

# LORNE

## Independent

\$2

No 223 June 2020

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### LORNE (ALMOST) OPEN

Lorne Pier by Jonn Stewart

The meaning  
of volunteering Page 5

John Agar on  
Operculae Page 7

History of the  
Stribling family Page 8

New internet star is  
born, Lorne Hospital's  
Joe-Dog Page 17



# THANK YOU

For the way we've faced these past few weeks.

With courage. With humility. And with hope.

We've kept our distance, we've looked out for each other and we've kept our cool.

Thank you especially to those who have been tested.

Because of your efforts, we've achieved the biggest testing blitz in our state's history.

Or to use Victoria's standard unit of measurement – more than one MCG's worth of Victorians who've played their part in protecting our state.

Thanks to you, we are finding out more about the spread of coronavirus in our community.

If you haven't been tested, and you are feeling unwell, you can still visit one of the regional clinics or speak to your GP.

To find out how and where you can be tested go to [vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS](http://vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS)

Because getting tested keeps us together.

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# LORNE IS THAWING OUT

We must have felt as if some dreadful siege had been lifted when it was announced that some of the restrictions which had placed us under house 'arrest' for more than five weeks, had been eased.

A good excuse to run outside and yell a loud and hearty 'Hurrah' like they must have done at other great moments in recent history – the coming down of the Berlin Wall, the end of World War II, perhaps even lifting the siege at Mafeking.

Yes, Lorne is gradually thawing itself out to once again allow its denizens to move about and welcome limited visitor traffic. Remember though, social gatherings are limited and the strict distancing of 1.5m is still in place.

However, the Shire has allowed the beach to open for leisure activity, and there are some shops trading in Mountjoy Parade.

Golfers have been allowed to caress the green up at the Country Club and the bowlers are bowling, though please note the Bowls Club is still closed.

We look forward to the opening of our restaurants with great expectations.

It was good to see all those people coming back to Lorne – the first weekend after the part-lifting of restriction, visitors flooded Mountjoy Parade. One local resident said that it was like 'mid-January with brilliant weather'.

Because the constantly changing lock-down rules, we advise our readers to keep a look-out for latest announcements from state and federal authorities, the Surf Coast Shire and social media.

So let's be happy with the small concessions we've been allowed and watch for further dispensations in the weeks to come. - JV

## GOOD NEWS

### Men's Shed is opening but with restrictions

The Lorne Men's Shed will open from Tuesday, June 2, but with a limit of 20 people and the 1.5m distancing requirement.

Other restrictions include each member is responsible for their own coffee cup (or they can use the provided poly cups); masks will be provided and must be worn; no food unless separately packaged and please, if you feel unwell stay home.

Members' temperature will be taken on arrival, and attendance recorded; sanitizers will also be provided.

President Bob said to be mindful of the importance of cleanliness. "Just use common sense," he emphasised.

The committee will schedule a meeting in the second week of June to further discuss any supplementary issues. Our last Zoom meeting will be 10 am, Thursday May 28.

## ALL IN THIS TOGETHER: HELP IS AVAILABLE

In these unprecedented times, many locals who have never relied on help in the past now need it.

Surf Coast Shire Council has set up a webpage – [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/COVID19](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/COVID19) - to make it easier for people to access the help they need.

The website provides contact details where people can access food relief, housing and accommodation as well as support for mental and physical health, family violence and financial hardship.

Surf Coast Shire Mayor Cr Rose Hodge said asking for help was not a sign of weakness, but of strength.

"If you need help in feeding your family, if you're struggling mentally or if you're experiencing domestic violence, please know that you are not alone and that help is available," she said.

"We all go through tough times and sometimes we can't solve problems by ourselves, but we can all share the load together."

As well as the website, people can also call Council on 5261 0600 to find out about support services available to them.



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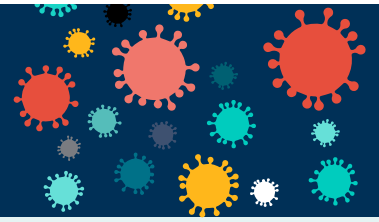
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PHYSICAL DISTANCE | SOCIAL CONNECTION

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

For the latest Council updates go to [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/covid19](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/covid19)



## Lorne Ward Update

When most of the local businesses were forced to shut down and travel restrictions came into force more than six weeks ago, a group of community members recognised a number of emerging issues within the community and organised a Zoom meeting with all community groups and associations to establish the Lorne COVID-19 Support Plan. The key areas identified were seasonal workers and local residents who were experiencing hardship, business and

employment, accommodation or qualify for government support. Lorne Community Connect and the Lorne Op Shop coordinated the distribution of food, warm clothing, personal hygiene needs and friendly faces to support those in need. The generosity shown by Lorne locals, business and community groups is a fantastic example of human kindness and concern for others when it is needed most.

Meanwhile the Lorne COVID-19 support group continues to focus on business and economic recovery, in conjunction with the Lorne Businesses and Traders Association, as well as the overall health and wellbeing of our communities in partnership with Great Ocean Road Health.

Although those involved modestly emphasise the “team effort” of what the community has done and will continue doing until it’s no longer needed, their willingness to ensure the wellbeing of others deserves acknowledgment.

Cr Clive Goldsworthy

economic recovery, the impact on our youth and the general health and wellbeing of the whole community.

The most immediate issue was to provide support to more than 70 seasonal workers living in Lorne that were unable to leave, find



## Thank you to everyone for staying home and helping save lives.

**It hasn't been easy, but your efforts have been well worth it. Please keep it up.**

Thank you to those who are checking on their neighbours and friends to make sure they feel connected and can get the essential items they need. You will never know the impact a friendly chat or check in can have on someone's life.

Thank you to all the locals who have gone to the effort to brighten others' days with colourful chalk drawings on footpaths, homemade signs, rainbows and teddy bears in windows. These simple gestures have had a huge effect on community morale by bringing smiles to so many faces.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting our wonderful local businesses. It's been exceptionally tough on them, but every takeaway or online purchase has made a difference.

Thank you to our inspiring healthcare staff and other essential workers; we are forever grateful.

While we may be physically separated, our community has never felt more united.

## Community spirit

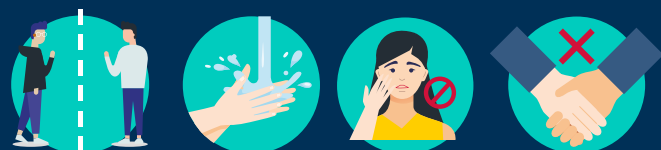
**We love hearing stories about how our communities are supporting each other during the pandemic.**

In Deans Marsh, the Grow Make Gather Group has set up a community cupboard, where locals are encouraged to 'give what you can and take what you need'. The cupboard is set up outside the Deans Marsh Community Cottage. You can contact the group via [growmakegather@gmail.com](mailto:growmakegather@gmail.com)

What a wonderful idea.



# BE COVID SAFE



## Easing of restrictions

The easing of restrictions over the coming weeks will mean changes to gathering numbers and the gradual reopening of community facilities.

For the latest updates go to [www.dhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

# HANDS UP WHO WANTS TO HELP!

We've recently had National Volunteers Week, a celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our country's volunteers. Janet Goud, a member of the Lorne Op-Shop and occasional Lorne Independent contributor explains:

Volunteering is a vital part of the pattern of our community. Indeed in any country town around Australia, volunteers and the organisations they run, confront and smooth out many problems in the lives of fellow citizens. So at this time when many volunteers are feeling a bit lost because they are unable to "do their thing" in their voluntary capacity due to the Covid 19 distancing, I wondered why this is such an important part of community life for so many people.

The word volunteer comes from the Latin root meaning "of one's free will" and came into English around 1600 from the French *voluntaire* meaning an offer of military service. Today we see it has reverted to the original meaning and of our "own free will" and so many of us decide to join and participate in community volunteer work. Why do we offer so readily to do this monetarily unpaid work?

Many volunteers are older members of the community who have led busy lives and had long successful careers. Just when they have earned the time to breathe out; when they could deservedly collapse into their Adirondack chairs on their decks and read books, instead they gallop off to help other people and continue to work very hard. Why does this happen?

Yet other volunteers are younger, at the beginning or middle of their lives. They are busy working to develop their chosen careers and raise young families. These people have little spare time in their lives and yet they often use this valuable time to volunteer. These are the mostly fit and strong people

who are the heart of the physically hard voluntary jobs in the SES, CFA and the Surf Lifesavers.

So, what could be the attractions of volunteering? Could it be the uniform? People, like me love a uniform. It means you belong to a group; you are not alone in the world. There is a variety to choose from here in Lorne. There are the bright red and yellow shark scaring outfits, the black Op Shop aprons that turn us into posh Sues and Prues of Kath and Kim fame, the very visible but hard to wear stylishly, citrus neon jackets of the firefighters and some smart burnt orange outfits for the CES. Still many other organisations like the Lions Club, have no uniforms and people still volunteer so it can't be just the attraction of a smart uniform.

Perhaps more attractions may be the real toys you get to play with - how exciting it is to have a real shop to tidy up and colour coordinate. Others get exciting water and beach vehicles to drive along the sand or in the waves. Who, as a very young person, could have imagined the joy of being allowed to drive a real fire engine, or use a fire hose?

Perhaps it is a way to meet people and fit into the local society. Some people join teams of volunteers and learn to rely on each other.

None of these real pleasures, however, account for people "of their own free will" frequently putting themselves in extremely dangerous situations to help others. During the past season of extreme bush fires, people spent months volunteering in hazardous circumstances, sometimes losing their real jobs in the process.

We must look for deeper reasons in those who choose to volunteer. Perhaps many older people like to feel still relevant and possibly vitally needed in our society which

is usually quick to write off its elderly citizens. Perhaps younger people find an alternative to their day job, an interesting diversion and find they can improve their skill sets while volunteering.

I find all of this very hopeful and positive. In this, our own community of Lorne, during this Covid 19 crisis, people have effectively worked to aid those in trouble with lack of work and money, whilst still maintaining the lockdown. I believe we should applaud this altruistic streak we find in our fellow humans, and long may we give "of our own free will" to improve our world.

According to the 2016 Census, almost 28 per cent of people aged over 15 years in the Surf Coast Shire are volunteers, whereas the national average is 19 per cent.

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# LORNE HAS STOOD UP

John Agar

Along with other towns geared to and dependent on domestic and international tourism – though not our way in our fishing and timber past, it is now Lorne's chief raison d'être – the Covid-19 pandemic has hit Lorne hard. We are not alone ... FNQ, Tassie, other Victorian coastal gems [spare more than a passing thought for placed like 'double-whammied' Mallacoota] ... the list is long.

But, like others, Lorne was caught by surprise. Our seasonal staff – many just kids, often from other countries, frequently on dwindling time-dependent visas, jobless, cashless, clothes-less [after all, they only came for the summer in thongs and tee-shirts], and without a place to stay, unable to fly home, unable to travel interstate, unable to ... – they have been trapped here.

Lorne has stood up.

A many-badged team of ... the Committee for Lorne; the Op Shop team; the Lorne Business and Traders Association; Lorne Community Connect; Great Ocean Road Health; FoodWorks; a raft of generous local businesses in both time and kind; several backpacker support groups; a number of concerned local citizens; and a mountain of 'the unnamed but deeply thanked' – all encouraged and supported by the SurfCoast Shire ... has a formed a rapidly convened oversight team ... the 'Lorne Covid-19 Support Group'. This group has emerged to care for our trapped seasonal workers and a number of disadvantaged local families caught by the collapse of our tourism throughput.

I am sure many in Lorne are now aware of their work. But, for those who may not know: communication channels into the community have been established; winter clothing has been sourced; fresh and frozen food supplied, parcelled, and distributed [perhaps with special thanks to Jonn Stewart and Pakitu Henry]; income support has been found; odd jobs [e.g. car-washing, wood splitting and carriage] have been useful foils for boredom; visa and other immigration assistance has been provided, particularly to those with a first language other than English; mental and isolation health issues have been addressed; and plans to source flu vaccinations for those not covered by Medicare are in development. There have been many other useful interventions ... the list of portfolios for the group is long.

Suffice to say that ...

This is the face of the town we should laud and applaud.

This is the face of this town that negates all the 'negativity zits' that have recently spot-marked the social media.

This is where we should focus.

Thank you, Lorne, for being the good town that you are.



From the Deck by John Agar

# COUNTERS, DOORS, AND OPERCULAE

My dad had a rather cool approach to mathematics! When I was a little tacker, and we were gathered around my Gran's kitchen table in Lorne, he supplemented my school-taught addition and subtraction by playing games with 'counters'. Counters? ... those white, whorled, flat-and-swirly-on-one-side, slightly-humpy-bumpy-on-the-other, fingernail-sized lumps of smooth and shiny calcium that we can find washed ashore on every shelly beach.

In our family we called them 'counters' – a term perhaps coloured by dad's inventive maths program. But, as best I know it, they were also 'counters' to many others, especially when so easily substituted for matches (which we could never find when the fire was to be lit), or as 'chips' or actual money in a card game, or for any other abacus-like needs.

Counters they were - and that was the end of thought ... for I never gave these architecturally beautiful little 'buttons' the time of day beyond the jars of them that accumulated on the bookshelf beside the gramophone. And here – as an aside – yes, my Gran did have one of those, too ... especially to play the operatic excellence of 'Mad Melba', or to listen to early hand-pressed versions of cricket broadcasts on His Majesty's Voice! Her gramophone was a big washing-machine-sized box with an amplifying trumpet in-built into the mahogany cabinet, a wind-up handle on the side, and tins of needles that needed cutting and sharpening with a set of snips before lowering to the record surface by hand!

But, one day in the 1980's, my 'counter' world was literally turned upside down when, while walking the kids and the dogs on the far distant 13th Beach near Barwon Heads, I chanced on a mega-counter! Suddenly, my interest was triggered, and my collecting zeal took a serious turn for the bizarre!

I looked up 'counters' paired with 'seashells' ... nothing! I swatted Dakin's 'Australian Sea-Shores'. I Googled for 'parts of gastropods' – the scientific name for seashells that have 'doors' ... my other childhood name for these nifty, ubiquitous discs! Indeed, it was surprisingly hard to track down the anatomical name as the named diagrams for gastropods seemed to identify everything except the doors! But, in the long run, I found that the seashell 'door' is called an 'operculum'.

Operculae – the plural of operculum and the collective name for the profusion of jar-kept buttons on my Gran's shelf – come in a dizzying array of sizes and shapes. None, though, rival my 13th Beach mega-operculum ... likely the 'door' for the Giant Turban Shell (*Ninella* [or *Lunella*] *torquata*: see Dakin [1953 Edition]: p252-253: plate 60.

My turban shell door is a piece I still treasure ... see photograph for an identical 'door' specimen ... and while I have since found a



From: Wikipedia: Giant turban shell with operculum

dozen or more giant operculae, mostly along that same windswept beach near Barwon Heads, I am yet to find a giant along our locally Lorne shores. I find this odd, as turban shells populate our local shelly beaches like the dots on a piece of Marimekko fabric.

Lorne operculae (let me call them 'doors') seem predominantly more petite, few being larger in diameter than a 10c piece. Some are tiny, a mere 1-2 mm across. Each sports an exquisite swirl of outwardly spiralling grooves. They radiate and widen as the animal flexes, twists, and turns within the confines of its home, presumably swirling the disc of the door as it lays down the lengthening calcific spiral of the shell in which it lives.

Such industry; such exuberant enthusiasm; each twirl a new and widening curl, perfect in its symmetry; the surfaces smoothly polished. I have often wondered if the door rings might tell us the age of the shellfish inside, like the growth rings of a forest giant count out its years or, as Doug Williams noted 2 months ago in 'the LI', like the otoliths of fish. I would love to know if others find any truth in that thought.

Bend. Pick up a spiral shell. Turn it in your hand. Imagine the determination and courage this tiny mollusc must have had to keep expanding, to keep growing, riding the existential threats to its life and habitat [similar, perhaps, to the parallel concerns that arise, now, in our current human environment].

What a brave wee beastie! Yet, the mere fact that its house now lies, exquisite yet lifeless, in the palm of your hand tells of its ultimate failure. A lesson, perhaps.

Gather a few counters, of varying size. Thrill at their perfection. Then ... take a walk on the wild side to seek mega-counters on the lonely straight of 13th Beach, or along the stretch at Urquhart's Bluff: they are there, too, but rarer.

Better still, keep your eyes peeled here, in Lorne, for if the turban shells wash ashore – and they do – their fantastical doors must be out there ... somewhere!

# LORNE MEMORIES OVER 75 YEARS

By David Stribling

On the morning of January 21st 1908 my father Kenneth Stribling, then aged six-years-old, remembered the excitement of seeing a large sailing ship on the rocks not far from the site of the family's future Lorne residence "Morva" which was built in 1914 on the corner of Topp St and the Ocean Road.

The ship was the "Hinemoa" which was re-floated the next day and towed to Melbourne. Guests holidaying at the nearby Pacific Hotel went down onto the rocks in all their Edwardian refinery to witness what must have been a spectacular sight.

As one of the earliest memories' dad had of his times at Lorne, history didn't relate as to where they were staying at that time. His father Edward had long established an interest in Lorne through his position as manager of the Winchelsea Branch of the Colonial Bank of Australia (now NAB). The bank had an agency in Lorne so grandfather used to ride a horse to Lorne once a fortnight to pay the forestry and the workers on the pier which was being built at the time.

Born in Port Fairy (then known as Belfast) grandfather left school at the age of 14 and joined the bank in Port Fairy thence to Winchelsea as an auditor & manager, Kilmore and finally Euroa where he left the bank and started the family businesses based in the building which the infamous Ned Kelly had robbed of over 2,000 pounds a few years earlier in 1878 .

Grandfather's father William Stribling like his father before him was licensee of the Caledonian Hotel in Port Fairy from 1873 to 1882. The Caledonian is still there and has the claim of being Victoria's oldest licensed hotel. William's first application to obtain the licence was originally rejected for his "intemperate habits" however he was successful at the next try.

In the early 1900s our grandparents, Edward and Adelaide, would depart from Euroa annually for Lorne with their three boys Kenneth, Hector and Archie. Grandfather used to say he wanted to get away from the heat in North Eastern Victoria. The entourage would journey by trains eventually to Winchelsea or Birregurra and then by Cobb & Co Coach to Lorne.

When Uncle Hector (Pa) turned 14 in 1918 he obtained his driver's licence. He had no trouble obtaining this as his aptitude for all things mechanical and his father being the local magistrate made this possible. He also must have been very influential in persuading his father to venture into a new mode of transport. This ended up being a second-hand T model Ford. It was the model before electric lights and had to be started with a crank handle.

So while Ken and Hector were still in their teens they set off together with Uncle Fred (Grandmother's brother) to make the huge journey to Lorne from Euroa. There was no Hume Highway so the railway line was followed. Standard equipment to be carried was a wire strainer which was used to pull the vehicle through the sand at the numerous creek crossings as



there were few bridges. Fuel had to be purchased from the chemist and bits often fell off the car which had to be retrieved by walking back along the track until they were found. If a tyre became too damaged for patches river reeds were stuffed into it. There was no Ocean Road either so an overnighter at the Native Youth Hotel in Birregurra was usual.

Before leaving Birregurra, after several days to get there, they decided to send a cable to Lorne where the family had preceded them, to say they hoped to be arriving between three and four that afternoon. This was ambitious. Getting to Lorne over the Otways could be quite difficult especially by car such as they were in those days. Sometimes they would need to co-opt a Cobb & Co horse to help them over the hill.

Eventually arriving at Lorne a lad came rushing out of the post office and said "Hey, are you Striblings"? On agreeing they were the boy handed them the cable which they had sent that morning! Nothing like getting your own telegram back!

Kenneth Hector and Archie were very keen fishermen a passion which they retained for the rest of their lives. The fish were very plentiful off the rocks and dad told me how the three of them caught an enormous stingray one day using a dog chain. Previous efforts had broken all their tackle but the chain did the trick.

Many years later dad used to take my two brothers and I to places like the Godfrey channel and the artillery rocks at the foot of Mount Defiance. I can remember one summer's evening with a very low tide catching crayfish which could be seen at the bottom of a large rockpool on Point Grey.

Continued page 9.

**From page 8.**

We used long bamboo poles with wire snares attached on one end. These were hooked under the tail of the crayfish which enabled them to be pulled up to the surface.

Hector had a boat shed next to the old pier where the Pier Restaurant is today. In the shed there was an electric winch with a long cable which extended across the beach to the water's edge allowing the fishing boat to be pulled over the sand into the shed. The winch also had an extended axle with a square end presumably for the fitting of a crank handle to enable manual operation.

I was 9 years old at the time and being fascinated with the workings of the winch I lent against the square end of the shaft which then caught on my clothes and round I went. I was knocked out on the first rotation as the next thing I remember was dad cutting my clothes off with his pocket knife and looking up at concerned faces. I was a very lucky little boy with only a bump on the head and graze marks on my hips caused by the tightening clothes.

Added to our early associations with Lorne was the fact that our maternal grandparents, Hubert & Rhita Howell, had moved here in the late 1920's from Ballarat. They lived at "Moogoogong" in a home which previously belonged to the Armytage family in Smith Street. They started a small business renting buying and selling holiday homes. This business existed for over 40 years prior to becoming the forerunner of "Lorne Realestate" which is now "Great Ocean Road Realestate" Lorne.

There was always great excitement as we undertook the six to seven-hour trip from Euroa to Lorne. During the war, as petrol was rationed cars were fitted with gas producers which burnt coke (and often the countryside).

To keep us occupied there was a penny offered for the first to see the sea which I never seemed to win being in competition with older brothers. I also seemed to cop the blame for the lack of fresh air as we passed the sewerage farm at Werribee.

My earliest memories of Lorne were staying at "Moogoogong" towards the end of the war. There was a compulsory blackout and I can remember the blinds all having to be drawn as the observation aircraft flew overhead. I can also recall my Uncle Ted (my mother's brother) who had just returned from the war sitting around the kitchen table relating some of his experiences in the RAF. I was too young to realize the significance of this homecoming however my mother told me later that he had flown in Lancaster bombers during the bombardment of Berlin seven or eight times, with the prospect of barely enough fuel to get back to England. Amongst other incredible acts of bravery and courage, he fortunately survived.

It was at this time I was enrolled at the Lorne Primary School for a short time. We used to walk along Smith street to school with our cousin Edward. The highlight of that stay was an outbreak of lice when we were all sent home for a ghastly hair wash treatment. I think there might have been phenyl involved which was the standard disinfectant pre-sewerage days in Lorne.

The gift of music played a prominent part in the lives of our grandparents. Edward was a flautist and Adelaide



FOUR GENERATIONS 1934

Ian Stribling (Brother)

Betty Stribling (Mother)

Rhita Howell (Grandmother)

Mrs Lambeth (Greatgrandmother)

an accomplished pianist while Hubert was organist at the Anglican church here in Lorne from 1929 to 1958. There is a memorial window gifted by the Howell family above the little organ. Hubert had a wonderful baritone voice. Accompanied by his organ playing he contributed to the music over nearly 30 years at All Saints. Our mother was also a gifted pianist and cellist in her early days having played the latter with the MSO (then the VSO) for a brief period.

I am concluding this article on a good note. (pun) During the 50's and 60's during the summer breaks at Lorne my brother Neville who was an accomplished Jazz clarinet and saxophonist introduced Lorne to a lot of his mainly traditional jazz compatriots. I used to try and beat out a few chords on the piano in accompaniment except when Graeme Bell and other far better pianists arrived for a "sit in". Some readers would still remember the great nights at the Erskine House ballroom, The Wild Colonial Club, the old Surf Club and the ballroom at the Pacific Hotel. We also had "jam sessions" at the log cabin in George street then owned by the local policeman and his wife. The parties and jam sessions would go so late we would arrive home to the familiar sounds of the fishing boats being off loaded from the pier and our father off to catch more fish from the rocks.

It's now five years since Marnie and I made the move to call Lorne our home.

We love it here...

## Quitting smoking is more important than ever. Here's how pharmacists can help

Quitting smoking is more important than ever, with a new study finding people who smoke are 1.4 times more likely to have severe symptoms of COVID-19 and about 2.4 times more likely to be admitted to an intensive care unit, need mechanical ventilation or die compared to non-smokers.

Dr Jacinta Johnson MPS, lecturer in pharmacy at the University of South Australia, said pharmacists were well placed to provide evidence-based support and information for those looking to quit the habit, particularly at a time of increased stress.

‘Although nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) can just be selected off the shelf, or even from supermarkets, those using it require advice and further support for it to really be effective,’ she told Australian Pharmacist. ‘Pharmacists can also directly

refer people to Quitline (13 78 48) for information and support from a trained and experienced counsellor.

‘Stress is a really common trigger for relapse to smoking too, so now more than ever it is important to check in with your patients and ensure they’re receiving the support they need.’

Dr Johnson added that pharmacists have the knowledge and skills to undertake assessments, provide tailored advice around NRT and to counsel to ensure correct use, optimising how effective the replacement therapy will be. This is particularly important as a significant challenge of NRT is that people rarely use enough nicotine to properly suppress cravings.

‘There are lots of myths around quitting out there; as pharmacists we can really add value to smoking cessation conversations because people know the information and advice we provide is reliable and can be trusted,’ she added.



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# THE LOUTTIT LOOP

Well done Lorne! Despite quite a few empty shops, others open shorter hours, some with tables blocking entrance, and coffee joints obvious by the crowd hovering on the street waiting patiently – we did it! No community transference of CV's scary droplets which hang in the air, and are projected further by those who speak loudly (who me?) than the softly spoken folk. Research shows there is a 20% greater chance of infection by being inside. Much safer outside in the lovely fresh Lorne air.

*It's been wonderful to have so many 'holiday houses' occupied by owners electing to do their Iso in their Lorne abodes. All singing the praise of life in Lorne – many have only seen our little town at busy long weekends and holiday times. Many have found they can work quite efficiently from their Lorne homes, and are seriously considering making the move. So much so that one suspects that the answer to increasing our permanent population may well have arrived on our doorsteps.*

While many businesses are obviously struggling, many are flat chat. A visit to Liz the local vet in Aireys is unbelievable – heaps of darling doggies lined up in cages waiting for or recovering from operations. A sign of more time taken patting or observing our “best friends” and discovering lumps and bumps, broken claws, limps, or worse!! Not only the vet is flat out – tradies, wood suppliers and arborists/tree trimmers, builders and painters, landscapers and gardeners, are all just so busy as people spend more time in Lorne and notice changes or improvements which just must be made. Bring it all on!

*Hey, did we ever get some huge swells and high tides in May? Thanks to Commodore Keith advising us of a mega tide to occur at 2.30 one afternoon – such a respectful crowd gathered, keeping their distance, but so happy to be out in Lorne once more. Dog walkers were forced to move inland as the beach disappeared most afternoons. Not an unpleasant change and we discovered lovely walks round the well-kept cemetery, some amazing houses and gardens, little pathways between streets and in the bush, and even little dope plots! Sealed lips.*

Beautiful to read such a positive article by dear Richard Chandler in the Motor Neurone Disease Newsletter. He starts with the statement: “Still going but slowing” and closes with “At age 86 my outlook is still good” Awesome! Poor Richard has copped several other major challenging problems during the nine years he has been battling Motor Neurone Disease but continues to exercise strenuously and reckons he's still fairly fit. Must be the special care and yummy food from “Matron” Bev and the beautiful healing view of the ocean behind the pier! Love to you both!

*The freezer department at our wonderfully well stocked IGA Foodworks had me confused! Why no frozen peas or various other frozen vegetables for weeks on end? Suddenly last week the penny finally dropped! The bushfires! How soon we forget when another catastrophe distracts us totally. If you didn't get round to making a donation to the Gippsland fire folk, it's certainly not too late – especially as winter is coming and many are camping while waiting for rebuilding to start. AND – good news – the peas are back. Buy Australian!*

And shop LOCAL! Please! As our precious shopkeepers warily reopen their doors, please support them. We have some wonderful traders here, and probably the best assortment of restaurants and eateries in my thirty years here. And what a fantastic assortment of takeaway treats they thought up for us whilst we were in lockdown. From Birregurra to Pennyroyal and all along the main street The One and Only Lorne Notice Board had us drooling, dialing and devouring!

*Let's rejoice that we have our new installations at the footy ground locked in, and the work will continue with a reno of the “rooms” and kitchen and upstairs as well as new netball facilities. Takes the sting out of reading of the Surf Coast Shire's largest ever project costing \$13.5 MILLION! Yes, of course it's in Torquay North and comprises a huge indoor stadium adding three more courts, a café, meeting rooms, change facilities, and additional car parking. Pictures of this stadium in the Surf Coast Times show it as bigger than Bunnings!*

Although we only recorded ten cases of Corona in the entire Shire, and none in the past three weeks, our council has put together a Community and Economic Support Team which has all sorts of financial assistance for hard hit ratepayers and retailers etc. Contact Clive Goldsworthy, our trusty representative, if you need some help. Lesley, Clive and team have been fantastic setting up an emergency supplies and clothing centre for those in need.

*Also congratulations and thanks to Peter Spring for all the hard work he has done – culminating in The Story of the Road which has been shown round the Shire, but had an airing on SBS a few weeks ago. As part of that project, Peter and the late Iain Grant enthusiastically worked to compile a longer list of the names of some 3,000 returned servicemen who worked on the Great Ocean Road after World War 1. This list has grown from 160 names to over 400 precious names. Still only about 10 percent! Please, if you remember any of your darling old relatives talking about their involvement in the building of this war memorial of a road, contact Peter Spring at [lornehistoricalsociety.org.au/contact](mailto:lornehistoricalsociety.org.au/contact). Can you imagine that the road was mostly built by pick and shovel, as many of the workers were still suffering from shellshock so no explosives were used at the start. Peter also mentions “there was probably an element of rehabilitation..... and in correspondence the roadworkers talk more about the work and their comrades, and not a lot of complaining about the conditions.”*

“The Old Man of the Sea” Gordon Bannister was walking his dogs one day when a fully wetsuited skin diver emerged suddenly from the sea! One of the dogs got such a fright it took off and ran flat out all the way home – no mean feat as several big hills and a few dangerous roads were involved!

*A new \$10million 20-hectare wildlife park is due to open this year, with one of the key creative behind NZ's hugely successful attraction “Hobbiton” driving it. Lizzie Corke and Shayne Neal founded a Conservation Ecology Centre at Cape Otway and now are about to open Wildlife Wonders just about an hour down the GOR. Can't wait? Me too!*

How happy the fisher folk must be to get back out there. Several report that their freezers are almost running on empty. The ‘fake’ illegal fisherman positioned in a chair on the beach with a rod and line in the sea made for a hilarious photo posted on The One and Only... with two serious local Policemen approaching! Only one person in Lorne comes to mind to pull such an excellent prank and his name starts with D.

*Finally, I would like to apologise to all those whose names I have misspelled, to all those I have upset, AND to all those I am sure I will upset in the future – all in the name of a fun, lighthearted chat together – albeit one-sided! Please don't rip into me or I'll “take my bat and ball and nick off home” at the first sign of any future tirades! I do my best. Lillianx*

# FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

For the Lorne Ward Cr Clive Goldsworthy - 0400 756 854 [lorneward.information@gmail.com](mailto:lorneward.information@gmail.com)



It is now 11 weeks since a State of Emergency was declared in Victoria and 9 weeks since Stage 3 restrictions came into place.

As at 25th May, 431,878 people have been tested in Victoria, 64 active cases and 19 lives lost.

The weekly number of reported COVID-19 cases in Australia peaked in the week ending 28th March at 2,454 and in the past week only 61 cases have been reported.

In comparing death rates for Aust, US, UK and NZ, Australia's death rate has been 1 in 245,000 people, New Zealand 1 in 238,000, United States 1 in 3,300 and United Kingdom 1 in 1,800. Our Government's swift action and the communities willingness to abide by various government restrictions have clearly paid off.

Whilst some restrictions have been relaxed and likely to be further relaxed from 22nd June they are underpinned by one key principle: by limiting the number of people moving around the country – we can limit the spread of this virus.

The latest statement from the Premier was very specific – “In all your activities, be considered. Be cautious. Use your common sense. And if you don't have to do it – don't”

The past couple of months have certainly been challenging as we all adapt to changes in the way we go about our daily lives, I for one have not missed the drives up and down to Torquay as we now hold all our Council briefings and meetings via Zoom.

It will be interesting to see what changes or adjustments we have made during COVID-19 and what will become the norm.

Heathcote District Football Netball League recently announced the 2020 season would be abandoned due to COVID-19. Their Chairman Peter Cole said community safety was at the forefront of the league's decision.

The HDFNL stated the reasons for cancellation included:

- The health and safety of all players, officials, volunteers and supporters
- The increased responsibility on club representatives to administer COVID-19 protocols.
- The health, safety and financial impact on all individuals, should a COVID-19 case be detected.
- Financial hardship and lack of income clubs will endure. No crowds, no gate takings, canteen and bar income combined with a lack of sponsorship and other income streams.

AFL Barwon recently advised that a decision will be made prior to 9 June whether District League Football Netball will commence a 9 game 2020 season.

Walking has become an important part of our lives as we continue safe distancing. I recently walked the new track between Separation Creek and Jamieson Creek Camping ground.

The track is around 6km one way and winds up and down through a number of creek gullies. Another great walk is Allenvale Mill Car Park, Phantom Falls, The Canyon, Henderson Falls then back to Allenvale, round trip 10km.

I am heading out in a few days to walk to Melba Falls thank goodness I have Ed Babington as my guide!

Lorne Community Connect and the Op Shop are continuing their great work in supporting our vulnerable community members.

Feed Me Bellarine are now delivering food boxes directly. If you are aware of anyone requiring assistance please pass on my details or email [lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com](mailto:lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com)

Our Seasonal workers are still offering to wash cars – to arrange a time please call Paki 0438 361 961

The Victorian Government has announced that Council elections will go ahead later this year and will be conducted via post.

If anyone is interested in being a candidate in the October election, visit the Victorian Electoral Commission website for information : [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

As previously stated by the Premier “if you don't have to do it – don't.”

**STAY SAFE.**



## 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, VICSES volunteers engage with the community to help them prepare for disasters.*

Can you commit to two volunteer hours per week?

Can you see **yourself** in orange?

For more information phone Adrian on 0419 114 003  
or email [lorne@ses.vic.gov.au](mailto:lorne@ses.vic.gov.au)

# DEANS MARSH FESTIVAL OVAL PROJECT

Our brothers and sisters in the Lorne Ward over the Otway Ranges have been busy ...A place for local talent to shine, for sharing country hospitality, for people to have a rocking good time, and a home away from home – these are just some of the uses of the Deans Marsh Festival Stand to look forward to.

Passionate community members attracted a grant from the Australian Government and have led the \$125,000 Memorial Oval project, which is nearing completion of its design process. Deans Marsh Cricket Club Secretary Brendan Brown was pleased with the recent appointment of Ryan Thompson Architect.

“It’s been great to see how this project has progressed. Rather than predominantly being a shelter to support cricket activities, the initial proposal expanded to become a multi-purpose space for various uses such as an outdoor performance stage and picnic area,” he said.

“Architects and engineers from our community generously

contributed their expertise, local builders have expressed interest in taking on the construction, creating ownership of it too. It’s meaningful at this time during COVID-19 to be able to spend this money within our district. We applaud Surf Coast Shire Council’s support for a community led project process.”

The Festival Stand was proposed through Council’s Community Project Development program.

“This Council program helped us create a great concept design and get the project fully scoped to the stage where we could successfully apply for a grant.” Mr Brown said.

“We all love the Memorial Oval and want to use it more. We had overwhelming support from The Deans Marsh Festival, Sheep Dog Trials, OMM Rock Choir, Music at the Marsh, the local school, community cottage, reserve and hall. Community members were ecstatic to learn they were successful in obtaining full funding from the Australian Government Community Development Grants Programme.”

The Deans Marsh Cricket Club is managing the project via an 11-member community-led working group.

## OP-SHOP BUZZ Stella O’Donnell, President

As a core Lorne Community service organization for over 50 years the Op Shop continues to support our community through these challenging times. The temporary shop closure on March 13th was sad for us all but we are still here and preparing for a fresh beginning once restrictions are lifted and safety measures are put in place.

In April, the Op Shop initiated and fully funded an Essential Food Support Programme to assist both locals and backpackers made vulnerable through loss of employment and income. Foodworks accounts have been made available to applicants. This has been a time limited trial April 20 to May 31st but with all accounts remaining active after May 31st if assistance is still needed.

In addition to our own programme the Op-Shop has donated \$5000 and clothing to the Lorne Community Support Liaison Group.

Both customers and donors are wondering when the Op Shop will reopen. Throughout May we have provided Friday

doorway "sales from the front window" from 11-3pm. At this stage there is no browsing in the shop. The health and safety of our volunteers and customers remain a primary concern. Rest assured that, when we do open the shop, we will be prepared. Documented procedures are in place for shop opening, closing and donation management. Our new hospital grade air filtration system will be supported by strict hygiene procedures and limits on people entering the shop.

While the shop is closed, we are taking the opportunity to revamp the shop. Old stock is being cleared, new displays created, and rosters reviewed. Some members may not choose to work in the shop for a while, however, there are lots of jobs that do not involve on-site customer contact.

Thank you to our donors and customers for your understanding over the past few months. We look forward to seeing you again. Please follow and like our Face Book page. The contact for the Op Shop is now [Lorneopshop@gmail.com](mailto:Lorneopshop@gmail.com)

Best wishes to all.

# SHEDDERS

## Behind the screen activities

During the lock-down period, members of the Lorne Men's Shed were busy, busy – but one activity which has now become a constant is the use of face-to-face ZOOM meetings.

The regular ZOOM meeting on Thursday morning is now a firm commitment and after a shaky start, the 'conference' is running smoothly with as many as ten or more Sheddners taking an active part. Organiser and Shedder secretary, Bill Youl said that the sessions are so real it's like talking to someone across the table. "It's one good way to solve social isolation and I do encourage Sheddners to join. It's free so we would like to hear from more members." You can contact Bill on The Lorne & District Men's Shed [lornemensshed@gmail.com](mailto:lornemensshed@gmail.com)

Shedder President Bob Sinclair has taken up art – over the weeks, he's been sketching constantly and now has a collection of more than 30 works, all done black on white in an abstract style. There are plans to exhibit at Lorne Connect once the restrictions are lifted.



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# ANTS WITH ATTITUDE

Eva Janice Youl

Walking the Bert Alsop Track and the beach as our morning exercise, I noticed the prominence of the sticky weed called *Galium aparine*. You will know the creeping sticky weed, Cleavers, that gets caught on your clothes or skin. I decided I would come back and pull out a prominent section near Stirling Street before it reaches flowering stage.

So, the next morning, armed with gloves, I decided that a few seconds of weed pulling could be included in my exercise walk.

While its origin is obscure, this plant is widespread throughout the world. There are many names for this and other related species such as goosegrass, catchweed, and bedstraw. It has naturalised in the cooler, wetter regions of Australia especially in NSW, Victoria and Tasmania.

Feeling quite the environmental warrior, I ripped the patch of weeds out of the moist soil. Suddenly I was confronted by bull-dog ants, or were they jumping jack ants? I am not an entomologist. I felt the sting before I saw the ant on the space between my glove and sleeve. These ants pack a powerful punch. Then I felt more stings under my top.

I was jumping around and whacking myself trying to kill what was there. This made things worse. I didn't think I could strip off my clothes in consideration of some walkers or joggers who could appear, so I placed the weeds in a bucket and made a hasty retreat home to strip off and shower.

I had inadvertently removed the cover for the ants. This confrontation made me curious about these ants. Because I wasn't sure whether they were jumping jacks or bull ants and I hadn't really taken the time to measure the size. Bull ants, or bull-dog ants are generally larger at 15-25 mm and jumping jack ants are smaller at 10-15mm.

All these ants, according to the Australian Museum, belong to one of the oldest ant groups that have wasp-like bodies. These aggressive ants belong to the Family Formicidae, and they sting - not bite. Their venom mostly contains formic acid (methanoic acid).



The genus for these blighters is *Myrmecia*. Looking at photos from a presentation by Peter Muller, an advocate for native ants, I suspect the ant is *Myrmecia nigriscapa* - the bull ant.

My skin is still inflamed as I write this and I discovered that the venom from these stings can cause an allergic response, and in severe cases, anaphylaxis. This made me check out what was in the venom.

Research into the ant venom is apparently quite recent, and a French scientist called Axel Touchard appears to be a world expert in the biochemistry of ant venoms. There are a complex cocktail of toxins in the venom. There is still uncertainty between the role of alkaloids and peptides and the peptide toxins (peptidictoxins) is an untapped source. Dr Touchard appears on many research papers, and I liked the name of one of his publications - The biochemical toxin arsenal from ant venoms.

Arsenal is a good word because the ants use the sting for defense. Some ants use the sting for killing prey. In my case the ants were defending their nest.

Nests of *Myrmecia* are generally a mold shape but the bull ant one is less conspicuous. There are many videos on YouTube showing how they behave as they are unlike the little black ants that follow a trail. Also on the internet were Ant Kits for sale, but other than for scientific study, I can't fathom why people would want to keep bull ants as pets.

Perhaps their attitude and plucky nature is the appeal, as they certainly are Ants with Attitude.



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Lastly the 750sqm block surrounding the property is flat and could lend itself to an addition of a pool (STCA).

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# EXERCISING WITH A PERFORMING DOGGIE

Morning enthusiasts for Campbell Craig's Lorne Hospital exercise class on Facebook witnessed a most memorable session recently – the debut of Joe-Dog, a red kelpie cross rescue animal as part-time instructor.

You could tell that Joe-Dog took his role seriously from the first. Obviously very much hands-on and from the moment Campbell opened his class, Joe-Dog made sure he was in every frame.... Watching Campbell intently for the next move, then crawling all over our instructor, performing tricks, bouncing around, on his back, licking, again watching before moving smoothly into another set of manoeuvres.

At one stage, Campbell cradled it in his arm like a babe to the obvious delight of Joe-Dog. The whole routine was hilarious, and it was hard to concentrate on following the exercise routine.

Joe-Dog seems to be ever-present in some parts of the Hospital and is winning heart everywhere. Our informant told us: Joe-Dog loves to join in at every opportunity.

As for the exercise class disruption – it's all Campbell Craig's fault. Everyone knows you should never share a performance with animals or children! – Jo Vondra

You can access the exercise session Facebook exercise group, Great Ocean Road Health - Exercise, Health and Well-Being which can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2596022954058879/>

To join this group you need to search the name and request to join, there will be three questions that need to be answered to join and then you will be able to browse previous videos or wait for new and live ones.



# BYEGONE ERA IN CHINA

Tom Latham

Dressed in suit and tie, I entered the dining room of the old Western style Nanjing Hotel and was greeted by a bald elderly Chinese gentleman in a shiny black suit and greying white shirt with frayed cuffs who said, 'Welcome back Sir, lovely to see you again.'

Despite my being in my early thirties and never having been to Nanjing I replied, 'lovely to see you', realising he must have been the Maître De long before the communist takeover of China and had flashed back to the days when the British and other Europeans were the main guests in the hotel.

We kept up this pretence as he guided me to a window table next to the ornate cast iron balcony which was set with an optical white tablecloth and napery.

He pulled out the bentwood chair for me and when I was seated and 'naped', excused himself and returned briefly with two different menus; one in Chinese and one English.

I selected the English one out of curiosity.

He then asked if I would like to inspect the wine cabinet and when I said 'yes' he led me to a glass fronted cabinet which he unlocked with a key. He said in his impeccable English, 'we don't get much call for wine these days, and we've had some of these bottles since before the change.'

I wasn't sure which 'change' he was talking about but looking at the age of the wines he could have meant the Boxer Rebellion. As all the whites were the colour of wet straw I selected a bottle of claret.

I dined on clams in garlic butter, served in a battered old silver salver with indentations for individual clams, roast chicken with vegetables, followed by bombe Alaska all washed down with the surprisingly good red.

I had the impression I was in an old black and white movie; regretting that I was born fifty years too late.



I completed my business with the Nanjing Garment Corporation in one day and the following day visited the grand mausoleum of Dr Sun Yat –sen who established his provisional Nationalist Government in Nanjing in 1912 and is still regarded as the Father of Modern China by both Communist and Taiwanese Chinese alike.

On the fourth day I bid farewell to my Maître De friend and proffered a generous tip which he graciously declined, instead asking if I could send him a Bible when I got home.

I hope the Bible made it through Chinese Customs.

(After living in Hong Kong for ten years, Tom Latham established the Yarra Trail clothing company and after selling out in 2005, he and his wife Marianne became associated with the Lorne Sculpture event; Tom volunteered as president in 2009.)

## How can we help you today?

Over the years, we've come to understand the needs of locals and we'd love the opportunity to meet you and understand your goals. Every path is different, but they all have the one thing in common, we're here to help.

Drop by and meet branch manager **Andrew Shaw** and the team at the CommBank Lorne branch today, or call us on **(03) 5289 1415**.

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# SPORTSBRIEFS

with John Ford

## Sport Slowly Returns!

We all should be happy with the extra freedoms that we are slowly being accorded with the easing of the COVID-pandemic restrictions. It is great to now be able to play non-contact sports including tennis, golf, cycling and fishing. There are still strict guidelines in place to maintain social distancing while playing these sports, including registering of names and appropriate hand hygiene. Wendy Hutchison's golf article below sets out the current requirements and these are similar for playing tennis.

## Contact Sports

So many of us are eagerly awaiting the return of football, netball and soccer, but the reality is that we will all need to be patient and will likely miss the 2020 season altogether. Local clubs and competitions do not have the resources to meet all of the requirements that go with the testing and documentation that is seen as vital for player safety. The AFL is pushing very hard to restart an interrupted season that at best will be compromised, but their access to medical testing is way beyond that available to the general public. I love football, but I believe that the AFL's push is largely based on the enormous dollars generated by television broadcasting rights, and sadly, the scourge of betting.

## Keeping Fit

In the last edition I mentioned many local examples of the ways people are keeping up their fitness. It is great to see so many walkers, joggers and runners pounding the pavements and the beachfront. The football ground now has a few players practising their kicking and the 'street golfers' are now at the golf course. To those readers who asked about the football high in the tree in George St, it finally was dislodged by a strong gust of wind and is back with its young owners. As yet the pool is not open, but you could join the group who swim in the ocean at 8.00am every day – WOW!

## Memberships

During this shutdown period most businesses have been seriously financially harmed. I know that we are all doing our bit to shop locally and particularly to support locally-owned businesses and companies. Our sporting clubs are faced with similar difficulties having experienced a major downturn in revenue across a period that would normally be lucrative. I urge us all to maintain our links to our sporting clubs and keep up our memberships. Our clubs remain viable because of the wonderful volunteer efforts of members and supporters – and there would no better time to step up and consider how you can really SUPPORT your club.



## Ladies Golf

Lorne golfers were all very excited to start playing again when restrictions eased on Wednesday 13 May. We were especially blessed with some spectacular sunny autumn days over the following days, making play even more enjoyable. The course is in excellent condition, with lots of hard work happening during lockdown and with the rain it is looking beautifully green. The kangaroos seemed a little put out as they had had the course to themselves for sometime, so were reluctant to give up their resting spots.

Women golfers are now returning to their regular Tuesdays with a few changes to ensure our safety. We are now having Tee times, organised by Captain Chris Angus, to limit the numbers playing together and to avoid group gatherings waiting to play.

Any golfer is required to register their name and contact number before playing, at the honesty box at the clubhouse. Green fee players are advised to pay using a bank transfer; details can be seen at the Clubhouse.

The following Local Rules now apply at the Lorne Country Club until further notice:

**Flagsticks** - The flagstick is to be left in the hole at all times. A one shot penalty will apply if the flagstick is removed.

**Holes** - The hole liner will be positioned upside down in the hole thus providing a very shallow level so that a ball can easily be extracted without touching the sides

**Bunkers** - Rakes have been removed from the course. Players are requested to smooth bunkers using their feet or a club. All bunkers have preferred lies

Make sure you register your name, mobile number and tee box time on the sheet located at the honesty box

Lorne Golfers welcome new players so come and join us.

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

**Wendy Hutchison, President Womens Golf**

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](mailto:byswerdi2@bigpond.com)

# A NOTE TO OUR FELLOW TREE LOVERS FROM THE TEAM AT TREE WATCH

We often receive calls from people who are concerned about tree-felling in the area. Just like us many Lorne residents and visitors have a strong interest in the welfare of our magnificent local flora.

The enquiries we receive are often from people who feel that a tree may have been removed unnecessarily since the reason for the work is not always readily apparent.

Like all professional arboreal companies, we are subject to strict local conservation laws which we accept without reservation. Sizable fines are frequently handed out to individuals and companies that remove trees without permission.

Trees should only be removed when they pose a threat to people or property, are weeds or the owner of the tree is legally permitted to remove it.

Tree Watch provides qualified advice and expert service and has been operating in Lorne since 1997.

We focus on correct tree management while attempting to balance the wants of our clients.

Protecting and enhancing appropriate vegetation provides habitat, screening and often contributes to Lorne's unique landscape character.

If you have any questions about tree and vegetation management or need a hand maintaining your property, please give us a call.

# PLAYGROUNDS, SKATE PARKS BACK IN ACTION...

with restrictions

Playgrounds, skate parks and outdoor fitness equipment have now been reopened for use across Surf Coast Shire with further relaxation of Victorian Government COVID-19 regulations.

Up to 10 users will be permitted to access the facilities at one time, provided they maintain 1.5m physical distancing and observe COVID-Safe hygiene measures.

Council is also preparing for gradual opening of other public facilities from 1 June, pending individual COVID-Safe review of each site.

“Based on the advice of the Premier and Chief Health Officer, we will be pleased to be taking further steps out of restrictions,” Chief Executive Officer Keith Baillie said.

“Noting the change in the Premier's message from Stay Home to Stay Safe, we welcome the opportunity for people and particularly families to be able to access more of our outdoor facilities.

“But with that use comes great responsibility, and we urge everyone to take particular care observing hygiene and spacing guidelines. They are essential elements of our ‘new normal’.”

Gathering limits at playgrounds, skate parks and fitness equipment are scheduled to increase to 20 users from 1 June, with distancing measures in place.

Council will also roll out COVIDSafe signage across the shire amplifying the government's new Stay Safe messaging.

Mr Baillie said opening of other Council facilities from 1 June would be cautiously managed. The list includes community buildings, galleries, museums and youth centres.

“People should not assume everything will be open from that day. We have many precautions to work through to ensure that our staff and users are in COVIDSafe environments,” Mr Baillie said.

“We will be working closely with user organisations to ensure that they have appropriate plans in place.”

With students returning to school under modified arrangements, Council has also extended crossing supervisor shifts to allow for staggered hours.

# AQUATIC CLUB

Keith Miller - Commodore

## News from the Lorne Angling and Aquatic Club

### Hallelujah!!!! Fishing is back on!!!!

Now we have to keep the fingers crossed that the drongos out there do the right thing and comply with the social distancing rules and don't spoil it for everyone. It's great that our Nanny State has finally used common sense and removed the ban on fishing and golf.

Last month we emailed out about 3,000 letters to our data base of members and past visitors asking them to lobby the Victorian Minister for Fishing and Boating, Jaala Pulford and also VR FISH asking them to reverse the ban on fishing. I also got hold of a contact list for every Angling Club in Victoria which I was surprised to discover there is 124 of them. I emailed them the same letter and asked them to forward it onto everyone on their data bases urging them to also do some lobbying.

I received a call from VR Fish who claim to be "The Voice of Recreational Anglers in Victoria" who told me that they had received a "large amount" of emails from our data base and also other areas. During the long conversation I asked several times if they were lobbying the government to have the ban lifted. I got very long replies but no answer.

I'm guessing that they were not lobbying on our behalf at all which was very disappointing. Even more disappointing was our Minister for Fishing and Boating Jaala Pulford.

After sending her several emails and only receiving the standard fob-off replies I sent her a strongly worded message asking her to have the courtesy of a genuine reply and explained that our club is the most pro-active Angling Club in the state with over 1,100 members and I believe we are entitled to some genuine correspondence. I then received the same standard fob off reply.

Now that the restrictions have eased, we might be able to restart our fishing competitions. We will have to check with the authorities but with a few changes I'm sure we can comply with the social distancing rules. It won't be possible to open the club house with the rules only allowing 10 people on the premises at a time, but we will open as soon as the restrictions allow us to do so.

Hutch has finished painting the inside of the club house and is about to start on the toilets. It's come up like new. After our working bee late last year when we painted the outside we will now have a completely newly painted building. We've also installed a ceiling fan inside up the south end to keep Jason the coffee man and our members and visitors cool during the summer.

So with our new sliding doors, synthetic grass, outside lighting and all painted inside and out, we are all good to go for the next few years.

A few years ago I made up a pinboard displaying photos and information on unusual fish caught locally. It never ceases to amaze how much interest and discussion it creates from members

and visitors so I've just made up another one displaying sea shells found locally. I had to contact the Museum of Victoria to identify some of them. I'm sure that it will also attract a lot of interest.



### Raffle Winners

We had two raffles that we hadn't drawn before the COVID lock down so with witnesses present we drew them recently. The first one was a round of golf for 4 including the use two golf carts at the Peninsula Kingswood Country Golf Club. This was very generously donated by Heath Wilson. The winner was a syndicate of 4 called IPAP, when I called the phone number on the ticket I found out that they were very well known local identities and very keen golfers so that was a great result.

The second raffle was Patrick Dangerfield's Footy Boots generously donated by the Dangerfield family. The winner was Charlie Szakiel who is a keen Geelong supporter and he told me that is the first raffle he has ever won so that was a great result. All our raffle money is donated to charities. We have a sub committee who recommends who gets what.

Continued page 23

From page 22

## Fishing Report

The only bloke who has been out fishing in our area during the lock down is our local commercial fisherman Warren Norton (WOZ).

Commercial fishing is allowed because it's classed as essential. He has been catching plenty of whiting, gummy sharks and school sharks. He hasn't been chasing snapper but the autumn is usually the best time of year for them so I'll be able to report their abundance or lack of in next month's notes.

Fisheries removed the two FADS recently as they advised they would. The policy is to remove them in May to avoid the possibility of whales becoming entangled in them. They will be re-deployed in November.

The FADS were a great success with Southern Bluefin Tuna and Yellowtail Kingfish congregating around them. Plenty of tuna were caught but unfortunately no kingies.

They were too clever for us fishermen. Hopefully they will attract some dumber ones next season.

## Treasurer's Notes

On the financial front we have minimised our outgoings while we have no income. In normal circumstances during this period we would see at best, a break-even financial result. We continue to pay our staff in anticipation that we will receive the Jobkeeper payment (confirmed received) and made application for other grants. Not only do we want to support our staff, our club wants to be ready with the same friendly faces when we can re-open.

Confirming we continue to remain in a very strong financial position, with adequate funds set aside for the redevelopment of our club building sometime in the future.

Since our club closed in March, Lorne has been very quiet and we look forward to assessing the new guidelines as to how the club can re-open and operate.

To support our Lorne community, both short term and the recovery task we donated \$1,000 to Lorne Community Connect who are assisting in supporting vulnerable groups. This vulnerable group have worked in the hospitality establishments. Retaining this experience is so critical fit making Lorne a great place to live and visit. We will continue to look at opportunities as to how we can support our community.

We are also pleased to confirm that this financial year we have also made donations in total \$10,750 (including the above \$1,000 and \$7,000 to the bushfire appeals).

At the moment we are not in the position to advise when we can re-open but expect across Lorne there will be progressive establishments reopening.

This will be a great time to welcome everybody back to escape from isolation. We are part of the task force to make sure Lorne recovers and further information will come out about great packages that will become available.

The Lorne community has many initiatives and plans being undertaken. I would like to keep you abreast of these initiatives and I will send as a separate email a summary of actions being undertaken. This will be current as at 8th May and obviously

there are a couple of major changes. The intent is to send this out each week. If you don't want to receive it you can choose to unsubscribe when you receive. Within a short time we expect there will be a community update sent regularly from one community data base to ensure multiple copies are not sent with the same information.

We are looking forward to the day we can re-open and welcome everybody back for fishing, cold beers, events and the best views in Australia.

**Keep well, Stay Safe.**

**David Worth. Treasurer/Secretary.**

## Big tides

On the 10th and 11th of this month we experienced 2.78 metre high tides which are the biggest tides we have had for several years. There was a 5 metre swell forecast on the 10th but luckily it didn't arrive and along with a light offshore wind we escaped any serious damage although there was still some fairly substantial erosion in a few spots.

It would have been a great excuse for us to host a 'High Tide Party' at the clubhouse. Hopefully we can do it next year.

## Point Grey Development report

The people that had lodged objections to aspects of the development will now be heard by the Surf Coast Shire on the 9th of June and subject to that outcome we are hopeful, of a planning permit being issued. We as a club are financially ready to go but are unsure what issues there are with regards to the objections regarding the Beacon Building. We are perusing how to go about splitting the staging of the project by us going it alone. That would mean that the Beacon Building development would proceed as stage 2 at a later date. There will be parking matters to resolve with the authorities but we believe these can be done with close consultation with the Surf Coast Shire.

If we can get our club house part of the project separately commenced then it would be a major works project to the local community.

## Ric Addison

There was no Anzac Day ceremony this year but we still laid a wreath.



Continued page 24

From page 23

## Members of the month

### David Worth

Born in Adelaide 1950 where I was educated, played footy, cricket and tennis and then moved to Melbourne in 1973 before going overseas to work and have fun in Europe. I met Helen in 1977 at a party in Melbourne and was married in 1980. Helen was a theatre sister at the time working in Melbourne and before that in that had worked in Adelaide and London. Always handy to have a nurse in the family.

When I returned from Europe in 1976, I was assigned to do an audit at Linfox. Prior to the audit I had never heard of Linfox and to be honest not many people had. Although it sounded like an interesting organisation to join it was probably my desire to get out of auditing. When joining I had no idea how long I would last and certainly was not expecting the business to grow to where it is today. However, looking back Linfox always employed great people and Lindsay was and is a unique Australian. Shortly after joining I was appointed Company Secretary and a Director. For the next 20 years I had the opportunity to work in the USA and the United Kingdom and establish operations in New Zealand. They were certainly exciting times and many of those great disciplines I learned in those early days, I still apply.

In 1986 Jessica was born and then in 1989 James was born in the UK. Within a very short period of James's birth the family relocated back to Australia and then for the next nine months I travelled backwards and forwards between Melbourne and London. There would not be too many families today that would tolerate having a husband like that.

In 1995 Linfox sent me to the Harvard Business School Senior Executive Program three month residential course in Boston. However on returning to Australia things had changed and I left Linfox, but over the following 10 years spent approximately another five years working on various projects back at Linfox.

After leaving I established my own consulting business and got involved in property development and became a director and shareholder of a young company that was establishing itself as a residential developer of master-planned estates. Again, I was lucky to see significant growth over the fifteen year in which I was involved.

In 1997 we purchased our Lorne property. I certainly saw it had potential and now after three renovations and at great cost we have our permanent home in Lorne but still it retains a little bit of that beach holiday feel. Through to 2015, basically it was weekend



*Helen and David enjoying a cordial*

visits to Lorne but in 2017 we decided that we should consider making Lorne our permanent residence and sold our property in Melbourne.....

David and Helen have very quickly become invaluable members of our club and as a treasurer/secretary, Dave is sensational.

We have never had treasurers reports so detailed and accurate and monthly meeting agendas so professionally set out. He has made things very easy for me and the whole committee. I'm very glad I snavelled him before anyone else did.



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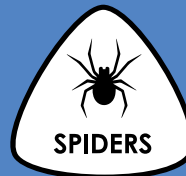
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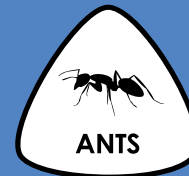


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Termite Watch is locally owned and operated in Lorne – providing a complete Pest Control service Victoria wide.

# WATCH WHERE YOU PUT YOUR FEET

Doug Williams

What do you do when the tradies arrive and need to work next to your garden beds? Look, I'm not having a dig at people I admire for what they can do – heck there are tradies in the family. It's just that, well, they often don't get it and although I might make enemies by addressing this, they can be, let me say, a little less than considerate about where they place their Blundstones than they are about the way they go about their work.



*Not to be stood on!*

Take Johnno – great plumber, neat and tidy with his work, always on time and a lovely young man but when he steps back onto my gerberas – well, “whoops, sorry” just doesn't cut it. In my experience not too many of these people display much more than a passing interest in things botanical and often when they are shown an unusual bloom don't get excited at all. Pointing out paintbrush lilies to one of the chippies on my renovation elicited only mild interest. Here was an uncommon bulb with a thick spotted fleshy stem, bright scarlet petals and a profusion of tightly crowded pink filaments in a cluster topped with yellow anthers that provide it with its common name. Telling him how the flowers would die down, bloom and fade all before the appearance of broad strap foliage which is why some people liked to call them Elephant Ears – this, I could tell, fell on deaf ears. But to be fair I didn't absorb a great deal when he was talking about the restoration of a 1968 Dodge Charger he was involved with.

Putting stakes in the ground and walking the builder through my hopes for his contractors to be constantly careful of this or that grevillea or of that clump of Variegated Sweet Flag for example serves a purpose at the time but the message can be lost by the time the apprentices arrive since, generally speaking, the younger the person is the less heedful he or she is. I was the same. We used to want to play ball games in our back yard when I was a kid and my mother wanted to protect her hydrangeas, so we came to an agreement – if she would let us play, we would be super careful and not damage her plants.

And, of course at first we were exceedingly diligent in upholding our end of the bargain by constantly checking each other and by modifying our own attacks on the ball. And then eventually being unable to stop ourselves slipping into our default habits of carefree carelessness like the young recidivists we were. Predictably, there was always damage to the shrubbery naturally enough because kids are a bit like tradies in this regard and although intentions are good, outcomes will be somewhat less desirable than hoped for.

Later in life when I planted out garden beds for my daughter, I knew that the grandkids would behave heedlessly towards them because that is just what kids do. I didn't attempt to quell her own faith that once planted her garden plants would be there for good, the planting would be a permanent one. Subsequent visits proved that their normal play behaviour was typical and the fate of a number of plants set in strategic locations was inevitable and predictable.

But it's not the end of the world or even the end of a garden; all that is needed for the status quo to return is a little bit of treading carefully and a modicum of time. Same goes here for when the alterations are completed, and the tradies depart.

Footnote – In recognition of their insidious spread I received an urgent plea and reminder from Lorne Mowing's David Griffiths for people to eradicate their agapanthus or at the very least to dead-head the flower spikes. PLEASE!!

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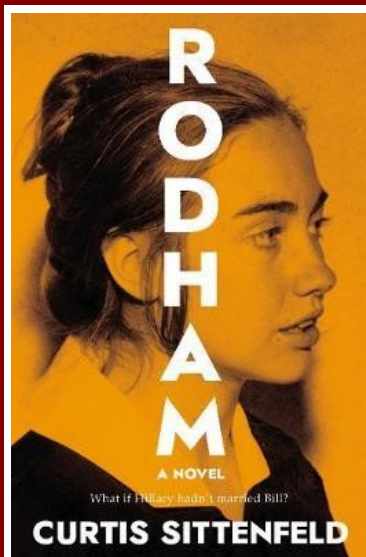
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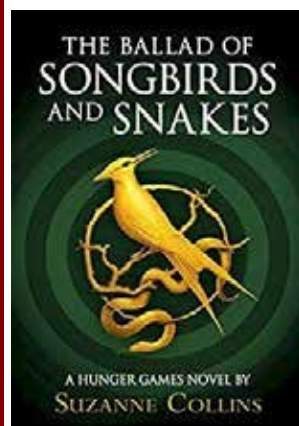
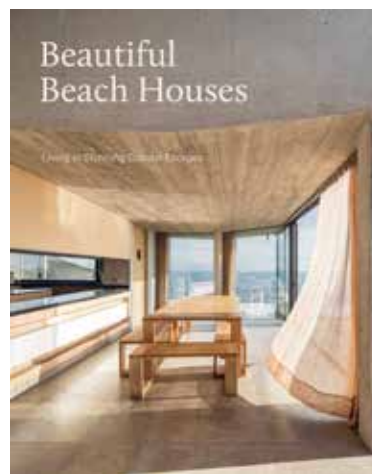


What if Hillary hadn't married Bill? 'Awfully opinionated for a girl' is what they call Hillary as she grows up in her Chicago suburb. Smart, diligent, and a bit plain, that's the general consensus. Then Hillary goes to college, and her star rises. At Yale Law School, she continues to be a leader— and catches the eye of driven, handsome and charismatic Bill. But when he asks her to marry him, Hillary gives him a firm No. The rest, as they say, isn't history.

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**The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes,**  
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