

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE



KEITH MILLER

COMMUNITY PROFILE

It just happened to be Clean Up Australia Day when I met Keith leaving the water from a dive to remove rubbish under the pier.

He has been diving for 45 years racking up over 2,000 dives around the world. "By far the greatest experience was in the Galapagos Islands." Clearly he loves travel having been to 114 countries with more in the pipeline. "My bucket list has nearly been ticked off."

Recently he and 20 friends and family celebrated his 60th birthday in India, especially memorable because a friend successfully carried off a hoax text from the Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

His serious scuba diving started after he and some mates had a go at competitive spear fishing. One day he questioned the killing of fish and decided looking at them might be a preferable option. He also took up underwater photography for a while. However he does love to be a fisherman every now and again and throw a line in. He is on the committee of The Aquatic Club.

Keith has always loved open ocean swimming and competes in about six events a year, including the last 17 Pier to Pub Swims but "I have noticed I am getting slower every year".

This Colac boy looked on Lorne as his second home because of all the time he spent here on holidays. After school he began work in a farm machinery company which became a career for him. He married and had four children and says he is still waiting for grandchildren.

He bought his house in Lorne 20 years ago with retirement in mind. Five years ago he did just that and became a permanent resident.

After all the countries he has seen, he emphatically says, "There is nowhere better than Lorne!"

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

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 lornehotel.oztix.com.au.
- 23 **Fun For The Marsh**, 5km and 2km fun run/walk at Frogwood Aoretum. For details: Lucy 0425 771 262 lucyquarterman@yahoo.com.au
- 29 **Lorne Foreshore Market**, local produce, art & craft, books, second hand clothes and yummy treats. Run by Lions Club of Lorne.
- 29 **Gold Record Show**, Dinner & Show at Lorne Country Club, \$50.00. Bookings essential prior to the evening. 5289 1267
- 30 **Golf & Tennis Competitions**, at Lorne Country Club. Open to all members & visitors. 5289 1267
- 31 **Melbourne Cup Calcutta**, at Lorne Country Club. Bookings essential. 5289 1267

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

Reflections on the Surf Coast Shire Ward structure.

In October 2012, I was elected unopposed as the Lorne Ward councillor in the newly formed Surf Coast Shire Ward structure which was introduced in April 2012 following a review by the Victorian Electoral Commission in 2011.

It is worth reflecting on whether the Ward structure has been effective in ensuring the principle of fair and equitable representation is met and gives residents a better opportunity to participate in the decision making process.

Following the previous representation review in 2003, the Minister for Local Government determined that the structure of Surf Coast Shire council should be undivided with nine councillors elected from the municipality at large. Lorne had no local representation from 2004 through to 2012 because no one from Lorne nominated for council. In the 2011 representation review, the Lorne Business and Tourism Association stated in their submission that :

"The council can be commended for sending one or two councillors a month to hear the concerns and issues affecting the community but this does not address the issue of not having a voice at the council table "

Interestingly, eight of the 14 submissions lodged at the 2011 review were written by residents of Lorne and many of them described a sense of disenfranchisement from the rest of the shire, based on a perception that the current council was heavily focused on the development of Torquay to the detriment of other communities and areas within the shire.

One of the Victorian Electoral Commission's key principles for recommending the Ward structure was to ensure fair and equitable representation to all communities of interest as it enables councillors to become more effective representatives of the people in their particular Ward.

Is the Ward structure across the Surf Coast Shire making a difference?

Over the course of the past four years, council officers and councillors have undertaken much discussion, debate and financial analysis on the subject of financial equity across the shire. It is important to note true social equity across the Wards entails much more. Equity considerations must include population growth, infrastructure to support this growth, asset renewal, new projects, operational projects, services and community engagement.

During the past council term Lorne Ward has been able to achieve better equity participation in a number of areas:

1. Significant increases in event funding - FOPA, Lorne Sculpture Biennale, Lorne Film and numerous smaller community events.
2. Waste management - Big Belly Bins, cockatoo bin locks, extension of free green waste disposal.
3. Community-led development of the Stribling Reserve Masterplan
4. Funding for the Men's Shed, playground infrastructure and landscaping.
5. Timely attendance to infrastructure and maintenance issues.

6. Greater community engagement and consultation, eg. Committee for Lorne.
7. Hinterland consultation in regard to biodiversity issues and acting on community input.

I am a firm believer that, whilst there is still room for improvement, the Ward structure has significantly enhanced the opportunity for all communities to have a say and be heard.

Where to from here?

There is much still to be done in the Lorne Ward and I have nominated for the position of councillor for the Lorne Ward for a further four years. As the only nominee for the Lorne Ward my position as councillor will be confirmed in October.

I would like to say to the community of the Lorne Ward that I am pleased and privileged to serve as your councillor for a further four years but at the end of that next term I feel I owe it to myself and my wife to hand the baton to the next prospective councillor. Rather than wait till 2020 to think about who the successor might be, I believe that the community should start to address this issue sooner rather than later. There is much to learn about the operations of local government and the needs of the Lorne Ward and I would be pleased to work closely with any individual who would consider standing for the position so that he or she steps in to the role with an understanding of its responsibilities.

Reporting maintenance issues or anything requiring attention by council

The shire is providing a customer request number for all requests logged and has established a new streamlined approach to record and attend to ratepayer requests in a timely manner.

Option 1

Phone customer service on 5261 0600 and ensure you are quoted a reference number.

Option 2

Email your request to info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au quoting your request in the subject line, a customer reference number will be sent to you or you can request a follow up call.

Status of request

Contact customer service quoting your customer request number for current status at anytime.

Cr. Clive Goldsworthy



Grand Final week 2016 and who would have ever thought at the start of the year that all of Australia (except Sydney) would be cheering on the Footscray Football Club as they make their first Grand Final appearance in 55 years. Hailed by club president Peter Gordon as the club that were "too tough to die", the Bulldogs go into Saturday's Grand Final with the weight of a nation behind them.

The passion, commitment and loyalty of their supporters is unquestionable and a select group within our community have demonstrated this year in year out in total commitment to their mighty Bulldogs, and you don't have to go far to experience their passion. Whether it's the red white and blue in the windows of Lorne's longest serving family bakery or the smile on our local accountant turned truck driver's face, their passion has never wavered.

Whether it is our core local diehards or our non-resident homeowners, our town has had a memorable link to some of the Bulldog's greatest. Their last premiership coach, the great Charlie Sutton was for many years a property owner here in Lorne, just as his daughter is today. Brownlow medallist Gary Dempsey also has a long association with our town that will make the big day on Saturday so much more special for so many people – go the doggies!

The Surf Coast Shire has gone into caretaker mode from Wednesday the 21st of September through until Saturday October 22 in the lead up to local council elections to be held on the 22nd of October. The election will be run as a postal vote, and ballot packs will be mailed out by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) between October 4 and 6 for those wards in which the number of nominations exceed the number of positions.

The great news for Lorne is that councillor Clive Goldsworthy is putting up his hand to serve another term of four years for the Lorne community and heads to the election unopposed. We are lucky to be represented by Clive, with great support from his wife Lesley, and we wish him all the very best for the four years in front of him.

An event that went under the radar for many was the Surf Coast Hell Run conducted last weekend in the picturesque Otways National Park at the back of Lorne. The event featured three events with the 10-kilometre course taking in two waterfalls, the 21-kilometre scenic loop, the 42-kilometre burner and the 63-kilometre scorcher. One really tough event experienced in heavy conditions in some of the most rugged, spectacular Australian bushland.

A mighty event achievement by two Lorne ladies, equally under the radar, with Karen Stribling and Carolyn Griffiths taking out first and second place respectively in the 10-kilometre event – super effort girls!

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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