

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE



ARLENE BONGETTI

The colour and noise associated with the CFA/SES and Coastguard State Forum at Mantra last weekend certainly kept the town buzzing and alive in what is, historically, a quieter time. Through a weekend of kind weather our town was showcased in all her winter beauty. The new Festival of the Performing Arts banners in Mountjoy Parade signalled that Spring is not far away as Lorne prepares for a busy second half of the year.

The State's volunteers were not the only visitors in town over the weekend as local property owner Professor Graham Brawn, hosted students from Melbourne University's faculty of architecture as they embark on a design studio to plan and design a housing project in Lorne. As part of their study program, the 16 students are working with two different sites within our town boundaries to demonstrate how greater density housing can be achieved in sympathy with the intent of the current planning scheme and the character and natural beauty of our town.

The emphasis of their work will be on accommodating the need for affordable housing and range of accommodation options. This current design studio will be paired with the work completed by last year's students to create an exhibition of the possibilities that could be realised if we were able to implement the idea of a comprehensive Community Offset approach to allow site specific zoning in exchange for land going into a Community Land Trust or similarly controlled management structure.

Students spent the weekend in Lorne and heard from various community members. The research also included meeting with a group of locals who are, or who are interested in, delivering affordable accommodation options within our community. It was great to have the continued input of those community members who gave up their Sunday afternoon to be an important part of this project.

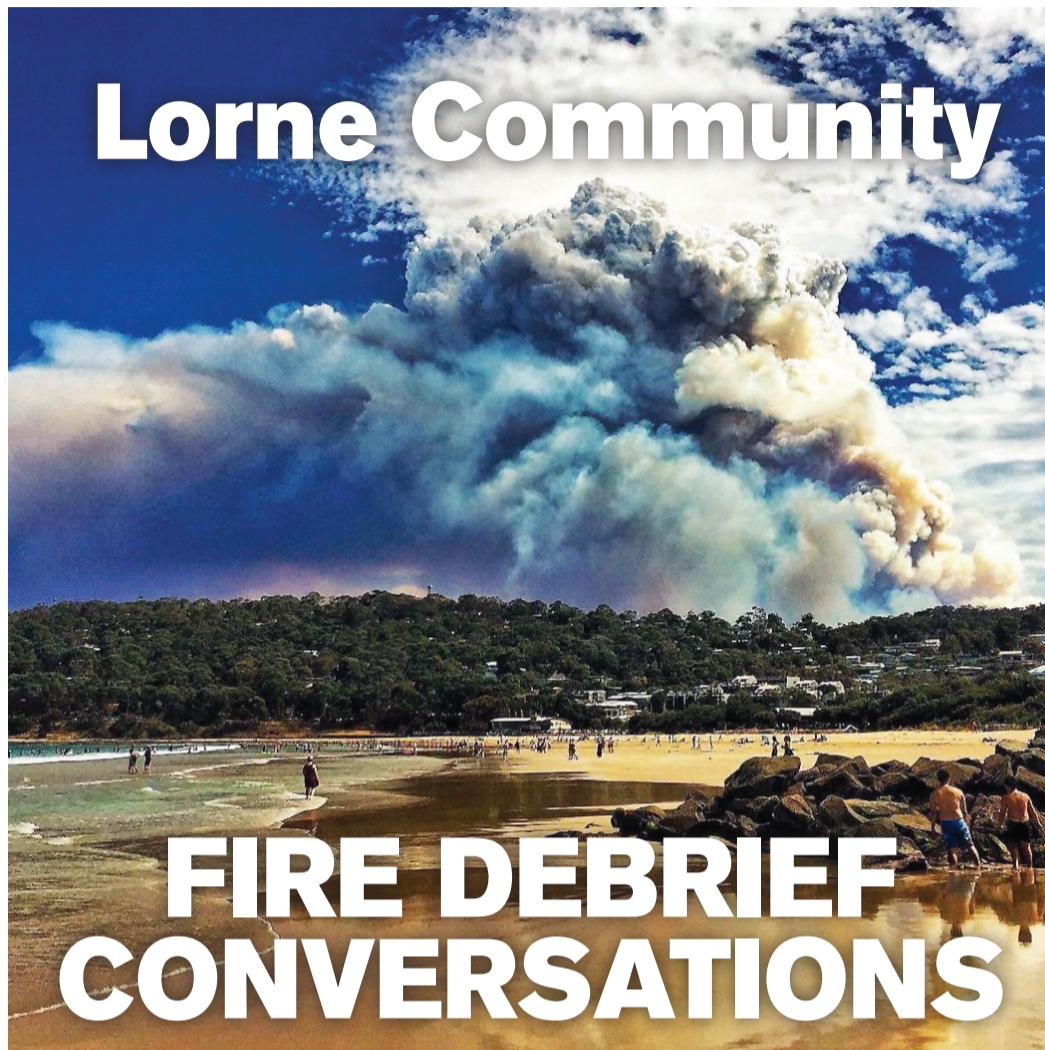
Over past weeks, we have spoken about the Stribling Reserve Master Plan, which is being undertaken in partnership with the Surf Coast Shire. The process to develop the Master Plan will focus on identifying the gaps between current facilities and anticipated needs and to identify what other features and facilities need to be considered to ensure that the Reserve remains a vital component of community infrastructure well into the future.

We are holding an open workshop to help us understand the community expectations for the future of the Reserve. We would love to have as many people as possible in attendance as this is one of our greatest community assets and its future is in our hands!!! The workshop is scheduled for Sunday August 21, 8.45am for 9.00am to 11.00am at the Stribling Reserve and would love to see you there.

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

COMMITTEE
FOR LORNE



In the week leading up to Christmas Day 2015, and again the week prior to the arrival of the New Year, we experienced events many had not seen in their lifetime. For some, this was a reminder of Ash Wednesday in 1983, with the very real threat of a bushfire impacting Lorne.

We were fortunate last year in so many respects. We had information and time; time to think about what we would do and time to plan.

Some people were prepared with well-practised and thought out fire plans, some had roughly mapped fire plans, while others had not given fire planning much thought and were forced to make important decisions on the spot, unrehearsed.

The decisions we make, individually and as a group, when faced with the threat of bushfire affect us all differently. For example, an order to evacuate your home or holiday destination is one that is not issued without a lot of consideration. Despite the circumstances in the planning phase and the fact we didn't experience the loss of life or houses, our town and our shire was still affected.

When we take a closer look at emergency events, we see there is a cycle of phases: planning, exercising plans, the emergency event and debriefing. These phases are the underlying principles of how Emergency Service Agencies plan for disasters.

Planning: taking the time to assess your personal and landscape risks and write a plan;

Exercising Plans: testing out your plans and your triggers to take action (such as actually packing the car to see how long it takes if you are planning to leave early);

Emergency Event: where plans are put to the test; and finally,

Debriefing: where we create space to talk about our experience and explore our decision-making by essentially unpacking how we felt, what we did and why during the emergency event.

It is talking about our experience by debriefing which helps us plan more effectively, with the hope of embedding the lessons learnt into our revised plans. While we all hope disasters never happen to us, when they do debriefing is a critical component to help us process what has happened.

There is now an opportunity for the community of Lorne to debrief and unpack the different experiences from the fires at Christmas time. Council's Coordinator, Community Emergency Management, Virginia Morris, will be in Lorne for as long as needed to meet with people, individually and in groups, to listen to their experiences. By listening, we hope to help people talk through their experience and identify ways Council can assist in bringing to the community the tools and resources for future planning.

With assistance from DELWP, CFA, Victoria Police, Department of Health and Human Services, and other agencies, we will analyse what we've heard from Lorne and then return to the community later in the year with relevant opportunities and resources for bushfire planning, making sure any gaps in planning identified in the debriefing conversations are made a priority.

If you would like to meet Virginia for a coffee in Lorne to talk about your experience over the Christmas period, please contact her on 0437 931 017 or vmorris@surfcoast.vic.gov.au

Virginia Morris
Coordinator, Community Emergency Management
Surf Coast Shire



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COMMUNITY PROFILE

Arlene's view from "the office" is the envy of many. As manager of the menswear store Gazman she overlooks the main surf beach - oh, and that's after driving the scenic route daily to Lorne from Deans Marsh where she now lives. She enhances this daily dose of nature and beauty by doing yoga, which she says is a passion.

Retail has been Arlene's career from the beginning. She grew up and was educated in Melbourne and after leaving school worked at Myer and later at David Jones. When she married Brian, they moved to Lorne to live, twenty-six years ago. Two children later they moved to Aireys Inlet for eight years before settling in Deans Marsh.

Having children at Lorne P-12 made working in Lorne ideal. For eight years she was manager at Louttit Bay Menswear until the business was sold. Since then, she has been at Gazman.

Retail seems to be a family affair. Her daughter Sara is manager at Lorne Girl, son Rhys manages EB games in Colac and her youngest daughter Tamsin is a beautician.

"I'm a bit of a homebody", Arlene admits and declares cooking as another passion. She is a vegetarian so the garden is a significant part of her life. When she first came to Lorne she played netball for the local team but now she mainly swims and enjoys the beach in summer.

It's a good thing for business that she loves meeting the diverse range of people that pour into Lorne at that time of year.

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 17 **Reel Health International Short Film Festival**, Lorne Community House at 1pm for further info phone: (03) 4215 3470
- 21 **Stribling Reserve Master Plan**, Open workshop to help us understand the community expectations for the future of the Reserve. 8.45am for 9.00am to 11.00am at the Stribling Reserve and would love to see you there.

SEPTEMBER

- 2-4 **FOPA Lorne Festival of Performing Arts**, Sixth annual multi-arts festival. The event showcases established and emerging artists across a range of genres including; dance, comedy, cabaret, music, theatre, visual arts and spoken word. Various locations around town. More info here: fopa.com.au
- 11 **Amy's Gran Fondo**, Starting in Lorne, the new course takes riders through the Otway Ranges, along a breathtaking stretch of the Great Ocean Road, before finishing on the main street in Lorne. More details here: amysgranfondo.org.au

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