

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE



LYNETTE CLUCAS

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Lynette moved from Melbourne to finish her last 2 years of high school in Geelong. She thought about becoming a teacher, before as she puts it, she 'was distracted' and studied nursing at Geelong Hospital instead.

After graduation she became friends with a nursing student, whom she later realised had been in her English class in year 12. They married and had two children.

A switch from nursing to study fashion at The Gordon changed the direction of her life. Mid studies she took time out to travel with the family through Europe and Asia for a year. Clearly not disadvantaged she went on to win (The Wool Corporation's) Young Designer Award for women's wear in her final year.

Encouraged by her award and new passion and despite a recession, Lynette opened her own studio space in Melbourne. She spent seven years in Flinders Lane producing one-off contemporary tailored designs for private clients. At the same time she began working at Festivals (including Rock above the Falls), selling sunglasses.

In 2000 she set up a boutique in Centre Place off Flinders Lane called Fokus. For 16 years she supported local designers and sold avant garde accessories, including jewellery and specialised in eyewear. She launched her own label AGENDA in 2007 - a range of unisex leather bags (and compendiums). The designs were her own; she had them made in Williamstown and sold them in Fokus.

Around this time she purchased 'a Funky Factory in Fitzroy' and undertook a major renovation. By 2012, Lynette began looking around for a change.

Her son, Josh, had moved to Kennett River. Visits there revived fond memories of coming to Lorne as a teenager and falling in love with the forest meeting the sea. A sea change was back on her agenda.

This year she bought a house in Deans Marsh, initially as an investment, but which quickly became a lifestyle change. She sold her factory and moved down.

Lynette who happens to also play the flute is hoping to join the Colac band and has been seconded to sing with the local choir. She loves the arts, music and dancing.

With a special interest in things connected to the meaning of life she feels very comfortable with where she is at in her new place with her new puppy!

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

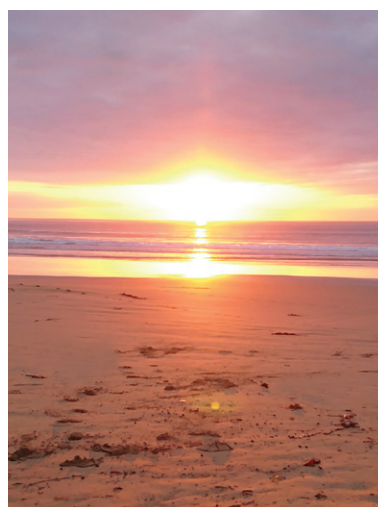
- 24 **Surf Coast Hell Run**, A breath taking trail running event, nestled in the mountains behind Lorne at Sheoaks Picnic Ground. Runners and walkers are challenged over a choice of 10km and 21km courses, with the option to double or triple the distance to 42 or 63km. Contact: info@trailplus.com.au
- 24 **Car Boot Sale**, Lorne Community House from 10am – 3pm.

OCTOBER

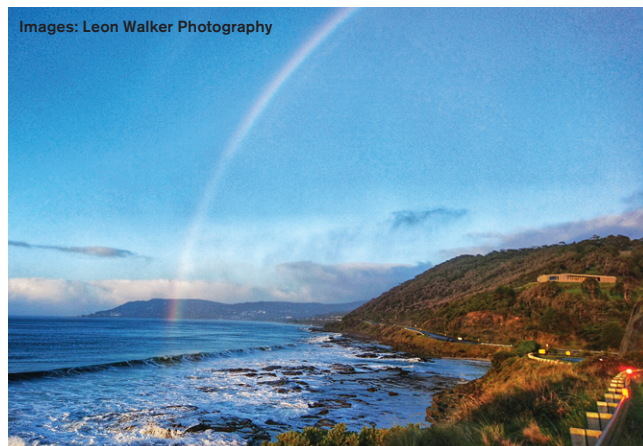
- 15 **Model Boat Regatta**, 9am on the Erskine River at Swing Bridge Cafe. Sailboats and power boats. Young kids welcome. Sail Boats available. Older "kids" welcome also.
- 15 **GORC Pipster Classic**, A recreation ride along the iconic Great Ocean Road with 300 riders in teams. For details phone: Garry Smith on 0409 408 568
- 23 **Great Ocean Road Beer and Wine Festival**, hosted by the Lorne Hotel. 8 Brewers with the launch of the new Wild Yak and 4 Wineries. Daryl Braithwaite playing and supported by Abe Anderson. DJ Reif Hand the local finishing off the night. The ability to taste local beer and wines. Tickets available at www.lornehotel.oztix.com.au

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

SPRING HAS SPRUNG



Images: Leon Walker Photography



Spring into spring, with a spring in your step with some special events and school holidays

Events awaken the town from the winter slumber, with cafes, restaurants and retailers open for business to welcome the sea of event goers; performing artists for the FOPA or kilometres of lycra for the Gran Fondo, and the spring wedding season begins, all injecting a welcome buzz into the town and wider region.

School holidays start this week, with some great natural attractions, the waterfalls are overflowing with the 10 unique waterfalls behind Lorne, wattles and wildflowers colour the already lush green backyard of Lorne through to the hinterland. Nature's bounty of harvest food is getting ready to be picked to enjoy in one of the many eateries in

our town, or enjoyed in your own picnic hamper.

Days become longer, a minute or two a day, with amazing sunrises over Louttit Bay, or an evening twilight stroll before dinner along the foreshore, the ever changing canvas with the temperamental spring weather, to be enjoyed if you stay a night or a week, or are lucky enough to live here.

Heaters turn off and shorts come out, puddles are jumped and beach towels and board shorts are aired out, beach gear and bikes are dusted off, rainbows dazzle and warming sun is chased.

Spring is the season to enjoy nature's bounty and get out and about and appreciate what we have in our region, one of the best times of the year to enjoy and explore where we call home or visit from far or near.

We have returned to bit of normality now that the last of our lycra clad friends have departed town and the Amy Gran Fondo is over for another year. Just under 6000 bike riders took over the Great Ocean Road last Sunday – all in the name of raising awareness about the need for a “metre matters” laws in Victoria. The large field assembled for what was the sixth edition of Wiggle Amy's Gran Fondo a unique event that provides participants with the once a year opportunity to ride on a fully closed Great Ocean Road.

This year the event ran in the opposite direction from year's past, starting the course with a climb up the Deans Marsh-Lorne Road and finishing along the Great Ocean Road. Over 300 hundred families and kids took part in the 7km Amy's Family Fondo, which took riders 3.5kms out of Lorne along the Great Ocean Road. With over 33% of participants from interstate, the allure of the Great Ocean Road is enormous.

While the accommodation houses were bursting, our local emergency services fundraising and the beauty of the coast being reinforced to thousands the town was an absolute picture. But not everyone was a winner. Many of our retailers reported the weekend to be equal, if not worse, than their quietest winter weekend as the road closures and alternate focus kept consumers away from their businesses. Just goes to demonstrate the importance of shopping local to help in sharing the benefit to all.

With our next festival looming quickly it's an interesting discussion as to the ongoing benefits or otherwise that the ever increasing number of events bring. While there are some that are great for accommodation providers, others where “foodies” sell out or are booked out while others deliver a balanced community benefit. To me the biggest winner is Lorne – but we need to be conscious, smart and share the benefits, shop local!

Featuring a range of intimate venues against the backdrop of Lorne's unique coastal beauty, Lorne Film 2016 is a four day celebration of international film for people who make, watch and love film, held from November 10 -13, 2016. Lorne Film will continue to nurture and promote Lorne and the surrounding Otway region as a centre for film culture and commerce, a port of call for industry leaders and world-class talent for the duration of the festival and beyond.

After a fortnight of mourning the passing of a number of Lorne residents it was fair to assume our losses had come to an end, but it was not to be. Cesira (Cesy) Vallesi passed away after a long, brave and inspirational battle. Cesy's lovely smile and beautiful nature is a sad loss to our town and our thoughts are with Emillio, Marco, Bella and their families – Great lifetime contributors to Lorne!

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

COMMITTEE
FOR LORNE



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