During the past week members of the Committee for Lorne had a very productive meeting with Forest Fire Management Victoria around their planned fuel reduction burns that are scheduled to commence around Lorne. It was positive step forward to be involved in preliminary discussions surrounding the processes and the timing of the activities around our events and active tourist periods.

As we were quick to learn, the window of time that is available to ignite the burns varies from year to year and it is essential that they are able to complete the processes when the timing is right. Although we cannot be guaranteed that there will not be any ongoing inconvenience to residents and visitors to Lorne, it is refreshing to be a "voice" in the process to help ensure the that inconvenience is kept to a

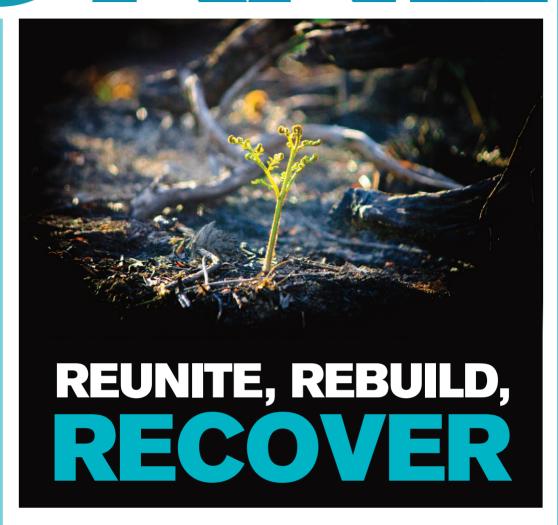
Over the next two weeks there are two scheduled burns around Lorne, one at the five mile track (approx 298ha) and the second at the top of the St George River (approx 46ha). Forest Fire Management Victoria are well aware of the large reduction in visitations over summer due to the Wye River -Jamieson Track fire. Using the best available information from the Bureau of Meteorology they are able to schedule burns when the smoke will have the least impact on Lorne, but the decision is always driven by the need to reduce the real risk of damaging bush fires.

I urge all local and visiting residents to who want the very best information and notifications about the burns to sign up at - www.pbns.vic.gov.au/ notifications/ By signing up to the Planned Burn Notification system, your are able to register for receipt of an SMS or email and configure when you want to receive the information; burns in the next 10 days, the next 24 hours or in progress and in what areas. The system has been designed to assist people who would like advance notice of upcoming planned burns.

We have continued to monitor the feedback and comments of the colour and presence of the eight banner flags that made their long awaited appearance along our Mountjoy Parade streetscape and the feedback to date has been simply overwhelmingly positive. The ongoing community feedback and comments are critical to our ability to maintain and enhance their future presence.

The Lorne Sculpture Biennale concluded last weekend and Peter Lamell and his team are to be congratulated on delivering a brilliant event. The three week exhibition of world class sculptures and installations brought thousands to Lorne and the coast and we are so lucky to be the destination that offers it all. Congratulations to everyone involved!!!!





These are the three key words in this year's Lorne Community Hospital's annual appeal.

For many Christmas 2015 will not be remembered for the usual happy gathering of family to celebrate a festive event but the year that they cancelled Christmas lunch, evacuated their towns and for many lost their homes, their belongings along with a tangible part of their history.

Although the fire that destroyed so much in Wye River and Separation Creek is contained, it is not all

With your help, Lorne Community Hospital will be in a unique position to be able to provide ongoing, local and personalised support.

Chief Executive Officer, Kate Gillan, said "We are committed to taking services into the affected areas with long term considerations. In conjunction with Otway Health, the Hospital's Board has committed to fund a support team to work alongside the community to assist with recovery and resilience building."

"There is good evidence that the health and wellbeing implications continue after a disaster for some time and that the more significant health impacts may not emerge for 12 - 18 months or longer."

By supporting this year's appeal your donation will ensure that we are able to do all within our reach to help our community members maintain the strength to manage the effort to rebuild their lives after such loss and destruction. This is real, practical and timely

Donations can be made via the donate button on www.lornecommunityhospital.com.au, at the Hospital or over the phone on 5289-4300. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. If you have any questions, please contact Katy Kennedy on 5289 4386 or kkennedy.lorne@swarh.vic.gov.au







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PETER AND ANNE MITCHELL

COMMUNITY **PROFILE**

Oh how we love to hear of immigrants from the "dark side".

Anne and Peter made the switch to Lorne after years of holidays on "the other side" and extensive research for the ideal coastal retreat. They did know about us because they had stayed with friends here over the years and had even thought the house next door would suit them nicely. Guess what ... it eventually came up for sale and eventually Anne and Peter bought it.

Both were born and educated in Melbourne. Anne had a career in fashion and Peter in Real Estate. They have two children and so far, one grandchild, all of whom happily come to visit.

Anne and Peter share a passion for golf and paddle boarding. They love to travel particularly to Europe. Books, theatre and film are other interests.

For the five years they have been coming to Lorne they have been supporters of the Football Club, the Country Club and the Aquatic Club. When here, they walk to the Aquatic Club daily for a coffee. Their daughter was married in Lorne and had a memorable recovery breakfast there.

"We love Lorne and its environment and we love the beach. This is our retreat".

CW

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL

- Lorne vs Apollo Bay football and netball, at Stribling Reserve, iuniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm
- RACV Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride, through the Otway ranges to Lorne and then back along the famous Great Ocean Road to Torquay. Deans Marsh Road closed between Lorne & Deans Marsh from 8:30am-12:30pm.
- **Lorne vs Colac Imperials** football and netball, at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm
- Anzac Day Service Lorne, at Epitaph Reserve (opposite Kafe Kaos) at 7.30am . 2nd service at the Senior Citizens at 11.30 am and followed by a March to Epitaph Reserve at 12 noon.

Please forward the dates of your Lorne Ward community event via the contact details at the bottom of this page.

COMMITTEE FOR LORNE