

# LORNE

## Independent

\$2

No 224 July 2020

Produced as an independent newsletter by Lorne Independent Inc.

ALL  
ROADS  
LEAD  
TO...

Great Ocean Road by Jonn Stewart





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# IN THIS ISSUE

Our enforced Lorne lock-down has produced some remarkable creative efforts and so in this issue:

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## WUHAN BEFORE THE PLAGUE

Tom Latham

I first visited Wuhan in the late 1980s with my Hong Kong friend and business colleague Mok Yau Lun. Our clothing business had been buying from China since 1974.



When we arrived in Wuhan then it seemed the dirtiest and most run down city we had seen on all our travels from Guangzhou, Beijing and Shanghai.

The Wuhan Hotel was basic, to put it mildly, and a glass-framed notice on the inside of the bedroom door informed guests in Chinese and English that they were forbidden to keep goats or other livestock in the room, and the mixing of chemicals and lighting of fires was also forbidden.

Next morning Mok and I set off on foot along the dusty streets in search of the Hubei Garment Corporation. After asking for directions, we passed several grim-looking heavy industrial buildings, their chimneys belching acrid brown smoke into the already polluted air. We came to a wide road lined with shop-houses which we had to cross to avoid the foul smells and water running across the potholed pavement.

When we eventually arrived at the modest Hubei Garment Corporation building, we were met by a skinny, slightly stooped young man with a weak chin and heavy glasses who greeted us with such enthusiasm I wondered if he was just out of English language school and I was the first foreigner he had met. His name was Jung De Long and he was to guide us further.

I had been hoping we would be travelling by Ferry down the Yangtze through the famous Three Gorges; now a dam and one of the world's largest power stations, but Jung had requisitioned a taxi and extra petrol coupons to take us to the No. 1 Garment Factory in Hubei's second largest city of Yichang. It was a full day's drive and as we wound up the unsealed road through the lush mountainous tea plantations I thought it was one of the prettiest parts of China I had seen.

When we entered the No. 1 Garment Factory, Mok and I were blown away by the bespoke quality of the cotton twill mens' trousers with all inside seams fully taped, crotch pieces and even acetate lining inside the leg front. The No. 1 were still employing the same production techniques as the British who had had a trade concession in Yichang decades earlier.

I asked Jung the price of these trousers and he replied, 'I don't know. The factory has not exported before, but they receive a fifteen percent Government export incentive and they are happy with that. Can you tell me the price?'

**(From such modest beginning grew the Chinese powerhouse we know today! – Ed.)**



Surf Coast Shire Council invites applications for the **COVID-19 RECOVERY ASSISTANCE GRANTS PROGRAM** for community groups and businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to aid recovery and benefit the Surf Coast Shire Community.

**CATEGORIES:**  
Business Support and Community Support

**Business Support:** Gretchen Gibson  
p. 5261 0676 e. [ggibson@surfcoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:ggibson@surfcoast.vic.gov.au)

**Community Support:** Terri Hannan  
p. 5261 0666 e. [thannan@surfcoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:thannan@surfcoast.vic.gov.au)

All applicants must speak with a Council officer prior to submitting an application.

For more information including guidelines and online application form visit [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au)





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Kristy: 0423979779

[southernedgepropertycare@gmail.com](mailto:southernedgepropertycare@gmail.com)

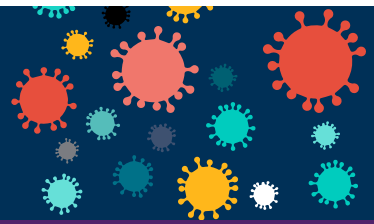
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# CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

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



JUNE 22 **Changes to restrictions**

The Premier has announced changes to restrictions:

- You can now only have up to 5 visitors at your home.
- Outside of the home, families and friends can meet in groups of up to 10.
- Venues such as restaurants, cafes, pubs, community halls, libraries, gyms and places of worship can only hold a maximum of 20 people in any one space until 12 July.

**Organised sport**

- Full-contact community sport training and competition for people aged 18 years and under can resume.
- Non-contact community sport competition for people aged over 18 years can resume.
- Full-contact sports training for adults is scheduled to resume from 13 July.

- Sports competitions for adults are scheduled to resume from 20 July.

**Sport and recreation facilities**

- Indoor sports centres and venues can open with up to 20 people per space, with a limit of up to 10 people per group/activity at any one time for those aged over 18 years old.
- Change rooms and showers can open for sport and recreational facilities, including swimming pools.

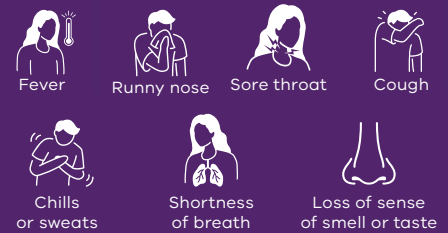
**Other facilities**

- Shared facilities at camping and tourist accommodation can open.
- Toy libraries can open with up to 20 people per space.

For a full list go to: [www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

**GET TESTED IF YOU'VE GOT THESE SYMPTOMS**

If you have any of these symptoms, however mild, get tested and stay home.



**Getting tested means you keep yourself, your friends, family, workplace and your community safe.**

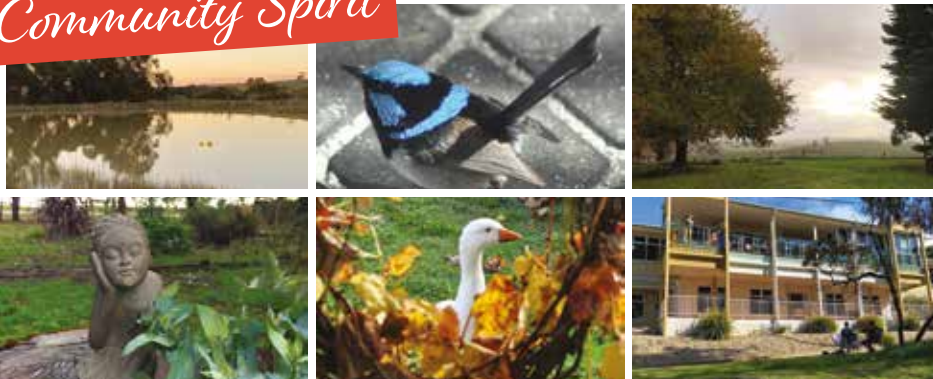
For more advice or to find out where to get tested:

- Call the 24-hour coronavirus hotline: **1800 675 398**
- Go to [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/getting-tested-coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/getting-tested-coronavirus-covid-19)
- Call your local doctor

**LOCAL TESTING LOCATIONS:**

- **Torquay Community Health Centre**  
By appointment only – call **4215 7815**.  
Open 9am – 5.30pm seven days a week.
- **Lorne Community Hospital**  
By appointment only – call **5289 4300**.  
Open for testing 9am – 4pm daily.

*Community Spirit*



**Capturing 'iso' life in Deans Marsh**

Local baker Jo Zdybel came up with the idea to make a photographic collage of Deans Marsh residents' experiences of isolation due to COVID-19, and provide a record of this time.

Locals have been sending photos that best represent their time during the lockdown, showing what they found challenging and what brought them joy.

Deans Marsh Community Cottage has created an online collage of the photos at [www.deansmarsh.org.au](http://www.deansmarsh.org.au). They also plan to feature the collage at a celebration event, when it's safe for the community to gather again.

Residents can send photos via message to the Deans Marsh Cottage Facebook page [www.facebook.com/deansmarshcottage/](http://www.facebook.com/deansmarshcottage/) or email them to [cottage@deansmarsh.org.au](mailto:cottage@deansmarsh.org.au)



**COVID-19 HOTLINE**  
**1800 675 398**



The **COVIDSAFE** app speeds up contacting people exposed to coronavirus. Download it from the App Store or Google Play.

**BE COVID SAFE**



Keep your distance



Maintain good hygiene



Avoid touching your face



Get tested

If you need help of any kind during the pandemic go to [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/COVID19](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/COVID19) for a list of contacts that can assist you, or call us on **5261 0600**.

Issued 25 June, 2020





From the Deck by John Agar

# WONDROUS NATURE AT THE LITTORAL EDGE

Despite the many frustrations of the last few Covid-19 weeks, every day has remained a hive of activity on the North Lorne beach where dog walking has almost become a fetish! Marching up and down, rain or shine, the 'Isolates of Lorne' have taken their exercise, passed the time of day, chatted – at a suitable physical distance – and have rather enjoyed this peaceful time.

Who will forget those days earlier in May when, combined with super tides, our Southern Ocean sent towering sets, one upon another, their humped backs visible to the horizon, with the local surfers enjoying some of the best breaks seen here in years. Washed back off the rocks of both North and South Lorne, sand accumulated unseen beneath the surface in huge drifting banks, the most notable being the reef just inside the pier which – aided and abetted by an undersea mountain of sand – broke in splendid ferocity, day after day. Oh, but to be 50 years younger and in my surf-ski prime!

But, for the many now 'less physically capable', this same surf has brought other joys. It has thrown up a feast of flotsam to pause over and to prod at along the littoral edge – that inter-tidal zone where a host of 'interesting things' happen.

Only a few days ago, Rod van Ingen posted his 'find' of a sea pen at Shelly Beach. Sea pens are an occasional occurrence along our shore but, for the unwary or the unaware, their fleshy animal squidgy-ness can be quite off-putting. A nice photo was posted on the 'One and Only' FaceBook site ... see published here [with Rod's permission].

In March, I found a seahorse in excess of 30 cm in length washed up just past the pine trees at North Lorne. Typically ranging in length from 2 – 35 cm, and with its' favoured habitat the giant kelp forests of Bass Strait, this once superb hippocampus of the sea was at the very top of the size range. Desiccated by a few high and dry hours in the sun, it had lost colour and vibrancy. I sat beside it, feeling a little sad.

But, perhaps the most beautiful of all were the profusion of slim, silver, slightly gelatinous creatures – each about 1.5 - 2.0 cm in length – that glistened in the sun like strings of diamonds along the high edge of the tidal reach over the last few days of May. As I was unsure of their origin – yet for years I have seen these tiny 'gems of the sea' occasionally strewn on the shore in equally large numbers – this time I resolved to chase down their genus.

To digress for a moment: for those with an interest in the natural world – and Lorne and its hinterland abounds in all manner of animal and plant 'fascinomas' [a sliver of medical slang from my youth that describes diagnostic dilemmas of rare interest] – there are two very useful apps worth downloading. Both are child safe, and both are free.

The first is inaturalist [logo: a white dove on a green background] It is great for beastie identification.



The second is PictureThis [logo: a green flower cup on a white background]. Both interact with specimen shots taken with your smartphone camera and allow the uploading of a photograph of anything you cannot identify. In the seeming blink of an eye, an 'expert' opinion/guess is returned to help identify your subject. The botanical app uses a pre-formed phot-library of specimens as its' identification lexicon, while inaturalist seeks input from live experts around the world. The wealth of easy-to-understand information that is returned is spectacular!

Now, back to the beasties: I snapped a photo – incidentally complete with Yogi's paw print – of the desiccated silver micro-carcasses at the tide line and pushed 'send'. Half an hour later, inaturalist 'pinged' back suggestions of an identification [with references] – on this occasion from a marine expert in Monterey, USA. He had seen 'the beastie photograph' I had posted to inaturalist, said 'Aha' to himself, and helpfully returned that these were 'salps'.

'Salp' is the shortened name used for organisms that belong to the family salpidae ... a barrel-shaped, planktic tunicate [or 'worm-like' organism] ... though there are many genus in the family, and some are much larger. Those strewn on the North Lorne beach [and no-one could have missed them] were the Antarctic *Salpa thompsoni*, an important 'grazer' from the Southern Ocean. I presume that the recent steady Southern Ocean swells had simply wafted them north onto our shore.

Found in countless abundance from south of the subtropical zone to the Antarctic polar front, reports suggest that ocean warming is slowly moving their distribution southwards as an increasing competitor to krill. Changes in cooler month ocean temperature may stimulate 'blooms' – akin, perhaps, to the dinoflagellate 'red tide' blooms we have recently witnessed in the summer months.

There can be no dispute: these past three months at the shoreline have been abundant with treasures to prod and ponder, with one positive pleasure of our national viro-isolation being my 'not-much-else-to-do' excuse to mooch, forage, and marvel.

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

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## Passionate Advocates for Disability Needed!

### Council is seeking expressions of interest for several positions on our All Abilities Advisory Committee (AAAC).

We are particularly interested in new members with a lived experience of disability, either as a person with disability or a carer.

The Committee is made up of community members, representatives from service organisations, Council officers and a Councillor Representative.

The Committee meets six times per year and advises Council on how to improve access and inclusion for people of all abilities in the Surf Coast Shire community. Positions on the committee are voluntary.

If you are a successful candidate and have any access or support requirements, we are committed to providing you with support to ensure you can participate equitably.

Please express your interest in writing and include:

- What interests you in joining Council's AAAC?
- What expertise would you bring to the Committee?
- What is your connection to Surf Coast Shire, do you live, work, study or recreate here?
- What is your commitment to equal access and inclusion for people of all abilities?

Expressions of interest should be less than 500 words and received by **Friday 17 July 2020**. Email to [sfirthmccoy@surfcoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:sfirthmccoy@surfcoast.vic.gov.au) or mail to the Access and Inclusion Officer, Surf Coast Shire Council, PO Box 350, Torquay 3228.

For more information, please go to [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Access-for-all/All-Abilities-Advisory-Committee](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/Access-for-all/All-Abilities-Advisory-Committee) or call (03) 5261 0600.

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# LORNE BY NUMBERS

## Planning our Town's Future Penny Hawe

Possibly the best outcome that Lorne ever could have got from the COVID-19 lockdown was the news that three young families, bunkered down here, liked it so much that they decided to stay. Their holiday homes have become their 'real' homes. Their kids have now enrolled in the Lorne P-12 School.

What's funny is that this happened 'accidentally', while many people in Lorne have been discussing how to solve housing affordability issues and how to retain enough of the population to keep Lorne's vital amenities.

For a few years now, there's been a push to increase the size of Lorne's permanent population. Some 1500 by 2020 was the target set by the Committee for Lorne in their first Aspirations document. Right now the town's at 1026.

But how would we know that 1500 is the right number (and why would that matter)?

Lorne By Numbers is a new project to answer this question led by Friends of Lorne (working with the Committee for Lorne). We think the right number may be whatever threshold is needed to retain crucial assets and infrastructure: like the hospital, the school, the bank, the post office, the police station, the pharmacy, the supermarket, the petrol station, the CFA, the SES, the sporting teams etc. Already Lorne has enviable infrastructure. That's because of our part time residents and the events that swell visitor numbers at certain times of the year. But we hear that businesses often struggle – even before the current lockdowns brought things into disarray. So the challenge is to get this stuff right.

### The underlying maths that makes the town tick

It's not hard (in theory at least!) to look back over time trends and work out the mathematical relationship between the things that make this town tick. Like the age and number of permanent residents and how this affects the volunteer numbers at the CFA. Or the occupancy of the holiday houses and the number of businesses. Or the duration of visitor stay and the hospitality employment levels. After all, another product of COVID is that we've all become armchair experts in mathematical modelling. In March, when some bright spark at Melbourne's Grattan Institute figured out that if we did not control the spread of the corona virus immediately, there'd be no intensive care beds left in Australia by 11 April - we understood. The point is that similar mathematical relationships (albeit less dramatic) underpin our ability to keep basic services in Lorne. And decent incomes.

### Why does precision matter?

Why does it matter whether we plan for 1500 permanent residents? Or 1100? Or what? Because Lorne is special.

Beautiful. Unique. That's why people come here. So the logic is: why cut down more trees than we might absolutely need to in order to build more houses? In fact, why cut down any trees at all, if more of the answer lies in increasing existing home occupancy, like with the new families enrolling at the school. If we turn Lorne into a beachside urban environment like Torquay or Geelong, it won't be special anymore. If we demand every amenity that we'd get in Melbourne, Lorne won't look like Lorne anymore. So, protecting our unique environment against the potentially competing objectives of our economy and the liveability for residents, requires balance. And balance demands precision.

### So, what's next?

The Surf Coast Shire planners don't need to be sold on the idea of having a scientific basis to population projection planning. It's par for the course for them. They have access to professional modellers. But what they lack is the details – the numbers- to run through the models. That's where the community comes in.

You probably know about citizen science already. It's when people volunteer to count birds one day every year. Or to measure water quality once a month. Or to document how native species have reoccupied land that has been weeded. Citizen science can be harnessed for town planning as well. By digging into archives. Sorting and counting records. Tracking numbers. Some of it might involve footwork. Some of it might happen through asking agencies for help. Already, for example, we know that energy companies will tell us how much electricity is used in Lorne each month – allowing us to estimate the proportion of houses occupied. We'll be looking at ways to track our local environment too. It's our most precious asset and it needs to stay in good health. Friends of Lorne has started discussions with the school about how Lorne by Numbers could overlap with their interests and ideas. We will be talking with other agencies and groups in Lorne as well to see how the project could service their needs.

### Interested? Or have ideas?

You don't need to be a numbers nerd to be part of what we hope will be a whole-of-community project. Pretty much all you need is a pulse, really. Lorne by Numbers will have a range of different projects, big and small running over the next year and beyond. So take the plunge.

Email us on [committee@friendsoflorne.org.au](mailto:committee@friendsoflorne.org.au)

To find out more about Friends of Lorne:  
<http://friendsoflorne.org.au/>

*(Penny is President of Friends of Lorne. She is a member of the Lorne Historical Society and LorneCare. Friends of Lorne is one of the organisations which make up the Committee for Lorne).*

# SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE AND BEAUTY

Jane Orr - A member of Friends of Lorne, and granddaughter of past President, Beverley Orr

Lorne was the first place in c.1975 to be designated 'a town of Special Significance' and an area of 'Natural Beauty'. The intention was for new ways of town planning to protect and preserve this idyllic seaside gathering place.

Indeed, Lorne has been a meeting place, a 'blue gum amphitheatre' long before settlers found their way here and then toiled to build the majestic access roads. Lorne is blessed with an original inland track, widened in 1879 to become the Coach Road traversed by Cobb & Co Coaches from the Winchelsea and later the closer Deans Marsh Railway Station, cutting the journey time from six hours to four.

An explosive charge was detonated just over a hundred years ago on 19 September 1919 by the Premier of Victoria, Harry Sutherland Wightman Lawson, as part of a ceremony to mark the official start of work, and a new era where service men returning from World War I commenced crafting the famous Great Ocean Road. The first section between Lorne and Eastern View opened to cars on 18 March 1922, and the Great Ocean Road then officially opened in 1932 with a ceremony held in Lorne, by the Grand Pacific Hotel.

What a change access by roads brought to this seaside village over the years. The coastal Great Ocean Road is pivotal in the entire area's accessibility and shows off the magnificence of the ocean coastline. Indeed, we were advised at community meetings that the Great Ocean Road has become a world class tourist attraction, ranking even above both the Great Barrier Reef and Uluru. Dotted along this spectacular driving journey are rare precious jewels, Lorne being for us arguably the most lovely of all.

Within town boundaries, the subdivision of what is now known as Lorne commenced over 150 years ago in 1869. Histories record the town being named c.1870/1 for Queen Victoria's son-in-law, the Marquis of Lorne, who married Princess Louise on 21 March 1871. Just over 100 years after becoming known as Lorne, new planning methods delivered under an Interim Development Order by the Town and Country Planning Board were intended to support the conservation of the natural beauty and ensure the area retained its special significance.

In conjunction with the declaration and protections afforded by the Interim Development Order, there was since January 1966 an active group titled the Lorne Planning and Preservation League (LP&PL). The League answered a calling for those who fulfilled a role as custodians of this special area, just as its current day incarnation over 50 years later operating as Friends of Lorne (FoL) draws upon the expertise of voluntary members from the wider Lorne community.

To understand where the phrases 'town of special significance and area of natural beauty' came from, is to venture back to discussions and meetings held by the Lorne Planning and Preservation League in 1974. Watching development in the early 1970s buzz around them, and recognising the unique natural

beauty of Lorne, the League set about ensuring the clause 'Special Significance' was included in the Interim Development Order.

Initial discussions with the Town and Country Planning Board in late September 1974 revealed that within the Lorne Plan there had been a wish to encompass a plan across the whole of the Foreshore area. While the Board was unable to finance the Foreshore portion of the Plan, their representative, Mr Fraser "smilingly suggested that the League may be able to help with procuring the necessary \$25,000." An interview was sought in late November 1974 with the then Victorian Premier, Sir Rupert ('Dick') Hamer to request funding to establish the Lorne Foreshore Plan. At the time, the honourable Dick Hamer, "immediately agreed to make the money available and ... pointed out the urgency of having the study undertaken to include the height of the season."

It is possible that just as Lorne was perhaps surprised in 2018-2019 with generous funding announcements, the Lorne Planning & Preservation League were delighted when the Lorne Foreshore Plan was suddenly supported to the at the time substantial tune of \$25,000. This enabled Urban Group Pty Ltd in association with Natural Systems Research Pty Ltd to commence a detailed study in early January 1975 and produce the Lorne Foreshore Plan booklet for the Town and Country Planning Board of Victoria in April 1976. This 1976 Lorne Foreshore Plan canvassed issues that still remain central for the community such as public toilet blocks, car parking and preservation of the natural environment. During the mid-70s there was also an in-depth study into the possible relocation of a harbour with options evaluated including the St George River and the Erskine River. What a different town we might have had!

While the Town Plan was gazetted on the 13th July 1977 with the then Shire of Winchelsea as the responsible authority, the December 1977 newsletter from the LP&PL noted the Foreshore Plan had not yet been adopted. The aim of the local custodians was to have the Foreshore Plan incorporated into the Town Plan so that it would not be ignored. Drawing parallels there is a major Structure Plan under review, and a feedback process occurred last year with respect to a new Foreshore Plan. As always it is the detail, and sometimes absence of, that requires countless hours from volunteers who seek the best possible outcomes.

Now, as ideas and activities are generated for Lorne's recovery from the effects of the first half of 2020, Friends of Lorne, working with the community, will strive to ensure we all preserve the significant and beautiful aspects of Lorne, which make it unique.

#### References:

- A History of The Great Ocean Road* by Peter F.B. Alsop (Geelong Historical Society, 1982 50th Anniversary edition for 26/11/1982)
- Lorne Preservation & Planning League Annual Reports*
- Interim Development Order - Town and Country Planning Board (unsigned copy dated 22 November 1974)*
- Lorne Foreshore Plan for Town and Country Planning Board* by Urban Group Pty Ltd in association with Natural Systems Research Pty Ltd (April 1976)
- Tour of Lorne - Shire of Winchelsea - Thursday 24 February 1977 - National Trust of Australia (Victoria) - Women's Committee*
- Lorne A Living History* by Doug Stirling (October 2004 Publisher J.D. Stirling)
- Friends of Lorne website <http://friendsofornel.org.au/>*

# THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT - MID 2020

(Cooking soup with Beethoven). Or maybe not. Sandra McComb

Like us, Shakespeare's Macbeth may have had his moments.

*Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow  
Creeps on this petty pace from day to day  
To the last syllable of recorded time. And so on...*

Fortunately, we don't have to suffer his fate. Some are indeed in difficulty. All are affected. Largely we appear to be healthy. Luckily, there are many upsides to being locked in Lorne as the world slows down.

The freeway trips to Melbourne meetings have been Zoomed away. There is more time. Time to work, as allowed, with a great band of concreters to build a new driveway – they did the work while I watched. Time to slow for a while – we don't know for how long. Time to walk along the shore-line and absorb the moods and colours of the ocean.

Publishing colleagues tell me there is a revival in sales of fiction titles. There are novels to enjoy and time to read them. Maybe – just maybe – there is time to revisit music and poetry.

Alone in isolation, or in company, music and poetry offer comfort and entertainment in buckets. Separately or together they can match and lift our moods. I have recently given both art forms more space in my solitary eyrie among the gum trees. They are worth exploring. Given the internet nowadays we don't have to reach for a library of ancient or modern poetry or a vast cupboard full of CDs. Both are there at the press of a button.

(Though I do have CDs and even LPs because I am of an age.)

Alone I can select a soothing gentle Mozart at night as I knit (A reverted-to in the last few months to the point that everyone I know is in line for a scarf or beanie for their next birthday!)

Alone I can play *Pulp Fiction* (or brilliant Beethoven) when I want to exercise. (No-one can see into my house!)

Alone I can play Bob Dylan and Tom Waits to my heart's content and really listen to lyrics and music without interruption; without a granddaughter drowning them out in protest with a real-life teenage version of *'This Girl is on Fire'*. (Bob may well have approved of course.)

Music is the organisation of sounds; poetry is the organisation of language. Given enough space these two art forms reach out and touch who we are. They deserve to be explored. Responses will happily vary widely.

Welsh poet Dylan Thomas when asked what was his definition of poetry replied: 'Poetry is what makes me laugh or cry or yawn, what makes my toenails twinkle, what makes me want to do this or that or nothing.' He said: 'I read only the poems I like. This means of course that I have to read a lot of poems I don't like before I find the ones I do.' Thomas often wrote emerging from the mists of alcohol.



Exquisite classical music of the Chopin/Tchaikovsky variety has often been relegated to the background in today's hectic world - to advertisements - to supporting performance art. To have time to sit and listen - really listen - without distraction is a very rewarding experience. We may come to feel why one note follows another - why the organisation of sounds can evoke deep emotion. Chopin wrote his Preludes mostly locked in isolation, in cold, stony, abject poverty living with George Sand in Majorca, and then Paris and London. We should do him justice by listening.

In another time rote-learned poetry recited in his head helped keep my father alive in a more drastically challenging lockdown as a prisoner of war in Indonesia. Post war around the house he quoted Shakespeare, Judith Wright and C J Dennis (for humorous, sentimental relief). For him quoting poetry aloud was a form of balm after escaping prison camp, while I learned to appreciate stories and the rhythm of verse. I learned that poetry can on the one hand plumb the depths of feelings, and on the other poke fun at us all.

Listening to poetry read aloud is a treat and readily available on podcasts nowadays. But reading silently from the page is also fulfilling.

Unlike a novel which lays out a narrative for you to follow; unlike a history which claims a factual agenda, poetry frees you to feel, pick up on hints, draw your own conclusions and most of all imagine.

I have been revisiting my favourites gathered over the years – T S Eliot, Dylan Thomas, Oscar Wilde and several French and Spanish poets (in translation I hasten to add). Along with Australians Les Murray and Kenneth Slessor, and Banjo Paterson I have remembered a forgotten world.

The first day of winter in Lorne was freezing. There will be more such days and perhaps more time to enjoy the quiet. Cooking soup with Beethoven, I was quite content.

Perhaps we should create a Poetry Society at the Pub in Lorne. The words of Leonard Cohen would be a start. But there are thousands of songs and poems to choose from. Including *Up There, Cazaly*.

# This is another epidemic that must be addressed through active living and nutrition policies.

Australia's health and productivity is at risk with the overweight and obesity epidemic. At the current trend, it is estimated that approximately 1.75 million deaths in adults over 20 years old will be caused by overweight and obesity between 2011 to 2050.

Overweight and obesity are defined as an abnormal or excessive fat accumulation that risks compromising an individual's health. Commonly, body mass index (BMI) is used to classify adults as overweight if their BMI is 25 or greater and obese if their BMI is 30 or greater. The prevalence of overweight and obesity has increased over the past 40 years in Australia. Almost two-thirds of Australian adults and almost a third of Australian children are either overweight or obese.

The burden of overweight and obesity is significant, imposing a total health burden of 7% in 2011 and an estimated cost of \$8.6 billion to the Australian economy.

Whether or not obesity is classified as a chronic condition, as has been the case internationally, overweight and obesity are important risk factors for type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and many cancers.

As an independent risk factor for cardiovascular disease, obesity increases the risk of dyslipidaemia, hypertension and insulin resistance.

Additionally, the increased adipose tissue seen in obesity influences the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis.

In addition to having a unique point of access within the community, pharmacists are in a good position to provide preventive health services because of their skills and exposure to such strategies.



## 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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## deluxe

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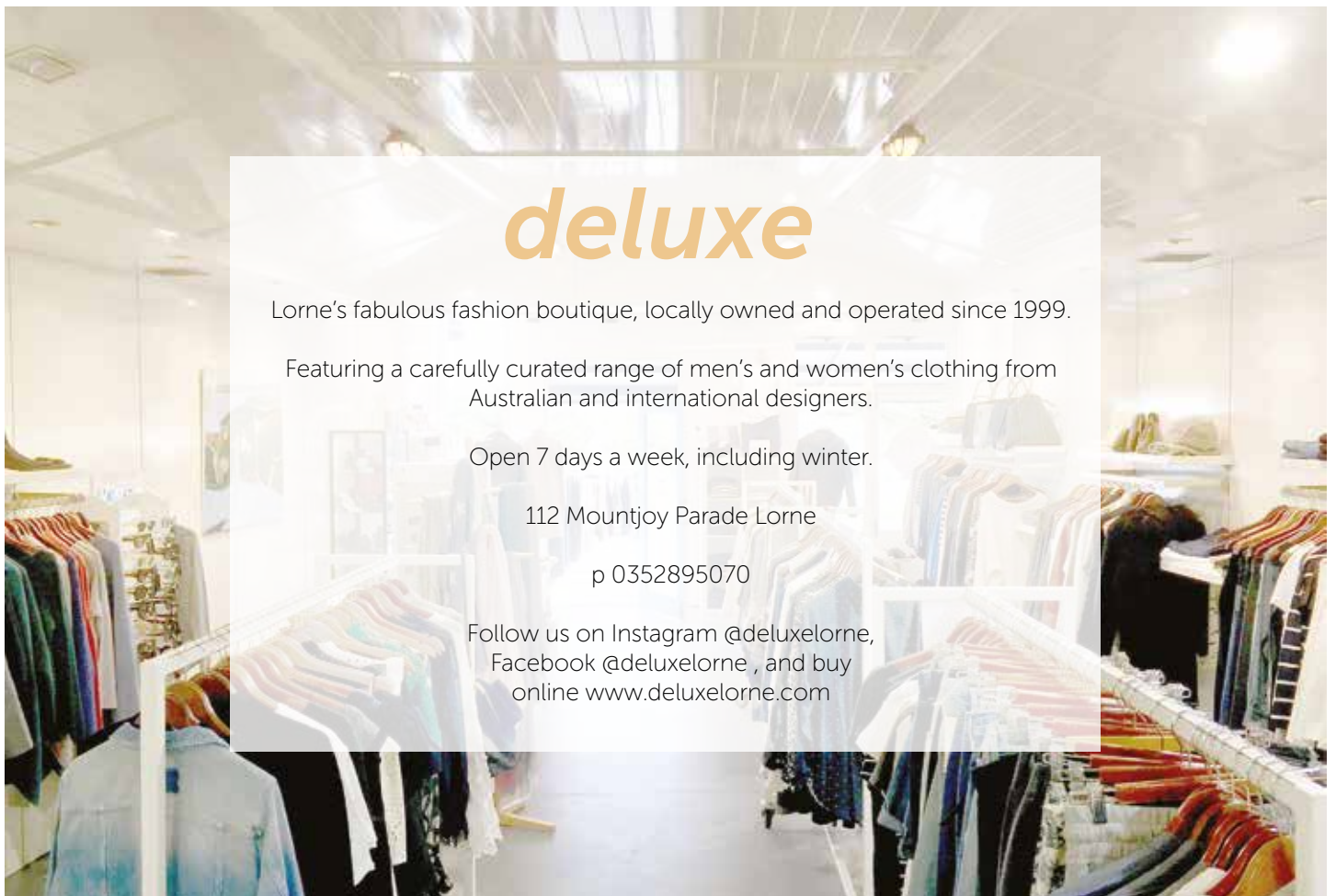
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# THE LOUTTIT LOOP

The Management of the Surf Coast Shire caravan parks – is it still GORCC? – announced that campers from the six or seven areas with the highest number of Covid cases would not be able to stay in their parks. Huge hullabaloo on talk back radio – mostly from those who pay about \$7K per annum for a sort of permanent set up! Don't blame them. By the afternoon of the same day the statements were reversed and 'as you were' ruled.

*Its pretty sad if you try to organize and pay for a bench seat in memory of a dear departed much loved one in this Shire. You can fund the seat, providing they OK the site, but no signage allowed unless it is – wait for it – UNDER THE SEAT! KIDDING? Nope. That's the rule. At the headland near Shelley Beach, the sign is sunk into the ground beside the seat. On a holiday to Metung last year, I absolutely loved that everywhere we needed a little rest from the hills, there was a seat in memory of a special Metung person.*

The whales are coming!! If you think you see one, chances are you do! Although an active small pod of dolphins tricked a few of us recently as they were so close in and travelling at the rate of lazy Southern Rights. Plenty down Warrnambool way.

*If you're thinking of acquiring a new puppy, beware. The Scamwatch radar alert reports a puppy scam with fake websites or ads online pretending to sell sought-after dog breeds, and they usually ask for up-front payments via money transfer to pay for the pet and the transfer to you. Remember, if the price looks too good to be true – it probably is. The Scamwatch site is very helpful with what to do if you think you may have been scammed.*

When the frustrated fisherfolk were at last allowed to throw in a line, the official Fisheries vehicle appeared in town. Looking mighty schmick, two uniformed ladies grabbed some coffees prior to checking out the crowded pier and even more crowded Jump Rock area.

*A few weekends later one rock fisherman ended up with a broken leg – must have taken his eye off the waves! Our wonderful SES team transferred him over the rocks to the beach using their handy Mule – sort of a stretcher with a big rubber wheel – into the waiting ambulance. A local retired Coroner reckons no-one should fish off rocks without wearing a lifejacket – and she should know.*

Three or four new babies were welcomed during June which is wonderful news. Congrats all round.

*The LorneCare Group finally got to gather and commence work on their big new project along the Erskine's north riverbank. This is a huge project which actually will make a difference and beautify a totally out of control area. GORCC's representative Rachel came to the inaugural attack and really put in with the whippersnapper. Others started removing a 'ringbarked' area on huge gums in an effort to deal with thick ivy, while another group dug out arum lilies. Val's unusual Anzac bikkies prompted some recipe swapping – they contain chopped rosemary and rough sea salt on top! Delicious. Thanks to leader Alain Purnell for conjuring up a hot cuppa and for cleaning all our cups and our tools. Like to join in? All welcome to this happy tribe!*

Pretty special to spot Patrick Dangerfield on the main beach about to test his surfing skills on the swell. Keeping up his fitness in the very best way.

*Quite a few of our lovely new ISO friends have returned to the big smoke and we miss them! Especially barefoot happy Josie and her young dog Murphy. A cheerio to you two.*

Speaking of dogs – whilst walking recuperating Rocco gently round the footy oval, we were horrified at the amount of dog droppings left on the beautiful surface. Worse still, absolutely identical large soft brown piles, leading to a deduction that all these barker's nests were laid by the same dog, and ignored by the same owner. Seems hard to believe! Being the unofficial "Poo Police" we've tied a few bags in the bench area and picked up the piles, as we are well aware that the school kids use the oval for sport and it is actually out of bounds to dog walkers in school hours.

*Rumour is that Sammy the Seal who entertains folk at the end of the Pier may actually be Samantha! A small seal is still playing in the area and seems very relaxed.*

The team at the medical centre seem have coped very efficiently and are very thorough with temperature taking and questions galore prior to allowing us to enter. Many consultations have been conducted on Telehealth. Dr David looks very smart indeed in his "scrubs", ready to deal with anything.

*We now have two locals supplying us with honey. The Foodworks Supermarket stocks Mark Carrol's "Natural Untreated Honey" from the Otway Ranges and Surfcoast Flora. Each label states the place of origin, the Hive Number, the weight and date and is labeled Surfcoast Bees. And it's delicious. Now young Ella Murnane is selling her beautiful honey labeled Cedar Cottage Honey at \$12 for 500g. Check her out on The One and Only Lorne Noticeboard. How lucky we are!*

A Mum, her 16 year old twin daughters, and the family dog Buddy spent a freezing cold night after becoming lost in a section of the Otways fairly close to Apollo Bay recently. They spent the night on a soft bed of ferns and the dog helped keep them warm. In the morning they were found when Ms. Gartland's brother was searching one kilometer away and calling that wonderful word which seems to travel better than any others ... "Cooooee".

*Keith Baillie has resigned as CEO of the Surf Coast Shire Council after five years in the seat.*

Geoff Bird has been announced as the new Controller of the Lorne SES and Kevin Diviny and Adrian Sleep are the Deputy Controllers. They are always looking for new members so please consider joining this amazing group of people who are always on call in any emergency. Call them on 132500.

*Suzanne D. reports that a recent wintry walk around Lake Elizabeth just outside Forrest was wonderful. Not muddy. Not crowded. Only 5.5 km for the circuit – a bit over two hours – and tree ferns way above one's head! Can even take the dog – on a lead of course. They packed a picnic lunch which, knowing Suzanne's cooking skills, would have been fit for royalty.*

The Indian shop "Jashan" has kept us going with freshly roasted cups of good coffee, and with delicious takeaway packs. Now with a flourish of neighbourly sharing and their usual proactive case of the smarts – they have turned the inside table and chairs area into the Lorne Milk Bar, which was previously up where our new Cellarbrations is now well established. Had me scratching my head until I realized that in winter as well as in pandemics, we want take away! All good.

*Don't you love the new and tasteful WELCOMING VISITORS BACK TO LORNE sign? Gorgeous photo of the pier and the words Stay Safe. Not sure if it will be there for long in the light of recent numbers testing positive.*

Please, please – if you need to turn on your wipers you need to turn on your car lights as well.... Lillian x.

# FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

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



## 2020/21 Surf Coast Shire Budget

June is always a busy month for Councillors and Council Officers as we work together to finalise the next years budget. Despite COVID-19, this year has been no different although Zoom meetings are never as good as face to face meetings, body language is much easier to observe!

The budget process begins in early December and throughout the following six months Councillor briefings are held on a regular basis to gradually build the budget for the following year. It is always a challenging conversation seeking to consider Asset Renewal programs, funding of Council Services in excess of 100, never ending infrastructure needs for our fast growing communities and in light of COVID-19 supporting the community in these uncertain times.

The draft budget was put on exhibition for community feedback on 29th April with over 98 public submissions received. This years Hearing of Submissions was a first, engaging with the community via Zoom.

At the June Council meeting the 2020/21 budget was adopted and included the COVID-19 Recovery Assistance Program, a total of \$1,768,000 taking total COVID-19 support funding to over \$2,200,000. The support package includes:

- \$1 million to help businesses and communities re-establish and recover from the impacts of COVID-19.
- \$195,000 of support to assist people experiencing financial hardship by waiving interest on outstanding rates & debts
- \$250,000 rate relief for commercial and industrial ratepayers
- \$323,000 of support to the food, hospitality and accommodation businesses by waiving various fees, registrations and “Street” trading permits.

The budget also includes

- \$31.5 million of capital works in 2020-21 another record spend.
- \$7.7 million of ongoing Asset Renewal projects
- \$8.5 million for road upgrades, maintenance and renewal.

Each year there is always healthy discussion on the Equity considerations for each ward.

Total Council funding includes all Council projects, new/upgrade capital, new operational and renewal capital. Appendix E of the Budget papers provides an insight. This year, 4 years of prior information was included along with the 2020/21 forecasts providing interesting results.

## Five Ward Equity Averages

Ward	Average Rates	Total Council Funding
Anglesea	23%	9.4%
Lorne	15%	10.0%
Torquay	44%	56.0%
Winchelsea	18%	24.0%

## Asset Distribution by Ward

Another interesting Ward comparison which indicates the proportion of Council assets relative to rates & municipal charges at the end of the June 2019 financial year. The indicator represents a good reflection of investment of funds over time and the likely future demand for asset renewal. The table highlights in particular the percentage proportion of the value of assets in the Torquay and Winchelsea ward is greater than the proportion of their respective current rate revenue.

Certainly makes me wonder why anyone would be suggesting Winchelsea Ward should consider aligning themselves with Colac Otway or Golden Plains Shire.

There were numerous Capital and Operational projects approved, full details can be found in Appendix E of the budget. Great to see Lorne Historical Society received \$50,000 for Stage 2 of the new Façade, it will certainly enhance the entry into Lorne.

## Point Grey

At the same Council meeting, Council resolved to grant a Permit for the development of Point Grey. As we all know this renewal and development proposal for Point Grey began over 12 years ago with numerous community consultations, government agencies, non-permanent residents, visitors and community groups all providing their input over the years at times even contradicting their previous views.

Continued page 13

## Asset Distribution by Ward

Ward	Rates Municipal Charge		Road Assets		Non Road Assets		Total Assets	
Anglesea	\$10.3m	23%	\$80.7m	15%	\$23.5m	15%	\$104.2m	15%
Lorne	\$6.7m	15%	\$40.2m	7%	\$13.9m	9%	\$54.1m	8%
Torquay	\$19.7m	44%	\$282.8m	52%	\$70.2m	45%	\$353.0m	50%
Winchelsea	\$7.9m	18%	\$140.6m	26%	\$47.6m	31%	\$188.2m	27%
<b>Total Wards</b>	<b>\$44.6m</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$544.4m</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$155.2m</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$\$\$699.5m</b>	<b>100%</b>

**From page 12**

I am sure the debate will continue. Funding from the Federal Government's City deal project, GORCC and Lorne Angling & Aquatic Club is now in place. Whilst the application is very comprehensive taking into account some 47 various conditions, I believe they can all be resolved and it is now time to move ahead.

**Parking Overstay Detection System**

The Council is installing sensors from Monday 22 June in selected car parking bays across the Shire to help traders maximise customer traffic, which can be reduced when cars overstay the time limit and prevent others from using the bays.

The technology will be used for data collection only over the upcoming quieter winter months. Advice signs will be placed with existing parking signs prior to the technology being used for enforcement purposes.

Last year, traders expressed their concern to Council about motorists overstaying in time restricted parking spaces and a survey of 51 traders in Torquay, Jan Juc, Anglesea and Lorne identified that 78 per cent supported the introduction of sensor technology. The technology will support Local Laws Officers to manage time-limited parking more efficiently and improve turnover of car parks in busy areas.

The technology won't change current parking controls, including existing time limits. Nor will it result in paid parking or affect how officers issue parking fines. Drivers will only be impacted if they breach existing parking restrictions. Sensors will be installed in Torquay/JanJuc 227, Anglesea 40 and Lorne 132, along Mountjoy Parade.

**Lorne Community Food & Clothing Bank.**

Following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions allowing hospitality, other businesses to reopen and the lifting of some travel restrictions Lorne Community Connect has determined that the Food & Clothing Bank is no longer needed. Individual and Community Groups financial support has been fantastic and demonstrates the way our community is able to rally to support each other and people in need. A huge thankyou to everyone who have been involved. Feed Me Bellarine is now distributing food parcels for everyone along the Surfcoast who may need assistance.

# OP-SHOP BUZZ

 Janet Goud

June has been a sunny month generally, and as the restrictions slowly eased we saw more of our friends for socially distanced walks and many attractive photographs of local beauty spots have appeared on the Community website.

All our gardens are going to sleep, perfectly manicured by the isolation period tasks. Jigsaws have been stowed away as family members arrived for meals and were even able to stay overnight. Many children stormed the playgrounds and the beaches. The cookies suddenly repopulated the main street.

The Op shop decided to test the waters this last month with a limited opening for window sales on Fridays from 11 to 3 pm. The correct cash had to be presented and no change was given.

Each week since there has been a steady stream of customers, many lamenting the lack of browsing possibilities, and some even demanding access believing there was no longer cause for alarm.

People came with lists of books seen on our Facebook page. Have you looked at this page? People rang to reserve collectables seen in the window display. Although donations were not encouraged until the turnover of goods was faster, some bags were still left. These were put into quarantine in a tiny corner of our small shop and have gradually emerged over the last few Fridays.

The June long weekend brought the first big influx of visitors to the town and the removal of the Stay Home Covid unwelcome signs. However, the Op Shop Executive decided it was too early to open. This was a wise judgement as we see in hindsight today, as we return to restrictions and numbers of cases increase quickly.

Sadly around this time, a very well respected member of the Op shop Friday family, Hilda Smith, died. We all appreciated her work over the years and send our sympathy to her family and friends.

As you are aware, many workers in the Op shop are wise, older and particularly vulnerable to this infection. Many also are carers for even more delicate people, so we must put those people at the centre of the considerations of when and how the shop will open. You will need to wait and watch for the opening date to be announced.

The experience of an op shop visit will also be different when we finally make it to an opening day. There will be only a small numbered patrons inside at once, there will no changing rooms available: but there will be air filters working and there will be Eftpos available. No more rushes to the bank for cash to secure your wonderful treasures.

We hope to see you all as soon as it's 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)



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The Lorne Country Club  
Visitors always welcome!

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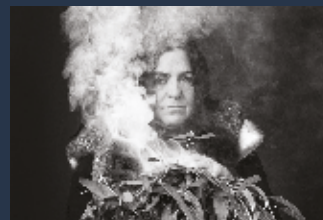
**Does your Car Need Washing ?**

A number of our seasonal workers are keen to offer a Car Washing Service in your driveway.

1. Call 0438 361 961 (Paki) to book a time & provide your address
2. Leave your car in your driveway, along with a hose, bucket and washing materials
3. \$25.00 per car
4. Place your payment in an envelope at your front door.



Join us each Sunday morning in July for our  
**Women in Conversation series.**



**SUNDAY JULY 12, 11:00AM – 12:00PM**

**Treaty on Wadawurrung Country:**  
Traditional Owner Corrina Eccles and collaborator and photographic artist Ferne Millen discuss what it means to work towards Treaty on Wadawurrung Land with AIATSIS Chair and Djab Wurrung/Gunditjmarra Leader, Jodie Sizer.

**SUNDAY JULY 19, 11:00AM – 12:00PM**

**Ochre and Water:** Surf Coast Art Space President Sally Groom in conversation with Corrina Eccles on the significance of ochre and water and the arts to the Wadawurrung both historically and contemporaneously.



**SUNDAY JULY 26, 11:00AM – 12:00PM**

**Mentorship and Collaboration:**  
Emerging artist Miranda Jarvis in conversation with award-winning actor and director Iris Walshe-Howling on the role of experienced practitioners in mentoring emerging creatives and how theatre acts as a space for collaboration.

For more information and registration to attend via ZOOM, go to [surfcoastartstrail.com.au](http://surfcoastartstrail.com.au)

#NotTheSurfCoastArtsTrail

# CEO Keith Baillie leaving Shire

After five years of service, CEO of the Surf Coast Shire Keith Baillie is leaving to take up a senior executive position in Geelong – Chief Executive Officer of the not-for-profit, Geelong based GForce Employment Solution.



Deputy Mayor Cr Clive Goldsworthy highlighted financial and business reforms as some of Mr Baillie’s significant achievements.

“He has achieved saving through the business transformation program and provided more transparent and easier to understand financial reporting. People can now clearly see what Council’s finances will be like in 10-years’ time,” he said.

Councillor Goldsworthy also recognised improved community engagement, customer experience reforms and the introduction of the business transformation program under Mr Baillie’s leadership.

# EPA on Wood Heaters

It’s cold outside and for many Victorians that means firing up the wood burning heater. Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) has some simple steps to minimise how smoke can impact on your health.

It’s important for people to understand how their heater operates and to use appropriate fuel. This will be specified in the heater’s operating manual and by using the correct fuel your heater will run more efficiently.

It’s a good idea to have your flue professionally checked and cleaned before winter begins to ensure it’s clean and free from obstructions. This will help prevent flue fires, unnecessary smoke, and ensure the heater operates correctly.

Never burn household rubbish, driftwood, treated wood or painted wood. It is sure to pollute the air and it can produce toxic gases.

Whilst the impact of a single wood heater may be small—the cumulative impact on air quality, particularly through autumn and winter, is significant – but many of the air pollution problems associated with wood heating can be prevented or minimised by operating your heater correctly.

## KEEPING OUR LOVED ONES SAFE KEEPS US TOGETHER

It’s up to all of us to keep our friends and families safe.

- No more than 5 visitors at your home.
- If you do have to see people, keep your distance. No handshakes or hugs. Maintain good hygiene. Don’t share food or drinks.
- Outside the home, families and friends can meet in groups of up to 10.
- If you’re feeling unwell - you must stay home. Don’t visit friends and family. Don’t go on holiday. Don’t go to work. Stay home.

And if you have symptoms - get tested.

This is a wake up call. We cannot be complacent.

The only thing between us and a second wave is what we do next.

STAYING  
APART KEEPS  
US TOGETHER

For details go to [vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS](http://vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS)

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# GreatOceanRoad

## REALESTATE LORNE

### FOR SALE

#### 29 BELVEDERE TERRACE LORNE



#### POSITIONED BETWEEN A SWIM OR A ROUND OF GOLF

This family property is ideally located on a large corner allotment of approx. 780sqm, set amongst the majestic gums, adding to its tranquil ambience.

The property boasts 4 bedrooms (master on upper level) and central bathroom. Set over 3 levels, the upper level comprises of large, open plan functional kitchen, comfortable living and dining space boasting a wood fire and plenty of natural light from the high use of glass. Large outdoor deck space perfect for entertaining and taking in the filtered ocean outlook.

Appealing to all green thumbs, this property has well established gardens and a private, rear sundrenched courtyard/sitting area. Ample off-street parking and storage and only a 500m walk to the iconic swing bridge or Lorne Country Club.

**\$1,150,000**

**Karen Stribling 0439 650 838**

**Michael Coutts 0438 356 624**

### HOLIDAY RENTALS

#### 82 SMITH STREET LORNE



#### WHITECAPS - ENVIOUS LOCATION & PLENTY OF SPACE FOR ALL

With an envious 'golden cul-de-sac' location, Whitecaps is the kind of beach house you will never want to leave. Towering gum trees offer privacy & frame ocean views across Louttit Bay.

The home sprawls its way across multiple levels. Starting ocean side is the main living room, kitchen, dining & deck area. Best described as modern styling meets classic family beach house. Flanking this open plan are 2 main bedrooms, one with ensuite & European laundry. A further 3 bedrooms meander their way up the hallway & upstairs to another comfortable living space. This room opens to a protected courtyard area at the rear.

Whitecaps has been renovated with the concept of comfortably accommodating two families in mind. Above all, the location cannot be underestimated. It is indeed the envy of most Lorne holiday makers. One street back from the ocean, protected from the prevailing winds & literally a 5 min stroll into town.

[www.greatoceanroadholidays.com.au](http://www.greatoceanroadholidays.com.au)

#### PERMANENT RENTALS AVAILABLE

##### LORNE

##### 5/118 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne

• 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom - \$380 p/w - available now

##### 163 Smith Street, Lorne

• 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, semi-furnished - \$310 p/w - available now

##### 4/3-9 Armytage Street, Lorne

• 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, fully furnished - \$510 p/w - available now

From the team at Great Ocean Road Real Estate

Great Ocean Road Real Estate Pty Ltd Licensed Estate Agent 136 Mountjoy Parade Lorne Vic 3232  
Phone (03) 5289 4222 Email [lorne@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au](mailto:lorne@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au) Website [www.greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au](http://www.greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au)

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

## Towards (at long last!) finding a solution of the Point Grey Precinct redevelopment

On a recent Tuesday evening, the Surf Coast Shire conducted a Zoom session to hear and address the written objections to elements of the redevelopment for the Point Grey area before its deliberations to issue a planning permit.

There were six speakers who addressed the council, and after their five minute presentation were asked clarifying questions. There was no objections to the LAAC building but mostly about the parking and traffic issues.

The last presenter was the chair of GORCC who spoke for 10 minutes, not about the objections that we all understood was the purpose of the meeting but about the procedures that GORCC had carried out.

Unbeknown to all of the other presenters, he bought along a "consultant" whose only comment to the presentation was to attempt to discredit one of the previous speaker and asked the chair to delete the presenter's comments from the minutes.

That matter was corrected by one of the Councillors during question time and the presenter's comments remained on the record of the meeting.



I found the 'consultants' comments, as did other presenters quite confrontational and not in the spirit of what the meeting intended. Its says a lot about GORCC's existing attitude to the Point Grey redevelopment.

At the end of the presentation the spokesperson for the LAAC extended an invitation to all of the relevant Surf Coast Shire members to visit the Precinct so that we could explain our concerns, hopefully prior to a decision being made at the next council meeting.

**Ric Addison - Lorne**

*(The photo taken several days later showed councillors and Surf Coast Shire staff during their visitation to the Point Grey Precinct to acquaint themselves first hand with the area, especially the traffic situation and access to the Precinct from the GOR, existing buildings and other important factors.- Ed.)*

## Celebrating Great Ocean Road Health's One Year Anniversary **Emily Lens**

On July 1st Great Ocean Road Health will be marking its first anniversary under the amalgamation between Lorne Community Hospital and Otway Health.

New CEO, Sandy Chamberlin has been heavily invested in ensuring the amalgamation has progressed as planned, since she arrived at GORH in November 2019. From establishing connections in the community, building a strong workforce across the two campuses, working on organisational culture, recovering from a cyber-attack and leading the COVID-19 response, Sandy has certainly 'hit the ground running'.

Sandy recently took the time to answer some questions about Great Ocean Road Health.

When you look back over the last year, what are some of the things you are proud of? The response to the pandemic, the quick infrastructure changes at Apollo Bay Campus, the planning and in particular the innovations with a different approach to delivering group activities. The increased wellness/mindfulness and resilience focus, and the implementation of coaching circles.



What new services/facilities can the Lorne community expect? Further use of telehealth, in all areas, access to specialists, continuation of allied health group activities on line, access to better medical imaging equipment and training and the list goes on. We are very excited about what the future holds for Great Ocean Road Health.

Do you think the amalgamation has been successful? Absolutely. In-fact, it is not even a question I would consider. We are 'Great Ocean Road Health', we are better together and this have been evident throughout the pandemic. The major benefits of the amalgamation has been building a sustainable workforce, financial sustainability and a platform for growth.

For further information on any of our services, please visit our website [www.greatoceanroadhealth.com.au](http://www.greatoceanroadhealth.com.au) or follow us on facebook/Instagram

# DUCKS AND LORNE'S "ALL-SAINTS" ANGLICAN CHURCH

Phil Jacobson - Vicar, "All Saints" Lorne

When not at Lorne, I live in a small country town, through which flows a small river. It's interesting to walk along the river and watch the ducks cruising by. They appear calm on the surface but are paddling like crazy underneath. They're a life lesson with feathers!

First, we learn we can't judge by appearances. The duck looks calm as it glides along the surface of the river, but the effort in an achievement is often hidden.

This can also be true in our lives. We may look like we accomplish a task effortlessly, when, in fact, hours of preparation and effort are required to pull it off. Any athlete will tell you about the energy and focus needed to give an appearance of ease in their tasks.

Just throw some food into a pond of ducks and you'll see that they move very fast to retrieve the food. Just as a duck must paddle to move in the water, it also takes energy and movement to propel us along. We need to know what we want and pursue it.

Nothing worthwhile ever comes without effort. It's like that in the church as well. Whatever our goals are, we at "All Saints" (and you also) can't get there just by floating along. We need to paddle.

As the smooth gliding duck doesn't indicate the activity under the water, so a calm exterior may hide a stomach-churning, and full of knots. Anyone who does public speaking will agree that the speaker who appears calm is often anything but inside. It's been said most people fear speaking in public even more than they do death. Maybe. Maybe not.

Some never do the thing they fear. Their fear paralyzes them and nothing is accomplished. But sometimes we need to work toward our goal even though we're frightened.



In the well-known Sunday School story, the army of Israel, including their leader, King Saul, allowed their fear of Goliath to immobilize them. Then up popped David. No doubt he was scared as he walked in the giant's direction, but David put his trust in God. Despite fears churning inside, with faith in God, David could be calm on the outside as he swung his slingshot with the round stone tucked in it toward Goliath. You know the rest.

In our own way, we also must conquer our fears and keep on going. David said, "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."

God can also direct our paths now as we move forward toward Him. Again, it was David who is attributed to a bit of the bible nearly everyone knows when he said, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for you are with me; your rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Notice as David was moving through dangerous territory, he wasn't afraid, for he simply trusted God who promised to comfort him. And guess what! It worked!!

God can do the same for us if we'll just keep our paddles going in the right direction, seeking His purpose for us. If at any time you'd like to join other paddlers feel free to call in one Sunday. We meet at "All Saints" Anglican Church each Sunday at 11:00 am. You can also check us out on our Facebook page, "All Saints Anglican Church Lorne" or simply give me a ring on 0419 322 385 at any time. Happy paddling!

Regular 11.00 am services will recommence at "All Saints" from July 5th, with all COVID 19 protocols in place. You're more than welcome to come along.

## 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.

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# SPORTSBRIEFS

John Ford

## AFL Back but no CDFL

All of us keen football fans will know that AFL matches have resumed – albeit in a season that has been totally compromised by rule and fixture changes, no crowds in attendance, training hubs for many teams and a player now testing positive to the Covid-19 virus. You would think that it will be ‘season over’ if a few other players unfortunately acquire the virus.

The Colac and District Football and Netball League have officially abandoned the 2020 season - in line with almost every suburban and country league. This means that Lorne’s football and netball teams will have to wait until next season to perform, with all of the players and supporters having to be very patient. The Dolphins’ senior football team would have unfurled its 2019 Premiership flag in front of an excited crowd at Stribling Reserve. Time will pass and this will all be held over until next year. The football and netball departments are now faced with the challenge of retaining their players and attracting new recruits. It is unfortunate timing that the upgrading of the clubrooms and other facilities are not scheduled for this year while there is this long break. However in the greater scheme of things everyone’s health is the top priority.

## New Date for G.O.R. Marathon

The Great Ocean Road marathon running festival, which is held in May each year, was held as a ‘virtual’ event. Yes, about 1400 runners from many countries participated in the marathon and half-marathon events on May 17th. Runners recorded their times over various courses – chosen to allow physical distancing – and the results were electronically compiled.

Well now it has been announced that the festival will take place ‘in the flesh’ on the weekend of 20-23rd August. I believe that this is a very bold and ambitious plan considering that restrictions to travel and social gatherings remain in force. It will be interesting to see if the event is actually held – of course I hope it will be a great success. For those seeking updated information and registration for the events, the official website is: [info@greatoceanroadrunfest.com](mailto:info@greatoceanroadrunfest.com) Good luck to all competitors!

## Tennis

Social tennis takes place every Saturday morning from 9.00am and every Wednesday afternoon from 3.00pm at Lorne Country Club. Visitors are welcome, with a morning or afternoon’s tennis costing just \$10. There are sensible measures in place to improve hygiene, but the tennis has been really spirited and great fun. At this stage there are no signs of a resumption in competition play, but the club will be ready when Tennis Geelong gives the ‘go ahead’. Club membership fees will soon be due and I urge all members to keep supporting YOUR CLUB. New members are always welcome! The efforts by volunteers in keeping the club well maintained during such a difficult time is appreciated by all.

## Health and Fitness

With the Covid-19 restrictions likely to be relaxed further, gymnasiums and swimming pools should soon be allowed prescribed usage. This will broaden our range of sporting and leisure activities, although I see many people jogging, walking, running and swimming. The health and wellbeing benefits are enormous – so keep up the good work as I know we can come back fitter, healthier and stronger! Remember also to look out for our mates during this stressful period. A friend told me she is performing one random act of kindness every day – what a great thing to do! Please keep well, keep fit and keep on smiling.

## Womens Golf

Just as we were about to be a little more social, Lorne golfers have to continue to be patient along with the rest of the community. We will still be playing with the restrictions of last month. Just trying to keep everyone safe in our Lorne bubble.

We will continue to have Tee times on a Tuesday morning, organised by Captain Chris Angus, to limit the numbers playing together and to avoid group gatherings waiting to play.

The course is looking very green and not too wet yet! 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.

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)



*The boyz at the Lorne Men’s Shed are back though under strict social distancing, and pictured is Shedder legend Leo Collins hard at work building birdhouses, destined for fire ravaged areas. Watch for announcement: President Bob Sinclair’s fabulous paintings to be exhibited soon with proceeds going to charity.*

# EDITORIAL

John Agar

Lorne ... you can be justly proud of how you have conducted yourselves during these last tedious months. As noted in the June edition of the Independent, the community acted swiftly, decisively, and effectively to convene a Covid-19 support group that then orchestrated a successful whole-of-town intervention to assist and support disadvantaged locals and 'trapped' seasonal workers.

But ... and here's the thing ... that's not the half of it!

Just as the hard yards have yet to be covered by the national economic recovery, Lorne must face its own smaller, but equally complex task of recovery for local institutions: businesses; shops; restaurants; large, small, public, and private accommodation choices; and Otway 'adventure and experience' venues, as the restrictions slowly lift and the town begins to 're-open'.

With this thought in mind, and while negotiating what is now being called 'the new normal' ... social distancing, restaurant table separation, patron number limitations, sanitised caution, and more ... a new Lorne must be encouraged to emerge.

The town must become a safer, wiser, and more thoughtful Lorne: a Lorne that through well-considered and re-structured presentation of its undeniable and unique charm, can offer a new, fresh-faced experience to holiday makers and local or distant visitors/passers-through alike.

To be truly successful in the post-Covid world, Lorne must upgrade and reinvent – imaginatively but safely – to become a stronger, more resilient community with a lasting 21st century 'look'. To this end, the first steps have already been taken.

The 'welcome mat' has been cleaned, dusted, laid out, and is clearly visible. The new Lorne must be easily 'interpretable' for our state, interstate, or international visitors and holiday makers. It must clearly list 'what Lorne offers' and signpost 'how to maximise a Lorne experience'. Concurrently, it must also devise a simple feedback mechanism to ensure our 'new Lorne' has 'met your needs'.

Clear, innovative encouragement to 're-engage and re-connect' must be developed in multi-media/smartphone formats that cater for all levels of visitor strata. And, it must all be prepared and 'ready to go' when the barriers to travel are lifted. To this end, representatives from the LBTA, service and sporting clubs, the arts, and the accommodation sector are working hard to ensure that post-Covid Lorne has a fresh face to present.

The town must also be nimble if it is to identify changes in its longer-term demographic as they occur – and re-structure accordingly. Many who have 'isolated' in Lorne these past three months have expressed surprise and pleasure at the many quiet joys of Lorne-living they had not previously fully appreciated. This appears to have led many to consider a more permanent 'sea-change' – whether through retirement, from a realisation that the town is a great place to live and from where 'to work from home'. Furthermore, some seasonal worker 'impermanents' seem to have become so connected to Lorne during the 'lock-down' that they now intend to stay.

To ensure the full integration of these new potential residents, they must be properly introduced to the wealth of local services, sporting and other clubs, and fine-living opportunities that Lorne offers. These pages offer a visible start to that engagement. And we, as a community, should welcome them with an open heart into the fold of the town.

## Council establishes COVID-19 Recovery Assistance Grants Program

Surf Coast Shire Council has established a COVID-19 Recovery Assistance Grants Program for community and business initiatives.

The grants - forming part of Council's broader COVID-19 support and recovery package - are designed to support people and businesses to recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

Endorsed by Council, the program will include two categories: a Major category and a Rapid Response category for smaller initiatives.

The Rapid Response grants will be up to \$5,000 from a total pool of \$50,000. The Major grants have no upper limit, but applicants will need to demonstrate higher impacts and greater outcomes.

Both grant categories will be open for applications at all times and will adhere to Council's COVID-19 Recovery Assistance Guidelines, which were adopted at the May meeting.

Applicants will need to work with officers in the lead up to submitting their application.

Business and community groups can find out more or apply for grants at [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/COVID19](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/COVID19).

Council has also allocated \$100,000 to five trader groups for locally-designed marketing and business support initiatives – the Lorne Business and Tourism Association received \$29,000, the highest sum allocated under the scheme.

Further to this, \$75,000 will be allocated to Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism for a year-long tactical marketing campaign to promote Surf Coast Shire and its townships as part of a broader Great Ocean Road region campaign.

The program opens on 25 June 2020 with the deadline for receiving the first round of major grant applications being 20 July 2020.



Keith Miller  
Commodore

# AQUATIC CLUB

News from the Lorne Angling and Aquatic Club



Doug Williams  
Vice-Commodore

I've just sat down to make a start on the notes and my phone started running hot with everyone telling me about Dan Andrews announcement regarding further easing of the COVID-19 restrictions.

We have set up a sub-committee and I've called a special committee meeting to discuss the strong possibility of the LAAC reopening as early as possible.

As soon as the decision is made we will post the details on our Facebook page, the Lorne Community Facebook page, our website and an email to our database.

We will have a few obstacles to overcome in regards to the small size of our clubhouse so it won't be back to how it was but hopefully we can operate with limited numbers and comply with the rules and regulations.

Hutch has now finished painting the inside of the clubhouse and it looks great, so we are all set for the reopening and a return to fun and games at the worlds friendliest, fun filled club serving up the best and coldest beer anywhere on the planet.

## Footy Tipping

Because we do our footy tipping at the start of the year and the changes to the fixture forced by COVID we have decided to cancel the tipping this year and at the end of the footy season when things are back to normal we will have a Footy Tipping Party for all those who entered with all the money collected going over the bar. We will also have a free BBQ and nibbles. If this doesn't suit anyone we can arrange to refund you your \$15 entry fee.

## Fish Weighing Scales



Our hanging scales that we have been using over the last few years to weigh fish have died. I don't think the salt air did them much good.

We have purchased a new set of bench top style scales which will be kept in a plastic box in the fish

cleaning area. They are battery operated and very easy to use.

Just turn them on and touch the TARE button to reset them to zero before weighing the fish.

After using them please put them back in the box and replace the lid to keep them dry.

They max out at 40kg so that will cover most fish.

## Treasurers and Point Grey report

"Financially there is not a lot to update since last month's Treasurers report as we have remained closed. Outgoings have been minimal and we have recovered the majority of our wage costs through Jobkeeper. The projected cash profit for the year ended June 2020 looks positive albeit lower than last year.

"With the changes in guidelines announced on Sunday 14th June we are assessing how we can re-open in a COVID safe way. Based on last year's winter trading results we have generally operated at a loss through to October and would expect trading at a small loss or break even when we re-open.

The challenge is how we will operate under the revised guidelines. With ongoing social distancing rules still in place, only a small number of member patrons would be allowed and maybe additional staff required. Once we understand how the guidelines will apply to us and how we expect Lorne will kick back into gear, we will update our projections but as stated last month we are still in a very strong financial position.

"The Commodore is providing a more detailed update on re-opening.

Last month, I advised that we had made a \$1,000 donation to Lorne Community Connect and can confirm this has certainly assisted in supporting vulnerable groups and our seasonal workers who have remained in Lorne as they were so necessary for the long weekend. The Lorne community, most of whom are members of our club, have very much rallied together during this shut down period.

This month (in June), the club joined the Lorne Business and Tourism Association (LBTA) and I was appointed to the LBTA committee. One of the outcomes from this period of isolation, the community has worked together and we will see a coordinated approach to reopening Lorne over the next six months and certainly communication of what's happening will improve to ensure whatever media members of the Lorne community use, they will receive the same information.

## Point Grey Redevelopment Update

We are certainly getting to the decision point. The process for the planning application to the Surf Coast Shire is expected to be considered by council later this month. It has taken 12 years with substantial wins to our community along the way, one being ensuring that our club remains as an independent separate building from the rest of the redevelopment. There will likely be more obstacles to overcome as we progress down this path.

Continued page 23

**From page 22**

On Tuesday 9th June the Surf Coast Shire Councillors heard submissions from our club and other members of the committee and we expect that some of the Councillors will come and inspect the overall site prior to their meeting to make a decision. We certainly hope that a decision can be made within the next two months and then our club can cooperatively re-engage with GORCC in finalising design, negotiating lease agreements and funding arrangements. This could be challenging, as GORCC as an entity will be disbanded later this year and a new authority GORCPA will become the land manager along the Great Ocean Road.

We look forward to providing an update next month.

**Keep well, Stay Safe**

**David Worth, Treasurer/Secretary.**



*Local identity's Wayne and Carolyn Griffiths out enjoying some fishing. Wayne's Nannygai was 1.6kg which doubled the old club record*

**The aquatic side of our club**

There is no doubt that we are an Angling based club but not all of our members are fishermen.

Our club was originally called the Lorne Aquatic Club and the Angling bit was added several years later. We have a very strong contingent of keen swimmers in our club representing the Aquatic side. During the COVID lockdown a group of swimmers who are all members of our club arranged to meet at the Surf Club at 9am every morning for a swim to the pier and back. They have been doing this for years over the summer months at 8am.

To mix it up they decided to do different swims each morning and came up with the idea of making a spinning wheel with 8 different swims on it. So every morning they spin the wheel which decides which swim they do. The wheel was very generously and extremely well made by local identity Peter Morgan.

**Pub To Pier and Anglers Beer**

It's recently become a tradition that each Australia Day Long Weekend, Leon Buchanan and his swimming mates organise the Pub to Pier & Anglers Beer swim.

This year Leon's daughter Kat Buchanan donated a magnificent print of the event to our club, which we raffled with all proceeds going to the bushfire appeal. It was a huge success and everyone loved the print. We were secretly disappointed to see it leave the club. Kat must have sensed this and she recently gave us another one which we will be proudly hanging on our wall.



*Swimming Legends and valued members Jim King and Leon Buchanan with the beautifully crafted spinning wheel*



*Myself on behalf of the club accepting the famous print from Leon. Kat's Dad.*

**Continued page 24**

From page 23

### Upcoming Events

We will be holding our first Winter Cup fishing competition sponsored by Gary Keane on Sunday the 5th of July.

We should be able to have our usual mixed grill and presentations under the new COVID rules. I'll confirm this at a later date but the Comp will definitely go ahead.

Our second Winter Cup Comp sponsored by Steve Hill of Hillec Electrical will be held on Sunday the 2nd of August.

For this one we might do a roast. As usual the weigh in will start at midday with the cut off at 12.30pm. Everyone is more than welcome. Come and have a crack.

### Recent Events

On Sunday the 7th of June we held our 4th Major Fishing Competition sponsored by TOM DAWSON of LORNE CONCRETING (number 3 was cancelled due to the restrictions).

We obeyed all the distancing rules and didn't have the roast or any presentations.

The conditions were pretty good and we had a total of 18 competitors with 8 weighing in fish.

The winner was Ian Middleton (the salmon king) who caught a monster salmon off his secret rock earning him 4150 points.

Runner Up was Andrew Clarke who caught a nice big Yank Flathead off the beach,

2840 points and Third was myself with a snapper 2740 points.

An honourable mention goes to Hutch who after many requests finally came out in my boat and came a close 4th with a nice snapper.

### Fishing Report

The fishing has been great since the ban was lifted. The big snapper that we normally catch each June are about but not in the large numbers we have become used to.

Whiting have dropped off but still a few coming in.

Plenty of nice size pinkies with big Nannygai, Blue Morwong, Teraki (Jackass Morwong), Swallowtail and Sweep being caught as a very welcome by catch. Heaps of good sized sand flathead are coming in between 40 and 50 cm. Also plenty of gummy and School shark being landed.

Dick Davies has been catching plenty of big garfish off the rocks at his secret location.

The sea is sitting around the 13 degree mark and is full of plankton and jelly fish. There are big patches of krill everywhere which has got the food chain very active so lots of dolphins, gannets and albatross all enjoying a nice feed.

The Pier has been going great guns with some reports of the odd big snapper being landed along with; Salmon, Trevally, Mullet, Flathead, Calamari and King George Whiting.

The two days after the ban finished, local fishing legend Rose Riberu, fishing off the Pier went very close to bagging out on good sized King George Whiting each day.

Hutch took his grandson Liam out to watch Rose's fishing skills and with the help of Warren Norton (WOZ) he caught his first ever fish. A nice Trevally.

SENIOR TOP 10		
	Name	Score
1	Ric Barham	8597
2	Ian Middleton	8280
3	Keith Miller	8243
4	Andrew Clarke	7810
5	Richard Coghlan	7600
6	Glenice Hayward	5420
7	Steve Arundell	4540
8	Barry Hayward	4500
9	M+S Causon	4240
10	P Staley	..

The Major Comp top 10 as it stands at the half way mark



Lachie Pinda and Ric Addison with a nice mixed bag of fish they caught recently



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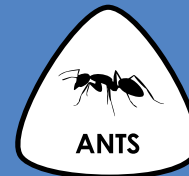
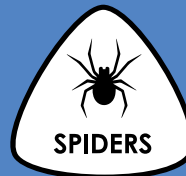
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### LORNE BOWLS CLUB

Welcome to winter. Come and join us for a bit of winter cheer and practice. The winter social bowls competition have started on Tuesday 30 June at 10am. This year you need to register on the electronic booking sheet or email me before 9am each Tuesday. We are still only allowed a maximum of 20 bowlers, 4 per rink. Otherwise if you just turn up you might miss out on a game. The type of game will depend on the numbers.

See you there, Marilyn  
secretary@lornebowlsclub.com.au



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Treating webbing spiders can dramatically reduce the amount of time spent cleaning cobwebs off the house.

The main chemicals we use are based on synthetic pyrethroids which are modelled on nature's insecticide "pyrethrum" which is extracted from daisy flowers, and not harmful to you or your pets.

It is best to treat ants and spiders in the warmer months and the products we use can leave a residue on the windows which look like salt spray and may need to be cleaned afterwards.

For best spider kill results we recommend no hosing or pressure cleaning on the property for a two week period after the application so get in early before getting the windows cleaned this Christmas and stop those web-makers in their tracks.

For more information please contact us on 1800 355 686

[www.termitewatch.com.au](http://www.termitewatch.com.au)

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

# PLANT PROTECTION

Doug Williams

A long, long time ago - probably late last century - I was sitting at a table on a commercial strip outside a café in a south-eastern Melbourne suburb waiting for a friend and enjoying the passing parade of traffic and people and as I did so I was assessing the little bit of plant life around me: there were clipped Ficus in tubs (Ficus benjamina) which were very much the rage at the time and remain a most amenable plant, a distant street tree or two way off in the distance and the box hedge which was in a planter along the window ledge of the café.



*Some of the illegally-cut trimmings simply dumped on the side of the Great Ocean Road.*

There were a couple of cigarette butts in the planter of course and then I noticed something else. Oh, My Goodness, I thought to myself, how bizarre. Someone had attached small wire cables around the stems of these tiny plants to anchor them in the container. Was it an urban fetish? Was it some form of child plant labour scheme? And then it dawned on me - these manacles were in place not to enslave them; they were there for the protection of the plant. They were installed so that a midnight trader didn't pop along and steal the little box plants; these were a defence from 'plantnappers'.

Thieves, in simple terms, and it's more prevalent than many realize. Plants most at risk are those newly planted and in particular those installed as part of council works in public spaces but private installations can be targeted too simply because newly set plants are easiest to remove and are less likely to suffer transplant stress.

The stress is transferred to the owner and the landscaper. Instant lawns have been rolled up and carted away; unpotted plants are easily picked up and loaded into a waiting van or ute, and plants in containers can be swooped on, snatched up and stolen away.

While our plants can be subjected to damage through carelessness or heedlessness, far worse than this is injury caused by vandalism. Here in Lorne we get more cases of vandalism to plants than in urban localities and for one reason only - here is the scenario: A person purchases a house with a view and they are happy as anything to be able to enjoy their acquisition. For a while.

As time goes by they consider their view and become dissatisfied. It's not as good as it might be if they could see a bit more of the water or if their view to the pier wasn't obstructed by that branch, that shrub or that even whole tree which could be removed.

This wasn't an issue when they first moved in but sitting in their lounge chair it seems that the view could be enhanced not by moving the chair or standing up and changing position but by simply removing some foliage. Disdain for local regulations and bylaws prohibiting removal of branches and plants coupled with attitudes of entitlement mean owners will act outside the law. An act of vandalism perpetrated on the nature strip outside a property on the ocean front recently received intense reactions on social media and those responsible face criminal action by police and, potentially, penalties from GORCC and the Surf Coast Shire whose arborist has been called in to report on the damage.

Heavy penalties are expected and rightly so although in some cases certain people are prepared to pay the fine purely to satisfy their own grubby desires. Unfortunately for these types they underestimate community outrage and the long-term resentment that might be generated within our community. They are unlikely to live down their actions for many years, if ever and will be held in low regard forever in the eyes of many. Arrogance and behaving as though entitled gets short shrift in small communities.

The fact is that trees and shrubs growing in the public domain belong to each and every one of us.

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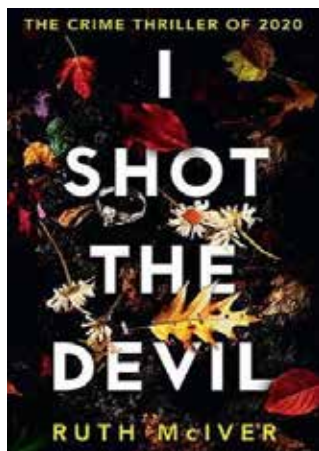
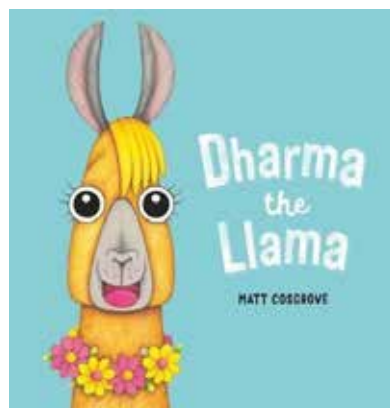


What if Elizabeth Macarthur—wife of the notorious John Macarthur, wool baron in the earliest days of Sydney—had written a shockingly frank secret memoir? And what if Kate Grenville had miraculously found and published it? This Elizabeth Macarthur manages her complicated life with spirit and passion, cunning and sly wit. Her memoir lets us hear—at last!—what one of those seemingly demure women from history might really have thought.

***A Room Made of Leaves,***  
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Erin Sloane was sixteen when high school senior Andre Villiers was murdered by his friends. They were her friends, too, led by the intense, charismatic Ricky Hell.

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