide VICSES with lapsing (a program where funding is provided for a specified period only and for which funding is scheduled to conclude. In simple terms if you don't use it lose it.) and ongoing funding for vital programs and assets:

- Doubling Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) grants over the next four years:
 - 28 x VICSES units received funding this year
 - Puts additional vehicles, appliances and facilities projects into the service
- Volunteer training and wellbeing (\$29.746m over 4 years and \$7.779m ongoing)

- Includes critical lapsing programs and support staff, including Be Heard and Volunteer Support programs

- Critical cost pressures relief (\$22.663m over 4 years plus \$6.151m ongoing p/a)
 - Includes an increase in unit subsidies
- Rolling fleet replacement program - New (\$7.5m p/a)

Active VICSES and CFA volunteers and life members will be eligible for an exemption from paying the ESVF on their principal place of residence or farm.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Emergency Services Jaclyn Symes

"Communities are asking more of their local SES volunteers than they ever have before, which is why we're giving them more funding, new trucks and the latest technology."

"Our emergency services put their lives on the line without a second thought. This package is about making sure they have what they need to keep all of us safe."

Quote attributable to VICSES Chief Officer Operations Tim Wiebusch

"VICSES has had some of its busiest years in history recently following several major storms, floods and rescues. This package is a very welcome boost for our hard-working volunteers who give so much to their local communities in times of need."

Quote attributable to CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan

"Today's announcement is that our brigades and members are recognised for the work they do in the community. I'm pleased to see the Government take proactive steps to ensure the sustainability of volunteering."

SES Lorne Unit Summertime Fun

This summer has been one of the unit's busiest periods at the time of this writing. The types of Requests for Assistance and the locations in our response area are varied. The table below is a sample of the Requests for Assistance between 16 December 2024 and 18 January 2025.

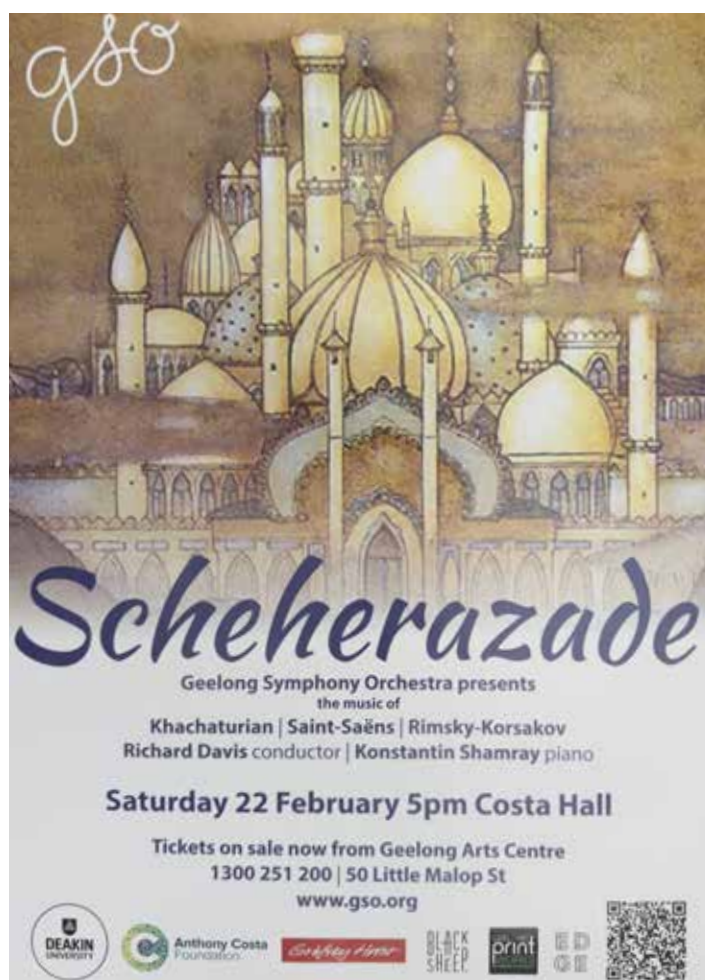
Summertime is fun, but you do need to keep your wits about you. Be alert, not alarmed, during this time, and be conscious of the surrounding environment and risks. We don't want to meet you by accident

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.



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.



SMALL BUSINESS BUS TO VISIT LORNE

Surf Coast business owners are encouraged to book a free session with the Victorian Government's Small Business Bus when it visits Lorne on Thursday 27 February.

The Small Business Bus, operated by Business Victoria, offers professional assistance to anyone planning, starting or looking to grow a business.

It is staffed by expert advisers from the Monarch Institute who are available to help develop business ideas, discuss key issues and priorities, identify a clear direction and set a business action plan.

Bookings are essential and are open now. Individual sessions run for 45 minutes, with all discussions to be kept completely confidential. Councillor Leon Walker said the bus's visit offered an excellent opportunity for the local business community.

"Starting and running a business is challenging, and any chance to gain some free expert advice that might help your business succeed is valuable," Cr Walker said. "Small businesses are such an important part of our local economy and community. We want to see all Surf Coast businesses thriving.

"Thank-you to Business Victoria for making this resource available." Event details – Small Business Bus visits Lorne

WHEN: Thursday 27 February, 10am-4pm

WHERE: Lorne Visitor Information Centre car park, 15 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne

BOOKINGS: Limited places available. Book now via business.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/small-business-bus

Information about Council support available to Surf Coast businesses and those looking to start a business is available at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Businesses.

PROTECTING OUR HOODED PLOVERS: Every Effort Counts

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks has set up exclusion zones at four sites along the coast to protect Hooded Plover chicks, some of the most vulnerable residents of our coastline.

These zones are monitored by our conservation rangers together with a dedicated group of local volunteers to help limit the impacts of dogs and human activity on Hooded Plover nesting areas.

Exclusion zones are in place to protect:

- One chick at Point Roadknight (after two successfully fledged in October)
- Two chicks at the Barham River in Apollo Bay
- One chick at Ocean Park Drive in Mounts Bay
- One chick at Wild Dog, Apollo Bay.

Hoodies face numerous threats to their survival including tides, predation from other bird species and foxes, human activities like people walking in sensitive dunes, and most notably, disturbances from dogs.

A Hooded Plover's egg takes 30 days to hatch, then another 35 until the chicks can fly. This critical period is when every effort counts.

The chicks have just a 2% survival chance once they hatch from the nest. Their best defence is to hide in the sand, so the odds are really stacked against them.

Beachgoers can be heroes for these little ones by:

- Respecting exclusion zone signs
- Keeping dogs away from exclusion zones (walk your furry friend at another one of our beautiful beaches where they won't disturb nesting Hoodies)
- Sharing this message with others.

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Conservation Coordinator Scott Hives said:

"We are incredibly grateful to our dedicated volunteers, who work tirelessly to give the Hoodies the best chance of survival.

We're asking everyone to come together to protect these vulnerable birds, ensuring future generations can enjoy them.

By choosing to walk at alternative location and respecting exclusion zones, everyone can make a meaningful difference.

Together, we can help secure the future of these remarkable birds."



Lorne Maintenance Service

0478 000 730

All home maintenance

Licence VBA 19409

Friendly advice given

Plumbing, carpentry, painting and general repairs



Coming
soon to
Apollo
Bay!



E-Bike Rentals by



Wild Dog

wilddog.com.au

Explore Apollo Bay,
Marengo and Skenes Creek
by pedal power!

(03) 5237 8888
adventure@wilddog.com.au
41-45 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay

MEADOW

After almost ten years of bringing together community, art, music, and unforgettable moments, Meadow number 10 marks the end of one of Surf Coast's most beloved boutique festivals. Known for its intimate vibe and deep sense of connection, this final gathering in the picturesque town of Bambra will be a bittersweet farewell.

What started on the back of a delivery truck, powered by a borrowed generator in a friend's paddock, has grown into a true celebration of community, art, and creative energy. From humble beginnings as a small gathering for friends and locals, the festival has blossomed into an annual event that draws people from all over the country, for its unique blend of music and relaxed charm.

Whether you've been part of the Meadow family from the beginning or are discovering it for the first time, this final celebration promises to be something truly special. And with the wildest lineup yet, it's the perfect opportunity to relive old memories, create new ones, and be a part of the incredible community that's shaped this festival into something unforgettable.

Line-up:

Hiatus Kaiyote - Pond - MJ Lenderman & The Wind - Empress Of - Kaiit - Floodlights - Marcellus Pittman - ORB - Dameeela - Osmosis Jones - Chee Shimizu - Armlock - Eggy Big Yawn - Empress - Miles Nautu - Proto Moro - Pop Filter - Annie-Rose Maloney - Npcede + MORE



COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY CALLS ABOUT TO BEGIN

Surf Coast Shire ratepayers may receive a phone call in the coming weeks as part of the 2025 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey.

Australian based call centre National Field Services will interview 600 resident and non-resident ratepayers, asking for their perceptions of Council's performance across a range of service areas.

The annual survey is commissioned by the state government, with all local governments in Victoria able to participate. Results are collated and analysed by independent researcher JWS Research.

Calls (to both landline and mobile) will begin on 31 January and are likely to continue for around a month.

The survey provides insight into the community's perception of Council's overall performance, benchmarking against state-wide and council group results.

Themes include:

- overall council direction
- local infrastructure, facilities and services
- community consultation and engagement

- decisions made in the interest of the community
- customer service

Deputy Mayor Libby Stapleton said the results would be used to understand community ratings across a range of services, Council decisions and overall direction.

"This is a good chance for the community to provide feedback on how the Council is going, including what's working well and what can be improved," Cr Stapleton said.

"If you receive a call we encourage you to take the time to participate in the interview and give your honest opinions." Individual responses are kept confidential, with only the overall results shared with the Council. Researchers will ask for basic demographic information such as age, gender and location, but will never ask for personal details such as name, address or income.

If you have any questions about the program, please visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/request or phone 5261 0600 and ask for the Coordinator Customer Experience.

The survey results are expected to be shared mid-year.

Media enquiries: media@surfcoast.vic.gov.au

GRANTS TO DEVELOP CREATIVE INSPIRATION

Arts and culture creatives can realise long-held project ambitions and advance careers with the help of Surf Coast Shire Council's DEVELOP grants funding.

The annual DEVELOP program aims to support creative exploration by individuals or groups, allowing successful participants to pursue new directions, ideas and concepts.

Individuals can apply for grants of up to \$3,000, and not-for-profit creative groups can apply for up to \$5,000.

Applications open on 27 January, and Council's Arts Development Team will run a series of information sessions to help people clarify concepts and prepare submissions.

"We know Surf Coast Shire is already one of Australia's creative hotspots but it is important to keep stimulating original and expansive thinking and innovation across the sector," Cr Libby Stapleton said.

"The DEVELOP grants program can help provide impetus for individuals and groups, maybe providing opportunities for taking creative risks or pursuing unique opportunities.

"We encourage emerging, mid-career and established creatives to consider applying. Working through the submission process can be a great way to help crystallise concepts and ambitions, and we recommend intending applicants attend one of our information sessions and talk to our Arts Development Team."

The information sessions will be:

- Wednesday 29 January, 10am to 11.30am, Lorne Community Connect.
- Wednesday 29 January, 3.30pm to 5pm, Surf Coast Shire Council Civic Building, Torquay
- Thursday 6 February, 10am to 11.30am, Winchelsea former shire hall
- Wednesday 12 February, 2pm to 3pm, online via Teams.

Bookings for the sessions are essential. People can find more information and book via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/DEVELOP

lorne books

Picks of the Month

FICTION: **Three Boys Gone** by Mark Smith



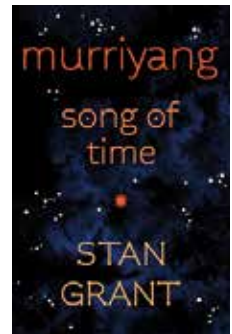
Three Boys Gone is a heart-in-mouth psychological thriller by award-winning author Mark Smith – a twisty, unflinching and pacy page-turner about an impossible choice and how tragedy tests and defines us.

Grace Disher is about to face every teacher's worst nightmare. Three of her students are going to die. On a high school camping trip, three boys slip away for an ocean swim. By the time Grace catches up, the perilous surf conditions are overwhelming the teenagers. If she goes in, she will die trying to save them. Should she have given her life?

NON-FICTION: **Murriyang - Song of Time** by Stan Grant

Murriyang, in part Grant's response to the Voice referendum, eschews politics for love. In this gorgeous, grace-filled book, he zooms out to reflect on the biggest questions, ranging across the history, literature, theology, music and art that has shaped him. Setting aside anger for kindness, he reaches past the secular to the sacred and transcendent.

Informed by spiritual thinkers from around the world, Murriyang is a Wiradjuri prayer in one long uninterrupted breath, challenging Western notions of linear time in favour of a time beyond time – the Dreaming.



CHILDREN'S FICTION: **To Stir With Love** by Kate Mildenhall and Jess Racklyeft



'It's my everything cake,' Grandma says. 'My grandmother's grandmother gave it to her, and my grandmother gave it to me.'

Grandma makes her everything cake for every special occasion. These days she sometimes needs a little help, but that's what grandkids are for. From the acclaimed author, Kate Mildenhall, and bestselling illustrator, Jess Racklyeft, this beautiful, heartfelt collaboration combines food and family to celebrate the magic of grandmothers (and their secret recipes).

Complete with Grandma's everything cake recipe ... and room to write down your own family favourite.

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