In writing this column over the last two and a half years I have reported regularly about how lucky we are to have the services on offer at our Lorne Community Hospital. But it’s a lot more than the building, it’s the team of personnel that provide a level of care and expertise with genuine care and commitment for the people of our community that to me is the absolute stand out.

Each year Leading Age Services Australia (Victoria) host a special evening of Awards for Excellence, celebrating the remarkable achievements of Victoria’s aged care professionals. The awards highlight unique individuals, who excel in the aged care industry. It also recognises the significant contributions they make to the quality of life for older people.

The judging panel reviews thousands of applications across Victoria wide in search of the industry’s best. They then have the enormous task of qualifying just four finalists for the award. Lorne’s very own Brock Shiel, Nurse Unit Manager Aged Care at the Lorne Community Hospital has qualified for this year’s award. Brock has been a staff member at the Hospital for over 15 years and is well known for his quiet nature and great sense of humour.

The awards are constantly commenting on how “settled” their mothers, fathers and loved ones are at the LCH nursing home. This is predictor! Brock works hard to provide a home away from home for residents allowing them independence and security combined with a high standard of nursing care. A fantastic achievement just to be nominated in the final four and all of Lorne’s fingers were crossed for the big night earlier in the week.

The Lorne Football Club have their Under 14.5’s and the Reserve Football teams progressing to the second week of the CFL. Finals series with good wins last weekend and we continue to wish them luck. The Reserve boys trained last week over at the Torquay ground, thanks to the Torquay Tigers Footy Club, and it was much appreciated by them to be able to enjoy the facilities of a good playing surface.

A productive meeting with our Shire’s General Manager of Culture and Community Chris Plew, Janie Lane, Peter Spring (Chairman of the Strinling Reserve Reserve Committee of Management) and myself last week as we continue to build relationships and pursue a remedy for the playing surface for the Lorne Football ground. The Circus Oztent has been erected on the front lawns of Mantra signalling a busy week for the organisers of the Lorne Arts Festival. The big event kicks off on Friday and for all details visit www.lorneartsfestival.com.au or call 1800 365 901 and have a great weekend in Lorne.

COMMUNITY PROFILE
With his love of the outdoors, Graham knew already while at school he wanted to work outside.
He qualified as a plumber and soon after took off on the snow fields to work at Mt Beauty and Falls Creek and to hone his skills on the slopes. He took skiing holidays in Canada and US and travelled extensively. He later married Raema, had a daughter and settled in Melbourne.
It was pure chance that brought Graham to Lorne. Twenty years ago a friend heard that Mark Trickey was looking for a partner in his plumbing business and arranged the connection with Graham.
Raema was heavily involved in the fashion industry at the time and travelling the world. It came as a shock when Graham told her he was looking for a business in the country because it would be a better place to bring up their daughter and Raema, suspect, better for surfing and golf. He promised to build her a beautiful new house overlooking the ocean if she agreed. Graham joined Lorne Plumbing and for the first six months lived under Peter Whittaker while making the move to Lorne, and was travelling to Melbourne midweek and weekends. When the house was finished in Anglesea the family moved down and quickly settled in. Plumbing work was plentiful, most of it in Lorne and they had 18 plumbers on staff. Graham loved his job and still does.
He has loads of energy, listing his passions as surfing, snow skiing and golf. An annual trip to Queensland is a fixture and they enjoy occasional trips overseas. Graham’s parents are in care in Melbourne, meaning regular trips to stay in touch.
“Just love living on the surf coast.”
CW

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

**AUGUST**
28-30  5th Annual Lorne Arts Festival, at various venues around Lorne, see lorneartsfestival.com.au
29  LAAC Point Grey Sub-committee meeting, details at the bottom of this page.
30  LAAC hosting Lorne Arts Festival performance and local band, 6pm to 6pm. All welcome.

**SEPTEMBER**
6  LAAC Winter Fishing Competition No. 4, weigh-in at 12.15, free Father’s Day BBQ lunch at 1pm.
8  LAAC Committee meeting, guest speaker, Heather Ramp, Lorne Hospital.
12-13  Amy’s Gran fondo, line up at Lorne Surf Club at 8am and travel to Skenes Creek to begin cycling. 8pm at the Senior Citizens Centre.
15  Community Forum to discuss Torquay Pool, 6pm at the Senior Citizens Centre.

R.S.V.P to Lorne Community Hospital by Thursday 28 August on 5289 4300. Please forward the dates of your Lorne Ward community event via the contact details at the bottom of this page.

Breaking down Dementia

Almost 332,000 Australians live with dementia, with numbers expected to soar to nearly one million by 2050 if there is no significant medical breakthrough.

Dementia is also Australia’s second leading cause of death, with Alzheimer’s Australia (AA) running Dementia Awareness Month to bring attention to the condition.

The term dementia covers a group of illnesses that cause a progressive decline in functioning skills, which include social skills, loss of memory, physical functioning, rationality and intellect.

The request for information and education about dementia comes from various community members and the Lorne Community Hospital (LCH) staff.

LCH recognises the impact that people with dementia symptoms have on our consumers and carers, and therefore LCH staff and resources, as well as the wider effects that dementia has on the community as a whole.

In conjunction with Dementia month, LCH are proud to announce an event titled ‘An evening with Kate Swaffer’. Kate is an advocate for people with dementia, living well with young onset dementia, a speaker, author, poet, blogger, chef, wife, mother and friend.

Kate’s community talk will encompass her personal story of living with dementia, discussion on destigmatising dementia, and practical skills in living with and caring for people with dementia.

Carol Bennett, CEO Alzheimer’s Australia said, “Our experience has shown it is not just the individual with dementia who needs assistance but the family, friends and carers.

It is essential that carers of people with dementia are supported to both manage the impact of a diagnosis and the significant challenges that 24 hour care can have on their lives. Alzheimer’s Australia encourages carers to seek support to help them cope and reduce the risk of carer burnout.”

With over 1.2 million people currently involved in the care of a person with dementia and projections indicating Australia faces a shortage of more than 150,000 paid and unpaid carers for people with dementia by 2029, the need for more services and support programs will only increase.

Mo Bennett says, “We rely on carers as 70% of people with dementia live in the community, it’s important that we are on the front foot in addressing the growing needs of people with dementia and the impact that this will have on carers now and in the future.”

EMILY LENS
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
LORNE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

When:  Thursday 3 September
Speaker:  Kate Swaffer – advocate for people with dementia
Where:  Lorne Lobbies Club (opposite the Lorne Information Centre)
Time:  5.30pm - 7pm (finger food included)

The CommiTTee for lorne

P.O Box 168, Lorne 3232. info@committeeforlorne.org.au www.cfl.org.au Phone: 0438 843 258