

LORNE

Independent

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EXCLUSIVE...

THE INS AND OUTS OF BUILDING ON THE SURF COAST

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Is it necessary to holiday all at the same time of the year? Page 7

It's on again - Shire wants to build a pool at Torquay. Page 9



From the Deck by John Agar

OUR PORTUGUESE CONNECTIONS

Keys, mahogany, and lots of feet

I watch them as they glide across my merbau deck, two mini-stepping, multi-legged Portuguese millipedes, their tiny tootsies rippling in stunning synchronisation. I extend a probing finger at one. Like the trigger of a snapdragon, it coils into a tight spiral, playing possum as it feigns a petite-death to avoid further harm.

The warmer weather has arrived, and with it, the annual invasion of the millipedes – marching with apparent purpose, yet with no fixed address, across the floorboards and carpets of Southern Australia.

It is impossible not to marvel at their tiny coordinated steps, even as they make us feel just a wee bit queasy at the thought of picking them up. And, slippery little suckers that they are, picking them up is not always as easy as it looks. A little piece of paper, slid deftly underneath, is the surest way.

Whether by millipede, the pre-Cook explorers Torres and Mendonça, the mysterious Mahogany Ship still lost in the dunes between Warrnambool and Port Fairy, the equally mysterious Limeburners Point keys at Geelong, or the tantalising 16th century Dieppe maps that depict the coastline of Australia long before Cook came some two centuries or more later – the Portuguese have dotted a trail of light touches across this continent. None stayed ... I like to think in deference and respect to our first peoples ... that is, until those pesky millepedes came – and did stay!

An edited excerpt from Wikipedia titillates with the following: 'the species [*Ommatoiulus moreleti*] was accidentally introduced into South Australia – likely in ships' ballast, and likely in 1953. They have no natural enemies and are now an invasive pest' the adults develop through anything up to 16 moults over 3 years ... with males, in their mating form, having gonopods (mating legs) in the seventh body segment, [penile] 'legs' that they lose each springtime'

As a footnote: with two pairs of legs on each segment, that's four little mating legs. Woohoo ... randy little suckers! ... the tangle of legs that mental image conjures is mind-boggling! It is no wonder the wee beasties seem so prevalent.



But the Portuguese have other irons in Australia's fire. Stories – plus scant but tantalising evidence – attest to Caucasian 'discovery' of Australia at least 250 years before Cook – likely somewhere between 1521 and 1524 – and well before the well-documented visit by the Dutchman, Janszoon, in 1606. The Dieppe maps, drawn up for the two Henrys – Henry VII of England and Henry II of France between 1540 and 1570 – clearly show a large landmass, with an outline resembling our own, hunkering down just about where 'we' now sip our lattes. However, academic debate continues over the shadowy 'continent' on the Dieppe maps – was it a reality or was it just a theory fit for the times.

And then there are two more teasers: 'the Geelong keys', and the Mahogany Ship!

In 1847, a set of 5 keys, purported to be Portuguese, that were given to Governor Charles LaTrobe by a lime worker.

As the story goes, the worker found them buried in a layer of shells while digging at Limeburners Point, Corio – near the present Geelong Grammar School site. Latrobe estimated the keys to have been between 150-200 years old. A paper published by the Royal Society of Victoria (my grandfather was its' president in 1927-28) suggested that they were quite a bit older ... more like 200-300 years old. To put a cat right in among the pigeons – to throw cold water on the whole 'keys' story – research in the 1980s suggested the layer in which the keys were said to have been found was between 2300 and 2800 years of age. But then, by that time the actual keys had been lost (again) ... so there has been no way to date them, or to confirm their likely country of origin.

The once-found but now-lost-again Geelong keys – and a once-seen but never-seen-again 15thC Mahogany Caravel that is said to be buried deep under shifting sand dunes at Armstrong Bay west of Warrnambool – add further layers to the relational mystique of the Portuguese with this Great Southern Land.

More than any other single maritime story, the Mahogany ship has firmly placed the southern shore of western Victoria, and Warrnambool, on the conspiracy theories of history map.

Continued page 3.

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Was it really seen? Is it really still there? Why haven't academic searches using sophisticated ground-penetrating ultrasound been able to find it – that is, of course, if it is there? To this day, I still battle a childlike temptation to pick an 'X-marks-the-spot' spot ... and dig.

So, whether it is through potential time-distant visitations to our coast at Warrnambool or Geelong, or by the reality of the annual visits to my deck of spirally coiled, many-legged, 7th segment leg-missing (i.e. sexually 'experienced') millipedes, the Portuguese have left an intriguing mark on our southern shores.

And, just imagine the blisters they must get on all those tiny feet from treading a hot summer deck.



Dreaming of a New Home by the sea?

... **STUDIO 101 ARCHITECTS** can make it happen!

Our Lorne home is featured in the exciting new coffee table book 'AUSTRALIAN BEACH HOUSES'.

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PETER@STUDIO101.COM.AU

THE BEACH HOUSE SPECIALISTS

TOWARDS A COASTAL ARCHITECTURE...

By Peter Woolard



As the urban and suburban populations continue to expand and encroach on our coastal townships, we see home owner requirements and expectations for their new abodes changing.

Gone are the days of discovering an inexpensive block of land by the sea and building a family holiday home – think back to the days of the humble fibro beach shack propped up on steel legs to frame the views and capture the sea breezes. The Australian dream of owning a beach house still remains, but the demographics and expectations have changed.

With the climate we live in today, it is more important than ever that our homes are designed not to suit the ever changing current trends or styles, but are based on the fundamental design principles deeply rooted

in the environment. The design process starts with identifying the specific characteristics of the land through site analysis and tailoring a sustainable design solution to suit the surrounding environment. The aim is to create a site responsive, sustainable and beautiful home living environment.

Along the Surf Coast there are a series of diverse landscapes that each require a specific design approach, from the urban areas of Torquay, to the rural hinterlands of the Otways and the sweeping views which unfold along the Great Ocean Road. What is important is that any conversation about a possible definition of ‘coastal architecture’ is a different one from the past. It is now less about the style, but more about the environment, in order to achieve authenticity and a site responsive design solution.

Coastal design should represent the environment in its totality and endeavour to capture the key ingredients which make each part of the Surf Coast and along the Great Ocean Road unique. Modern living is busier than ever and the old days of designs being functional to fit the purpose of a holiday home or retreat have been transplanted with a growing desire for more permanent homes and for site responsive home requirements. Generally, the person who wants to build along the coast is more concerned with having a natural and sustainably designed home which exudes warmth, beauty and nestles within the setting. This is not about replicating the lifestyle home-owners previously or currently enjoy in their more urban environments, but contrasting with it to suit the coastal environment. In effect, it is about the creation of tranquility and simplicity over density and complexity while embracing the beauty of the oceans and the forest.

Continued page 5.



Presents

Holiday Showcase 2020

Come and be inspired. Industry experts, amazing deals, prizes and giveaways.

Venue COPACC
95-97 Gellibrand St, Colac

Date Saturday 29 February 2020

Time 10.00am to 1.00 pm

From page 4.

To enable this to happen, it is important to understand the five key elements which help determine and drive the design of a coastal home:

Client Requirements:

Naturally every individual's requirements vary with each project. This depends heavily on their views on the purpose of the design and whether it is for a holiday or a permanent home. In addition, considerations will include a person's brief and budget, age and mobility, lifestyle interests and the desire to be at one with nature.

What is consistent is that everyone is seeking a beautiful living environment that is a joy to live in.

Regulatory Framework:

Of course, there are many guidelines and regulations which require careful consideration when it comes to coastal design. The local Lorne region is governed by the Surf Coast Shire and the first step is always to gain an understanding of the parameters and trigger points that will necessitate the need for permits. In Lorne, most new homes will require a Town Planning Permit and depending on the site location, they may be covered by a series of zoning requirements including, but not limited to:

- Design Development overlays;
- Neighbourhood Character overlay;
- Significant Landscape overlay;
- Bush Fire Prone areas and Wild Fire Management overlays;
- Areas of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity.

Careful review and understanding of the implications of the overlays is the key prior to commencing the design process, as are both Pre-Design and Pre-Application meetings with the Town Planning Department. One should always aim to work collaboratively with the Town Planners to better understand the intended aims, outcomes and decision guidelines for the site.

Site Analysis:

A thorough and rigorous analysis of the site and surrounding context should always inform the design outcome. It is only with a site examination and a survey of existing conditions that the constraints and opportunities of a site start to emerge. Site exploration should always include:

- Site topography and consideration of how the new built form will respond to, and work with, the natural contours of the land;
- Views to, and from the site, including the coastline, blue water, landmarks and the native landscape. Capturing that sought after sweeping view of the ocean remains an intrinsic element to all coastal design;
- Review of the existing landscape, trees and vegetation and how the built form can sensitively integrate within the natural environment;
- Solar orientation of the site – along the coast, the view outlook often doesn't conform to the perfect Northern orientation;
- A determination of predominant wind directions and strengths – look to how the new home can be sited to form shelter refuge;
- Consideration of adjacent neighbouring buildings and the proximity to traffic noise.

Building Form & Materials

The design form of a new home should be informed by the surrounding environment. Important considerations include building heights, setbacks from boundaries and rooflines. With an honest expression of materials, design can effectively harmonise with a natural setting. Such an approach helps to form a natural patina: materials will age 'gracefully' to retain the design intent.

The stereotypical designs of the past focused intently on colours to match the sea and sand – blues and yellows dominated. These days, the choice of materials should dictate the choice of colour. The aim is for the materials and colour palette to complement the environment.

Sustainability:

Sustainability is fundamental to all good architecture and should be carefully considered to not only minimise disruption to the environment, but to be sensitively integrated within the architecture. A few simple principles include:

- Maximising glazing and solar orientation towards the North;
- The use of sun-shading by means of roof overhangs, pergola structures or external blinds;
- Incorporation of thermal mass in the form of concrete slabs or masonry walls to store the winter sun and radiate out for warmth;
- Insulating building envelopes including floors, walls, ceilings and roofs;
- Installation of double glazed windows (preferably with timber frames) with options for thermal glass and argon gas contained within the double glazing;
- Providing multiple options for openable windows for natural cross ventilation;
- Selecting materials and finishes that are sustainably sourced with lower embodied energies;
- Harvesting rain water to feed water tanks;
- Inclusion of solar roof panels, hot water and battery storage.

Overall, it's clear that there should no longer be a reliance on a typical 'coastal style' – a one size fits all approach. Good architecture (especially home design) is multi-faceted and must not have a pre-determined design aesthetic. It should be based on a solid foundation of principles - looking to the site and its surrounding environment for an authentic and honest expression of design. However, as with any form of artistic or design expression, beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

About the Author:

Peter Woolard is an award winning, 30 year veteran of architecture and a Beach House specialist. He is the founding director of the Geelong based STUDIO 101 ARCHITECTS and has an extensive portfolio of completed projects along the coast, including many beautiful homes in Lorne.

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Please note: Absolute deadline for copy is five days before the end of the month.



OP-SHOP BUZZ

By Mandy Calder

The place to find a bargain

Looking around Lorne in summer one can see hundreds of people doing active things in our beautiful environment. Everyone is out walking, jogging, working out, cycling, swimming, surfing, playing beach cricket, doing yoga and pilates, playing golf or tennis or bowls. Up at Stribling Reserve you can see people training, running, bowling cricket balls in the nets, kicking the footy ...



Janet and Julie, Wednesday volunteers

Have you ever thought about kitting yourself out in some great active wear? The Lorne Op Shop has a rack of fab exercise gear, some of which seems to be new or hardly worn. We often have a selection of brand-name sports t-shirts and singlets, running shorts, crop tops, cycling jerseys and shorts, yoga pants as well as rash vests, wetsuits and board shorts. Of course, as always, things come and go, so you need to check it out on the day and see whether there's anything to suit your fancy! Most of these items are quite pricey when new, so you might get yourself a great bargain!

There are six hardworking ladies who make up the Wednesday morning team. Peggy, who sadly passed away just recently and Trish, long term Lorne residents, have been working this shift for many years, with Peg looking after the books and Trish opening up, taking care of the counter and customer service. Now they have the help of Janet, Julie and Julie (all newer op shop members) and the lovely Irish Chris, who also does a couple of shifts per month when her work at the pharmacy allows.

Janet says that she first met most of the Op Shop crew at our AGM lunch last year and was impressed by the positive vibe of the group and the way every member was made to feel appreciated and included. She loves meeting new people through the Op Shop, both volunteers and customers. She also has an almost childlike enjoyment in "playing shop" - getting to run her own shop for a few hours each week and taking great pleasure in the creative outlet it offers. Julie spends about half her time here in Lorne and is also enjoying her work at the shop, meeting lots of great people and getting to know the volunteers and other locals as she goes. Thanks, Wednesday morning girls! Great work for the community!

Food for thought:

IT MAY BE TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO THE TYPICAL AUSTRALIAN SUMMER HOLIDAY

David Bowman - Professor of Pyrogeography and Fire Science, University of Tasmania

For 40 years I have studied bushfires in Australia. It has been my life's work to try to better understand Australian landscapes and the interaction of humans and landscape fire.

As we contemplate a future where catastrophes like the one currently engulfing Australia become increasingly frequent, there's an idea to which I keep returning: maybe it's time to say goodbye to the typical summer Australian holiday.

Perhaps it's time to rearrange the Australian calendar and reschedule the peak holiday period to March or April, instead of December and January.

It's easy to dismiss this idea as stupid but that's the nature of adaptation. Things that once seemed absurd will now need serious consideration.

What's truly absurd is the business-as-usual approach that sees thousands of holidaymakers heading directly into forests and national parks right in the middle of peak bushfire season.

All of the indications are that we are galloping into changing fire regimes. We can certainly see that with what's occurred in the Australian alps (the snow country in south-eastern Australia, near Mount Kosciuszko). There were incredibly intense fires there around the early 2000s and now those areas are re-burning.

To me, as a fire researcher, that's an astonishing thought.

Yes, there have been very large fires in the past but they weren't followed up with yet more very large fires a mere 15 years later. Normally, you'd be expecting a gap of 50 or 100 years. So the ecology is telling us that we are seeing the intervals between the fires shrinking. That is a really big warning sign.

And this increasingly frequent fire activity is completely consistent with what climate modelling was suggesting. The whole system is moving to a world that is hotter, drier, and with more frequent fire activity. It's what was forecast and it's what is now happening.

Big holidays in peak fire season

One of the great exacerbating factors of this crisis is the fact that it's occurring in a holiday period. It makes things incredibly difficult for emergency management. The fact is that it would be a lot easier for firefighters to focus on stemming fires if they didn't also have to manage mass evacuations, and deal with populations that are dispersed and far from home.

Scheduling the major Australian holiday at the same time as bushfire season also makes things extremely difficult for the

enterprises that depend on the holiday trade. You need certainty to run a business and timing the major annual Australian holiday period with bushfire season strips certainty away from these business owners.

It's also really terrible for holidaymakers themselves. People are in desperate need of a break, to spend time with family. Instead of returning to work rested and re-energised, many will be stressed, tired, perhaps even traumatised. (And let's not forget the firefighters themselves, also denied a break with friends and family over the holidays).

And having the major holiday right in the middle of bushfire season also means that many people are denied a chance to experience national parks, as authorities close them off to reduce risk.

Adaptation means change, and change is hard

The old idea was that we can head off the crisis by reducing our emissions through decarbonisation. We had an opportunity to do that and we didn't take it. We still have to decarbonise but now we also have to adapt.

And the sort of adaptation needed is not just about infrastructure, it's also about the way we shape our lifestyle, our culture and traditions.

Climate change adaptation will nearly always be met with political, social and cultural resistance. It is not easy. But something like completely rearranging the Australian calendar around increased risks – it's not even the biggest change required of us.

Some of the other things we are going to have to do will at first seem absurd, will be unbelievably painful economically and will require major adjustments.

There's going to need to be a systematic change in behaviour and lifestyle as we adapt.

This crisis occurring in peak holiday time is highlighting the fact that the assumptions of normality we have got are being challenged by climate change.

It is confronting, but adaptation also brings with it great benefits – less loss of life, greater certainty and opportunity for businesses and holidaymakers, and smoother handling of fire crises as they emerge.

We need to put some serious thought into what future life will be like under climate change. Perhaps shifting peak holiday season to the cooler months is the place to start.

Wanted to rent

Large shed

Allan Walls of the Lorne Men's Shed (he recently stepped down as president) is looking desperately for a large lock-up shed to rent anywhere in town.

Can you please help out?

Obviously, he's willing to pay rent.

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Empty rigid plastic bottles and containers numbered 1-5 only.



Empty steel food cans, aluminium cans and foil



Empty glass bottles and jars. (Place lids in the recycling bin separately)



Clean paper and cardboard

LABELS CAN BE LEFT ON ALL ITEMS

Keep it clean! Leave these out of your recycling bin.



DON'T bag material. Recycling must go in loose!



Coated cardboard cartons used to package milk and other liquids



Soft plastic packaging* such as shopping bags, bread bags, frozen food bags and chip packets etc.



Nappies

*Soft plastic packaging can be dropped in to REDcycle collection bins at participating Coles and Woolworths stores.

THESE ITEMS CAN BE TAKEN TO A TRANSFER STATION FOR RECYCLING:



Metal pots and pans
Take to Angliasia or Lorne transfer stations



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Pennant Bowls

We have a home match every Saturday this season. All welcome to come down and support our teams! Bar/Café open for drinks

Monday Night Market

Every Monday in February
4pm-9pm
Contact Anna to hold a stall/for more details!



TORQUAY AQUATIC & HEALTH CENTRE PLANNING

Following State and Federal elections, the Torquay Aquatic & Health Centre (AHC) is back on Council's agenda. I feel it is appropriate to communicate the current status of this project and the associated financial challenge.

The following extract from agenda item 6.4 Aquatic & Health Centre Planning presented at the 21st January 2020 meeting provides a useful summary of the background to this project.

"In 2009, the Shire received a petition from the Surf Coast Community Leisure Centre Action Group containing approximately 2,000 signatures. The petition sought the development of a leisure centre with aquatic facilities and associated active recreation facilities such as a gym.

Council completed a Feasibility Study in November 2009 that recommended that Council should not consider the development of an Indoor Aquatic and Leisure Centre until at least the end of the 2015 financial year.

In July 2013, Council established an Aquatic & Leisure Taskforce to keep an open dialogue with the community about an aquatic facility. The Taskforce comprised of four serving Councillors and six community members. A report was received by Council in September 2014.

In 2015 Council completed an extensive community consultation process to ascertain whether an Aquatic & Health Centre in Torquay was supported. The outcome was that the broader Surf Coast Shire community was not supportive of the proposed model, largely due to the capital and ongoing operational costs that would have to be incurred by Council. Consequently Council resolved in December 2015 to not undertake any further planning for an Aquatic & Health Centre at that time.

The Aquatic & Health Centre (AHC) was a hot topic throughout the State election campaign in 2018, with the project receiving bipartisan support in the form of \$10 million pledges. The Labour Party won the election and in September 2019 Sport & recreation Victoria confirmed that the commitment is \$10m to construct a new aquatic centre including a 25 metre pool, learn to swim pool, gymnasium and group fitness rooms.

Both major parties again focused on the AHC in the lead up to the Federal Election. The Labor Party pledged \$15.3 million to the project, and the Liberal Party followed up with a pledge of \$20 million specifically for a 50 metre pool.

Councillors have been updated throughout 2019, with five officer briefings delivered since May 2019.

Councillors have commenced budget deliberations for the 2020-21 Annual Budget. This includes a review of the Council's long-term (ten year) financial plan to provide context for any major expenditure decisions such as a major new project (e.g. AHC, a new library).

Council's financial position is challenged in the coming decades as the impacts of rate capping are felt even with delivery of Council's annual business improvement savings target."

Having considered the item, Council resolved to undertake a feasibility study to better understand the implications of an aquatic facility, in terms of both capital and operating impacts, to enable the issue to move forward.

Financial Impacts of Rate Capping.

Since the State Government introduced rate-capping in 2017-18, Council's financial future has changed significantly. Council's historical rate revenue increases typically averaged in the order of 5.5% p.a., but under rate capping this has been limited to between 2.0% to 2.5%. This reduction equates to approximately \$1.2m less in rate increase each year, and as this applies each year, the revenue reduction next year is in the order of \$5m. If you add up the impact over say 10 years, the total revenue reduction over that period approaches \$100m. This fundamentally changes what Council can afford to provide for the community.

Consequently funding available for discretionary spending is markedly reducing, Council must now be very selective in the allocation of funds for any project whether it requires one-off capital cost, Developer Contribution commitments or annual service delivery expenses.

AHC Resolution

I have summarised the key points that were included in the Council resolution at the 21st January 2020 Council meeting:

- Undertake a feasibility study for an Aquatic & Health Centre in Torquay.
- Scope of the study must include modelling of capital cost, operational revenue and costs, and net operational cost for all options identified.
- Options that can be delivered within a capital cost of not more than \$30m
- Options that include facilities beyond what can be delivered for \$30m, that will deliver lower net operational cost.
- Allocated \$50,000 to fund the feasibility study
- Noted that the study is expected to take approximately four months.

Councillors expressed their opinions and concerns about the affordability of the Aquatic & Health Centre at the Council meeting.

The full Resolution can be found in the Council minutes on the Council's website.

The full recording of the agenda item is also available on the Council's website via on-demand video and audio of the Council meeting.

Cr Clive Goldsworthy
Lorneward

PHARMACY MEDICATION

Governments in the bushfire affected areas have passed legislation that allow pharmacies a great deal of lassitude in dispensing prescription-only medications.

Should you have problems with anything to do with your prescriptions and any other medicinal needs, your first port of call should be the local pharmacy. In case of emergency, call 000, or our local Lorne Community Hospital (5289 4300)

The Hospital is staffed 24 hours and can provide answers should you require additional scripts or other medical advice and help.

Regulations on prescription medicine with the bushfire emergency have changed drastically in the short term and your friendly pharmacies will be able to provide you with up-to-date advice.



Your monthly health newsletter brought to you by the team at the Lorne Pharmacy & Beauty Retreat

Renea Forsyth is our regular Wednesday pharmacist, specialising in women's health issues, mother and baby care, skin problems and fashion ... Come in for a chat any Wednesday

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THE LOUTTIT LOOP

On day one of the four day Falls Festival the organisers made the wise but mega decision to pull the plug on this year's gig. The weather threatened to be horrendous and with 9,000 already on site, and thousands more on their way, the risk of fire could not be ignored. As word spread round town it was a bit like other huge events like Princess Di's accident, Twin Towers, John Kennedy's shooting, etc. Hard to believe. Jessica Nichol reported in a local paper of the Feed Me Bellarine group – a private, not for profit, community-driven food sharing program developed by Lana Purcell and chef Anthony Woodbury. They rushed to Lorne and rescued 100kg of food (including 600 free range eggs, 20-30 kgs of salad mix, and ready-made meals earmarked for the performers). Eight volunteers had a cooking day and produced meals for 200 families on the Bellarine, relishes were produced and even zucchinis were turned into brownies. A fabulous effort and it's worth checking out their website - feedmebellarine.com.au.

New Year's Eve was ticked off, and then the amazing Nippers took over the main beach. Such a wonderful heart-warming sight to behold. As usual, the Powercorp Mountain to Surf 8 km.run (or walk) was a great success with 2,300 people taking part in the 36th spectacular event! And the 40th Powercorp Pier to Pub swim attracted about 5,000 swimmers with the same result for major place getters as the previous two years. The Lorne Surf Club does such an awesome job over this huge weekend, and coordinating the 700 volunteers required is no mean feat! Well done to all.

It was sad to read that Robby Rathborne died on Boxing Day. Lucy and Rob lived mostly on the Gold Coast over the last few years, but life was one big party for many years in Lorne. We last saw Rob at the fabulous Fawty Towers night at the Country Club. A great way to remember him – laughing with us all.

Peg Taylor passed away in January after slowly losing a big health battle and a heap of weight! Peg volunteered at Lorne Historical Society, Lorne Tourist Centre, and was in charge of books at the Lorne Op Shop for many years. She assembled a small team to assist her and one had to be fairly bullet proof to work with her as she certainly said what she thought! Peg was an extremely intelligent woman – born in India and brought up in Scotland - she cooked a mean curry and loved a red wine or two. We will all miss her terribly for her feisty turn of phrase, her wisdom and her incredible knowledge. Rest in Peace dear friend.

Great label on our local egg cartons in our supermarket depicts the GOR archway and its sign announcing Great Ocean Road Free Range Eggs! Four brown hens are seen crossing the road on a marked crossing AND on top of the arch are three more hens and also the family's Maremma dogs Isabella and Millie! An excellent photo shopping trick! The eggs are divine as well!

BUT, it was a shock to see a photo of a young man who had climbed to the top of the same arch which marks the starting point for Great Ocean Road construction! As cars and buses passed beneath him, folk commented on how dangerous it was, and his lack of respect for the 3,000 returned servicemen who worked to hack the road out of the cliff face. One onlooker had a classic comment: "Some people give idiots a bad name!"

As a town which caters pretty well to our dear tourists, it appears that we need to step up on the charging of new-fangled electric cars!

We have one charger at the Visitor Centre, but it takes at least 12 hours for a full charge. The nearest 'Fast' Charge is to be had at the RACV resort in Torquay and apparently only takes an hour. A recent visitor who came down to show off his beautiful new car was horrified at the situation here.

In 2017 Geelong Advertiser reported a chainsaw-wielding, tree lopping "Dr. Chop" under probe after a row over invasion of a neighbouring property. Google revealed CCTV footage of a Geelong anesthetist in his neighbors' yard taking a chainsaw to a giant peppercorn tree blocking his view of Queen's Park in Highton. NOW - he is rumoured to have purchased a very large area of bush at the northern end of Lorne's currently developed area – a charming area with almost no fencing, lots of trees and bush, and friendly neighbours. Watch this space!!!

Late news! Another much-loved Lorne dog passed away prior to Christmas. Sympathies to Stewart and Helen whose small black character filled dog Erskine is no more. Such a great name for a dog.

We are so lucky to have such a long off-lead beach walk for our dogs. Socialising and exercising are so important for both dogs and owners and new puppies are welcomed with great enthusiasm by all. Recently a red (well, really brown) and white border collie puppy ventured down for his first explore and owner Nick was besieged with admirers keen to pat sweet Freddy. A very young black and white little B.C. was spotted in the op shop being shown off to all and sundry. Nine-year-old Rocco was the only one not impressed as he is quite possessive of that shop when he is there for his weekly Thursday shift.

The Surfcoast Times Committee for Lorne page this week had such a great article by Peter Spring wearing his Lorne Historical Society hat! Referring to the past and to the present camping experiences in Lorne, it was so interesting to read that within our four parks we offer 370 campsites and 32 cabins and host 31,000 visitors per year. When travelling round Australia one falls in love with towns which have their camp grounds at the entrance to town and the precious folk who stay within them have no need to use their cars for the duration of their stay! The tap tap of tent pegs into the ground and laughter of kids riding bikes round and round are some of the best summer sounds to be heard.

Please remember you can get a rubber clip for free at the Visitors' Information Centre to keep the cockies out of your rubbish bin.

Also, please don't put any material in your Recycle bin in plastic bags. Toss it in loose. Also do not recycle cardboard cartons from milk or stock, no soft plastic packaging such as plastic bread bags or frozen food bags, no polystyrene packaging, no plastic toys, no metal pots and pans or clothing and shoes, and certainly NO NAPPIES. Please take this seriously or all our efforts at recycling will be wasted and go to general landfill.

Folk still seem to be feeding cockies in town! One regular visiting bird is very very unwell and has no feathers. And the One and Only Lorne Noticeboard on Facebook shows a cockatoo flying low near the Cumberland bakery tables and chairs, swooping down and stealing one of Grandma Shields award winning pies from a customer's hand and then proceeding to sit on top of a parking sign eating the entire pie!

Congratulations to the team at GOR Real Estate who assembled in the dining room of 1 Roadknight St with three seriously interested parties. Ian Stewart and Michael Coutts joined Tyrone Provan who conducted a boardroom auction. After 15 bids, the divine property was sold in excess of \$7million – setting a new record for Lorne, for the Bellarine Peninsular, Geelong and also the Surf Coast! Ian is proud to reveal that GOR Real Estate work on a shared commission basis so everyone's a winner.

Late breaking news: During a pause in a wonderful night of music and food at Qdos, Gillian and Graeme got married! How exciting is that!!!

Happy and safe 2020.....Lillian..x

FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

For the Lorne Ward Cr Clive Goldsworthy - 0400 756 854 lorneward.information@gmail.com



Last weekend the staging of 40th Pier to Pub swim saw our visitor numbers increase dramatically to participate or support family members tackling the 1.2km ocean swim which is the largest and most noted, ocean water swim in the world.

Close to 5000 swimmers entered the swim as opposed to about 100 swimmers who tackled the race in 1981. The Mountain to Surf run on the previous Friday saw over 2,000 participants enter the event winding through the magnificent and pristine track running along the George River and then along the Great Ocean Road back to Lorne.

The events are staffed with over 360 volunteers from the Surf Club as well as being strongly supported by the volunteer medical staff from our permanent and non-permanent medical professionals. Congratulations and thank you to all Lorne Surf Club and community volunteers who gave up their time to support and manage the event.

Throughout 2020 a number of exciting projects will commence at Stribling Reserve, completion of the light towers, construction of a new netball pavilion and the upgrade of the Community Stadium all key projects in the Stribling Reserve Masterplan, endorsed in 2017.

The Lorne Community through the Australian Sports Foundation will contribute funds to the projects. More details to follow.

The Lorne Football and Netball Club held their Celebrity Night fundraiser last Friday and was strongly supported by Club sponsors and members. Celebrities included Shane Warne, Kris Smith, Shane Jacobson. Once again Brian Taylor did a magnificent job co-ordinating and managing the night. The Club has decided to make a suitable donation to the Victorian Government Bushfire Appeal.

At this weeks Council meeting Councillors resolved to spend \$50,000 on a feasibility study for an Aquatic & Health Centre in Torquay. The study must include modelling of capital cost, operational revenue and costs, and net operational cost for all options identified.

The study is expected to take approximately four months. Further information is available on the Shire's website or listen to the archived recording. I have written more about this as a separate article.

The latest Surf Coast Shire Visitors insights 2019 highlights a number of interesting observations.

- Tourism attracted more than 2.49 million to the Surf Coast region.
- Direct tourism expenditure was \$544 million for the same period.
- Domestic Day visitors 1.46 million, Domestic Overnight 1.02 million and interestingly 50,000 International visitors.
- Most visitors coming to the Region are spending more money but not staying as long as they used to.
- 74% of Domestic Day Trip visitors are drawn to the Surf Coast for the natural environment.
- There are 3 times more international day visitors than international overnight visitors coming to the GOR region.
- In 2018 the Surf Coast Visitor Centres engaged 222,911 visitors.
- Lorne VIC engaged 129,149 walk-in enquiries and 6,962 phone enquiries.
- The Surf Coast region hosts 200+ events, festivals and markets.

The Fire Danger Period remains in place for the Surf Coast Shire, so let's not get complacent as summer draws to an end.

Ongoing Fire risk will remain, keep vigilant and ensure you are well prepared and ready to enact your fire plan.



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ROUNDUP OF ACTIVITIES AT THE SHED

Almost immediately after the news broke on the bushfire tragedy unfolding in eastern Victoria, and in other States, members of the Lorne and District Men's Shed started to talk about how best to help.

Raising money was the most obvious way, but the question came up how to best direct the Shedd's money to fellow Shedd's, especially in those areas hit directly by bushfire. This was an important question as individual Shedd's often targeted specific needs in their own community.

President Bob Sinclair got on the phone and as a result, the Lorne Men's Shed donation of \$1,000 will go Gippsland Emergency Fund of the Victorian Men's Shed Association.

However, it was made clear that there were urgent and specific needs in bushfire affected areas, especially letterboxes and wildlife feeding stations.

Bushfire victims pleaded on national television about the problem of accessing mail - think government correspondence, cheques and other important notifications. Many areas have also been cut off from the internet and/or power.

Lorne Shedd's are now also working on simple designs for bird feeding stations, which they hope to distribute soon throughout Gippsland. These boxes are essential to attract birds back into bushfire affected landscapes; this is a major project with a high priority.

Other Lorne Shedd's activity includes progress on the 'Coot Boat', a two-man craft suitable for activity on the Erskine Estuary area, and especially designed to help out during the very popular Model T37 regatta, initiated as a public event last year.

We had a most successful Car Parking session around the Men's Shed to support the Pier to Pub Swim on Saturday January 11th. No, there were no incidents of angry voices or scratched cars. Thanks to the merry band of Shedd's who used great craft to squeeze 108 cars into our allowed spaces.

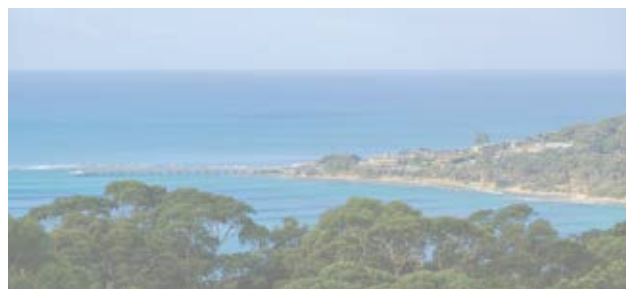
Oh yes, Shedd's were also offered a tour of 'Jura', that enormous grand mansion just down from the Grand Pacific Hotel built high above the Great Ocean Road. The mansion was designed and built during the heyday of Western District grazier activity when people used to take their holidays with family in Lorne. "Amazing place," one of the Shedd's said in awe after the experience.

Finally, The Men's Shed has for sale one of its fully functioning state of the art coffee machines for \$500. It's almost new and makes wonderful coffee. Give our secretary Bill Youl a call on 0408 123 677.

Compiled by JV



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SHELLS, GEESE AND GUM TREES

Doug Williams

The tongue twister that starts, “She sells sea shells by the sea shore” is believed to have been inspired by Mary Anning (1799 – 1847) who was an English fossil collector, dealer, and palaeontologist who became known around the world for important finds she made in Jurassic marine fossil beds in the cliffs along the English Channel at Lyme Regis in the county of Dorset. (Wikipedia.)

Mary was a contemporary of Charles Darwin and they shared a common interest – she became a leading authority on fossils and her discoveries almost certainly assisted his development on the theory of evolution. She was not only a fossil collector but was also self-taught in palaeontology and anatomy. She was much more than a shell collector just as there was more to Darwin than being an expert on barnacles, a field of study for him prior to *The Origin of Species*. Earlier columns have referred to his study of plant tropisms and to being a pigeon fancier.

The fossil beds of outback Australia containing dinosaur remains and shells provide specimens of great age and date back to the Mesozoic period many millions of years ago. It is sometimes referred to as the Age of Conifers and was when much of the Australian continent was inundated by a huge inland sea at a time when the Earth was much warmer than today. Recent travels in outback South Australia taught us that this sea stretched from the Gulf of Carpentaria in the north of the country to Spencer Gulf in the south. Eucalypts arrived here at the end of this era when the planet was covered largely in huge sheets of ice around 65 million years ago. There was very little variety initially until around two million years back when, as temperatures rose, they left the north of the country and hybridised and proliferated like anything until we now have nigh on eight hundred varieties.



Goose Barnacles - Myths once told that geese hatched from these crustaceans

Charlie Darwin of course visited these shores as part of a five year world survey trip in his barque *Beagle* (yes, he named his ship after a breed of dog) but he was not very interested in collecting plant specimens as people like Joseph Banks and other botanists from many countries did, instead concentrating on geology samples, animals, reptiles and, most particularly, shells. These would be used to further his scientific theories. It was after this voyage that he spent the next eight years studying barnacles during which he negated the scientific belief held by many that a certain species of goose hatched out of them. In this era it wasn't far from myths such as these to his theory of evolution and in this climate it is understandable that he came up against a wall of disbelief from some quarters, a disbelief that some people still cannot suspend.

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From the team at Great Ocean Road Real Estate

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Editorial

OUR WAR WITH THE COCKIES

The citizens of Lorne are at war with one of the cleverest, most wily, audacious and formidable birds that live among us, and it looks very much as if they're winning. Over the years we've won a few battles but basically lost the war.

In our so-called 'summer season', the presence of these sulphur crested cockies is ubiquitous. They sit all in a row on railings overlooking outdoor eating places, ready to pounce should someone be tempted to offer them food, and it's a common sight to have half a dozen of the birds perched on an outstretched arm posing for selfies.

Visitors to Lorne think that's wonderful, great pictures to show the folks back home - locals seethe with anger.

And it's not a pretty sight to see obviously very sick cockies hobbling about on their way to a not very deserving death.

As a politician would say, let's be very clear about this: the fault is with us! The cockies should not be fed with bread, chips and most of the other fast-food we stuff into ourselves, but should be encouraged to seek their food in the natural surrounds.

We the citizens of Lorne know not to feed these birds, but the problem is that visitors don't.

There have been occasional campaigns (mini-wars?) to print warning signs, place them in shop windows, put up the mostly hard-to see signs around the township. All basically useless!

The signs have peeled from the windows, there is no one to police the do-not-feed policy, and signs are simply ignored or not understood. Meanwhile the cockies are multiplying in their presence.

Every Monday morning, many of us awaken to the triumphant screech of cockies and know that a flock has opened yet another rubbish bin lid and there will be garbage strewn all around.

Over the years, many great minds, both locally and at the Surf Coast Shire (who are responsible for garbage collection) have pondered the problem on how to stop these dastardly birds from opening lids with their inventive approach, picking through rubber clips, or simply pushing the rubbish bin over and then feasting when the lid flies open.

Years ago, the best solution seemed to have been a heavy piece of timber screwed on the inside of the bin lid. The Shire didn't like this arrangement and contracted the Men's Shed



Shedder Brian Long demonstrates how to clip the metal spring to a rubbish bin. We've yet to hear a report on the effectiveness of the spring.

to fit locks to the bins, which when properly locked, stopped the cockies from prying them open. The lids flapped open when the bin was lifted high into the rubbish removal truck.

The whole exercise cost the ratepayers of Lorne about \$36,000.

Then it was realised that keys got lost, renters didn't give a stuff whether the lids were secure, and many locks simply jammed. Then the Shire offered, free of charge, a heavy rubber clip which the cockies were able to chew through in a very short time. Another battle lost!

Obviously, the problem is not confined to Lorne as Shedder Allan Walls found on-line a sturdy metal clip which could prove a possible solution. It's simple to clip onto the bin to hinder the cockies picking open the lid.

Meanwhile, let's look positively on improving signs around town and physically discourage visitors from feeding the cockies and taking those idiotic selfies. Perhaps the Shire might print new posters (perhaps in an Asian language or two??)

JV



GREAT OCEAN ROAD HEALTH NEWS

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Well Wishes for 2020

The Board of Great Ocean Road Health would like to wish all community members along with all staff and volunteers peace, health, happiness and prosperity for 2020.

Lorne Medical Centre New GP Registrar's

We are excited to introduce, Dr Amy Harper and Dr Ann Jacob to our team. Both registrars will be starting in February 2020 for 12 months.

We are also very sad to say goodbye to Dr Libby Buchholz and Dr Genevieve Mount. We wish them well on their future endeavours.

Lorne Community Care Team Monthly Activities

- Social Support Groups—bus trips and social events
- Exercise groups—specifically tailored for men, women and mixed groups.

For information on booking a seat, and to discuss eligibility, please phone the Lorne Community Care Team on 5289 4316.

Health Tip:

Too much [salt](#) in the diet has been associated with an increased risk of high blood pressure, which is a known risk factor for heart disease and stroke.

Eating less than 5 g of salt per day (less than a teaspoon a day) is recommended for adults with normal blood pressure. Many Australians consume double this amount each day.

[Seventy-five per cent of our salt intake comes from packaged and processed foods](#) we eat every day, like bread, processed meats and soups. Cutting back on takeaway foods will help reduce your salt intake.

Tip: Look for products with 'no-added salt', or at least 'reduced' or 'low salt'. The best choices are those with less than 120 mg of sodium per 100 g. If you have kids, watch how much they're consuming – too much salt in childhood can lead to a lifetime of health risks. Plus don't be fooled by trendy claims – all [salt](#) is the same. Whether it's pink, rock or vegetable, it's still salt, and has the same effect on our health. Any salt contains sodium, and is just the same as ordinary table salt.

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Massage/Bowen Therapy: Monday

Acupuncture: Tuesday

Osteopath: Wednesday

Optometrist: Thursday 6 and Thursday 27

Diabetic Educator: Please phone reception for further details.

Otway Heart Cardiology Service: Friday 7 February

Australian Hearing Aid Specialist: Wednesday 19

Louttit Bay Walk

Join our Physiotherapist for a 35-40 minute walk at your own pace around Louttit Bay. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, gather exercise tips and have fun. No bookings required.

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Where: Meet at the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club

Cost: FREE but pack some loose change for a coffee.

Stay Connected with Lorne Community Hospital

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Volunteer Positions Vacant

Lorne SES Unit is currently recruiting for six new members to assist in keeping your community safe.

As well as emergency response, VICES volunteers engage with the community to help them prepare for disasters.

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SPORTSBRIEFS

with John Ford

Pier to Pub Swim

On Saturday 11th January the Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club held its Pier to Pub swim for the fortieth year. The conditions were ideal with the day being cool and breezy, so many of the swimmers were able to record their personal best times. Over 5000 swimmers took part, but the finish of the main event was so similar to last year with Lani Pallister and Hayden Cotter being the respective female and male winners. Yes, the teenagers from Queensland have won again – now three wins each!

The swim is the flagship event for the Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club and is a credit to all involved. The club each year trains hundreds of nippers in swimming, water safety and lifesaving. These youngsters who range in age from 7 to 14 gain so much awareness and skills to keep themselves safe and to rescue lives when necessary.

The following was written by Sandra McComb, grandparent of three of this summer's nippers:

Nippers 2020 was a fantastic success.

I say this as the granny of three participants at various levels, staying in Lorne during the summer.

From my sideline observer's perspective, and given the numbers involved, the organisation and atmosphere was top notch.

Amelie, 14, completed the SRC certificate and now says she can save me (?). She went on to volunteer at the Pier to Pub.

Annabelle, 8, loved the wading and sand events.

Matthew 12 had this to say: "Nippers this year was the best fun. I saw all my friends – it was about socializing with my mates and doing challenging activities like the swim".

A big thanks to all the coordinators and especially the U 12 coordinators.

This was Lorne at its best.

Sandra McComb

Mountain to Surf Run

The Mountain to Surf Run was held on Friday 10th January. The cool dry conditions allowed many of the two thousand or so runners to record really fast times for the hilly 7.5 km course. The male winner was 18 year old Edward Marks in a time of 23 min 40 sec. The women's title was again won by Ellie Pashley – for the third time! Ellie's time of 26 min 27 sec was more than two minutes faster than her nearest rival. Many of us remember Ellie as being a physiotherapist at the Lorne Hospital. Ellie has competed successfully in events interstate and overseas, and is a likely starter in Australia's squad for the 2020 Olympic Games!

Tennis Court Upgrade

Lorne Country Club has upgraded two of its tennis courts to synthetic surfaces to provide for consistent year-round play and a huge reduction in maintenance. The courts were officially opened on December 27th by Club President Clive Goldsworthy, with about fifty current and former players in attendance. Clive spoke of the importance of volunteer efforts at the club, donations which helped fund the project, and of the inputs of Tennis Captains over the life of the club. Life Member Marie Bannister cut the ribbon to the courts and was coaxed out of retirement to hit a couple of balls. The courts are proving very popular, not only with members but with a large number of players hiring the courts over the holiday period. As this article goes to print, preparations are being finalised for the annual Australia Day tennis tournament.



Tennis players Alvis Svikers, Jillian Chapman, Wendy Jarratt, Vicki Caravias and John Ford, happy after the first hit on the new synthetic courts.

Women's Golf

As the welcome rain falls the 50 odd players in the Summer Classic ponder over their scores, wondering if they are in the race for the prestigious jazzy jackets. This friendly competition is held over January, organised by Marijon and Barry Church, the final day too late for this edition. Players submit their best 5 cards for 9 holes, played on Lorne course or elsewhere and there are both A and B grades, men and women. Some players have regularly had games at the Sands in Torquay for variety, while still making sure they had 5 good cards. There are also daily winners of golf balls for the best rounds and nearest to the pins, for both men and women.

You will notice photos of the current Women Champions at the Lorne Country Club: Rose Wyles, the Club Champion for 2019-2020, won off the stick over 3 rounds and Jane Purdie, runner up and winner of the Snowy Barr Cup for best net score.

Back by popular demand GOLF LESSONS at the Lorne Country club.

Continued page 23.

From page 22.

Join Jason Kraan, the golf professional from Anglesea Golf Club for lessons commencing on Friday 7th February at 9.30 am for one hour. Subsequent lessons will be held on Friday 14, 21 and 28th February. From total beginner to anyone wanting to brush up on their skills. Cost \$20 pp.

Golf equipment can be provided.

Further details from Jason on 0422049030, or Wendy, Sue (see below).

Save the dates: Aquatic Club vs LCC 16 February & Good Friday 4 person Ambrose.

We welcome new members so come and join us. We meet every Tuesday at 8.30 am, starting play at 9 am.

For further information please contact Wendy Hutchison on 0419878089 or Sue Neill on 0418 674 062.

**Wendy Hutchison,
President Womens Golf**

**Lorne Bowls Club**

The highlight of this year so far has been the Stribling Memorial and Charity Day held on Sunday 19th January, 2020 when 36 bowlers took part. The winners of the event were Sam Coulson, John Joyce and Barry Hayward.

A raffle was held during the lunch break.

The President announced that the \$800 raised by the raffle plus other donations would be donated to the Lorne CFA represented by Kevin Van Deuran who was very grateful for this gift. He stated that it would assist greatly in purchasing equipment not funded by the Government.

Thanks go to the Sponsors of the raffle. Southern Ocean Villas (2 nights accommodation for four people) Simon Holloway (Dinner for two) and Jeff Woolley (Wine)

Other items this year :

Women's Singles Championship – Lizzie Lugg a new bowler at the Club defeated Janet McLeod.



As winner Lizzie is required to play in the Corangamite District Singles Championship and so far has won two games which entitled her to play finals on Sunday 26th January, 2020 at Colac Bowls Club.

Men's Singles Championship – Brad Weetman defeated Alan Walls. As winner Brad is required to play in the Corangamite District Singles Championship and so far Brad has won two games and will also play finals on Sunday 26th January at Colac Bowls Club.

Pennant Bowls recommenced on 7th January, 2020.

Division One Team – Lorne are fighting hard to avoid relegation by holding its position on the ladder.

Division Three Team – Lorne are concentrating to retain the third position on the ladder after having an amazing season.

Midweek Team – Lorne have moved into 6th position on the ladder.

Bowlers Performance

At the beginning of the season the selectors chose to collect statistical information on bowlers performance to better inform on team selections. Having statistical data helped the selectors to make more informed judgments on player performance.

They also received feedback from players and skippers on a regular basis. The measure was simply any bowl that was bowled within one mat length of the Jack.

Merna and Ken Smith

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

AQUATIC CLUB

Keith Miller - Commodore

News from the Lorne Angling and Aquatic Club

Well we survived another silly season with our great old Club House, Hutch and his staff all working hard to give our members and guests a great time.

This year we hired a cool room which has made life much easier and helped us to keep the worlds best and coldest beer flowing.

Our old barrel fridge is slowly dying so we are giving it a major overhaul as soon as the parts arrive. We've had great weather with record crowds and a lot of our regular visitors are signing up as members which is great. Our membership is now well over 1,000. Our Great Northern mid-strength beer is gaining in popularity but the good old reliable Carlton Draught is still the king.

Our free sausage sizzles which we run two or three times a week are going gang busters thanks to our volunteer cooks, Ric, Jack, Digger, Marsh, Annie, Julie, Dave and Anne. Also thanks to Ric and Glenice for collecting glasses and Baz for signing in visitors.

We are running three different \$5 raffles at the moment which will be drawn in a few weeks.

- Patrick Dangerfield's signed footy boots.
- 2x Four day passes to the Melbourne Grand Prix.
- A round of golf for four at the PENINSULA KINGSWOOD COUNTRY GOLF CLUB.

All proceeds are going to the bushfire victims. So far we have raised over \$3,000.

If I'm not there walking around selling tickets you can buy them over the bar.

Please be generous, it's for an extremely worthy cause.

Don't forget our facilities including the barbecue are available to members for weddings, parties, anything!

FRIDAY 21st FEBRUARY. We will be holding our inaugural **TOMATO COMPETITION** for the best home-grown tomato. There will only be an open category. Judging will start at 5pm followed by a free barbecue. The winner will be awarded a prize and his or her name on a perpetual trophy.



A very happy winner Josh O'Brien Receiving his Christmas hamper

again be organising the clean up day so please put this date on your calendar. Meet at the clubhouse to pickup a bag and register from 7am onwards.

ON THE EVENING OF FRIDAY 27th MARCH. CUPCAKE CUP LAWN BOWLS CHALLENGE SPONSORED BY GRANDMA SHIELDS BAKERY.

It's on again only this time we are taking it seriously. We are going to give the Cup Cakes at the Lorne Bowls Club a hiding. Any of our members with any bowling ability, please put your name down at the Anglers bar or email us.

Recent Events

OUR GARLIC COMPETITION was the biggest and best ever. We had 26 entries, so the judges were kept very busy. We had a huge turn out to watch the proceedings which was done a little differently this year. The garlic bulbs were given a number so the judges didn't know whose garlic they were judging. Our Master Judge and Lorne Legend Leon Armistead started off tasting each bulb but had to stop because his taste buds got destroyed. His wife Anna had to sleep in the neighbours house for a week. His assistant, Vice Commodore and local horticulture legend Doug Williams was invaluable with his vast experience.

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The winners were:

Men: Tony Hance

Ladies: Gillian Oliver

Junior: Finn Boland.



Our Master Judges Doug Williams and Leon Armistead with the 26 garlic entries



The beautiful Gillian Oliver from Qdos, our Lady Champ



Our junior champ Finn Boland

OUR CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY was a ripper of a night with heaps of our local regulars and lots of very welcome visitors all having a great time. We had live music, barbecue and snacks all for free. How many clubs do that?

We also drew the raffle for our huge Christmas Hamper. The winner was Josh O'Brien.

THE HAWAIIAN SHIRT WEDNESDAYS have been a huge success and great fun. On our second one we had 110 Hawaiian Shirts so we gave away 110 free drinks. Some of them were so bright and colourful you needed sunglasses to look at them.

Pier To Pub Night

This year was the best one we've had for a long time. We made quite a few changes this year and they worked perfectly thanks to Ric Addison and his sub committee.

We weren't over crowded, the beer was nice and cold and local rock legend Ron Hollmer and his band were great. It all went like clock work. We only let members in after 5pm.

Thanks to Hutch and all his staff for their hard work. A special mention to Marina (Hutch and Annie's daughter) who was our bouncer on the gate all night. She did a sensational job keeping the crowd numbers under control,

Pauline

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**YOUR
COMMUNITY,
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If you have the time and the interest to spend a little time each month helping the Editor to put together the stories and opinions that chronicle life in Lorne, your enthusiasm and assistance would be much appreciated. You can contact the editor for further information or to register your support.

Ring Jo Vondra on 0401 744 152

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

A huge thank you for Gadubanud story.

I have really only become aware of the gadubanud in recent years. For a long time I wondered who was here before us and what a paradise they must have experienced. Thanks to Barry at Fruits of the Forest I had some of my questions answered.

It has long been a bugbear of mine that this information is something that has to be actively sought out. There are no signs welcoming us into their country, no recognition of historical sights. No public signage at all. A big loss to our community, I think! Thousands of tourists passing through never learn of our deeper, richer history beyond the building of the Great Ocean Road.

For 20 years I walked past the enormous shell midden that stretches along the southern side of Louttit Bay without knowing it existed. It was a chance meeting with a local who informed me and my subsequent exploration of the site that opened my eyes and imagination to the world of the Gadubanud. My favorite time in a Lorne day is when I walk past this midden silently acknowledging these people and letting my thoughts inhabit their landscape and life for a while. Sadly, this was recently violated by a huge planting by GORCC who failed to inform or seek permission from the custodians! Also breaching the Aboriginal Heritage Site protection act. We have a long way to go.

I am especially pleased that you finished your article drawing attention to the fact we celebrate, to this day, the murderers of the Gadubanud with place-names. Surely it is time for this to change. I am so happy you put this idea 'out there'. Point Roadknight is now forever sullied for me.

Thank you for helping to spread the true story of our King Parrot people. Let's hope in time more respect and value are placed upon their history and existence through more public acknowledgement, use of their language in place names and better protection of the middens and historical sites - sadly too few have survived.

Cleo Ryan - Lorne

Dear Editor

"think of them, name them, and honour them too"

Congratulations and thank you to John Agar for his article on the Gadubanoot people of the Otway's. As a regular visitor and now resident of this beautiful and diverse region I often wondered about the people who lived here before Europeans came. Unfortunately, the article only confirms for me that like many other parts of Australia the opportunity to know and learn about these people has long

gone thanks to the shameful and violent way they were massacred and driven away to extinction.

Since white settlement it has been a long and difficult struggle for the first peoples of Australia, a struggle which continues, not now perhaps against the murderous campaigns of elimination described in the article, but for recognition and acceptance by all of us as the first custodians of this land who should be given a voice and special place in our constitution and parliament. Until that happens how can we hope to move on from that shameful past in our national psyche as well as address the manifest disadvantage still faced by many.

Thank you also to pointing out the background to some of the place names in the region and yes, we should definitely "think of them, name them, and honour them too" by renaming these places. After all, it wasn't too hard to name Lorne after a place on the other side of the world.

Ray Sutton - Lorne

Reply to Ray Sutton:

Make up our own mind where the truth lies

I simply want to say thank you for your kind thoughts and for your clear interest in recognising our first Otway peoples.

Unfortunately, I fear that we will never know the real truth of what, where, and how 'stuff' happened as, just as so often happens now, our colonial forebears were very careful to ensure 'the record' legitimized their perspective, and to hell with rest. This makes sifting the truth very hard indeed.

Since the publication of 'Black Emu' (adult and junior versions alike), there has been sharp debate – driven especially by newspaper columnist Andrew Bolt and others – to denigrate Pascoe's works. While at least some of these criticism may be valid – again we will likely never know and will simply have to make up our own minds about where the truth lies – at the least Pascoe has made us consider, question, seek, and settle on a view of our bumpy past: one (hopefully) that may prove more generous to our first people. This must be better than our current ignorance and sand-heading of a clearly vast and complex past culture. Recognition of that culture offers, at least to my thinking, a more just outcome than all the parliamentary apologies in the world.

Researching, reflecting, explaining, and naming would be a good place to start. I infinitely prefer the lyrical sounds (and meanings) of Uluru and Kata Juta to Ayres and Olga and, while Gariwerd never quite took off for the Grampians, Gadubanud might just topple Cowley

Continued Page 27.

From Page 26.

(an early surveyor of rather dubious character from Corio), and I far prefer Gunawarra (the swan) to Aire.

Thanks again for your input. I really appreciate that you took the trouble to respond so positively.

And, as a final thought, maybe you could help promote this discussion as a topic of conversation this holiday season.

John Agar - Lorne

Dear Editor

Don't touch the Fisheries!

The petition that has been placed in various locations in Lorne to allow the public to sign their objection to the demolition of the fishing coop building built in 1948 at Point Grey is now complete.

It will be presented to the Legislative Assembly of Victoria respectively requesting them to prohibit the demolition of the said building at Point Grey.

The official petition was commenced after a brief survey in Lorne revealed that the general public was predominately opposed to such a demolition of the historical building. At the completion of public input, 1232 people had signed the petition without any pressure being applied to do so.

Dr Lawrie Baker AM - Lorne

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Sunday 1 March 2020

From 8.00am

Lorne Aquatic & Angling Club

Clean Up Australia Day was established by a community member who saw how the oceans were being affected by rubbish and decided to do something about it. Not a federal or state government initiative but an individual community member.

His legacy is a worldwide effort to do something about the mess that's been created by a mentality in government and with individuals who consider its ok to retain a system of single use plastics and a state government who are reticent to impose deposits on drink containers..... what a difference that would make.



So the message from Ian Kiernan back in 1989 was “Lets not wait for the bureaucrats, let's do it ourselves and make a difference in our local community.”

All you need to do is volunteer an hour or two on Sunday 1 March 2020. Australian's are world leaders at volunteering.

This year's event will again be coordinated by the Aquatic Club down near the pier.

All you need to bring is a hat and some gloves. Sunscreen, water, collection bags will be provided.

Start time will be from 8.00 am. For those who like to make an early start we will be set up and ready to go from 7.00 am. Volunteers will be allocated a section of the GOR, beach areas, around the football oval etc. With enough supporters we hope to cover the GOR from Big Hill to Sheoak Valley.

Call David McCormack on 0449 579 500 to indicate your availability.



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For more information please contact us on **1800 355 686**

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Vale

PEGGY STUART TAYLOR AM

January 17, 1933 – January 24, 2020

Peggy Stuart Taylor never held back when she thought she should stand up to a point in an argument. Her back would straighten, her eyes would acquire a glint and she didn't really care that much if people were offended. Her pugnacity was legendary.

But Peggy also had very strong desire to help others – she joined the Communist Party when she trained as a nurse in Scotland in a belief that she could make the world a better place – and in her long and distinguished career as a nursing sister and senior hospital executive, it was her passionate approach that led her to neo-natal care.

Peggy never married but one could understand her warmth and dedication when she talked about her days as head of the neo-natal unit; she worked primarily at the Mercy Hospital in Melbourne.

Her unit is credited with increasing the survival rate of neo-natal children, work for which she was awarded the Medal of Australia Order on Australia Day, 1990.

Peggy was born in Aberdeen, Scotland – her father was in the British Army - and the family settled for some years in India though returned to Scotland before the start of WWII. Peg had a younger brother and an older sister.

She always talked about the adverse climate of her native Scotland and after attaining nursing qualifications, she came to Australia as an assisted migrant and almost immediately started work in Melbourne.

A highly intelligent woman, she also began courses and finished with three degrees from Melbourne University, which included management and an Honours Degree in English.

She soon realised that Communism might not suit her political fervour and direction, and subsequently was a life-long Labor supporter. The Collingwood FC claimed her heart

Back in the latter half of last century, the inner suburb of Carlton was where the action was, and Peggy was an enthusiastic contributor. She had a long and seemingly happy relationship with a senior Melbourne journalist, but they never formalised their union.

Always keen to retire in Lorne, she bought a block of land in Howard Street when she was in her 50s, and on which she subsequently built a log-cabin style house; she loved books and reading, and books covered nearly every spare surface.

In her years of retirement, she was an active member of the Lorne community, at one time president of the Lorne Op



Shop and was a member of the Op Shop Executive Committee for several years. She was in charge of book sorting at the Op Shop until the last few weeks of her life and she will be dearly missed by all her fellow Op Shop volunteers. She was president of the Lorne Book Club and at every community meeting, you could count on Peggy having a voice. She was also for years an important member of the Lorne Independent editorial team.

She spent her last years travelling far and wide, Scotland of course mainly to see relatives but also Canada, even Morocco where she had great delight in having her photo taken at Rick's Bar (above) in Casablanca.

Her health gradually deteriorated over the last years, and she died at the Geelong Hospital's Intensive Care Unit on January 24.

Jo Vondra

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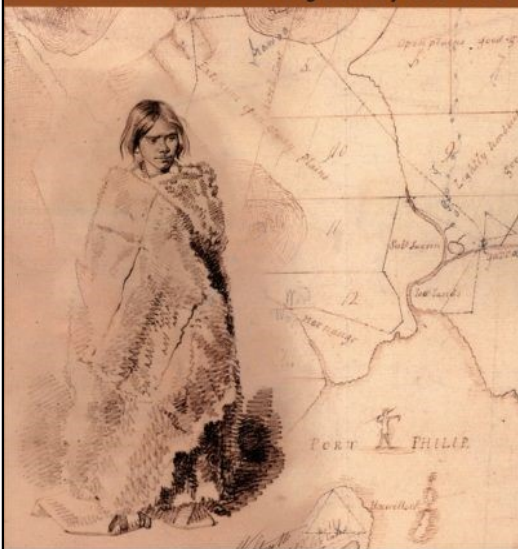
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MY COUNTRY ALL GONE
THE WHITE MEN HAVE STOLEN IT
The Invasion of Wadawurrung Country 1800-1870



Fred Cahir

My Country All Gone chronicles the three waves of colonial invasion in the Ballarat and Geelong districts by the ngamadjidj – ‘the white stangers from the sea’. The first wave came from the sea. The second the shepherders and squatters. And the third, the goldminers. Using the invaders’ own words, the author presents a challenging history of the colonial invaders’ interactions with the Wadawurrung between 1800-1870.

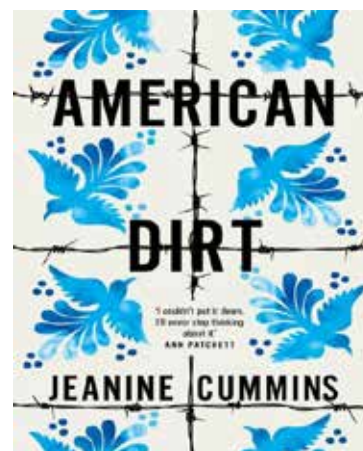
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