

LORNE INDEPENDENT

\$2

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New tourism board urges Surf Coast operators to think 'differently'

The tourism market on the Surf Coast region has changed dramatically in that it now represents 12 percent of the region's economy, Mr Wayne Kayler-Thomson, the chair of a new tourism organisation told a well-attended forum in Lorne recently.

"Tourism is a business and is a major part of the Victorian economy," Mr Kayler-Thomson said. Victoria is in a new phase of its economic development and the tourism business sector needs to 'think differently', he told the forum.

The Warrnambool-based Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Limited hopes to steer tourism marketing from the South Australia border right along the Great Ocean Road to Geelong, also incorporating the area's immediate hinterland.

Although the forum was given a comprehensive dot.point presentation on the new board's business and marketing ambitions, it was somewhat short on specific details, though it's General Manager Liz Price said that all would be revealed over the next months.

Mr Kayler-Thomson emphasised several times that there was a need to think 'differently', presumably to previous marketing strategies, a clear reference to the Geelong Otway Tourism Board headed by former Lorne local Roger Grant.

Mr Grant, has been executive officer for the last 17 years. GOT outlines its tasks on its website as follows: 'Tourism Greater Geelong and The Bellarine is the Regional Tourism Organisation spanning from Werribee to Barwon Heads, incorporating Bannockburn, Geelong, Portarlington and all the areas in between.

'Our core role is to increase tourism yield for our region. We do this, by making consumers aware of our region, bringing people to our destinations, getting them to stay longer and spend more.'

GOT has promoted the GOR and its specific region both in Australia and overseas with considerable success.

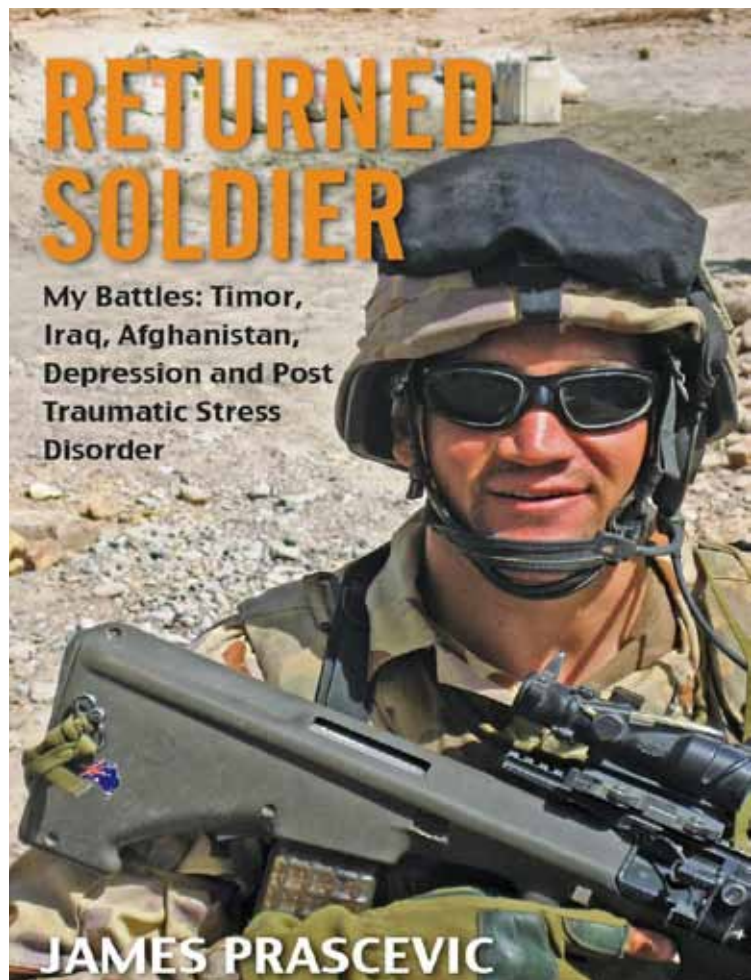
The new organisation, however, from the few facts revealed, will concentrate specifically on the Great Ocean Road and its immediate hinterland regions and seek to promote a strategy of closer cooperation between tourism operators and the board's business planners and developers.

The main emphasis will be a positive growth in tourism

related business rather than traditional tourism promotional strategies.

Mr Wayne Kayler-Thomson business credentials are formidable. He is one of five Government appointed board members of Victoria University in Melbourne and adjunct Professor in the College of Business.

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Lorne resident and former elite Australian soldier, James Prascevic outlines the terrible aftermath many servicemen face on their return – especially depression and other illnesses – in his just published book, *Returned Soldier*. During his near-ten years as an infantryman, James saw service in Timor Leste, Iraq and Afghanistan and he now devotes much of his time to bringing awareness on what returned soldiers have to deal with in re-entering civilian life.

Continued page 3

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New organisation asks tourist businesses to think 'differently' - from page one

The University lists him as a director and business advisor, specialising in strategic business planning and tourism destination development. He was a director of VicSuper, Victoria Tourism Industry Council, the National Tourism Alliance and executive officer of the Australian Chamber Alliance.

Previously, he was the Chief Executive of The Victorian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VECCI); Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Tourism Victoria; a Regional Economic Development executive; owner/operator of a tourism business and a senior executive in the manufacturing industry.

The new board is made up of a cross section of south west coastal government and business leaders, including Lorne's Clive Goldsworthy, Surf Coast Shire councillor, who's had an extensive and very successful business track record in international finance, also former chairman of the now defunct Shipwreck Coast Marketing, John Maher, and marketing manager of Melbourne Museum, Fay Valcanis.

Other board members include Bill Millard (Warrnambool City Council), Dean Robertson (Moyne Shire Council), Andrew Mason (Corangamite Shire Council), Tony White (Colac-Otway Shire Council), Sharon Bradshaw (Forrest Brewing director), Sam Lucas (Warrnambool Bus Lines) and Dean Newell (RACV resort Torquay general manager).

- JV

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Returned Soldier - from page one

Following a parachute accident, James was "bit by the 'Black Dog'" when he suffered Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, major depression, anxiety and alcohol dependence and was subsequently discharged from the Australian Defence Force.

James is very honest about his own condition and those suffered by other former service personnel and the Lorne Independent hopes to bring a full review of his book in our next issue.

Born in Colac, James has called Lorne 'home' since his discharge three years ago. He gained publicity recent when he sailed his tinie across Bass Strait to raise funds and awareness of the work of the Black Dog Institute.

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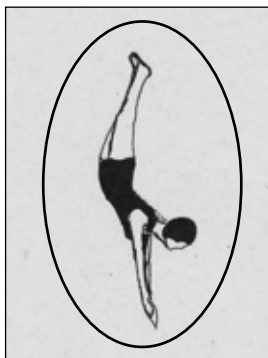
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The Louttit Loop



The 'grey' arrived mid-June. The winter closures of some of our shops happened earlier. Well earned holidays, lots of titillations and renovations and some innovative signs like this one at a 'frock' shop in the middle of town: "Monday – Closed; Tuesday – Closed; Wednesday – Probably not Open; Thursday – Could be Open; Friday – More than likely Open; Saturday – Definitely Open 10 am-5pm; Sunday – YES Open 10am – 5pm

and – open during school holidays every day and public holidays during the winter months..... And the Op Shop's cute sign: "Optimistic Opening Hours 10-4 Every Day".

The first official whale of the season travelled peacefully along the foreshore alone, cruising out to the Pier where it just lay about for quite a while. A good Southern Right Whale will do that! But an ethical situation arises. A whale resting alongside the Pier and close to fishing lines raises the question of priority or right of way. One would hope whales rule – but the Saturday fisherfolk left their lines in the water.

Dear petite Les Watson has passed on. The Les/Frank team was a powerful long-time Lorne one and it was hard to imagine Les without her darling. Les spent her final time being spoiled in our excellent Nursing Home and we all have such great memories and beautiful stories of these two darlings.

And the Nursing Home has a new resident! George the tabby cat. A great addition to the corridors and beds which certainly adds to the home away from home ambience. George is even the current screensaver on staff computers!

Wally Smith is a trailblazer in Lorne! Fiercely independent, he makes the journey to Foodworks in his superb blue miniscule electric 'car' c/w GPS and windscreen washers. The trip home up the hill needs a bit more 'grunt' for the steep part! Watch out for him in parts of Lorne where there are no footpaths/nature strips where he is forced to take to the road. Of course this swish vehicle does not sport an orange flag on a tall stick!

Visitors' Centre volunteer answered the phone recently – "Lorne Visitors' Centre, this is Leslie – can I help you?" "Yes, you can – I certainly need some help. I am in the toilets of your building and there is no paper. Could you please help me?" Leslie flicked the task to Leon who saved the day.

It's a sign of the times - the toilets at the Visitors' Centre now have signage depicting someone squatting up on the toilet seat with a big red cross through the sign. Adjacent is a sign of someone sitting politely on said seat. No big red cross. No further explanation required but hope it works.

Lorne's cinema has sold for an undisclosed price to a Melbourne investor who is said to have plans to continue to operate part of the interior as a cinema, retaining and restoring its art deco footprint on Mountjoy Pde. Goody gumdrops.

Louttit bakery and restaurant is closed until prior to Christmas for mega renos – v. exciting. Hopefully we will have an upstairs above-shop restaurant like in Apollo Bay!

Last month the Lorne Independent printed quite a few photos of Susan Sutton's latest paintings now mounted above the lifts in the new entrance foyer at the St John of God Hospital (Geelong). This installation is well worth a special visit and presents as one long work – in fact it's four panels which was the only way to fit the project into Susan's studio! It is indeed a major work of art and a testament to the emotions, care and hope evident in St

John of God daily and for generations to come. Apparently the SJOG hierarchy gave Susan a fairly free brief and is very, very happy with the outcome! Pop in and check it out and venture up one flight of stairs, take a few steps into the Rehab Centre reception area and eyeball the work closer up. Just wonderful.

Dr Jenny Mackenzie used to work at Lorne Medical Centre and now is at the Birregurra Community Health Centre and recently spoke to about 60 folk gathered at Martians about her time at Manus Island treating male asylum seekers. A very hot and distressing place bereft of optimism for the future of the refugees. Jenny has worked all over the world with Medecin Sans Frontiers and says Manus is the most hopeless place she has seen. Donations collected on the night will go to the Asylum Seeker Resources Centre Appeal in Melbourne.

Have you seen Andrew Ramsey (aka Rumpole) lately? This new svelte dude's "metabolic metamorphous" can fool people. He is even considering a "departure from the facial hirsute status just to keep the renovations going". He has certainly done it hard with heaps of medical problems but is on the right road now, aided and abetted by his wife's excellent advice and great cooking!

Should a teen or adult suddenly collapse in your vicinity, did you know that the Bee Gees "Stayin' Alive" is the perfect 103 beats per minute rhythm required for CPR's hard and fast pushes to the central chest area? Less appropriate lyrics, but still suitably paced, Queen's "Another One Bites the Dust" also fits the bill. But please dial 000 first.

Got a couple of visits or appointments in Geelong? Did you know you can use the same ticket in different streets providing that it is within the time limits? However, all day tickets and tickets purchased in off street car parks cannot be transferred from one area to another.

A local builder was having his regular afternoon coffee at the Arab restaurant when a rabble of sulphur crested cockies took to the outdoor tables annoying the patrons. Sugar packets at these tables have recently been removed due to the cockies' poor behaviour. One particularly cocky cocky flew to an indoor Arab table helped itself to at least three sugar packets, flew out again and shared them all with his mates.

Tickets for the exciting 4th Lorne Festival of Performing Arts on Aug 29-31 are on sale now at the Visitors' Centre or online!

Great excitement when the posh Porsche SUV Macan was launched at a large ocean view house in Lorne last month!

In case it has escaped your notice, stamps went up 10c to 70c months ago! BUT - CEO Ahmed Fahour (who trousered \$4.8mil. last year) generously offers pensioners and concession card holders the chance to buy 50 stamps per year at the old 60c price, and ALSO to get FIVE free stamps per year if they fill in the form available at the P.O. Wow!

The RACV Magazine recently pointed out the limitations of the GPS systems. Here in the Otways it can be particularly problematical. Distressed tourists who do not arm themselves with backup maps often need help! Binns Road out of Apollo Bay is a perfect example as it changes its name half way along and the GPS is totally stumped and the tourists sometimes are unable to chuck a U-ey in their unfamiliar hire cars on unmade roads!

Watch out for our P-12 college's biennial production coming soon - always a fantastic night!

Lillian

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LorneCARE News

- caring for our environment

Joining in a LorneCare working bee is a practical way of learning about Lorne's magical environment and showing your love for it.

This month we will be working at Stony Creek and the nearby foreshore.

We will meet in the Stony Creek near the Great Ocean Road at:

10.00am on Sunday 20 July

As usual, our working bee will be followed by a barbecue at about 12.30pm. Visitors and new starters will be made especially welcome.

For more information about LorneCare contact:

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Lorne - a place of natural beauty and special significance

Lorne Independent

Back in the mid-2000's the then Surf Coast Mayor Beth Davidson commented that Lorne was about to become a full-on tourist town and 'you'd better get used to it!' she warned.

The comment unsettled and upset a lot of people, primarily those who thought of Lorne as a place of gentle living and retirement, beautiful and exclusively theirs to enjoy.

A sort of idealistic place of sun, surf and sand, with a spectacular hinterland, and only occasionally bothered by the presence of tourists.

Business in the town was laid-back and not very ambitious.

The development of the Cumberland Resort was the first to shake-up the town's sensibilities and then came the fight to stop the development of historic Erskine House.

Then only a few short years ago, we had the redevelopment of Lorne public pool into a 'Sea Bath', restaurant complex, gym and other tourist attractions.

And Lorne is still battling to get a fair deal out of the proposed redevelopment of one of its last prime pieces of real estate – the Point Grey Precinct.

There is no doubt that one day soon it will go the way of some developer.

With mass organised bike rides along the GOR, performing arts festivals, sculpture exhibitions and an ever more ambitious film event, none of us dare to retain the illusion that Lorne is not a full-on tourist resort.

Apart from the commercialisation of what Lorne has to offer, perhaps the biggest change is in the status of the residents, permanent more so than part timers – the tourist is now all important, somewhat at the expense of those of us who live here permanently.

The tourist is king of the pops, and you'd better get used to it!

But let's not get depressed - it's really not as bad as it sounds. Money is what dictates and it is the visitors who flood the town in ever increasing numbers who spend the money which keep the wheel of commerce turning; it is towards the tourists that most if not all of our facilities are now geared.

And just as people in every 'full on' tourist town the world over, residents will have to put up with all the inconveniences that large crowds bring - the lack of parking, the rising prices in our shops, restaurants and real estate (no complaints there, please!), the hustle and bustle of visitors all seeking what we once thought was ours alone to enjoy.

We now have a new tourism marketing organisation, the Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Board with a stated aim to bring tourism operators together with cold, hard business strategies to make our region's tourist business community sustainable and successful.

Its aim, obvious, is more people, more successful business ventures, and increased value of the region generally to the over-all Victorian and ultimately Australian economies.

Old Lorne is dead! Long live the new Lorne!

Viva! As they say in Brazil!

- Jo Vondra



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WHAT'S IN A NAME!

by Edie Webb

After you've lived in Lorne for a few years you start to notice names, repeated names that appear on sporting, school, church, civic and on the First and Second World War Honour Boards scattered around the township. Then you notice some of these names also feature prominently in our streetscape, and you realize that these families have been, and, in many cases still are, closely associated with Lorne.

The Lorne area was originally identified as Louttit Bay - after Captain James Louttit master of the schooner "Will Watch" sought shelter here in 1841. It later became identified as "Louttit Bay Cattle Station", when Mr Hird of Geelong ran cattle on the flats on the foreshore. Mr Hird sold to the Mountjoys in the 1860s and the Mountjoy family became the first permanent settlers in the area, when they built a two roomed dwelling which eventually evolved into Erskine House (now Mantra). In 1871 the area was renamed Lorne in honour of the marriage between the Marquis of Lorne (in Argyllshire Scotland) with Queen Victoria's 4th daughter Louise.

Our main street Mountjoy Parade honours of course the Mountjoys, however it is interesting to note that this naming did not eventuate until March 1916 and was proposed at a Winchelsea Council Meeting by the then President Mr. W. Hopkins. At this time on the official town plans of Lorne the main thoroughfare was un-named. The motion was unanimously adopted by the council.

A number of street names relate of course to old established Lorne families:

Alsop Street:

The Alsops are an old and respected family in Lorne. The Bert Alsop walking track was opened in 1985 to honour Bert for the community work he carried out in Lorne throughout his life.

Dorman Street:

The Dormans were the first butchers in Lorne with slaughter yards near the Allen Farm .

Stirling Street and John Street:

A long established Lorne Family: The first Stirlings moved to Lorne in 1878 and built Lorne's first store. Mr John Stirling was a carpenter and building contractor who was in partnership with Messrs Jarrett, Dorman, and Anderson as the original owners of the Lorne Picture Theatre. Mr Doug Stirling has been one of the leading citizens in Lorne and his knowledge and love of the area is inspiring to all of us who live here. A walk from The Lorne Visitors Centre to Shelley Beach was named in his honour.

Allen Street and Allenvale:

The Allen Family were dairy farmers who sold milk and butter around Lorne. The family home was at Allenvale near the George River and Mrs Allen opened a very popular tea room on the property.

Armitage Street:

Pastoralists originally from Winchelsea and Birregurra area. George Armitage Snr. was an engineer who built "The Hermitage" Girls Grammar School in Geelong.

Charles Street and Beal Street:

Charles Beal was one of the founders of Winchelsea who with Thomas Austin and Prosper Trebeck built the first church in Winchelsea. He later purchased land in Lorne and built Varna

Wallace Street:

A boot maker and tanner who tanned Kola skins for knee rugs to keep ladies warm when travelling in coaches.

Armistead Street:

The Armisteads were sawmillers who cut timber and carted it by horse drawn trolleys on 2ft 3inch tramway track from the George River to the Pier. Some time ago, the track was reopened and upgraded and is now a popular walking track.

Gwynn Street:

Mr Henry Gwynne built the Pacific Hotel in 1875. At that time it was only accessible by sea. He badly underestimated the cost of the building which ending up costing double his original estimate.

Beaurepaire Drive:

Miss Lillian Beaurepaire was born in Lorne in 1893. She and her brother Frank represented Australia in the 1920 Olympics. Lillian was Lorne's only lifesaver for many years.

Otway Street:

Cape Otway was named by Lt. James Grant - Master of the Lady Nelson - after Vice Admiral William Albany Otway. Vice Admiral Otway began his naval career at the age of nine.

Anderson Street

Richard Anderson was a brickmaker who made the bricks for the Grand Pacific Hotel.

Gay Street and William Street:

Joseph Gay and William Anderson were owners (with others) on the ketch 'Foam'. William was the Master. They left Lorne to sail to Melbourne and the ship was lost without trace in an Easterly gale on 30th January 1880.

Polwarth Road:

Named after the Earl of Polwarth Berwickshire on the Scottish Borders

Doug Stirling tells an interesting story: He was approached one day by a young man who queried the origin of a street name. Doug obligingly gave him the above information. It turned out that the young man was the then current Earl of Polwarth.

Lascelles Terrace:

The Lascelles were wool brokers who founded the famous pastoral company Dennys Lascelles. Edward Lascelles purchased "Waverley House" Miss Cecily Lascelles and her mother were the first women to drive themselves, in their own vehicle along the new Ocean Road track.

(This article was compiled from information obtained from the Lorne Historical Society Records, which were collected and recorded by Mrs Jean Graham and her late husband Malcolm. And with thanks to Mr. Doug Stirling whose knowledge of Lorne and its history is an inspiration.)

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News from our Councillor for the Lorne Ward

As a bleak winter blasts Lorne and the Lorne Independent hits the streets, Lesley and I have taken off to Jordan, Israel & Dubai for a couple of weeks to chase the sun.

The past month has been relatively quiet in Lorne although the Council Budget and Council Plan has certainly kept me busy with much community engagement and hearing of submissions.

2014-15 Council Budget

Under the Local Government Act the 2013-2017 Council Plan requires review at least once a year whilst the Council Budget is prepared.

The 2014-15 Annual Budget and declaration of rates for 2014/15 year were adopted by Council on Tuesday 24th June 2014.

The proposed Budget was exhibited for the period commencing on Thursday 30th April and concluded on Wednesday 28th May 2014. Following the public exhibition process, a record 88 public submissions were heard by the Hearing of Submissions Committee made up of Councillors and Council Officers. 68 submissions expressed concern about the proposed introduction of a Tourist Accommodation differential rate while three expressed support.

Having listened to the submissions and undertaken further Community engagement, Council subsequently

removed the proposed Tourist Accommodation differential rate from the 2014/15 budget.

Some of my constituents have advised me that there are properties in the Surf Coast Shire that exhibit the characteristics of a Commercial Accommodation provider and currently only pay the Residential Rate. There is clearly inequality between certain accommodation providers. Council officers have committed to undertake a review of these properties.

Following further discussion in the Chamber, Council also resolved, "That Council investigate the introduction of a tourism accommodation differential for 2015/16 budget that achieves a fair and equitable distribution of rates, ensuring significant community consultation is undertaken".

The annual rate rise was struck at 4.75%, the lowest rate rise in 10 years for the Surf Coast Shire. Individual assessments will vary because of property revaluations conducted as at 1 January 2014.

The Budget maintains a \$15.9m capital works program with a focus on road safety, community facilities and maintenance of community assets, while a \$3.5m operating surplus is higher than the 2013/14 figure.

The full Council Plan and Budget can be viewed on the Surf Coast Shire 's website. http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/My_Council/Reports_Plans_Documents.

If you haven't registered to receive Lorne Ward updates you are invited to do so at :
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Do you know the men who worked on the GOR

An article written by Tim Gerritsen in ABC's 'Local Stories', ABC South East SA highlighted the fact that more than 3000 people were involved in building the Great Ocean Road, but only 300 are known. While the names of the 2400 ex-servicemen and 600 civilians were recorded, the files were destroyed during the Second World War.

Twelve months ago, Portland's Family History Group took on the job of finding the names of as many workmen as possible. The Lorne Historical Society would like to support their efforts to complete the task by the centenary of the outbreak of the World War I this year. In twelve months they have built the list from twelve names to three hundred and thirty eight.

The files of the Great Ocean Road Trust were deliberately destroyed during World War II. According to Iain Grant - "The chap who was secretary of the trust at the time also ran a movie film company and with the advent of the Second World War, room became paramount and so he destroyed all the Great Ocean Road Trust files to make room for news film of the war". The destruction of the records did not seem important at the time, but now it does. The returned soldiers endured many hardships working with picks and shovels, often being lowered by rope to dig foot holes to commence a new section of the road.

The Portland Family History Group hopes that the descendants of people who were involved in the Great Ocean Road will come forward with details of the ex-servicemen or civilians involved. They would also like photos, memorabilia or anecdotes of life working on the road that may be copied or recorded for their records.

You can phone the Portland Family History Group on Skype 03 5522 2266 or pass the information onto members of the Lorne Historical Society.

Gary Allen
President,
Lorne Historical Society



Most of the men who worked in the construction of the Great Ocean Road were returned soldiers. With the GOR now a major component in tourist promotions, more and more emphasis is being placed on the identities of those who helped build it.

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Sportsbriefs with John Ford

Sports editor John Ford and wife Wendy Jarratt are touring Italy and other Continental summer watering holes (doesn't every body?) so there is no football, netball or tennis in this issue. However, John and Wendy promised to be back in time to catch up on all sporting news for the August edition.

News from the LAAC

Commodore notes

The fishing off Lorne is currently very productive with good catches of large flathead, plate sized pinkies, salmon up to 1kg and the occasional large winter whiting.

For land based anglers garfish are being caught in sheltered waters along the GOR towards Wye and Kennett River as well as mullet and bream from our rivers.

For junior members there are plenty of grass whiting to be caught off the pier. With this in mind, it is unfortunate that I report the number of competitors in both senior and junior competitions has fallen away considerably over the past two events.

Our next Winter Comp is on July 6th – lines down any time after 6.00am and weigh in is at 12.15. A barbecue lunch is provided after presentations at 1.00. A great day is assured for all. Congratulations to our newest junior member Ben Moran for winning last Sunday's junior event.

Pt Grey Redevelopment

The LAAC lease has been extended through to 31st October 2015.

The GORCC met on Friday 20th June to discuss final plans for our precinct. (A report next issue).

It is hoped that the Agency Working Group (govt. agencies) and the Community Reference Group will be informed of the outcomes shortly after the 20th. Your appointed sub-committee continues to be polite and positive with our land managers.

Fishing Competition

Results of our second Winter Cup and our fourth Major Fishing Competition should be on the club's web site by the time you read my notes.

Farewell Sasha Kidman

Our competent and well respected bar staff member Sasha is leaving Lorne after the long weekend. Sacha's smiling face and commitment around our Club will be greatly missed. Good luck in your new ventures

Other Club news:

- Our marine search and rescue record is being finely tuned with the help of other agencies.
- On Saturday 7th June a Captain's Bell was installed and unveiled in memory of member/sponsor Shane Wheel.
- We are in the process of changing our financial year to 30th June, to be in line with payroll and the business community.
- Thanks to Aaron, Tony, Daniel and Leon for the work completed around the bbq area. The fantastic Cyprus pine timber bench is worthy of a look. Well done lads.

Finally, if anyone knows of a reliable, skilled bar person, who is looking for part time work please contact Ian Hutchinson - 0439032442.

Graeme Norton, Commodore.

Fishing Report

While the Major Competition continues throughout the year, there is a small hiatus in between Public holidays and to supplement this, the Winter Cup was introduced. It has now been running for twelve years and the five rounds are held on the first Sunday of the month from May until September, five comps in all.

In June the second round of the Winter Cup took place on June 1st. John and Bev Storey of Cut and Fill construction engineers sponsored a field of 14 entrants. The wind was fifteen knots from the south east quarter hence only one boat was launched. The contingent of three offshore fisher folk swept the pool for the Senior Division at the 12.30PM weigh-in.

Commodore Graeme presented a King George Whiting relegating the other members of his crew - Zed Dulka and Steve Bacbar – to the minor placings with their flathead. With only fifty-two points separating first and third place, this was an extremely closely fought win, only a matter of a few scales separating the competitors.

The Junior Division saw Breanna Middleton take out second place with a salmon and Thomas Wallis with the usual grass whiting. The No Prize Won award went to Little Charlie. After the presentations there was a Mick Carlton barbecue with salads.

Local fishing reports tell us that there are some large Flathead being caught this year and that the elusive whiting are appearing with reasonable hauls brought in on a couple of occasions. I can't dispute their success but I have been out on several occasions and been unable to track them down myself. Can somebody please tell me where they are hanging out?

The following Sunday Ian Middleton Motors and Vital Maintenance sponsored the Major Comp which again saw a south-easterly system that had freshened to twenty-five knots thus keeping all fishers on land to showcase their ability to prevail in more than one sphere of competition.

Sixteen contestants were able to bring five fish in to be weighed, measured and awarded points in this, the fourth round of the series. Winners in the Senior Division were Commodore Norton, 1st with a King George whiting and Ian Middleton 2nd who came in with a salmon.

The junior winner was a young man who was in as a first time competitor.

Ben Moran beat Laura Wallis into second place. Both presented grass whiting. Laura did well to keep her fish after it was nearly snatched from her hook by our resident seal, leaving deep scars in the flesh. Lunch by Mick and salads by Annie Hutchinson were enjoyed by a small and convivial crowd.

This year has seen the establishment of the Most Fish Caught Trophy. The raison d'être for the institution of this is to encourage anglers to broaden their range of skills to include different fishing techniques.

For example, it is one thing to dangle a line off the Lorne Pier and snag a grass whiting, but to do this every competition is not very challenging.

Some people like to troll for salmon and have perfected a way to ensure they can land one on a pretty regular basis. Some like to go for the wily bream in the river estuaries,

there are those who like to find a garfish on a clear sunny morning off the rocks with a falling tide and those who chase the elusive King George whiting along the inshore reefs.

A line in the water around the reefs can also yield sweep and leatherjacket and small pinkies (pinkies are plate-sized schnapper). Someone after big snapper (schnapper) will head out wide to the outer reefs and when all else fails, many drop a line for flathead, also known as frogs or lizards.

Meanwhile, carefully angling upriver can produce trout.

The idea is to get out there and learn a little about the habitats and behaviour of different fish species and challenge one's skills in a variety of ways.

- Doug Williams

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Lesley Elizabeth Watson July 13, 1918 - June 15, 2014



Mum was born Lesley Elizabeth Sharkey in Geelong 95 years ago on 13 July 1918 to farmers Leoline and John Sharkey. She joined her brothers Ian and Neil and sister Marjory at their farm in Balliang and was later joined by another sister, Heather.

The family soon moved to Balliang East to a property they purchased from a subdivision of the Chirnside estate.

As the family lived a long way from the nearest school Mum was home schooled by her mother for a couple of years. When she did start school at 8 years old she rode her pony Jinny the 4 and a half miles to and from the one room school at Balliang East.

When her little sister Heather started school, Mum drove her plus two neighbours in a hoodless cart - a very cold trip on a frosty morning. And the school wasn't much warmer. With only a smoky wood fire for warmth, on sunny, winters days the students would drag the desks outside and lessons were conducted outdoors.

Mum left school at 15 and took on extra tasks on the family farm.

Living on a farm in the Depression, Mum's expectations were very different to ours. For example, as a teenager her strongest memories were of two important events. First the purchase of a family car which made a tremendous difference when previously the only transport had been a horse and gig to travel the 10 miles to the nearest railway, 14 miles to shops, doctor, and the bank and 25 miles or three hours to Geelong for clothes. The other important event was an extension to the house and the addition of a bathroom, although it was still some years until she had access to running hot water.

Mum might have been quite a good farmer but her heart was set on being a nurse and at the age of 21 she finally left home and commenced training at Geelong Hospital. Initially it was difficult as the work was hard and she didn't see her parents and siblings for over a year because the Second World War had commenced and petrol couldn't be spared for the trip to Geelong, and of course there was no public transport. Apart from this she thrived and made life long friends. After completing her midwifery she applied to join the army. However she was rejected as there was a shortage of midwives and so she spent the war years helping to deliver babies and caring for the mothers.

One of Mum's nursing friends was Mary Watson whose 4 brothers, including Frank, were overseas during the war. When Mum met Frank he had a New Guinea sun tan and she wasn't very impressed by him. But as the sun tan faded her opinion of him improved and they were married in 1948.

They came to Lorne and lived in what was known as the 'red house' which I think was in Minapre Street. I was born when they were in the red house and then Jan 16 months later. They soon started to build their house in Neade Street and when it had a roof and a couple of rooms we all moved in.

In the early 1950s there were many young families in Lorne but there was not much in the way of services - no doctor, no kindergarten no library, of course no hospital, and only very basic educational facilities. Mum, like other young parents, had ambitions

for her family and the town and she quickly got involved in local organisations.

Hilda Huxtable had established a kindergarten in the cold old library hall and Mum worked as her assistant, at the same time working for a purpose-built kindergarten building (which eventually opened in 1961). Funds had to be raised and there were fetes and mannequin parades which entailed endless baking, bottling, sewing and knitting.

At the same time they were raising money for the RSL hall which was being built.

The Lorne Community Hospital opened in 1959 and Mum was asked to step in to fill a temporary staff shortage. She was still working there 20 years later. It was pretty tough in the early days with only one staff member on duty each shift especially if there were heavy immobile patients and Mum often suffered from a sore back. And the work life balance was not always easy. Sometimes she worked until midnight and then had to get up at 6 the next morning to get Dad off to work and us to school. And standards had to be maintained. No grabbing a piece of toast on your way out the door. Every morning the table was set with a cloth, milk was poured from a jug and the marmalade was served in a dish with a jam spoon. I think she did ditch the butter knife though except when my grandmother visited. But she loved the work and made many friends and two, Mary and Willie are here today.

During this time Mum and Win Allen were instrumental in getting a meals on wheels program up and running for house-bound people in Lorne. She was also in the Mothers Club, Red Cross, Church and a member of the Masonic Lodge Ladies.

When Mum retired from nursing she continued her charity work and took up painting. But more and more something else started to consume her life and that was Lawn Bowls. She became a champion bowler and the house began to fill with trophies for pennant, singles and doubles. She loved the games but equally important to her were the friendships and the social side of bowls - the barbeques, dinners and trips.

In 2004 Mum and Dad moved into the Lions Village where they were very happy and as always made new friends. Later on Merv and Leo were always there to lend a hand. As Dad's health deteriorated Mum spent many years caring for him, even when she was quite frail. For years she read the paper to him every morning and even read him novels.

Towards the end 2012 Mum realised she could no longer manage at home. If she was going to a nursing home it had to be Lorne. She knew Brock and Jason and the team and knew she would receive good care. So she got into Lorne eventually and that meant that she could still attend the Carers Group and the ladies church group and see her friends.

From the point of view of a resident, not much happens in a nursing home. However one day last year I was speaking to Mum on the phone and she was quite excited and had real energy in her voice. She laughed and said "there's a quorum here, we could hold a meeting in the Nursing Home. There's Eva Norton, Beryl Alsop, Joan Wheal and Eileen Quick all here". She was reflecting on the six decades these women had worked together - planning, lobbying and raising money and support for new and improved services and facilities for the citizens of Lorne, and the fun they had had along the way.

- Helen Hargreaves

The eulogy for Lesley Elizabeth Watson at her Funeral and Thanksgiving Service on Thursday, 19 June at St.Cuthbert's Lorne was written and given by her oldest daughter, Helen (Hargreaves).

Colourful Acacias and Hibiscus

Doug Williams is a retired landscape gardening contractor and a keen observer of nature. In this article he shares his knowledge on Acacias and Hibiscus.



Acacia and Hibiscus

Acacias are synonymous with Australia and our floral emblem is *acacia pycnantha* and its common name of Golden Wattle sums this plant up. The flowers are deep golden yellow and slightly redolent but having said this, I am not introducing it into my garden because, like most of the wattles which grow eight to ten metres it is unwieldy, prone to insect attack and does not have a long shelf life.

This is not to say wattles should not be grown, they should. They provide yellow to your palette and as long a specimen is not expected to be a centre-piece (and later leave a gap in your planting when it dies) it has a role to play. Try *acacia acinacea*. This lyrical Latin becomes Gold Dust Wattle in the vernacular. It grows from one to two metres.

You could also consider prostrate forms of varieties like Cootamundra Wattle which will only get to the one metre mark at maturity.

Wattles are also useful in that they are nitrogen fixers and so contribute to soil structure and improvement of soil fertility, just as are lupins and pulses in your vegetable garden. Most local varieties are not much chop and have flowers which are either pallid or insignificant or both.

The exception is when the Deans Marsh Road puts on its annual opulent display of silver wattles (*acacia dealbata*) in winter time. It rivals the autumn display at Bright and is right here on our doorstep; tourism operators – take note!



Alyogyne heugeli is in the same family as the hibiscuses and so is commonly known as 'native hibiscus' although, strictly speaking it is not one of those.

This is a great plant growing to around a metre and has a floriferous habit throughout the year. Although endemic to the sandy soils of WA and SA it is surprisingly adaptable and simple to cultivate.

It is a bit of a softie though, and will want regular cutting back to which it responds amiably with rapid regrowth and a profusion of short-lived, papery purple flowers almost like tissue.

Not to jump too far ahead to the coming section on strap-foliaged plants, the next listing is the West Australian floral emblem. Kangaroo paws (*Anigozanthus*) can be most successful in a raised bed or rockery to provide a suitable soil substrate since they do not proliferate in our heavy clay soils. While many are not at their best in southern Victoria there are some outstanding cool climate cultivars about, both standard sized and dwarfs in gold, ochre and rust colours.

When I say dwarfs, I am not talking about dwarves, who are fairy-tale little people (think hobbits). They are lovely and exotic looking plants (the kangaroo paws, not the critters).

(Doug will discuss some species of native tree in his next article)

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This and that

Aireys Inlet has picked up quickly on the winter theme and they now have a very handsome brochure available at the Lorne Visitor Information Centre detailing a full program of events.

Of particular note is the fact that the August Melbourne Writers Festival On The Road has chosen Aireys Inlet as venue for a weekend of talks and workshops with some of Australia's very best travel writers.

Bookings for this event are essential and tickets and details are available at mwf.com.au I would advise booking early as this event proved very popular last year and filled up quickly.

A highlight includes a special dinner with travel writing legends Robyn Davidson (Tracks) and Tim Cope (In The Footsteps of Genghis Khan) at the Aireys Community Hall on Friday August 22, 6:30 - 9:00pm.

Other events are a workshop with successful freelance travel writer Tim Richards; Julietta Jameson (Me, Myself and Lord Byron) and Ailsa Piper (Sinning Across Spain) will share secrets of pilgrimages and personal quests; writers Laura Jean McKay (Holiday in Cambodia) and Andrew Nette (Ghost Money) will show how places can be the inspiration for short stories and novels.

Also of interest at the Lorne Visitor Information Centre is a brochure detailing the Surf Coast Arts Trail.

This is an annual free event where one can discover the art and meet artists in their studios and creative venues on the coast and the hinterland of the Surf Coast Shire.

Saturday and Sunday, August 9 and 10 are the dates to put in your diary to plan what can be a very interesting and inspiring day. The brochure includes a map, which highlights the names of the artists participating and the addresses of the venues.

- A.E.

Op-shop

At the recently held AGM of the Lorne Community and Hospital Auxiliary, the Op-shop, Heather Rice was re-elected president. Vice president is Mandy Calder with secretary Stelle O'Donnell; the committee is made up of Sue Grant, Peggy Taylor, Clare Russell, Jo Coulson and Elizabeth Rickey.

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Lorne's model boat Regatta When men listen to the voice of the inner child



More than a hundred people, in addition to some on-leash dogs, participated in Lorne's 3rd annual model boat 'Regatta' and a feature was the battle between the yachts of Clive Goldsworthy and Peter Spring.

Both Clive and Peter had spent hours and hours assembly the kit-bought boats (good for calming nerves they say) and it seems that Peter's 'Australia' took the honours from Clive's 'America'.

About half a dozen or so boats of various sizes took part in the regatta held on Queen's Birthday Weekend at the mouth of the Erskine River and organised as

part of LoveLorne spectrum of events.

Originally inspired by Professor John Agar, an eminent Geelong medico with a love for model boats and Lorne, the now annual event seems to have inspired a number of our denizens to try their hand at model boat building.

The recent event was an inspirational showcase of what can be achieved when grown men listen to the voice of their inner child.

We've heard of one Lornite who has purchased a super kit to build a model boat with genuine wood decking and scaled fittings.

He also builds sophisticated kites and flies them - but that's another story.

- JV

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bennywalkermusic.com

Saturday 12th July

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thedavegraneyshow.com

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Lorne Men's Shed by end of the year?

On the 8th of July 2013 at 5.00pm a group of enthusiastic residents met at the Lorne Bowls Club with a view to discussing the construction of a Men's Shed in Lorne. There were around 22 people in attendance with another 40 expressing interest but unable to attend. Consensus was that a Men's Shed in Lorne would be a valuable community asset.

A Committee was immediately formed with a view to applying for a grant. Members of the Committee were Allan Walls, Clive Goldsworthy, Gary Fenton, John Tuck and St John Sutton. At this stage, the Committee undertook a number of actions prior to submitting our Grant Application. The goal was to learn from others about what a successful Men's Shed looked like and the best approach to developing our Grant Application. These actions included:

- Meeting with a representative of Department Of Human Services who administers the Grants.
- Visiting Men's Sheds in Anglesea, Winchelsea and Torquay to learn from their experience. This was a most valuable exercise as the one thing they all said was their own Shed's were now too small and lacked sufficient storage space. So we could now start to define the size of the Shed we wanted.
- The last action, based upon seeing the success of other Sheds in the Shire was to agree to apply for funding.

Considerable offers of assistance were received from Len Tank of Lorne Electrics, Mark Trickey of Lorne Plumbing, and Tom Dawson of Dawsons Concreting.

An incredible amount of local support was received from Mr. Terry Mulder member for Polwarth, Former Mayor Libby Cocker and new current Mayor, Councillor Rose Hodge, Kate Gillan, CEO of the Lorne Hospital, Steve Hishon, President of Lorne Lions Club, June Adams, for the Lorne Senior Citizens, Rev Lynton Wade, Lorne Anglican, Uniting Church, and Katy Kennedy, Lorne Figtree House Co-ordinator.

The CEO of the Surfcoast Shire Steve Wall provided an exceptional amount of support. This support resulted in a budget allocation of \$ 30,000.00 from the Surf Coast Shire.

One of the most difficult tasks the Committee have been faced with is where to locate the Shed as the area needs to be big enough to build the Shed and have plenty of parking, power supply, sewerage etc etc. and with a budget of just over \$100,000, options were very limited.

Subsequently we sought permission from the Surf Coast Shire and importantly, the Stribling Reserve Committee of Management, to locate the Men's Shed at Stribling Reserve between the netball courts and the corner of William and Otway Streets. I am pleased to say that this has been agreed to.

The Committee was delighted to have the Hon Terry Mulder the Member for Polwarth formally announce a \$60,000 Grant for the Lorne and District Men's Shed at Stribling Reserve on Friday 24th January 2014.

The Lorne and District Men's Shed is now an Incorporated Association and we currently have 25 financial members and we are sure that this will rise to around 75 once construction starts.

The Committee has engaged a local Draftsperson to



Not a picture of the actual planned Lorne Men's Shed but it could provide inspiration!

complete plans for the shed and we are currently awaiting the plans so that a building permit can be applied for.

An incredible amount of donations of Tools, Televisions, Computers, Heaters, Furniture has been offered and we look forward to being able to accept those donations as soon as building is complete.

The Committee has attended the Heads of Sheds meeting hosted every 2 months by the Surf Coast Shire which much information is shared by Shedders.

There are now over 1000 Men's Sheds in Australia and the movement is recognized as improving Men's Health and providing a meeting place where activities such as Cooking, Carpentry, Welding, Computer Courses and general handyman services can be provided.

A great place for Men to meet, socialize and I am sure many wives will be happy to have them out from under their feet for a couple of days a week.

There have been so many people interested in getting this project to where it is today and the support of Councillor Clive Goldsworthy and the Committee has been nothing short of outstanding.

Membership forms are available at many of the Club venues in Lorne including the Aquatic Club, Country Club and Bowls Club. Annual membership is \$25. If you contact me by email at allanwalls@bigpond.com or by telephone at 0418 319 533, I can arrange to send an application form.

We have also set up an online survey so that we can gain an insight into the types of activities in which men would be interested to participate at the Shed. You can access the survey via the following link - https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/lorne_mens_shed. The more men who complete the survey, the better the Men's Shed will be!

**Allan Walls
President,
Lorne & District Men's Shed Inc.**

Community news

2013 VCAL Award winners celebrated

Member for Polwarth, Terry Mulder has congratulated teachers and students from Lorne-Aireys Inlet P-12 College for their achievement at the 2013 Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) Awards.

Minister for Education Martin Dixon recently presented awards to 37 students, five teachers and seven organisations at the VCAL Awards ceremony at Deakin Edge, Federation Square.

“This year’s awards recognise the exceptional talent of 37 young people, their dedication to their studies and their commitment to their community,” Mr Mulder said.

“The teachers and organisations that support our young people were also honoured.”

“I am delighted to see that teachers Cherie Osta and Geoff Bird from Lorne-Aireys Inlet P-12 College were amongst the recipients of Teacher Achievement Awards in Team Teaching, and Student Achievement Awards for Team Achievement went to Samantha Bennett, Kristy Colley-Allerton, Jalal Ibrahim, Olivia James, Daniel Midolo and Tara Window also from Lorne’s P-12 College.”

The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is an accredited hands-on senior secondary option for Year 11 and 12 students.

VCAL gives students practical work-related experience, as well as literacy and numeracy skills and the opportunity to build personal skills that are important in life and work.

- Vic Government media release

Lorne to be one of the Emirates Melbourne Cup tour destination

Lorne has been chosen as one of 34 official 2014 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour (EMCT) destinations by the Victoria Racing Club (VRC).

Starting in York, WA, the Cup will arrive in Lorne on Friday, 24th October, 2014 as it makes its way across Australia and New Zealand to enable locals to experience first-hand the magic and history of the Cup ahead of the Melbourne Cup Carnival.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Craig Ondarchie was joined recently by local students and racing royalty Might and Power, Doriemus, Brew, Efficient and Rogan Josh to reveal the 34 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour destinations at Living Legends in Greenvale, Victoria.

Stephen Hishon, president of the Lorne Lions Club said this was a wonderful opportunity for the whole community, young and old, to join and share in the magic of this special event. The Lions Club of Lorne will be hosts for the day’s Lorne tour.

“The Emirates Melbourne Cup visit provides the opportunity for Lorne and surrounding communities to celebrate this proud icon of Australian history while drawing attention to local landmarks, including Erskine Falls and our iconic Great Ocean Road” said Mr Hishon.

The \$175,000, 18-carat gold Emirates Melbourne Cup will commence its three and a half month Tour in July

accompanied by Melbourne Cup veterans and racing legends who will share their personal stories with locals.

The 2014 Emirates Melbourne Cup will return to Melbourne on Monday 27 October, kicking off the celebrations leading into the Melbourne Cup Carnival before the running of the 154th Emirates Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 4 November 2014.

- Stephen Hishon

Lorne’s Festival of Performing Arts! It’s on again late next month

Lorne will switch on three days of festivities on Friday August 29 with the town’s Festival of Performing Arts to host some of Australia’s best cabaret, sideshow, circus, theatre, comedy, visual art and music events, as well as a whole horde of free outdoor street performance for kids and families.

About 3000 are expected to participate in the Festival which ends on Sunday August 31.

This year’s Festival kicks off in fine form with the Opening Night Spectacular in the Circus Oz Big Top, a smorgasbord of bite-sized tasty morsels showcasing just about everything that is on offer throughout the weekend including DJs, burlesque, theatre, music, and circus all crammed into one big spectacular opening night to pop the champagne cork on the 2014 Festival.

Tickets through www.lovelornefestival.com.au or the Lorne Visitor Information Centre.

Where: Lorne, Victoria - various venues

Dates: Friday 29 – Sunday 31 August 2014

Tickets: Early Bird Weekend Passes range from \$50 for children - \$100 for adults. Early Bird Friday Night Cabaret tickets - \$75. The Whole Shebang (Cabaret + Weekend Pass) - \$150. **Please note offers for the Early Bird tickets ends July 10.**

Bookings: www.lovelornefestival.com.au or 1300 365 901

The Lorne Independent will published a detailed line up of events in the August edition.

The Lions Club of Lorne is seeking volunteers from the local community

The Lions Club of Lorne was established in 1970. Since then, Club members have worked tirelessly to raise funds to provide financial and other support to worthy causes within Lorne and also to initiatives of Lions International.

Projects include: Easter Art Show, Markets on the Foreshore, Snow Cone Van, Christmas Carols and Breakfasts for Kids with Cancer .

In the last financial year the Club has distributed \$70,600 in donations. Approximately \$53,000.00 of this went to local projects.

We have the ability to raise funds for our community but need to call upon the local community to assist us with our fund raising events.

If you are interested in being a volunteer please contact: Marg Cartledge, Secretary, Lions Club of Lorne on **0408 599 336.**

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Niki ...Niki ...

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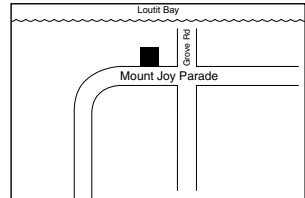
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Letters

Continuous saga of the Stony Creek Crossing

After three years of frustration, on 11th January 2014, I wrote to Hon. Terry Mulder MP, Minister for Public Transport, Minister for Roads, seeking assistance to provide a small crossing at Stony Creek thinking that the minister of VicRoads may be able to obtain an immediate solution from his department.

Information provided from that office on 23rd May 2014, indicates that no real progress has been made during the last five months although enquiries were made by the Minister to various authorities.

Apparently VicRoads has engaged a surveyor to provide a detailed three dimensional survey of the site to assist in the development and assessment of options. It is interesting to note that this subject was decided on site in late 2013.

The options include: Modernised Stepping Stones; Low flow precast culvert walk way; Low flow bridge structure; Reinstatement of the previous access track and steps; and Restrict access altogether

The five options mentioned now are the five options that have been discussed with VicRoads during the last three years.

It's also noted that permit applications will be submitted to the key stakeholders (CCMA, DEPI, GORCC, Surf Coast Shire etc.) by June 2014 and that work will commence late September early October 2014 subject to

all statutory approvals and environmental constraints. For this to occur VicRoads need to provide a design, not just consider risks associated with the options.

But a word of caution. Let us hope that the approvals are granted and environmental constraints are satisfactory because previously a completion date for one of the five alternatives was given as "prior to December 2012". Unfortunately the work was not completed due to lack of an agreement with these requirements.

It is now June, 2014 so permit applications should be submitted at this stage.

Finally it is advised that VicRoads will continue to work with all stakeholders to provide a satisfactory outcome to the Community.

Ken N. Smith
North Lorne

Also unhappy with Stony Creek

Having enjoyed my house at Lorne for 25 years, the peace, tranquillity, natural unspoilt environment have provided welcome relief to the rapid pace, stress and noise of the City.

Sadly, this layback lifestyle comes at a price from the need to deal with numerous local authorities who with this lifestyle generally adopt a lazy position of buckpassing hoping your request will either be done by someone else or wither away in the too hard basket.

An example is my attempt over the years since the Vic Roads works on the GOR bridge at Stony Creek to reinstate safe passage across Stony Creek. Your excellent



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June issue leader (Lorne Independent June 2014) summed up the problem, highlighting the frustrations of fellow North Lorne resident Ken N Smith and his non productive ongoing saga with various “non decision makers”.

Like many fellow Lornites, I have walked my dogs along the beach twice daily from Lorne to North Lorne enjoying the wonderful environment. Upon reaching Stony Creek, I simply walked under the old bridge and up the path to Hall Street and home. Now this is no longer possible as this path was inexplicably blocked off some years ago in the reconstruction with lovely new steps put in on the other side that are inaccessible when it rains.

Now we have the option of (a) before the Creek walking up and crossing the busy, dangerous GOR to access the new path or (b) access the GOR past Stony Creek to cross (if you can), equally dangerous with traffic. I’m in my late 70’s, and is this what I should have to do when there is such an obvious and simple remedy.

For three years I have corresponded with Surf Coast and others and got nowhere – having two years ago fobbed me off to Vicroads, Surf Coast Shire seems to be back in control – heaven help us. I wrote to them four weeks ago (again) to be told an Officer would address my enquiry – I’m still waiting but not with bated breath – too many disappointments with authority over the years.

I wonder if SCS would accept me paying my exorbitant Shire rates as slowly as it responds to me for a simple service. We don’t want them to build the Taj Mahal – just some simple stepping stones that an aged man and his dog can traverse.

Alan Chipp
North Lorne

Lack lustre response to trial bus service in Lorne.

Lorne community has an opportunity of taking part in a trial daily bus service to Colac with a possible link to Winchelsea through Deans Marsh.

The Geelong Region Alliance (G21) which stretches across five Shires, bringing together government, business and community organisations to improve the lives of people, has identified the need for public transport delivery to those townships which at present have no form of daily public transport – such as Deans Marsh, Bambra, Forest, Lavers Hill, etc.

It also recognises that many small townships within these five shires are not interconnected. With this in mind funds were allocated to commence trials of regular bus services.

At present there is a summer service between Colac and Lorne, but this is not well patronised as the schedule is inflexible, the service is not well advertised and the use of a 60 seater bus not appropriate.

There is of course no guarantee, but one has to ‘be in it to win it’. Petitions showing active support will be given serious consideration.

Many benefits come to mind, however for Lorne, perhaps the greatest one would be easing the severe shortage of both long and short term accommodation.

There has been a positive response from Deans Marsh and Birregurra communities.

Lorne would pay a major role in getting a petition over the line, but no-one has come forward to be the standard bearer from that community.

Juliet Beatty
Deans Marsh

Lynton’s reflections

I’ve been lining up all my receipts and bank statements to be ready for the tax return that I’ll try to have done before August. I think the best I’ve ever done was September. But each year I am told of someone, a colleague or relative, who has claimed something marginal and it has paid off.

I’ve never been good at marginal. I would worry that it wasn’t really marginal, just wrong. And I would lose sleep over it.

The idea of ‘rendering to Caesar what is Caesar’s’ is seen by some as an invitation to test the boundaries of Caesar’s dominion and not let him have anything he won’t really miss. But the principle of paying taxes is as old as the civilised world even if it has been collected in an uncivilised manner from time to time.

One of Jesus’ priceless encounters was with a tax-collector who was used to collecting his share as well as the official tax. Tax-collectors generally are lumped in with ‘prostitutes and outcasts’ – it was a less than popular profession. Today it tends to be done by remote, electronically or by mail, but it is still a cause for reluctance and resentment to some extent.

It was an issue for Hebrews in Jesus’ day, especially because they were an occupied country and the Romans didn’t go out of their way to endear themselves to people. The line we’re so familiar with came in reply to a question Jesus was asked by the religious leaders – ‘Should we pay Roman taxes or not?’ They hoped he would say ‘yes’, thereby alienating himself from his own people, or that he would say ‘no’, making himself an enemy of the state and a candidate for execution.

His reply, ‘Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and render to God the things that are God’s’ left them a bit flummoxed because he was subtly challenging the religious leaders about the faithfulness of their fulfilling their obligations to God.

I didn’t mean to go so much about that incident in Jesus’ life, it started as an observation about a saying we might be familiar with and that there was a whole lot of wisdom behind it. I was going to go on about other sayings that have come from the Bible – ‘out of the mouth of babes’, ‘wolves in sheep’s clothing’, ‘a thorn in the flesh’ ... but I’ll save them for another time.

- LW

Quitting a deadly habit

Smoking is recognised as the largest single preventable cause of death and disease in Australia. It is associated with an increased risk of heart disease, stroke, cancer, emphysema, bronchitis, asthma, renal disease and eye disease.

In fact, there is a tobacco-related death about every 28 minutes in Australia. A large proportion of these deaths are males (almost 13,000 deaths per year compared with 6,000 for females). In all age groups, except 15-34 years, more deaths were related to use of tobacco than to alcohol or illicit drugs. In addition, a large proportion of these deaths (around 21 every day) are from cancer, one-quarter of which involve working-age Australians.

In 2011-12, the Australian Health Survey reported that approximately 8 million Australian adults aged 18 years and over had smoked at some time in their lives. 3.1 million were smokers, with the vast majority (90%) of these people smoking daily.

In recent years the negative effects of passive smoking have also received considerable attention, demonstrating that the risks to health of smoking affect more than just the smoker.

Passive smoking increases the risk of heart disease, asthma, and some cancers. It may also increase the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), and may predispose children to allergic sensitisation.

During 2007-08, the latest statistics available, 3.5% of people who were not current smokers (aged 15 years and over) and 7.2% of children (aged under 15 years) lived in a household where a daily smoker was reported to have smoked indoors.

The Australian Government's tobacco control strategies, such as mass media public education campaigns, high tobacco taxes, advertising bans and smoke-free environment legislation, have helped with the steady decline in smoking rates over recent decades. Between 1991 and 2010, the proportion of daily smokers aged 14 years and over decreased by almost 40%.

Today, it is estimated that less than 20% of the Australian adult population smokes. Surprisingly many people still smoke despite all the evidence of its harmful and fatal effects.

Medical research made it clear during the 1900s that tobacco use increased the likelihood of many illnesses including heart attacks, strokes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and many forms of cancer. This is true for all ways in which tobacco is used, including:

- Cigarettes and cigars
- Hand rolling tobacco
- Bidis and kreteks (cigarettes containing tobacco with herbs or spices)
- Pipes and water pipes
- Chewing tobacco
- Snuff

When it comes to smoking, any time is a good time to quit; and it's never too late. Studies have shown that for smokers who quit at age 50 the risk of a tobacco-related death is reduced by about two thirds; and for those who stop before middle age, the risk is little more than for non-smokers.

Helping people quit is a challenge and it has been taken up globally with the World No Tobacco Day on 31 May. This is a day for people, non-government organisations and governments to organise activities to make people aware of the health problems associated with tobacco use and to encourage people to quit. Consider getting involved with these initiatives.

Your local pharmacy, your health destination, can provide a smoking cessation service to motivate and maintain you through the quitting process. For more strategies have a look at the Self Care Fact Cards titled Smoking, Staying a Non-smoker and Nicotine Replacement Therapy available at all Self Care pharmacies. Call 1300 369 772 for the nearest location or visit the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia's website at www.psa.org.au, click on Self Care, then "Find a Self Care Pharmacy".

- John Bell



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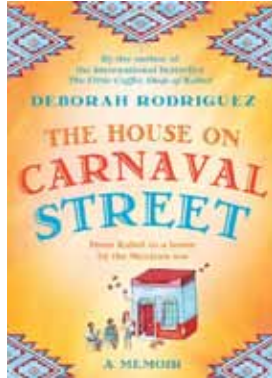
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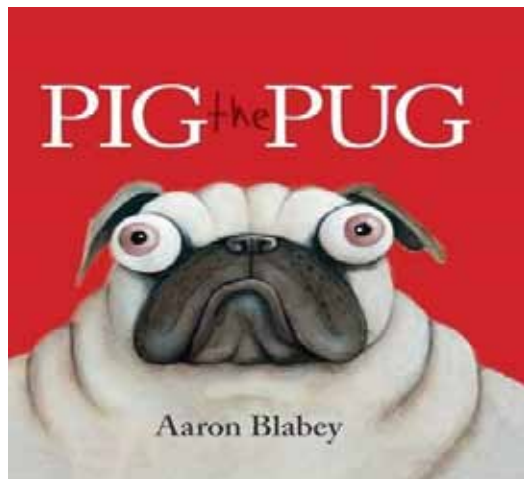
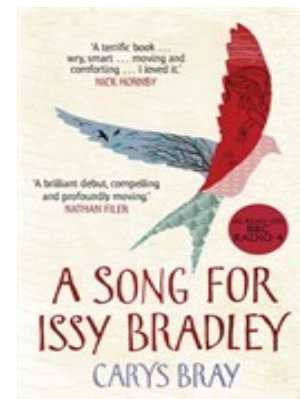


When her family faces kidnap threats after the publication of her first book, Deborah Rodriguez is forced to flee Kabul, leaving behind her friends, her possessions, the beauty school she helped found and her two beloved businesses: a beauty salon and a coffee shop.

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