

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE



PAUL UPHAM

LORNE MEN'S SHED – FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Paul is manager of the Lorne Hotel and has an interesting story to tell. He first came to Lorne in 1985 for holidays and in 1989, to Paul's surprise, his father John declared that he had purchased the Lorne Hotel. John sold the hotel in 1995, but liked Lorne so much, he repurchased it again in 2010.

Prior to going into the hotel business, Paul attended St Patrick's College in Ballarat, and then studied commerce at Monash University. After obtaining his commerce degree he moved to London and worked for merchant bankers, JP Morgan. Paul met his wife Jane in London and they then moved back to Melbourne where Paul worked in financial services. Jane and Paul have twin children Angus and Matilda aged 2 and live in Lorne.

He likes to spend time with his family, is a keen cyclist and enjoys visiting various eateries on the Surf Coast. He is an active member of the Lorne Business and Tourism Association and likes to contribute with ideas to improve the future growth of Lorne.

Paul kept up his interest and maintained his contacts in Lorne by visiting Lorne as often as possible and in 2015, became manager of the Lorne Hotel. He said the Lorne Hotel has seasonal peaks and troughs like most businesses in Lorne but is a very popular place for locals and visitors to meet, greet and eat.

There are 11 rooms and 4 apartments for accommodation and two function rooms. The smaller "Conference Room" will cater for up to 50 people, while the larger "View Room" upstairs caters for groups up to 150. This room is great for weddings, conferences and birthdays and as the name implies, has stunning views of the ocean and Lorne streetscape.

For punters, there is a gaming room and TAB, also a 150 seat bistro with ocean views and a varied menu with a children's playroom, making it "peaceful" for parents to enjoy their meal. Or if you would like to dine outdoors, the beer garden offers comfortable seating, views and a pizzeria.

The Lorne Hotel has live music on Friday and Saturday nights and on Saturday 20th May, the Pierce Brothers will be coming to town, which also coincides with the Great Ocean Road Bike Race the same weekend

NK

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 11 **Victorian Surf Life Saving Masters Championships, at Lorne beach**
- 12 **Victorian Surf Life Saving State Junior Carnival, at Lorne beach**

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

It's only been eight months since the Lorne Men's Shed was officially opened with several hundred members of the community in attendance. At that time the shed was just a shell and it then took a few months to fit it out. Workbenches were built, storage racks installed, machinery that had been donated was transferred and installed.

During the construction phase, it appeared that there was a growing interest and keenness to see the project completed and get the shed "up and running". We are fully operational today and there is no doubt that the Shed is having the positive impact that we all thought would happen.

The Shed has one significant project underway at the moment; installation of bin locks on nearly 2,000 rubbish bins in Lorne to prevent cockatoos getting into the rubbish. This project was the right thing at the right time and congratulations must go to Surf Coast Shire for entering into this partnership with the Men's Shed to undertake this work. It has given the Shedders a project that requires many resources and it's fair to say that the team is now running like clockwork. Transporting bins to the Shed, fitting locks, recording details of which bins are fitted and planning the next day's work, transporting bins back to homes. The project is running ahead of schedule and this has created a short term problem with securing supply of the bin locks in the quantities required. To date, over 30% of the bins in Lorne have been fitted with locks and based upon feedback, the project is having a significant impact; reduced numbers of cockatoos in town and reduced incidents of litter being spread from bins. It is expected that the project will be completed by June.

Whilst this project continues, other events are being organised to ensure that the Men's Shed continues to fulfill its role as an important resource for the men in our community.

This week, Brian Poynton, a name known to many as a master woodworking craftsman, visited the Shed and in a casual discussion with over twenty Shedders talked about his experiences as a pattern maker, maker of musical instruments and other special projects. Brian built his own timber house without a single bolt or screw in the structure; hand adzed timber slab construction and carefully crafted timber joints. The Men's Shed is blessed to have such talent in the community and people who are willing to share their knowledge and experience.

The Men's Shed have also arranged for a guest speaker from Beyond Blue to visit the Shed to present to members, their wives and their guests at the Lorne Men's Shed on February 15th at 2.30 pm. Many Australians have experience with depression and anxiety, whether it's personal or involving friends, family or work colleagues. Beyond Blue's work is aimed at achieving an Australian Community that understands depression and anxiety, empowering all Australians, at any stage of life, to seek help. Beyond Blue raises awareness, reduces stigma and ensures people have access to the information they need to support recovery, management and resilience.

Our Guest Speaker will share their everyday personal experience with depression and anxiety through the framework of hope, recovery and resilience.

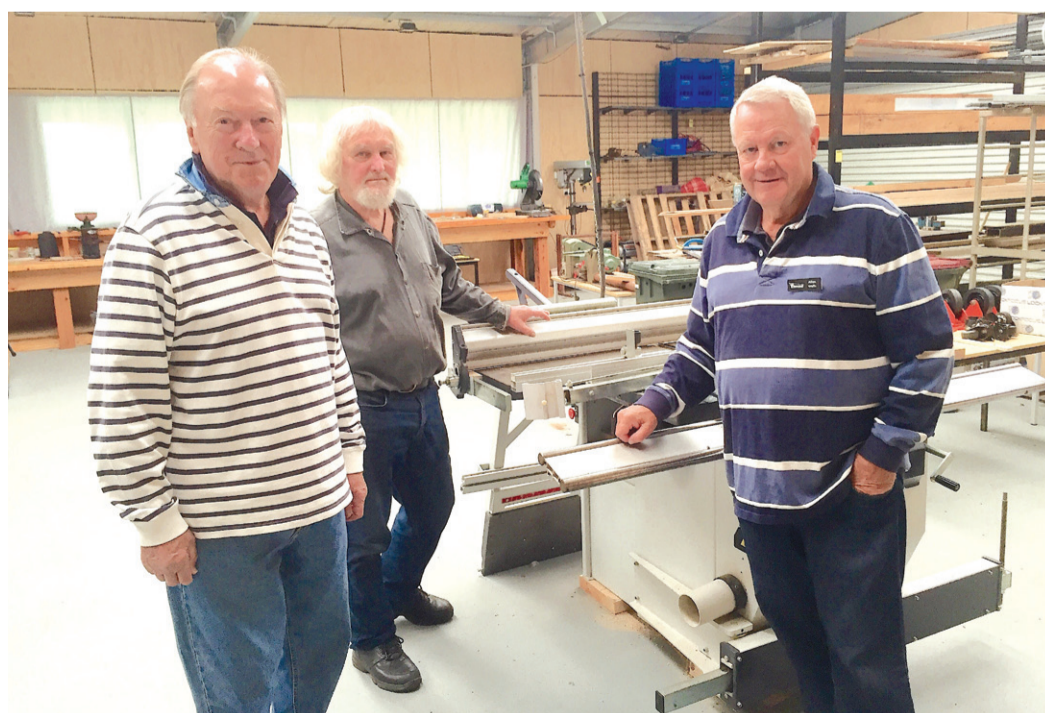
I encourage our Members, their wives and their guests to attend. The presentation will last about 25 minutes with some time for questions followed by afternoon tea. This presentation may not be about you, but you may be able to help a friend or Family Member so I encourage your attendance.

So you can see, the Lorne Men's Shed is making a difference. Call in some time when you see the flag flying and have a look around and enjoy a chat and a cuppa. You will experience a very friendly atmosphere and witness first hand how many men in the Lorne Community are enjoying this new "home away from home".

Allan Walls

President

Lorne & District Men's Shed.



L to R - John Barber, Brian Poynton, Allan Walls

I thought it appropriate to share an experience I had in Mountjoy Parade last week when I was witness to a middle aged Asian family taking photos of each other below the Chinese New Year banner flags. I offered my untrained services to push the buttons on their cameras that were geared with more technology than I could ever master in my own right. After completing their images with a number of interesting poses I was curious as to their place of origin and their thoughts of Lorne.

Negotiating the language barrier was not easy but certainly helped ever so much by their beaming smiles and obvious admiration for our wonderful coastline. As broken dialogue was navigated and google maps became the common theme, it was revealed that these visitors had travelled from the province of Dongguan in southern China. A part of the world where, not that long ago, I spent time with a special a group of local friends whilst supporting a mate and his battle with cancer.

Feeling so isolated as we did at the time, and with a language and culture barrier so foreign to us, it made my understanding for our visitors more complete but in a reverse role. It never ceases to amaze me that the admiration and respect we individuals give to visitors in our country and receive while guests in theirs does not seem to reflect the publicised trends of the World. Our foreign visitors were so grateful for the welcome messages of Chinese New Year that lined Mountjoy Parade and I feel sure they will value their Lorne experience.

The Project Control Group (PCG) of the Stribling Reserve Master Planning process are preparing to lodge their preliminary draft master plan for the Reserve with the Surf Coast Shire for comment and endorsement prior to going onto public exhibition in the coming months. It has been an extensive process and the Committee for Lorne has been exclusively involved as the Project Owner in partnership with the Surf Coast Shire as the Project Sponsor, a first for this type of Governance model within the Surf Coast Shire.

It has been a very productive partnership from the get go and the input and communication with and from within our community, and Shire, is unprecedented. Two outstanding contributions have come from within Lorne with "in kind" architectural services and advice. Graham Brawn and Bob Sinclair have donated their expertise and many hours of time to the Project Control Group to formulate a number of concepts they have developed.

These outstanding contributions are such a great demonstration of the continuing willingness of Lorne people to contribute their knowledge and skills. It's what makes Lorne such a special community. The innovation and professionalism that these industry leaders bring to the Stribling Reserve Master Planning process is a component that would not normally be affordable on a smaller scale local level Project. Thanks Bob and Graham!

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

