

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

It's Festival time in Lorne!!!! – The first weekend of September slams the door on winter and welcomes Spring as the Lorne Festival of the Performing Arts (FOPA) heralds the resurgence of visitors and guests to town. From breathtaking cabaret, junkyard theatre and comedic genius to powerhouse harmonies and howling late night jazz, FOPA will bring exciting emerging and seasoned performers to Lorne for a weekend of intoxicating shows.

This year's event is shaping like nothing before and raw elements of the "the Twilight Chorus" help set the scene from 5pm on Friday. Combining Lorne's history of violent seas and infamous shipwrecks with the evocative stillness of vocal harmony, the Twilight Chorus is this year's special community creation.

Guided by the professional voices of Australia's indie-folk darlings, All Our Exes Live in Texas, community choirs around the region join forces to showcase the power of the voice through wind, rain or shine. Set on the Lorne Foreshore, with oceanic musical accompaniment, the spectacular backdrop and the musical harmonies, this free first time event is one not to be missed. For all festival information and last minute tickets go to www.fopa.com.au for all your needs and remember to plan your journey to Lorne as we are without Fuel in town for a short period of time.

Last week, at our bi-monthly Committee for Lorne (CfL) meeting, we executed a funding agreement with the Surf Coast Shire who have made a substantial financial contribution for the second phase of our Achieving Lorne's Aspirations Document. In partnership with our Shire, we are looking to embark on the process of identifying and implementing the specific actions to drive the direction of our aspirations document – stay tuned!

We officially welcomed Lorne Community Hospital CEO, Kate Gillan, to the CfL and congratulated committee member Ian Brown on his recent appointment as the new President of Friends of Lorne. Peter Spring provided an update on the Stribling Reserve Master Planning process and the governance model, which sees the Community owned project in Partnership with the Shire taking community partnerships to an unprecedented new level and a first in the Surf Coast Shire.

A bag of mixed fortunes at week two of the Colac and District Netball and Football League finals last weekend. Our senior footballers, who had been mauled by injury, were valiant in defeat after surrendering a 32 point margin at half time. The boys showed great character to come out after half time and play some courageous football in the second half to fall an agonising two points short. On the up side, the Lorne A Grade netballers secured a place in next weeks preliminary final with a gutsy, come from behind, win against Birregurra. – Good luck next week girls

Ian Stewart
Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne



FOPA 2016 is upon us, with the festival team and artists descending on Lorne after many months of planning and high anticipation. It's a truly exciting and inspiring time, heightened by the arrival of the oldest Spiegeltent in the world 'The Spiegelzelt'.

Join us as we celebrate art, culture and human connection through an incredible array of talented performing artists. Kicking off proceedings is the Twilight Chorus down on Lorne Foreshore, a free event featuring *All Our Exes Live in Texas* and choir singers from the local community. Following that, the *Welcome to Country* and official *Opening Ceremony* will take place in the revitalised Festival Hub on Mantra Lawn.

The inaugural *FOPA Gala* will launch the Spiegeltent into action. Synonymous with laughter, cabaret surprises and theatrical decadence, the galas will be a festival highlight and those who scored tickets to these two sold out shows are in for a rollicking good time! The comedy program is another jewel in the FOPA lineup. This year we have the quickest wits in the funny biz, including

the much-loved comedy legend *Denise Scott* and one of Australia's best comedy brains, the cyborg smart and instinctively hilarious *Tom Gleeson*.

The *Drawing Room Series* has proved popular, with tickets sold out for *Latitude 37* at Waverley House and *Miles & Simone* at the Glasshouse. Don't miss your chance to be part of a sublime musical experience when *Chamber Made Opera* takes up residence in stunning Springlea on both Saturday and Sunday.

There is plenty more to see and experience, whether you love music, theatre, comedy or circus tricks for the little ones. Hop on to fopa.com.au to check out the smorgasbord of artistic excellence on offer. Lorne Visitor Information Centre is also taking bookings until the Box Office opens in the Festival Hub on Friday at 5pm. The Hub is also the place to get your free fix of fun and family entertainment so drop in over the weekend to check it out.

Lorne is transforming into a rich carnivalesque town for one weekend only and we hope to see you all there!



JO HUGHES & TESS MORRISSEY

COMMUNITY PROFILE

It's a healthy sign for Lorne; young couples are prepared to make commitments to eatery businesses in town.

Jo and Tess have recently bought the Riverbank Café, happy they have a place they can call their own. They are having fun developing and establishing the business and pleased with the support they are receiving from the locals and holidaymakers alike.

Growing up and educated in Melbourne, Jo became a qualified chef at the Gordon in Geelong. He worked at cafes in Melbourne before moving to Lorne in 2005. He came only to help set up Mantra but guess what? He stayed. He then worked for four years at River Teahouse. For the next four years he worked at Pizza Pizza, and now he is back at the Riverbank.

He will be making everything they sell. He enjoys "good old fashioned cooking" so we can expect to see included on the menu, toasted sandwiches with favourite traditional fillings and the famous Riverbank scones varieties for afternoon teas.

Tess grew up in southwestern Queensland on a cattle station but has "moved around a bit". She finished her education in the Victorian Western District before moving to Melbourne to study Physical Education. Five years ago, she came to Lorne and worked at The Lorne Hotel, continuing to do so part time while she studied. After graduating, she decided to follow her passion for hospitality and returned to work permanently at the hotel. Three years at Moon's Café followed before the opportunity to buy Riverbank arose. She reads a lot and hopes one day to have a property where she can reconnect with a childhood love of horses.

Jo Describes himself as "outdoorsy" and when he has time off, he enjoys fishing and surfing. For time out, Jo and Tess love to get out of town and camp in the Otway region. "There's a big four wheel drive that is just waiting for an adventure, but all our energy is needed right now establishing this business".

In summer and during holidays there will be open seven days a week for early breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea. Currently they are closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

CW

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

2-4 **FOPA Lorne Festival of Performing Arts**, 6th 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: www.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

24 **Surf Coast Hell Run**, A breath taking trail running event, nestled in the mountains behind Lorne at Sheoaks Picnic Ground. Runners and walkers are challenged over a choice of 10km and 21km courses, with the option to double or triple the distance to 42 or 63km. Contact: info@trailplus.com.au

OCTOBER

15 **Model Boat Regatta**, 9am on the Erskine River at Swing Bridge Cafe. Sailboats and power boats. Young kids welcome. Sail Boats available. Older "kids" welcome also.

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