

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE



NEIL MORARTY

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Neil met his wife to be Maree, in June 1962 and was married in June 1968. Since then three children arrived - son Stuart and daughters Jacquelyn and Rebecca. There are now four grandchildren, Billy, Holly, Stephanie and Jake.

He did his schooling from 1948 to 1959 at Coburg Primary and High School. Neil started his working life at C. Stokes & Co as a Wharfage Clerk in 1960. Keen to improve his knowledge he attended Taylor's Business College, then gained his Certificate of Accountancy at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. He became the assistant accountant at Replex Pty Ltd from 1961 to 1966. He moved to Clifton Brick Holdings where he held several management positions until becoming Victorian State Manager in 1983. He held senior managerial positions with companies in that industry until his retirement in 2006.

It became obvious at a young age Neil would spend a lot of time in the water as he was a highly rated swimmer. Since those early days he has devoted much of his life to his involvement with Surf Lifesaving.

He was a member of his school swimming team from 1951 to 1959. He joined the Apollo Bay Surf Club in 1963 and received his Bronze Medallion in 1964. He was Secretary from 1971 to 1986 and Treasurer from 1986 to 1995. He was recognised as best Club member on three occasions and received Life Membership in 1980.

After the family purchased a home in Lorne in 1984 Neil joined the Lorne SLSC and was vice president from 1999 to 2010 and president from 2010 to 2012. He won the President's award on eight occasions. He became a Life Member of the Lorne SLSC in 2008.

He held many positions at State and National level over many years and became a Life Member of Surf Life Saving Victoria in 1995 and Australia in 2003.

He was awarded an OAM in 2010 for services to Life Saving

Neil has had some serious health issues in more recent times but his positive outlook keeps him busy and happy with his lot in life.

Neil and his family love living in Lorne.

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER

28 **Falls Music & Arts Festival**
Lorne, Dec 28 - Jan 1

JANUARY

6 **Mountain to Surf Run**,
Lorne at 8:30am
7 **Pier to Pub Swim**, Lorne
22-22 **Deans Marsh Dog Trials**,
at the Deans Marsh Reserve

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

All photographs supplied by Leon Walker Photography



LORNE SINGS AND SWINGS TO CAROLS

The Lorne community was treated to another great night of Christmas Carol singing at 'Carols on the Lorne'.



A true Lorne tradition, 'Carols on the Lorne' draws together a large number of people in the community to come along and enjoy the spirit of Christmas.

Held at St Cuthbert's Church grounds on Mountjoy Parade on Saturday night 17th December, the programme was full on, with amazingly talented artists from Lorne P12 College choir, Lorne Kindergarten, Lorne Children Performing Arts Group and guest artists including Laurie Treloar, Rev. Sherryl Smith who read the Christmas Story, Taylor Morrison, Wally Tudor, a stunning performance from Lauren Hughes, the Airsongbirds Choir and Lorne Vocal Group

MC for the night was well-known Lorne identity, ordained minister and musician Steve Morrison and Father Wally Tudor gave the Christmas Blessing. A four piece band which accompanied the singers was a family affair with Melissa Shirley on keyboard, Leigh Shirley on guitar/ bass, David Shirley on drums and Jordan Shirley guitar /bass. The sound from the band and singers was brilliant with renditions of all the popular carols including The First Noel, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Here comes Santa Claus, Chestnuts Roasting, Joy to the World, Santa come down, O Holy night, Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas, Away in a Manger, Silent Night, Angels we have heard on high, O come all ye faithful, Hark the herald angels sing, Mary's boy child, O holy night, Your grace, Mary did you know, We wish you a Merry Christmas

The children from Lorne Kindergarten, Lorne School Choir, and Lorne Children's Performing Arts Group beautifully performed a magical Christmas story of song and dance.

Father Christmas then arrived from to the delight of all the children present and there was the usual mad rush for sweets.

The planning and preparation for 'Carols on the Lorne' started many months prior and commenced with a Christmas Carols themed poster competition from Lorne P12 College, then the organising of singers, lighting, audio equipment and catering.

Our thanks go to Annie McMahon for the poster competition, Ed Babington for the nativity scene and Father Christmas, Tara O'Neill for helping arrange and train the singers and Pamela Plum for her valuable assistance in helping organise the event with the Lions Club of Lorne, who have been holding 'Carols on the Lorne' for 32 years

The weather was kind to us with the exception of a passing shower half way through the night and the Lions Club of Lorne put on a delicious sausage sizzle, drinks and a raffle

The Lions Club of Lorne would like to thank the following sponsors for their kind assistance in helping make this event possible:

Bendigo Bank
The Sandridge Motel
Lorne Electrics
Lorne Op Shop
Lorne Breakdown and Towing
BK Audio Services
Millpress Printers
Great Ocean Road Real Estate
Great Ocean Road Bakehouse

We look forward to seeing you at Carols on the Lorne next year, on Saturday 16th December 2017

Nelson Knight
Lions Club of Lorne



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Well we are all just about done and dusted for 2016, and what a year it's been for soooo many different reasons. It always a great time to reflect on the past and look forward to what lies ahead. And for my money, the times ahead are looking good and the vibe in this last week is setting an exciting tone for 2017.

Just on twelve months ago, the lives of our neighbours at Separation Creek and Wye River were turned upside down as permanent residents were left homeless, holiday homes were destroyed and the façade and landscape of that magical location scarred for years to come. But the resilience of the people, the community spirit and commitment to their town has been an inspiration to all.

What then ensued after the Christmas fires and the eventual opening of the coastal towns could only be described as cruel to those who already had suffered so much. The rains of this past few months have eclipsed winter falls in the past ten years and put the fire ravaged landscape under pressures that resulted in numerous landslips closing the Great Ocean Road yet again and again.

But the locals kept going about their business, doing what they had to do and getting it done. Whilst I listened, biting my tongue, to those that felt a little put out by the closures, it made my admiration for the courage of our coastal neighbours even stronger. Here in Lorne, we had the minor inconvenience of closures to the north but nothing to scale that was evidenced to the south.

The recent funding announcement by the Victorian Government of just over \$53M is great news for our region and although this will need to be ongoing, at long last both our Victorian and Federal Governments are looking to combine resources to maintain and enhance what is, arguably, Australia's if not the world's, most picturesque famous ocean drive. Works are scheduled to commence at the end of January. This is the first real positive announcement about the "road" in some time.

The weather of the past week has promoted a pre and post Christmas vibe in Lorne not experienced for many years. Our local traders launched their December/January late night shopping initiative that continues throughout the month of January and added another layer of participation to our street front. The Falls Festival is set to return to its spiritual home and bring with it the colour and excitement of its tens of thousands of festival followers

Early days I know, but there is an air of optimism that 2017 will see the coast bounce back with a vengeance! On behalf of The Committee for Lorne we welcome all our summer visitors and wish you all a happy, healthy prosperous New Year. We ALL love Lorne!

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

COMMITTEE
FOR LORNE