

LORNE

Independent \$2

No 228 November 2020

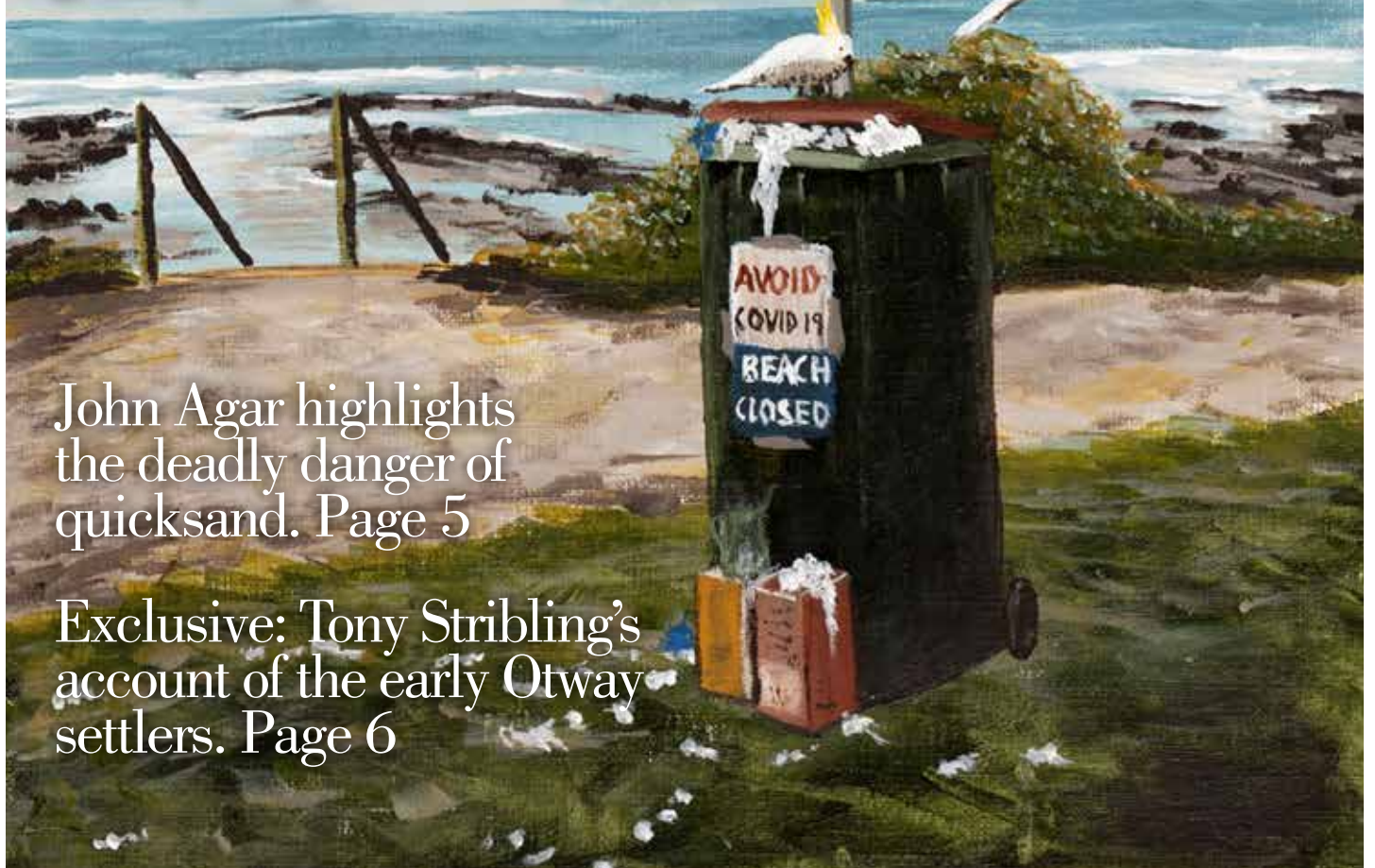
Produced as an independent newsletter by Lorne Independent Inc.

LORNE IN THE TIME OF THE WORLD PANDEMIC

Simon Holloway, see new art gallery. Page 13

John Agar highlights the deadly danger of quicksand. Page 5

Exclusive: Tony Stribling's account of the early Otway settlers. Page 6





Victoria, you know fire.

The 2020-21 fire season is coming and we're about to start an important fire safety campaign. With last season's memories so fresh, some people may find it confronting. If you have any concerns, or you or a loved one are emotionally affected by the campaign, support is available on our website, or by calling Lifeline 13 11 14.

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to vic.gov.au/knowfire



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



**EVERYTHING
WE'RE DOING IS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Thank you Victoria.

As hard as this is, every sacrifice we're making is making a difference. But we can't stop now, or lose everything we've worked for. We will get through this together.

For details go to vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS



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IN THIS ISSUE

Deadly dangers of quicksand ...page 5

New Councillor's column ... page 12

New Art Gallery and shop ... page 13

Editor's page ... page 13

The Magnificent Seven ... page 15

Obituary: Lois Black ... page 22

Sportsbriefs ... page 23



Casuarina Community Leadership Program 2021

Do you want to develop your leadership skills and create change in your community?

The program provides emerging leaders with the opportunity to:

- Progress the change you want to make in the community
- Learn more about leadership and working with others in your community
- Meet other people across the Surf Coast Shire who are aiming to make change in their community
- Get experience working with local government
- Build your understanding of First Nations culture

The program consists of 13 sessions starting February 2021.

APPLY NOW

To apply or find out more go to www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au and search 'Casuarina Leadership Program'.

There is no cost to take part. Applications close 12 November.

We are holding an online information session – via Zoom – at 7pm on Thursday 29 October. You can find the link on our website or call 5261 0600 if you need help using Zoom.



NEED FOR HISTORIC PLAQUES AROUND LORNE

Perhaps management at the new Ghanda clothing outlet in Mountjoy Parade have done Lorne a favour by drawing attention to the lack of plaques and formal notifications about places of historic interest and the origins of street names.



But Ghanda has done something naughty – after painting the side wall of their newly renovated shop with an eye-catching and most modern pattern, they've renamed the laneway entrance as 'Selfie Lane' when its correct and gazetted name is Bell Lane.

The reaction of Lorne citizens to the painted wall has been positive in that most agreed it did lift the general appeal of this part of the town's business precinct, and Ghanda had shown further commitment to the wall with installation of cameras to safe-guard the painting from graffiti 'artists'.

Bell Lane is and must be forever Bell Lane. However, it is hoped that some sort of compromise is reached. Perhaps the laneway while still retaining the quite-appealing artwork could be promoted as the 'Selfie Wall' in Bell Lane.

This is what a spokesperson from the Shire said: "The laneway in Lorne is formally named Bell Lane, and any change to its name would have to go through an application process via Surf Coast Shire Council.

"The painting of a street name could cause confusion, and be potentially hazardous, particularly in the event of an emergency for first responders needing an accurate address, and therefore the Council will request the painting be altered to remove any possibility of confusion.

"The renaming of a street involves an extensive application process managed by Council, and requires final approval by Geographic Names Victoria; this whole process can be around six months if no objections and longer if there are".

The Lane was named after Daisy Bell (her husband was Bob Bell, a local builder), an inspirational Lorne Senior Citizen.

JV, JA, IS, with photos by Peter Spring



Short Stay Property Management Services

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Become a teacher to lead us into the future, and inspire who comes next.

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SAND IS SAND IS SAND ... OR IS IT?

by John Agar

Humans love sand. Golden, sun-drenched, walking-in-heaven sand. The seductive sift between curling toes; the scrunch; the Celsius-fired sear; the cooling wetness at the waters' edge. Even the gritty havoc wrought in private places.

But ... is sand just sand? While long-knowing that sand comes in many guises, I had never thought to write about sand ... until today, when something rather special happened: I experienced one of those mercurial 'oh yeah' moments. Quicksand is real!

Before today, and despite having had the privilege of marvelling at the black sands of southern Iceland; the white sands of FNQ; the magical ochre sands of our red centre; the squeaky sand at Wilson's Promontory; the sharply abrasive sand of a coral quay; the granular sand in a concrete mix; the shell-grit sand at our Shelley Beach ... quicksand was make-believe. Quicksand was something that my Hollywood-taunted youth in the old Corio Theatre in Little Malop Street dismissed [after the Tom & Jerry, and Pepé le Pew cartoons] as a Tarzan-rescues-Jane 'ploy' created to titillate and plump up my impressionable pubescent dreams.

So, thought I, sand isn't just sand. Some sand – specifically quicksand – was 'just imaginitis'. But ... not so!

As I suddenly found myself sinking – disturbingly quickly – right up to my knees when pottering the last sweeping convex curve of the George just below the bridge, I reappraised my misconception of the fantasy-sand popularised by Tarzan, and Rin-Tin-Tin.

Time to seek 'dry land', I thought ... but, not so easy! I lifted my right leg. Nothing happened. My left? ... the same.

'Right', I muttered, 'I have a problem here'.

With the passing of the decades, with the long-withered six-pack now a 'how-did-that-get-there' mound and with hip flexors but a memory, quicksand extraction is not commonly required. I thought of Yogi, my Border Terrier, seen distantly gnawing on a kelp-stalk. Perhaps he could find then haul on a rope like Rin-Tin-Tin? But Yogi disdained to hear my call! No ... I was in this on my own.

I summoned all of my Blazing Saddles and Indiana Jones 'oomph'. For a long moment, the quagmire held. Then, with a glutinous sucking sound, my right leg slowly broke free. Then, gingerly spreading my not inconsiderable weight as broadly as possible, I freed my left foot even as my right began to sink again. With another long 'glooping' noise, I was free! Then, offering a far wider target for the now-innocent-looking sand, I sat, rested, and marvelled. Quicksand is real.



This experience made me think of the headstone close-by above the Swing Bridge over the Erskine. It details the sad story [reported in *The Australian*, 30.01.1897 of ... "a splitter's wife, named Lyndsay, [who] saw her two little ones [William (8) and Joseph (4)] swallowed up before her eyes as they played by the waterside. The bodies were recovered and buried here. The residents [of Lorne] built a picket fence about the resting place of the two bush babies [in 1850], and their grave has been well kept."

Interestingly, the story has been revised [? when and ? by whom] to the preferred current version: "that

the children may have been digging a tunnel in the bank of the river which collapsed on top of them". However, my experience at the George makes me wonder how, or why, the original story told by the headstones and the 1897 newspaper report were changed from quicksand to a tunnel collapse. Given my entrapment today, it seems to me that the original version may be the more plausible.

Quicksand is a curious [and dangerous] beast. While seemingly solid, it is actually super-saturated sand [or silt]. Where normal wet sand is about 25% water, quicksand contains more than 70% water by volume. Step on it, and it liquifies. Even a 1% change in applied weight can cause a sudden drop in viscosity [gooey-ness] ... think treacle suddenly changing to water. Once 'liquefaction' occurs [think the mudflat suburbs of Christchurch in the 2011 earthquake], the grains of sand in the mixture also sink, compacting around and trapping the legs. Typically, it occurs on beaches, tidal flats, or riverbanks – or wherever the ground is super-saturated. Struggling simply make more sand liquefy, and entrapment compounds.

While it is regarded as 'impossible' for a human to entirely sink [<https://www.britannica.com/story/how-deadly-is-quicksand>], panicky movements may cause further sinking until exposure, tides, hypothermia, or predators pose the major threat.

Now, here's a scary thought ... to remove a foot from quicksand at a speed of 1 cm/second requires the same amount of force as is needed to lift a car! [Nature: 437. September 2005]

Quicksand has been a favourite of movie scriptwriters with a 2010 Slate Magazine article recording that more than 3% of all movies made in the 1960's showed characters sinking in clay, mud, or sand.

Here in Lorne, sand is the rung that links our double DNA helix of forest and sea ... ever firm and steadfast under our feet ... or is it?



Helan & Tony Stribling

Tony Stribling

LORNE'S FOREST SELECTORS

Tony Stribling is a member of the Stribling family that pioneered and played an important part in the early and later development of Lorne. Tony's grandfather Edward rode from Winchelsea to Lorne each fortnight in 1880 to pay the Lorne Pier workers lengthening the new jetty. Edward's son Hector, after gaining an MA at Cambridge, worked at and subsequently bought the Grand Pacific Hotel from Frank Beaurepaire in 1927; after selling it he bought Erskine House in 1952. Son Tony studied at Melbourne Grammar, then undertook a hotel management course to be followed by two years of conscription in the Australian Army. In Lorne, Tony subsequently became involved in development of motels (including the well-known 'Pierview') and later up-market accommodation.

He is a most enthusiastic recorder in words and pictures of Lorne's progress and the extract we've published in this edition forms part of a much larger manuscript of the on-going history of Lorne. We plan to publish more extracts in the coming months. - JV

Part I - In Jan 1870 the Otway forest was opened to settlers with a few conditions including a maximum area of 320 acres, the need to apply for a survey probably by Easton Johnstone of Colac, a three year occupation at 25c/ac annually and cultivate 10% of the holding. The Ballarat Star of Jan 1889 wrote "who is going to take it up remains a mystery, nothing but a useless piece of country, if people are such fools as to go upon it they ought to pay for their folly," 48 lots of between 55-318 acres were taken up in the heavily forested hills.

The Geelong Advertiser of 5 Oct 1878 states "the selectors increase in number every week each in turn very anxious to get his allotment surveyed as early as possible. Nearly 2000 acres have already been surveyed & application for much more at the District Land Office." The Australasian of 28 Feb 1885 mentions the "inexhaustible supply of timber of the finest quality, I beg to say that in no other part of the colony have I met with so much huge timber of such quality to the north of Mt Sabine the forest is equal to anything in the colony."

Continued page 7

FOGO

Food Organics and
Garden Organics

and the

GLASS-ONLY

kerbside wheelie bin

are rolling out

MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2021

In line with state
directives to transform
recycling in Victoria,
Council's kerbside waste
collection service will
change from 1 February
2021.



In addition to your red lid landfill bin and your yellow lid recycling bin, the service will include:

Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection: All food scraps will go into your current kerbside organics (green waste) wheelie bin with garden waste (like they've been doing in Anglesea). Rural properties that use Council's kerbside waste service will receive a kerbside organics wheelie bin.

Glass-only kerbside wheelie bin: Glass will not be allowed in the recycling bin after the service changes in February.

Continue to use your bins as normal until the service changes from 1 February 2021. New kerbside bins, benchtop kitchen caddies, and more information will be delivered starting in December.

Get more information and sign up for our e-news:
surfcoast.vic.gov.au/kerbside2021

Keep an eye
out for us on
your kerb this
summer





Timber cutter's hut in the Otways



Timber clearing affected the landscape

From page 6

The excitement of a railway to Lorne, meaning access to the Otway's was incentive for some and The Argus of 9 Feb 1881 has the Railway Committee taking evidence in Lorne from the Leigh Shire Engineer whose plan has a rail station by the school and on 23 March 1884 the Geelong Advertiser stated a completed preliminary survey of Winchelsea-Lorne line will need a 402m tunnel. The Ballarat Star of 17 January 1885 noted "permanent residents look forward with great expectation to results of rail to Lorne but old visitors will have misgivings that the iron road will cause the place to be over run." On 11 February 1889 HF Richardson & WP Carr state "a direct coast railway to Lorne has been promised by the Authority for Railways & the construction of which is only a matter of a few years away."

The quickest access to the Wymbooliel/Benwerrin areas was the Murroon - Erskine Falls track, an 1881 request for the construction of this route was completed to the Murroon station in 1892. An earlier request was made for John McLeod & 49 other ratepayers asking for the first mile of the Erskine Falls Road from Lorne be formed and made. The railway station was of little use to impoverished farmers relying on a few milking cows to survive.

Margaret McPaddin wife of Thomas Mc Donald walked frequently from Wymbooliel to Birregurra with her meager trade goods of butter and eggs, stayed overnight and returned next day with her flour and sugar. Life was very basic for a woman with no close neighbours, an outside kitchen for house fire reasons, water access from springs or creeks, often

a child every year (Margaret had 13), isolation from health services, all members of the family involved in heavy physical work 6 ½ days every week, usually in extreme weather and the roads were impassable in winter. Wild dingoes killed young stock and snakes were a serious problem, one woman reaching into the wood stack got bitten on the finger by a Tiger snake so immediately reached for the axe and cut off the offending finger, but in her haste cut off two fingers. (Colac Historical Society) The mattress was usually straw inside a hessian or cloth cover; if mice were present in the bed it was safe as no snakes would be in occupation, something Daryl Babington remembers from his grandmother Ivy Smithers. At one time her father and brothers had five farms along the Erskine Falls Road. Other forest settlement pioneers have since moved to the fertile flat Murroon country including the McPaddens and Gannons.

The earliest stock men to cross the Otways followed in the footsteps of inland tribes when they occasionally visited the sea coast and took temporary possession of portion of the domain of the weak Otway tribes who had also taken the land from the original Tasmanian Aboriginal clan according to W Koenig in the Winchelsea Shire history of 1933. Their ancestry lives on in the names used, Benwerrin meaning a Big Hill and Wymbooliel the home of bears. The Colac Herald article from 4 Feb 1896, added a statement to potential selectors, "anyone to have seen the forest in those days would have thought it madness to settle there for the purpose of making a living from the land."

(To be continued in the December Lorne Independent)

How can we help you today?

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

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

CommBank Lorne branch
68 Mountjoy Parade, Lorne.





From the Deck by John Agar

ROCK OF ISOLATION

Maudlin? ... reflective? ... regretful? ... sad? ... or just the plain old memory-tug of 'once upon a time ...?'

'My' rock, far down the beach, is nicely contoured to nestle a Covid-19-amplified bum. It is my 'rock of isolation' ... though as lock-down regulations extend towards a looming-lylonely Christmas, it may now be more teleologically correct to call it my 'rock of desolation'!

As I perch, well-padded, on my rock ... indeed, I here confess to a surge of 'entitlement' when I recently saw another derriere briefly attach to my nestlement ... I have found myself reflecting on times long past.

There was a time when my weight-bearing joints moved with effortless freedom; when my sinews were strong, and my tummy muscles bulged like a tray of freshly-baked hot-cross buns; a time when I was lithe, supple, and indestructible – at least I thought I was.

Now, from the relative safety of its' shore-dry height, I am left to watch the youthful memories of myself surf Weeds, Barrels, and on the right day, Vera Lynn. Had I but known on that long-ago day when, satiated by the last wave of that day, I scudded shore-bound in a froth of white water, that it would be my last wave ... my last wave, ever.

If I had known it was to be my last wave, I would have turned to paddle toward the horizon for next third wave, and the next, and the next ...

Now, locked into my rock of reverie, I ache to share again the exhilarating passion of those lithe black silhouettes – the sharp stroke, steep fall, bottom turn, then rising the face to a 'radical' on the curl, crouching into the shoulder for a lateral burst of speed and the flick-off ... grace in the act ... grace in the joy of a whoop, some friendly laughter, then receding chatter borne on the wind as they paddle out, feet waving to the disappearing beach, for the next perfect take-off.

If only ... if only I had anticipated the competing interests of career and rosters, of falling in love, of family, children, and the slow, creeping replacement of water-time by other priorities – all valid, none regretted, and all part of the wonderful tapestry that interweave our lives ... if only ...

If only a small voice had whispered ... 'beware, this may be your last wave' ... I would have taken more notice. I would have made room. I would have ...

Now, try as I might, the exact recall of which was, where was, and when was that last wave eludes me, but my regret at its silent passing still deeply balls inside me ...

Would that time might roll back, the paunch flatten, the joints re-oil, and the muscles tighten – then, in my minds' eye and with my beloved triple-stringer Bennett beneath me, I am out there again.



John Agar on his special rock contemplating the waves

If only I could find a way to warn those lithe young shapes astride their short boards just wide of the drop-off point: 'while the last wave must come, don't make this one your last' ... but then the moment passes.

Down the beach near the remains of 'Strib's Folly', Yogi voraciously tugs at another kelp stalk – no wonder he is bulking up – while Rosie, oblivious to all in her cocoon of deafness, intently sniffs the scent of another dog on a nearby rock, then adds her calling-card.

Musing on my rock of reflection, I realise that this virus, for all the community uncertainties – even fear – it has uncovered in so many, has also proved an unexpected boon. How often have we heard expressed these past few decades – indeed, ever since the explosion that was the sixties – the fervent wish that 'the frantic pace of change' would slow, take a breather, and allow our change-weary world to gasp clear air.

Perhaps through a mix of good management, good luck, and global isolation at the 'end of the earth', the antipodean twins – Australia and New Zealand – have been spared the worst ravages of the pandemic but have, coincidentally, been presented with that long sought-for 'breather'. A rest that has been enforced – yes; confronting – without doubt; economically challenging – utterly; yet perversely, a moment to pause, breathe [albeit through a mask], reflect, raise memories of the past, and to remember the last waves of our youth.

Now, as I sit on my rock and watch the surfers of today trace radical cut-backs across the face of 'my wave', a wistful smile of satisfaction surfaces as I dream of the hot-cross-bun abs that, once upon a time, could make my knees do the extraordinary, too.



THE LOUTTIT LOOP

Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club has announced that the 2021 Powercorp Pier to Pub Swim and the Powercorp Lorne Mountain to Surf run will be “virtual” events! Fascinating. Competitors who enter the 1.2 km swim and/or the 8 km run can choose their own place to swim or run, any time from Nov. 3rd to Jan. 14th, and lodge their best time via the link to a timing app which they will receive when they register. Brilliant. lornesurfclub.com.au for more details.

Yeah the Info is open once more! Injects a beaut bit of normality into the Community.

Lorne is not yet in Fire Danger period but take all care. A check list from the CFA suggests the following: Check the council’s local law about when and where you can actually burn off: check the weather; have an adequate water supply; clean up round the burn site; register your burn-off by calling 1800668511; notify your neighbours; and put the fire out properly by 3 pm. Locals fought hard to get a Fire Siren for the town and it is usually tested on Tuesdays, sounds a bit like a Police Car – but there is a difference. Get busy clearing your properties ready for summer – please.

Seemed odd to see a corked whisky bottle floating in a rock pool. On retrieving it a note was discovered lying scroll-like within. This note was written in pink texta and stated that Judith Ann Sands-Ridgewell born 17-6-54, died 25-9-2020 was the much loved Mother to Tracey and Adam, Nanna to Ashleigh, Bradley, Justin, Dylan, Abigail and Chloe. She was also Great Grandma to Indianna and Sydney. Further statement read: “My point of this isn’t ‘regret’ ... Cherish your Mum, cause you only get One! RIP Mum, Nanna, and Great Nonxxxxx” On the back was an address in Colac, and a phone number, and a request “If you find this, please contact me.” A text was duly sent, announcing that it would appear that the beautiful tribute had not in fact gone very far. A delightful set of texts, a friendship formed, and permission granted to report this sweet farewell to Judith Ann.

We too lost one of our “Golden Oldies” late in October. Dear Lois Black passed away in the Lorne Nursing Home and how we will miss her happy outlook and smiling face. Lois joined the Sunday morning team in the Op Shop in 2012 until the last year or so, when her vision failed. Lois hated cooking so didn’t do it! Visitors knew to bring the meals! She tried out a trained carer dog as her medical companion but the dog slept right through the first night attack Lois had, so the dog was re-homed! Our thoughts and sympathies to her daughters Amanda and Angie. We were lucky Lois chose Lorne for her retirement. We sure will miss her.

So good to hear that Heather Rice and Vivienne Scheffer have both successfully replaced their darling dear departed dogs with very similar models.

When we see a mate’s Lorne home advertised for sale, it reinforces the loss that comes with the death of a loved friend. Peg Taylor’s cosy log cabin opposite the cemetery in Howard Street fulfilled her retirement dream of building a modest log cottage and settling in Lorne. And that’s what she did. Her marvellous brain and mega knowledge of books and history were probably under-appreciated here, but like so many in this small town, she certainly was an eccentric character and much loved by many of us.

A formal vote of thanks to the Rickey’s for all the work they did preparing Peg’s home for sale.

The riverside shop which most will remember as Lorne Greens, and latterly Gelato Gelato, now has a new sign. “In the Skies Art & Music” is the Studio and outlet for Simon Holloway who many will know is an excellent chef, musician and father and now an artist who originally leased the space to paint in peace. Entrepreneurial partner Anna decided to step in and so we have an outlet for some delightful paintings, music, plants etc. The sort of charming very local experience for which one searches when travelling. Good luck guys.

The COVID virus has a lot to answer for! In Lorne we have not only lost quite a few of our shops and traders, but we’ve lost friends! Lou at the Lorne Shop has closed her world famous shop, is selling her fabulous ocean view apartment at Point Grey and moving to Adelaide. So sad. She was such a happy lady and a very good buyer.

Lenny Tank has closed Kafe Kaos and that affects lots of us because they were great and the coffee outstanding. The shop had to be returned to its original state – i.e. a wall right down the hey diddle diddle creating two shops. All our precious shops must be suffering so much. Please buy local as much as you can, we don’t want any more to go.

Meanwhile empty shops are filling fast. Enjoyed a wonderful meal and experience at the new Indian Restaurant this week. Seated at a Maharajah’s table, gorgeous Ayak brought us dish after delicious dish and we loved it all. Even a goat curry! For those special gluten free folk – plenty of well marked choices on the yummy menu.

Lots of scams around. When checking my credit card statement I was surprised to see several entries from the Lorne Community Hospital!! What the...? Checked the dates, had a think, and remembered going to work on the first opening Wednesday at our fabulous Op Shop, which is now equipped with Credit Card facilities which show up as the Lorne Hospital. An Op Shop is a tricky business to run in COVID times, but the Executive team have assembled four pages of rules and even equipped the shop with two wonderful air purifiers. You are probably safer in there than at home at the moment! Currently only open Wednesdays and donations will only be received on Saturdays and will be placed in isolation/quarantine!

The popular Podiatrist at the Lorne Hospital tells a gorgeous story of his neighbours’ geese hatching some eggs recently. One fluffy darling arrived with a slightly deformed foot. Dean got busy and created a tiny prosthetic sort of support to re-form and support the angle of its foot and in about four days the job was right!

A warning from The Lost Dogs’ Home about the worry of bee stings to dogs. Usually dogs are trying to bite the bees, but often the opposite happens. Reactions vary, but anaphylaxis can occur and the throat be closed – so a bite near the mouth often needs a Vet!! Dogs with bee stings usually react by rolling round frantically wiping their faces on the ground! So keep an eye on Fido when he’s sniffing round the spring blooms. Anti-inflammatories for animals are available at the Vets so maybe adding some to the dog’s first aid kit could be smart. Please don’t use human anti-inflammatories, altho Benadryl can help (1mg per lb. of dog!), as can a paste of water and baking soda, and an ice pack. Good luck trying to remove the sting!

The first of the season’s snakes has been spotted, so take care – be alert – and don’t interfere with them. They’ve been asleep for a loooong time and may be crabby! Next month’s Lillian will have the name of a snake catcher!

Having observed a pretty bad fall on very slippery rocks on the doggy beach – a warning needs to go out once more that wet rocks are usually very slippery! Please detour, take care, and don’t jog on wet rocks.

Stay safe and mask up!.....Lillian x.

Antimicrobial use up in disadvantaged areas

Antimicrobial medicines use declined in Australia from 2013 to 2018, but the country's rate remains high by OECD standards, according to new research.

The Antimicrobial Medicines Dispensing from 2013–14 to 2017–18 report also revealed a sustained pattern of high use in 22 hot spots in some of the most disadvantaged areas of major cities, including outer areas of Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

This contrasts with what the report described as 'encouraging' results showing a fall of 13.3% nationally.

Key points:

- Antimicrobial prescribing rates have fallen by 13.3% nationally over 5 years.
- Areas with consistently high antimicrobial dispensing rates include: Mount Druitt, St Marys and Fairfield in New South Wales; Ipswich Inner, Beenleigh and Browns Plains in Queensland; and Sunbury and Tullamarine-Broadmeadows in Victoria.

- Pharmacists can assist patients to reduce antimicrobial overuse.

In 2017–18, 28.2 million prescriptions for antimicrobials were dispensed in the community, compared with 30.3 million prescriptions in 2013–14, the report from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care found.

The commission's Senior Medical Advisor Professor John Turnidge said being able to compare data would enable the healthcare sector to develop more targeted strategies to tackle the threat of antimicrobial resistance.

'It is significant that we are witnessing the first evidence of a consistent decline in antimicrobial consumption in Australia since the last decline in 2003,' he said.

'The issue of antimicrobial resistance was addressed in the Federal Budget, delivered by Treasurer Josh Frydenberg last month, with a \$22.5 million investment in antimicrobial usage and antimicrobial resistance surveillance, to monitor and address the threat.



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

138 mountjoy parade, lorne 3232 tel (03) 5289 1580 fax-a-script (03) 5289 2750

deluxe

Lorne's fabulous fashion boutique, locally owned and operated since 1999.

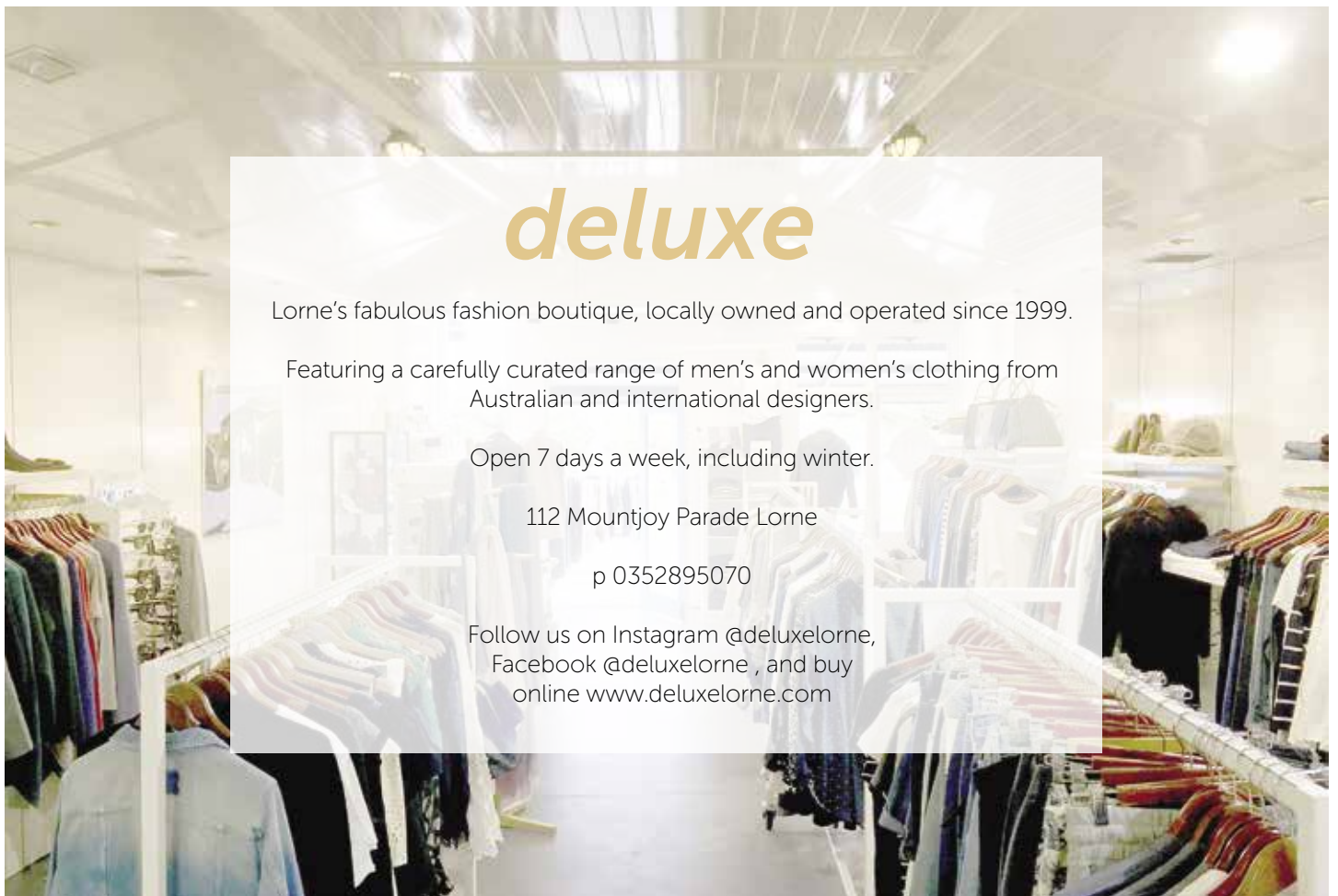
Featuring a carefully curated range of men's and women's clothing from Australian and international designers.

Open 7 days a week, including winter.

112 Mountjoy Parade Lorne

p 0352895070

Follow us on Instagram @deluxelorne,
Facebook @deluxelorne, and buy
online www.deluxelorne.com



BUSHFIRE SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING

Preparation steps up in Otway District for bushfire season Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) is continuing work to prepare the Otway District for the upcoming bushfire season, building on fuel management works conducted throughout the year to reduce bushfire risk for communities and the environment.

FFMVic has recruited additional seasonal firefighters in the Otway District, with 52 project firefighters to be in place across the district by the end of November. FFMVic personnel are also attending a rolling schedule of training and briefings in preparation for the summer ahead.

Testing and servicing the Otway District's fleet of specialised firefighting vehicles is also underway, while the water-bombing helicopter Sikorsky S61 will return to the Colac airbase in summer. In the coming weeks fire lookout observers will also be stationed at local fire towers. This preparation builds on FFMVic's fuel management works

throughout the year, including planned burning, slashing and mulching to reduce the speed and intensity of potential bushfires in the Otway District.

Since mid-last year, planned burning by FFMVic in the Otway District has covered more than 1,000 hectares, with crews taking every opportunity to conduct burns when conditions allow and it is safe to do so. This has included planned burning to reduce bushfire risk around Great Ocean Road townships, with the highest-priority burns conducted near Anglesea and Forrest.

In the same period, mechanical works covered more 547 hectares, with crews using heavy machinery to mulch flammable vegetation to reduce fuel near Bellarine, Otway and Great Ocean Road townships. All FFMVic crews are adhering to appropriate public health and hygiene guidelines to ensure operations can safely continue across the state.

FFMVic media release



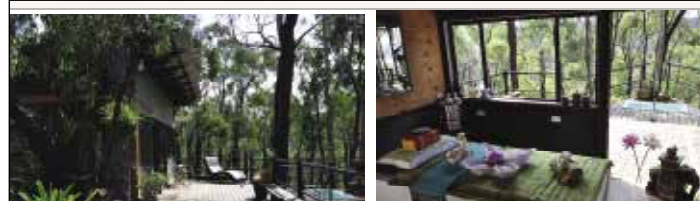
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FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

For the Lorne Ward - Cr. Gary Allen



May I begin by thanking the Lorne Ward residents who have spoken, emailed and written to me to convey their congratulations and support. As I have said, on perhaps too many occasions, "I hope you feel the same way in four years"!!

I am excited by the prospect of representing the community because instinctively I care and I will work with commitment.

For the past eight years Clive Goldsworthy, as our councillor, has brought his considerable financial and management expertise to Council decision-making for the benefit of all Surf Coast Shire communities. That said, I believe that his legacy, to this community, is his tireless work to strengthen the many clubs and voluntary organizations in Lorne over this time. I say is, as he will continue his involvement and commitment. Clive appreciates that vibrant and connected communities are essential to our overall health and well-being.

Clive has also built for the Lorne Ward residents on Mailchimp an effective communication network for the delivery of important notices and the promotion of community events. I want to express my gratitude to him for allowing me to use this network. I have sent out two messages to date and if you wish to be included in the network please email me at lorneward.information@gmail.com

Here are some important dates for the new council:

- November 13: Declaration of polls in the other three wards.
- November 14: The Swearing-in Ceremony for all councillors.
- November 16 – 24: Induction for new councillors.
- November 18: Election of the Mayor.
- November 24 and December 8: Council briefings and meetings.

During November, the council will determine its meeting dates and times for the new term. I wish to trial being available at a set time at the Lorne Community Connect and at the Deans Marsh Cottage to talk to residents about their issues. I will publish the day and time at both places when they are open, and when the council briefings and meeting schedule is confirmed.

If you wish to contact me before I am given a council mobile and email address, please use 0421 077 167 or email: lorneward.information@gmail.com

At the start of the year work begins on the new Four-Year Plan for the Shire and the 2021/2022 budget will be framed. The Council will also continue to work on the implementation of the 2020 Local Government Act. It is my intention during these discussions to lobby for increased infrastructure and project expenditure to be directed towards the Arts and Cultural activities. Not that past councils have neglected this area, we have been supported to run FOPA and the Sculpture Biennale, but I believe that an injection of Arts and Culture spending will support our tourism recovery and also help residents to reconnect with friends and the broader community. I was delighted to see that advocating for growth in the arts sector was listed by Rose Hodge in a recent Torquay candidate forum.

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ART SHOP

Gallery and arts supplies



The way chef, artist and music lover Simon Holloway tells it, it was really his first born, Sylvester who fired up his interest in painting. Baby strapped to his chest, Simon became the consummate hands-on father, wandering in and around Lorne, thinking about what he saw and how he should paint ...

Following the birth of Jimmy, his partner Anna McIldowie's second child, he was again hard at work, painting, painting, painting though with the new-born still on his chest. The result is a collection of some 17 works, all displayed at their new art and art supplies shop situated in the small retail enclave to one side of the Lorne bridge over the Erskine.

A Lorne arts-craft supply shop and a gallery is a great if somewhat courageous idea, considering the times. But many people have become inspired to try their hand at art, writing and other artistic endeavours in this time of Covid-19and the gallery stocks a range of paints, paper, sketch books, pencils, everything you could possibly need for your artistic pursuits. It also has available a fabulous range of LPs.

Simon will do his painting in a small corner of the gallery so that people can watch and perhaps learn ...he said he would be most happy to share knowledge. And yes, Anna and Simon have even fitted out space for the little ones to romp with visiting friends.

Simon and Anna met about six years ago at Rita's, a restaurant in Abbotsford – Simon is a qualified chef and for a while ran the kitchen at the Lorne Bowls Club with Anna front of house, though at the moment his priorities seem to be Anna, and Sylvester and Jimmy, painting, the shop and painting ... - JV

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Editor's Page'

THE FIGHTBACK UNDER LOCK-DOWN

We were all waiting for an answer – is there anything good that has come out of our Covid-19 restrictions? Has anything significant appeared in terms of our individual ways of coping with spare time?

And, as many had predicted, some remarkable individual expressions have emerged. Obviously, the gardens got more attention, those 'little' or indeed 'bigger' jobs around the house were finally attended to, people got a lot more reading done (good for the brain) and of course the ease of operation of the mobile and especially the sudden appearance of ZOOM seemed most timely, and appropriate.

But perhaps is also a time for some in-depth thinking, about reuniting contact with long neglected friends and relatives ... a time too to take an interest in the family's past. It's no coincident that television shows such as "Where do you really come from" rate high on our viewing schedule. Tracing one's ancestry has never been more popular.

The Lorne Independent has in its 20 years of publication never had such large number of unsolicited submission of articles and stories, most dealing with personal and family histories, and recollections. The Lorne Historical Society too reported an unusually high number of inquiries from people wanting to source personal family histories; many of our denizens finally got to look in that old box in the garage to discover long lost images of an almost forgotten bygone era.

Nostalgia is what it's all about, the Society's Peter Spring said.

But our lock-down has also produced some remarkable artistic activities – 32-year-old Simon Holloway used the time to seek inspiration for a new chapter in his life, painting, and despite being a full-on father to his two infants, he establish an art gallery with partner Anna McIldowie.

A young writer and painter, and newcomer to Lorne, Millie Backway, sent us a remarkable piece of writing, Weather Woman (Lorne Independent October), a personal piece on her reaction to the town's infinitely changeable weather. Op-Shop member Janet Goud has been a constant contributor.

Businessman and former Sculpture Exhibition president Tom Latham is now (we believe) working on a personal history and recently shared with us some of his business adventure and photos of an awakening China.

Even that superb scientific writer with the whimsical eye, John Agar has become somewhat more philosophical and nostalgic in his view of life around him.

And, out of the blue, Tony Stribling of the pioneering Stribling family, submitted a wonderful and most fascinating manuscript of what past life was like for those early settlers. The hardship and certainly the discomforts of daily life are very much beyond anything we can imagine ...Please read our first instalment of the series of six.

All things considering, it'll be fascinating to see what else emerges as a result of Lorne's restrictions.

-JV

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The Lorne Independent Inc. is produced on a non-profit voluntary basis and, as a newsletter, seeks to give in its pages open access to the community. It is important to note, however, that opinions expressed by authors of articles are their own. Advertising and publicity for community events is free, and all other contributions are most welcome. Supplied copy and pictures must bear the name and address of the author and/or organisation. The editorial committee of the Lorne Independent reserves the right to cut, alter or otherwise work the articles to make them suitable for publication. The committee also reserves the right to reject articles and/or photos if it deems the material to be unsuitable for publication.

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THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN RIDE AGAIN

By Douglas Williams

Calling ourselves the Magnificent Seven after the movie of the same name but without the gunplay or a theme song by Leonard Bernstein we drove up to the Desert country south of Mildura in the Mallee. There were five vehicles all equipped with provisions and equipment for just over a week off the beaten track.

The six blokes in the accompanying photo are Russell Coight, Les Hiddens, The Leyland Brothers, Harry Butler and Malcolm Douglas (for those who don't know, these men have all fronted wildlife programs set in the Australian Outback). This meant that we had a wealth of experience. And it showed: no less than ten minutes into the Murray Sunset National Park young Tommy found himself bogged to the carpet in his Hilux and had to be winched out - thanks Keith. Nineteen year old Tommy Curran (he actually took the photo but by decree is still part of the 'Magnificent Seven') is new to Lorne and has a background in running adventure tours for schools. He has made a terrific record of the trip which we hope to soon see on YouTube.

There was a lot of water on the 4WD tracks after heavy falls of rain up there but tour leader Clive had arranged for us to stay one night at the remote Shearers Quarters Cottage during the huge rain event that was experienced even in Lorne that same night. The accommodation was basic but comfortable, the showers were hot and, most importantly, it was dry. There was an old cast iron oven in the big kitchen, and we kept the firebox burning. The site is managed by Parks Victoria.

Paul Spizzica was unable to be completely free of work despite leaving his RACV work with competent Alex because he had to replace Tommy's starter motor after it had been submerged and a few days later Tull limped into our camp at the Mopoke Hut camp site with a collapsed CV joint. Without Spiz the vehicle would still be up there today but after a four hour round trip back to Mildura to pick up parts he had it back on the road again next morning. And yes, we did have that Willie Nelson song on the sound track one night as we sat around our campfire.

It wasn't all music, bulldust, laughter and beer of an evening though. There was also good food, red wine, laughter ...and perhaps more bulldust. Tull's spit produced excellent roast pork on the river and delicious Mallee roast lamb at Big Billy Bore as well. To my pleased surprise I learnt that Spiz is a very good cook and, as we know, this runs in the family, mostly passed down from his Italian mama. So we ate well and had a percolater for our morning coffee.

Another surprise was the almost complete absence of other campers and vehicles. This meant that when we set up camp on



From left: Clive Goldsworthy, Chris Tully, Doug Williams, Paul Spizzica, Keith Miller, Chris Nisbett.

the banks of the Murray and elsewhere we had the place all to ourselves. It also meant that Chris Nisbett was able to display his skill as a freshwater fisherman by landing a native bream and two Murray Cod. Measured head to tail these three fish would have only made one just-legal-sized fish so we didn't have them on the menu unfortunately.

In all we covered some 2525 kilometres on the trip through green, green countryside all the way. In the desert this meant that there was a profusion of wildflowers of great variety so we chose a wonderful time to be there. It was good to be back after our escape from town and to remind ourselves why we left in the first place.

I guess we each had our reasons - to get away from the domesticity of our lives, to escape the China Virus air or to see if we could survive out in the wilds of outback Australia. Personally, I was feeling a touch of cabin fever and needed to just hit the road for a spell. In the final wash-up the fundamental motive was more about old fashioned male bonding now defined as important for men's mental health.



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CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

For the latest Council updates go to www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/covid19



Easing of restrictions

Current restrictions

The Premier announced these changes to restrictions for regional Victoria:

Visitors: You can have up to two people visit you at home each day. Infants under 12 months are not included in this cap, and other dependents can also attend if they cannot be left unattended or cared for in another setting. The two people may be from different households. This replaces the household bubbles.

Libraries and toy libraries: These facilities can open for up to 20 people indoors. No more than 10 people can gather in a space (for example for a class). The one person per four square metre rule as well as signage, cleaning and record-keeping requirements apply. Geelong Regional Library Corporation will reopen local libraries from Monday 26 October. Find out more details at: www.grlc.vic.gov.au.

Outdoor religious gatherings: Up to 20 people plus one faith leader are allowed to gather. This includes ceremonies, with no sharing of food, drink, crockery, utensils, vessels or other equipment by participants.

Restaurants and cafes: You can now have up to 70 people outdoors and up to 10 people per indoor space with a maximum of 40 people per venue indoors. The two and four square metre rules apply. Indoor spaces must be separated by permanent structures or be a discrete area of the premises. Businesses must continue to ensure people from metropolitan Melbourne do not eat-in.



Victorians aged 12 years and over, now required to wear a fitted face mask, covering the nose and mouth.

Indoor swimming pools: These facilities can open exclusively for those aged 18 and under. There is a limit of 20 customers in the pool or the one person per four square metre rule (whichever is the smaller number of people). One parent/guardian per child is permitted for supervision purposes and not included in the limit. Swimming classes can resume. Indoor pools can open for one-on-one hydrotherapy sessions with a limit of 10 people in the pool at one time.

Restrictions are subject to changes at any time. Go to www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus or call the 24-hour hotline **1800 675 398** for the latest updates.

Council facilities:

In line with restrictions, a number of Council facilities are subject to COVID-safe requirements and others are closed to the public at this time.

For more information on changes to Council services and facilities go to: www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/covid19.

Council's customer service is currently a phone and web-based service. You can:

- Lodge a request via www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au
- Email us at info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au
- Call us on **5261 0600**.



WHERE TO FIND HELP

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Torquay Food Aid

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SalvoConnect Barwon South West

p. 5223 9200 (Mon to Fri 9am – 3pm)

Bethany Community Support

p. 5278 8122 (Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

Foodlink Anglesea

p. 5263 2116 e. admin@anglesea.org.au

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HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION

SalvoConnect Barwon South West (Adult)

p. 5223 5461 (Mon to Fri 9am – 3pm)

Barwon Child, Youth and Family (Youth)

p. 5226 8900 (Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

Crisis Accommodation

p. 1800 825 955 (24 hours/7 days)

FAMILY VIOLENCE

The Orange Door

p. 1800 312 820 (Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

e. barwon@orangedoor.vic.gov.au

The Sexual Assault and Family Violence Centre

p. 5222 4318 (Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

e. reception@safvcentre.org.au

Safe Steps

p. 1800 015 188 (24-hour phone service)

e. safesteps@safesteps.org.au

MENTAL HEALTH

To access local mental health support make an appointment with a GP/doctor.

headspace Geelong (Youth)

p. 5222 6690 (Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

Beyond Blue

p. 1300 224 636 (24-hour phone service)

www.beyondblue.org.au

Lifeline Australia

p. 13 11 14 (24-hour phone service)

www.lifeline.org.au

Partners in Wellbeing

p. 1300 375 330

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG SUPPORT

Barwon Child, Youth and Family

p. 1300 022 293 (Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

Direct Line

p. 1800 888 236 (24-hour phone service)

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

Australian Government support

www.services.gov.au

Red Cross Extreme Hardship Support Program

www.redcross.org.au/vicrelief

COUNCIL SUPPORT

COVID-19 Recovery Assistance Grants Program. Visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au

Fire preparation for holiday homes

On Sunday 18 October the Chief Health Officer advised that Melbourne landowners with property in regional Victoria would be able to visit their properties to undertake approved emergency preparation activities at their holiday homes.

All regional Councils, including Surf Coast Shire, are now developing processes to receive and approve these requests, which will include the conditions that apply to these visits. People coming from Melbourne are required to 'bring their restrictions with them'. If there are concerns about any behaviour in the community, remember that it is the role of Victoria Police to enforce the directives of the Victorian Chief Health Officer and any breaches should be reported to them by calling **131 444**.

Many of our non-resident property owners have been patient over recent months and not visited their holiday homes, so this is an opportunity for all our communities to plan and prepare for fire season.

We ask that you monitor our website and our social media messages for the most up to date information, including when applications are open.

Find out more at: www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/emergencypreparation.



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Phil and the Budgie

SOUND ADVICE ON CLEANING THE BUDGIE CAGE

A word of advice. Never clean your budgerigar's cage with a vacuum cleaner. It sounds like a good idea but, if you get distracted, the vacuum clogs up with a disheveled and feather shedding budgie vainly trying to dislodge itself from the nozzle. Once rescued, there's a high probability that the budgie won't sing much anymore.

Life can be like that for us as well. One moment we're singing away on our perch, the comforts of home within reach and suddenly, Whoosh! We're heading up a tube we don't want to be. Our feathers get ruffled or even lost. We get caught up in the whirl of dust and dog hair, and like the budgie, when it's over, we probably don't sing much anymore.

Our lives have too many things that create this experience for us. Especially under the current conditions, some people don't sing much anymore, and you'll know from your own experience that no one escapes this feeling.

But maybe we learn, or are being asked, to sing another song!

Maybe we need to reshuffle the musical scores that are the music to our lives so that we sing a better tune than ever before. Locally this has already happened with the distribution of daffodils, the distribution of chocolates to member of the community, the sharing of photographs of Erskine Falls in full flow, the snow that's fallen, the Facebook pictures of dolphins, whales, wrens and parrots, not to mention the flowers that are now starting to bloom.

Technically, the community is semi-closed but in many ways the community is open as it hasn't been for some time. We're singing a new song.

At the moment "All Saint's" remains closed and, as such, we're going to miss out on our 140th anniversary on November 1st. But, as is the case with the greater Lorne community, we're growing closer and "singing a new song". The importance of relationships, and an appreciation of the world around us, is leading to a new way of engagement with everything and everybody in the wider world around us.

An old hymn has the line, "God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform" and maybe, just maybe, we might be seeing this unfold for us. In the meantime, perhaps we're not singing as we once did, but this might just be the time to learn to sing a new song. Warble on!

Phil Jakobson
Vicar, All Saints Church
Lorne

OP SHOP BUZZ

Janet Goud

Hello from your reopening, beloved, Lorne Op Shop!

It's Slowly, Slowly, Carefully at first.

As many of you have noted already, from the middle of October, the Op Shop has opened its doors to the public one day a week (Wednesdays 10am-3.00pm) with six persons only at a time allowed inside, to browse and hopefully buy. Who could have predicted a line up outside the Lorne Op shop resembling those outside popular nightclubs in the capital cities of the world? Here, also, there is a strict dress and behaviour code. A mask must be in place, and hand sanitiser used. A careful count of customers ensures the Covid plan is in force, and the air purifiers ventilate the shop properly. Eftpos transactions have made many people very happy, and others passing by popped in to say hi and to welcome back this sign of normality to our town. In November the days open will extend to Thursday for customers.

Now to those bags of donations accumulating in your cellars - these are being welcomed on Saturday mornings from 10-12. Then the shop is not open except to take donations. These will be quarantined before processing and donations need to be clean and suitable to reuse. The wise volunteers really don't want to fossick among the grubby contents of emptied drawers, at the bottom of rubbish bin liners. Nor should valuable donation money from the Op Shop be wasted on paid rubbish removal. This was a large amount of our spend last financial year. So, please only give us your useable surplus to requirements and used, but useful, leftovers.

At this time, we particularly want the summer clothes you culled and organised for us in April, in the first lockdown, only to find you had nowhere to donate. We also need all those books, toys and puzzles you did in lockdown, and any household items you replaced perhaps out of boredom, before all the summer visitors arrive.

We really don't want your winter wardrobes until autumn next year, as we have no storage facilities in our little shop. We did have a mild and often sunny winter this year. However, the present burst of winter weather means we are all still rugged up. It almost seems like the restrictions are easing up, the weather is frosting up. So, hang onto your winter wardrobe for now. You still need it.

Despite the lack of funds this year, The Lorne Op Shop has made a substantial donation to the Red Frogs who are so helpful and useful during Schoolies Week(s). While we are uncertain at present of the number of schoolies heading our way, there are certain to be many. All students are emerging from lockdown as well as the extra difficult Year 12 so they will need special care and attention. Once again the Op Shop is showing great care for the community, as well as these young people.

So, pleased at last, to be able to say, "See you on Wednesday!"



Keith Miller
Commodore



Commodore's Notes

Well here we are well into Spring and the club has been open for a few weeks now and going along nicely with our limit of 70 patrons. At the moment we are open every day except Tuesdays and Thursdays and it's still Members only.

It looks like we might have to enforce the Members Only rule indefinitely depending on what happens with the Government enforced COVID restrictions. We are still erecting the marquee in the beer garden on the damp evenings so it's quite cosy outside and Hutch and the staff are keeping our world's coldest and tastiest beer served at the tables very efficiently.

In a couple of weeks we will be emailing out our membership renewals along with a proxy form for our AGM which will be held on Saturday the 28th of November. It's extremely important that we receive your proxy or we won't achieve a quorum which would make the AGM irrelevant. If you would like to renew or become a member for the first time the details are on our website.

The fees have remained the same as last year:

Pensioner \$25

Single \$45

Family \$60 (Partners and children up to the age of 18)

Boat. \$75 (Same as family but allows you to use our boat wash)

Commercial Fishermen \$180

If anyone would like to come onto our committee the nomination forms are at the club. We have already received 12 nominations which is our limit so if anyone else nominates we will have to hold an election which will be difficult on Zoom.

A special thanks to our Vice Commodore Ric Addison who recently renovated behind the bar, relocating the glass washer and drawers making it more efficient for the bar staff. He did a great job which is rare for an architect.

Also congratulations to one of our members Gary Allen who is now our new Lorne Ward Surf Coast Shire Councillor. Gary has replaced Clive Goldsworthy who has just completed 8 years on the council and was the Deputy Mayor for the last few years.

Clive did a sensational job so Gary has big shoes to fill but I'm sure he will be up to the task.

Recently we had a very friendly female dolphin who was spending a lot of time out the front of our clubhouse only metres from the shore and was befriending and playing with swimmers and surfers.

She was observed teasing Sammy the Seal with a big salmon she had caught by spitting it out right in front of Sammy's nose and the snatching it away just before Sammy got to it.

I did a bit of research on the dolphins unusual behaviour and it's not an uncommon occurrence. It's called 'Solitary-Sociable'.

When a dolphin for an unknown reason leaves its pod and starts befriending humans. In a lot of these instances it has ended badly when the dolphin starts to become too friendly and starts to become dominant sometimes hurting people. Our dolphin has gone now so hopefully she has re-joined her pod.

Treasurer's Report

Groundhog Day: Once again on the financial front there is very little to update since last month's report and we are continuing to minimise costs as the government stimulus are continuing to be received. For the three months this Financial Year we are break even and slightly ahead of last year. Although we were closed for a large number of nights during the quarter the government's Jobkeeper allowance supplemented our income. Jobkeeper will reduce in this quarter but we expect we will still be eligible to receive the smaller amounts.

I will wait to when I send out reports with the AGM notice as to how we performed last financial year. I can confirm it was a very good result, especially given the circumstances.

In the next couple of weeks we will send out renewal notices for membership. Also, we encourage anybody who is not a member to download the form from our website and join. At the moment given restrictions we can only accommodate members and this may continue for a further unknown period. From a financial perspective with lower bar takings membership fees will be important for us to continue to generate cash. Members make the club.

Also within the next two weeks we will send out an agenda for the AGM and other reports. The AGM is to be held on Saturday 28th November at 5:00pm and unless there are very significant changes in guidelines it will be a zoom AGM. Instructions as to how to participate will be sent and we will be asking/encouraging as many members as possible to filling out proxy forms to ensure we have a valid AGM. Limited numbers can attend and we will also be doing Zoom for our Melbourne members.

Once again, I confirm we remain in a strong financial position, but it is unlikely that we will see the same levels of surpluses for 2020/21 as we have seen in the past few years.

Keep well, stay safe

David Worth - LAAC Secretary/Treasurer

Footy Tipping

We have decided to defer our footy tipping competition until next year so everyone who paid this year will be automatically entered into next years comp. We will also be welcoming any new ones.

Continued page 21

From page 20

Ultra Marathon

Levi Turner who is the son of LAAC Members Karen and Mick Turner will set off on Monday the 19th of October to run from Barwon Heads to Warrnambool over 5 days. That's 300km at a staggering 60km each day. He is raising funds for 'Geelong Mum's' an organisation that assists mum's, babies and children in the region who need support. Any support from our generous members would be much appreciated. Levi ran through Lorne on Tuesday morning.

You can donate to his fundraiser here.

Sinker Making

We've received quite a bit of lead for our sinker making day but still need more. Anybody out there with unwanted lead or old sinkers please drop it into the clubhouse and we will then organise a day to make a heap of new ones.



Whales

We've had several Humpback Whales here for a few weeks now who are being followed around by hundreds of dolphins and gannets. We had a couple pop up right next to my boat recently

with the dolphins and gannets all feeding and diving around them and the boat. It was a sensational thing to see. My guess is that the whales are on their way back to Antarctica after spending the winter in the tropics and have stopped for a feed. This winter we have had huge amounts of krill in our little area of Bass Strait and recently large schools of Yakka's have arrived to feed on the Krill. The whales, dolphins and gannets are all having a lovely feed.



Rescue Boat

Recently several of our committee visited the Port Fairy Marine Rescue Service to check out their facilities but more importantly to have a look at their rescue boat that they are about to sell. It's a

6.5 metre Stabicraft with new twin Suzuki 125's with 4 blade counter rotating props, new alloy trailer, radar, night vision camera, 3 radios, radio head sets, two GPS units etc.

It's fully fitted out for rescues and the motors are set up for towing. It's exactly the boat we need to carry out rescues and tow ins here in Lorne. We are currently waiting to hear back from Port Fairy regarding their asking price.

The reason they are selling it is because they were just given a \$1.25 million 12 metre boat along with a floating berth situated next to their shed on the river next to the boat ramp in Port Fairy by the Government. The biggest surprise we got was that the amount of rescues they have carried out over the last few years is about the same as we have done here in Lorne by myself and other local anglers. We are very keen to purchase this boat but will need to be affiliated with Emergency Management Victoria to be eligible for any grants and have public liability insurance cover.

To do this we would have to set up a new body probably called the 'Lorne Marine Search and Rescue Service' and hopefully get support from the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club and Lorne SES.

As soon as we find out Port Fairy's asking price we will start proceedings to become affiliated, hopefully get some government grants and buy the boat.

Upcoming Events

We will be holding our usual MELBOURNE CUP EXTRAVAGANZA with limited numbers, but it will still be a great day. Starting at 11am with a free Champagne on arrival. We recommend booking tables so get in early to avoid disappointment.

MAJOR FISHING COMPETITION on Sunday the 1st of November. This is our last comp for the year and as usual it will be followed by a roast lunch free for all competitors and only \$10 for any members. Weigh in will start at midday and the cut off is 12.30pm.

Great Ocean Road Garlic Championship

We will be holding our annual garlic comp on Friday the 11th of December so start nurturing your garlic now. Judging will start at 5pm. This year we having a Junior Trophy and an Open Trophy.

Recent Events

We held our Major Fishing Competition number 5 recently which was sponsored by GREAT OCEAN ROAD CONSTRUCTION, Luke Norton and Andy Little. The weather was perfect with a great roll up of keen anglers.

The winner on the day was Andrew Clarke with a Leatherjacket 3115 points.

Runner Up was Ric Barham 2913 points and third was Malcolm Hunter with a King George Whiting caught off the pier earning 2502 points.



In the Junior section Charlie Hunter took out first prize with a King George Whiting also caught off the pier earning 2576 points which was slightly bigger than his Dad Malcolm.

Merchandise

We've got plenty of Tshirts in long or short sleeve, Stubby Holders, Caps, Masks and Stickers.

They are an ideal Christmas or Birthday Present and I'm happy to post them out to our Melbourne Members for a small fee. Email keith.miller@live.com.au for more details.

Coffee

Jason our world famous barista is open from Friday to Monday for the next couple of months so drop in and enjoy his magnificent coffee and have a yarn while enjoying our beautiful view.

Continued page 22

From page 21



Member Of The Month: David McCormack

David was born in East Melbourne and spent his early years living in Clifton Hill....a Colin Tully torp from Victoria Park.... The family moved to the Toorak of the north, East Preston or more affectionately known as “Little Chicago” when he was 3 and lived there until he and Ann married and headed overseas.

David went to Immaculate Heart College, odd name for a Catholic boys school in a working class area, and then onto St Josephs in East Brunswick. After one year they did not invite him back so it was off to work earlier than he anticipated. Evidently the Principal did not appreciate his behaviour on a school trip to Tassie, the school never ran that excursion again. Later on he started a Bachelor of Arts at La Trobe gained an A+ for the subject “Revolution in Cuba and Mexico” but when Thomas Hardy came along in a literature subject he lost interest in part time study.

In late 60’s, he applied for and got an interview for a plumbers apprenticeship but ended up in the Premiers Department working in administration which meant he had to buy a suit and wear a tie daily, something that took a long time to adjust to. After a few years of office work he decided to take a few weeks off to try out as a brickie with a regular drinker at the Junction Hotel in Preston where he was working as a part time barman. After two days he was back in the office and got a membership at a gym on the recommendation of the brickie. A quote from a former US President summed up his experience...”Hard work never hurt anyone, but hey, why take the risk.”

In the summer of 1969 he met the love of his life Ann at the Anglesea Surf Club dance when he was camping with the mates and Ann’s parents were holidaying at Fairhaven. They actually lived only 2 km from each other in Melbourne. They married in 1975 and Ann became the best sponsor over the next 35 years of competing.

Nothing over the years has matched his love of sport and travel with Ann. After 10 years playing amateur football, a B&F but never a premiership, it was time to move to marathons and then in the early 80’s into triathlons when the sport was just emerging. Over 30 years he competed in 200+ triathlons with 35 Ironmen’s under his belt, 11 at the World Championships in Hawaii for three podium finishes. Loved the sport and ended up with age group wins in Aust and NZ, a number of both Aust and Vic age group championships and in 2013, a ranking of 3rd in the world and 1st in the Asian Pacific Region over the Ironman distance. Loved the camaraderie and friendships formed worldwide and the fitness.

Over the years he has competed in 70 marathons, 35 in the Ironman triathlon events. David and Ann completed 2 Boston Marathons, her dream race and the Paris marathon for their 40 anniversary....not everybody’s idea of how to celebrate such a milestone.

The west coast connection started when he was 13 camping over the school holidays with a mate supervised by his older brother, he was 15! David’s parents were glad to get rid of him for a month. Ann’s parents had a beach house at Fairhaven for 33 years and when that was sold they eventually purchased their place in Lorne and just love the community network they have developed here. Their home base for 40 years was Fitzroy.

Obituary LOIS BEATRICE BLACK (NEE WALLS)



March 23, 1931 – October 16, 2020

As a child in the 1930’s Lois spent many family holidays in Lorne travelling from Camperdown with her parents, and continued to visit frequently with her husband and daughters over the years. In 2000 Lois finally realised her dream of having her own view of the ocean, building a home on land bought by her father many years before.

Lois had a lifelong love of Lorne and in 2006 relocated permanently and quickly established an active life in the local community which included working with Lorne Care, and enjoying the community centre fitness classes, Mahjong and the Garden Club. Lois volunteered for a number of years, working regular shifts at the Lorne Op Shop on Sunday mornings and the Information Centre on Tuesdays, which she really enjoyed.

She made many meaningful friendships here and felt deeply connected to the community. This was a wonderful period of her life and her family are so grateful for the love, kindness and support Lois received from so many in Lorne. The remarkable care she received at the Lorne Hospital and Aged Care meant so much, particularly during these challenging times.

Lois will be forever in Lorne, joining her husband on the hill. A memorial service will be held on the Lorne Pier once restrictions ease. – Angie Black and Amanda Morris

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Playgroup Thursdays 9.30am
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SPORTSBRIEFS

John Ford

Sport is Returning!

It is so good to be in Lorne on a Saturday afternoon and see sport being played again – especially when the Saturday is AFL Grand Final day (well night this year). The COVID-19 restrictions are being eased, but we are all still practising social distancing and wearing face masks. The easing of restrictions will provide some opportunities for gymnasiums and pools to open, and should enable clubhouses and restaurants attached to sporting clubs to offer some limited services.

At Lorne Country Club the mixed doubles tennis team was in a tight struggle against quality opponents from Geelong Central. The difference in ages of the players was quite noticeable – fair to say that Lorne had many more years of experience than the Geelong team. The clean ball striking of players from both teams was really impressive in the windy and rainy conditions, with Geelong Central going on to win the match. Many players are also enjoying social tennis on Saturday mornings and Wednesday afternoons – visitors are welcome to both these sessions for a visitor's fee of \$10.

New Contributors to Sportsbriefs

The team at the Lorne Independent would like to welcome Dani De Bon and Steve Donne as new regular contributors to Womens Golf and Lawn Bowls respectively. Regular readers will have seen Dani's name and photograph in Sportsbriefs as a consistent performer – and winner – in the womens golf competitions. Steve Donne and his family are well known across many sports including football, netball, golf, tennis and lawn bowls. Both Dani and Steve are very keen sportspeople and I am sure you will enjoy their articles in the next edition. I wish to acknowledge the great job done by Lesley Goldsworthy and Wendy Hutchison in reporting on Womens Golf, and Merna Smith for being the Lawn Bowls correspondent over many years. Thanks from all at the Lorne Independent.

Summer at Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club

At this stage, Lorne Surf Lifesaving Club is aiming to conduct a Nippers Program which would likely run from 28th December to 8th January. Intending participants should contact the club right now because the program will be limited and modified from previous years due to the COVID restrictions. As a community we hope that other important swimming and lifesaving events will take place including Bronze Medallion training.

The extremely popular Pier to Pub swim and Mountain to Surf run will be held as 'Virtual Events'. While this will be much better than cancelling the events, I am not sure how you can replicate 'virtually' the encouragement of other competitors as well as coping with the jostling and occasional stray elbow in these events. Good Luck!

Womens' Golf

Plea To Return

This is a plea to the many golfers who go into golf hibernation over the colder, wetter months: it's time to get out those clubs and enjoy the summer conditions that will be upon us when this article is published! The course is looking beautiful; the greens are fast and by November the balls will surely be running again. There are many kangaroo mobs that seem to accept us enjoying their pastures and birdlife is flourishing.

Golf Trip

Lorne women had a fun time visiting Daylesford in October, despite the freezing weather: try heading to play a game when it's 6 degrees! We played at Hepburn Springs and two games in Trentham. The courses were magnificent and the flowers at Trentham were particularly beautiful. It was a particularly enjoyable get-a-way for us all given the current circumstances. You can imagine the noise when we got together in their dining area for dinner, social distancing of course!

Local Star

Rose Lloyd continues her winning streak: she was the last person standing in the "singles knockout" elimination rounds, so congratulations go to Rose once again. Her form is truly inspiring, including two birdies in her short 9 hole round on Tuesday. It's also great to congratulate runner up Noela Rollinson, as Noela is one of our newer members. I think she was overawed by the competition in the last round when she lost her previous fine form! Carol Tutungi is also having a winning streak, winning the Monthly Medal round. These are just two of the women nipping at Rose's heels so to speak.

Online Booking System

The on-line booking system continues to work well, allowing visitors to also book and pay on-line. Just head to the website www.lornecountryclub.com.au,

Wendy Hutchison, Past President Womens Golf

Bowls Club

The club and players are a long way from hibernation with Saturday practice matches seeing all rinks full to allowable capacity, training on Thursday nights also full to capacity and a number of Club Championships being played. Add to this the opening of the restaurant, weekly working bees, beautification of the surrounds and the addition of a number of new tables, chairs and outdoor heaters and really, there has been a veritable plethora of opportunities for members to don Dan's masks and get involved!

With restrictions currently in place, the restaurant will be open on Fridays and Saturdays only. Sitting times are 5-7 and 7-9pm. Bookings are essential. There is limited seating inside but a number of tables with heaters have been set up outside. For bookings please ring Philomena (0412672052).

There have been a number of Championship games played - the Women Open Pairs was won by Sheryl Donne and Karen Turner, a fantastic effort considering both Ladies are only in their second year of bowling. In a very close tussle, they won by two shots, defeating one of the clubs absolute guns in Merna Smith and new club member Pearl MaGiver.

Mens 21 Championship. This year the 21 UP was won by Peter Jacobs, defeating another new club member in Keith Lugg in a very entertaining game. This is the fourth time he has won this title. Men Open Pairs.

In a very high standard game, the old timers took on the young guns. Fortunately, the game finished before the Retirement Home curfew was breached allowing Kev Van Deuren and Steve Donne to complete the game, defeating Harley Davies and Tom Leeds.

Steve Donne

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



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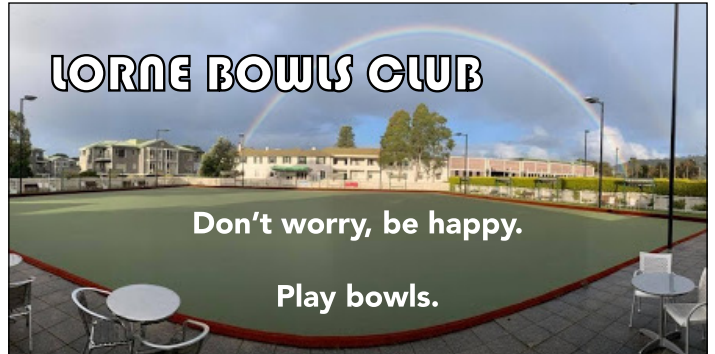
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REDEVELOPING THE PIER AREA: PT GREY

What's happening?

GORCC's redevelopment plans were approved by all Surf Coast Councillors on 23 June 2020. They envisage a new aquatic club and a restaurant/event centre (a "beacon building"). But plans are on hold while the case is contested at VCAT. The case is scheduled to be heard in April 2021.

Who has appealed the decision at VCAT?

It is not Friends of Lorne. Our Committee lodged a formal objection to the plans with the Surf Coast last November. But after the Council approved the plans the Committee was divided about pursuing it further at VCAT.

Some of our members at large have been in favour of the new development - others opposed. We decided to object to the proposal last year after GORCC failed to respond to our repeatedly raised concerns about the missing heritage element in their plans. After 16 months we still had no reply.

We opposed the demolition of the co-op building and argued that a new prominent, 'look-at-me' type building is inappropriate for the site, that car parking is excessive, and that events planned there could happen elsewhere in Lorne.

What about the petition to save the co-op building?

Some 1527 people signed a petition to retain and repurpose the old co-op building. It was presented to Parliament by Richard Riordan, Member for Polwarth, in February. The petition was organised by Lawrie Baker who lodged a personal objection to GORCC's plans with the Surf Coast Shire, along with a copy of the petition.

The petition is from "the permanent and part time residents of Lorne." A lot of people who signed it do not fit this category. But, on inspection, about 480 people do. They include names we regularly associate with the Historical Society, the sporting teams, the aquatic club, the CFA, the Men's Shed, the RSL, the school, the Op Shop and people with almost every "old Lorne" family street name. Nonetheless, our elected representatives were unmoved.

So, what next?

Some 48 additional conditions were put on GORCC by the Council (to do with lighting, the choice of materials etc). But community input to the physical look of what's still to be decided is not permitted (we asked). The remaining part of the old pier is to be retained and restored, regardless, and that work is proceeding.

GORCC has been asked to finalise its Cultural, Heritage and Creative Plan. Installations that could reflect the history of the site are being discussed. A number of Lorne groups are assisting, Friends of Lorne included.

Acknowledgement of heritage is a sore point for Friends of Lorne who have been campaigning for years for the remaining parts of the old crane to be reinstated as sculpture. In 2009 we were advised that "the crane is not considered by GORCC to be a key asset. However, no final decision on the removal of the crane will be made while the master plan is still in process." The crane was removed by GORCC shortly after but was 'rescued' and stored by Friends of Lorne.

Could this have turned out differently?

Maybe. An objective, minimum standard on what constitutes adequate community engagement for major planning applications could have helped. Right now, there is none, meaning that competing narratives of the same events can be equally valid. GORCC can put out a press release saying that "the master plan process was engaging, it was sensitive, it was balanced and it lasted 10 years". Yet such a process can end with 480 Lorne people saying the final result is something they don't want.

It won't be easy to design objective standards for community engagement in Victoria. But Friends of Lorne is not alone in wanting it.

"Community engagement" can't just be how many people show up, complete a survey, or tick one box. To be meaningful, the process must extend to dialogue and deliberation. It must extend to the nature of decisions open to input and to the creation of a forum where views can be recalibrated in response to those of others. Community engagement is not an argument for "design by committee" or even simple "majority rules". It's about transparency and the occasions provided for listening and to-and-fro.

Sound impossible?

Not to me. Seemingly wishy-washy concepts like "social cohesion" and "quality of life" are now objectively measured. If they weren't, it would not be possible for governments to adequately allocate budget dollars to things like youth health promotion or cancer care.

Meanwhile, we will provide updates on Pt Grey at www.friendsoflorne.org.au We hope there still may be opportunity for the community to be more closely involved. Hundreds of Lorne people want to make the Pt Grey decision better - the best it can be.

Penny Hawe, President, Friends of Lorne



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GONE BANANAS

Doug Williams

Historian Geoffrey Blainey in his *A Short History of the World* made the claim that at one stage in the history of the human race the peoples of New Guinea were as advanced a society as the Mesopotamians in the Indus Valley. And this was all because of one simple similarity with the two regions: both societies had developed the means to make pottery.

Summarised, the argument goes like this: once a culture is able to store grain safely from weather, insects and animals it can become sedentary. The harvest can be saved from one season to the next without each year having to locate a fresh source of grain growing wild somewhere. People can forgo their nomadic lifestyle to stay in one place permanently, agriculture develops, and their villages become permanent structures and civilisation begins to slowly take shape. This was during the Bronze Age, some 4,500 BC. For whatever reason, the Mesopotamians evolved to become modern civilisations in Africa, the Middle East, Europe and elsewhere while the tribes of New Guinea did not.

Around this time the Kuk Swamp of the lower New Guinea Highlands was already one of the earliest sites in the world for the development of agriculture. And now we can go back even further in time. Before pottery, people were using gourds to contain and preserve seeds ten to twelve thousand years ago here. Banana plant fossils have been found that are seven thousand years old. Elsewhere in the so-called 'Cradle of Civilisation' of the Middle East many of the locals were more than likely still wandering around the place from cave to cave.

Archaeobotany, simply put, is the study of plant remains from archaeological sites. Nuts and seeds can survive fire and waterlogging can preserve soft plant material for millennia so both of these can provide a record of what grew where and when for scientists to discover. Yams and sago samples found at Kuk are not prima facie proof of human cultivation because as the Earth warmed up and glaciers retreated these plants could have arrived at these higher altitudes by natural diffusion or by animal or plant agency but the discovery of not only wild bananas at Kuk Swamp but seedless cultivars is solid evidence of human agency – such plant selection to produce seedless cultivars is a lengthy process (the little black dots in the middle of a banana, are immature seeds known as triploids that won't develop to maturity). Man-made drainage systems from this era have been discovered at Kuk so a certain level of social organisation must have existed. It is likely that people moved to these higher altitudes in the warming climate bringing food crops with them. Bananas, taro and yams later became a staple throughout Melanesia and the Pacific Islands. Cultivated bananas arrived in Africa via ancient trade routes around three thousand BC while those in the Caribbean were brought



from the Canary Islands. And why are bananas considered to be bad luck on board a boat? I've always believed that it had to do with the way a gas they exude hastened the ripening of other fruits on board old cargo boats but reasons range from guesses to superstition to pseudo science if you go to the web.

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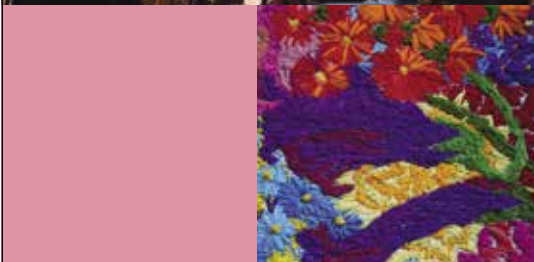
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Online performance at 11am on Friday 30 October



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The four profiles have been curated into an online exhibition of stories and photos.

View online from Friday 30 October (for one month only).



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17.30 - 20.30

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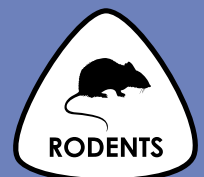
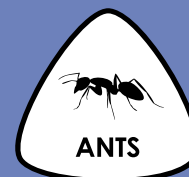
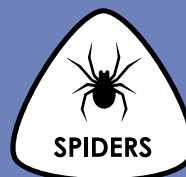
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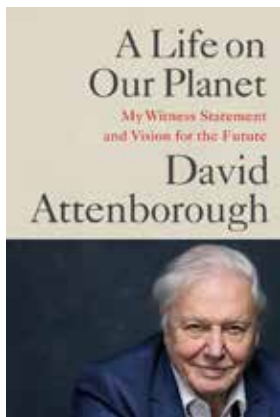
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Picks of the Month



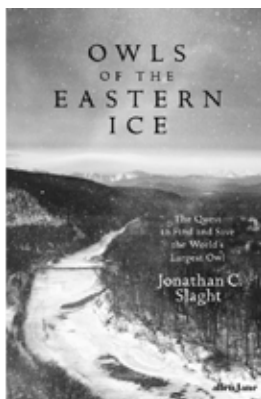
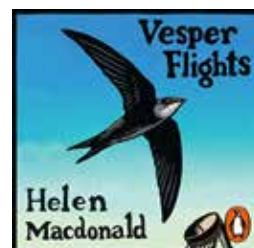
Sir David Attenborough is Britain's best-known natural history film-maker. His career as a naturalist and broadcaster has spanned nearly seven decades.

"I have been witness to the decline of the natural world. A Life on Our Planet is my witness statement, and my vision for the future. It is the story of how we came to make this, our greatest mistake - and how, if we act now, we can yet put it right."

His distinctive cadence, so familiar, echoes the written word. Transporting the reader on a personalized tour. And what a journey it is.

"Animals don't exist to teach us things, but that is what they have always done, and most of what they teach us is what we think we know about ourselves."

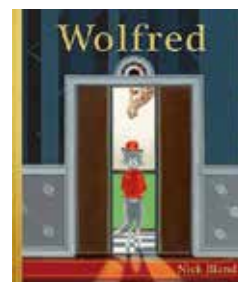
This new title from Helen Macdonald, the bestselling author of *H is for Hawk*, is *Vesper Flights* - a transcendent collection of essays about the human relationship to the natural world.



The Quest to Find and Save the World's Largest Owl

Owls of the Eastern Ice is a breathtaking portrait of Russia's remote far eastern forest, and of the world's most extraordinary owl. A chance encounter with this huge, strange bird was to change wildlife researcher Jonathan Slight's life beyond measure. Slight's desire to safeguard the elusive Blakiston's fish owl from extinction would ultimately lead him on a quest spanning two decades and over thousands of miles of forbidding and threatened terrain. Thrilling and inspiring, his book is a beautifully crafted meditation on the natural world and what it means to devote one's career to a single pursuit.

Yarra Valley author Nick Bland with great read for ages 4+
 "... Fancy Pants Tower is the biggest, shiniest building in the city. And Wolfred operates the lift. Each day he silently observes the extraordinary things he sees as he passes between the floors of the tower. To his boss, Wolfred isn't important enough to notice. But Wolfred notices everything - big, small, normal or very, very strange ..."



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