

LORNE

Independent

No 260 July 2023

independent

Independent Inc.

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GO UP!

LORNE V ALVIE

Photo by Ian Waldron

Men's Shed Dinner and Book Launch p3

Travellers Tales of the Eclipse p11

Sportsbriefs from Italy p16

Lorne Independent Inc.

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Janet Goud continues as our Editor



After the passing of Jo Vondra, founding editor of the Lorne Independent and its champion for over 20 years, we were fearful for the future of a newspaper which had established itself as an institution in Lorne.

Janet Goud bravely stepped forward and offered to be the editor for a six-month trial period. Not so much the Editorial Committee testing out Janet but allowing Janet time to assess whether the role of editor was something she wanted. From the Committee's point of view, Janet has taken to the role with energy and a fresh approach to reporting on the news of Lorne. Happily, she has also enjoyed the role.

At a recent meeting of the Editorial Committee, Janet offered to remain in the role of editor for the foreseeable future. We are delighted that she has decided to continue in the role, and we gratefully accepted her offer.

We extend our congratulations and thanks to Janet for ensuring that the Lorne Independent continues to be the voice of Lorne and that the monthly publication continues at such a high standard.

Pete Spring - On behalf of the Editorial Committee

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Lorne & District Men's Shed

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

By Bill Youl

The Lorne & District Men's Shed celebrated their 10 Year Anniversary in style at the Lorne Community Pavilion on Friday June 16th.

Around 120 people attended the celebration including Men's Shedders, their partners and 17 special guests who had all played a key role in getting the Shed off the ground. The dinner was proudly sponsored by the Bendigo Community Bank.

The current President, John Bliss, welcomed everyone into the pavilion foyer to mingle and enjoy the display of some of the Shed's treasures. These included the beautiful 'Couta Memory' Sculpture, the LMS Coot Boat, the T37 Model Yacht fleet and Jo Vondra's fabulous Cheese Cutter.

Inaugural President Allan Walls was the lively MC for the evening. Allan and Clive Goldsworthy gave some poignant recollections of the tough road that had to be endured to get approval for the Shed to be built and then attracting the necessary funds.

They both acknowledged the wonderful support given to the Shed by many local groups and individuals including the Op Shop, George Dragovich's building company and Len Tank.

Bob Sinclair gave an entertaining speech about his time as president of the Shed in the Covid Years when Zoom Meetings were the go.

A key highlight of the evening was the launch of Garry Fenton's book, 877 - The Lorne & District Men's Shed - Ten Year Anniversary 2013 - 2023 Book. This marvellous 162 page tome, with over 300 photos, took Garry countless hours to pull together.

It contains a meticulous 'warts and all' coverage of the 877 days from the first meeting, to propose the building of the Shed, to the Official Opening on Sunday June 12th, 2016. Garry also interviewed practically every Shed member and tells their stories in the book to highlight the exciting diversity of the members.

Also covered are the many projects the Shed has been involved in. Garry was kept busy at the end of the evening signing over 60 copies of the book that were purchased.

To top off a wonderful evening, Don Baldwin presented a rather surprised Allan Walls with the first Life Membership Certificate awarded at the Shed. Allan was delighted.

Note: You can get your copy of 877 The Lorne & District Men's Shed 10 Year Anniversary Book at the Shed for \$50, while stocks last! A hard backed copy is also available for \$70 (the hard backs have to be ordered separately - so if interested let us know soon).

Bill Youl
Secretary
Lorne & District Men's Shed
0408 123 677



ARTS IN LORNE

NIGHTWALK by Wattleitbe

June 23 - July 6

Exhibition Open Party!

Join us to view works by Candlelight. BRING A TORCH (seriously!)

1st July 6-8pm

In The Skies Art & Music Gallery Lorne



On a cold, wet winter's night down on Gadubanud Country, in Lorne, south coast, 30 odd souls gathered at In The Skies art gallery to experience the world premiere of Comfort Music ~ the autobiographical one person stage show by Polash Larsen. (The Offtopics) directed by John Bolton - who was in attendance.

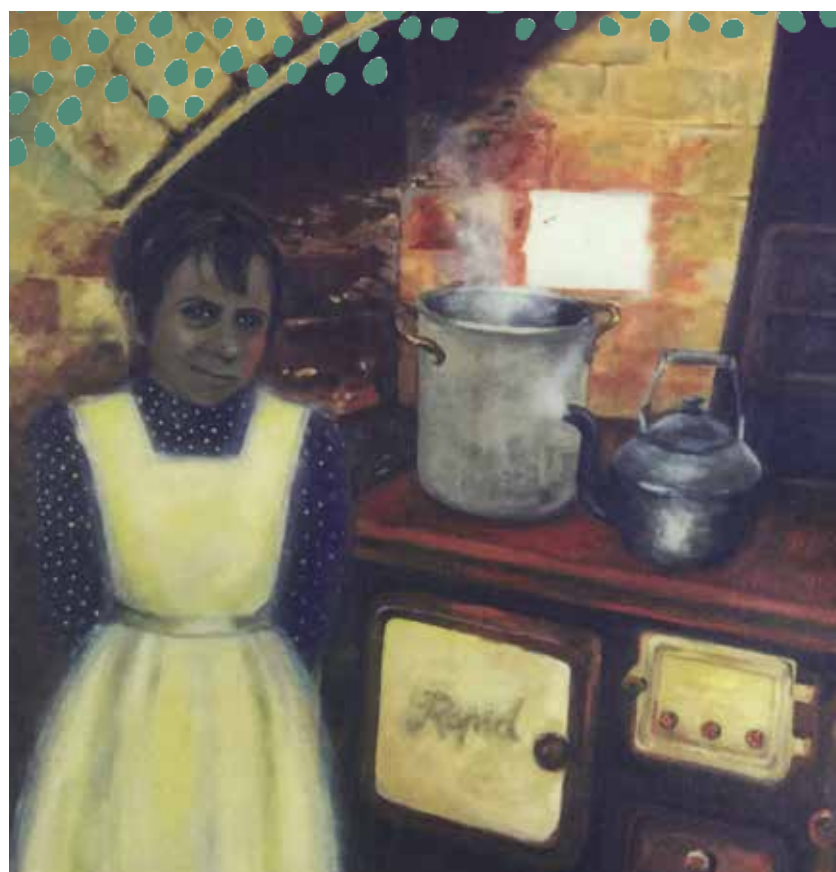
One of the charming, probably too well-kept secrets about performing in regional settings is that audiences aren't necessarily there to see the performer per se - they are there because they follow the venue or 'the night' and as such often have no preconceived expectations. Indeed regional audiences are often venturing out of their comfort zone,

opening themselves up to something they wouldn't even expect to enjoy... had they been given the options of the metropolis, that is.

True to this form, many in the Comfort Music audience had no idea what they were there to see; they were just there as fans of In the Skies, or up for a night out.

As progressive and potentially transformative as this charm of regional performing may be, it can also be a pretty vulnerable place for performers, especially in intimate, multipurpose settings like In the Skies... "is this a gig or...?"

Enter Polash Larsen, into the small gallery space, packed with 30 very well-lit faces seated a metre and a half in front of him, equipped solely with a Blues Brothers style suit, hat and sunglasses, an unplugged acoustic guitar, and his voice.



For Our Elders – Beyond the Voids in Colonial History

with Yorta Yorta/Baraparapa artist and educator Dr Jenny Murray Jones

**Opening Event: 6pm – 8pm
Thursday 6 July**

BOOKINGS: surfcoast.vic.gov.au/NAIDOC

EXHIBITION: Friday 7 – Wednesday 12 July, 10am – 2pm.

WHERE: Winchelsea Shire Hall, 28 Hesse Street, Winchelsea. Ph: 5267 2028

Everyone welcome



FOR OUR ELDERS
2-9 JULY 2023



Exit Polash Larsen 50 minutes later. He has captivated this unassuming, unprepared, but up for it audience (we even sang in tune at one point!) with deeply personal (but unsentimental) stories and songs from his life.

We have been transported: all over the world, from Burwood to Frankfurt to New Delhi; through the decades of music and pop culture (the solace and soundtrack of his life); into the mind of a 5 year-old child being told their parents are separating; to the mind of an adult coming to terms with the unfathomable come entirely relatable (if they weren't your own parents) nature of parental love affairs, breakdowns and difficult life choices...

Comfort Music is part of the La Mama Explorations Season 16-18 July 2023

For interviews, further enquiries or to host Comfort Music in your gallery, theatre or lounge room, contact management@theofftopics.com or PH: 0412085776

For further info or expressions of interest for performing at In the Skies, contact intheskies.art.music@gmail.com or PH: 0410014125

Official Info about Comfort Music:

Comfort Music

A stories and songs show about being caught between two worlds, the Muppets, and finding solace in music.



NAIDOC 2023 at In the Skies

Opening 8 July and running all month, Caracaramigen Colac Aboriginal Gathering Place, in collaboration with In the Skies Art & Music, brings you their annual NAIDOC exhibition,

celebrating a collection of works from local First Nations artists and makers.

Please join us for the opening celebration:

4-6pm, Saturday July 8, 2023, Banud Country, Lorne.

This is a free event proudly brought to you by Caracaramigen Colac Aboriginal Gathering Place, supported by Barwon South West Dhek Dja, In The Skies Art & Music and Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative.

Lorne Sculpture is seeking new members to join their committee

In an earlier edition I called out to members and supporters to join our wonderful committee. Consequently, I am pleased to announce that we have been lucky to have Martha Ackroyd Curtis join our committee. Martha is an accomplished artist herself and a freelance photographer with family in Deans Marsh. We warmly welcome Martha to the Lorne Sculpture team.

Lorne Sculpture is well underway organising the next Biennale in 2024 and we need help to make this fabulous event happen. If you or anyone you know may be interested in joining the committee, please contact me. We remain in strong need of support from additional committee members. All you need is a passion for great art, Lorne and the time to help in our work.

Andrew Stobart - President

president@lornesculpture.com

Community Connect

SURF COAST

ARTS Trail TASTER SHOW

Opening Friday 7 July, 5.30 - 7pm
All Welcome

EXHIBITION DATES 6 - 30 JULY, 2023

HOOP GALLERY
The MAC, 77 Beach Road, Torquay
Open: Thursday to Sunday, 10am-4pm

@surfcoastartmatters
surfcoastartmatters.com.au

Get your **Arts Trail** program at the show and begin planning your trail weekend.

HOOP
GALLERY

Surf COAST
SHIRE

Shadows of Angels

Written by Fleur Murphy
Direction by Iris Walshe-Howling & Janine McKenzie

A new play about an old crime

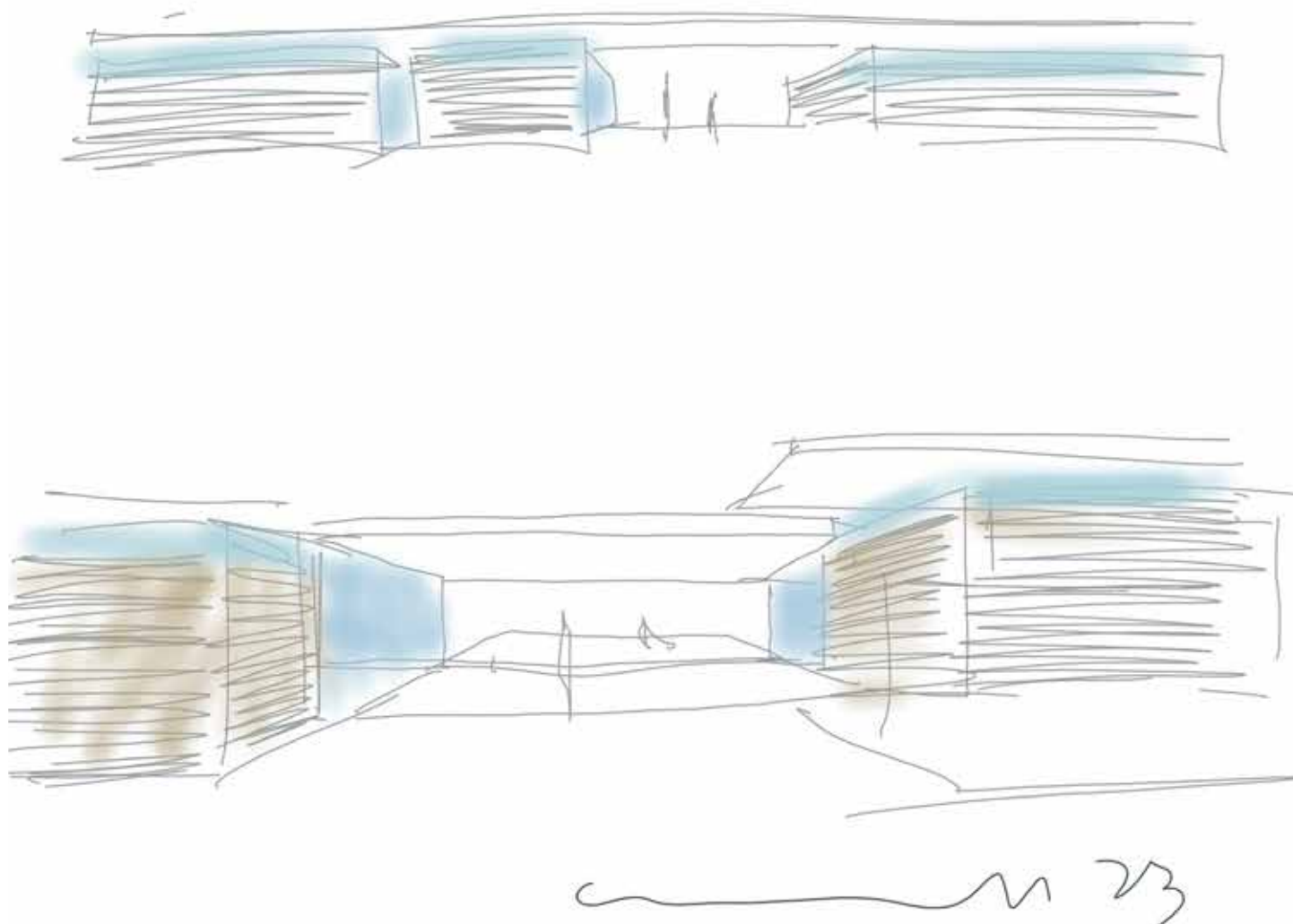
Saturday 22nd July 2023, 3pm & 7pm
@ Community Connect
2 Otway Street, Lorne

Buy tickets @ www.trybooking.com/CIMTE
www.angleseperformingarts.com

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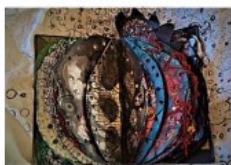


**Join our Altered Book Workshops
with Artist in Residence: Natasha Narain
Saturday 8 & 15 July 2023
10.30 am – 2.00pm**

**Where: Community Connect, 2 Otway St, Lorne.
BYO lunch or buy at local café during lunch break.**

Over the two ½ days (approximately 3 hours each day) Natasha will facilitate your transforming a book into an artwork of your imagination. Natasha will share with you examples and techniques for creating altered books. These include methods of adding such as collage, writing, painting, drawing, and removing by cutting out, concealing, and sewing. By nurturing a sense of playful experimentation, combining images and text present in a book with your mark making and items you add, you shall create a unique work, serving as a personal journal and holder of your stories.

The workshop is limited to 10 places and will be a nurturing space with time for conversation and sharing as well as creating.



Natasha Narain: Kantha Ma-Altered Book. 2021.

To book: email with your name and contact details to:
lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com

Workshop fee \$50.00 payable to:
Lorne Community Connect, 633-000 Acc 190 686 576
Reference: Name

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING Some supplies will be provided but please bring an apron, pen, scissor, glue, acrylic paint and brushes, old magazines, sewing needle and thread. Found objects from nature such as flower, leaf, small twigs, and from home such as buttons, bottle caps. Photocopies of photographs of self/ family/ history/ are welcome to help personalize your work.

EDITORIAL CORRECTION

Mary Lush's very clear article explaining the findings of the Federal Court in granting Native Title included this map.

Unfortunately in the printing process the overlay was not printed.

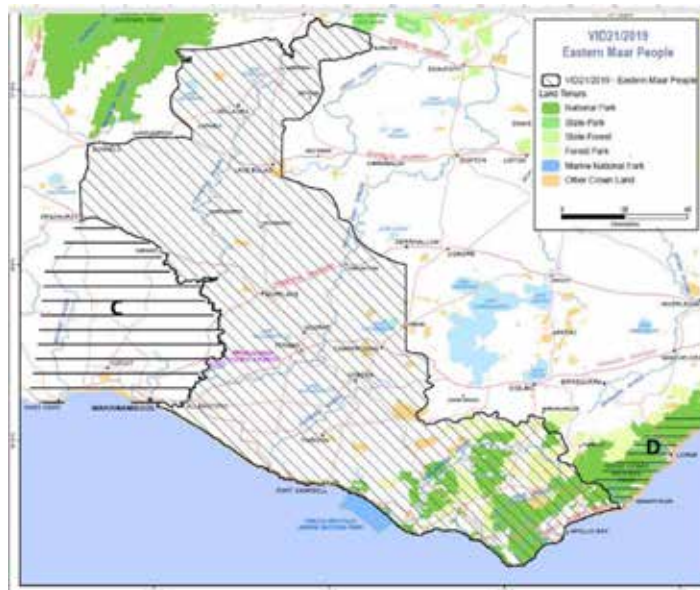
The correct map and the explanation of the different areas is reprinted here correctly.

Some people may have received corrected digital versions. The editor apologises for the mistake.

"I have superimposed on the Federal Court's map two coastal areas that were part of the application for native title, but about which agreement was not reached in time for this determination.

These are shown by horizontal lines and the letters C and D. Native title in these two areas, and others not shown, is still being assessed. Lorne is part of Area D.

Native title determination area (oblique lines) and two of the areas still under consideration (horizontal lines). Sources: Federal Court of Australia and Eastern Maar website."



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LORNE P-12 COLLEGE

Hi Everyone

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

School Band Performances

The College Year 9 and 10 music students have been taking on a new experience this year with outdoor performances in the community every Wednesday, using the new battery powered, portable music equipment. The portable set up means anywhere can become a performance space. The Lorne Foreshore Playground was also a great performance arena for live performances, with the VET and 9&10 bands also doing a busking performance on the playground.

One student noted, *"The session was well-received and it's very cool to have live music in Lorne".*

The year 11 and 12 Vocational Education Training (VET) Band, 'Willis Plane' have performed twice at the Barwon Club alongside Surf Coast College bands with more workshops to come in the future. The opportunity provides a great 3-hour night of music while allowing the VET students to achieve assessment outcomes and experience a real gigging experience. Some independent student personal bands 'Ciao Bella' and 'Fuze' have been supported very well by the school and the students have booked gigs around the Surf Coast region, including the Big 4 at Wye River and the Cowrie Market in Torquay.

Coastal Sustainability



Having learnt about how the traditional owners of the land care about the environment and its creatures, the Lorne P-12 College Prep -Year 7 students are inquiring into the marine life of the 'Great Southern Reef' in a subject called 'Coastal Sustainability'.

The College Staff are delighted to announce that in conjunction with Earthwatch, Kids Teaching Kids and The Victorian Government that the College have received a grant of \$2,700 to support our community action project. The grant was used to cover a visit to the Victorian Marine Discovery Centre and build understanding of the ocean's influence on us, and our influence on the ocean.



Barracuda Sea Country

Thanks to Creative Victoria and the Creative Learning Partnerships initiative, Lorne P-12 College students from Foundation to year 10 are working alongside Artist in Residence Peter Day on the 'Barracuda Sea Country' project. The project aims to raise awareness around the impacts of unsustainable fishing along our coast and educate the community on Lorne's rich fishing history.

During their Visual Arts lessons students have been creating works inspired by the Barracuda!

They have chalk bombed the school yard, created ephemeral works on the beach, heard from guest speakers and worked on a series of personal responses, that explore mixed media and found object art.

The project will culminate in the creation of a large-scale screen artwork that we are hoping will be installed on the foreshore. Students are learning about the power of art as activism! They have accepted their roles as 'art-ivists' and are ready to spread the word through their making and learning.



"Where did the barra go?"

Can this generation lead lasting change along our coast?

We have every confidence they can!



FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

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



Childcare – Lorne

Lorne Early Years Working Group

The Lorne Early Years Working Group was established by the Surf Coast Shire's Community Strengthening Department in March 2023 in response to community members' concerns about limited childcare options and lack of community activities, programs and initiatives for

families with young children living in the Lorne township and surrounding areas. The Working Group consists of Surf Coast Shire Council officers, Great Ocean Road Health (GORH) representatives and a group of interested community members.

What is the Current Situation?

Pleasingly, childcare is now available five days a week at the Lorne Community House- through a combination of Occasional Care and in-venue Family Day Care. There are still vacancies for some age groups.

The Surf Coast Shire's Community Strengthening Department, has established and is facilitating a monthly Lorne Early Years Working Group to discuss childcare and other early years related issues in the Lorne area to work together on addressing identified gaps and to plan for the future based on the needs of local families and children.

Aided by valuable insights provided by community members, the Working Group has identified a number of themes:

Some frustration at the limitations of current local child care options

Confusion regarding funding models for different types of childcare and their viability

Poor attendance at community led activities (e.g. supported playgroup)

Need for better communication regarding what activities are currently available locally

Need for clarity and a shared understanding of the role of Council, Great Ocean Road Health and the community in the design, implementation and delivery of local programs, initiatives and activities for children and families.

A survey has been developed by the Working Group to collect data from local families with the intention of assisting in the development of a list of priority areas for the Working Group to focus its attention.

The priority areas will be based on information gathered and common themes uncovered through the survey to ensure the Working Group's efforts are meaningful and feasible based on the shared needs and feedback of the community.

Next Steps

The survey has been circulated throughout the Lorne and surrounding communities via social media, direct e-mail, a printed version displayed across the Lorne township, promotion by local community members, early years networks and agencies, GORH and the Surf Coast Shire Council.

The survey was open for three weeks, until 23 June 2023, and the Shire will be collating the data and our findings to present to the Working Group in mid-July.

A link to the survey can be found here:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/LorneEarlyYears

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Victorian Public Holidays 2023

New Year's Day

Sunday 1 January

Monday 2 January²

Australia Day

Thursday 26 January

Labour Day

Monday 13 March

Good Friday

Friday 7 April

Easter Monday

Monday 10 April

ANZAC Day

Tuesday 25 April

King's Birthday

Monday 12 June

AFL Grand Final

Subject to AFL schedule

Melbourne Cup

Tuesday 7 November

Christmas Day

Monday 25 December

Boxing Day

Tuesday 26 December

Victorian School Terms 2023

Term 1

Monday 30 January 2023

to

Thursday 6 April 2023

Term 2

Monday 24 April 2023

to

Friday 23 June 2023

Term 3

Monday 10 July 2023

to

Friday 15 September 2023

Term 4

Monday 2 October 2023

to

Wednesday 20 December 2023

All public holiday dates are accurate at the time of publishing, but may be subject to change.



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Lorne: Water, Your Say

Please join us for a conversation on a sustainable and resilient water future.

We are keen to hear from the Lorne community about the values and priorities of residents, businesses, community groups and regular visitors.

We've loved catching up in Lorne recently. Thank you for everyone who has attended a session. We're adding a webinar as another option to get involved.

Join us virtually on:

- Wednesday 12 July
- between 5 pm and 5.45 pm
- online
- Please RSVP by visiting our website

Scan the QR code to RSVP for the webinar and to read more about Lorne: Water, Your Say.

www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/lorne-hub



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www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au |     

Travellers Tales

NINGALOO ECLIPSE

Western Australia 20th April 2023

By Barb and John Barber

It has been our great interest to travel all over Australia with the long drive up the west coast of WA still on our bucket list.

I am a Leo. My star sign is the sun so it's not surprising I have had a lifelong interest in the sun, moon and stars. The Total Solar Eclipse over Exmouth on 20th April '23 fulfilled all my desires and gave John and me a reason to visit the west coast. Away we went along with an estimated 20,000 other Eclipse chasers, also known as Umbraphiles or Shadow chasers.

Travellers, hobby star gazers, scientists, astronomers from all over the world booked all available accommodation in the line of Totality for months ahead. This is the track of the Moon's shadow across Earth's surface. It is also called the Path of Totality.

This path is typically 16,000 kilometres (about 10,000 miles) long but only 160 kilometres (100 miles) or so wide. In order to see the Sun totally eclipsed by the Moon you must be in the path of totality. All these tourists were cruising, camping, caravanning across the World Heritage Ningaloo Reef and Gascoyne River Region. In despair, we settled for a slight (99.65%view). A nearly total view.

Western Australia is a wealthy state. The roads, infrastructure, facilities and landscaping in the towns and National Parks are a pleasure to experience.

The organisation for this event, accommodation, traffic management, information, entertainment and mobile phone contact in this very isolated area was exceptional.

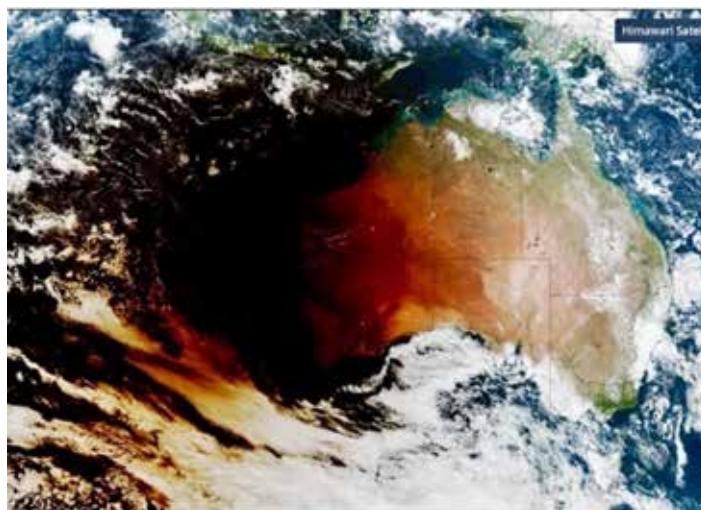
We flew into Perth, stocked up with emergency supplies and over two weeks drove 4,000 kilometres.

Along the way highlights were the famous Pinnacle Desert in the Nambung National Park and beautiful Kalbarri on the Murchison River, exploring its gorges and beaches.

We stopped in Carnarvon, the food bowl of Perth on the Gascoyne River, pretty Coral Bay on the Ningaloo Reef and finally our destination Onslow in the Pilbara region, staying in the Historic Beadon Bay Hotel. Motel accommodation in Exmouth was booked out years earlier for this event.

The pub was staffed with backpackers from France and Italy, happily working remotely to renew their visa in order to stay longer in Australia. Onslow is a "fly in, fly out" mining town of 800 residents. Here it was a "near" Total Eclipse (99.65%.... Good enough!). The town hosted a day/night family friendly, beach front street party.

Over 3 hours we watched and waited as the shadow of the moon crossed the sun. We wore Eclipse Shades guaranteed safe for direct solar viewing. At that moment, 11.23am,



the sky darkened, the wind dropped, seagulls settled and the temperature dropped at least 5 degrees. For less than a minute it was quiet and calm, then the viewing crowd cheered and clapped.

It is an awesome, extraordinary and rare astronomical event.

Several days later we visited Exmouth on Exmouth Gulf. This is a jumping off point for swimming with the whale sharks and snorkelling on the Ningaloo Coral Reef.

The Cape Range National Park and military installations on North West Cape are also fascinating attractions.

Many of the vast cattle stations in the area welcomed visitors and we called in at the Hamelin Bush Heritage property on Shark Bay, famous for the ancient stromatolites, said to be some of the oldest life forms on earth.

It's amazing that Western Australia will experience four more Total Solar Eclipse events in the next 20 years, unheard of around the world. The next opportunity to experience this amazing event is across Northern America, Monday 8th April 2024.

In Australia you must wait until July 22, 2028 and we are planning now to view it over Sydney!



From the Deck

RETIREMENT BY THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD: WHEN JOY TURNS TO RISK

By John Agar

In what may be considered a long and golden period of prosperity [albeit at times through rose-tinted glasses], many have used these years to purchase, build, or renovate along the coastal edge of our continent.

The dream of a coastal address became an increasing reality as hundreds of thousands of Australian families were enticed to purchase holiday homes along the coastal fringe of every Australian state and region.

While the topography and ambience of that fringe vary greatly ... from sweeping open sand-dunes to river frontages, and forest-edged sea-views [like here in Lorne] ... holiday homes have burgeoned along the Australian seaboard from Far North Queensland to our distant west, far to the north of Perth.

Traditionally, holiday homes have been precisely that: occupied during school holidays [especially in the summer months] or on occasional school term-time weekends but locked and deserted for the long periods between.

However, a rapid change seems to have occurred over the last few years. Fuelled by a rising baby-boomer retirement demand for a 'sea change', these once sporadically-used holiday homes are being repurposed. They are morphing into individual retiree homes on the coast, or following the surge in enthusiasm for self-managed online Airbnb or Stayz properties - concepts that often bypass local real estate services - old holiday homes are being bought, renovated, then marketed as pay-their-own-way investment properties.

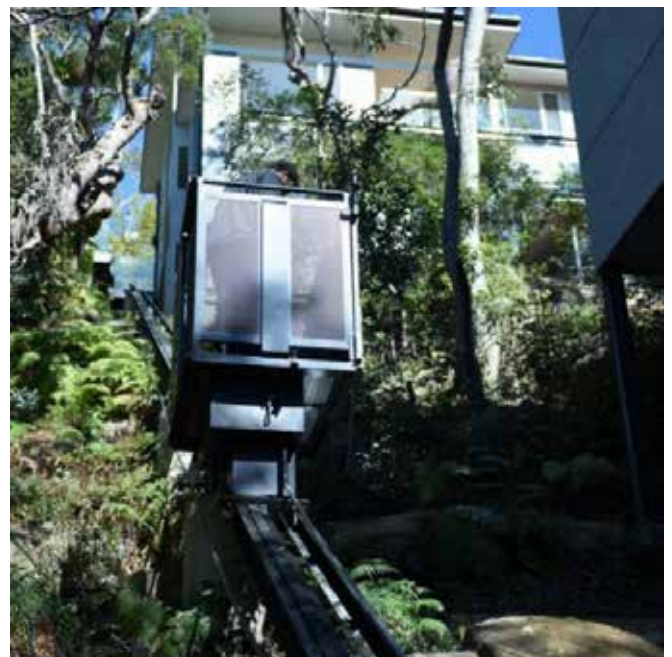


Although I have no second property income-generator, I am one such case in point. After a long, professional working life, I retired a few years ago to my several-times renovated, > 100-year-old Lorne property that has now played host as a home or holiday house to five generations of our family.

For its first 50 years, it was home to my grandmother. In the late 60s, it transitioned into a holiday home for my parents before repurposing again as a home for my mother in the 80s. By the 90s, it had a second run as a holiday home until my retirement a few years ago. Now, for the third time, it is a home - my home. Indeed, I have often wondered just how many properties in Lorne and other coastal towns ... or, for that matter, how many generational families ... may have tracked a similar path.

As far as retirees in Lorne, I am far from alone. Lorne is awash with 'us' ... quietly ageing baby boomer couples - or singles - choosing to spend their autumns [or beyond] beside the sea.

I have written, many times in these pages, of the sublime joy of walking empty beaches in winter, exploring and delighting in the Mountain Ash, Beech and Blackwood, giant Otway Messmate, and ancient Dicksonia fern forests of our wallaby, echidna, koala, and frog-rich hinterland.



From PR King and Sons: Access Solutions

So ... yes ... for the most part, living in Lorne is idyllic - even [or especially] in the chillier months of winter. But there is a catch.

Retirement commonly accompanies ageing. In turn, ageing is commonly accompanied by a seeping set of unwelcomed restrictions ... especially those that diminish mobility or threaten stability.

When young, a slip on a mossy step is commonly correctable - but a slip when older often leads to a fall. Cutting and carting wood becomes increasingly difficult.

Continued page 13

From page 12

Particularly in Lorne, the hilly terrain begins to nibble at the edges of the pleasure of the block. Gardening, once a pleasure, can become a chore. Small things, once simple, can become complex.

I love my home, its old and established garden with its nooks and crannies. Having taken my very first steps in its garden, I have always resisted any suggestion to change it. Indeed, my resistance to change is something of a family joke! It has taken my first-ever fall to make me realise that my block is impractical for aged living ... especially its access... and I am ageing!

Having recently suffered a fall when a mossy step shed its moss beneath my foot and prompted my very best impression of the celebrated British ski jumper, Eddie the Eagle, in full flight, I have been forced to face my own access issues. A once delightful garden on a steep slope, replete with Edna Walling stone steps and pathways, now presents a challenge. If I am to continue to live in my single-level home on its' access-problematic slope, it is clear that my access from car to house will need to be reimagined, using ramps, lifts, rails, or an inclinor. Importantly, I suspect this same issue must be surfacing for other retirees in other homes.

Have I delayed confronting this looming problem for too long? ... perhaps ... but hopefully not. But if my experience helps to encourage others to identify and confront any access issues in their own properties, then all the better. Internal lifts do not have to cost an arm and a leg. Thoughtfully designed ramps can often be used to replace deteriorating external steps. As a more extreme [and costly] option,

external inclination can be effective for some blocks [NB: there is an easily visible example of an inclinor near the Eastern View Arch for those unsure of that option].

The Aged Care debate is much on the radar at the moment. Front and centre of Aged Care planning is the intent to "keep the elderly at home in their own homes and out of aged care homes". Suddenly, an issue I have given only passing thought [or have subconsciously suppressed] is now front and centre in my planning. I have a sneaking suspicion that it must be for others, too.

One thing suddenly seems crystal clear ... if I [and others] are to remain safe in our treasured seaside homes, we need to think carefully about how to future-proof our homes - and now!

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GO WHERE THE TRADIES GO



Keith Miller
Commodore



I'm still in England and have been for 5 weeks so another short newsletter again this month.

I've been over here in Pommy Land more times than I can count, but I've never experienced such magnificent weather as this trip. We had one drizzly cold day up in Scotland and the rest of the trip has been in the mid 20's, although it's up to 30 at the moment.

They are finally starting to wake up and copy some of the good stuff us convicts from down under have been doing for many years.

Their warm beer and ale is rapidly going out of fashion and refrigerated lager is becoming their biggest seller. Most of them are quite good...or so I've been told.

Also, most of their trains are now air-conditioned which is much better.

I can remember being here during a heat wave in August a few years back and the trains were unbearably hot.



Our Celebrity Judges, Peter Spring, Elizabeth Punton and Leon Armistead. I'm betting they won't be eating sausage rolls for a very long time.

Major Fishing Comp Number Four SPONSORED BY LORNE CONCRETING TOM DAWSON

The weather was pretty good with a light wind but unfortunately there was a big swell running which kept the boat anglers away so once again the pier and shore anglers cleaned up.

After the presentations we served up a lovely roast beef lunch. There were a good number of fish caught considering the big swell. Our sponsor for the day Tom Dawson presented the prizes.



Junior winner Charlie Hunter with a Salmon, 2258 points.

School Fishing Outing & Instruction Day

We recently ran another fishing day for 20 Year Nine students from the Lorne P-12 College. As is the custom we supplied everything. Our trusty Vice Commodore Ric was in charge so he led the group out onto the pier and got them all organised. Fishing was quiet until local gun angler Rhys Peillon was having no luck with bait so he rigged up a lure and immediately caught a nice sized Couta. Shortly after that he changed to a Squid Jig and caught a nice Calamari.

Not long after that the wind got up so they went back to the club house for lunch and to listen to the guest speaker, Aboriginal educator Richard Collopy, who delivered a very informative presentation.



Just before that, our gun angler Rhys asked if he could cook his catch on our BBQ. The cooking and shared eating of the catch was the highlight of the day.

Story by Ric Addison

Men of the Men's Shed

PETER MORGAN

By Garry Fenton

Peter was born on the North Shore of Sydney in 1944. His father was a bad asthmatic, and the doctor suggested the family should live near the sea, so they moved to Collaroy, one of the Northern Beaches in Sydney, where he went to Narrabeen Primary School, then to Manly Boys High School.

"I was an average student to be honest. I didn't finish with great qualifications, nor did I have parents that encouraged me to further my studies, but suggested I get a job. I was interested in architecture but wasn't interested in just doing drafting. Not having the qualifications to go to University, I spent three months over summer on the beaches in Sydney and with lots of girls in polka dotted bikinis, I wasn't interested in any sort of work".

When Peter's parents told him he could only live at home if he had a job, he went down to GJ Coles where he had worked as a casual the previous Christmas. He had enjoyed talking with customers and dealing with merchandise. Peter decided to stay with them until he figured out what he wanted to do. But in fact, he stayed with them for forty years. "I went from sweeping the floors, as they say, to being an Executive Director of Coles-Myer Limited and being Chief Executive of K-Mart and Target Discount Group. The early part of the nineties was a complex and challenging time in the company, and I was involved in the changing structure and management."

Peter retired in 1999 and went on to do non-executive board roles on a couple of listed companies and some private companies. After a full decade of that involvement, he opted for full retirement.

Peter and wife Carol wanted to get near the beach and after looking around settled at Lorne twenty-five years ago. They still go back and forth to Melbourne, but the Covid lockdown forced them to spend more time in Lorne, which Peter thoroughly enjoyed.



Peter has always been quite handy with his hands and referred to himself as being a DIY guy. He was always interested in mechanics and engineering anyway. "Dad was not into DIY, so anything that needed fixing in my youth was either done by me or not at all."

Peter had recently visited two interstate Men's Sheds where he had relations involved. Whilst they were enthusiastic, their sheds were quite small and equipment not of a high standard. "We are truly blessed at Lorne with the Shed, the equipment and the enthusiastic membership."

Peter felt when moving to a new town the important thing is to become involved in some way and the Men's Shed was perfect for him when it opened. One of the great things Peter became aware of at the Shed was blokes happy to talk about and help with health issues. Just to have coffee and chat about a range of things is just so healthy for the group. "I reckon the Coot boat was my favourite project. It was interrupted by Covid and the ensuing lockdowns. But I met Tony through that and remember being impressed by his detail and work".

When asked his opinion of the shed coffee, Peter, with a very cheeky smile, hesitated before saying "some of our baristas are very good and perhaps a couple need some more training. But I won't mention names. The important thing is there are always people around to have a chat to."

Peter felt the Shed was ticking along nicely, but a couple more definitive projects would be good.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

By John Ford

Very little sports news from Lorne has come to my attention as we have not always had good wifi connections.

I did hear about the Dolphins' impressive win over Birregurra on June 17th. The 9 / 11 / 65 to 4 / 10 / 34 keeps Lorne in serious contention for a finals berth being in 5th place on the CDFL ladder. Lorne is in Apollo Bay on the 25th Lorne. (Note Lorne won 25/06) Always a tough assignment is Lorne's next home match against Otway District.

I will be bracing myself for the cold weather and I will be back home in time for this encounter.

I am also looking forward to speaking with Callum Norton following his excellent performance in the Finke Desert Race where he was runner up to David Walsh.

In the last edition of Sportsbriefs I write that I was on holiday in Northern Italy where there was rain causing flooding and loss of life. Our family holidays continue but we are now in Sicily on the longest day of the year. And most days are hot and sunny and around 30 degrees.

Last week we stayed in Taormina right next to the Taormina Sporting Club which was established in 1925. It is a community club and the president Loris Turino and head coach Roberto Moscello welcomed me to have full access to player and coaches for the purpose of writing Sportsbriefs.

The club has 3 coaches who coach players for a range of ages from 8 to about 80 years of age. This club is very proud to be a community club receiving only modest grants and sponsorship by the pizza shop. On the night we were there it was the Opening of the Summer Competitive Season and junior players were meeting local dignitaries who were in attendance.



The photos show the clay courts with Mt Etna in the background and the luxury hotel that was the setting for Series 2 of the very popular White Lotus. The second photo shows Coach Roberto showing me some serving basics on the clay court.

Women's Golf Report

Well, May was quiet....but June has not been! Lots to report from our intrepid Women golfers who have travelled far and wide and had some outstanding results.

Club Golf.

May Monthly Medal went to Sue England pipping Rose Lloyd.

June Monthly Medal went to Rose - playing on a wet and heavy course!

Club annual Putting completion - played over 3 rounds, with 2 best scores counted - Rose

Lloyd was the eventual winner after a close final round, with a score of 61 putts over 2 rounds!



One of our Club's long time members, and a huge contributor to the club - both past and present - is June Stafford. June celebrated her milestone birthday (ate tea) with us on June 6th and achieved a personal goal of still playing 18 holes. Over lunch and cake, many shared their special memories of June, and she was awarded a special "OBE" from the Club - Over Bloody Eighty". Congratulations June!

SWGA Golf.

So..... what a month of regional comps and play from the Lorne women. They have competed in the following in June:

Torquay open Challenge Bowl Monday 5 June.

2 teams played in a large field, with one team coming in 3rd.

Individually we had some great results with Anne Maree Kennedy winning C grade with 35 points, followed closely by Sue Neill with 32 points.

June 8th was the start of the Apollo Bay Open week - their 60th anniversary of running this 4 day event. On the Thursday, Rose Lloyd teamed up with Vicki Hannah (Apollo Bay) at the Bay to win the 4BBB with a fantastic score of 43 points. The word is that they played in pretty good conditions, mostly sunny with no rain.... Yes, you read correctly, Apollo Bay and no rain!! Great effort Rose!

Friday 9th back to The Bay where Chris Angus, Sue England, Bronwyn Halpin and Jan Young teamed up and competed in the Apollo Bay Point Bunbury Shield & 27 hole stroke event.

Continued page 17

EV CHARGERS HELPING TO DRIVE COUNCIL EMISSIONS REDUCTION

Surf Coast Shire Council is progressing towards zero emission fleet vehicle goals with installation of four electric vehicle, EV, chargers at three sites.

Council received \$30,500 for the \$55,000 project through the Victorian Government's EV Charging for Council Fleets funding program, enabling installation of two 22kW chargers at its Torquay Civic headquarters and one apiece at Torquay and Winchelsea works depots.

Council is targeting zero emissions for its light fleet vehicles by 2027-28, and for its whole fleet including trucks and excavators by 2030.

"This installation project provides us with EV charging coverage at Council's main work sites and provides scope for expansion of our EV fleet and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, in line with our Climate Emergency response," Cr Kate Gazzard said.

"We acknowledge the Victorian Government's valuable support.

"Council resolved in April last year to set June 2030 as a target for zero greenhouse gas emissions from all corporate operations, excluding Anglesea landfill, and this is another step towards that ambition."

Council has one existing EV in its fleet at present and is aiming to add an additional two EVs to the fleet during the next 12 months. As part of the move towards electric, Council has been transitioning its light fleet vehicles to hybrid.



Cr Kate Gazzard with EV charger

Council also provides free public EV chargers at Moriac Community Centre and Lorne Visitor Information Centre and is working on further installations across the shire to meet rising demand and expectations, promote more sustainable transport options and encourage more sustainable tourism.

The 'Zero 2030' target was set as part of Council's Climate Emergency Response, in line with International Panel on Climate Change statements that deep cuts in emissions are required within this decade if global temperatures are to remain well below two degrees Celsius.

From page 16



It was a cold, wet and windy Apollo Bay day, however the girls dug in and Team Lorne had a great win, winning the shield back to back from last year.

Also individually on the day, Sue E. won C grade 27 hole gross with 159; Bronwyn won C grade 27 hole nett with 108.5 and Chris was the B grade winner 27 hole nett r/u with 117.

A wonderful achievement with 52 women in the field. They are already talking about going back next year to see if they can make it a hat trick! Well done!

Monday June 19th - And the winning streak continues for the Women's Golf Section..... Congratulations to Barb Barber, Chris Angus and Sue England winning the Ladies Beeac Shield today beating the home team by 2 points. Fortunately the weather did not deter them.

Well done again!

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.

LORNE GARDEN ESCAPADES

by Lou Davies

Our well organized trip this time was to beautiful Buninyong, a village type town about 10 mins south west of Ballarat.

We met at the Buninyong Botanic gardens where we had morning tea and met our excellent guide, Lorraine Powell from the Friends of Buninyong Botanic Gardens. These gardens are the fourth oldest in the state of Victoria, Melbourne being the oldest, followed by Geelong and Ballarat. Our knowledgeable guide advised us that the names botanic or botanical are interchangeable and the original naming depended on the bureaucrat writing up the specifications for a particular garden.

Lorraine was very informative, had great knowledge and she told the history of the gardens with a sense of fun. This made our tour of the gardens very interesting and enjoyable. The gardens were established in 1862 and are only 10 acres. Many plants and trees were donated from the Melbourne Royal Botanic Gardens and planted by Ferdinand von Mueller.

There are two parts to the gardens divided by a thoroughfare. The upper gardens are centred around a small lake called a Gong, a name used by both the Aboriginal and the Chinese people. Just beside the lake is an old brewery built in 1855. Beer was brewed here as the water wasn't fit for drinking, but they could use the water from the Gong to make the beer. The lower section of the Garden featured large trees, shrubs and also a lovely Rotunda built to honour Queen Victoria at her death in 1901. Of course the Autumn colours were magnificent. The Algerian oak was nearly lost as it was cut through by vandals, but it was saved by bandaging it with hessian and some of its own bark for 3 years and now it stands tall and proud at about 60 feet.

From here we went to Heather's beautiful large native garden just one kilometre out of town. Her husband had built their stunning home of timber and stone which snuggled into the landscape beautifully. The garden is only 7 years old but a vast array of native trees were very happy in their environment. There were gums, wattles, grevilleas, callistemon, correas etc. There was a large vegetable garden as well. Their outdoor living areas, of which there were 4, were inspiring as they all melded into the garden. There was a spring fed dam and a creek running through their unique property.

Then we were off to the village for lunch at Maggie and Kate's café, where we had a delicious light lunch. Just what we needed !!

Our second private garden was also very amazing. This was situated on the bottom slopes of Mt Buninyong.

This garden was far more formal, but magnificently planted. It was full of ornamental trees and shrubs with mass plantings. Of course being deciduous trees the colours through out the garden were very vibrant at this time of the year. There were rows of red berberis, copper beech, ginkgoes and red maples.



Four large, beautiful double pink flowering cherries, *Prunus* species Kanzan, sheltered a lovely courtyard. There was a huge vegetable garden, a very wide extensive new border garden full of ginkgoes, budlias, rhododendrons, small maples, many perennials, magnolias, verbena etc. In a protected area of the property were many showy hydrangeas and more maples.



The gardens we visited were both maintained by their owners. Huge jobs!! We all felt weary at the work loads of each owner. It was a very interesting trip to an old gold mining area with lots of history as well as the gardens.



Continued page 19

From page 18

On Tuesday 6th June 19 of the Garden group headed for the Melton Botanic Gardens at Melton. We left at 7.30 am and it took 2 hours to get there.

The gardens were first mooted in 2003 by a like minded group of people who wanted to develop an open space into native gardens. The Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens Inc. began with 30 or so dedicated volunteers. With loads of hard work, council funding and grants, a master plan was established. The Gardens were officially opened in 2017 and now there are 80 active volunteers who do all the work and 300 financial members. An amazing feat !!



The gardens cover 25 acres right in the middle of suburbia. They selected the site as it had a creek running through it with many beautiful old Red River Gums, some 200 years old.

There are many different areas with a focus on conservation, indigenous growth and dry climate areas, very like the environment of the Melton area. There are Mediterranean, Californian, South African, Central American, Succulent, Victorian volcanic plains, South Australian, Western Australian, Dry land and Indigenous food plant areas.

There is a large lake which is home to a wide variety of birds. The island in the lake is to become a bird sanctuary. There is also a working nursery where they propagate many species and also sell to the public. .

The Melton Botanic Gardens has won many awards and has been given many grants over the years. Much support from the council and locals has made this place special.



On our arrival we had a lovely morning tea of home made goodies, provided, of course, by the volunteers. We then had a guided tour for about 1 ¼ hours with the President John Bentley. He was extremely interesting and had a vast knowledge of the gardens, plants and environment. He also informed us of all the grants applied for, assistance given by council and state government and help from those “working for the dole”

After the Gardens we headed to Bacchus Marsh for lunch at Lola's café. Here very good hearty meals were enjoyed by everyone. From here we went to a private garden in Rowsley, about 12 kms away.

This was an old garden, approximately 5-7 acres. The owner, Kerrie Miller, had taken over the garden from her mother. It was full of many mature rose bushes; mature Alistair Clarke roses and David Austin roses.

There was a pear walkway and an apple walkway. She had many many echiums, thus the property was named Echium Rise. Her mother had made some very interesting sculptures for the garden. There was also an historic medlar hedge. Kerrie's mother was present for our visit. The garden was situated on a rise with magnificent views as far as the Dandenongs in one direction and the You Yangs in another.

The climate in this area does not encourage gardening. It is extremely harsh in both Summer and Winter.

Following our garden tour we were fortunate to have Carolyn Blackman from ABC radio talk back and Vivid Design to address us. Her talk centred on her journey from her school days to a love of horticulture, which in those days was a brave move for a young woman. She left school early against strong advice and went to work in Poyntons Nursery in Essendon. From there she went into the ABC and became a pioneer for women in horticulture.

She was very interesting, friendly and full of knowledge. She answered many garden queries. Our hostess then provided us with a lovely refreshing cup of tea or coffee and some home made slices.

It was then time to head back to Lorne after a full day of adventure.



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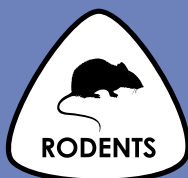
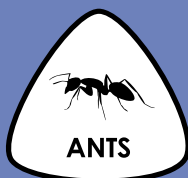
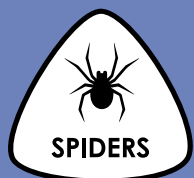
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THE ATTRACTION OF TREES AND PLANTS

By Doug Williams

We nearly missed it, only seeing it at the last minute since we were nearly out of town. It was in Apsley in far western Victoria where, on the surface, there doesn't appear to be much going on (although I did go to a wedding in the local hall there many decades ago) that we saw the tallest flowering gum in the Southern Hemisphere. I've seen a lot of these gums over the years and this one was almost twice the height of any of those.

All places like to be able to stand out and having a unique thing is a common way of doing this. Kingston in South Australia built the Big Lobster and Queensland has the Big Pineapple. This peculiar obsession with built big things is not the same though, as having a natural attraction. There's the Big Chook, the Big Earthworm and the Big Milkshake, but these are not the same as the Twelve Apostles or Uluru or the Grampians or our very own Erskine Falls.

When it comes to viewing trees of interest I'd advise people to visit Centurion in Tassie, a mountain ash, a tick under 100 metres (or about twenty power poles stacked one on top of another) tall. Still growing, this makes it not only the tallest tree but the tallest flowering plant in the world. Some of the other vegetal visits I have liked are the banksias on Fraser Island, numerous botanical gardens, the spring tulip festival at Monbulk, the fernery at Ripponlea, the Strathmerton Cactus Garden I wrote about last month and the baobab trees at the entrance to The Geelong Botanical Gardens (just up the road). I'm hoping to see older, larger baobabs up north at some stage.

I know of only a couple of Moreton Bay figs in Lorne and the one in the clearing south of the surf club is the finest we have here. (If there are others, please let me know.) And many of us are drawn to visit gardens under an Open Garden Scheme which operates in most states. It is based on the British National Garden scheme which began raising money for charity in 1927 and is still going strong. Botanical gardens now exist for our pleasure more than for scientific reasons which was their original purpose. So if I had a choice of what to visit you can keep your Big Lollipop, Big Gumboot, Big Rocking Horse and Big Stubbie. If there's a plant to look at, that's for me.

There's a magnificent oak tree at what was once Anzac Hostel in Brighton (formerly 'Kamesburgh') where war veterans were housed from 1919 until 1995 (a New Anzac House was



built in the grounds in 1998) and a tremendously impressive Moreton Bay fig in the grounds there. I worked there as a gardener and have since read that, "for its collection of mature plants, including several trees individually listed on the National Trust's Register of Significant Trees; the trees at Kamesburgh are among the best collection of mature species trees in a Victorian private garden". The massive old English oak was an easy climb for any small child lucky enough to be hoisted into it to fill pockets with green acorns, and its vast canopy and endlessly spreading branches would shade a family of whales.

Many of us have a favourite tree. There was also a delightful mature weeping elm. This tree was special for me because I could picnic romantically beneath the cloistered foliage during my lunch break and it provided discreet and dappled green privacy for two young people to enjoy its soft, Impressionist light. When we talk about the attraction of big things v green ones it's like comparing a calculus manual with a romance novel.

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COUNCIL ENGAGES WADAWURRUNG LAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO CARE FOR COUNTRY

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) has been engaged by Surf Coast Shire Council to provide traditional land management services on Country, an arrangement that is the first of its kind for Council.

This week WTOAC's Gobata Dja (Caring for Country) team carried out revegetation and erosion management works at Djarrak (Bells Beach), with plans for these services to be undertaken at other sites of cultural significance to Wadawurrung.

The works support delivery of WTOAC's Healthy Country Plan, Paleert Tjaara Dja, and its vision 'Wurrnggurwilwa gupma bengadak Wadawurrung': all people working together to make Wadawurrung Country and culture strong.

Partnership work like this strengthens the relationship between WTOAC and Surf Coast Shire Council to make Country good together.

WTOAC CEO Liam Murphy said: "I am proud of the achievements our Gobata Dja (Caring for Country) team have made over the last two years; particularly establishing a framework so that Traditional Owners are back on Country, protecting and healing places that have been cared for by Wadawurrung people for tens of thousands of years.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of Surf Coast Shire Council and allowing for the opportunity for Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to once again care for Country."

WTOAC Natural Resource Management Manager Chris Fagan said: "Doing this land management out at this beautiful piece of Dja that in Wadawurrung language we call Djarrak otherwise known as Bells Beach, is a massive milestone for Wadawurrung.

It is a special place for our Mob and building on an already great relationship with the Surf Coast Shire Council, this allows us to be back out on Dja looking after it, so in return it will then look after us and everyone that enjoys it."

Surf Coast Shire Mayor Cr Liz Pattison said: "Wadawurrung people have been caring for these lands and waterways and their creatures for tens of thousands of years.



Above (L-R): Uncle Norm Eccles, Liam Murphy, Cr Liz Pattison, Corrina Eccles

It's so important that sites of cultural and environmental significance like Djarrak are protected for generations to come. Engaging Gobata Dja to undertake land management work on Country supports Wadawurrung co-management of land and ultimately, self-determination: Traditional Owners managing their Country."

This project is supported by the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, through funding from the Australian Government's Bellarine and Great Ocean Road Dunecare Coastal Management Grants Program.

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LORNE MATTERS

Woody Weed Removal and Habitat Restoration on the Foreshore

by Penny Hawe

GORCAPA is in the second year of a 5-year strategy to remove woody weeds (including most of the coast tea tree) on the Foreshore. Friends of Lorne have put together a series of photos and explanations of what is happening where along the 4-kilometre strip from Stony Creek to the pier. Go to www.friendsoflorne.org.au and follow the link. In some places, like the Doug Stirling track and parts of the Erskine River estuary area, all the coast tea tree is coming out.

In other places, like around the dog sculptures, it remains. On the long stretch adjacent to the off-leash dog beach a one-in-three process of removal will take place. GORCAPA fact-checked the document for Friends of Lorne prior to publication to prevent misinterpretation and misinformation.

GORCAPA invites feedback on their policy by 10 July 2023 to <https://haveyoursay.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/restoring-lornes-habitat/lorne-habitat-feedback>.

Community values are taken into account, alongside habitat restoration and ecosystem management. Already, in response to feedback, GORCAPA has staged their removal strategy. So, if you care, they want to hear about it.

The Friends of Lorne document points out where shade, windbreak, privacy screening, and sight lines from the beach to the road may be affected for periods of time. Replacement plantings are occurring in some places. Other places are being left to revegetate naturally. The document also notes that rufous bristlebirds are present in the area (critically endangered).

Music Quiz by Ray Sutton

Due to lack of entries when we made this a competition, this is just for your person testing. Answers in next edition (August).

Every night when we watch the news, we see the horrors being inflicted on the people of Ukraine. We cannot know what the reality of that horror is like although some amongst us who have served in other places of war may have an inkling. A Ballard is a poem that tells a story of adventure, of romance, or of a hero, that is suitable for singing. Song writers have long tried to evoke our emotions by writing about the gambit of human experience, usually focussing on love, joy, our dreams, our relationships to one another, and occasionally a song about war. This story is made up from lyrics of some of those songs. There are eleven songs by nine artists. It is a sad story, but it is about heroes.

War and Peace

We all want to change the world but when you talk about destruction don't you know you can count me out. You may say I'm a dreamer but I'm not the only one. Then in 1915 my country said, "son it's time to stop rambling, there's work to be done". Get your bags together, go bring your good friends too. So, they put a rifle in my hand and sent me off to a foreign land. We left as inmates from an asylum, and we were sharp as sharp as



knives, and we were so gung-ho to lay down our lives. We held the coastline, they held the highlands, and they were sharp, as sharp as knives. They heard the hum of our motors, they counted the rotors and waited for us to arrive.

The orders were, "when the night is cold and still, when you thought you'd had your fill, take all the time you will, this is not a test, it's not a drill. Take no prisoners, only kill. My mate said, "now I've been crying lately thinking about the world as it is" 'and I replied, "wait until the war is over and we're both a little older". A bullet strikes the helmet head, and it was all over.

And as our ship pulled into Circular Quay, I looked at the place my legs used to be and thank Christ there was nobody waiting for me to grieve, to mourn, and to pity.

All We Are Saying is Give Peace a Chance.

LORNE FAMILIES!

We want to hear from you...

Surf Coast Shire Council and Great Ocean Road Health are seeking feedback from families with young children (under school age).

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FOR OUR ELDERS: NAIDOC WEEK EXHIBITION TO BE UNVEILED

Yorta Yorta/Baraparapa artist Dr Jenny Murray-Jones will share conversation and open her exhibition — *For Our Elders: Beyond the Voids in Colonial History* — as part of NAIDOC Week celebrations in Winchelsea.

The free Surf Coast Shire Council event will be held at Winchelsea Shire Hall on Thursday 6 July from 6pm to 8pm. Joined by Council's Arts Development Officer Harriet Gaffney, Jenny will delve into her PhD work, exploring the hidden histories of place and the impact of successive government policies on her family.

Deputy Mayor Cr Mike Bodsworth was looking forward to viewing all of the works in *For Our Elders: Beyond the Voids in Colonial History*.

"I've seen a few pieces that will be displayed in the exhibition. For me, the details in Jenny's paintings evoke such a powerful, emotional response," he said. "I'm excited to see more and to learn from Jenny. I'm sure it will be a special event, so I encourage interested community members to book their spot."

The conversation will be followed by an opportunity to meet the visual artist and view the works, and a light supper.

The exhibition will continue from Friday 7 July to Tuesday 11 July, between 10am and 4pm. Jenny will be in-residence at the hall on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday, so visitors can discuss the works with her. People can also download a copy of Jenny's thesis which extends 'understandings of the nature and make-up of contemporary Indigenous families, and the ways in which oral history and art become a crucial means of reclaiming identity'.



Dr Jenny Murray-Jones, This is Where They Wanted Us to Be

"This year's NAIDOC Week theme is *For Our Elders*, which ties in beautifully with Jenny's work as it researched oral accounts of Elders who hold knowledge of the past," Cr Bodsworth said.

"Council is proud that this exhibition supports our Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation, and the need for truth-telling as Victoria moves towards Treaty."

The 6 July NAIDOC Week exhibition opening event will begin with a Welcome to Country by Eastern Maar Traditional Owners. Bookings are essential, via surfcoast.vic.gov.au/NAIDOC.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia annually in the first week of July, to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The Second Voice

I'm afraid I have serious doubts about the issues raised by Cr. Gary in last month's Independent about the Voice to Parliament. The public seems to be only hearing one side of this argument, the Yes vote, which is effectively a Second Voice to the Australian Parliament. It already contains eleven elected members of Aboriginal descent.

"We'll work out the details later", seems to be the Federal Government stance and this lack of detail does not cut it for me, nor should it for anybody else. It is hard to put trust in politicians on any issue let alone this very important one. Doubts remain about how representative it will be, exactly who will be appointing whom and who will be eligible.

The resulting body which is described as being advisory only, can in fact go to the High Court on any issue that concerns it, and this could potentially be any and every issue. What a mess governance would end up being.

The potential for factionalism concerns me too and the past dreadful experience of ATSIC which was beset by controversy, corruption and criminal behaviour explains why I am uneasy about any proposed 'advisory' body.

Nobody can tell me just how much this exercise will cost, while there are so many other areas of spending that are being neglected. At present there are more than one hundred agencies representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

These various bodies demonstrate the expanse of representation they already have and they receive well over thirty billion dollars every year which is more than is shelled out on Medicare.

In 1967 the Australian people voted overwhelmingly to remove references to 'race' in our constitution. Over 90% of Australians (read, white Australians) voted 'Yes'. It was the highest 'Yes' vote ever recorded in this country.

The current proposal before the public intends to put race back into our constitution which will mean special rights to only one cohort of our population. This is a section that represents less than 4% of the population, not all of whom will vote 'Yes' to this constitutional change anyway.

In effect a 'Yes' vote will allow for a Second Voice to parliament.

This is an important issue and since there is so much uncertainty and doubt surrounding this issue, my advice is: If you don't know, say 'No'. (I know which way I'll be voting.)

Doug Williams

Continued page 31

From page 30**Dear Editor,****The Point Grey Development**

It is now 40 years since ASH WEDNESDAY on February 16 1982 obliterated a greater part of Lorne and surrounding areas along our coastline.

I wonder, not if but when, it will happen again.

Last time school-holidays were over therefore less people needed shelter.

Now, Point Grey Pier Area presents a perfect opportunity to plan and develop A Safe Fire Hazard Area incorporating protection from embers and flying debris with provision of toilets, power outlets, reliable communication facilities, clean drinking water and a mother's and babies room with a kitchen attached.

Let us use this opportunity to develop an area of safety and beauty for this, our town, Lorne.

Thank you
Lorraine Goette

Dear Editor,**Kings's Birthday Honours**

On behalf of the Lorne community, I would like to congratulate Lorraine Griffiths, Ted Gallagher and Councillor Rose Hodge on their recognition in the King's Birthday Honours. Lorraine was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to children as a foster carer. Lorraine and husband Sam have fostered over 140 children over 20 years.

Ted was awarded the OAM for services to surf lifesaving. Ted has been an active member of the Club since 1962 and has held various executive roles with the Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club since 1982. Councillor Rose Hodge a long term Councillor and Mayor of the Surf Coast Shire four times was also awarded an OAM for extraordinary community devotion and distinguished service to Council since 2004

Congratulations and thank you Rose, Lorraine & Ted for all your commitment and community spirit

Clive Goldsworthy

Dear Editor,**Why I support the Voice.**

There are many disadvantaged groups in Australia, all of whom would surely like to have a greater say in government matters affecting them. So why should one group, Indigenous Australians, be given a special and constitutionally-enshrined voice to parliament? There is no doubting the extreme level of disadvantage in many Indigenous communities: the statistics on, for example, life-expectancy and imprisonment, are shocking and unacceptable. But while that is an often-stated reason for the Voice, it is not, in my view, a sufficient reason. So why do I support the Voice?

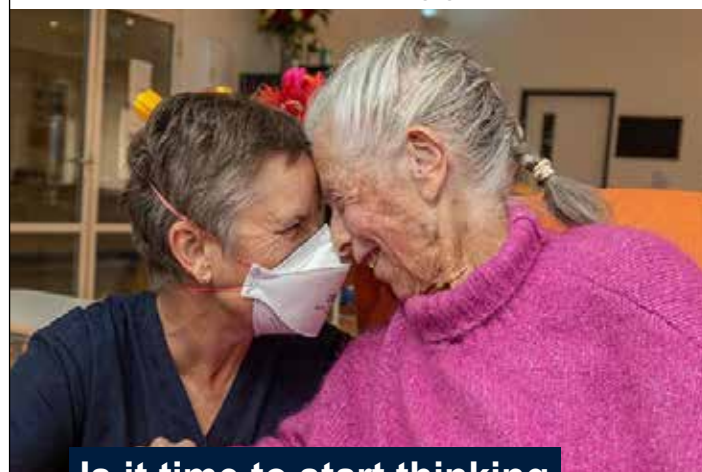
Firstly, the proposed Voice is intimately connected to the proposed recognition of Indigenous Australians in the words of the constitution - a recognition (widely supported) that they were the custodians of this land for thousands of years before colonisation. Such recognition is central to what defines Australia, so it should be more than just words. It needs to be more substantial. In my mind this justifies giving Indigenous Australians their own Voice to Parliament: that would be tangible recognition.

Secondly, the disadvantage that many Indigenous Australians experience has a different genesis from that of other disadvantaged groups. Much is the result of colonisation: their land was taken from them, many of their children were taken away, they were omitted from the national census, they lacked electoral franchise, they have been subjected to paternalistic laws.

The impact of colonisation on them and their way of life has been nothing short of catastrophic, and warrants redress in a tangible way. Thirdly, modern Australia has much to learn from the traditional practices and beliefs of Indigenous culture. Top of mind here is "connection to country", respect for non-human life, living in harmony with nature, being custodians not owners of the land. In contrast, modern Australia, with its worship of wealth, consumerism and exploitation of nature is demonstrably unsustainable both environmentally and ethically.

It is perhaps wishful thinking on my part, but a louder indigenous voice could show us a way towards a brighter future.

Ian Penrose



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THE LOUTTIT LOOP

Dick Davies has passed on. A bright light in Lorne has flickered and gone out. The sense of humour which is truly of the Lorne variety personified him. Remember how clever his unsolicited sculptures in several Biennial Sculpture Exhibitions were? Hilarious. In the podcast of the Pong Su, Dick was interviewed several times – once when the old tub was going back and forth past the Lorne pier in absolutely terrible weather. His comments were the sidesplittingly funny c/w colourful comments and would not bear reprinting here. But have a listen to it. 61 year old Dicky worked hard and played hard. But he was a good friend to have. His kids are awesome and Harley and Grace will miss him just so much. We all will. RIP mate.

Barry Keily has also died. Barry became a great friend and helper to our late Editor Jo Vondra. They were a terrific team. His neighbours John and Judith, & Lyn and John ex-Dorman Street, were wonderful friends to Barry. He was a regular player with the nine-holers on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our sympathies go to his daughter Melinda and the family. He is now at peace.

A fairly anonymous group called “concerned friends” has upset many Lorne residents, especially those who live alone and have lived full time in Lorne for many many years. The hand-out in letterboxes calls for us all to get rid of our holiday homes – to give them away, cheaply or for free, and homes in Lorne being used for holiday houses should be forbidden! Holiday homes are making the housing crisis worse they proclaim. Pretty full on. Pretty weird. Bin it or burn it as I did!

How wonderful to see local legendary lady Lorraine Griffiths receive an OAM in the King’s Birthday honours list. Lorraine and Sam are the most giving and generous people and more than 140 foster kids and babies have shared their home over the past 20 years. We all dips our lids to you both.

Parks Vic has closed over 40 tracks out the back for the winter. Too prone to damage - so from June to November no hooning around out there.

Congratulations to Callum Norton who came in 2nd in the Tatts Finke Desert race.

Great to see Totti’s getting rave reviews in the Qantas in flight magazine, and also on 3AW’s Friday review of great eateries: “The bread was iconic, the tomatoes divine, the chicken liver ‘parfait’ and the pastas - aaah! The food will blow you away” Amelia stated.

A well kept secret on these freezing cold but sunny days is to snuggle up under the heaters in the sun and protected from the wind with coffee and/or soup at the Swingbridge café. Dogs are welcome.

Dear Sue Thomas was in town for four days recently. She stayed with Sue and Adrian (on Summerhills right next to her old home) and a very happy time was enjoyed as these folk are amazing hosts. She let slip that she is turning 60 shortly, so a great BIG Happy Birthday to you Sue XXXXX

Poor little Lorne is fighting at least three battles at the moment. And all against the one organisation! And once again, when most of our permanent population are away chasing the sun.

A meeting of locals re the proposed early renewal of the Lease

of the pool, trampolines, golf etc area attracted a big gathering and we hope we got our message across. The “back to the drawing board’ action on the Pier precinct is v hard to believe. And worst of all GORCAPA’s announcement that in August they are recommencing the ugly removal of Tea Tree plants all along our foreshore. They say it is an environmental weed which does not naturally belong in the Otways – and will be replaced with Indigenous plants. A second round of Meetings with locals was held in June - once more, just when many of our caring population are not around. Why don’t these people listen to those who live here? We may not have degrees in environmental stuff, but hey we walk the beach every day and hate the vandalised areas where tea trees have been removed already and nothing else planted. Strange as it may seem, we love these hardy little trees which are creatively artistic and make an extremely quaint barrier from the road and the wind. GORCAPA say tea trees reduce the biodiversity and habitat, but we observe that tea tree is the habitat. We are bashing our heads against a brick wall because we’ve already attended meetings on site etc, but still must attend more and repeat our pleas. Let’s hope someone hears us on what seems to be the last hoorah before the cut and dab crew attack! In fact while we were at the Meeting, signs were put up announcing the commencement of the tea tree removal program. Why oh why did they pretend to listen to us when it is already a done deal and even a video has been made to explain their reasons for getting rid of tea tree around the Swing Bridge café.

Congratulations to Denise Love who has retired after working at our Hospital for over 30 years! Bet there was no gold watch, but that is an outstanding effort.

The lowered flag opposite the Pharmacy tells the community we have lost one of our townfolk. Bill Snelling died the day after Dickie Davies. He and wife Maggie eventually relocated to the Gold Coast where they have a daughter and methinks a son as well. They were a vital part of the Lorne Community in the day and appreciated by many organisations here. Lorne sends love and hugs.

Years ago when our Sports Editor John Ford asked 12 year old Paddy Taylor to write a “Junior Sports Briefs” each month, he sowed a seed! After completing two journalistic degrees Paddy has now accepted a job with Golf Australia, and his first article on the Paralympics of Golf and how very well Australia’s team performed is a beauty. He writes under Patrick Taylor.

A short letter in the weekend paper says: “Talk about irony! KPMG boss Andrew Yates apologises for its failings, “which include 1000 staff cheating on an exam about integrity in their work.”

Well – who knew – a Borage flower changes from blue to pink when a bee pollinates it!

Been hanging out in the Telstra phone box outside the post office recently. Having a bad trot with a naughty old misbehaving computer. All phone boxes now have Wifi and since late 2021 all the calls are free. Great idea eh? At that time Telstra discovered that more than 230,000 of the 11 million public phone calls in the previous year were for emergency services such as triple zero, people trying to escape domestic violence, homeless folk seeking support, and those facing other forms of disaster! Good on ya Telstra.

There’s a shocking old fashioned severe cold doing the rounds of Lorne. Over two weeks of bed and couch, soup and lemon drinks, tissues galore and whinging! Panadol Rapid and inhalations work well. Veryinfectious. Someone mentioned putting Vicks on the feet and then socks! I didn’t do it.

Travel safe to those who are off!!! Keep warm to those who are not!!!Lillian

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Housing Choices Australia preferred provider for Aireys Inlet Affordable Housing Project

National not-for-profit housing provider Housing Choices Australia is working with Surf Coast Shire Council and local community members on the Aireys Inlet Affordable Housing Project.

Council endorsed Housing Choices Australia as the preferred proponent of the project, which will develop social and affordable housing on vacant land at 2 Fraser Drive. Councillor Libby Stapleton was proud to move the motion at the May Council meeting.

“This is a significant step in the project, to select a provider from three impressive submissions from the expressions of interest (EOI) process,” she said. “Housing Choices Australia had the best alignment to our values and the community vision for the site, to achieve a high-quality housing development.”

A co-design process is almost complete, after bringing together representatives from Housing Choices Australia, a community advisory group of 10 community members with technical expertise and lived experience, councillors, and council officers.

“The co-design stage is exciting, as it’s shaping what the housing could look like and how many people it could house,” Cr Stapleton said.

“We had a session on 3 June, which was incredibly positive. Community representatives were open-minded and curious as they considered options to achieve the best outcome for the site, including density and height, traffic and parking, and the neighbouring community garden.

“Ultimately, we want the best outcome for all parties and I look forward to seeing what that is.”

Cr Stapleton described the Aireys Inlet Affordable Housing Project as a groundbreaking move for Council.

“It highlights our commitment to play our role in the affordable accommodation crisis - a national issue that we’re feeling the impacts of locally, particularly in our coastal towns,” she said.

The EOI process included the proposed transfer of four existing social housing units at the Fraser Drive site.

Housing Choices Australia describes itself as “one of Australia’s largest housing providers, with a diverse housing property portfolio and residents reaching across five states”, and a provider that “delivers high quality, accessible and affordable housing for people on lower incomes and people with disability”.

The next phase of the project is a final design concept and full proposal, to be considered by Council later this year.

Stay up-to-date with the Aireys Inlet Affordable Housing Project at surfcoast.vic.gov.au/FraserDrive.

OP SHOP BUZZ

By Janet Goud - Secretary

Welcome to winter! It's arrived with bitter winds and wild seas. Great surf! The wet suits are walking out the door at the Op Shop. It has been busy! Many of our members have scurried away overseas already and more are heading for all points warm and north in Australia. Travel safe.

We now have a defibrillator in position at the front of our shop. Thanks to the Community Bank for this public service. We are in the process of organising training for all members who wish to be trained.

The members of the Op Shop were invited to a morning tea to show appreciation by Ambulance Victoria for a large donation we gave last year. This meant a lot to our members as we seldom get much public recognition for all the money we dispense to the community.

The ambulance donation meant a big effort to fund raise was not necessary, and the hard working ambulance team could concentrate on more important things.



Their demonstration of the defibrillator and CPR was greatly appreciated by our members and they now feel confident about using this device if needed.

The team will come to a meeting nearer to the end of year to repeat this for the benefit of all members.



Lorne Accounting Group

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The plans for the new improvements in the Op Shop have been displayed to all members for two weeks. Many members had helpful comments to make and these have been sent to the architect. We are very excited to be meeting the architect at a special morning tea later this month. Everyone will be able to chat and ask questions after she has presented her ideas for our consideration.

By then our President Wendy should be home from Italy. She will need a week or two to be able to understand English again but we will all be pleased to see her.

School holidays are here again so empty your cupboards of old games and come down to buy different ones. Remember we have many great recent novels for sale!

lorne books

Picks of the Month



FICTION: *The Drowning Woman* by Robyn Harding



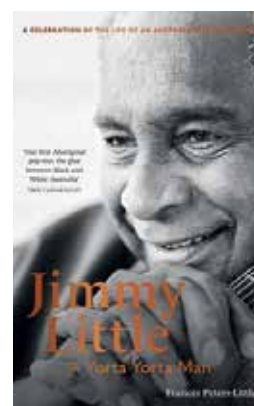
The bestselling author of *The Party* returns with a deliciously twisted story of friendship, retribution, and betrayal. Lee had a successful restaurant until the pandemic and some bad decisions left her homeless and fleeing a dangerous past. Hazel is the wealthy society wife she saves from drowning, who pulls Lee into a dark web of secrets and lies.

This unputdownable thriller is filled with unexpected plot twists. *The Drowning Woman* is such an entertaining, wild ride. Thriller readers will thoroughly enjoy this one!

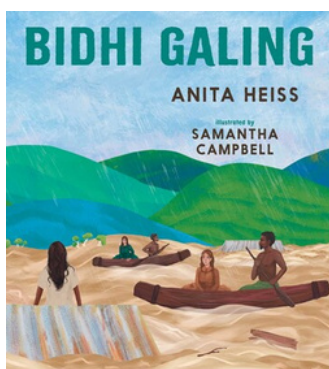
NON-FICTION: *Jimmy Little: A Yorta Yorta Man*

In this first biography of the man and his music, *Jimmy Little: A Yorta Yorta Man* tells the incredible story of one of Australia's most acclaimed Aboriginal pop and country music legends and icons, Jimmy Little.

At just 16 years of age, Jimmy Little travelled to Sydney to make his radio debut on Australia's *Amateur Hour*. The eldest of seven children and born on the Cummeragunja Reserve on the Murray River, Jimmy's entry into the entertainment industry came at a time when First Nations people were not counted in the census.



Children's Fiction: *Bidhi Galing (Big Rain)* by Anita Heiss



Powerful and moving, *Bidhi Galing (Big Rain)* celebrates the Wiradyuri heroes of the Great Flood of Gundagai in 1852, told through the eyes of a young girl who is rescued from the raging floodwaters by her father.

Anita Heiss's powerful text, accompanied by Samantha Campbell's evocative illustrations, is a gift of Wiradyuri culture, knowledge and language, sharing a resonant message for our times.

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