

LORNE

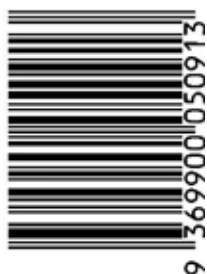
Independent

\$4

No 278 January 2025

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HAPPY 2025 LORNE



Op Shop Renewal complete P3
Rhubarb P4
Hoodies P5

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**Published monthly****The Lorne Independent acknowledges our Team:****Editor:** Janet Goud

Email: editorlorneindependent@gmail.com

Special Writers: Douglas Williams, John Agar, John Ford (Sports Editor).**Contributors:** Sandra McComb, Gary Allan, Garry Fenton, Keith Miller, Peter Spring and Harri Muller (Distribution Manager)**Distributors:** Post Office, Shell Service Station, Op Shop and Foodworks.**Design and print:** Stuart Fountain - Mud Group**Treasurer:** David Stribling - PO Box 213 Lorne, 3232

Tel: 5289 5355 Mob: 0408 546 424

Email: treasurerlorneindependent@gmail.com

Accounts: Keri Cachia - Tel: 03 52894277

Mob: 0491033598 Email: Keri@hlgaccounting.com.au

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Pay electronically: BSB 633 000 Acc 198 744 542

Send your details to Accounts: Keri Cachia

Keri@hlgaccounting.com.au

Any Inquiries and contributions to:

Janet Goud, Editor

PO Box 213 Lorne VIC 3232

Tel: 0412 929 953

Email: editorlorneindependent@gmail.com

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PTV BUS TIME TABLE

COLAC TO LORNE



Friday 20th December 2024 to Sunday 26th January 2025

No service on Christmas Day

COLAC to LORNE via BIRREGURRA and DEANS MARSH

Monday to Sunday

	am	am	pm	pm	pm
Colac Railway Station	7:10	10:00	12:30	4:00	7:15
Colac Bus Interchange, Gellibrand St.	7:15	10:05	12:35	4:05	7:20
Main St/Roadknight St, Birregurra	7:30	10:20	12:50	4:20	7:35
The Store, Deans Marsh	7:45	10:35	1:05	4:35	7:50
Lorne Visitor Information Centre	8:10	11:00	1:30	5:00	8:15

LORNE to COLAC via DEANS MARSH and BIRREGURRA

Monday to Sunday

	am	am	pm	pm	pm
Lorne Visitor Information Centre	8:15	11:15	1:45	5:15	8:30
The Store, Deans Marsh	8:35	11:35	2:05	5:35	8:50
Main St/Roadknight St, Birregurra	8:50	11:50	2:20	5:50	9:05
Colac Bus Interchange, Gellibrand St.	9:10	12:10	2:40	6:10	9:25
Colac Railway Station	9:15	12:15	2:45	6:15	9:30

IF YOU DON'T USE IT, YOU MIGHT LOSE IT!
IF YOU DO USE IT, YOU WILL EXTEND IT!

OP SHOP BUZZ

By Wendy Jarratt

The BUZZ around Lorne this month is all about the reopening of our shop at 98 Mountjoy Parade. By the time you read this we will be open for business.

What a busy and exciting time. The renovations are modern, user friendly and up to date with present day safety and building requirements. I think back to how the shop would have looked on June 4th, 1971, when it was first built – like today, state of the art. Just as we are now, the volunteers then would have been so keen to open the doors to the public and do a shift.

There are so many people to thank at this time – of course our wonderful and generous architect, the building company who went over and above to make sure we could move in before Christmas and our busy season. Also, thanks to all those tradies and in particular the ones who donated their labour.

The original Op Shop was funded through Auxiliary money, a huge donation and then a loan which was paid off just a year after the shop opened. The total cost was \$13,800. It was a huge effort by the volunteers who not only ran the shop but had a multitude of other fundraising initiatives going simultaneously. Mind you they didn't open the shop every day. Apparently, there wasn't even an event to celebrate the opening. I'm sure that won't be the case this time around.

In the case of this renovation the Association has been able to finance the project outright. We members are very proud of this achievement and thank donors, customers and volunteers (the shop is totally run by volunteers) alike.

I'm sure word has got out that there will be two Op Shops this summer. We are fortunate in being able to keep the premises at 6A for longer than expected, so we can sell the same variety of goods at both sites and top up the coffers enabling us to get back to donating our funds to health and wellness initiatives in Lorne and the wider community.

As you can imagine the logistics of running two shops has been quite a task. The Relocation Committee has had a mammoth job moving goods from 6A to "No 98" and



putting them all in place. Their enthusiasm and energy are to be praised. The roster too has been organized most professionally – this time to shift people not things around. Thanks to our member in charge of the roster.

We are hoping for a busy and profitable summer season. Please help us by visiting both locations to purchase or donate.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Festive Season.

RHUBARB

By Doug Williams

I'm trying out rhubarb recipes this summer. The bumper first crop when harvested was enough to supply a local restaurant and there has been enough to go around to give bunches away – always a lovely thing for gardeners to be able to do.

Home gardeners can be known for their generosity, and this might be a bunch of flowers, a plait of garlic, tomatoes and vegetables of all kinds, even free advice. So after being asked for some rhubarb I tootled on down to a favourite venue with a few bunches for people. That's when I realised just how keen many were to have some.

The person who had declared that they wanted some failed to show up but never mind, there were plenty of takers. The first recipient was grateful and duly put them in their bag, the eyes lit up on the next person offered a bunch who enthused about how he had a favourite recipe and the third welcomed theirs and said they would deliver a rhubarb pie. Everybody was happy. Well, except that the one with the favourite recipe left his behind when he went home (and to date the pie has not arrived).

The complexities of distribution aside, this plant is pretty easy to grow, as Google will tell you.

Garden hints for growing anything often suggest you 'find a sunny spot in your garden' or 'choose a position which gets at least ten hours of sunlight a day' or 'for best results plant in a garden bed which has a north facing aspect' or provide 'well-drained soil and full sun' but in trying to satisfy optimal growing conditions for a plant you will soon run out of enough places to meet what could be called 'sunlight quotas'. It's just not possible to provide enough of it for every plant because as they grow the one thing, they all provide is going to be shade; can't have one without the other. It's a quandary.

The next step in filling in empty spaces in your garden is to select plants that can tolerate a little less than optimal sunlight. Choose rhubarb for one of those plants because despite all these provisos – apart from suitable soil conditions – they're optimal but not absolutely critical.

Since with rhubarb you do not have to worry about putting it in a garden bed which gets lots and lots of sunlight and because it's pretty easy to grow and doesn't take up a lot of space it's a wonder not more of it is seen in the home garden because where sunny spots are at a premium and since it doesn't require a whole lot of sun, it doesn't need one of your prime locations.

So, plant rhubarb at the back of your plot and then wait till the second year before picking, then when you do it's recommended that you don't cut the stalks with a knife, as this can spread disease and create an entry point for pests. Hold the stalk firmly, then gently twist and pull it away from the plant. Pick these stalks from the outside of the crown.



As for recipes, various sweet fruits can be combined with it and currently I am having a compote of rhubarb and apple with my morning yoghurt or, as we used to describe it, stewed rhubarb. It's simple to prepare and you can freeze it.

Some more Rhubarb Recipes

Old school Recipe by Kevin Diviny

Poached Rhubarb

(inspiration from a Guy Grossi recipe)

- 500g rhubarb - Peeled, trimmed and cut into 2 cm dice.
- Sugar – individual taste – 10-20% by weight of rhubarb
- Finely grated zest and of 1 orange.
- 1 TB Grenadine which is pomegranate syrup (provides red colouring)

Cooking

- Separately make a concentrated syrup with sugar a little water.
- Add all ingredients to a saucepan or microwave container and on low heat watch carefully to stop the cooking process just before obliteration of the rhubarb into mush.
- This is very much trial and error. Same applies to cooking in the microwave. Cook for 2 min at a time and check.
- When cooked, place the rhubarb on a flat tray to cool.
- Adding stewed apple will broaden the appeal of poached rhubarb. Use the same recipe but leave out the orange and Grenadine. Cut pieces of apple into 3cm pieces and watch carefully to avoid obliteration.

If you like crumble on top there are many recipes for this online. Can be made separately, kept in the refrigerator and used as a topping on your rhubarb mixture.

Thermomix Recipe from Suzanne Diviny

When asked to supply a recipe to complement an article on rhubarb my first thought was to consult Cookidoo. Cookidoo, is the built in recipe guru included inside the “brain” of my Thermomix. Simply entering the word rhubarb into Cookidoo I was presented with 30 recipes. The one I choose is: Stewed rhubarb with apple and Strawberries.

It's easy only requires 15mins prep time and ready to eat in 30mins

Ingredients:

- 1 orange
- 60g sugar, to taste
- 1 green apple unpeeled cored and cut in pieces (95g)
- 500g rhubarb, trimmed, cut in pieces
- 250g strawberries and cut in fine slices

Preparation

- Place orange zest into mixing bowl and grate. 10secs/speed 9
- Add orange juice, sugar green apple and rhubarb and cook 10-12min/100c/reverse speed 1 (like stirring). Advantage of Thermomix at this stage you have 10-12 mins of hands-free worry-free cooking
- Add strawberries and combine 2min/reverse speed 1
- Serve warm

Early Childhood Educator – Lorne Kindergarten

- Temporary part time, commencing in 2025
- 23 hours per week - 18 hours contact time, plus 5 hours non-contact time
- Hourly rate dependent on level of experience

Are you compassionate, dedicated and driven to making a positive impact on the lives of our local community members and their families?

Our Kindergarten Educators provide a high quality education and care program within an inclusive and safe environment for our children.

For more information email our recruitment team at recruitment@surfcoast.vic.gov.au before Sunday 12 January 2025 and let them know you are interested.

Surf Coast Shire Council is an equal opportunity and child safe employer and completes police checks for all employees.

HOODIES ARE BACK, THEY NEED OUR HELP

By Penny Hawe, Friends of Lorne

Yes. Again. There is a new nest on the beach in front of the Mantra.

We think the male is EV. Unfortunately, EV has had no success as a parent so far. Last season his nest at Moggs Creek was washed away. Then a few weeks ago his first attempt at Lorne failed also. The would-be parents were seen by GORCAPA officers warding off rival hoodies in a territory battle. It was a hot day. The parents were possibly off the nest for too long and the eggs overheated. But this time, if all goes well, we will have chicks on the beach from 27 December for 5-6 weeks.



In case you missed last summer's zeal, here are the fun facts. Hooded plovers are Australian birds about the size of a willy wagtail. They are only seen on beaches. They don't migrate. They are extinct in Queensland, critically endangered in NSW, and vulnerable in Victoria and SA. There are only about 3,000 Eastern Hooded Plovers in the world (yes, they are that rare!). Last year there were 12 sets of parents nesting along the surf coast. Most nests failed. Five chicks in total survived to fledge (fly away). Lorne produced two of these chicks through a mighty feat of public cooperation and immense goodwill.

The thing to remember is that the chicks feed themselves and this happens from Day 1. They wander down to the waterline to find tasty little crustaceans in the wet sand. This means they are easily disturbed or accidentally crushed by people or dogs. When the chicks see a threat, they hide. Even if the “predator” is on lead. The chicks hide for long after danger passes. So, they starve. You'll see signs and a no-go zone for dogs once the chicks hatch.

We REALLY need more volunteers to be on the beach during the day to explain what is going on and to help steer people away from the protection zone. Even if you think you can only offer a few hours over a 6-week period, it's worth it. Most of us learned everything we know on the job. Plus, it is fun to see people melt when you push a pair of binoculars into their hands, and they see the chicks. If you think you can help, please email Janice Carpenter at Birdlife Australia at janicejohnoz@yahoo.com.au. Me, I'm just one of the amateurs who got sucked in at the start. I want Lorne to be a place where Nature thrives in our midst.



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MAKING THE LORNE COMMUNITY SAFER, TOGETHER WITH THE SES SINCE 1977

By Chris Jones

A Blast from the Past

The State Emergency Service has been present in Lorne since 1977. I was rummaging through the many paper files and documents in the unit filing cabinets when I came across this wonderful piece.

In 1977, the Lorne State Emergency Service was formed as a subunit of the Winchelsea State Emergency Service Unit. The 13 members and their basic equipment operated from the rear of Mr Jack Carroll's Ampol garage.

In 1978, the unit was issued with a rescue trailer, which was pulled behind private vehicles for all callouts. Most of the issued equipment appeared to come from excess or out-of-date army supplies. We were very thankful, and it is amazing what you can do with a few lengths of Manilla rope, some basic knots and the willingness to help others. They were interesting times.

In 1983, after the Ash Wednesday fires, things really started to happen. The combined Rotary Clubs of Geelong donated a Toyota 4-wheel drive, a very handy tool in Lorne's terrain; more army supplies came, and the talk started on finding a permanent site for the unit. Meetings and training were held at the local sewerage office or at members' homes prior to that.



In 1985, our local headquarters were built and commissioned on the old library site next door to the local headquarters of the Country Fire Authority. We were now neighbours to another emergency service and, from that day, have cultivated a working relationship to what it is now, one of mutual respect and understanding in the view that we are all part of a big team serving the same client, the public.

In 1986, we purchased the Jaws of Life for \$13,000 using funds raised and a no-interest loan from the Winchelsea Shire. Thanks to the annual garage sale in donations, we paid the loan back in under five years.

In 1991, the unit obtained the Corio SES Unit's old road rescue vehicle, a 1974 Dodge Dual Cab truck. It had been replaced with a VICSES purpose-built rescue vehicle.

In 1993, Lorne was issued a red-plate government-issued Mazda T400 dual-cab rescue vehicle, a fantastic and safe addition to the unit's resources. The Dodge wasn't built to handle the Great Ocean Road.



In 1997, we parted with our much-loved Toyota 4WD after 14 years of faithful service. With trading and fund-raising monies, we purchased the first of our Mitsubishi Triton 4WD dual-cab utilities, which we turned over every two years.

From 1999 to 2000, the unit relocated to the Lorne industrial site as the new emergency services complex was being built on the old CFA site. It was a tiring period but well worth it.

In late 2000 we moved into the new complex and settled in with very few teething problems. Our relationship with the CFA and the Ambos is growing every day on both informal and professional levels.

With a limited population base, the unit has been fortunate to hold numbers at around 10 to 15 since its formation. The current membership is 15, of these Philip Sutton, Michael Callanan, Alan Freame and Geoff Bird had been awarded the National Medal for 15 years service.

Continued page 9

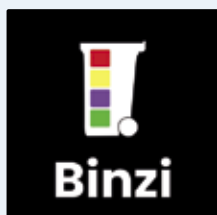
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GO WHERE THE TRADIES GO

From page 7

The Lorne unit does not have a large number of operations, the average being about 13, but being semi-isolated, the unit prides itself on its degree of operational readiness and the standard of the equipment it has available to cope with all manner of emergencies. The unit's main activities are searches and road accident rescue. The unit has been well supported in the past by the former Shire of Winchelsea and continues to be by the Surfcoast Shire. Although records are incomplete Unit Controllers have included Messrs Stuart Macdonald, Peter Danby and Alan Freame with the current Controller being Michael Callanan.

I believe the piece was written around 1994. The SES Long Service Awards recognised Geoffrey Bird, who served 35 years; Michael Callanan, who served 30 years (now deceased); and Philip Sutton, who served 20 Years.

Some things are still the same: we are isolated, with a small population base to draw from, averaging around 15 active members. We provide a service 24 Hours a Day, 365 Days a Year. Our volunteers are highly skilled, well-equipped, and comprehensively trained in various emergencies. We are a critical part of our Lorne Community.

What has changed is the number of callouts. When this piece was written, the number of requests for assistance was 13. Today, for an average year, we now attend around 70, and in recent years, ranging up to 130. From searches

and road rescue, our repertoire extends to tree down, assisting other agencies (ambulance /police/CFA) land-based rescue, flood and storm damage, landslides, earthquakes, community education and dissemination of hazard information.

It is time to honour current and past members.

Rummaging through the many paper files and documents in the unit filing cabinets and accessing the SES electronic records will enable us to honour current and past members. We will erect an Honour Board at the Lorne Emergency Services Complex unit early this year. Please join us.

SES Coming of Age in 2025

The Victorian State Emergency Service will celebrate 50 Years of Service this year. For the SES Lorne Unit, this is a time of celebration and rejuvenation. We are proud to have been serving our community for 48 years. The unit was very busy in December 2024, and we received great support and appreciation from our community. Thank you.

Stay safe from the SES Lorne Unit.

For VICSES emergency response, call 132500

If your situation is life-threatening, call 000

Follow us on our Facebook page - SES Lorne Unit.



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EDITORIAL *By Janet Goud*

A happy, healthy, and thoughtful New Year to you all. In this world of so many serious problems, we can again rejoice in how lucky we are to live in this beautiful place.

Firstly, a couple of corrections to last months' issue.

The boat Enterprize was auto corrected to Enterprise throughout the article. This, Enterprise, was the name of the original ship and the replica is so named Enterprize to keep the boats separated in their historical times. We apologise for this mix up.

In the story about the planting of the farm, some things were wrong, and Jennifer wrote correcting the piece.

"Firstly, an effective plantation needs to be 3 trees width or between 10 and 20 metres.

Otway Greening nursery owner at the time was Mike Robinson Koss (now owned by Cara Johnson and Matt Garnsworthy). We did not plant any Golden wattle which are not naturally in this area. We planted Black wattle, and silver wattle, as well as many other indigenous species."

At the Community Newspaper conference I attended recently, we were all urged to consider the possibility of people submitting articles which had been constructed

with Artificial Intelligence or AI. Most of us were reluctant to think too much about it and hoped such situations would be a long time coming. However, recently, I was delighted by some writing which made a normally dull subject (for me) seem interesting and exciting. When I enquired further, I was happily informed that AI had been the big improvement to the normal writing.

So here is the quandary, do we care if what we read is written by a living breathing human with a brain and particular opinions, or a machine that re arranges what is presented minimally – correcting grammar and spelling etc or majorly, writing a complete article on a topic nominated by the "author" of it. I'd be interested to hear your views.

My view is it can be a useful tool, quickly researching topics and tidying grammar etc. But part of great writing has always been the voice we hear when we read.

In the meantime, I'd like to trial the policy of asking people to declare if they have used AI majorly in their articles. I think it's important to realise this when we read them. I prefer not to accept work that is more than 50% AI generated. There are various editing engines like Grammerly able to detect this. The editorial policy has been changed minimally to reflect this

Let us see what the future brings.

Below: Very sad scenes as Ankur, our favourite Postman left the Post Office. He was mobbed by the mermaids and other fans!!

"Don't leave us Ankur!! We promise not to buy so much wine".

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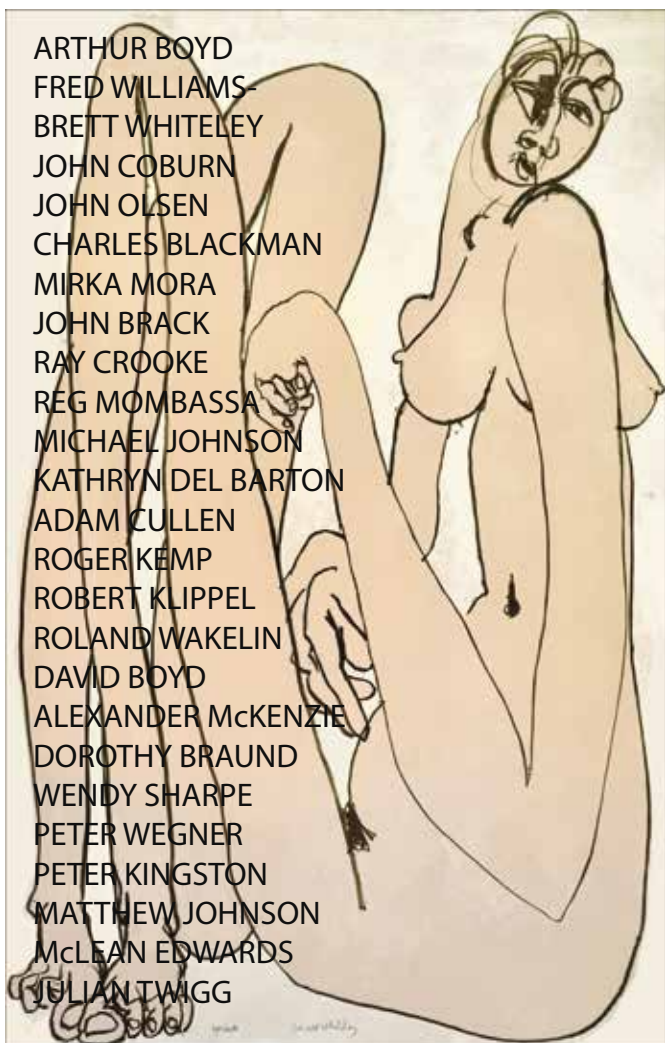
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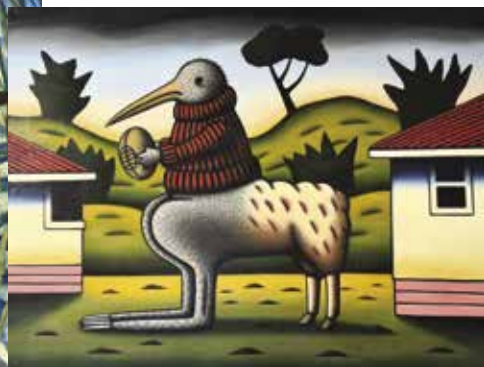
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ARTS IN LORNE

Qdos

A sad moment for all art lovers. Deborah Halpern's cultural gift to the township of Lorne leaves for another destination. A cultural gift that was declined as it did not comply with Coastal and Maritime Act of 2018.



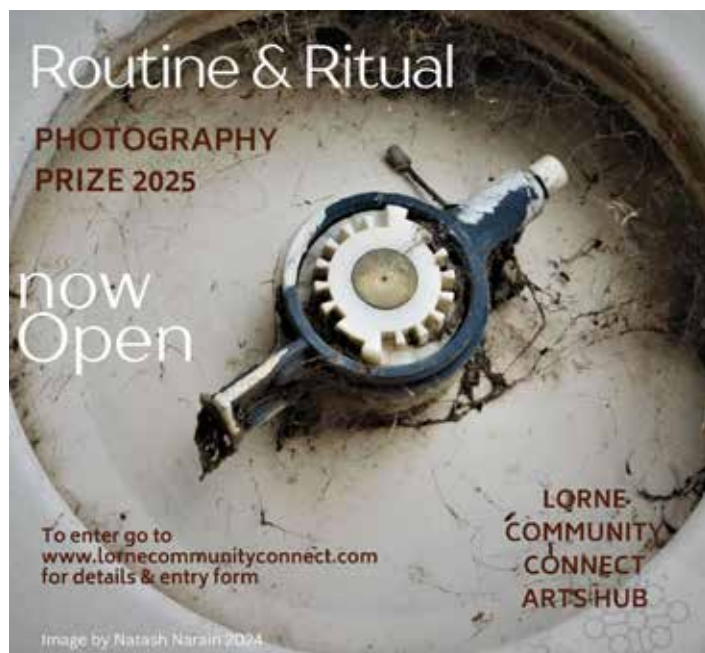
What's happening at Lorne Community Connect?

By Lesley Goldsworthy

January at Lorne Community Connect

Exciting news we now have a website. You can keep up to date with all our events, and don't forget you can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

www.lornecommunityconnect.com



The Art Bazaar has an extensive collection of Antique John Gould bird and mammal lithographs produced by Hill House with the British Museum.

They are open 7 days a week in January and are having a huge sale with most items heavily reduced.

Lorne local, Ella Murnane's wonderful aerial photographs are also featured this month.

Gift Vouchers are now available.

Many thanks

Judi Kenneally and Ian Lovell

Continued page 15



RIMONA KEDEM

5 - 25th January 2025

Launched by Alex Syndikas, photo-artist, sculptor and an academic for the past 30 years at RMIT University.

Sunday, the 5th January at 3:00pm.

Qdos Fine Arts Lorne  www.qdosarts.com
Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm TFSSM



SISCA VERWOERT

12th January 1st February 2025

Launched by Anne McGraw-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 TFSSM



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NEW PHOTOGRAPHS BY ELLA MURNANE



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From page 13

Tony Wolfenden Kite Exhibition

Opening night Friday 10 January 5 pm – 7 pm

The exhibition will be open from 11 January – 1 February
3 pm – 6 pm

Tony has had a long and successful career in Industrial Design and has an ongoing interest in art and design in all their forms. One of which was the choice of kites as kinetic

art. The non commercial and slightly whimsical nature of art objects that fly attracted his involvement in producing a series of large bold graphic panels that can produce powerful images in both the sky and on gallery walls. An interesting and unusual exhibition, this is one not to be missed.

Lorne Community Connect would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year and thank you for your support.



CHRIS
CONNELL
DESIGN

03 8598 2222
0418 994 872



SUNLIGHT AND EYE PROTECTION

By Davut Ulusoy

Our eyes are regularly exposed to sunlight and artificial lighting. The wavelengths of light we are exposed are visible light (400-700nm), UV-B (295-320nm), and I-IV-A (320-400nm). Light is essential to enable us to see and also for our circadian rhythm, the internal clock in our brain that regulates cycles of alertness and sleepiness by responding to light changes in our environment.

For these processes to take place, light which enters the eye falls on the retina which then sends the signals to the brain. Therefore, it is important that the light absorbed by the eye is not harmful. The eye has its own internal protective systems, such as the antioxidant system and protective pigments in different layers of the eye which can absorb harmful radiation. However, some of the harmful radiation is not absorbed and causes damage to the eye. This gets worse as we get older as these protective systems break down leaving us less protected and more susceptible to harmful radiation. Thus, sunlight and intense artificial light can cause or facilitate the development of age-related eye diseases such as cataracts and macular degeneration. It is important to take measures to prevent this from happening.

Exposure to excess I-IV radiation is the main cause of skin cancer and Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancers in the world and two in three Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer by the age of 70 (Cancer Council). This statistic highlights the importance in having the right measures in place and being vigilant about protecting our skin, as well as our eyes, from over-exposure to harmful radiation and the damage it can cause.

Being SunSmart is a simple way to reduce our risk of developing these harmful effects. The Cancer Council's recommendation of the five protection measures we can take are:

- 1 Slip on sun-protective clothing that covers as much skin as possible.
- 2 Slop on broad spectrum, water resistant SPF50 or higher sunscreen. Put it on 20 minutes before going outdoors and every 2 hours afterwards, or after swimming, exercising or towel drying.
- 3 Slap on a hat that is broad brimmed to protect your face, neck and ears.
- 4 Seek shade.
- 5 Slide on sunglasses which meet Australian standards.

Protecting our eyes from harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation in sunlight is important to maintain good vision and prevent long-term damage. Sunlight contains ultraviolet (UV) rays that can harm your eyes over time.

Here is what you need to know:

How sunlight affects eye health

- UV rays (UV-A and UV-B) can damage the cornea, lens, and retina, leading to conditions such as:
- Cataracts
- Macular degeneration
- Photokeratitis (sunburn of the eye)
- Sunburn of eyelids
- Retinal damage
- Pterygium

How to protect your eyes:

1. Wear sunglasses: choose sunglasses which are manufactured according to Australian sunglasses standards.
 - Wrap-around styles or larger lenses offer better coverage.
 - Polarised lenses reduce glare but also need a coating to block UV rays.
2. Wear a hat: A wide brimmed hat can block a significant amount of UV rays that may reach your eyes from above or around your sunglasses.
3. Limit sun exposure: Avoid or minimise direct sunlight during peak hours (10 am to 4 pm), when UV radiation is strongest.
4. Beware of more sun-reflective surfaces:
 - If you are near water, sand, or snow, be extra cautious as these surfaces reflect UV rays more than other surfaces, increasing overall exposure.
 - Use appropriate eyewear for specific activities, for example, skiing goggles for snow.
5. Importance of eye protection for children: Children's eyes should be protected from an early age as cumulative exposure over time can cause more damage so starting protection in childhood is best for long term outcomes. We need to make sure they wear UV-blocking sunglasses and hats when outdoors and avoid direct sunlight during peak hours.

Possible signs and symptoms of sun damage:

Possible signs and symptoms of sun damage of the eyes include redness, irritation, blurry vision, or light sensitivity after being in the sun. Consult an optometrist if these signs or symptoms persist.

Treatment of sun damage to the eyes

Treating sun damage to your eyes depends on the severity of the condition. Here are some possible treatment options. Immediate relief for minor sun damage.

Continued page 19

Keep rubbish and recycling out of your green bin.

Only food scraps and garden clippings belong in your FOGO (food and garden organics) bin. By using your green bin correctly, you help make high-quality mulch and compost for use on parks, gardens and farms.

Never put bags of rubbish, glass, nappies or cardboard in your FOGO bin.

Small acts make a big impact.

Find out more: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/FOGO



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From page 17

Photokeratitis or 'sunburn of the eye' is usually temporary and heals within 1-2 days. Symptoms include redness, pain, light sensitivity, and watery eyes. For relief:

- Rest your eyes: stay indoors and avoid bright light until symptoms improve.
- Apply cold compresses: apply a clean, cold, damp cloth over your closed eyes to reduce swelling and discomfort.
- Lubricating eye drops: use artificial tear drops to reduce dryness and irritation. Consult your optometrist for the type of drops to use.
- Pain relief: for mild pain your pharmacist can recommend over-the-counter medicines but for severe pain consult your optometrist and/or GP. for the most appropriate medication.

For long-term or more severe damage

For more severe and/or persisting symptoms consult your optometrist for proper diagnosis and advice or treatment.

Some long-term complications may be

- cataracts,
- pterygium (growth on the conjunctiva),
- retinal damage and macular degeneration.

Treatments include:

- Prescription eye drops: If inflammation is present, your optometrist may prescribe anti-inflammatory eye drops.
- Sunglasses: for ongoing sensitivity to light, wearing specially designed glasses can help.

Medical and/or surgical intervention:

- Cataracts: your optometrist will refer you to an ophthalmologist if cataracts warrant surgical removal.
- Pterygium: this growth would need surgical removal if it was close to obstructing vision.
- Macular degeneration: needs to be assessed and monitored regularly and in some cases, treatment may be required.

When to see your optometrist:

- If symptoms persist for more than 48 hours.
- If you experience extreme pain, vision changes, or loss of vision.
- If you suspect damage to the retina due to blurred or distorted central vision

Prevention measures for long term protection of the eyes

1. Always wear UV-blocking sunglasses which meet the Australian sunglasses standard and wide-brimmed hat.
2. Avoid looking directly at the sun, especially during solar eclipses, as this can cause serious damage to your retina.
3. Consult your optometrist for eye examinations on a regular basis, especially if you spend significant time outdoors.

Davut Ulusoy

BSc Optometry CertOcTher(ACO)Dip.Couns

Lecturer in Optometry and Clinical Optometrist
(Lorne Hospital)

School of Medicine, Faculty of Health
Deakin University

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.



LORNE WATER

Environmental Releases from the Allen Reservoir? *By Colin Leitch*

Barwon water has established a community working group (CWG) to provide advice about the management of Lorne's water supply system, with particular reference to proposing ways to meet Lorne's water supply requirements in the future.

At around the time that the CWG started meeting, Barwon Water established an environmental flows study to develop minimum flow recommendations for both the St George River and its estuary.

The consultants engaged for the study provided the final report recently. The CWG have discussed the report and will now go through a process of preparing a response. To facilitate this, Barwon Water will use an engagement specialist who will devise a questionnaire for CWG members to complete and use the answers to prepare a proposed response for the CWG to consider.

The understandings that I've gained during the Flows study include:

- * the capacity of the Allen Reservoir is considerably less than Lorne's average annual water consumption.

This means that we can't rely on storage of winter and spring flows to get through any summer and autumn dry periods. It's the relatively small inflows during the dry months that prevent the reservoir from emptying quickly.

- * The Allen reservoir only has minor impacts on streamflows during wet periods. However, in dryer periods, the reservoir can store all of the inflows from its catchment. There is no requirement to provide passing flows. This denies the river immediately downstream of the reservoir of any flows. This impact is mitigated with distance downstream due to the natural inflows of tributaries to the St George River. It should be noted that the catchment to the reservoir is roughly half of the entire catchment of the St George River.
- * The Allen Dam was constructed in 1958 and has been impacting the downstream riverine and estuarine communities since then. No assessments have been carried out however, so these impacts are unknown. It is heartening that platypus colonies exist in the changed flow regime of the river.
- * Sufficient rainfall and stream gauging records exist for Barwon Water to create a model of the river flows that could be expected under natural conditions. The modelling can also be used to predict flows resulting from climate change impacts.
- * The consultants used a detailed procedure known as FLOWS2 for estimating the flow requirements of the St George River. This included using their collective judgement to specify what minimum flows in the river would be required to maintain riverine and estuarine communities. In their final report they provided a detailed set of flow timings and quantities for baseflows, freshes, high flows, and overbank flows.

- * Barwon Water used modelling to see what impact these minimum flow specifications would have had if applied in the years 2018 to 2024. This of course was a period dominated by La Niña events, when the river's baseflows were generally sufficient to keep the reservoir full throughout the year. The modelling indicated that applying these minimum flow rules would have required water use restrictions to be imposed every year and that the reservoir would have emptied in three of those seven years.

This clearly isn't going to happen! The challenge for the CWG now is to use this information to determine whether environmental flows should be provided. If so, how can Lorne's security of supply be maintained?



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Your small acts make a big impact.

Find out more: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/glass



JO VONDRA LITERATURE AWARD 2024

Winner: Frazey Horsburgh-White Year 10 for this anthology of poems.

1. Irene

I've been working
At this library for years
The kinds that come through vary
Day to day
Year to year
Young children sounding out big words in
picture books
High schoolers pouring over history texts
Book clubs, far too loud for the library
I see all of them as they pass through
See the young children
Become the high schoolers
Become the wine drinking, chatters at the
book cub
And I'm always here
Seven days a week
Nine to one
Two to five
At the bendarat library
Watching the folks pass through.

2. The Apple Tree

They say children are a gift
If so I guess I don't have a chimney
Or a stocking
Nowhere for a present to appear on
Christmas morning
I was 23
The doctor told me I was barren
The blow hit me like an axe
I was a tree unable to bare fruit
Not because I didn't want to
I desperately wanted a family of my own I
was a tree that would be cut down
And struck from the orchard
Useless Fruitless Barren.

3. The Fruit

When I was in school
Way back in the day
I hated maths
And was horrible at science
But I loved to read and write
These days I work in a library
Surrounded by books every day
And I don't have to do any science
Very little maths
And when work is slow
I read
And I write
On paper from trees like me
Books for kids
Kids I could have had

Would have had
Stories I think they would have liked
Stories I could have read to them.

4. Refuge

Refuge
Six letters
Multiple meanings
A place to stay
A place to hide
A place to feel safe
On drizzly days people huddle in the
doorway of the library
I turn up the heaters and damp haired
groups warm their hands
Kids in colourful raincoats laugh and
run around
Tracking mud on the hardwood floors
People under the veranda
Dressed in tattered dirty clothes
An old dust jacket protecting a precious
story
Cardboard the only thing keeping them
off the cold steps
A cover holding a persons life within
They look worried when I pass
Worried I'll call the cops
Call them names
Tell them to move on
I never do
This place is more than a home for
stories
In these books there's an escape between
the covers
This library is a refuge
From the cold
The rain
From circumstance.

5. The Library Steps

Waiting on the steps this morning
Is a boy
He tries not to look at me
I see his tired eyes
Kind eyes
He calls me mrs
His name is Billy
He reads all day on the corner couch
Leaving only for lunch
I lock up and he clears out
He looks at me with those kind eyes
Slightly clearer in the afternoon sun
And I hope to see him tomorrow
Waiting on the steps.

6. Drifting

I see Billy often
He comes weekly
Sitting on that corner couch
He borrows books about young people
On islands
At sea
In space
People who, like him
Are lost
Drifting
I'd like to think of this library as the island
The boat
The Earth
Something anchoring
Drawing him here
And keeping him tethered
Stopping him from drifting away.

7. A New Leaf

Billy comes in less and less
I'm starting to worry
I contemplate calling someone, although
I don't know who to call
The police maybe
What would they do?
Why haven't I done something?
That poor beautiful child
I hear the library doors open
Those kind eyes greet me
For once not tired at all
Billy looks clean, well fed
And happy
The book he carries isn't what he usually
borrows
No thick, creased spine
Broken in from years of people reading it
It's not a book from an old tree
Long axed down
This book is thin and colourful
Newer than most
He walks over
A beam on his young face
Billy places the book on my desk
"Thank you"
"I'm sorry"
That was all he said
The boy no longer drifting
I looked down at the shining apple on the
cover and the bright title
The fruit
My stories for children that would never be
Read by the child who just needed refuge.



Keith Miller LACC
Commodore



CLUB NEWS

Well here we go again. Wasn't last Christmas only a few weeks ago? We are all set up and ready for the silly season. We had a working bee the other day and painted the old clubhouse again. That's the 4th time since I've been on the committee and I reckon the paint is the only thing holding the place up. Hutch has waved his magic wand again and found some great staff to help him serve up our World's Best and Coldest beer over the summer.

We've also gone a bit up market with our selection of wines so that will keep everyone happy. We've got four marquees and heaps of umbrellas so there will be plenty of shade and shelter.

It will be members only from Boxing Day onwards so get online and join or renew today. It's the best value for money membership on the planet.

Remember the Family Membership which is only \$65 covers two parents and their children who must be UNDER 18.

Every year we get lots of 20-year-olds plus telling us their parents paid a family membership so they are members. We always explain that they aren't and get them to join. While on the subject of children, we've come up with a nifty idea:

ANY UNATTENDED CHILDREN WILL BE GIVEN A FREE RASPBERRY CORDIAL AND A FREE KITTEN.

Remember our facilities are available for weddings, parties, anything but you must book with Hutch well ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW YEAR'S EVE

The FIREWORKS ARE ON AGAIN at 9.30 and midnight. We donated a generous amount towards the NYE fireworks again this year but apparently, they still need more so if anyone would like to donate towards them again this year go to this

Go Fund Me link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/new-years-fireworks-december-31-2024>

Bring the family along to the best location in Lorne to watch the 9.30pm display and enjoy a cold one. We will close shortly after that.

Pier To Pub After Party With Free Live Music Members Only

This is our biggest night of the year so I would suggest you get there early because we reach our capacity earlier and earlier every year. Once again, we have the sensational The Vulkans performing.

Major Fishing Competition Number One Sponsored By Lorne Auto Care: Alex & Adam

Sunday 26th January 2025, the comp runs from 6am until the deadline of 12.30pm. Weigh-in starts at midday. It's free to enter for members and all competitors get a free roast lunch. Prizes are awarded for first, second and third in both the junior and senior categories. Juniors must be under the age of 18. You can only weigh in one fish each, so anyone can win on the day, and it's environmentally friendly. Come and have a crack. It's great fun.



Ken Hosking, Glenn Monaghan (The Scaling Brothers) and Ric Addison with a haul of nice sized Snapper they caught the other day. The Scaling Brothers name is explained down the page a bit.

2025 Fishing Competition Dates

26th Jan: Major Comp #1 - Sponsored by Lorne Auto Care

9th Mar: Major Comp #2 - Sponsored by Western Insurance Brokers

20th Apr: Major Comp #3 - Sponsored by Essential Financial Planning: Peter Ryan

8th Jun: Major Comp #4 - Sponsored by Lorne Concreting: Tom Dawson

28th Sep: Major Comp #5 - Sponsored by Great Otway Construction

2nd Nov: Major Comp #6 - Sponsored by Lorne Hardware

4th May: Winter Comp #1 - Sponsored by Jason's Coffee at the Club

6th Jul: Winter Comp #2 - Sponsored by Keane Contracting Brick/Block & Scaffolding

3rd Aug: Winter Comp #3 - Sponsored by Hillec: Steve Hill

7th Sep: Winter Comp #4 - Sponsored by Surf Coast Gardening: Rob Dalziel

These are also available all year on the home page of our website.

Tom Curran with a Swallowtail. These are rare in our waters and this is as big as they get. They are closely related to the Nannygai.

Hawaiian Shirt Wednesdays

Sponsored By Lighting Options: Marshall Hill

Every Wednesday in January we run 'Hawaiian Shirt Wednesdays'. Prepare yourselves now and buy, borrow or steal some Hawaiian Shirts for the summer. Last January was the best participation rate ever with about 50% wearing them but I reckon we can do better this January. As usual everyone wearing one will get their first drink free and we will be handing out prizes for our judges favourites every week.

Australia Day CFA Fundraiser

Sunday the 26th of January from 2pm onwards. This has now become a tradition. Members of the local CFA/Lorne Fire Brigade will be there manning the BBQ, we will be raffling a couple of very special prizes and there will be a live band playing after 4pm. Come along and support the CFA. You might need them one day.

The band is called the Blues Bus, we've had them several times and they are sensational. As usual entry is FREE, but the event is for members only.

RECENT EVENTS

2024 AGM

Our 2024 AGM went off without a hitch and we had a capacity crowd who all enjoyed the open bar and free BBQ which was generously donated by FOODWORKS Lorne. As we always do the fishing comp trophies were awarded immediately after the AGM proceedings.

Our Ian Middleton Memorial Club Champion this year was Brett Stewart. Ian's Daughter Jodi along with her husband and two beautiful daughters came down all the way from Katamatite and slept in swags to present it. Unfortunately,

Brett was up north on a holiday so that's me with Jodi and the shield. I'm much better looking than Coil so it all worked out. We caught up with Coil upon his return and Tommy presented him with his Biggest Whiting and Biggest Flathead for the year trophies which he also won.



Leslie Thornton, Director of Lorne Community Bank presents the Winter Cup Champion and Second Club Champion to Steve Arundell. Steve only fishes off the pier so this is a great effort.



Junior Club Champion and Winter Cup Champion was Alby Dawson. Alby got the double-winning of both comps. Great Stuff Junior Club Champion Second and Winter Cup Third, Charlie Hunter

Winter Cup Junior second, Dusty Dawson, Leslie Thornton presents Winter Cup Second and Most Species to Ciara Ennis. Also, all off the Pier so an extraordinary result. Leslie Thornton presents the Winter Cup Third to Greg Ennis, Greg is Ciara's Dad. They drive all the way from Dandenong for each comp which is a huge effort.

Working Bee

Every year some time in November we run a working bee. Over the last few years there's been a steady increase in volunteer numbers, but this year was exceptional. We had to go and buy more paint brushes and rollers, and we still ran out. Eventually I had to send a few away because we had too many. This was a problem that most clubs would love to have. A big thank you to all those that turned up.

Continued page 27



**Happy New Year from the dedicated
team at your local pharmacy**

From page 25**Gordon Ramsay Visit**

This bloke had heard about the 6,000 plus sausages we give away each year and was also told they were the best in the world, so he flew from London especially to check it out. He agreed that they were definitely the best he had ever tasted and he said the same about our beer.

Gordon was honoured to meet our World Champion



Sausage Cook Ric. Gordon was also lucky enough to meet Our World Champion Sausage Eater, Ed the Machine Fry.

The Scaling Brothers

Recently we caught a nice haul of Flathead and Snapper and I asked two of our crew if they could scale the Flathead while I washed the boat which they went ahead and did.

I won't name them because of the ridicule and embarrassment they would have to endure so let's just call them Ken Hosking and Glenn Monaghan.

That night we decided to have some beautiful fresh flathead for tea. When I took the fillets out of the bag I couldn't help but notice that there was not one single scale removed from the 8 fillets.

I can clearly remember seeing them going through the motions of scaling.

I'm not sure but the only thing I can think of that would achieve this amazing result would have to be that they were running the scaling tools the wrong way which would have been from the head down to the tail. At the end of every day, we go out fishing, we award with tongue in cheek the 'UC Award' which stands for Useless Crewperson and at the end of the year we have the Grand Prize of UC of the year. I understand that the year isn't over yet, but my money is on these two blokes for drawing for first place.

Ken Hosking who owned the Lorne Post Office and then The Lorne Hardware Store. He then became a professional fish scaler. I advised him to retire.

Fads Are Back

Victorian Fisheries contacted me last week to say they have been re-deployed into their usual location. For those who don't know FAD is for Fish Aggregating Device.

The one in the below photo is in about 26 metres and the one off Aireys is in 42 metres.

Point Grey Report

This update unfortunately will be brief.

The LAAC development sub-committee met again with GORCAPA on Wednesday 11th December, chaired by our new Project Manager, Susan de Vere, and we have had to enter into an in-confidence agreement, meaning anything discussed cannot be discussed outside the meeting room. Sorry.

We have been advised that things are progressing (without us seeing anything) and told to expect some concept documentation to be issued for our input in early 2025

Ric Addison.
Vice Commodore

New Bus

We have just ordered a brand-new Courtesy Bus. The old bus is about knackered.

The new one is a Toyota Hi Ace and the big news is that it's an automatic with hill assist so it will be much much easier for our volunteers to drive.

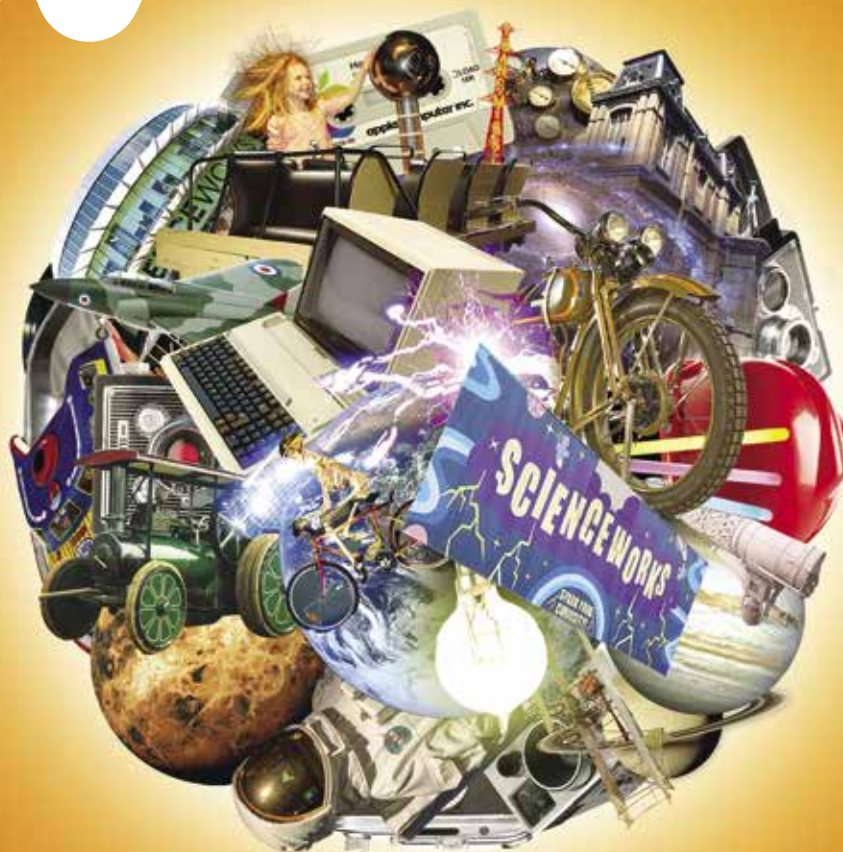
FISHING REPORT**Boat**

The fishing has picked up really well with the water temp at 17.8 degrees, which is way warmer than normal for this time of year. The Flathead are biting so well that it's hard to get the sinker to the bottom. They are grabbing the bait on the way down and there's a lot of big ones being caught. The slimy Mackerel have arrived in big numbers which is a good sign. Snapper are biting well but there's a lot of water in between them. There's quite a few big ones over 60cm but you have to keep moving and trying different spots to find them. One day they are in 25 metres then the next day they are in 40 metres. That's the trouble with fish, they have fins and tails and are very good swimmers, so they keep bloody moving. King George Whiting are being landed in good numbers which is a good sign. Plenty of Gummy and School Sharks are being caught.

Pier

The big news is that there's been quite a few King Fish landed off the pier over the last week or so. Some have been caught with bait on the bottom and others with lures. There's been some big Trevally coming in over the 60cm mark. The Calamari have been consistent with plenty of good sized ones being caught. Plenty of Salmon, Whiting, Mullet Snapper and the odd Flathead being landed.

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From the Deck WEE BEASTIES THAT JUMP

By John Agar



Nearly seven years ago, when I started to write this series of self-absorbed and likely tedious monthly meanderings for the Independent, I never thought that I would still be ambling through the potpourri of Lorne for ideas. Yet as a menacing hug of heavy, humid pre-storm air wrapped me in its foreboding, there it was! ... my ‘inspiration-of-the-month came scuttling and bounding across my weathering outdoor tabletop.

It stopped, turned face-on, fixed me with a baleful stare, waved, rebalanced, then potted-off with a hop, skip and jump. Safe travels, little jumping spider, I thought.

I am not a spider person! Indeed, I have carried the psychological wounds of arachnophobia since childhood [for the full story, see my 2012 book: “Memories of Lorne: 1946-1970” ... which is still available at <https://tinyurl.com/4f337m98>]. Yet spiders of this size and character do pass muster ... just! Anything bigger, and I am toast!

The jumping spider reminded me that only a day or two earlier, another sort of ‘hopper’—a green planthopper—had alighted on my knee, while Lorne locals will well know our nemesis ants—the skippy [aka: skipjack, jumping jack, or jack-jumper]—those feisty little attack machines that deliver such a memorable sting.

Nature abounds with things that hop, bound, and pounce. We can but be thankful that most are micro-sized. Imagine a hippo-sized beastie with the same ‘spring’ in its back legs!

Jumping Spiders

These little guys are super cute! At ‘Chasing Bugs’ [<https://tinyurl.com/6ams377x>], Danae Wolfe uses her superb microphotography to magnify these friendly little beasties to an up-close-and-personal size. While extolling their unique feature ... four pairs of eyes: three secondary pairs [one pair acting primarily as motion detectors] flanking a principal and larger movable pair ... she describes their

exquisite structure as a true marvel of nature. Add their prodigious jumping ability, brilliant colours, and cocky inquisitiveness—NB: when they rock back on their front legs and wave, they are sensing [or smelling] us—and they are beyond appealing. Some even keep them as pets, though I think this a step too far!

Paraphrasing Wikipedia [<https://tinyurl.com/44br7x59>]: ‘... jumping spiders translate a well-developed internal hydraulic system in the body fluid of their third and fourth leg pairs to rapidly extend and accurately target their jumps to navigate, escape danger, and catch prey. While most can effortlessly jump two or three body lengths, one Floridian ‘Olympian’ [*Colonus puerperus*] has recorded a jump 38 times its body length.

The Australian Museum has an excellent section on our many unique Australian species at <https://tinyurl.com/57zv6wab>

Planthoppers/Leafhoppers

These little sap-suckers [<https://tinyurl.com/yc83hnj6>] will be familiar to any garden-lover. Like a ladybird—indeed, ladybirds are planthopper predators—they will frequently land on us, unbidden, for a free ride around the garden to the next juicy stem.



With triangular-shaped, pea-green wings—acamoouflage ploy that signals a predator ‘I am not scrumptious, I am just a leaf’—these pink-eyed beauties can hop up to 60cm—a prodigious leap for a 15mm-long insect.

Though quite harmless to us, not so the garden. They can do considerable damage to crops or vegetable plots. While I think them cute, serious gardeners would likely disagree, and the Internet abounds with sites devoted to their control.

JackJumper Ants [aka Skipjacks]

These little Aussie blighters are far less benign and were the scourge of my Lorne childhood. They pack a punch [or sting] way above their pay grade, and I have always feared skippies far more than our larger, more fearsome-looking bull ants. Skippy bites hurt more, last longer, and can afflict the worst of all places after taking a bush wee! In the past and before the advent of epi-pens, one well-known Lorne lady would lapse into anaphylactic shock within minutes of a bite, and several emergency sites were established to provide her with ready access to injectable adrenalin.

Continued page 31



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LORNE

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The kitchen flows seamlessly into the dining area, creating an inviting space to enjoy meals while taking in the stunning ocean views. The airy, open atmosphere is ideal for shared moments with loved ones, and the balcony offers a charming view of the main street and the lively main beach, enhancing the relaxing summer vibe.

LORNE HOLIDAY RENTAL

www.greatoceanroadholidays.com.au

From the team at
Great Ocean Road Real Estate

From page 29

Extremely aggressive and combative ants, skippies [and bull ants], are more than prepared to stand and fight creatures [like us] many thousands of times their size.

The Tasmanian Government's Jack Jumper Biosecurity Fact Sheet is an excellent resource

[<https://tinyurl.com/3z42w8mf>] that describes the skippy as "... medium-sized,

8-10mm long, with a black body and yellow jaws that can repeatedly jump 10 cm when defending itself. Preferring fine gravel or sandy soil they seem to take pleasure from lying in wait for an unwary toe on the gravel paths now commonly laid through the dunes for beach access.



Sandhoppers

Sandhoppers were once an ever-present source of pleasure when I was young ... note I have used the past tense 'were' for there seem to be fewer these days. Once, lifting a piece of kelp would release a cloud of centimetre-longhoppers [*Talitrus saltator*] that have often been misnamed 'sand fleas'—though they are neither fleas nor bite ... but no longer. Now, they are much harder to find.

An important food source for shore birds, these small crustaceans—think of them as mini-prawns, for they are closely related—spend the daytime buried 10-30cm deep in wet shoreline sand or hidden at the tidal margin under seaweed, kelp and other detritus. In



the winter, they brumate at depths of up to 50 cm above the spring tide mark [Brumation: see LIN: 09/24, p10], but during summer, disturb a strand of seaweed and it was

'hey presto' ... or-it used to be.

Seeking a reason, I skimmed the scientific literature and the dreaded phrase 'climate change' was everywhere. It seems to be the default explanation for everything! Some climate scientists appear to have already noted a decline in sandhopper numbers and have suggested it as a marine measure for anything from sea salinity, seawater pH, rising seawater temperatures, and sea level rise. Holy Moly!

Mary had her little lamb, and Pandora had a box... but perhaps it's best to keep that box lid firmly shut.

Meet Our Councillor Leon Walker

Cr Leon Walker was born and raised on the Surf Coast around Bellbrae and Torquay. A Lorne local for the past 25 years with his wife and two boys, he loves where he lives and is an avid year-round surfer, nature lover and professional photographer.

As a sustainable small business owner, he operates a beachside café and surf shop along with his wife, where they connect with the community daily over coffee, food and conversation.

Cr Walker is an active community member, volunteering on the school council. He has also chaired the Tourism and Traders Association and engages with various local organisations and stakeholders, including sporting and social clubs across the Surf Coast and emergency services. Engaging and giving back to communities is essential to Cr Walker.

He is passionate about building sustainable communities for now and into the future, advocating for small business and tourism, and improving communication and collaboration among the various agencies and stakeholders of the region.

Leon Says:

"We're calling on the community to share ideas and experiences with us as we develop the next Council Plan

Our Focus Our Future will help deliver a series of strategic documents to guide Council's work over the next four years.

We want to better understand community priorities and how we can balance this with Council maintaining a sustainable financial position.

Have your say

We want to hear from as many people as possible. You can have your say in the following ways:

- Complete the survey
- Young people can complete the youth survey
- Members of local groups can put in a group submission.
- Join us for a chat at one of a series of pop up sessions across the shire

The survey closes 3 February 2025.



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Men of the Men's Shed

DOUG HOPKINS

By Garry Fenton

Doug goes back a long way in Lorne, in fact he has been coming to the family Lorne home all his life. His parents had a home in Smith Street where Doug lives now. He started school in Lorne in 1950. He later went to Bostock College, Geelong Grammar School's Junior School. He completed his education at Geelong Grammar School.

Doug's brother Henry was twelve years older so when he was married and took over the management of 'Wormbete', a young Doug moved with his parents to Lorne. The family had owned 'Wormbete' at Winchelsea since 1837. The historic homestead, still in use today was built in 1840 by Doug's Great Great Grandfather Henry Hopkins, who was the first person to export wool from Australia in the early 1800's. 'Wormbete' had been owned and operated by several generations until it was sold to Allan Bond in 1977. Doug's brother Henry purchased 'Wormbete' back from Bondy several years later and continued running the property until he sold it in 1997.

The family had a property at Buangor which Doug began managing after he left school in 1960.

'Coming home from school I knew very little about farming. During our school holidays it was a lot of fun, but it never seemed to coincide with important jobs like shearing, so it was a big learning curve for me', Doug confided.

Doug has farmed there ever since being primarily a sheep breeder. He ran a very successful Polwarth Sheep Stud for sixty years. In August 2018 following nearly 60 years of registration with the Polwarth Association, Doug hung up his day-to-day farming boots and leased the farm.

In the same year, Doug was awarded a Life Membership and President's Medal from the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV) and a Life Membership of the Polwarth Society to honour his contribution, dedication and commitment to the Polwarth breed.

(Doug was too modest to mention the above comments, but I was able to suss that out.)

Over the decades, Doug helped out at many country shows including Stawell, Clunes, Beaufort and Bendigo, judging, serving on fleece committees and an experienced 'go to man', and of course, exhibiting. Doug's father was very good friends with Doug Stirling and the two Dougs' have a great relationship today. *'I've been very lucky to have known Doug all my life. Of course he was always Mr Stirling to me when I was younger, and as a kid I played with his*



kids. There is a twenty-two-year gap between Doug and me, but as you get older the gap narrows and eventually the gap disappears and now it's just Doug and Doug.'

Doug was aware that the Men's Shed was being built but didn't know much about how they functioned. He was possibly at the farm when the Shed was opened and was unaware of the big day. It was Doug Stirling that told Doug what was happening up there and so he came up and paid his membership. Now the two of them are quite regular attendees for a coffee and a chat.

'You have all made me feel very welcome and I really do appreciate that, so thank you for being so friendly,' Doug said.

Doug was a bit surprised to find there was only one other farmer member. *'When I was a kid, they were nearly all farmers along our street, and that's how the town has changed'.*

Doug was very impressed with the new seats near the hospital and felt some more seats up Bay Street and Williams Street would be a good thing. *'Lorne is very hilly, and people need a rest when walking up some of those streets',* he suggested.

Doug did comment that most farmers were good with their hands but modestly suggested he was useless in that area. He does enjoy the coffee and yarn and he complemented Grandma Shields Bakery for their generosity in donating the Boston Buns for every Men's Shed day.

Welcome to the Men's Shed, Doug, and thanks for taking the time to chat.



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Lorne

Lorne Men's Shed

Tuesday 4, 11, 18 & 25 February 2025, 12pm-2pm

Torquay

Council Offices

Wednesday 5, 12, 19 & 26 February
10am-12pm OR 1pm-3pm

Anglesea

Anglesea Community House

Tuesday 4, 11, 18 & 25 March 2025, 10am to 12pm

WISER WALKER, WISER TRAVELLER

A three-week course offering information on a range of transport options and support services to promote older people remaining mobile, travelling confidently and staying connected. Refreshments provided.

Torquay

Council Offices

Friday 28 February,

Friday 7 & 14 March 1pm- 3pm

OR Wednesday 2, 9 & 16 April

10am-12pm

For further information or to enrol, please contact Council's Age Friendly Officer on **5261 0600** or email **rsalvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au**

CLEMENTINE CALLING

Clementine wishes you all well and let us hope that the next year will be a fabulous one for all of you. Happy New Year!

GORCPACA has used a man in protective clothing to spray poison to kill the weeds around Hah. Purple patches were left. For goodness' sake why can't they use a mattock. Small kids with toys sit on those poisoned mounds. At least they could put up a sign naming the poison and where it has been applied. Early onset cancer diagnosed in people under 50 has been increasing. Pesticide use in Australia has more than tripled since 1990.

Two stalwarts of the community Max Pitt and Marie Bannister have both been in our minds as they have been sick in hospital. A big hug of warmth and sympathy for Dawn and Gordon. Max and Marie are now in the Nursing Home. (Sadly Marie has since died)

On the first Friday night in December at the Aquatic Club, the witty Keith Miller kept everyone in order with one of his light-hearted speeches, whilst ignoring the chitter-chatter of the Snappers. Elsewhere lots of things were happening. At one of the tables Sally was showing a photograph of a local snake on her phone, Rosemary was discovering that her neighbour's first cousin had married her first cousin Charles Southwood and at the next table the eminent Pommy celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay had come for his appetiser - a skinny sizzled sausage of unknown filling coated with a piece of white Aussie gourmet sliced bread and splashed with Rosella's Dead Horse from a plastic bottle. An iconic Aussie speciality!!

As well as giving her gorgeous three lively sun-tanned girls Poppy, Sophia and Maggie a great life on the beach, Millie Talimanidis has been seen generously pushing a frail old man from the Nursing Home so that he can see the sea and have a nice meal in town. Thank you to The Men's Shed and Aquatic Club who provided the money for two electric chairs enabling immobile people to be pushed around the steep hills of Lorne. The thoughtful Bill Youl organised the purchase of the chairs. These chairs and their pushers make such a difference. More pusher volunteers please. Remember the chairs do all the hard work.

Shock horror up at the Golf Club as female members were seen in strange outfits - R was the theme so there were plenty of Rudolfs, and even a Rubic Cube. Sally Young turned up as Mrs Rollinson complete with Nola's mermaid outfit of robe, brand new blue bathers, cap and thongs. She proceeded to play golf in the bathers. Orange juice and champagne was served and thank goodness they all got safely back to the Club House to celebrate a Xmas lunch. Whilst on the golf theme congratulations to Ross Dimsey who won the Rick Grant Golf Club Trophy - so nice as they were such good friends.

Our newly elected independent councillor for the Otway Range Ward Leon Walker, who we all know and love down at Hah Café, is settling in for a summer of hard work serving us and many tourists. In December his wife Katie welcomed her vivacious mother Patricia from Spain.

Late at night Mary Lush has been observing two small nocturnal creatures. The small sugar glider, which uses its bushy tail for stability and steering as it glides from tree to tree, and the larger yellow-bellied glider, with its distinct black stripe down its back. It's a magical and thrilling sight. These wonderful small indigenous creatures need trees. You can instal boxes in your trees to give them homes. Look for fresh feeding incisions, often triangular or V-shaped, oozing sap on tree trunks.

The gentle Doug Hopkins celebrated his 80th under the watchful eye of Bryce at Lorne Central. He was accompanied by 3 good looking girls: a joyous trio - Sue Balderas, Pam Plum taking time off from Qdos and clever and artistic Lara Bardsley with spotted dog Mira. They combined with others to sing Happy Birthday!

I did love having those delightful schoolies in town. They played endless games on the beach and enjoyed the surf. 60 of them came from Northcote High and were charming to all us locals. Great to have so many from one school. What unity.

It is so sad that we are losing our fabulously helpful postie Ankur. He was an asset to our community, and he greeted us all so beautifully. "G'day Dougie boy" was what I heard as he hailed one of our venerable oldies! Viral was his 2IC - customers can rest assured that this young man was not the source of the pandemic! What will become of him?

The Lorne Gardeners Xmas extravaganza at the Golf Club was made all the better by the joyful celebrations to mark the birth of beautiful, bonnie Winnie Sutton, the first grandchild for Committee member Anne and husband Ray. Many of the female members looked gorgeous in colourful summer dresses and the indefatigable Secretary Roger Lawton was splendid in navy. As was to be expected the first drink was appreciated by most of the club members! The thoughtful Linton Ferguson gave away exotic looking Chinese Money Plants - these have been a symbol of fortune for centuries in China. Obviously, the club is hoping for prosperity so that they can continue to have plenty of outings with wine and good food in 2025.

Remember kind Lisa Brennan of former Lorne Larder whose coffees and soups we so enjoyed. Her parsnip and pear soup was so yummy - it was a winner. Lisa now cleverly operates the dialysis machine at the Lorne Hospital with loving expertise. Her handsome husband, the Sparky Michael, has been so kind to Nursing Home residents fixing, pro bono, their televisions when the power goes off. He has taken valuable time from his work as an electrician to do that. Bravo Michael.

Continued page 37

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From page 35

Our former, ever so likeable chemist Randal Forsyth performs his music at 3 pm every Sunday arvo at Jorge's Last One In restaurant in Anglesea. What a pity we can't have him play in Lorne – say at Salonika so that we could all enjoy his music!

A large rogue wave coupled with a cross current that swept across the Cumberland River very nearly took out former nurse Elizabeth Crow. Her three grandchildren watched in horror as she grappled with the wild ocean. Luckily Elizabeth is a strong swimmer. Please be careful everyone. The ocean, especially at river estuaries can be so dangerous.

Sadly, the hyacinth orchids with their thick dark purplish-brown stem were just about to burst into flower in Queens Park when along came Rowdie Stewart, the chap contracted by the Council to clean the area up. Rowdie has churned up all the orchids and most of the wildflowers which we had been preserving. The fields were not a fire hazard as we had dug out most of the broom. Next year maybe we can put in stakes so that what is left of our wildflowers survive. Anglesea has been so much better at preserving their native flora. We must talk to Rowdie before it is too late as Lorne is so beautiful.

Finally, congratulations to Pam Plum and all concerned for the charming Carols by Candlelight held in the grounds of the Uniting Church. It takes a lot of hard work and good organisation to make such a memorable night.

2024 LORNE COLLEGE DUX

The Lorne College Dux for 2024 is Phoenix Dixon who achieved a score of 95.05 - this included a perfect score of 50 for Music. Phoenix also studied Physics, Maths Methods, General Maths and English.

Small class sizes means that Lorne College staff can work closely with individuals to ensure they achieve their full potential. The College is renowned for its music program which this year saw the unprecedented outcome of two students being scored 50 in VCE Music, with a student from 2021 also gaining a perfect score in VCE Music.

We congratulate Phoenix on his remarkable achievement and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the staff and faculty at the College.



HELP KEEP KIDS SAFE AROUND POOLS AND SPAS

Help keep kids safe around backyard pools and spas this summer – ensure they are equipped with certified safety barriers.

Ambulance Victoria and Life Saving Victoria regional leaders have joined Surf Coast Shire Council amplifying a safety message urging people who have or are planning for a pool or spa to be mindful of their obligations to help protect children around the water.

Concerns about backyard pool and spa safety have escalated with their increased availability from hardware stores and online marketplaces, potentially being sold without guidance for new owners on Victorian Government requirements for barriers.

Royal Life Saving Australia says swimming pools are the leading location for drowning of young children.

Between 2014 and 2024, 92 children aged 4 or younger lost their lives in a swimming pool, with 41 per cent aged just one year.

Drowning risk for young children peaks in summer, with 37 per cent of all deaths occurring between December and February.

There are more than 2,500 known pools and spas in Surf Coast Shire, and more are regularly being identified.

All spas and pools, including inflatables in place for longer than 72 hours, are required under Victorian law to be registered.

All pool and spa barriers are required to have a building permit issued before installation.

To ensure safety standards are maintained, all pool and spa owners are required by law to have a barrier compliance certificate issued every four years by a private inspector.

Each compliance certificate must be lodged with Council each time it is issued.

Ambulance Victoria Senior Team Manager Andrew Kimberley: "Drowning in home pools often occurs silently and without warning after accidental falls, with children aged under 4 most at risk.

"Always supervise children near water. Ensure your pool fence is secure, with a self-closing, self-latching gate, and learn CPR in case of an emergency."

"Keep under-5s within arm's reach, and under-10s within eyesight around water at all times.

People can find more information about pool registrations and barrier certifications via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PoolsSpas or phone 5261 0600



Five Minutes with DAN TEHAN

Wannon's hard working local MP is delivering outcomes for our community.

Dan Tehan has been Australia's Trade Minister, Education Minister and Veterans' Affairs Minister, and is the Federal Member for Wannon. He lives and works in Hamilton and is a mad Richmond Tigers fan.



Dan, tell us about your job as a Federal Member of Parliament?

It's the best job in the world, to be honest. My mother was a state MP and she taught me the values of hard work, respect and giving back to your community and that's how I approach my job as an MP. I also love the variety of my job. One day I'm talking to school children in Lorne about Australia's democracy and the next day I'm helping a business in Lorne with a visa issue.

What's the best thing about your job?

Helping people and delivering for our community is the most rewarding part of the job. I've delivered over \$3 billion in funding to projects across Wannon. These range in size from new change rooms at sporting clubs to the Federal Government's \$50 million investment in the Great Ocean Road. Every project I have helped with has improved life for people in our community. Even as a Minister in Government, my work has helped local people. As Trade Minister I negotiated the UK Free Trade Agreement that eliminated tariffs on Australian agricultural goods exports to the UK, which has helped our dairy, beef and grain producers in Wannon.

What's one of the hardest things about your job?

The driving can be daunting. At over 34,000 square kilometres, Wannon is bigger than Belgium, stretching from the South Australian border in the west to almost Geelong, covering the Surf Coast and Great Ocean Road on the coastline right up to Casterton and Ararat in the north. I try as hard as I can to cover the whole electorate

and that means a lot of time away from my home in Hamilton. But I've made a commitment to the region and I don't believe you can properly represent a regional electorate if you don't live and work in it. I've done over 100 listening posts around the electorate in 2024, and more than 1,000 since I was elected. It's important that I stay connected with the entire electorate as every community is different and it's important to represent them all.

What is your plan for Wannon?

My plan for Wannon is to keep making our communities the best in Australia to live, work and raise a family. We need to increase funding for our roads, (not cut it like the Albanese Labor Government have done), immediately address cost of living issues, invest in our health network and keep developing our community infrastructure. We also need to support small businesses and farmers—who are the engine room of job creation in the electorate—and deliver practical, local, outcomes for our natural environment. In short, my plan for Wannon is to continue to build on the over \$3 billion of funding already delivered, strengthening our communities and way of life.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CLIMATE CHANGE

I am a Climate Change Sceptic but admit there may be some evidence of a small variation. I have doubts as to how serious and urgent Climate Change is. It's interesting the name has recently changed from 'Global Warming' to 'Climate Change', indicating there is possibly some confusion! To me, the 'Jury is still out'. Is it World Climate Change or World Climate Evolution? The world has gradually changed since the Ice Age at a very slow rate. In fact, it is recorded the earth was much hotter 600 million years ago!

Geological records show that there have been a number of large variations in the Earth's climate. These have been caused by many natural factors, including changes in the sun, emissions from volcanoes, variations in Earth's orbit and levels of carbon dioxide. How do Climate activists imagine that can be prevented?

I am an old Bushy, having lived close to the land, in Southern parts of Australia, worked with the climate and relied on the weather and looked after livestock for most of my eighty-two years. I have seen a lot and talked about much more with my father and uncles regarding seasonal variations. For me there seems some change but little more over the last twenty years than there has been since Federation. From 1891 to 1901, a severe ten-year drought Australia wide, was known as the Federation Drought. A Scientist at the time suggested it may have been caused by Climate Change. In 1944, much of Victoria was raised to the ground with horrific bushfires. Many people perished, many homes destroyed, and devastating numbers of livestock were lost.

In 1954, much of Australia was inundated with water. Sheep farmers had great difficulty getting sheep dry enough to shear and shearers were marooned for weeks in outback Australia. In 1981 we had drought conditions and horrific fires with loss of human life and many thousands of livestock. The following year we had floods. Much of my property was under water.

And there are other examples equally comparable to recent catastrophic events.

I watched a segment on TV recently where a scientist claimed the flies in Sydney were the worst ever, possibly brought on by Climate Change. If he had visited sheep properties during a fly wave any time over the last 100 years, he could have witnessed the horrific consequences of a serious fly wave. He would have seen thousands of sheep flyblown; many had a shocking death. That's when flies are really bad, not when there is a hateful annoying you at a Sunday BBQ.

Australia emits 1.5% of the world's emissions. Government's will send Australia broke in an effort to



reduce that to net zero while India and China plough on with almost 50% of the World's emissions.

Not to mention the crazy push for renewable energy. Not only do wind farms not produce during mild weather, but they are turned off when the wind reaches a specified speed for safety reasons. They wreck good farming country with their huge pylons and web of wires across Australia and swaths of healthy bush are cut down in order to erect them. I saw it close up when a similar power line was erected across our property and has left a scar on the landscape still visible forty years later. TV

It is interesting many global warming activists are very happy to fly all around the world in fuel guzzling, emission boosting planes. But they use every opportunity to scream that something must be done before we are all ruined! Other activists have protest marches to take a stand against forest logging nationwide and yet they are voiceless when beautiful old trees are removed for power lines. Just a bit hypocritical?

And as for scientists suggesting farmers need to find a way to prevent livestock, especially cattle from passing wind, you can't get more stupid ideas about climate change than that!!

I do agree is a tendency for climate change, but at a much slower rate than the activists think. I also believe the huge increase in the world population is a much bigger problem and may be the main contributing factor. (It's also possible world unrest could develop into a bigger problem than Climate Change.)

No matter what people might think of President, Donald Trump, he and his Energy Secretary, Chris Wright, have referred to Climate Change as "an expensive hoax" and the activists as "prophets of doom". He also stated there may be small changes to our climate but not all man-made.

I'm not a Trump fan, but they just might be on the money with their thoughts on Climate Change. Either way, the world is spending an enormous amount of money with a very poor return.

Garry Fenton

People-powered campaign celebrates 500+ donors

The Alex Dyson independent campaign for Wannon now has 500+ individual donors.

Narelle McNamara from Warrnambool became the campaign's 500th donor when she donated \$100 in late November.

She joins a growing list of people across South-West Victoria donating big and small via the campaign website at AlexDysonIndependent.com

Narelle was motivated to support the campaign after seeing others volunteer their time. "I think it's fantastic that Alex is getting so much community support, and I wanted to do my bit to help.

"I think integrity of the whole political system needs to improve," she said.

Alex said every donation counted. "We are so grateful to everyone who has chipped in so far, from \$10 upwards."

By donating, you are helping buy things like volunteer T-shirts, printing flyers and signs, and paying the rent for community hubs – shop fronts on the main streets of key population centres across the electorate.

Mark Wootton and Eve Kantor from Jigsaw Farms near Hamilton have pledged a \$50 boost for every new donor who donates \$10 or more.

Advertisement



Alex and 500th donor Narelle McNamara

Crowdfunding group Climate200 has seen the local momentum in Wannon and donated to the movement. The group supports independents who want action on climate change, integrity in politics, and equal opportunity for women. The campaign has also received money from the Regional Voices Fund – a crowd-funded initiative supporting community Independent candidates standing in rural, regional, and remote electorates.

Alex said the name and amount of every donation above \$1,000 is disclosed on the 'Donate' page of the website, as well as donations of smaller amounts from people who agree to have their names published.

"Integrity and transparency issues was one of the reasons why I chose to run as an Independent. Our list of donors is updated regularly and there for all to see – I'd call on the major parties to follow suit."

Mystery of orange kelpies revealed

Orange kelpies are popping up across South-West Victoria. Have you seen one?

Famously hard-working, loyal and reliable, kelpies are the perfect symbol for the Alex Dyson community independent movement.

Just like the kelpie, Alex was born in the electorate of Wannon – and it represents the way he wants to work for the people of South-West Victoria.

The signs have proven a popular conversation starter about the importance of this community movement. It's all about rounding up votes to get a better deal for Wannon!

Anyone wanting a kelpie sign for their front yard can request one via AlexDysonIndependent.com/kelpie



SHEEPDOG TRIALS

By Georgie Thompson

Dog ownership can be characterized by a singular event in modern history; Covid 19. Canine enthusiasm reached new heights in 2024.

The Lorne beach is proof. Even outside warmer seasons, you'll be hard pressed to find solitude uninterrupted by a wagging tail (thank god!) During Covid, it was not just the designer breeds acquired, abandoned and forgotten mutts were snapped up from shelters. The influx of dog ownership means all come under two categories: Intergenerational Dog Ownership and Post Covid Dog ownership. I could waffle on this point for several pages, rather I choose restraint. Witness the skills of Intergenerational Dog Ownership by attending the Deans Marsh Sheep Dog Trials. All fans of Muster Dogs on ABC should be sure to put this event in your calendar.

When

8am to 5pm on 17th of January to 19th January 2025.

Where

Deans Marsh Recreation Reserve, Pennyroyal Valley Rd, Deans Marsh.

What to expect

Friday: The Novice (Juveniles!) trials. An exciting time for beginner dogs who are learning the art and skill of 'rounding up' sheep. Additionally, you will watch as local and beginner farmers new to the sport have a mentor to guide them around the course. Friday is essential in gaining an appreciation for the elegance of the weekend's competitors.

Saturday: Today is the 'Improver' category. Here you will come to understand the potential for yesterday's competitors.

Sunday: The 'Open' and 'Finals.' These dogs are the result of education and experience. The sacred and dynamic relationship between handler and dog will be on full display. Last year the Lorne Independent reported this was the day of "measured diplomacy" between sheep, dog and man. One is reminded of Mark Twain's words, "The dog is a gentleman; I hope to go to his heaven not man's." Sunday's dog are typified by their presence and dignity.

What to bring

A gold coin donation on entrance, a seat and a craving for some wonderful local cakes. This writer's favourite is the carrot cake!

See you there!

MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UNDERWAY

Surf Coast Shire Council has started its annual mosquito management program, which includes monitoring and ground treatments, using approved environmentally friendly larvicides, around townships where required.

The monitoring part of the program involves setting traps around known mosquito breeding sites and sending off any captured mosquitos to be analysed in a laboratory.

Mosquitos are counted and tests are carried out to determine species type and if they may be carrying any diseases. This information is used to determine whether additional treatment and/or public education is required.

"Mosquitoes are a natural part of the eco system and it's not possible to eliminate all mosquitoes. Our management program aims to reduce mosquito numbers and the impact they may have on the community" said Damian Waight, General Manager Community Life.

"In addition to Council's program, residents can take steps around the home to assist control numbers".

To help reduce mosquitoes around your home:

- Remove stagnant water in places like gutters, bird baths, ponds, old tyres, pot plants, buckets and toys.
- Ensure openings to rainwater tanks are covered with mesh.
- Put sand around the bases of pot plants to absorb excess water.
- Keep roof gutters in good repair and remove leaves and debris so pools of water do not form.
- Make sure your swimming pool, spa and fish pond are well maintained.

"Mosquitoes can wreck an outdoor gathering pretty quickly, so it's also important to protect yourself and your family, especially early in the morning or at dusk when the mosquitoes are most active", Mr Waight said.

To protect yourself and your family:

- Wear light coloured, loose fitting clothing that covers your arms and legs.
- Use effective mosquito repellents on all exposed areas.
- Ensure windows and doors are fitted with flywire screens.

For more information about the mosquito monitoring program visit surfcoast.vic.gov.au/mosquitoes



GREAT OCEAN ROAD HEALTH NEWS

LORNE
medical centre

A Message From Our CEO

What a year 2024 has been for Great Ocean Road Health.

I encourage you to view our Annual General Meeting recording and our end of year video on our You tube site and you will be able to hear about all the amazing achievements.

Highlights for me have been our award as the Premiers Small Rural Health service of the year for 2024.

We have completed more infrastructure upgrades and maintenance than ever before including replacing all the carpet at our Lorne campus, adding new equipment to urgent care, the medical centres and aged care.

Our Allied Health team continues to grow in response to the demand from the community and we have increased our occupancy in Aged Care.

Thank you so much to the staff, the volunteers, the Board of directors and our wonderful community for their generosity and care. I wish you all a very happy and joyful festive season and very much look forward to 2025.

Sandy

Lorne

Albert Street, Lorne VIC 3232

Phone: (03) 5289 4300

Email: enquiries@gorh.vic.gov.au

www.greatoceanroadhealth.com.au

Summer Raffle

Our Summer Raffle is now live! Purchase your tickets online at the below address or use the QR code below.

www.raffletix.com.au/?ref=rb64n

1st Prize is a 2 night stay at Chocolate Gannets, \$150 Casalingo Voucher and a 15 minute helicopter experience.

2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes available totaling over \$6,000!! Tickets are only \$10 each so buy as many as you can!



In the event of an emergency please call 000

24/7 On-call After Hours Service

Urgent Care Phone: (03) 5289 4300

Lorne Medical Centre Phone: (03) 5289 4300

Great Ocean Road Health Needs you

Together We Make A Difference

Please donate to our
2024-25 Annual Appeal Campaign.

Donations will be spent towards infrastructure improvements, purchase essential new equipment and enhance our health services to provide greater care for our community.

 **SCAN TO
DONATE
ONLINE**

 **GREAT OCEAN ROAD
HEALTH**

Geelong City Deal Update

GREAT OCEAN ROAD - DECEMBER 2024

As 2024 draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all community members, visitors, key stakeholders, and project teams whose collaboration and commitment have been instrumental in shaping these three key initiatives along the Great Ocean Road.

Your commitment, passion, and ideas have helped shape projects that reflect the values and aspirations of all who treasure these special parts of Victoria.

This year has seen significant progress, and with the groundwork laid and early milestones achieved, we're well-positioned to take these projects into their next exciting phases in 2025.



APOLLO BAY HARBOUR PRECINCT MOVES AHEAD

Momentum is building for the Apollo Bay Harbour Redevelopment, with tangible progress driven by the collaborative efforts of the Community Reference Group (CRG), harbour stakeholders, Antarctica Architects, and the Project Team.

Onsite discussions and a tour of the fishing co-op with representatives from the Apollo Bay Fishermen's Cooperative have provided valuable insights into local challenges and priorities, enriching our understanding of their unique needs.

Focused meetings have enabled CRG members to assess existing facilities, explore site needs and values, and map out opportunities and constraints within the project area. This evidence-gathering process will culminate in an Opportunities and Constraints Report to guide the project's next steps.

Site-specific considerations, including the condition of the seawall, the steep dunes, and the role of vegetation in stabilising the active dune system at Mother's Beach, will inform the development of a Coastal Adaptation Plan. Recent erosion in the area has highlighted its vulnerability to coastal hazards, reinforcing the need for a strategic and informed approach.

With the finishing touches to the Coastal Adaption Plan now underway, we are gearing up to share this important work with the broader community, with engagement opportunities planned for early 2025.

PROGRESS ON KENNETT RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Plans for Infrastructure improvements in Kennett River are moving forward, with a draft Precinct Plan being finalised for community consultation. Developed by Head Consultant SMEC and the Project Team with input from the project's Community Reference Group, the plan aims to balance the area's natural beauty, environmental sensitivities with practical enhancements for both visitors and residents.



Since May, five focused meetings and workshops have explored key issues, including upgrades to public infrastructure, new toilet block, traffic management, pedestrian safety, increasing green space, protection of the estuary and native vegetation, parking, and respect for wildlife.

These discussions contribute to the process to create a vision for the future of this much-loved coastal spot. The draft Precinct Plan, alongside the Opportunities and Constraints Report, marks a significant step forward and will guide the next phase of the project.

Retaining and enhancing open space areas, preserving views, and maintaining access to the river is central to protecting Kennett River's charm and appeal. Community engagement will begin early next year, giving everyone the chance to review the draft plan and have a say.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROGRESSES FOR POINT GREY

Planning is in full swing at Point Grey, with coastal adaptation planning efforts well underway. Through this process we have mapped the important social, environmental, cultural and economic values at the site and looked at how they will be impacted by erosion and inundation over time. This work is a critical step to support the siting of buildings, laying the groundwork for the project's next phase.

The Community Reference Group (CRG) has played a central role in shaping the project, offering valuable insights and feedback. Through a series of collaborative workshops, members have worked closely with the project team to deepen their understanding of the site, the complex legislative requirements shaping the design response, and review and refine a draft concept plan that envisions how the precinct could evolve to meet future needs.



In response to this input, the project team is now reviewing the plans to make sure they reflect a best-practice approach, that properly considers community values.

The updated plan will be presented as part of a draft Urban Design Framework and will return to the CRG for review in early 2025 before being released for broader public consultation.

These projects are being delivered as part of the \$676.15 million Geelong City Deal, which is a collaborative partnership to transform Geelong and the Great Ocean Road involving the Australian Government, Victorian Government, local councils, the Authority and key partners.

Please scan the QR code to sign up for more project updates.



SPORTSBRIEFS

By John Ford

Cricket Team On Top!

Lorne's cricket team in the Colac and District Cricket Association competition is now on top of the ladder after achieving exciting wins in the last two weeks. This is despite having some regular players unavailable for selection.

On December 7th Lorne were at home to Carlisle River and batted first. Experienced batsman Ryan Heathcote's unavailability was compounded when Matt Cash had to retire hurt with strained thigh when on just 4 runs. Ed Erftemeyer and Will Seymour batted very well making 32 and 53 respectively, but Lorne's middle order crumbled and at one stage the total looked in danger of being just over one hundred! An amazing gutsy effort saw injured Matt Cash return to the crease to join Will Seymour to extend Lorne's total to 8 for 149 after the allotted 40 overs. Will Seymour finished with 53 not out and Matt Cash 18 not out.

Lorne then had to restrict Carlisle River to the modest 149 total, and the visitors were batting comfortably in their run chase. However an amazing spell of accurate bowling from Lorne's 12 year old Xavier Hollmer and Will Seymour, saw a dramatic turn in the match! Carlisle River stumbled right at the end and managed a shaky 7 for 147 at the close of play. Xavier Hollmer taking 3 wickets was crucial and Will Seymour's two wickets and 53 not out were highlights in the 2 run win. In a match this close every run, wicket and piece of tidy fielding contributes to the result, and Lorne's team which was made up of players ranging in age from 12 to mid-sixties was outstanding!

On 14th December Lorne played away against Stoneyford. Lorne batted first and compiled 7 for 195 with Ed Erftemeyer 66 and Jack Belsar-O;Connor 75 not out. Jack followed up his fine batting performance by taking 3 wickets with Lachlan Brown taking two wickets to restrict Stoneyford to 118 all out. This was a really solid win especially considering that the Lorne team was still not at full strength.

Cricket Under Lights!

Lorne's Cricket Club will be holding two twilight matches at Stribling Reserve which start at 4.30 pm and finish under lights. The first of these matches will be against Forrest on Friday 10th January. Forrest is currently in second place on the ladder and so this will be a 'must see' top of the table clash.

On Saturday 18th January Lorne will host Apollo Bay in the 'PINK STUMPS DAY' to help raise money for the McGrath Foundation. You can support this worthy cause by dressing in your pink clothes and coming along

at 4.30 pm for an afternoon of cricket, fun, raffles and entertainment. Lorne and Apollo Bay play for the 'coastal cup' which adds an extra little bit of friendly rivalry for the match.

Lorne Bowls Club

By Don



Congratulations to Pearl McIver who won the Women's Singles Club Championship defeating Colleen Weetman in a close game 25 to 21 shots in over 3 hr long game.

Also congratulations to Brad Weetman who won against Peter Jacobs in the Men's Singles Club Championship 25 to 22, well done Brad in classic game of draw bowls played in friendly spirit in front of an adoring crowd.



Again congratulations on Club Open Triples championship of Allan Walls, Shane Thornecroft and John Bliss won over Paul Staley, Donna Issell and Fran O'Mara. An entertaining game was great to see Fran first year bowler in a final.

As we reported in last months issue, Rnd 7 Midweek Lorne 1 travelled to far reaches of the division to Derrinallum and came away with a win, Lorne 1 86 shots 14 points defeated Derrinallum 56 shots 2 points. Lorne 1 sit 5th on the ladder.

Midweek Rnd 8 Lorne 1 had a bye getting 15 shots and 9 points, currently sit 5th on ladder.

Rnd 8 Weekend Pennant was a wash out. Each club gets 9 points.

Continued Page 45

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Rnd 9 Lorne 1 played host to Apollo Bay and won all rinks to get maximum 18 points with Lorne 1, 113 points, to Apollo Bay 74 points. Lorne 1 sit top of the ladder.

Lorne 2 also played host to Cobden 3, with Lorne 2 the winner with 63 shots 14 points to Cobden 3 52 shots 2 points. Lorne 2 now sit top of the ladder.

Midweek Rnd 9 Lorne 1 played host to Colac 2 and regrettably went down 29 shots, 2 point to 84 shots 14 points.

Rnd 10 Lorne 1 travelled to Camperdown Golf Bowling Club situation between 2 lakes on the outskirts of Camperdown which were two extinct volcano's, Lorne 1 ended up winners in close game 102 shots 17 points to Camperdown Golf 86 shots 1 point, Lorne 1 sit top of the ladder.

Lorne 2 travelled to Colac Bowls Club by the lake to play Colac 5, Lorne 2 won 56 shots 14 points to Colac 5 52 shots 2 points. Lorne 2 sit top of the ladder.

Rnd 10 Midweek Lorne 1 travel to Birregurra for the match against Birregurra 1 side and regrettably lost 77 shots 12 points to Lorne 1 61 shots 4 points. Lorne 1 sit 7th on ladder.

We now enter our Christmas break. Midweek start back on Tuesday 14th January, and weekend pennant starts back 18th January.

We hope everyone has had a safe Christmas and New Year.

Golf and Tennis

Lorne Country Club is the home of golf and tennis and the course and courts are currently in very good condition. The Club will be holding tennis singles and doubles competitions over January and a round-robin mixed doubles tournament to coincide with Australia Day.

The Rick Grant Memorial Golf Day was recently held and the male winner was Ross Dimsey ahead of Andrew Briggs. The women's section was won by Sue Neill with runner-up being Chris Angus. Danielle De Bon's article below has all the Women's Golf news including their annual break up which must have been hilarious.

Women's Golf**Club news**

Another year of golf is coming to a close, and again there are many happy memories from our women's group. We held our auspicious, fun, crazy and much anticipated Christmas breakup on December 10th. Every year, we "dress up" in something beginning with a letter - this year it was "R" - selected by last years winner Noela Rollinson..... and again the costumes and imagination of the group did not disappoint!

We had Russians, Royalty, Rapunzle, Ronald McDonald, a Rubix cube and a Refrigerator, the obligatory Reindeer (in fact 2!) a Rock Queen, a Red Head, Reggae and a Rubbish bin to name a few. Our Captain Rose - came as "Ray Gun" and even broke some moves!!

Continued page 47





A free refresher course for drivers

Join us for an informative, informal and friendly 4-week refresher course, to upgrade your knowledge and build on your experience to keep you driving safely.

Please note there is no PRACTICAL component to this course.

Topics covered include:

Driving today

- How driving has changed over the years
- Our strengths as older drivers
- Overcoming the risks

Safety tips for wiser driving

- Keeping your car in good condition
- Night-time driving
- Planning ahead
- Medicines and driving

Safety rules

- Changes to the Victorian road rules
- What to do in a crash
- Fun quizzes to check your knowledge of the road rules

Car safety features

- How safe is your car?
- New mandatory requirements
- Tips for buying a safer car
- Used Car Safety Ratings.

Being roadworthy

- Assessing your own driving skills
- How ageing can affect your driving
- Staying safe – helpful hints

Planning for the future

- Retaining our licences
- Occupational therapy driver assessments
- Using Public Transport to supplement driving

Resources included:

- Vic Roads: Road to Solo Driving Handbook
- Victorian Older Drivers Handbook
- Online Videos from RACV
- Fun quizzes to update your knowledge of the road rules
- ANCAP Rating: How safe is your car

Lorne Men's Shed

Tuesday 4,11,18 &25 February 2025
12pm-2pm

Torquay Council Offices

Wednesday 5,12,19 & 26 February 2025
10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm

Anglesea Community House

Tuesday 4,11,18 & 25 March 2025
10am-12pm

For more information or to enrol, please contact Council's Age Friendly Officer on 5261600 or rsalvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au or visit <https://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Positive-ageing/Positive-Ageing-courses>

TRADITIONAL OWNER TRUTH-TELLING STORY TO CONTINUE IN 2025

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners will welcome Surf Coast Shire community and visitors to Country for a third deep listening event accompanying Pilk Purriyn – sunrise – in Torquay on 26 January 2025.

Their historic truth-telling story will continue with first-time testimonies from members of one of seven Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Family Lines, seeking to deepen understanding of the deep sadness, loss and hurt brought by colonisation.

This year will include stories from Wadawurrung Ngarrweet (Senior Male Elder) Uncle Mel and his family.

The event will start at 5.30am before the new day dawns on Warri Dja – Sea Country – at Cosy Corner in Torquay.

People of all ages, genders, races, religions and backgrounds are welcome to attend in quiet, compassionate reflection.

The event will include traditional Welcome to Country, Smoking and Dance ceremonies, but the emphasis is on deep listening.

About 2500 people attended Pilk Purriyn in 2024, and 2000 people in 2023.

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation is again presenting Pilk Purriyn with the support of Surf Coast Shire Council and Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks.

Organisers are encouraging people to register for the free 2025 event via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PilkPurriyn to help gauge number and enable sharing of updates.

Wadawurrung Ngarrweet (Senior Male Elder) Uncle Melville Robinson: “We, the people of Wadawurrung Country, invite the community to join us at Pilk Purriyn, to deeply listen to our Truth-Telling and understand the lasting impacts colonisation has had on Wadawurrung and all First Nations people.”

Surf Coast Shire Council Mayor Mike Bodsworth: “Council Acknowledges that 26 January is a day steeped in sorrow for many First Nations people, and proudly supports Wadawurrung Traditional Owners’ staging of their third Pilk Purriyn truth-telling event.

“Through the sharing of hearts, truths and ceremony they give us a profound opportunity to grow our understanding of their culture and the loss and hurt inflicted since colonisation. We encourage community members and visitors to attend and take it all in.

Organisers are committed to making Pilk Purriyn as accessible as possible, while respecting the cultural significance and natural beauty of the outdoor site.

Anyone who may find the terrain or lighting difficult is advised to arrive early with a support person if required.

People with additional access or support needs are encouraged to contact organisers directly at pilkrriyn@surfcoast.vic.gov.au.

People can find more information, including event FAQs via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/PilkPurriyn.

From page 45

The winning costume for the day was Chris Angus as “The Ring Leader”, which she had been - all year! We played nine holes - in our costumes - using only our irons and one hybrid allowed. Sally Young (aka Mrs Rollinson!!) topped off her super successful year, again winning the comp on the day!

Sue Neill awarded a “medal” to those that had achieved the golf goal they had set themselves at the beginning of the year, and we had “Bad Santa” and Kris Kringle which is always a great laugh as we steal and negotiate our gifts!! A super fun day was had by all... with our thoughts going to those that were unable to attend on the day.

January will see us still on the golf course - playing social golf, on Tee Box duty, and participating in the Summer Cup. Hope to see you there!

We are a friendly group of women, at all different levels

of golf skill and experience, and we love to welcome new members/golfers to our group, and also welcome back those that may be “lapsed” golfers!

Over the next few weeks, our official Tuesday golf is suspended until Feb next year, but we will be playing over the summer on a social basis... so... If you are interested in joining our group, whether new to golf or with some Golfing experience, or if you have any questions, please call Sue Neill on 0418 674 062, or Rose Wyles on 0407 860 980.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.... and Happy Golfing.

Danni De Bon.

Remember to tell us who you would like to see in Sportsbriefs! Articles to John Ford at 35 George St, or email to byswerdi2@bigpond.com

lorne books

Picks of the Month

FICTION: **The Bogan Book Club** by John Larkin



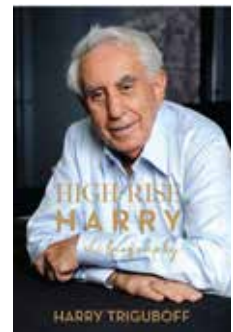
James Larwood's life is perfect – until a single mistake sees him lose everything. When James is released from prison, he is penniless and potentially homeless. Enter James' tradie brother, Larry, who employs him as a cleaner and starts a factory Book Club to try and get his brother back on his feet. James expects to be lumped with a bunch of uneducated bogans and westies, but comes to realise that this group of misfits are some of the warmest, funniest and most intelligent humans he has ever met.

Can James claw back the life he once had? The Bogan Book Club – You won't know whether to laugh or cry, so you'll probably do both!

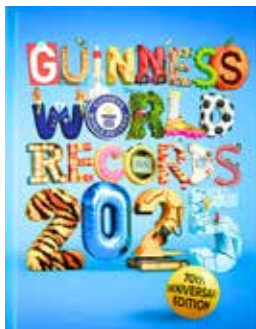
NON-FICTION: **High-Rise Harry** by Harry Triguboff

Harry Triguboff founded Meriton over 60 years ago and is one of the greatest entrepreneurs Australia has ever seen. From humble beginnings growing up in Tianjin, the port gateway to Beijing, China he moved to Australia and became the biggest name in real estate and residential development in the country having built, sold and leased more apartments and hotel suites than anyone else.

Harry shares his story of founding Meriton in 1963 and developing a massive business from the ground up to become one of Australia's richest people.



CHILDREN'S NON-FICTION: **Guinness World Records 2025 - 70th Anniversary Edition**



GWR marks their 70th birthday with feast of retro features in the opening chapter that look back over the last seven decades. They also celebrate this landmark year by bestowing platinum grade ICON status on a select group of record breakers – including Taylor Swift and LeBron James – who epitomize what it means to be a Guinness World Records title holder.

Of course, as usual they highlight the very best of record breaking from the past 12 months! This new edition – fully revised and updated with 1,000-plus images – salutes the milestone while continuing the tradition of serving up thousands of awesome facts and feats for the whole family to enjoy.

www.lornebooks.com

108a Mountjoy Parade, Lorne

Free local delivery

Ph: 5289 2489