

LORNE

Independent

\$2

No 263 October 2023

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IS THAT SUMMER?

Photo by Illustration by Anna McIlldowie

Lorne Housing Crisis Meeting P5

SES Advice for summer P 7



Lorne Independent Inc.

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The Lorne Independent acknowledges we live on the tradition lands of the Gadubanud people.

The Lorne Independent is produced on a non-profit voluntary basis and, as a newsletter, seeks to give in its pages, open access to the community. It is important to note, however, that opinions expressed by authors of articles are their own. Advertising and publicity for community events is free, and other contributions are welcomed. Supplied copy and pictures must bear the name and address of the author and/or organisation. The editorial committee of the Lorne Independent reserves the right to cut, alter or otherwise work the articles to make them suitable for publication. The committee also reserves the right to reject articles and/or photos if it deems the material to be unsuitable for this publication.

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IN THIS ISSUE

P3 Lorne's Platypuses

P5 Housing Meeting

P7 SESAdvice

P9 CFA Ball

P10 Travellers Tales Volunteering in NT

P12 P13 Sportsbriefs

P14 P15 Arts in Lorne

P16 Herbicides

P17 Letters to the Editor

p 19 Editorial

P 20 Lorne P-12

P23 Commodore

P25 Sea grass

P27 Men of the Men's Shed

P29 puzzles

P31 Op shop buzz

**UPCOMING
MARKETS ON
THE SURFCOAST****Torquay Farmers Market**

Every Saturday 8.30am-1pm

Anglesea Riverbank Market

5th Nov 9am-4pm

Lorne Market

4th Nov 9am-4pm

Winchelsea Community Market

First Sunday of every Month 9am -1pm

Aireys Inlet Market

8 Oct, 4 Nov, 26 Nov, 10 Dec, 31 Dec. 9am- 1pm

Anglesea Twilight Farmers Market

3 Nov, 17 Nov, 1 Dec, 15 Dec 4.30pm-8pm

Torquay Cowrie Market

15 Oct, 19 Nov, 17 Dec 10am -3pm

Apollo Bay Community Market

Every Saturday 8.30am-1.30pm

Apollo Bay Farmers Market

Third Sunday of every Month 9am-1pm

UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF LORNE'S PLATYPUS

An enthusiastic group of citizen scientists is helping to shed important light on the platypus population living in Lorne's St George River.

The volunteers started looking for the iconic monotreme in early 2021 as part of the Australian Platypus Monitoring Network (APMN) that uses standardised visual surveys to keep track of numbers.

This method involves individual volunteers scanning for 5-minute periods at their selected site and recording the number of animals observed, including nil sightings. This allows a standardised "success ratio" of average number of platypus seen per scan to be calculated over time.

Mary Lush, coordinator of the Lorne APMN group, notes that over 700 scans have now been completed by volunteers with over 300 platypus sightings recorded.

"This means" said Mary, "that someone has on average around a 45% chance of spotting a platypus if they take the time to look and are still and quiet. But averages conceal a lot of variation.

I, for one, don't see them that often and another monitor, an exceptionally patient person, didn't see a platypus until their 21st visit to the monitoring site."

Geoff Williams, Director of the Australian Platypus Conservancy (APC), noted that the results to date indicate that the St George River probably supports close to a high-level population with breeding likely to be occurring in areas close to Lorne.

The Otways region has long been considered a platypus stronghold, though there are signs that numbers may be declining in some waterways. Accordingly, monitoring numbers is a key first step in planning the long-term conservation of this species.

Geoff and Dr Melody Serena, the APC's Senior Conservation Biologist, will be visiting Lorne on Saturday 7 October to meet with the volunteers to discuss the findings from the monitoring program in more detail. The APC will present a public information session in Lorne at 5pm at the Community House about the amazing platypus and its conservation needs.

The session will also provide advice about spotting these animals in the wild and explain how people can be involved in the monitoring work along the St George River and, potentially, other rivers and creeks in the region.

Note the date: 5 PM, Saturday 7th October 2023, Lorne Community House ('Figtree', 16 Mountjoy Parade).

Those who can't attend the session but would like more information about becoming involved in APMN, can visit platypusnetwork.org.au.



Image: Barry Baker



Image: John Bundock

For more information about this article contact:

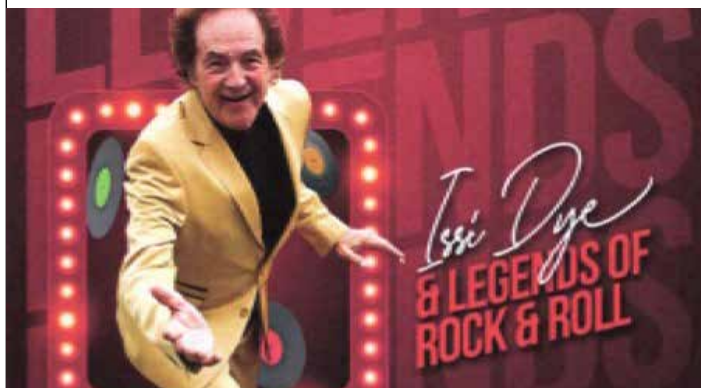
Australian Platypus Conservancy
Geoff Williams Tel: 03 5416 1478/0419 595939 Email:
platypus.apc@westnet.com.au

Lorne platypus monitoring group
Mary Lush: Email: wlush@bigpond.net.au



Image: Michael Prideaux

Lions Club of Anglesea
Presents
Morning Melodies



Issy Dye and The Legends of Rock & Roll

Anglesea Hotel

Wednesday 1st November

10.30am Doors Open

11am Show

\$30pp Price includes Lunch.

Tickets from

Anglesea Newsagent

\$\$ Cash preferred \$\$

Only 100 seats left, be quick!!



LORNE COUNTRY CLUB

Spring into spring Member and Guest night
Saturday 14th October

- Roast spring lamb
- Cheese, fruit and chocolate platters
- Live music - Beachniks
- Members \$55 and Guests \$60
- Members draw \$350.00
- Raffles

AN EVENING OF FUN and COMRADERIE
with drinks at 6pm

Dinner reservations and payments
<http://tinyurl.com/buy-tickets-now-click>



Community Arts Calendar Competition Exhibition Opening Winning Artists Announced!

All Welcome - 6pm, Friday 13 October.

Exhibition runs from 6pm 13 October - 4pm Saturday 28 October.

Anglesea Art Space

Shop 2/103 Great Ocean Rd, Anglesea.

Gallery is open from Tuesday - Sunday.



Artwork: *Gasboy is the nervous type*, Peter Day

THE COMMUNITY CAN MAKE KEY WORKER HOUSING AFFORDABLE

By Penny Hawe, Friends of Lorne

Who can forget that moment in *Jaws* when the police chief staggers backwards saying, “we’re going to need a bigger boat”?

It felt a bit like that during last month’s second online Lorne community meeting to discuss affordable housing solutions. At the first meeting in June, we heard from the Lorne Business and Traders Association about seasonal worker accommodation. We heard about an affordable housing project in Aireys Inlet. Then Louise Crabtree-Hayes, from Western Sydney University explained about Community Lands Trusts (CLTs). They can make houses affordable for rent or purchase. CLTs can be established as charities or not. Non charity CLTs can be set up so that eligible families can afford to buy in and make a capital gain when they leave. The recent CfL report on Accommodating Lorne’s Future, recommended that we have a CLT here. The trouble was Louise’s advice was that no one had tried it in Australia yet. That is, until a real estate agent and property developer in Qld, Andrew Paul started his work 5 years ago. He was our guest speaker.

He faced hurdles. Back in 2018 his local council did not want to donate land. Neither did the state, because Australian evidence of proof-of-concept was lacking. Local landlords who were renting out properties illegally (without meeting council standards) trolled the idea because they did not want competition. On top of that he was a newcomer, and as we learned, community support is make-or-break when it comes to fund-raising for a CLT.

Andrew ended up having his first home built using private financing from committed people. This is not what he would recommend. But it would be wrong to think it was “5 years’ work for just one house”. Because now Andrew has the financial, legal, and social infrastructure in place for scale-up and to diversify his own funding. Andrew has set up a charity to support affordable housing for a low-income group. He’s also established a different type of entity (also a not-for-profit) which will allow him to expand his focus to higher income groups for whom nonetheless, local homes may be unaffordable.

So, what have we learned?

It turns out that we are not talking about trusts, the way the word is used in Australia. And housing entities can be structured in different ways. But let’s not get diverted, right now, by what they are called.

Fifty percent of key and essential workers on the surf coast are in the state government defined income bracket that makes them eligible for affordable housing support. That means that local housing projects can be designed that would be eligible for financing via state and federal grants. That is what they are doing at Aireys Inlet, using council donated land. In Lorne, Peter Spring advised us that some scouting around for possible land parcels has started, with the idea being that the sale of one land parcel could, for example, raise the funds to pay for the building costs on a second local/state government owned land parcel. If Lorne targeted that income bracket, we could apply for public funding.

But fifty percent of key and essential workers on the surf coast have higher incomes. They would not be eligible to live in developments funded by social and affording housing grants. And besides, in Lorne, the median house price is \$2m. Where does leave us? Andrew’s answer to this question was first to look for public land that

can be donated. Yes, we are doing that. But he also spoke to means of “community support” that maybe none of us had been thinking about up until now.

You see, “community support” is not just a bunch of nice people saying how important housing is. We can donate to the CLT and get a tax deduction (if it has a certain tax status and serving a low-income group). If it is set up to target the higher income people who are nonetheless locked out of the housing market, people in Lorne could invest in it and expect a return. Something like this would more likely be a whole-of-surf-coast thing so as to have enough turnover to generate regular income. In other words, we realised that the good people of Lorne could be of practical help. It was eye opening.

But is it pie-in-the-sky? Andrew had difficulty, in a small place as a newcomer, to get people to put their hands in their pockets. But look around Lorne, we are fortunate to have community-spirited people everywhere. They could make it happen, with stewardship and leadership. As it turns out, overseas where CLTs are more common, community investment is the key to success.

In high-priced inner-city Sydney, a not-for-profit enterprise called Hope Housing co-invests with key and essential workers in their property, significantly reducing the cost of funding for them. Together they share the investment and the profits. It creates affordability for workers and profitability for all parties. With Hope Housing there are no designated “affordable” houses. It is just a financing system. Houses or flats on the open market are chosen by the (eligible) worker to suit their needs.

These things are doable. Lucky for us in Lorne too we not only have architects, developers, and property owners to work on solutions (the usual way to solve housing problems). We have financiers, bankers, and lawyers. And networkers, communicators, and creators (looking at you Anna Mac!). We already give up our time for the hospital, the sporting teams, arts events, Lorne Care, the school, the Op Shop, the Historical Society, the Visitors Centre etc. Why would affordable housing for our workers be any less important?

Finally, we learned that a CLT does not have to rely on building new homes. They could buy existing ones. This makes things faster, and of course it saves trees and prevents loss of Lorne’s precious landscape.

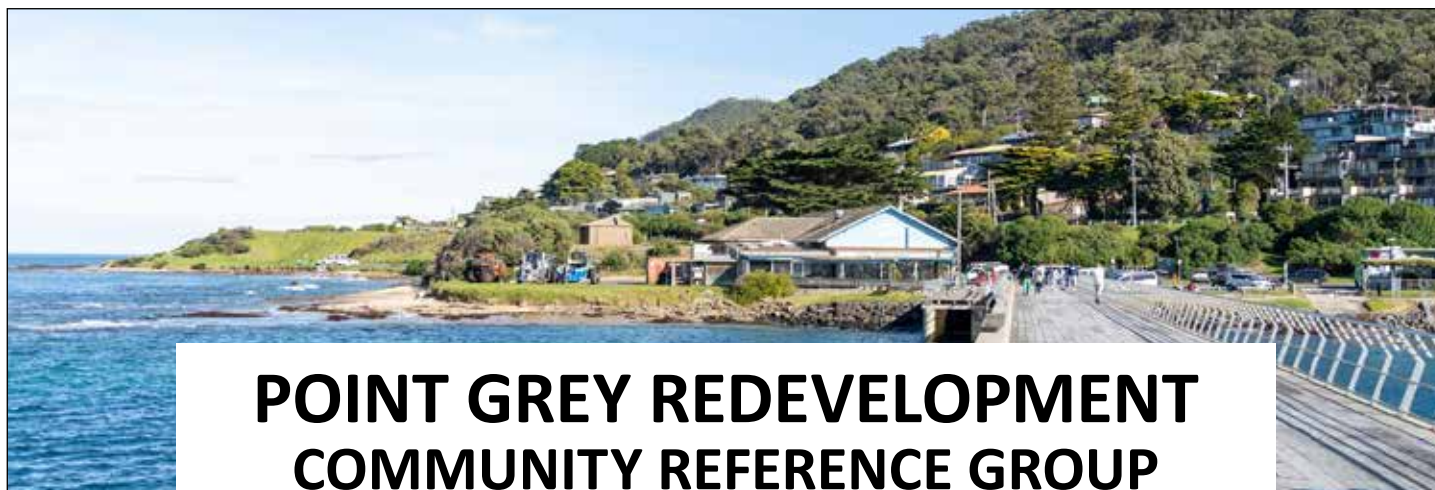
Cause for optimism

Councillors and council staff are already engaged. So, we don’t get the sense that we will be left out in the cold like Andrew Paul was. Andrew himself is setting up a website to share nitty gritty details that will help other communities choose the best path for themselves.

We have put the video of both online meetings on the affordable housing page of the Friends of Lorne website, www.friendsoflorne.org.au along with an FAQ. The CfL encourages wide community conversation because different options and trade-offs require deliberation, and we need different solutions for different needs. Use the comments section to tell us your ideas. Help make beautiful Lorne liveable for all of us.

Penny Hawe, Friends of Lorne

Friends of Lorne is an incorporated association of members (volunteers) working on planning and environment issues in Lorne since 1966. We are an organisational member of the Committee for Lorne.



POINT GREY REDEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP **Applications open to join**

The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority is inviting expressions of interest from community members to join a reshaped community reference group as part of the Point Grey Redevelopment project in Lorne.

The new community reference group will work with us to review and refine the existing Masterplan for Point Grey and building concept designs with consideration of the Marine and Coastal Act 2018 and the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) determination.

The group will kick off in December 2023, with a series of workshops planned in early 2024. The outcomes of these workshops will inform wider community engagement from mid-2024.

If you have skills in either architecture, landscape design, public open space, strategic thinking and visioning, cultural heritage, and or coastal processes combined with a passion for the coast and local knowledge – your application will be highly valued.

As a community reference group member, you will join with two other community members who have been a part of the previous Community Co-Design Group dedicated to the Fishermans Co-op Building and two members from the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club.

For more information about the community reference group and to express your interest, please visit our website www.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/Point-Grey-CRG via the QR code.

Closing date Friday 20 October 2023.



GREAT OCEAN ROAD
COAST & PARKS AUTHORITY



1300 736 533
www.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au

IN LORNE, NATURE IS A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH IN SPRING

By Chris Jones

Even though the Bureau of Meteorology predicts a drier Spring, we know that Lorne is a unique destination with significant rainfall; even in the driest month, there is a lot of rain.

Nature being nature, sometimes conditions can change at short notice. September, October and November can see severe weather blow in with strong winds and DAMAGING WIND GUSTS, often lasting a few days. This results in trees down across cars, houses, roads, power lines and limiting access to property.

Water damage to property and leaking roofs are common. We less frequently experience Riverine and Flash Flooding. Riverine Flooding is where relatively high water levels overtop a stream or river's natural or a high-water bank from time to time. Flash flooding occurs when soil absorption, runoff or drainage cannot adequately disperse intense rainfall and is usually caused by slow-moving thunderstorms. Flash floods generally develop in six hours or less from rainfall to the onset of flooding.

Be ready if a storm or flood hits.; use the SES Storm Safety Checklist.

- Check and clear gutters, downpipes and drains
- Trim overhanging tree branches
- Maintain your yard and secure loose objects
- Ensure your insurance is up to date
- Prepare an Emergency Plan or kit

Create an Emergency Kit It's Easy:

- Phone & Chargers
- Cash & Personal Documents
- Torch
- Battery Powered Radio
- Medication, Prescriptions & First Aid Kit
- Pet Essentials



- Water & Food
- Comfortable Shoes
- Waterproof Jacket
- Carry bag

Use this quick self-assessment guide to know when to call VICSES:

- Is anyone's life in danger? Call 000
- Are you seeking emergency help in a flood or storm because:
- A tree has fallen (tree down) and caused structural damage to your home or vehicle.
- There is damage to your roof, or it is leaking significantly.
- A tree or large branch has fallen and is preventing you from entering or leaving your home.
- Your property is flooded or about to flood.
- If you need assistance, the number to call is 132 500.

Follow us on our Facebook page - SES Lorne Unit.

SUPERCARGE THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

LIVE WIRE PARK

Visit Lorne's outdoor adventure park
Pricing and bookings: livewirepark.com.au

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Detox your Home is coming to Torquay

Saturday 28 October 2023 | 9.00am to 1.00pm

Torquay Works Depot, 130 Messmate Road, Torquay

Household chemicals such as bleach, pesticides, weed killers, cleaning products, cosmetics, cooking oil and fuels should never be put in your rubbish bins or poured down the drain.

Safely dispose of unwanted household chemicals at Sustainability Victoria's free Detox your Home event, without harming your health or the environment.

For a full list of chemicals accepted, visit **sustainability.vic.gov.au/accepteditems**

Detox your Home events are drive-through and contactless.



To register to attend, scan the QR code, visit
sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome
or call 1300 363 744



CFA CELEBRATIONS AND AWARDS BALL

By Pete Spring

During September, the Lorne CFA Brigade hosted a function at Stribling Reserve Community Pavilion to present Five-Year Service Certificates and Service Medals to members of the Lorne Brigade.

The event was a sit-down-dinner during which the formal presentation of awards took place followed by music and dancing and most importantly a chance for Lorne Community to just “get together”. About 110 people were in attendance.

Senior Officers from CFA attended and made the presentations. What came through on the evening was the camaraderie of all those members of the CFA and the breadth and depth of commitment by so many people in the Lorne Community.

The Lorne Brigade was formed in 1936 and has been running for 87 years. The brigade currently has 43 members (29 Operational Firefighters) and they attend approximately 78 incidents annually. The Township of Lorne was first established in 1850. It was noted in the Geelong Advertiser of 14 February 1851 of the presence of bad fires around the Lorne/Cape Otway area (Black Thursday). This also began the practice of naming a fire for the day on which it began.

The newest member of the Lorne Brigade, Joe Forbes, spoke of the reasons he decided to join the Lorne Brigade after moving from Melbourne to Lorne and his impressions of the organisation. It's interested to gain a perspective from a new arrival in our community. Joe said, “I was thinking about joining the CFA or SES when I started to meet people around town who were:

(a) Always friendly, and

(b) Weirdly interested in whether or not I had a heavy truck licence. I did - so these people (Frazer and Darren) encouraged me to look at the CFA.”

Joe went on to say “What I expected when I joined the CFA was: I would get to meet new people from a range of backgrounds,

The CFA would be a group of Volunteers giving freely of their time to support the local community they love, and as regional volunteers, they would be keen and enthusiastic, but perhaps slowed down by the administrative burden and constrained funding typical of a large government organisation.

What I didn't expect, but what is clear:

The CFA provide high Quality training that is modern, well run, specific and applicable. The formal training has been great and is well reinforced by the activities at Brigade level.

There is a consistent level of Professionalism from all members - they are people who clearly know what they are doing, and they do it very well. I have also been impressed by the strong Collective sense of purpose and cohesion.

The CFA is an organisation that has a very clear mission and cares about how it performs that mission. The Lorne Brigade is well led, organised, diverse and inclusive. I'm lucky to be part of it and as I keep telling my family and friends - it's the best job I've ever had (although the pay does suck!)”



Assistant Fire Chief Officer Brendan Lawson and Commander Wayne Aylmer attended the event to present awards. Recipients of Five-Year Certificates were:

Kevin Van Deuren

Jasper Inkster

Suzanne Diviny

Karen Pitt

Pearse McCaffrey

Chris McCaffrey

Recipients of Service Medals were:

Lee Hollmer 10 years

Dee Stewart 10 years

Tony Hill 10 years

Phil Walsh 15 years

Neil Hillard 15 years

Marsha Babington 15 years

Rod Stewart 15 years

Frazer Buckle 20 years

Darren Phielier 25 years

Ed Babington 25 years

Len Tank 40 years

Scott Chirnside 50 years

Assistant Fire Chief Officer Brendan Lawson addressed the members attending, “I want to again acknowledge everyone that has received an award tonight and extend my sincere thanks to you for your unwavering service to the community and CFA. It's important that we take advantage of moments like tonight to recognise the incredible service and dedication you bring to CFA and the broader community. “The Brigade responds to an average of 80 calls per year. These calls seeing our people responding to a diverse range of calls from, structure fires to forest, grass and scrub fires, car accidents, gas leaks, motor vehicle accidents and everything in-between.

He concluded, “To all of our members, I want to express my gratitude for the sacrifices you and your families make. I am incredibly grateful for the support and recognise the important role your families/friends/partners provide in supporting you to do what you do each and every day to support the community.” When you consider the depth of commitment and the training and service it takes to be a member of the CFA and then consider making that commitment over so many years, we are lucky and privileged to have such a Brigade in our community. The evening was a great celebration of such dedicated members of our community and a chance to say thanks. Let's hope it becomes an annual event.

TRAVELLERS TALES *By Wendy Hutchison*

How many of us have had direct contact with our First Nations People, yet try to understand their culture?

I remember in early teaching days meeting some women from Arnhem Land, who ran a workshop making string bags from pandanus leaves and feeling decidedly uneducated with regard to their way of life. Since retiring from teaching in 2013, I have volunteered in remote aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory for a month a year to support the learning of English in schools. This is a privilege to have a least some firsthand experience of aboriginal culture but obviously this short time allows only a glimpse of these communities and the knowledge that still I know so little. Most trips I have worked with my sister-in-law as we know each other well enough to be able to share a room for 4 weeks without driving each other crazy.

We volunteer with a program called READ, "read every available day", run by two men who themselves are volunteers. They consulted with Elders to ask what they could do to support aboriginal education and the answer was to support the learning of English. As you may know there are many different First Nation languages spoken by the various mobs. The language map, in the link below shows over 250 indigenous language's spoken in Australia. (<https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/history-culture/2013/08/mapping-indigenous-language-across-australia/>)

Just like a language map of Europe, it shows the range of different languages, giving an indication of the difficulty to support the delivery of education in the communities own languages. The compromise is education delivered in English, usually their second or third language. I suggest you Google "The Victorian School of Languages" to show off the 53 languages on offer. Not one is an aboriginal language! The languages are also very complex. Visiting different communities most years I have only learnt a few words. Some volunteers with READ return to the same community. We would have liked to do this, but circumstances changed, usually because accommodation was no longer available for 2 women. This is the most difficult challenge for volunteering in a community. Accommodation is usually in a teacher house or in the case of Yarralin, a bedsit attached to the library, provided for visitors to the school who could also be trades people or one of the many consultants. We take in some food but then we must buy other supplies at the one local shop, where usually prices are double, particularly for fresh food as they have to be transported from Darwin or Alice Springs.

These stints are such an opportunity for us to learn as we get to visit communities not open to tourists, where we gain some understanding of the conditions and lifestyles of our first nation peoples. We also gain some limited understanding of the issues which they face. We work at the school, listening to the children read in short one on one sessions, listening to as many students as possible in the school day, in a similar way to perhaps grandparents reading with grandchildren.

Most of the schools where the READ organisation works are within driving distance of Alice Springs but the last 2 years I have been volunteering in Yarralin, a small community of 350 people, 5 hours drive Southwest of Katherine. This year, after a flight to Darwin, the Principal's husband drove us the 8 hours in a troupie to Yarralin. If you look on a map you will see it is quite a hike with the last few hours on unmade roads! Still, this was easier than the first time when we caught the Greyhound bus to Timber Creek, where we were to be collected, arriving in the dark. We hadn't been able to get into the hotel at Timber Creek because there was a Women's Fishing Comp on, so we booked a bed at Wirib campground, an aboriginal organisation. When we arrived at 11.30ish, having convinced the bus driver to drop us two "elderly women" 5 minutes before the official stop, in the dark with no one to be seen, we couldn't raise the Manager to let us in! Some merry women eventually helped us and it ended well with comfortable beds at 1 in the morning!

So what do our days look like? We wake up, have coffee and exercise in time for morning arrival of students around 8.00am. Students can have Weetbix at this time, after which we offer to read to several students at once, sitting in their courtyard or listening to individuals, fitting in a couple of reading sessions before assembly at 8.30. The full roll call is of around 65 students who all sit cross-legged to listen to the schedule for the day in their undercover meeting area. Most days numbers are lower, due to illness or sorry business, (someone in the community has died) or appointments in Darwin, etc. We withdraw students from their class time to work with them individually. The classroom teachers rarely have time to work with students individually, particularly as classes are usually mixed levels such as grades 1 to 3 or 4 to 6....so students enjoy the personal attention.

As in any classroom there are some really keen students and others that need more encouragement. Having worked with teenagers all my teaching career it is quite the challenge to engage with these lively students but worth every effort. I love their affectionate smiles and at times cheeky sense of humour. The students read to us and then we ask questions for comprehension. At Yarralin students do classes 8.30 to 10.30, have a 30-minute break for morning tea with fruit, crackers and some play time; 11 to 1 class, then 30 minutes for the lunch of pasta or sandwiches etc, followed by a further hour of classes, finishing school at 2.30. (As I write this article I am staying with my Swedish grandchildren, and they seem to have a similar timetable.)

They have a much more flexible timetable on Fun Fridays which includes such things as a morning cycle down to the Billabong or a trip to the Swimming Hole for a swim and picnic. Yarralin has a special bike program organised by one of the keen bike riding teachers, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBN-m1c8V2c>) which has really helped to motivate attendance.

Continued page 11



From page 10

The students seem to really appreciate the attention and help with their reading. It is such a wonderful experience to provide this small gesture of support, especially as you see student progression. As with all small children their smiles melt your heart and they are very affectionate. However, it is no surprise that these children don't come up to the "Naplan levels" of children down south. For these students English is at very least their second language, for some their third or fourth, so they don't get to practise at home. Imagine how difficult it is when all your education is delivered in a "foreign" language without many resources like books to help. Many parents do not have secondary education, nor do they speak English.

Many of the children have hearing impairments, at a far higher rate than in white fella communities. This is frequently a result of respiratory illnesses. Housing conditions add to this problem: aboriginal families share with their extended family, (as did European families in the past), but often with 10 or so people sharing a 2 bedroom standard house. These are block houses flat on the ground with poor ventilation and one bathroom. Given that accommodation is always needed, if extended family visit they need to be put up too as there are no local B and Bs. There is actually a small "motel" of about four dongas, (prefab units) that is the Yarralin Motel, but this is always occupied by visiting medical staff and government visitors of various types. These people breeze in for short stays. One wonders what they report back to their departments with so little time to engage with the residents.

While there is plenty of money poured into these communities it seems it is rarely targeted to resolve the dire need for better housing. Considering the communal housing style of

perhaps the Balinese or the airy old Queenslander houses on stilts with large verandas surely the housing could be more appropriately designed.

It has been great in these Communities to have weekends to explore the areas, but with the limitation of not having a car. In Yarralin we have had the use of bikes as well as one of the teachers driving us further afield. This has meant far more freedom to explore this beautiful landscape.....the colours, the flowers, the vastness.

I will be voting YES to the VOICE, a small step to recognition of our First Nation Peoples. Considering all the different mobs that need to be represented this will not be an easy process. However the Uluru Statement was a consensus reached by Elders from around the country to ask for a Voice to Parliament, and South Australia has already proposed a model for their State. This will not solve all the problems of these communities. It will give them the opportunity to have input, but also to give the First Nations People the responsibility for working towards better life conditions. For those who are concerned with lack of detail as to how this would work, surely by having a voice, giving an opinion, aboriginal people should determine their own structures, as they did with the Uluru Statement, rather than having it imposed once again. So much money has been wasted this way for so long. By being in the Constitution an advisory voice is guaranteed, rather than the various committees that frequently change with the change of government.

POSTSCRIPT: a group of Yarralin students spent a day in Colac recently, visiting a local school as featured in the Colac Herald, but unfortunately, I was away so didn't catch up with them. They were here as part of a trip to Melbourne, organised as a reward for having the best attendance for the year.



The Under 18s Final Team.

SPORTSBRIEFS

By John Ford

Dolphins Football Finals

Lorne's Seniors, Reserves and Under 18 football teams have all played in the finals, however none could bring home the Premiership Cup.

Lorne's Seniors defeated Birregurra in an Elimination Final but were outgunned by Irrewarra-Beeac in the First Semi Final on 3rd September. The match was played in windy conditions making scoring at each end difficult. After trailing early in the match, Lorne played a really good third quarter to draw within 3 points at three quarter time. However, Irrewarra-Beeac pulled away in the last quarter to run out winners 9.12:66 to Lorne's 6.5:41. All the Dolphins players contributed well, but it was a difficult day to set up quality scoring opportunities. Lorne's best players included Ryan Williams, Fraser Balderas, Corey Przastek, James Friel, Lockie Donne and James Hughes, who kicked two goals. The Seniors Grand Final was won by Alvie who defeated Colac Imperials 8.9:57 to 4.4:28.

Lorne's Reserves team had a good finals series earning their way to the Grand Final. However, the Grand Final was played on a day where the strong gusty wind made it difficult to play fluent football. Lorne and Simpson battled it out with only a few points separating the teams all day. The final result saw Simpson 4.7:31 defeat Lorne 4.4:28.

Lorne's Under 18 team also fell short in the Grand Final, losing to Irrewarra-Beeac by 13 points. Inaccurate kicking and inconsistent umpiring decisions made it difficult for the Dolphins. Neither team played with authority and the match was a scrappy affair. The final result saw Irrewarra-Beeac 6.6:42 to Lorne 3.11:29.

Under 14's Football Team



The Dolphins are to be congratulated on a season where football and netball players performed very well despite not quite achieving the ultimate glory. Club President Carly Enticott leads a team of dedicated committee people, coaches and volunteers, with the spirit in the club being outstanding.

Football Season – Sporting Editor's Comment

Football umpiring is a difficult task with so many decisions that can go either way or be ignored altogether. Consistency in interpretation is what players require, but those watching the finals were staggered at some of the decisions. Spectators kept calm and held their frustrations at bay, even though there was an alarming disparity in the number of free kicks paid – and missed! The Dolphins' managers have had the good grace and sportsmanship to keep their feelings private, but there is frustration and resentment in the community at the treatment of Lorne teams which even includes tribunal outcomes in recent years. I know that it is too easy to blame losses on the umpires, but let's hope that 2024 can bring about a renewed attitude in the CDFNL officialdom. You may wish to write to Sportsbriefs with your opinions.

Continued page 13

From page 12

Women's Golf Report

Club Golf

With spring now warming up our beautiful coast, the Lorne golf course is playing beautifully, and is green and lush. The ducks have their ducklings and there are lots of joeys in and out of their mother's pouch.

Apart from all that, we are able to play some golf! And get back into our regular Tuesday club golf.

Some results of note:

1) August monthly medal winner was Anne Maree Kennedy. September Monthly Medal was Anne Maree again!

With 1 or more months to go before the final play off of all the monthly medal winners (currently there are 7) in November!

2) President vs Captain Day Sept 5th. The women who came to play on this day, split into their respective teams and had a fun 18-hole round to see which team would win! There was some great team play and bonding, but with Anne Maree continuing her form, and winning the individual best result, her team - The Captains team, got over the line and won the day!

3) We have an annual women's golfing event - "Miss Lascelles' Silver Salver" coming up on Friday 24th of November, being held in combination with the Lorne Open for the first time. We are hoping this will be a successful time to run this annual LCC Women's event that has been running since 1986 to honour an inspiring Lorne identity, one of Lorne and Australia's early female golfers - Cecily Lascelles.

SWGA Golf:

We have a number of teams entered into numerous events over the next couple of months - so stay tuned for our results!

Other news of note:

One of our members was recently a contestant on Millionaire Hot Seat and was the last player standing (or sitting as the case may be) She got a tough final question but left with 1K in her pocket. We were proud of our very own Anne Maree Kennedy.

If you are interested in joining our group of friendly women, whether new to golf or with some golfing experience, or if you have any questions, please call Sue Neill on 0418 674 062, or Chris Angus on 0439 008 167.

Happy Golfing. Danni De Bon.

Cricket Season

Training for the summer cricket season has begun. Lorne will prepare for the season by playing against Deans Marsh in the Dave Harvey Memorial Match. This will be a 'day/night' match under lights at Stribling Reserve on Friday 13th October. This will be a great way to get the season under way with a barbecue, hot food and drinks being available for spectators. The Colac and District Cricket Association season starts in November, with matches each being one day '40 overs a side' format.

Intending players, umpires, volunteers and sponsors are encouraged to contact Darren Balderas on 0418 379 736 to register. Those junior boys and girls interested in cricket will be able to learn the fundamentals of the game in the 'Woolworths Blast' training conducted at the club.

Our Sporting Clubs Need Us!

Lorne has quite a range of sporting options available. The clubs in most cases are run by a team of dedicated volunteers year after year. Our clubs need our support: by becoming a member, by volunteering, acting in a committee role, or by supporting their various functions and restaurants. The spring/summer season is about to kick off and here are some of the options for members, casual players, visitors and holidaymakers.

As mentioned above, the cricket season will start with the Dave Harvey Memorial match on Friday 13th October. The club hopes that there will also be continued strong support for the Thursday night meals at the community pavilion at Stribling Reserve.

Lorne Country Club is the place for golf and tennis and on Saturday 14th October is the next Members and Guests night. This promises to be a great night of food, drink, music and fun – see flyer on next page.

Lorne Bowls Club is holding a 'Have a Go At Bowls' day on Wednesday 11th October from 10.30am. The day is FREE and includes a BBQ lunch with lawn bowls being provided. You only need to bring flat shoes and an appetite for having fun while having some gentle coaching. Please register your attendance by contacting secretary@lornebowlsclub.com.au. While there take a look at Little Picket restaurant which really is a great place to dine at the Bowls Club where all are made welcome.

Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club performs a wonderful job in our community and beyond. So many youngsters have learned not only to swim, but lifesaving and watercraft skills. We are all safer on the beach with their presence and you can become a member or support their summer social activities.

Lorne Aquatic Club holds a range of fishing competitions and many fun social events. By joining the club, you can learn a range of boating skills, or for a start you could enjoy a drink in the afternoon sun overlooking the water.

Nippers Training

The Nippers Squad starts on Friday 6th October, with training on Fridays at 5.00pm and Sundays from 10.00am. The Summer Intensive Program is from 27th December until 4th January. For more information contact the Club and don't forget to renew your registration!

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

ARTS IN LORNE

Community Connect

Many of you would be familiar with the artwork of Karren Stoneham. Karren will be exhibiting at LCC over the Melbourne Cup weekend, 3-7 November. Don't miss her new collection of seascapes, some painted on oval canvasses.

Unconnected Yet, an international photographic exhibition, will open on the 15 December and will run until 7th of January. The travelling exhibition is bridging the arts and science of Boston, Massachusetts, Kolkata, India and Australia together via large format digital prints and we are very privileged to have this very special show in Lorne.

Artist in Residence program. We currently have space available, if you are interested in this creative space, please email lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD". I hope many of you were able to see this fabulous art exhibition curated by Robyn Mackay. Robyn gathered a group of very talented artists from along the surf coast to exhibit. The opening night attracted a large crowd with plenty of interest. The exhibition closed on the 1st of October after a successful 2 weeks.

"What a wonderful Lorne and Surf Coast community. A big Thank you for all the support for our 'What a Wonderful World' exhibition. We had approx 100 people at the opening of this fabulous show featuring 13 of our talented local artists. Such stunning work, a definite must see. Exhibition open 10 to 4 every day until the 1st of October". Robyn Mackay

Lesley Goldsworthy President.

The Opening Exhibition at Qdos was a big success with gorgeous handmade rugs from women and families living with the difficulties of Afghanistan. Each family gets materials and designs sent to them and in return they produce these wonders!



JURIS CERINS

4 - 24th November 2023



Erskine Bank, 2022 acrylic on board 83 x 121cm

Cerins' painting occupies the intersection of two modalities – detail and structure on one side, and buoyant exhilaration and freedom on the other. The latest work – included in this 2023 exhibition speaks of the intention to be unrestrained, while exploring new topographies marked by road signs and text that enliven the visual domain. Marita Batna, art curator and researcher

Hereabouts

to be launched by
Don Hayward.
six decade Lorne identity

Saturday the 4th November 2023 at 3:00pm

Qdos Fine Arts Lorne

Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm WTFSS or by appointment 03 52891989



www.qdosarts.com

With a painting career that spans an astonishing sixty years, Juris Cerins has consistently produced work that shows evolution, but he has never deviated from the underlying fascination of vigorous abstract landscape. While investigating this genre Cerins is associated with the European tradition of painting. It seems that the focus on landscape would influence an artist to be a voyager, but there is a twist to how he works. Cerins always takes the content directly from familiar natural surroundings where he lives or stays. Such organic connection stems from his first immersion into the Australian landscape in and around the creeks and paddocks of the Bathurst migrant camp as the child of a Latvian refugee family in the early 1950s. Now, he has made his base amidst the beautiful bushland on the Otways edge in Lorne. It is here the artist records aspects of the place where he has lived for the last two decades.

Cerins' painting occupies the intersection of two modalities – detail and structure on one side, and buoyant exhilaration and freedom on the other. The latest work – included in the 2023 exhibition in Qdos Gallery – speaks of the intention to be unrestrained, while exploring new topographies marked by road signs and text that enliven the visual domain. His works appear to scan a scene, registering each detail through a personal lens but fully endorsing its own autonomous vitality.

It's revealing then to consider that Cerins' process involves several stages beginning on location. Exploring the locality on foot and by observation, studying the fabric and textures of his surroundings before developing a gouache on paper. This may require returning to the site several times – not to look around but to just be there and complete the painting.

Continued page 15

From page 14

In the studio, he begins a piece on canvas using the gouache as a reference, however, only for the early stages. At that part of the process, he delves into the emerging painting, building layers with brushes, rags, cardboard, and hands, – taking time and a painstaking approach. Cerins has said: “The act of painting on location is cathartic. With each brush mark one becomes more familiar with the locality. The grasses and tussocks have over the years woven a pattern which is perfectly unified and, interestingly, motifs are not repeated. A prosaic observation, but then it is the prosaic that has always caught my attention.” Cerins has developed a firm footprint in the milieu of Australian landscape painting. His bold work with its distinctive mark making reflects his long and ever deepening relationship with landscape.

Edited excerpts from Marita Batna, art curator and researcher.



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Lorne RSL Sub Branch

Remembrance Day Service

11th November 2023

10.45am to 11.15am

Please join us at
ANZAC Memorial Park
Mountjoy Pde, Lorne

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

Lest we forget.



From the Deck

HERBICIDES – WANTED OR WANTON?

By John Agar

I have two favourite spots to walk my dog.

In the winter months, I love Camel's Walk: that magical wander through a verdant, tree-canopied and grassy glen that parallels Stony Creek to the Stony rapids and the lily pond — a place to sit in quiet contemplation while the abundant Superb Fairy-wrens dart about and busy water-boatmen ply the pond.

From late spring and to mid-late autumn, when the snakes are wide awake along the Stony track, I tend to seek the [relative] solitude — now confined to mid-week and non-holiday periods — of the several small coves that indent the coast between Vera Lynn and the disappearing ruin of Hector Stribling's once-upon-a-time beach house at Shelly Beach.

Although a hip injury sustained in the UK kept me housebound over the winter months, a replacement has now allowed me the pain-free joy of revisiting these two treasured places. To my horror, the verges of the walking paths, the grass under seats and picnic tables, and [inexplicably] random patches of grass and creek bank no different to those surrounding them ... were dead. A phantom herbicidist had passed their way!

While I 'get it' that tractor-dragged mowers can't reach under seats and tables, what's wrong with a whipper-snipper for those spots? Moreover, why spray the edges of the path? Surely, spraying only converts a once-green verge into an unsightly strip of vegetative death ... or, worse, a muddy and dangerously slippery edge after rain? There seems no sense to it.

The following article is one where pictures speak better than words. So, I invite you to be the judge ...

Why change this [Photo A] ... to this [Photo B]? Note the inexplicable spraying close to the edge of the bushland shown to the left in Photo 2. Mow it if you must, but why spray it?



Further, why on earth do this [Photo C] ... or this [Photo D]? What harm was that grass doing? Note the bare, dead foreground bank in Photo D compared to the verdant farther bank in Photo E and ask yourself ... why?



What purpose does the wanton spraying at the Vera Lynn carpark serve [See Photos E and F]?

Note that the grass on the right [now dead] was identical to the grass on the left that still clings to verdant life [one hopes not on borrowed time], and that has been a winter 'slide and roll' for our kids for decades. Once a lush, soft, and squishy place for kids to play, it will soon be barren — a place where only true weeds will regrow.



Finally, remember the once-grassy slope in front of Hall Street [see Photo G, taken two years after revegetation of the slip]? After this slope was sprayed a couple of years ago, the land crumbled and slipped onto the GOR in heavy rain several months after the binding grass cover had successfully been spray-killed back to barren.



As one Tasmanian website states, '... councils have four reasons for spraying: to keep guideposts and bridge approaches visible; to maintain a gravel shoulder for safety reasons; to improve water flow (drainage) from the roads or paths to the table drains; or for fire break maintenance.

But one thing is certain ... it is never [or rarely] a good look. A healthy strip of green grass appeals to the eye and visually softens the road corridor or pathway verge. One only has to watch the 'Tour de France' to see how the French manage their 'Clean Green' image without making a big fuss ... and they are not the only ones. See: <https://www.disjunctnaturalists.com/articles2/roadside-management.htm>

I don't know about you, but I sense that some strange, often random, and often nonsensical things are happening in [and to] our local spaces. While I have shown only a few examples of the environmental 'protection' around our town ... whether by the Shire or by GORCAPA [NB: it is increasingly difficult to know who controls what] ... greater community explanation via a regular monthly explanatory communique would be a good place for them both to start. As the Lorne Independent is published on the first of each month, a list of planned works — where, how, for what purpose, and under whose authority — would be very helpful.

Perhaps the responsible [or irresponsible] authorities ... whichever of 'our two' [or maybe both] ... should re-think their current practice before our roadsides, recreation areas and pathways are damaged beyond repair. Both should more visibly signal the intent, reasons, and sites for their upcoming monthly works in the Surfcoast Times and the Lorne Independent. And as for the use of herbicides, just when we should be trying to minimise the toxin load we spread into our environment, their random and thoughtless use when not necessary, seems wanton madness.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

To the Editor of Lorne Independent and GORCAPA

I'm the Commodore of the Lorne Aquatic Club and I speak to a lot of locals and visitors every day.

I've had a lot of requests to contact GORCAPA to complain about the overuse of spraying poison around bollards, picnic tables and seats along the foreshore. I totally agree with them.

It's an eyesore, after rain people's feet are in mud and it makes our beautiful foreshore look tacky.

I understand that this saves a bit of time with a brush cutter but in the past, they have only sprayed tiny areas around the legs of the tables, chairs and bollards. Also poisoning on the slope around Shelley Beach.

This is Kikuyu grass. I don't know if it will grow back or get replaced by weeds.

I have attached two photos I took at Shelley Beach yesterday.

Awaiting your reply.

Regards Keith Miller.





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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.





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Visiting Lorne weekly

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers and Subscribers

I want to thank you all very much for the way you have responded to the changes to the newspaper subscriptions and advertising rates.

Happily we see many new advertisers coming on board and although many would prefer an ad less newspaper, the committee are grateful for their necessary support.

Especially now it's in full colour!!

Now we can all draw a breath and settle into a happy time over spring and summer when Lorne lights up, spreads out and shares her natural bounty to the visiting tourists.

Sadly, I have to tell you that your favourite source of advance news, the lovely, lively Lilian, has been overwhelmed by urgent events and was unable to provide her column this month.

No doubt she'll bounce back with more exciting stories next month.

Congratulations to the netball and football teams for a good season! Remember that next year is coming soon and you will be able to aim for the top again.

Next month brings to an end the build up around the Voice to Parliament referendum. Many people hold strong views about this. I urge you all to inform yourself from a wide variety of credible sources.

The Lorne Housing concerns are huge as we permanent residents all realise. It has been great to have such informative meetings chaired ably by Penny Hawe, to keep us all in the loop and able to contribute to the debate.

If we want our town to go on being a real town and not a retirement village, we have to solve the problems we are facing.

Onward we go!

Janet Goud

Editor



WALSH & HAY
ACCOUNTANTS ADVISORS

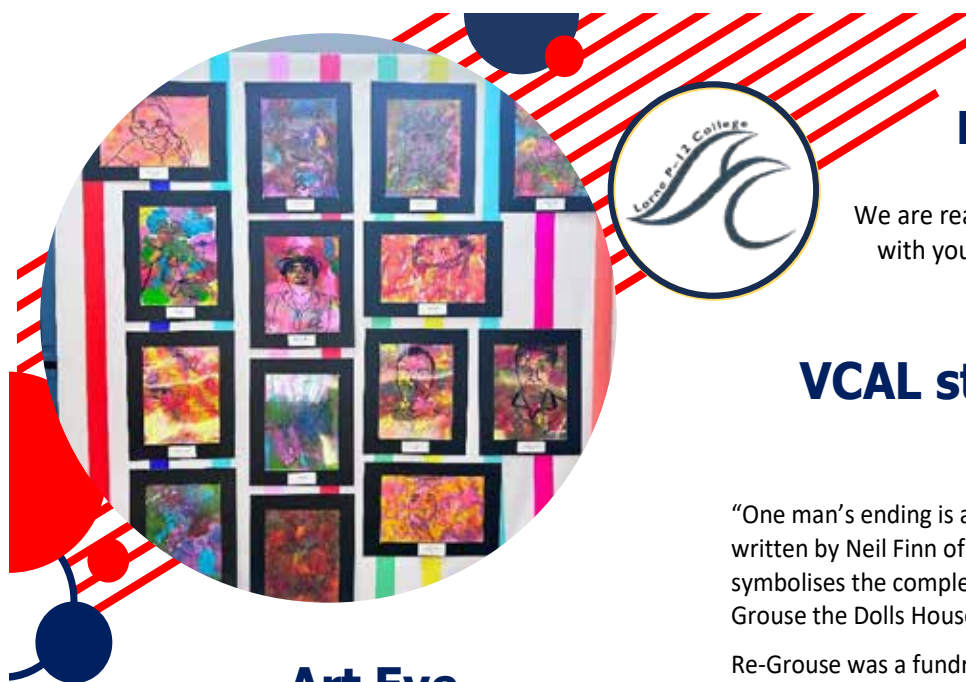
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Where everybody counts



LORNE P-12 COLLEGE

Hi Everyone

We are really excited about being able to share with you what is happening at our amazing school!

VCAL students succeed again!

"One man's ending is another man's beginning" is a lyric written by Neil Finn of Crowded House that perfectly symbolises the completion of this years' VCAL project, 'Re-Grouse the Dolls House'.

Re-Grouse was a fundraising concert held at Stribling Reserve on the first of September that raised money to refurbish the school's century-old building, 'The Dolls House', a building that is currently used as a space for bands to rehearse and for instrumental lessons to be held.

Working together with a youth organisation named FReeZA and Lorne's passionate teachers, the VCAL class created this event from the ground-up to try and raise enough funds to turn 'The Dolls House' into a high-quality arts facility that could be used by future students and bands to further their skills, passions and their musical community for many years to come.

Consisting of five local youth bands, a guest speaker, and a mega raffle. The night was an enormous success. We had over one hundred people show up and partake in the fundraiser. With singing and dancing, a wonderful time was had by all whilst supporting a great community cause.

With support from generous sponsors, community donations and proceeds raised on the night, the VCAL class raised enough money to indeed Re-Grouse 'The Dolls House'.

A special thanks to Bendigo Community Bank, Lorne Community Op Shop, Mantra Lorne, The Cumberland, Lorne Earthworks, Lorne Books, Bottle of Milk, Lorne Surf Shop, FReeZA and everyone who attended or donated at the event.

This final project may be the end of the VCAL students time at school, but the impact of their hard work and the support of the community will ensure all music loving students at Lorne P-12 have a space to call their own.

THANK YOU.

Art Eve

Tuesday September 12th evening was our biannual Art's Eve.

After months of planning, creating and rehearsing students were finally able to exhibit and preform to the Lorne community and it was simply AMAZING!

The school was alive with colour and music while guests perused displays of student works from prep to Year 12 and listened to our junior 'Inspire Chior' and various performances from senior bands.



Thank you to our judges, Anna & Simon from In the Skies Lorne and Local artist Pete Day.

Thank you to Vanessa Rogasch and her year 10 food technology class for the delicious biscuits, to John Waller for preparing the music and lighting, Amanda Wylie for directing the choir and to Sam Blue for coordinating the evening and preparing all the student artworks for display.

Finally, a huge congratulations to our amazing artists-our students. We are very proud of you.



Next year keep a look out for our original school production!

Thomas Wallis Year 12 VCAL student and School Captain

Email: lorne.p12.co@education.vic.gov.au

Phone: (03) 52 891585

Website: www.lornep12.vic.edu.au

FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

For the Lorne Ward - Cr. Gary Allen gallen@surfcoast.vic.gov.au 0438 637 274



Voice To Parliament

Given that the referendum is two weeks away, I thought that I should re-publish my struggle with the Voice, a few thoughts that may help any resident who remains undecided. After much thought over the past few months I decided to support the Voice to Parliament.

I did not come to this decision easily. Why?

- Not all First Nations people agree. Several state that truth telling and treaty are far more important and within our Shire the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation (at the time of writing this article) is yet to take a public stance.
- Secondly, I have concerns that the proposal extends the reach of the Voice into the executive branch and therefore adds another bureaucratic layer to potentially delay decision-making.
- Finally, I wrestled with the question does the Voice impact upon the notion of the “equality of citizenship”?

Why did I decided to support the Voice?

I was reassured by the Attorney-General, when in his speech in the second reading of the bill he stated, that the Voice will be

relevant to matters that effect First Nations people differently to others in the Australian community.

This limits the matters that will reach the executive and as it is contained in the second reading it will have weight if the interpretation of subsequent enabling legislation is required by the High Court. I was moved by the comments of the Prime Minister at the Anzac Day dawn service in Canberra when he said that First Nations people fought for our nation and now it is about time that we fought for them. I add that they fought, when not recognized as Australian citizens.

It is only thirty-one years since the High Court Mabo judgment that the fiction of terra nullius (land belonging to no-one) was overturned. By enshrining the Voice into the constitution we will add to the dignity and well-being of First Nations People since that significant decision.

It is disturbing to continue to learn of the poor or declining health and educational outcomes for First Nations people, particularly when you consider that the many billions of dollars spent and the often heard rhetoric, are having little or no effect.

This in my view is partly because we remove decision-making from those who understand the problem and in the realm of Indigenous affairs we have far too long taken a paternalistic-approach.



CATtitude

24-hour cat curfew to start 30 September

Are you a cat owner?

Are you prepared for the 24-hour cat curfew?

Now's the time to get ready for the new cat curfew, which requires all cats within the shire to be confined to their owner's property boundary unless the cat is appropriately restrained.

According to Animal Welfare Victoria, cats that are confined to your property live three times longer than those that are allowed to roam. You can keep your cat in the house or flat with you, or in the garage or shed at night. Other options include buying or building a cat enclosure for your yard, or installing cat-proof fencing.

Learn more: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/CatCurfew or call **5261 0600**





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1990 - ONCE UPON A TIME...



**Your monthly newsletter brought to you by the team at the
Lorne Pharmacy**

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Keith Miller
Commodore



I'm writing this from Robe in South Australia after having spent almost 6 weeks on a boy's 4x4 road trip into outback Western Australia and South Australia, so I'm nearly home. It was a real adventure with never a dull moment so for the first time in my 6 years as Commodore I missed a month for the Commodores Notes. Sorry about that.

Well Spring has finally arrived and the days are slowly getting longer and milder. Things are still pretty quiet at the club but things will start to pick up as the season gets closer. We are still running our happy hours on Wednesday and Friday evenings with the traditional seafood raffle and free sausage sizzle every Friday. We are open every evening except Tuesday and will be open 7 days a week later in the year.

Hutch is still serving up the World's Best and Coldest Beer with the cheapest prices anywhere along with a great range of wines and mixed drinks. Remember our facilities are available to members for Weddings, Parties, Anything.

Our Training and Recovery Boat is all ready for the upcoming season.

Lazarus lounge going going? Hopefully not gone!

The permit for the use of our extended outside area which we nick-named the 'Lazarus Lounge' last year after it was taken off us and then given back just after we had dismantled it all is about to expire later this month. I contacted GORCAPA back in June and was told to contact Ingrid Stitt who is the State Minister for the Environment and is the only one who has the authority to extend our permit. I immediately emailed her and received an automatic reply saying that she was very busy and would reply to me in 6 to 8 weeks time.

This didn't happen, so I emailed her again several times explaining that the date for the deadline was looming and we needed to act now.

I finally received a reply from DEECA formally DELWP telling me that we need to negotiate with GORCAPA which is back to what I originally did in June. We have a subcommittee now negotiating with a new person at GORCAPA, Cath Olive who is their Director of Infrastructure and Planning and she is being very helpful and positive so things are looking good. Everyone keep your fingers crossed.

Upcoming Events

Knots & Rigs Instruction Day

MONDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2023 This one's for the kids during school holidays, but adults are also welcome. 11am at the clubhouse, no need to book, just turn up!

Major Fishing Comp Number Five

Sponsored by Great Otway Construction

Sunday 24th September 2023

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 1st, 2nd and 3rd 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.

Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again when memberships are almost due. You'll receive an email early next month with the details and instructions for how to renew your membership, you'll be able to do this by logging into your account via our website or on our app. All memberships expire on the 31st October. The option to renew will only be available from early October and can only be done online with a credit/debit card. For any membership queries in the meantime, please email info@lorneaquaticclub.com.au.

Griffo Turns 80

One of our favourite members, the much loved and popular local identity David Griffiths has just turned 80. He doesn't look a day over 70. David is our gardener and also a Life Member. He has been cutting our grass and trimming our flat-top trees forever. Now that we have imitation grass I reckon we should pay him less but that's a bit hard because he's never sent us a bill. I hope he's not adding it all up and sending us a bill when he retires.

Lorne Kindergarten Donation

We recently donated \$3,500 from our raffle sales to the Lorne Kindergarten who are celebrating their 70 year anniversary to help them purchase playground equipment.

Coffee

Jason is back for the September School Holidays, opening Friday to Monday brewing up the World's Best Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate and Bickies.

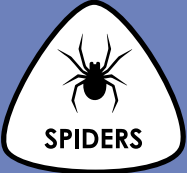
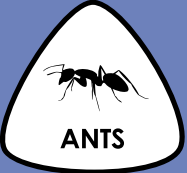
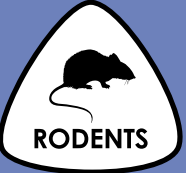
Courtesy Bus

The bus is operating Friday and Saturday nights. Anyone out there that can help us driving the bus please let Hutch know.



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SEA GRASS *By Doug Williams*

A Deans Marsh reader asked me if the bureaucrats had responded to my concerns about pittosporum after I wrote about their invasive behaviour and warned me that they are a serious fire hazard because they are highly inflammable. He has eradicated them from his property. “No” I said, “They haven’t”.

Escaping the vent and rant of writing about weeds I fled to the warmer north recently where I visited a small nursery, only open two days a week but chock full of vines and palms and ferns and those lush broad-leaved plants that, apart from Bird of Paradise for example, simply won’t grow very well in Lorne’s cooler climate. What I like about a good tropical garden is the feeling of lush immersion one gets from the density and luxuriance it provides. The one plant I wish did flourish here is carpet grass, so cool and soft under foot and thriving under mature figs, native chestnuts, banyan trees and what have you.

I was thinking about tropical plants while walking along the Geelong foreshore recently but also about fishing in the sea grass beds along some of the coastline of Magnetic Island when I was distracted by watching little cormorants foraging in the sea grass in the shallows of Corio Bay. Some fish will eat it, even pulling plants up to eat the roots, but sea grass beds are commonly used by them as shelter. On google I read that, “Seagrasses are underwater flowering plants [author’s note: this is the only flowering plant that grows underwater], not to be confused with seaweed, that grow in shallow coastal waters, providing a crucial nursery habitat for young fish of many species. They’re also an important home for marine invertebrates, like sea cucumbers, crabs and prawns. Many experts suggest that a healthy coastal ecosystem with seagrass, mangrove and coral reef habitats can store large quantities of carbon dioxide, filter sediment and debris washing in from the land, and protect against coastal abrasion.”

Dugongs love the stuff and, grazing day and night, one of them can eat up to thirty kilos of sea grass every day so I’m pretty confident they just love *Posidonia australis*.



This is a self-cloning sea grass that stretches one hundred and eighty kilometres across Shark Bay, Western Australia. It is the largest plant in the world and at four thousand five hundred years of age is also the oldest. Dugongs must love eating it because thousands of them live there, the largest population in the world. There are patches of sea grass around Lorne but nothing remotely resembling this.

Meadows of sea grass are fished by people all over the planet and can be found on every continent except Antarctica and while typically found in estuaries and shallow water some species will grow in depths of sixty to seventy metres but this is rare and shallow water is more favourable for photosynthesis to take place. Sea grasses originated on land and are more closely related to lilies and gingers than to true grasses. They returned to the ocean seventy to one hundred million years ago; quite the reversal from all land plants evolving from algae millions of years before this and emerging from the oceans. My guess is that the rise and fall of sea levels must have contributed to this transition considering that a mere fifteen thousand years ago sea levels were one hundred metres lower and there was no water at all in Corio Bay and around just six thousand years ago sea levels were two metres higher than they are today. This very gradual rise and fall of sea levels has enabled sea grasses to adapt to both a terrestrial and a marine environment.



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Men of the Men's Shed

GRAHAM
BRAWN

By Garry Fenton

Member 2016....

Graham was born in Coffs Harbour and lived at Alstonville (NSW) until he was six. The family then moved, and Graham attended Gosford Primary School. They then moved to Balgowlah in Sydney where he attended Manly West Primary School, Manly Boys High School and went on to the University of NSW to study architecture. He and Trish went to North America for fifteen years where he did a Master of Architecture, specialising in Urban Design at the University of Illinois. Graham was offered a scholarship to do a Ph. D in Urban anthropology, but he decided against doing that in favour of designing. "I came back in 1980 to be the second Chair of Architecture at the University of Melbourne. In the 90's I went half time and went back into practise as a design architect and later began Strategic Facility Planning. (SFP)" This became his area of expertise, which involved mainly supporting change in institutions: courthouses, prisons, remand centres, juvenile justice centres, health and tertiary education buildings.

Graham didn't know much about Men's Sheds, and only had a mild interest when he heard about the one in Lorne. He became aware of it because he was helping Peter Spring with the master planning for Stribling Reserve. Graham was the architect for Allan Walls' home renovations and that is where he had his first direct contact with the Shed. "I had also known Bob Sinclair when I was asked to do some work on the Museum and the State Library in Swanston Street many years ago and Bob was assigned to that project by his firm. I think it was Allan and Bob who convinced me to join the Shed."

Graham has found the camaraderie and fun around the table very therapeutic and did enjoy his involvement with the boats. He helped with the facade for the Historical Society. Graham and Trish were very generous donors for the sculpture materials, as well as donating the motor for the Coot boat. "I bought a model kit because the Shed received a discount if Tony ordered a certain number. I started to build a model boat, but it's still not finished," he laughed.

Regarding odd jobs, Graham suggested he often did little jobs without much finesse, but has improved since joining the shed, and he claims he has also learnt patience from Tony Wolfenden who always told the boys to take their time, slow down and do it properly. "I really appreciated getting to know him and learning how carefully he did things." Graham likes doing both larger and smaller jobs. He noted just lately the larger projects had dried up somewhat and people were lingering at the social room a bit more than usual. "But that's not a bad thing and new projects will come along," he hoped.

Graham agrees a part of the success of the Shed is the fact members leave their egos at the door. "They are not living in the past around the coffee table.

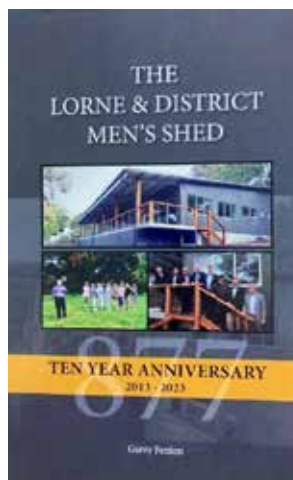


They are happy to live in the present. Having said that I am staggered by the lifelong achievements of many members".

And the coffee? "Any coffee is good for me, and the service is superb" he laughed.

The Lorne and District Men's Shed- Ten Year Anniversary 2013 to 2023

The Lorne Men's Shed recently held their Ten Year Anniversary Dinner which included the Launch of the book "The Lorne and District Men's Shed- Ten Year Anniversary 2013 to 2023".



This book gives an insight into the development of the Shed in Lorne, who has been involved, the powerful tool it has been for the health of members, and the completed projects for the benefit of the community.

Most Men's Shed Members and other interested people have purchased a copy, and there are still some copies available. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy can do so by contacting the Treasurer, John Barber, or Secretary Bill Youl.

John: 0430 645 558 or johnhbarber@hotmail.com

Bill: 0408 123 677 or lornemensshed@gmail.com



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PUZZLES

Hi all you lovers of word games and quiz kids. Again you can check to see if you did well with the footy anthems. Thanks to clever Ray Sutton for his interesting puzzles. We look forward to his next challenge!

Brisbane Lions-We will always fight for victory, all for one and one for all we will answer the call. Adelaide Crows-We give our best from coast to coast where the story will be told and as we fight the rugged battle Essendon Bombers-our boys (and girls) who play this grand old game are always striving for glory.

Freemantle Dockers-We're gonna roll them and we'll rock them, we're gonna send them to the bottom and if they get up, we'll do it again. But Geelong Cats-we play the game as it should be played at home or far away. North Melbourne Kangaroos-Lots of fun, heaps of fun, enjoy yourself today as Hawthorn Hawks-teamwork is the thing that talks.

GWS Giants-We take the longest strides and the highest leap and Port Adelaide Power- with our tradition so strong we can't go wrong. Richmond Tigers-We're strong and we're bold Sydney Swans-whether the odds be great or small and West Coast Eagles- we're here to show you why we're the big birds, king of the game.

Western Bulldogs-We give our very best, Carlton Blues-we're the team that never lets you down and Fitzroy Lions-we will

always see it through. Brisbane Lions-We'll answer to the call and Collingwood Magpies-side by side we stick together. South Melbourne Swans-Onwards to victory. Melbourne Demons-Every heart beats true.

Missing Team – St Kilda Saints, (sorry Saints fans, I am one myself and I tried to get them in but just like premierships it couldn't be done)

Liz's Cryptic Clues to Seas, Oceans, and Waterways of the World.

(answers on page 31)

The answers to the clues are oceans, seas, straits, gulfs, bays, lakes, canals, fiords, harbours, bights, rivers, lochs, or mythical waterways. There may even be the odd one from another world.

This month all the clues relate to RIVERS

1. Dainty tropical rain and trees.
2. Strauss saw blue.
3. Derive yellow.
4. King Kong belongs to me.
5. Her unmarried honorific.
6. Tina's Diamonds.
7. Take apples and the Esky.
8. Campbell's cowboy.
9. Voluminous where Tsars once lived.
10. Hey, tame the flow under the bridge.
11. Amazing in the jungle.
12. Term of endearment.
13. Sounds like you can paddle to Alaska.
14. She is a striped beast.
15. Nelios white and blue.
16. Big River.
17. Something missing from gangs in the land of Mahatma.
18. Tarzan and company long ago.
19. Baptismal waters of the Hashemite kingdom.
20. Passengers huddled on a wing after Sully's splash.



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OP SHOP BUZZ

By Janet Goud - Secretary

Busy bees were buzzing in the Op Shop over the school holidays. I helped out with the high achieving Saturday team, and we made lots of sales for the day!



So many people were in town for the bike ride day! Then the school holidays came, and we had lots of friendly children who had been well brought up to recycle and look for treasure in Op Shops, popping in to get books and games.

Thanks to all the donors who regularly keep the shelves stocked up with quality jigsaws and board games.

As always, we need towels! So many people must decide to drive down to Lorne for the day, without deciding they might want to swim. They can swim in t-shirts and shorts but it's hard to dry off without a towel except on a very hot day in summer.

At the last meeting in August the members were delighted to welcome some clever senior students from Lorne P to 12 College. They talked about their project to fix up the old teachers' house, the Dolls House, which is now the music centre of their school. The Op Shop has been happy to support this outstanding example of enterprise, organisation and community spirit in our younger population.

We are welcoming back more members who have taken flight to many overseas places this year. The annual migration has been less since the COVID years, but more have been in the warmer areas of Australia over winter.

When in Alice Springs myself, I checked out the Alice Springs Op Shop on Todd Mall. It was not much different to most Op Shops but there were not too many heavy coats or boots. Prices were similar.

Hoping this lovely weather continues (with a bit of rain for the gardens and the forest) and you all continue to generously donate your unloved, unwanted, wrongly sized, badly coloured excess goods to the Op Shop.

We will need lots to sell over the coming months. Thanking you in anticipation of your generosity.

NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF QUEENS PARK

Just to let you know the usual spring working bees in Queens Park will be held on the third Sunday of this month and again in October namely:

- Sunday 17 September meet at 10 am at the entrance to the Tramway Track in Hird Street.
- Sunday 15 October. Same time, same meeting place.

These working bees are conducted by Friends of Queens Park in conjunction with LORNECARE and under the direction of GORCAPA, manager of Queens Park.

We're following up on work carried out by DB Results following their management conference in Lorne, part of which included making a hands-on contribution to conservation.

Our sights are set on removing bone seed, cape broom and sweet pittosporum.

Thank you so much for your support. We're looking forward to seeing you.

Visitors and interested persons are very welcome to attend.

For further information Email wilsonjsw@outlook.com or phone John Wilson - 0438 921 319

LIZ'S CRYPTIC CLUES

Answers from page 29

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Daintree River | 13. Yukon |
| 2. Danube | 14. River Tigress |
| 3. Yellow River | 15. Nile |
| 4. Mekong River | 16. Rio Grande |
| 5. Mississippi River | 17. Ganges |
| 6. Diamantina River | 18. Congo River |
| 7. Esk River | 19. River Jordan |
| 8. River Rhine | 20. Hudson River |
| 9. Volga | |
| 10. River Thames | |
| 11. Amazon | |
| 12. Darling River | |

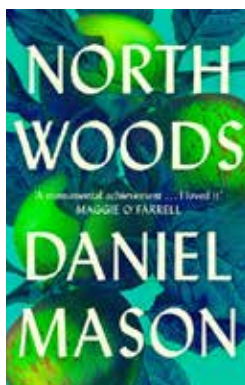


lorne books

Picks of the Month



FICTION: North Woods by Daniel Mason



A sweeping novel about a single house in the woods of New England, told through the lives of those who inhabit it across the centuries—a daring, moving tale of memory and fate.

This magisterial and highly inventive novel from Pulitzer Prize finalist Daniel Mason brims with love and madness, humor and hope. Following the cycles of history, nature, and even language, North Woods shows the myriad, magical ways in which we're connected to our environment, to history, and to one another.

NON-FICTION: Elon Musk by Isaacson

This is the astonishingly intimate story of the most fascinating and controversial innovator of our era.

For two years, Isaacson shadowed Musk, attended his meetings, walked his factories with him, and spent hours interviewing him, his family, friends, coworkers, and adversaries. The result is the revealing inside story, filled with amazing tales of triumphs and turmoil, that addresses the question: are the demons that drive Musk also what it takes to drive innovation and progress?



Children's Fiction: Copycat by Kelli Anne Hawkins



The latest book by Kelli Anne Hawkins is a funny and thrilling mystery for children eight and up. Set in a small town with child detectives looking into crimes of mischief around town that could be perpetrated by anyone.

11-year-old Sky loves living in Seagulls Nest but suddenly a rash of crimes has broken out. As the annual Squawk Awards approach, tulips are beheaded, eggs are stolen, and rumours about the townspeople are written in chalk everywhere. Skye and her new friend, Bailey, are on the case.

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