



Annual Presidents Report

2025 has been an interesting and at times stressful year but one of great achievements. I would like to thank my committee for their tireless work to make things happen

The year started with a demand by GORCAPA that we vacate the Fishy Tails Exhibition at the old Co-op building on the date previously agreed in the lease the Society signed in 2024. The Society was given another month to vacate. That was the end of May. There was much frustration from the community and members of LHS, many of whom wanted us to ignore our legal obligation. This resulted in a Special meeting being called at which the decision to vacate was supported by the majority of members present.

At this stage, it was found that the Lorne Historical Society's Constitution was severely out of date. We were able to develop the new LHS Rules, compliant with the Incorporations Act and present them for approval. Once again, I would like to thank the Committee for dedication to this task.

Discussions with GORCAPA have been ongoing since February. It has taken many meetings with members of the LHS Committee and a community meeting organised by Committee for Lorne and the Historical society to impress on GORCAPA the passion of the Community for a separate display space with the new Co-op building. We have since had a positive discussion with GORCAPA and the Architects about a space which can be utilised to tell the important stories of early tourism, timber and fishing which shaped the social and economic fabric of Lorne. Those discussions will be ongoing and hopefully, have a positive outcome.

A small group members has met on Mondays and have continued cataloging and digitising our collection. We have been able to dispose some of collection of photo boards and some of the items that do not have provenance or are unsuitable for collection or display. Some were sold at the Christmas Market at Community Connect last weekend and we made over \$2,250 in profit. We were pleased to have Doug Stirling present to sign his books which sold very well. I would like to thank the few people that helped set up the Market space, attend to the sales and clean up on Sunday.

During the year we were able to clear out most of the artefacts that resided under Community Connect. Now that we have purchased some shelving, our artefacts will soon have a dry, organised space in the back room at The Community House. The paintings, model boats and other objects will be able to be stored in an appropriate way.

It is hoped that the remainder of the objects in the shipping container will be photographed and returned to the storage room also.

Phase II of the new façade for our building has been completed within budget. Early in the new year we will arrange a refurbishment of the entrance, including a new sign with the remaining funds

Once again, thank you to everyone that helped during the year. I hope that 2026 sees a growth in members wanting to help when needed, a continuation of the work underway to record Lorne's history, a suitable area for displaying the tourism, timber and fishing history at Point Grey.

Jan Spring
President