

LORNE

Independent

\$2

No 270 May 2024

Produced as an independent newsletter by Lorne Independent Inc.

INTO THE AUTUMN SWELLS

Photo by local photographer Ian
Walding of his Grandson Tommy
in the swell.

Historical Mystery P5

Vet Advice on Mites that Bite P7

Council Budget 2023-2024 P25

Eulogies P36



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SHED Talks

SHED Talk: Secrets to Getting Published in the Children's Book Industry

– with Kaye Baillie, Stef Gemmill and Luisa Gioffre-Suzuki and facilitated by Michelle Conn.

Saturday 22 June
10am– 12.30pm

WHERE: The Light Box
2/ 7-9 Cylinders Drive Torquay.

COST: Free – but bookings are essential as places are limited.
Catering provided.

BOOKINGS: Scan the QR code or go to <https://events.humanitix.com/secrets-to-getting-published>

LORNE MEN'S SHED REGATTA 2024

By Don Baldwin and John Agar

As Christmas fades, shedders' minds turn to their up-and-coming annual regatta, held on the Erskine River estuary each Easter Sunday. Some might think that the shedders just turn up on the day to sail their radio-controlled T37 model yachts—but it is not that simple.

Each year, the yachts are taken down from their specially designed storage units. After dusting down and making any necessary minor repairs, the batteries that enable the yachts to be steered via remote control are recharged or replaced. The servos that control the two sails and the rudder are tested and re-tested, as these small electric motors offer the only control the men have over the direction of the yacht. The rest is up to the wind.

A key motto in any men's shed is "measure twice, cut once". When any project is underway, there are always many sage heads to give advice. In our men's shed, no task has demanded this rule be applied more than the construction of our T37 yachts!

The T37—a model yacht kit developed by Tippecanoe, a company from Seattle—is assembled to exacting specifications. While some minor differences may emerge during construction as each model maker adds a personal touch to the finished craft, all yachts are identical in size, design, and weight. After lovingly assembling the hull and keel, these are sanded back, dressed inside and out with several coats of epoxy resin, painted [if desired], rigged, and then fitted out with its electronic 'insides' before carefully testing all parts.

As race day draws nearer, a course is agreed upon, a race judge is appointed, and most importantly, a protest committee of three is selected. To ensure 'happy racing,' this race day committee of three matters—a fact learned through experience—though no names will be mentioned to sustain friendly relationships in the shed!

During one of our previous Easter races, the protest committee [then of just one] decided to disqualify a potentially winning yacht after deciding that 'excessive shore assistance' had been given after freeing the yacht from reed entrapment. The sailor protested vigorously, but despite the disqualified yacht racer presenting his case for the right to appeal under World T37 race rules, the right to appeal the disqualification was dismissed, with the winner's status upheld.

On race day, three races are held. The winner of each race is awarded 1 point, the second 2 points, and so on until all finishing yachts have a score. The yacht with the lowest aggregate score at the end of all races is pronounced the winner.

This Easter, and to the joy of all shedders and spectators, three hard-fought races were held without incident in near-perfect conditions with a slight breeze and overcast skies. During race intervals, Allan Walls [who loves noisy, fast, multicoloured boats] and Sam Johnson [with his slick, silver, turbo-powered machine] provided some thrills and spills with their power speed boats — though regrettably, Clive Goldsworthy's speed boat was forced to retire after a head-on with the reeds! Better luck next year, Clive.

The shedders also provided four small, wherever-the-wind-will-blow-them sailing yachts for children to sail with their dads on the



sea side of the Swing Bridge. As in previous years, this proved to be a great hit.

The president of the Lorne Men's Shed, John Bliss, presented trophies to the winner for 2024, David Lawler's 'FoodWorks', while second place went to Tony Wolfenden's 'Zena'. John Agar donated the trophies and provided a running commentary on the PA system, while Peter Morgan worked tirelessly to rescue several stranded boats in the LMS Coot rescue boat. Finally, our favourite shedder, Max, provided his basket of Easter eggs for the kids. Our thanks go to all.

In summary, it was a great morning of entertainment for all. Let's hope we see you all again on Easter Sunday, 2025.



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Scam Awareness session for seniors card holders

Do you know how to spot a scam?

Join Kate Peake, Geelong Gadget Girl, to learn about the types of digital scams currently in our community, how you can spot them and how to avoid them. This session is suitable for those seeking information for themselves, and also for those wanting to help educate family.

A cuppa and a biscuit will be provided.

Kate will be available after the session to answer questions or solve simple problems you might have until 12pm.

WHEN AND WHERE:

- **Torquay:** Friday 3 May - Council Chambers
- **Aireys Inlet/Anglesea:** Friday 10 May - Aireys Inlet Community Centre
- **Moriac/Winchelsea:** Friday 17 May - Moriac Community Centre
- **Lorne:** Friday 24 May - Lorne Community House

All sessions will run from 10am-12pm

Please contact Rose Salvo, Age Friendly Officer on 5261 0600 or rsalvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au to register.



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Where everybody counts

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT TURN UP

By Chris Cairns

In 1941 Britain was an imperial power with colonies across south and south-east Asia. In December 1941, the Japanese attacked British territories in Hong Kong, Malaya (now Malaysia), Singapore and Burma (now known as Myanmar). Within two months the main British administrative and military centre of Singapore had fallen. Thousands of troops, including many Australians, were captured and forced to endure horrific treatment during the rest of the Second World War.

The speed and success of the Japanese invasion caught the British and Commonwealth troops by surprise. In haste, evacuation of some British citizens residing in Malaya was organised. The majority sought sanctuary in India: the more fortunate crossing by sea, while others endured a trying passage via land across the mountains of Burma. A smaller number, however, were evacuated to Australia.

Recently, the Lorne Historical Society received a number of photos and documents which had surfaced during a family 'clean out' of saved items. Many readers would identify with the task of cleaning for a deceased estate or when a relative moves from home. Of particular interest among the donated items were two small black and white photos (see image here) showing women and children sitting on the grass and smiling for the camera in one of those typical family snaps. The text on the back was illuminating (see image here). The subjects were British citizens from Malaya billeted at Argyll in 1943. Argyll was one of the grand guesthouses Lorne was famous for. It was located at the southern end of Mountjoy Parade. The substantial building ran back to meet Smith Street.

The presence of these evacuees here in our town was something unknown to members of the LHS. Lorne was of course vitally involved in the nation's struggle during the dark years of World War Two as evidenced by large contingent of local men and women who served and also by the presence of the Coastal Spotters shed atop Teddy's Lookout. Helping to house evacuees adds to the picture of our town's contribution to the nation's effort.

The photos in question were mailed to the late Merv Rice and were recently passed on to the LHS.

Does anyone have any further information? LHS would love to hear from you. Contact can be made by email to: info@lornehistoricalsociety.org.au.

Perhaps you or your family has an historical gem hidden away in some dark cupboard which you might loan or donate to the society.



At Argyll House - Lorne 1943 - friends
from Malaya
Mrs. Wilshaw Alhurst (Mrs) Ogilvie, Barker, Muir
Taylor, Anderson.
Children
- children attended the
Lorne School.
all English people living
in Malaya who were
evacuated during the war 1943
& were billeted in LORNE AT ARGYLL





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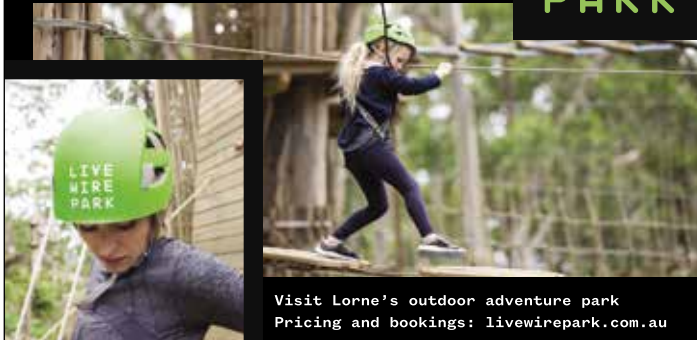
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MITES THAT BITE

By Local Vet Liz Brown

Part 1: The ones you can do something about.

There are many ways we think of our pets; often they're our fur babies, our best friends, our siblings or our entertainment. When we strip away their funny little quirks and personality they can be seen as two microcosms working together. They have an outer sac comprised of living and dying skin, fur, dander, bacteria, mites, fungi, yeasts and dirt.

The other ecosystem is the long fermenting tube, called the intestines, with its specialised range of bacteria, worms, viruses and other micro-organisms. Some of these little beasties are more acceptable to us than others and if the status quo gets disrupted, then disease can be the result.

Pet stores have shelves filled with anti-parasitic products. Most of which are all doing the same thing in slightly different ways and for slightly different prices. The flea collars and shampoos have slowly given way to the spot on preparations which have been replaced by monthly or trimonthly chews and tablets or a yearly injection from your vet. Often, they kill lice, which feed on dead skin; demodectic mites, which live in the skin of normal dogs and only cause an issue if there is a problem with the skin; sarcoptic mites, also called mange, and fleas.

Mange is the same as scabies and can be an itchy problem for foxes and wombats. It needs to stay in close contact with its host so only a problem in our pets if they find themselves in a fox den or a wombat hole or in close contact with an infected animal. Fleas are the main reason for dosing our pets. Fleas spend 60% of their time away from their host so can be picked up in shared bedding, the carpet in your house and sand in your backyard, especially during the warmer months. They carry tapeworms and are irritating as they motor around the base of the hair, especially at the tail base. Fleas are opportunists and will flock to a sick or dying animal in droves. Most flea treatments paralyse the adult fleas or prevent the babies from hatching by disrupting the development of the beak the foetus uses to break open its shell during hatching. They work well if every cat and dog that ever roamed in the neighbourhood has been treated with the same preparation.

Perhaps the most common parasiticide that we use regularly are the worm prevention products. Round worms are those long spaghetti-like worms that have cleverly evolved to be present in the dam's milk so they can infect the newborns immediately. They are also very susceptible to common worming products. Hookworms are less of a problem in our healthy pet populations. Tapeworms, however, are a constant problem. There are two main types of tapeworms in Australia; the hydatid tapeworm which was once found near Mansfield and produces cysts in sheep intestines, and the dog/cat tapeworm which look like little bits of rice in your pet's faeces. Tasmania has been free of hydatid tapeworms for many years and to remain that way they insist on any dogs, visiting the state, to have been treated with a product known to kill tapeworms ten days prior to arrival.

Praziquantel is a product effective against tapeworms. It is bitter and unpalatable, so it is not present in any of the preparations that claim to treat all parasites. If you are going to use those products it would be pertinent to also give an all wormer from time to time.

Heart worm causes another range of problems. It is transmitted by mosquitoes who previously fed off an infected dog and then bite another pet. I haven't seen a case of heart worm in this area but then again, I don't test for it regularly either. It seems to be more of a problem the further northeast you travel and there is a website that will indicate where the latest cases have been found.

As it suggests, adult heart worms live in the heart and will consequently cause cardiac problems. It can be treated but the treatment can be fatal as the debris from the dying worms can cause clots in the vasculature. Prevention, either as a monthly treatment or an annual injection, works by killing one of the larval stages that circulate in the bloodstream.

That leaves us with the dreaded ticks! Most of our wildlife are hosts to a range of ticks and a quick way to make friends with your local blue tongue lizard is to pull the ticks out its ears. Ticks tend to cause a local irritation and if you get to look at one under the magnifying glass, you'll notice they're rather twee. However, there is the paralysis tick, who's natural host is the bandicoot, and they can be fatal to our fur babies.

Apparently, a dog in Winchelsea was diagnosed with a paralysis tick recently but I'm not sure if it picked it up locally or had been travelling east, northeast, of Melbourne. The only treatment, other than removing the tick, is the antitoxin and the first sign is often a change in your pet's vocalisation. Bandicoots have been reported in the area. Have they brought their ticks with them? They probably have. Most tick preparations are effective against the paralysis tick, but a good check of the ears and paws is also recommended. Another tick-borne disease, ehrlichiosis, is caused by the bacteria in the mouth parts of the brown tick and is currently a Queensland problem. The problem is that to prevent it you'll need to kill the tick before it bites. Only the topical preparations will do this.

Our next dilemma is what are these parasiticides doing to our environment. The topical preparations will leach into our rivers and oceans as our pets swim, poisoning the microbiota that live there and killing off part of the food chain. The flea preparations that paralyse the fleas have been blamed for neurological issues in dogs and cats. The worming preparations are excreted in the faeces. Are they also killing the soil microbiome?

Everything you do has a knock-on-effect. Perhaps a healthy pet is also home to range of interesting microbiota? Perhaps we need to learn to live with them as well as our beloved pets?. Perhaps the cure is worse than the bite?

Travellers Tales

KOMODO NATIONAL PARK SCUBA DIVING TRIP

By Keith Miller



Every year a group of us head off on a SCUBA diving adventure. Some of us have been doing this for over 40 years.

This year it was to Komodo National Park in Indonesia.

We flew into the new airport at Kuta Bali where we had to spend a night to catch a flight early the next morning to a city called Labuan Bajo on the island of Flores.

I used to visit Kuta in Bali back in the late 70's when it was a tropical paradise with dirt roads and a few shops made out of bamboo and palm leaves but these days it's just a big, overcrowded city with traffic jams, hotels and bars everywhere.

Its one saving grace is that everything is still very cheap.

It only took about 90 minutes for our flight to Flores which was much quieter than Kuta and everything there was even cheaper than Kuta. We stayed in small units behind our dive shop and were within walking distance of lots of restaurants and a nightly fish market where you choose your fish, and they then grill it over hot coals.

The next morning, we started our diving doing 3 dives each day.

The rickety old dive boat was over 40 foot long but very narrow and rolled a lot. It's top speed was only 8 knots, so it took up the 3 hours to get to some of the dive sites. Because it's their wet season the dive shops were very quiet, so we had the boat nearly to ourselves which was a bonus. We were leaving at 7am every morning and not getting back until 5 or 6pm so they were long days, but they had mattresses on top of the boat with a canvas sunshade, so it was all very comfortable.

All the diving was done in the Komodo National Park with a lot of it around Komodo Island. This area is in the Coral Triangle which is home to the richest marine biodiversity on the planet, so the diving was sensational.

We had 30 to 40 metre visibility, the water temperature ranged from 26 to 32 degrees and the currents were some of the strongest I've ever encountered.

Currents are actually a good thing because they continually bring in food so the fish thrive in them especially the big predators, so we saw plenty of those.

Continued page 9



**From page 8**

It was peak Manta Ray season so we dived with more than you could count on nearly every dive.

They were all between 4 and 6 metres wing tip to wing tip and were close enough to touch. Some of them would hover less than a metre above our heads and seemed to enjoy our clouds of rising bubbles hitting their bellies, I reckon they probably tickled.

Every now and then one of them would take off when the bubbles touched them. They must have been ticklish. One took off above me and its wing tip hit me on top of the head. I'll use that as an excuse for my poor writing.

We also came across a few all-black ones which are quite rare.

Other than the mantas the other marine life and range of corals was astounding.

We ate out somewhere different every night with some great food but some not so good, but we couldn't complain because it was all so incredibly cheap.

The local Bintang Beer was usually between \$3.50 and \$4.00 per stubby and always nice and cold so we decided that because it was so cheap, the more we drank the more we saved so we saved a heap.

We hired motorbikes for the last couple of days so we could do a bit of exploring.

Flores is quite a big island, much larger than Bali and covered in dense rain forest but all the islands east of it including Komodo are bare. Apparently, this area is the driest part of Indonesia.



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EDITORIAL *By Jan Goud - Editor*

Dear readers I have been very happy to have such constant positive feedback from you all, about the changes to the Lorne Independent with it becoming full colour and sometimes blossoming into a “Bumper” edition of 40 pages. As you know the team of excellent writers and more guest writers help keep things moving and changing.

We have good advertisers on board to ensure we can keep going, but as with all things, our costs have risen. Recently we had a meeting of the Team to look at our prospects into the future and our accountant warned us that we were too close to the edge. As you know the Lorne Independent is a not-for-profit Community Newspaper run by volunteers.

I am aware if asked how it could be improved, most would say less advertising, but this is how the paper is funded. Last year we overhauled the advertising costs and developed a Media Kit which shows advertisers the cost and specifications of each advertisement's size. We increased the costs of advertising quite a bit before the last financial year began. They had not had increases in prices for at least 10 years. These advertisers are billed monthly or yearly (which gives them a discount) and payment is closely monitored. We hoped this would ensure our bottom line for the future. However, sadly we all concluded in the face of the implacable figures presented, that we must raise the price of our Newspaper to \$4.00. None of us wanted to make this decision as money is not our first consideration in working on this publication. But we also did not want to decrease the size or go back to less coloured pages. So QED.

Doug Williams, your popular Garden and Nature Correspondent said this:

Some readers may not be aware that the Lorne Independent is run by volunteers who devote their time to getting an issue out every month of the year.

OP SHOP BUZZ *By John Ford*

The Lorne Opportunity Shop (Op Shop) is thriving in its temporary location by the Erskine River.

The loyal customers and donors seem to have had no difficulty in finding us, and we have made new friends with the neighbouring shopkeepers. The location is perhaps a little quieter, being set back further from the Mountjoy Parade traffic and with the paved ‘plaza’ out front.

The display opportunities in the shop mean that there are clear browsing areas especially for the clothing racks, shoes and books. Many special and unusual items are also able to be well displayed in the broad area in front of the shop. Similar to the situation at 96 Mountjoy Pde, we are noticing that many shoppers are browsing while waiting for their morning tea/coffee to be brewed and served nearby.

Our customers are many and varied, some who call by most days of the week to see what bargain might have just arrived. Others are visiting the town and urgently need possibly a

The cost of bringing out a high-quality colour publication on high quality paper has risen to the point that a price rise is necessary. Distribution of the print edition of the paper is, again, voluntary and all steps are taken to keep operating costs to a minimum, but printing costs don't get any cheaper year by year. Reluctantly, we have had to take this decision. The unwanted, unavoidable, inevitable rise in the cost is soon to take effect (July) The price rise to \$4.00 makes each issue less than a cup of coffee.

David Stribling, Treasurer, had this to say:

“In 2016 when I took over the treasure's job the price of the Lorne Independent over the counter was \$2 per copy. The current over the counter copies still sell for \$2.

The cost of printing the magazine has more than quadrupled, albeit the move to all colour, and extra pages has had a significant bearing on the costs which have been partially offset by increased advertising revenue. However, it is important to ensure the survival of our magazine as a quality contributor to Lorne & District by minimising loss areas. It is therefore regretful that we have to put the price of over-the-counter sales up in July to be commensurate with current inflation.

And Harri Muller the Distribution Manager, provided this insight since the beginning of the paper by Jo Vondra, 23 years ago.

First published in December 2001 - Price - 60c

Price lifted to \$1 in July 2004

Price lifted to \$2 in July 2011

So it's 13 years since the last price rise and with the plan to move to \$4, it's still less than a cup of coffee!

So dear readers, I present these other members of the Team's views to show how reluctant we all were to add to the current costs of living, and for my part, interfere with the historical and anachronistic aspect of the paper that I so enjoy.

I hope you will understand as we also raise the yearly digital rate to \$40 per year and if you in want the hard copies posted to you, given the ever-rising postal costs \$75 for a year.

Please continue to buy and therefore keep in existence our special Lorne publication.

towel or even a fork or wine glass. The thing about the Op Shop is that different and varied stock arrives daily and where possible it is priced and displayed the same day.

On my shift last week a person donated a large number of tennis racquets which were in almost brand new condition. A large woollen carpet roll was also donated and it was priced and sold to an astute customer before it had even been properly displayed. On the same shift a set of four stylish ‘Nick Scali’ chairs in great condition were purchased by a very happy shopper. A framed picture of a WW2 Spitfire drew particular interest leading up to the Anzac Day commemorations.

Remember that every sale helps contribute funds for local charities and projects, thereby reducing the quantity of material going to landfill. Every item sold will be at a much lower price than brand new making all items more affordable. Our volunteers look forward to seeing you there, whether you are donating good clean saleable items, shopping, or simply browsing. While in the shop you may wish to purchase your copy of the Lorne Independent, also produced by volunteers, which now has to be priced at \$4 to cover rising costs of colour printing. Still great value!



Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.

Police are out there to keep you safe. If you still choose to take risks while driving and break the road rules, chances are you will be caught.



SES LORNE UNIT *By Chris Jones*

All Quiet on the SES Lorne Front

When writing this article, February, March, and April had been relatively quiet months for the Lorne Unit. That's not to say we haven't been out providing services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including public holidays, school holidays and Easter. The year has started with several Severe Weather Warnings involving heavy rainfall and damaging winds

The Requests For Assistance totalled eighteen and included the following:

- 1 Vehicle into Building (Structural Damage)
- 8 Tree Down Traffic Hazard
- 1 Tree Down on Power Lines
- 1 Road Rescue - Persons Trapped (Extraction)
- 1 Road Rescue - Person with injuries, no extraction
- 1 Road Rescue - Person with injuries, no extraction assisting SES Torquay Unit
- 1 Road Rescue - no extraction, fatality assisting SES Winchelsea Unit
- 1 Road Rescue - extraction with injuries cancelled after dispatch
- 1 Assist Ambulance Casualty Handling & Extraction
- 1 Dispatched then cancelled (Animal Incident)
- 1 Rescue High Angle - Dispatched then cancelled

Our members attended several locations across and outside our response area, including Lorne Township, Moggs Creek, Wye River, Teddy's Lookout, and Deans Marsh. The Dean's Marsh Road continues to be a source of work for the Unit.

Investing in our volunteers

Volunteers have also gained certification in large rigid truck licence and chainsaw use. We have also seen members progress from crew member supervised to crew member level 1.

Road Crash Rescue Training

VICSES responds to up to fourteen hundred road crash rescue events each year. Although road crash events have dwindled in our response area over the last few years, we have seen a significant uptick this calendar year. The unit continues to educate our community regarding this. Please be realistic with your journey deadlines, be extra alert, drive to the conditions, take breaks more often, and stay safe! We want you to arrive safely and not meet you by accident

Two volunteers will be attending a nationally recognised competency - road rescue course in early May and June. Bolstering the number of members available at any time. This course aims to provide VICSES members with the knowledge and skills to work in a team at a road accident to safely extricate trapped persons and respond to on-scene hazards, as required under statutory requirements.



Our volunteers' skills are maintained during road crash rescue training, meaning they can effectively respond to a road crash using state-of-the-art equipment. We are about to commence a program of training involving both theory and practical experience working on vehicles

Lest We Forget

SES Lorne Unit Members attended and laid a wreath at the Anzac Day Commemorative Service at 11 am at the Anzac Memorial Park in Mountjoy Parade. Always very sobering, the Ode recognises the ultimate wartime sacrifice. They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor shall the years condemn them. We will remember them.

Membership Drive

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Mahatma Gandhi.

We have started a membership drive this year to increase the number of volunteers, especially female members. We are committed to developing and strengthening community partnerships to help keep Lorne and surrounding communities safe during emergencies. SES Lorne Unit is looking for volunteers in a wide range of roles, including flood storm response, search and rescue, community education, and more. Not everybody wants to do road rescue.

What you will love about VICSES:

- Helping your community
- Making new friends
- Learning new skills
- Experiencing new challenges
- Personal fulfilment

Email our Unit Controller at christopher.jones@members.ses.vic.gov.au or drop in and see us on Tuesday Evenings after 7.30 pm at the Lorne Emergency Services Complex, 40 Smith Street, Lorne.

Stay safe from the SES Lorne Unit.

For VICSES emergency response, call 132500
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Barwon Water Community Update

Barwon Water is Victoria's largest regional urban water corporation.

We have a proud history of contributing to regional prosperity by providing water and sewerage services that support community health, sport and recreation, gardens and agriculture, the economy, cultural values and the environment.

Learn, share, and get involved! We're working together with the community to enhance our region.

Learn more and have your say on our projects and activities. Scan the QR code to find out more.



Lorne: Water, Your Say

Get involved and learn how you can contribute to a sustainable, resilient water future for Lorne.



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Be waterwise every day

Learn more about how you can be more waterwise in your home or business. Plumbing programs, grants, advice and resources are available to support you.



INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES HELPING TO DELIVER RELIABLE WATER SERVICES

Barwon Water's work to maintain and improve Lorne's water service infrastructure is continuing with maintenance work to start in May.

The works on the tank at the corner of Erskine Falls and Polwarth roads will help ensure reliable and high-quality water services for the community.

The works will follow refurbishment of a water storage tank near Teddy's Lookout in Lorne that began in March, and the installation of a 500,000-litre new tank at that site last year.

Barwon Water General Manager of Planning, Delivery and Environment Seamus Butcher said the work will ensure the longevity of the infrastructure for Lorne.

Mr Butcher said there would be no impact to customers water supply or pressure during the project, but there may be localised noise and dust due to works at the tank.

While works will be confined to Barwon Water property, speed limits on Erskine Falls Road will be temporarily altered to accommodate the project.

"We thank the community for their patience while these essential works are undertaken," Mr Butcher said.

Work is scheduled from May to August 2024 and will take place between 7.30 am and 5.30 pm, Monday to Friday.

For more information and project updates, please contact Barwon Water on 1300 656 007 or email projects@barwonwater.vic.gov.au.

Barwon Water is also working with the Lorne Community on its Lorne: Water, Your Say project for a sustainable and resilient water future for Lorne. For more, see www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/lorne-hub.

EQUITY, AFFORDABILITY, SUSTAINABILITY TO INFORM LORNE WATER FUTURE PLANNING

Barwon Water's Lorne Community Working Group met on 22 April for the third time as part of the Lorne: Water, Your Say program.

Barwon Water General Manager of Planning, Delivery and Environment Seamus Butcher said the group is both knowledgeable and passionate about Lorne's water future.

"The group is providing a robust forum for Barwon Water and Lorne locals to collaborate on future water security options. We're extremely grateful for the insights that can only be provided by people on the ground with local knowledge," Mr Butcher said.

Community Working Group member Anne Mason is continuing to see the benefits of the forum.

"There are some really highly qualified and experienced people from diverse disciplines across the group, which is very impressive. I think it was a really fruitful meeting, there was a lot of passionate discussion. It has been really valuable," Ms Mason said.

Mr Butcher said the main objective for the third meeting was to define principles and values, and the group agreed that equity, affordability, environmental sustainability, and open-mindedness were core themes.

"These values, and subsequent principles will guide the consideration of options to address the long-term water challenges at Lorne."

While Lorne's water supply is secure for the immediate future, the purpose of the Lorne: Water, Your Say project is to plan and implement actions to create a sustainable and resilient water future for Lorne.

The next Community Working Group will be held in June 2024. Additional members are welcome.

If you're interested in joining and contributing to this important project, please contact the Barwon Water team at projects@barwonwater.vic.gov.au or 1300 656 007.

For more information about the Lorne: Water, Your Say project visit: www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/lorne-hub.

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UPDATE ON LORNE TO COLAC PUBLIC BUS SERVICE

By Juliet Beatty (Deans Marsh) and Elizabeth Ryan (Birregurra)

This public bus service in its current format only runs for a six-week period commencing two weeks before Christmas and concluding on the last Sunday of January.

We received the verified patronage figures in early March. Unfortunately, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) regulations restrict us revealing the actual numbers to the public at large.

However, as you can see from the table below, the figures for 2023-2024 have only had a marginal increase on last year and pre-Covid participation.

The feedback we get is that an extension to the bus service up to at least Easter is of great significance to all those along the route. Yet the patronage figures can hardly be said to verify this! Our long-term goal is that the service would run all year round.

Our focus is now on promoting an extension of the service commencing in November to capture the Colac Show, various public holidays (Melbourne Cup etc.), schoolies and concluding on Easter Monday. To achieve this goal, we plan to approach our local business groups and both the Colac Otway and Surf Coast shires. We would appreciate it if you could support us in our endeavors.

Our catch cry remains - "use it or we will lose it."

They keep record of the types of fares purchased.

Concession tickets made up the largest proportion of purchased tickets i.e. 22-23 64%, and 23-24 86%

Interesting facts:

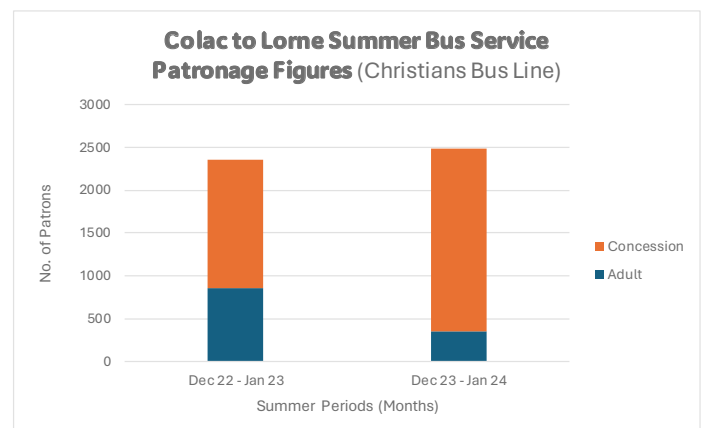
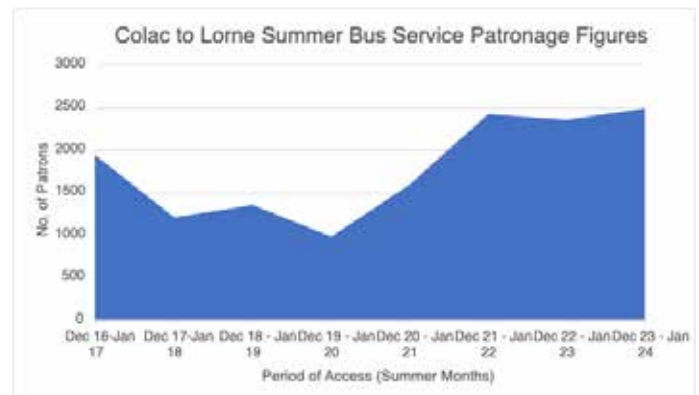
Falls Festival in Lorne

- December 2016 - relocated to Mt Duneed due to the Wye River Bushfires
- December 2018 – Last held due to the subsequent years having extreme bushfire risk (2019-2020) and COVID 19 (2020-2021 & 2021- 2022)

Concessions fare

Information Source: PTV website
<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki/concessions-and-free-travel/>

Asylum seekers	Health Care Card holders	Seniors Card holders
Children	International students	Tertiary students
Disability Support Pension and Carer Payment recipients	Pensioners	War veterans and war widow(er)s
Carer Card holders	School Students	



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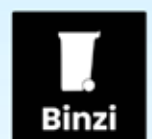
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THE LOUTTIT LOOP

Gotta get this off my chest before we go any further! If you buy this monthly rag from one of our outlets, you have no idea of the bargain you've been getting every month! Not only are our words pure gold, but it actually costs us much more than \$2 per issue to produce! True dinks. So sadly, we are forced to increase the price – not to \$3 because that would mean going thru all this pain again next year, but to \$4 from the July issue!!!! Now, I know it's worth it, and in fact bloody good value – even if only to refer to our ads to find a tradie – but with all those colourful photos, and ladiadah pages well we have no choice. The writers are not being paid any more, well they are actually not being paid at all and never have been! We are a non-profit group – but cannot afford to lose money every issue we sell. DOH?? So apologies for this, but please keep on supporting our efforts and keep us in print.

What a wonderful weekend we had here when Rosie Batty came to town, AND the Colac VIEW Club hosted a High Tea At Ravenswood!

QDOS Gallery hosted the Rosie Batty event, and Greg Day did his usual gentle wonderful interview! I'm quite sure Rosie is a lady everyone dips their lid to – and as Australian of the Year, and Domestic Violence Campaigner she came to Lorne to discuss her new book – HOPE! Over 90 guests gathered to pay homage to this powerful woman! Only a few men as the Dolphins were busy BEATING Simpson. It's hard to imagine how she gets out of bed every day, but once I have devoured her book, I may have a better handle on that!! Thanks to Lorne books and to QDOS for making this event happen.

It was a bit chilly for us to get our legs out and frock up for the High Tea at Ravenswood, but our best jeans and a clean but smart top did the job well. Organised and run by a group from Colac – VIEW – it was a spectacular event! Maree – one of Ravenswood's owners for the last five years - offered their house to bolster the coffers for the Smith Family cause. Never have I witnessed such a wonderful team of volunteers, each going about their allotted tasks with such a happy fun approach. And the food! OMG. Organised by former home economics teacher Heather who produced 175 scones her very self, the ribbon sangers were to die for, the cakes galore so special, fruit on sticks, home made sausage rolls – you had to be there – champers in hand – to get it! The 1890's house has been superbly renovated and furnished – to say nothing of the divine garden. Quite a few Lorne ladies and a few men flew the flag for us, and it was an absolute joy to be part of VIEW's big day in Lorne. Thanks Colac! You rock!

OK so what does VIEW stand for. Voice, interests and education of women. Watch this space for any future fundraisers they hold!

That dynamic Anna Mac is back with her Monday Community Night Market – this year from 4 till later at Clams next to the Church in the middle of the main street. The first one was just so good and the wonderful display of delicious organic vegies from Kinsfolk Farm, and olives and prize-winning olive oil from Mt Moriac Olives as well as a BBQ, flowers, kinder stall, records and 2nd hand goods and live music from 7. Such a happy vibe.

Thanks to Jason Widdop for his unbelievable photos of the spectacular Aurora Australis putting on a show for Lorne.

In April we lost dear gentle Roger Calder after a long stay in the Nursing Home. The Roger and Mandy team were so special

to Lorne and added so much to our community. Our sincere sympathies to Mandy and family, and thanks for the great memories. RIP mate.

Also, Margaret Rose Griffiths has peacefully passed on to the big party in the sky! A wonderful mother and a good friend to many, she will be missed.

A very well earned and much needed Shelter Licence has formally been granted to Surfcoast Wildlife! After three years of waiting Jason and Remedios will erect a Macropod enclosure and animals will be able to be released on site after their rehab. A much better choice than having to euthanise so many darlings. At last – Surfcoast Wildlife Refuge will be a reality. Congratulations to all involved.

It is always wonderful to see Mantra advertise their Great Ocean Road Escape special deals at the start of the colder season. A great Luxury Escapes deal from \$319 for two adults with lots of extra treats. Certainly, appreciated by our retail outlets.

Very sad to farewell Jo Barrett (and also Dave) from the Bowls Club's Little Picket after almost two wonderful years!! Jo has many plans and projects on the go – the Surfcoast Times reports a couple of these as working with CSIRO on reducing bread waste across the country, and creating pies from wild game that has been killed as part of ongoing culling programs. All the best to you gorgeous clever lady!

Speaking of culling, it was horrifying to receive notice that shots will be heard round north Lorne soon as a shooting cull of wild foxes is to take place. SHOOTING? Bloody hell. Seems those cunning foxes bypass the deadly baits! But surely shooting is not the modern way to eliminate the problem. Fox pies anyone??

No sightings of our little hooded Plovers this month by this little 'black duck'. Just have to mention them each issue as their memory still warms our hearts.

A blast from the past – hands up those who remember Tom and Roma from Holliday Road opposite the golf course? In a discussion about scones someone commented on Tom's skills at whipping up a batch! It then came out that the family had put his lemonade scone recipe on the back of his headstone! Go search!

Our awesome group of volunteers who work on regular Sunday mornings collecting huge bags of rubbish all over Lorne were treated to a display of bin dancing at the last gathering!! Sponsored by the wonderful folk at Live Wire Park, this group is fabulous and we thank them!!

Met a new chum and her small white poodle on the beach. While our dogs ran round madly, we chatted a bit! She and her hubby wanted to know why the Lorne Independent SportsBriefs pages have no mention of men's golf? Beautiful report from the women's group, and all other sports! "Dunno" ses me. So had a word to John Ford to check it out. "Dunno" ses him! "They never give me any news." Well I reckon even the winners each week, and what special matches there are etc. would be worth it. C'mon boys. Please pretty please??

We lost two darling dogs in April. Dear old Kelpie Chocco who lived with Sue and Adrian Everett, but was actually the best buddy of their son-in-law Matt, reached his use-by and hopefully is now running like mad in doggy heaven and out of pain. And Carolyn and Wayne's three legged Cavoodle Tom also passed away. We have a couple of three legged dogs in Lorne, but Tom excelled at coping with having one leg less than his mates on the beach. Both these gorgeous much-loved boys were in damned good paddocks and will never be forgotten.

Flying Fishes are relocating to the Riverside area ready for the reno of the Theatre. Good luck Liz, keep up the quirky windows, and we'll certainly follow you to the Erskine.... Lillian xx



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From the Deck POSSUMS

By John Agar

An endless game of cat and mouse—or rather, dog and possum—plays out at ‘mine’ most evenings as twilight blends through the gloaming into darkness. My feisty Border Terrier, Blighty, his belly to the boards and his back legs splayed behind ... I have tried to tell him this is not an ideal pose from which to pounce ... waits expectantly.

Watching the evening news, I hear the soft bump and scrape of his adversary under the living room floor as it wakes, scratches, and prepares to run its nightly gauntlet. Then, unseen by Blighty, its head will shyly peep out from under the first outside step to the garden below. Then, in a mad scramble, it makes a sudden dash to the tree, and it’s up!

With Blighty yapping vainly in its wake, the ringtail [Attached photo: courtesy Australian Museum website] makes its break and skitters across the 1m gap between steps and the mature Lilli Pilli tree it calls its night-time home. Blighty is quick, but never quick enough! Soon, the ringtail is perched high above and munching on tender new shoots while a frustrated dog howls on the deck below over yet another near miss. Possum 100 [and counting] ... dog 0 [and remaining so]. I used to house a brushtail, too—a massive animal as big as a cat—but he/she disappeared some time ago, and a more demurely-sized ringtail has now taken its place.

I have tried to coach Blighty to look at the possum’s exit point under the top stair and not at the destination tree above ... but to no avail! I repress the temptation to offer him a profanity like ‘... you’re not the sharpest tool in the shed, mate’ or something similar, but as he always appears so crestfallen, it is hard to ‘diss him’ when he is so deep in despair. I also have a grudging respect for the possum whose nightly dice with death is admirable. It would be sad to see it caught and devoured.

It must be a rare house in Lorne—especially one with a bit of age atop its stumps—without a resident possum of two under the floorboards or in the roof space. Some of the modern concrete and glass mausoleums that some now oddly seem to prefer as a beach house may lack a homely possum nest or two, but certainly, most of the older homes commonly host a bevy of beasts. Though a possum or bush rat in residence used to worry me, it was so fruitless to try to trap and relocate that I now live in happy symbiosis—except when the scents of an unexpected death in the insulwool waft down [or up] into my living space.

While there are more than 70 species of possum in Australia and New Guinea, the big brushtail and its smaller pink-tailed relative, the ringtail, are the most commonly seen and are as much at home in the city as in the country or the bush. Wherever there is a tree and food, a possum will almost certainly soon call it ‘home’.

Possums are unique to Australia, New Guinea, and Sulawesi in Indonesia and are not the same as the opossums and related animals found in the Americas. Possums and opossums belong to entirely different branches of the evolutionary tree. Indeed, the Australian possum [so-named as it reminded the early settlers of the opossums that frequent other parts of the world] is more closely related

to the kangaroo than to the opossums found elsewhere. While they are both marsupials, that is about where any similarity ends.

Moreover, the brushtail possums that now infest our nearby southern neighbour, New Zealand, are not native to New Zealand but were introduced from Australia in 1837 to establish a ‘fur trade’! While we got rabbits from ‘Mother England’, they got possums from ‘Brother Australia’! It is tempting to adapt Rex Hunt’s one-time favourite sarcasm: ‘... thank you, mother, for the rabbits’, and create a New Zealand equivalent: ‘... thank you, brother, for the possums’!

Some possums are herbivores and prefer plant food. In contrast, others are omnivores—especially the ubiquitous brush [or bushy] tailed possum—and will eat whatever is available, from rosebuds and other prized garden plants and vegetables to moths, lizards, and other small creatures. These nocturnal animals [and the related cuscus] range in size from the ‘bushy’ [as big as a typical house cat] to the tiny ‘pigmy’ possum [weighing less than a golf ball]. Some—like the sugar gliders—have adapted to gliding from treetop to treetop by spreading out a thin membrane that stretches between the fore and hind legs to form a canopy like that of a paraglider.

As with many arboreal animals, the best way to see if there is a possum about is to look down, not up [NB: the same general rule applies to finding a koala], for the ground beneath it will be littered with unmistakable droppings. A word of warning, though: always be on guard when looking up into the canopy, as possums [and koalas] make urine too! And, of course, when ‘thinking koala’, there is always the risk of encountering the dreaded ‘Drop Bear’... see <https://australian.museum/learn/animals/mammals/drop-bear/>.

Meanwhile, the nightly charade continues. Tonight, the score will undoubtedly move to 100+: Zero. It must be hard to perennially lose to a possum yet to sustain such unremitting enthusiasm for the chase. But dear dog o’ mine, I do love you dearly.



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LORNE MATTERS

By Jan Goud

ANZAC Day in Lorne

It begins early! The first service is at 7am. The Men of the Shed are up even earlier to prepare the Gunfire Breakfast for everyone in the Bowls Club Car park. and with all proceeds going to the RSL



Then the local services, returned soldiers, dignitaries and school children assemble to march to the War Memorial on Mountjoy Parade where the 11am ceremony takes place. Many local people and tourists gather to pay homage to those who went to fight in all wars. How lucky were the generations who have missed out!

We are forever grateful to those young people who were ready to do their duty when the call came. Here in Australia we are especially grateful to those who fought in the islands and New Guinea to save our country from invasion.



A Happy Farewell to a Part of our Community

When the talented Jo Barrett and her genial partner Dave came to Lorne to open what became Little Picket, a hatted local eatery, we were all very excited. They were too, as they wanted to be part of a community, and the Lorne Bowls Club opened their arms to them. Jo comments how pleased they have been with the support from the wider community of Lorne as well. Those local patrons who have spread the word about the magic of Little Picket far and wide, ensuring they were continually booked out. We have indeed enjoyed their excellent food and wine, so it was with a sinking heart I heard that they were moving on. Not so, Jo assures me.



While they will no longer run the restaurant, they intend to stay around, perhaps play bowls and continue living on the Surfcoast. They will still tend their farm. They have some exciting new adventures like opening a game pie venture in Beechworth to use our culled animals such as deer and wild pigs. This is all part of Jo's journey to a Sustain (able) future. Other similar projects to recycle and use waste food are evolving. So Jo and Dave will keep in contact and hopefully return for guest Chef ventures in the future!

Here is the relaxed and happy Jo in front of one of Luke's amazing botanic displays. Such a gorgeous arrangement for Autumn. And time to thank Luke for being a big part of this Little Picket adventure! Last sittings for Little Picket!

No vacancies!

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The interior design reflects a thoughtful balance of contemporary comfort and rustic elegance. Earthy tones and natural materials seamlessly connect the living spaces to the outside world, fostering a sense of tranquility. The living area boasts a cozy fireplace, perfect for chilly evenings, while the kitchen is a culinary haven adorned with modern appliances. Each room is strategically positioned to maximize natural light, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere throughout. Step outside onto the spacious deck, where you can immerse yourself in the immersive bushland setting. It's an ideal spot for al fresco dining or simply savoring a cup of coffee while listening to the symphony of nature.

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LORNE HOLIDAY RENTAL

From the team at Great Ocean Road Real Estate

COUNCIL ENDORSES DRAFT 2024-25 BUDGET FOR SUBMISSIONS

With a strong focus on delivering core services and investing in key facilities, Surf Coast Shire Council's draft 2024-25 Budget has been endorsed for submissions.

The draft budget features an ambitious \$52.4m capital expenditure program, \$11m of which is on new projects including a Great Ocean Road bike route from Duffields Road to Strathmore Drive in Jan Juc (\$489,410). The remaining \$41.4m is ongoing capital works, headlined by two exciting facilities: Winchelsea Pool and Surf Coast Aquatic and Health Centre.

Torquay Skate Park and playgrounds at Moriac's Newling Reserve, Jan Juc's Bob Pettitt Reserve and Torquay's Ocean Acres are just a handful of Council's community assets and facilities that will be renewed through a total \$19.6m.

"From parks to playgrounds to pools, facilities like these are loved by so many and are wonderful places to foster community connections," Mayor Liz Pattison said.

Mayor Pattison highlighted the budget's focus on local roads and footpaths.

"More than \$13m will help make it easier and safer for people to move in and around their communities," she said. "As well as important sealed and unsealed road renewal across the shire, Coombes Road will be widened from Ghazepoore Road to Messmate Road (\$2.2m) and numerous footpaths will be upgraded, such as Moggs Creek's Boolooral Reserve, Anglesea's Paringa Nature Reserve, and Willis Street in Winchelsea."

There is \$862,000 for local initiatives to deliver Council's climate emergency response. "As a carbon-neutral organisation, we'll add to the 316kW of solar and 64kWh of battery storage installed on Council facilities, further reducing emissions and our energy costs," the Mayor said.

"We'll also assess resilient relief centres to support the community in emergencies (\$35,000) and roll out the inaugural year of the Growing Our Urban Forest program (\$190,000), which will adapt townships to help withstand the changing climate through tree planting and canopy cover."

The draft budget includes a proposed rate increase of 2.75% – complying with the rate cap set by the Victorian Government.

Rate revenue is the major source of funding for core services and key facilities in the 2024-25 draft budget, to support the community now and into the future.

The waste service charge funds the likes of kerbside collections, waste disposal, recyclable material processing,

local resource recovery centres, and Anglesea Landfill. The charge for rural garbage collection will increase by \$34 to \$461. It is gradually being aligned to the urban garbage charge (\$495 in 2024-25), given delivery costs and services are on par.

"We understand that many residents are experiencing financial pressures. If you are, please reach out to Council as there are rates payment plans available," Mayor Pattison said.

"Any proposed introduction or increase to fees and charges is to ensure that they are closer to the true cost of providing these facilities, services and programs, and that they are consistent across the shire. This way, the people who benefit from the service are helping fund more of the cost, while those who do not benefit contribute less."

A net surplus of \$8.8m is forecast for 2024-25. This is a forecast increase of \$18.2 million compared to 2023-24, driven by the transition of parcels of public land to Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority in 2023-24 and an increase in government grants.

"Inflation has been rising much faster than Council's revenue base and much higher than the 2.75% Victorian rate cap set for 2024-25," Mayor Pattison said.

"We acknowledge that we're facing longer term challenges that require sound financial planning. Population growth is increasing demand for services and infrastructure, and this is challenged by constraints on our ability to grow revenue in a rate-capped environment.

"It's good to see that \$540,000 of savings have been generated to support the challenge of the gap between our revenue and inflation."

Submissions on the draft budget are welcome until 10am on Monday 20 May.

View the draft 2024-25 budget online via yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget, in-person at Council office (1 Merrijig Drive, Torquay), or call Council on 5261 0600 to arrange a hard copy to be posted.

Make a submission:

- Online via yoursay.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/budget
- By writing to: Chief Executive Officer, Surf Coast Shire Council, PO Box 350 Torquay VIC 3228

Submissions will help inform Council when it considers adoption of the final 2024-25 budget at the Council meeting on Tuesday 25 June 2024.



Keith Miller
Commodore



Well Easter is done and dusted and what an Easter it was. We couldn't have had better weather. If you could place an order for the weather this is how we would have ordered it.

We smashed our best ever Easter figures by a mile and I reckon it was all due to the sensational weather. A huge thank you to all our members who completed the GORCAPA survey regarding the Point Grey Redevelopment. I've been told that GORCAPA were amazed at the response they received, with over 1000 completed surveys submitted. Let's hope we get positive results from it. (Ed. Note. See response P29).

Don't forget our clubhouse and facilities are available to members for weddings, parties, anything.

We've been getting a lot of after wedding parties/recoveries and to say that the feedback is very positive is an understatement. Everyone loves it. I can't think of a better venue. World's best location, view, beer, prices and staff.

Live Music

On Easter Sunday after the fishing comp we had our local rock legend Ronny Hollmer get his band back together for their second appearance of the year. It was a full house and we had to close the gate a few times to keep it comfortable for everyone.

Then on Saturday the 20th of April we had our Blues Arvo which was a huge success and was helped along by Anson Cameron's daughters after wedding party which started at midday but just like Anson, they didn't know when to go home.



Some of the crowd enjoying the music. If you look carefully you can see Anson Cameron leaning on the flag pole. It was the only way he could stay vertical. His mouth is also open. I'm told it didn't close for the whole weekend.

Upcoming Events.

NOTE: All the current progressive fishing competition scores are on our website.

Winter Cup Fishing Competition Number One.
Sponsored By. JASONS COFFEE AT THE CLUB.

World Sausage Roll Championships.
Sunday the 9th of June which is on the Kings Birthday Long Weekend. Judging starts at 5pm

CFA Donation.

Photo of CFA people. Scott Chirnside. Myself, Lee Hollmer, Jody Beaton and Neil Hillard receiving the donation.



We recently donated a substantial amount to the Lorne CFA.

This was raised at our Australia Day fund raiser and also a couple of Friday Night Seafood Raffles.

WHITE BAIT EVENT.

In late March in our area of Bass Strait an incredible amount of whitebait suddenly appeared and stayed for a week or so.

The sea was like a thick soup and the bigger fish and seabirds were gorging themselves on it all. We caught, Yakkas, Mackerel, Salmon, Couta and even Flathead all with their bellies full of it.

There were a few instances where the whitebait had swum (probably hunted) too close to the shore and were washed up high and dry onto the beach.

A few lucky dogs who were being walked at the time had a nice feed of fresh seafood.

Continued page 25

From page 24

I spoke to some of the old fishermen around town and they had never seen this happen before. It then just disappeared. The sea and its inhabitants never cease to amaze me.

Fishing Report.**Boat Fishing.**

Autumn has arrived along with its magnificent weather that us Anglers love.

I wish every season was like Autumn.

The fishing has been fantastic with snapper appearing in huge numbers.

They aren't huge but perfect pan sized fish which taste magnificent. Also lots of ; Gummy Sharks, School Sharks, Flathead, King George Whiting, Trevally, Teraki and big schools of Mackerel with Yakkas mixed in with them.

The Pier is still producing good catches of ; Salmon, Trevally, Mullet, Leatherjackets, King George Whiting, Snapper, Mackerel, Yakkas and Calamari.



This is Will Hall from Cambridge England with a huge School Shark he caught last week.

Will was our Dive Master when we were SCUBA Diving in West Papua last year and Bill Fry mentioned to him that if he was ever in Australia and was looking for a job Bill would give him one. Will is now living in Lorne helping Bill dig a huge hole.

BOOK REVIEW *By C L Rowe*

When I went out for my hour of exercise time in April of 2020, I had no idea that it would lead to a 532-page novel. It was tense in my house.

It was tense in everybody's house. At that time, I was staying in Lorne at my partner's family holiday house: a place we like to

frequent as often as possible. Intent to get away, I headed for my favourite place: the jetty. It was closed, and I snapped.

Already frustrated by what I perceived to be overbearing control, I couldn't even walk where I wanted. Closure of the jetty was the last, tiny straw.

I was so angry, that I huffed it up Bay Street in a single sprint. Something I had never done before.

When I got back, I poured myself a glass of scotch, opened my laptop, and didn't stop writing for six months. The original manuscript was half a million words, which I whittled down to under 140,000.

The result is a story that anyone in the world could relate to, but most of all, it is a story for Melbourne. Banksia Close is a tale about implosion, fear, and paranoia.

It's about what happens when the strongest bonds become destabilised, and sanity becomes a thread, instead of a given.

Dedicated to both Lorne, and the City of Melbourne, it is a unique gift to any reader, and is receiving rave reviews.

Available at Lorne Bookshop and Great Escape Books, as well as online.

Signed copies can be purchased from my website: clrowe.com

Follow on social: facebook.com/clroweauthor



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ARTS IN LORNE

QDOS

Des Smith *Lines of Thought*

11 May - 2 June 2024



RIISING MOON, SETTING SUN, 70 x 50 cm, Fountain Pen and Coloured Pencil on paper

Architect. Ex-professor of architecture.

Can use a hammer, a saw, and a spanner.
Wishes he could weld better.
Above average with a pen and a pencil.
Interested in the manner of places,
and from this the manner of peoples.

Meet Des at the opening 3:00pm 11th May 2024



QDOS FINE ARTS Allenvale Road Lorne 52891989 www.qdosarts.com
Hours: TFSS 9:00am - 5:00pm or by appointment

Lines of Thought.

Des Smith's Drawings.

I don't think these very fine drawings are illustrations of ideas. They are instead evidence of thinking through the drawing act. Not that they don't grapple with big ideas outside of drawing itself- Des Smith has been talking through difficult thoughts for many years. In particular, how the wisdom embedded in a country can be shared by all those who inhabit it. And in this country specifically, how such wisdom (mostly ignored by white folk) could benefit us all equally. Despite the bigness of those ideas Smith proceeds by scratching out lines on small paper. Searching rather than already knowing these lines have a wandering quality – economical without being rigidly precise. I say scratching since the lines have an etched or chalky quality – even the blocks of colour are cross hatched – not bleeding or washing or dripping. (The exception being a single watercolour). I say scratching also to emphasise the exploratory nature of making the drawing rather than it illustrating or filling a space. The notion of thinking through the hand (as though spontaneously) is complicated by the fact that the drawings mostly are second versions of smaller works made in sketch books. They're not reproductions or mere enlargements, and the 'originals' are not sketches/studies for a larger work, since none was intended. They are reflections and translations. Questions of how a line runs to another sheet which in turn joins with another are also reconsidered – questions a tiler or a land surveyor might also face.

Des Smith has been a professor of architecture, a pre-digital draftsman and a kind of specialist carpenter builder. Each is

relevant – the drawings are asking you to consider big ideas about where we are, but also concrete thoughts about how a line makes it from the hand to a sheet, and how a sheet joins another.

Graham Crist - Architect.

Monday Night Music at the Clam

Monday Night Music at the Clam will be weekly and upcoming market dates are To Be Announced. Contact Anna 0410014125 to hold a stall or play a gig - see @mondaynightmarket and @mondaynightmusiclorne for band announcements and market dates.

Hey check it out community ! We (as in all of you) created the vision that was on the poster! Thanks so much to everyone who was involved and everyone who came ! Next Monday Night Market date TBA. Monday Night Music EVERY MONDAY though! The Clam Lorne



Continued page 31

From page 30

News From Lorne Community Connect

Over Easter and the school holidays we held a very successful photographic exhibition with the theme "Stilling Time, Sensing Place". The exhibition was curated by renowned artist Meaghan Shelton and showcased a diverse collection of images. This year was the inaugural prize for 1st and 2nd place, sponsored by Mantra Lorne and Bells Fine Art Printing Geelong. Congratulations to the young and inspiring winners with first prize being awarded to Tanner Coolhaus, and 2nd prize awarded to Lexie Leonard. We wish them all the best with their future endeavours. We had a panel of 3 expert judges, Stephanie Campbell, Janusz Molinski and Anna Reynolds.

Up and Coming Events

Many of you know Tony Wolfenden, who has an international reputation as an industrial designer. Tony has also designed many kites and plans to hold a KITE EXHIBITION in the coming months. Tony used to fly the world flying/exhibiting the kites, including hanging them in the Great Hall of the NGV. We are very excited being able to share with you some of Tony's magnificent kites.

Unfortunately, we have had to say goodbye this month to our Artist in Residence, Anna Reynolds. Anna is now on her way back to her hometown of Darwin. During her 4 months stay Anna created a wonderful energy in the art space and was so connected to the community, with many of you wandering into her workspace and being met by her natural friendly exuberance.

We are in the process of finalising our next Artist in Residence, who will bring a different perspective to the LCC. Watch this space. If anyone is interested in the Artist in Residence program, please email lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com

Point Grey Redevelopment Community Values Survey

Thanks to the Lorne community for your feedback on the Point Grey Redevelopment!

We received more than 1,000 responses to our Community Values Survey, which is a new record for our Have Your Say engagement. The survey sought to formally capture what local community members and visitors have expressed about Point Grey over many years, and to understand any changes in community sentiment.

This community feedback will help inform the next phase of the project, which will result in an updated Master Plan for Point Grey, informed by the work of the Community Reference Group and key stakeholders.

We're now analysing the survey submissions and look forward to sharing a detailed update with you in due course. For more information, and to follow progress on the project, please visit <https://haveyoursay.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/point-grey-redevelopment>



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ENQUIRIES IAN 0419 502 917



LORNE P-12 COLLEGE

Hi Everyone,
We are delighted to share with you what is happening at our amazing school!



Exploring the Depths: A Dive into Marine Biology

Lorne P-12 College has embraced the rich marine environment that surrounds it, introducing marine biology and coastal sustainability programs that capitalize on the school's unique location. With the stunning backdrop of the Great Ocean Road and the nearby Great Otway National Park, the college provides an ideal setting for students to learn about marine and environmental sciences firsthand.

The introduction of marine biology and coastal sustainability programs at Lorne P-12 College serves several important purposes. Firstly, it allows students to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the marine environment and the importance of coastal ecosystems. Through field trips, hands-on activities, and interactive learning experiences, students are able to witness the complexities of marine life and the impact of human activity on coastal environments.



Secondly, these programs provide students with valuable skills and knowledge that are applicable to a range of fields and industries. As our world becomes increasingly interconnected, understanding marine and environmental sciences is crucial for addressing global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. By learning about these topics, students are better equipped to contribute to solutions and make informed decisions about the environment.

Lastly, the marine biology and coastal sustainability programs at Lorne P-12 College align with the school's commitment to providing a well-rounded education that prepares students for the future. By exposing students to diverse disciplines and real-world issues, the school helps them develop critical thinking skills, environmental stewardship, and a sense of responsibility towards the planet.

Learning about marine and environmental sciences is not only important for understanding the world around us but also for preparing future generations to tackle complex environmental challenges. By introducing marine biology and coastal sustainability programs, Lorne P-12 College is not only enriching the educational experience of its students but also fostering a deeper connection to the natural world and empowering students to become environmental advocates and stewards.



FROM OUR COUNCILLOR

For the Lorne Ward - Cr. Gary Allen gallen@surfcoast.vic.gov.au 0438 637 274



Anzac Day

I wish to thank the members of the Lorne RSL Sub-branch for their dedication to the remembrance of our service personnel who both served and paid the ultimate sacrifice in times of conflict. Both services were extremely well attended and the contributions of the students of the Lorne P-12 College

is a reminder of the importance of their sacrifice.

Thanks also to the members of the Lorne Men's Shed who provided the Gunfire Breakfast at the Bowls Club for the community after the dawn service.

Lest We Forget

Draft Budget

At the April council meeting the proposed 2024-25 council budget was endorsed to be placed on public exhibition until the 20th of May.

The draft budget describes the services and initiatives to be funded and how they relate to the Council Plan, which will be in its final year. It outlines the rates, service rates and charges and gives an explanation of the differential rating system that we adopt in the Surf Coast Shire.

For members of the public who wish to make a submission, there will be a special council meeting on Tuesday 4 June at 6.00pm. The budget will be adopted, including any proposed changes to rates and charges, at the June council meeting on Tuesday 25th.

A copy may be obtained on the Council's website and in hardcopy at the Lorne Visitors Information Centre.

Good Practice Guidelines for Service Charges

One must always be suspicious of any government announcement on a Friday afternoon, but particularly of one released on the 23 December, two days before Christmas.

In line with the guidelines contained in the "Good Practice for Service Charges" Councils when framing future budgets will be asked to align our service rate or charge with the specific and tangible service provided to the occupancy it is levied upon. For example, the kerbside collection of waste and/or recycling bins that are provided for the exclusive use of the occupancy.

Litter and waste collection from public spaces we are told should be funded by the council through revenue sources i.e. the rates. In our case we will need to find \$2.4 million in future budgets to provide this service.

Thus giving future councils a choice to either cut back on existing services i.e. fewer footpaths or reduced spending on gravel roads. OR cut back on our spending for public waste removal – which will go down a treat in Lorne where we are under continual pressure to spend more to remove the waste left by tourists and/or rearranged in the township by the cockatoos.

We are told that it is not good practice for a council to levy a service rate or charge to fund services that do not provide a direct benefit to the occupancy subject to the service rate or charge. The waste that is left in Lorne, by tourists, and the feeding of the cockatoos, by tourists, attract them. They then attack our resident's kerbside bins, spreading rubbish in our streets directly affecting the amenity of the resident.

Litter and waste collection from public spaces and the provision of public bins are to be funded from rates. At first sight there is not a lot dispute. However, all of our coastal communities are overwhelmed by the rubbish left in public streets and parks for six months of the year.

We will be expected to provide for its removal from a revenue stream that is capped and tied to an ever increasing set of deliverables mandated by the same state government. Something has to give – and the state government would rather it be us than them.

Either way the local resident pays, either through a broad, but properly targeted service charge or through what they will forgo as a result of service reduction. I believe that we must not be silent about the state government's big stick approach to correct the actions of a couple of councils that will punish the majority and particularly those municipalities whose economies are tourist-based and in our situation we have four landfill transfer stations to manage and in the case of Anglesea, to rehabilitate.

These measures have the potential to negatively impact the delivery of other community services and we are only starting to assess the potential long-term financial impacts.

Do You Know How to Spot a Scam?

Join Kate Peake, Geelong Gadget Girl, to learn about the types of digital scams currently in our community, how you can spot them and how to avoid them.

This session is suitable for those seeking information for themselves, and also for those wanting to help educate family. A cuppa and a biscuit will be provided. Kate will be available after the session to answer questions or solve simple problems you might have until 12pm.

Lorne: Friday 24 May Lorne Community House

All sessions will run from 10am-12pm. Please contact Rose Salvo, Age Friendly Officer on 5261 0600 or rsalvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au to register.

Men of the Men's Shed

ROD VAN INGEN

By Garry Fenton

Rod did a lot of surfing along the Great Ocean Road as a kid and left school at the end of form four to take up an apprenticeship.

He became a plumber, a job he will now do anything to avoid "I don't want anybody in Lorne to know that, because that could be dangerous," he said with a cheeky smile.

Rod travelled around Australia and overseas for five years. When he came back and settled, he worked as a plumber for several years before joining the family construction and property development business in Geelong. He then was able to get the required papers as a commercial builder and has pretty much been a Geelong person ever since.

He loves the ocean and has always spent a lot of time along the coast, "but not so much in Lorne as we always had the image of it being pretty busy. We went to places like Blanket Bay, Johanna and Apollo Bay because they were much quieter. Now that my wife, Robyn, and I live here full time, I love so much about Lorne: the natural beauty, the small-town friendliness of the locals and especially the sense of community."



Rod knew about the Men's Shed after he was harassed by several at the Bowls Club to come and join in at the Shed. "I had been warned about Allan getting fifty bucks out of me to be a member, and sure enough on the first morning, my welcome was 'you owe us fifty bucks and here's a paint brush, get painting!'"

It didn't take Rod long to get involved in some projects. The Mantra tables were his first involvement, and

his hands-on knowledge was very valuable when getting that project completed. Now he is working with Kevin and others on the Community Connect frames for the Easter Art Show. He led the project and put a lot of thought and time into the frames and his meticulous planning and effort was appreciated by all involved.

Rod said he has really enjoyed his involvement and meeting new people. "I joined principally to give something back by assisting in community projects but it's also a great place to get all the gossip from around town! I also love the 'leave your ego at the door' ethos. It's a wonderful welcoming place. It's just a pity that Blissys can never get the coffee warm enough!"

BLUE SUEDE SHOES AT LORNE AGED CARE *By Liz Hart*

Aged care residents from Lorne and Apollo Bay were all shook up when Elvis visited Lorne on 28 March.

They couldn't help falling love with the man and his music, as he worked the room with their rock-n-roll favourites.

Lorne Nursing Home hosted Apollo Bay residents for the concert and for lunch.

The occasion was part of the nursing home's international activities program, which takes residents by armchair on a cultural journey to a different country every month.

Staff jitterbugs took to the floor too, to the delight of a full-house audience with standing room only for many.

Funds from Lorne Op Shop made the concert possible.

Activities coordinator Liz Maginness said the nursing home was always grateful for the Op Shop's support.



LORNE GARDENERS INC. *By Barb Barber*

Our monthly outings come around quickly. We have had an enjoyable start to a busy year. Early in March our garden club members were out and about in the Colac district. There are many hidden treasures on the fertile volcanic plains.

At Warrion on the Coragulac-Beeac Road the committee served a delicious morning tea in artist Trina's Garden. We listened to the history of this property where she had raised her family and wandered, admiring Trina's artistic talents, her productive orchard, her beautiful dry-stone walls (some built by her) and colourful native planting. She also had a "Gonwandaland" area with a Ginko and a very tall Wollemi pine which amazed some of us. (We have them in our gardens as small trees). Sadly Trina was about sell her home and garden which contains so many of her family memories.



Travelling in convoy we moved on to Corangamite Road, Coragulac to explore Tony and Kathy's repurposed quarry garden at the foot of Red Rock. This was a product of sheer hard work and determination in an unlikely place.

Situated above a Crater lake, the geographic features of the quarry are a stunning background to Tony's extensive cacti, succulent and native plant collection. Formerly the quarry supplied material for building and road works but now it is a truly amazing garden.

Lunch was in Colac at Lake View Cafe and a wander in the Colac Botanic Gardens, which is always a charming place to visit.

This month (April) we supported the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre by visiting an Anglesea garden designed by Peter Shaw from Ocean Road Landscaping. Maria kindly opened her attractively designed, low-care sprawling garden of native and coastal tolerant flora.



We moved on to lunch in the pretty village of Inverleigh.

The day concluded at "Woolbrook", Teesdale.

Lachie and Anise manage this beautiful property. The historic homestead was built in 1857 and along with its extensive garden, original woodshed, pool and tennis court, it is available for special functions, glamping, weddings and corporate conferences. We all agreed Lachie is to be congratulated for his enthusiasm, pride, knowledge and attention to detail when presenting this family property to us.

On each occasion the weather was perfect, and we delighted in another happy outing together.

Our next adventure in May is to Daylesford and Hepburn Springs, viewing the vibrant Autumn colour.

SPORTSBRIEFS

By John Ford

Football and Netball Excitement

The 2024 Colac and District Football and Netball season is now well under way. The Dolphins Senior and Reserves football teams have started very well with the seniors winning their first three matches in quite convincing fashion. Lorne now sits in second place on the CDFL Ladder, but with more difficult matches ahead against Irrewarra-Beeac and South Colac.

The Dolphins netball teams have had some great matches, but it took until Round 3 to really achieve scoreboard success – with three of the teams defeating their Simpson opponents.

The netball season looks as though it will be quite even and I believe that Lorne's A Grade team can produce form that will take them into the top five under inspired coaching from Leigh Potter. Hannah Keane is playing very well and is among the top three goal scorers in the whole competition, despite the team having had only one win so far.

Lorne's new senior football coach Ed Curnow has the team playing very fluent football and the wins could have been even more emphatic with greater accuracy in front of goal. Against stronger teams Lorne will have fewer opportunities to score and so goalkicking accuracy is vital.

However I believe that Lorne can still improve in some areas and become a real force in the competition. Because of a split round over the next two weekends, Lorne's next match is not until 4th May which will be a great contest against Irrewarra-Beeac.

The football and netball season unfolds as follows:

4th May: Irrewarra-Beeac versus Lorne

11th May: Lorne is at home against South Colac.

18th May: Apollo Bay versus Lorne

25th May: Lorne is at home against Birregurra

1st June: Alvie versus Lorne

Tennis Easter Tournament

On 30th April Lorne Country Club held its annual Easter Tennis Tournament. Twenty players enjoyed spirited tennis on a beautiful sunny morning. The mixed doubles format where players have a variety of partners, and opponents, produces a very close outcome. The winners this year were Trudi Alcock, Kate McCullough, Jillian Chapman and David Sousa – as can be seen in Kevin Diviny's photograph. Well done to Kevin and Suzanne for hosting what was a very successful and enjoyable tournament.



Women's Golf

The days have turned cooler now - great weather for golf and after the beautiful rain we received after Easter, the course is looking a little greener, but still giving good run!

We've had a couple of special golf events this month.

On March 26th, the Women's group took their Tuesday comp to Colac, and we entered 15 players in their 3BBB Irish competition, where the best 2 Stableford scores on each hole count towards the team score. It is always a full course with a shot gun start, and two tee off groups at most of the 18 holes. After a long day of play, although none of our teams took out the win for the day - one team with Rose, Linda B. and Wendy came close, coming third - one point behind the winners, Apollo Bay.

The annual June Hunt Memorial was held on our course on April 9th for the women's playing group. This is a 4 BBB competition 2-person team event, where each player in the team plays their own golf ball, and the one with the lowest score/better Stableford points for that hole provide the score for their team. The winning team this year, with an outstanding score of 44 points was Noela Rollinson and Anne Marie Kennedy, with our Women's Captain Chris Angus and her partner Chick Hosking coming a close 2nd.

Women's Pennant: Four rounds have been played, with Lorne winning 3/4 to date. We are currently sitting at the top of the Ladder, but some teams have had byes - so it is hard to know... We have 2 more rounds to play and a bye. Our next game is at Queens Park playing against Clifton Springs who are currently sitting at 2nd place (having had their bye last week - so it's close!) We then host the following week and have our bye, and the final

round is at Point Lonsdale where we play Ocean Grove. Trying hard!!

SWGA Events

Two teams entered the Birregurra Bowl held on Monday April 15th, with both teams playing well, coming 7th and 11th in a large field of 19 teams from all over the region, with Apollo Bay winning the day. One of the holes - the 2nd/11th - known as "Niagara" is a Par 3, approx 170m in length, with a creek/OOB running alongside and behind the hole. The adrenaline rush before hitting definitely makes this hole and the results of that drive memorable!! This event is very well attended, and is a great boost to the Birregurra Club, who put on a lovely lunch for the day. The flowers decorating the clubhouse are also something to behold!

The Lorne women's group make a big effort to support our regions Club events, and the success of these are very important to these small, but proud Clubs, run and maintained mostly by volunteers, as are we at LCC.

We are a friendly group of women, at all different levels of golf skill and experience, and we love to welcome new members/ golfers to our group, and also welcome back those that may be "lapsed" golfers! If you are interested in joining our group this year, whether new to golf or with some Golfing experience, or if you have any questions, please call Sue Neill on 0418 674 062, or Chris Angus on 0439 008 167. Happy Golfing - Danni De Bon

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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Pamela Margaret Fulton
2/12/1942 – 30/11/2023

Born in Melbourne in 1942, Pam moved to Lorne at the age of eleven with her parents Len and Isobel, and sister Diane. The family lived in Gywnne Avenue in a house built by Len, and Pam spent many hours at the beach with family and friends, especially as her father was one of the first lifeguards to patrol the beach at Lorne. She had a passion for horses and would ride around the

town on her horse Cheyenne, with Diane on her pony Trixie. She had other interests like dancing and cooking, both of which she learnt at a young age. Pam attended Lorne Elementary School and later Matthew Flinders School in Geelong, and upon finishing her education, she worked at the Lorne Telephone Exchange.

Pam married Bill Fulton in 1963, and they moved into George Street to start their lives together. They ran the family business (W.T. and P.M. Fulton Television Services), and kept a large vegetable garden with many fruit trees. Pam always wanted a family, and in time five children were born - Donald, Barry, Christine Janice and Lynette. Pam, along with Bill were wildlife carers (eventually for over forty years), and the family grew up amongst a menagerie of injured and orphaned creatures from the local area. She loved baking and would enter her sponges and fruitcakes into the Geelong Show, often bringing home the blue ribbon. In time she became a grandmother to twelve and a great grandmother to six, and she would happily knit or crochet little garments and blankets for all of them.

Pam contributed in many ways over the years to the local community, with roles in the Netball club, Lorne School, Senior Citizens club, the Op Shop, and as the unofficial “supplier of lemons” to everyone in the neighbourhood. She took art classes in Geelong and Airey’s Inlet and developed a passion and talent for capturing local scenes and wildlife in oils and acrylic. She would often display her work in the local art shows, and was very pleased every time one of her paintings were sold.

Pam was a kind, caring and thoughtful person, and family and friends were the most important things to her. She will be sadly missed. From the Fulton Family.

Farewell to Ray Clinch – from Winch!

The easiest thing in the world is to speak positively of Ray, and not struggle with searching for endless platitudes – but knowing the majority of people familiar with frequenting the Lorne Tip are grieving his passing.

Ray’s ability to recognise rare and quality antiques resulted in a shed full of them! He gathered things of value that would

last, same as his approach to people, giving him long valued friendships based on loyalty, trust and friendship. He was a man’s man – small in stature, but big in heart. Give to him and he would never forget it. His philosophy was ‘Do unto others as they would do unto you!’

Ray’s ‘customer service’ was second to none. It’s not the easiest thing in the world to balance Shire demands and still maintain customer satisfaction. One day a girl drove in with a trailer on and had several unsuccessful goes at backing the trailer. Ray encouraged her to stay in the car and eventually taught her to back it.

After being at the Lorne Tip for two months, I asked Ray was he having trouble with any customers? He said – ‘No, but there are three who are a pain in the butt.’ They were the same three a lot of people in Lorne had difficulty with, and in the end he had them eating out of his hand! Ray made some obvious mistakes in his life. I managed to find two:

- i) Supporting St Kilda football club. He had many discussions with Neil Roberts – the 1958 Brownlow Medal Winner – trying to find answers to their losses!
- ii) The second mistake was one Monday morning at the Lorne Tip. It’s 9a.m. – no Ray! We thought this was very unusual. We hoped he was alright. Always early, never late. Eventually the Shire found a fill-in and the next day we found out he had a very late Sunday night with some mates and didn’t wake up in time..... Someone said ‘you can take the boy out of the Western Suburbs but you can’t take the Western Suburbs out of the boy!’

We will miss the discussions around vintage cars – of which he had great knowledge. His warmth towards dogs was genuine, providing a Smacko to most dogs and all the dogs looked for him.

We will miss his whistle backing to the bin at the Tip.

We will miss the banter of what the Shire was going to do and how they should do it. Ray had a great sense of humour. He knew his own failings and could laugh with everyone. Ray was loved by all who really came in touch with him. He knew right from wrong, didn’t suffer fools gladly, but had a good heart.

Vale our mate Ray. Ed B.



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IT'S MORE THAN A JUST A BLADE OF GRASS

By Doug Williams

As kids we would place grains of wheat on damp cotton wool in a saucer, put the saucer on a windowsill and watch them germinate in a matter of days.

Wheat was easy to come by then since like many people we kept chooks in our suburban back yard. There wasn't the raft of regulations dictating how, if, where and when about having chooks back in the mid to late twentieth century. (I don't think it's permissible at all now.) Anyway, this wheat growing experiment came back to me in my high school biology class when I learnt that grains like wheat, rye and rice and et cetera were all monocotyledons and I fell for my first six syllable word – and for my biology teacher. These days I use the abbreviated term monocots – and my biology teacher must have died of old age by now.

Grasses and sedges are monocots, and this simply means that they only have one leaf. Sedges, sugar cane and all the thousands of varieties of orchids are monocots. Below the surface sea grasses are monocots. Water lilies are too, surprisingly enough. (It's botany, so it's complicated.) Bananas and pineapples are monocots as are many garden plants such as gladioli, daffodils and lilies.

Here at home monocots in the vegetable garden include garlic and onions, sweet corn, asparagus and lemon grass. There's also a small area of rye grass and kikuyu I like to think of as a back lawn but really, it's pretty weedy with dicots of all description growing in it. Some people become fastidious about their lawn of course while the only experience most people have with monocots is when a contractor mows their lawn.

Many terrestrial monocots are a food source. There are vast paddocks of wheat in the Mallee, the great plains of the American Midwest under cultivation produce wheat and



sweet corn, barley and oats, the Ukraine - the food bowl Russia wants to possess - exports wheat, barley and corn. When it comes to rice, China and India are by far the biggest producers. Australia comes in at number forty-five and its cultivation is just a waste of water in my opinion (Apologies to Lachy and Gerry.).

The great grasslands of the planet are not simply vast monocultures of monocotyledons. Grasslands like the Pampas in South America, the Savannah of Africa and to a lesser extent the Prairie in North America all support diverse populations of flora and fauna. The same applies to the vast Eurasian Steppes. The largest of all grasslands - the extensive Hulunbuir Grassland of Inner Mongolia contains hundreds of species of plants and hundreds of species of animals and birds. What all grasslands have in common is their adaptation to fire and to moderate rainfall – they thrive in the rain regime between a forest and a desert.

As it gets hotter and drier grasslands are expanding and have been since the Ice Ages. They are huge carbon sinks. A Californian study has found that the monocots of the grasslands store more carbon than forests because they are less susceptible to bushfires.

THE KEN AND MERNA SMITH CUP

In a deeply emotional moment at this year's Presentation Night at the Lorne Bowls Club, president Peter Jacobs announced that Lindsay Murnane was posthumously awarded the Ken and Merna Smith Cup for his services to the club.

This is an annual award started in 2018 and is awarded to the person who the president believes has made a significant contribution to the club in that year.

Lindsay, a devoted family man, was given the award for his contributions to the Club over the past ten years. He played in all divisions and in most positions, never missing an opportunity to represent the Club in whatever position the selectors decided. Over this time he competed in club championship games, social games and was whenever able, willing to play social bowls in a Lorne team at other clubs. Always positive and with a great sense of humour Lindsay will be sadly missed, with the club members in awe of his determination to bowl even when it was a huge effort to do so.



This presentation occurred two weeks ago. Sadly, on the morning of Anzac Day Merna died surrounded by her family. At the presentation, both Merna and Ken, said how delighted they were to present the Cup to Yvonne in recognition of Lindsay's service.

Pictured: Peter Jacobs, Daniel Murnane, Yvonne Murnane, Gary Allen. Merna Smith and Ken Smith (Seated).

Food for Thought



Only \$5
Each Session

Nourished Lifestyle Support Program helping you to live better with chronic illness

There are 8 workshops running in this highly interactive science-based program. Each session focuses on a unique theme and includes morning tea, a food demonstration and a meal. We encourage you to attend all 8 workshops. You can attend a single session. Numbers are capped at 30 participants so please register your interest early.

Time: 9am to 1pm

Cost: \$5 per workshop

RSVP: (03) 5289 4360 or email
communityreception@gorh.vic.gov.au

Location & Dates:

- **Gellibrand Community House**
Every Monday in May and July
- **Wye River Surf Club**
Every Tuesday in May and July
- **Birregurra Mechanics Hall**
Every Wednesday in May and July

For more information visit: www.greatoceanroadhealth.com.au/news/events

- Sleep and rest better

- Cope with stress, pain and illness

- Gain more energy

- Improve your health

NOURISHED LIFESTYLE SUPPORT PROGRAM

Great Ocean Road Health (GORH) have partnered with Colac Area Health (CAH), Hesse Rural Health (Hesse) and the Western Victoria Primary Health Network (WVPHN) to host a series of workshops called the Nourished Lifestyle Support Program to help people with chronic illness live better.

The amount of health information available can be very confusing. The Nourished Lifestyle Support Program is a science-backed series of workshops aimed to reduce confusion and outline doable steps to improve your own health, and that of your loved ones.

The series of 8 workshops will run each week in May and July 2024 from Gellibrand Community House (Monday), Wye River Surf Club (Tuesday) and Birregurra Mechanics Hall (Wednesday) from 9am to 1pm.

The program costs \$5 each workshop, payable on the day. You are encouraged to attend all 8 workshops. You can attend a single session.

Numbers are capped at 30 participants so please register your interest early.

The workshops will be led by Jenny Blagdon, a health and wellbeing educator and researcher with over 40 years' experience working both here and in New Zealand.

Jenny is certified in Lifestyle Medicine by the Australian Society of Lifestyle Medicine.

Jenny translates the latest science around health and wellbeing to support people to make informed choices to improve their health. Each workshop is highly interactive, practical and most importantly, fun.

Morning tea, a cooking demonstration and lunch is included in each session, to showcase how easy and delicious it can be to add more plants into our diet.

The eight workshops explore the different lifestyle factors that are key to better health. Topics the workshops will cover include: The latest science about gut health, why our gut microbes are so important and why eating more plants is key to improved health; how exercise impacts our gut microbiome in surprising ways, the different forms of exercise for maximum health impact at every age and how to make exercise doable; the best ways to take care of our brains, how it works and what it means for both our cognitive (think dementia prevention) and mental health; and the role of sleep and what we can do to get a good night's sleep.

The program is for anyone keen to improve their health and wellbeing, while being particularly useful for those living with chronic illness and people wanting to stay well as they age.

Feedback from previous Nourished participants "I began the Nourished programme thinking that I would learn something about gut health, but not necessarily implement much of it - how wrong I was. I now understand the science of gut health, am exploring a whole range of new recipes and cooking strategies and feel better each day. It has been life changing for me."

"The Nourished programme was absolutely nurturing on many levels; packed with riveting evidence-based research and practical knowledge on how we can easily boost our health and wellbeing."

"Nourished was just what I needed to inspire me to move to a much more plant-based diet. I feel re-energised and several kilos lighter.

For further information, please contact Fundraising & Communications Manager, Jessica Culhane on 0484 229 433.

ERSKINE FALLS ROAD SPEED REDUCTION

Surf Coast Shire Council is reducing the speed on Erskine Falls Road, making the road safer for all road users. The speed is being reduced from 100km/h to 80km/h.

This speed change has come about due to a number of factors including:

- Community requests for a speed change, resulting in a Road Safety Audit being conducted and the recommendation for the speed change in line with Department of Transport and Planning Speed Zoning guidelines.
- The road environment does not suit a higher speed with significant drops on the side of the road into trees.
- There has been a 16% increase in traffic using this road over the past two years, with a large amount of this traffic

being tourist traffic visiting Erskine Falls.

- The crash history on Erskine Falls Road has seen crashes occurring in optimal dry conditions suggesting speed was a factor in the accident. One accident involved a bicycle rider and one accident involved a motorcyclist.

"Erskine Falls Road is an important road for our visitors as well as our community, and we want all our road users to be safe," Surf Coast Shire Cr Gary Allen said.

"Reducing the speed won't make the trip longer but will make it safer. As always we ask everyone to drive to the conditions of the road, reducing your speed if the road quality isn't great or if the weather conditions are dangerous," he said.

The speed limit change will occur in April/May 2024. When the new speed signs are installed, "new speed limit" warning signs will also highlight the changed speed.

lorne books

Picks of the Month



FICTION: *The Glass House* by Anne Buist & Graeme Simsion



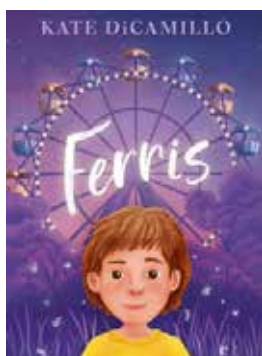
A compelling, addictive novel for readers of *Eleanor Oliphant* is *Completely Fine* told with heart, humour and insight. Psychiatry registrar Doctor Hannah Wright, a country girl with a chaotic history, thought she had seen it all in the emergency room. But that was nothing compared to the psychiatric ward at Menzies Hospital. Hannah must learn on the job in a strained medical system, as she and her fellow trainees deal with the common and the bizarre, the hilarious and the tragic, the treatable and the confronting. With intelligence, frankness and humour, eminent psychiatrist Anne Buist tells it like it is, while co-writer Graeme Simsion brings the light touch that made *The Rosie Project* an international bestseller.

NON-FICTION: *Broken Girl* by Bradley Trevor Greive

The powerful, deeply moving true story of Caroline Breure, whose mind and body were shattered by a horrific accident – forcing her to find a way to piece her broken life back together after she discovers that everything she believed about herself and her lover was wrong. Caroline Laner Breure was on holiday in Spain with her boyfriend when her skull was crushed. A year later, following starless months in a coma and painful rehabilitation, Caroline returned to her beachside apartment in Sydney, only to find that her home was not her home, her lover was not her lover and her friends were not her friends. Everyone and everything she'd loved had vanished.



CHILDREN'S FICTION: *Ferris* by Kate DiCamillo



The masterful Kate DiCamillo has outdone herself with a hilarious and achingly real story about a girl, a ghost, a grandmother and growing up. For Ferris Wilkey the summer before fifth grade is sheer pandemonium. Her little sister has vowed to become an outlaw. Uncle Ted is holed up in the basement to paint a history of the world. Charisse, Ferris's grandmother, has started seeing a ghost – which seems like an alarming omen given that she is feeling unwell. The ghost has other plans – wild, impractical, illuminating plans. How can Ferris satisfy a spectre with Pinky terrorizing the town, Uncle Ted sending Ferris to spy on her aunt, and her father battling an invasion of raccoons?

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