

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

At last week's service at Lorne's Anzac Park the dawn and 11.00am services were very well attended as the younger generations continue to embrace the spirit of the Anzac tradition by reflecting on those that never returned from defending our country and paying tribute to those that did. To see Lorne's emergency services personnel and local school children join as one with family and friends of those involved provided a moving tribute to those that served our country.

Community involvement and contributions to this special occasion ran deep with the decoration of Anzac Park looking spectacular in the days leading up to, and following the service. To see many international visitors photographing the hand crafted poppies surrounding the Cenotaph provided a further dimension to this special occasion.

I had the great pleasure to stand alongside a member of our local "Quilters" group who, with her colleagues, skillfully and passionately created every one of the 1,500 hand crafted poppies. In a brilliant show of colour they were strategically positioned to replicate a map of Australia on the grassed environment of the Park - arguably one of the most picturesque in our country - Great work ladies!!!

The Lorne Football and Netball Club's continuing surge in the netball area has been acknowledged at Colac and District Football and Netball League level with the appointment of Lorne's Carly Enticott as A Grade inter league coach. Along with Carly three other Lorne A Grade netballers have been selected to represent our league in Horsham on the 13th of May. We wish Ginger Brown, Sharni De Jong and Rhiannon White all the best as our local club continue to make their presence felt in the A Grade competition - Congratulations to all.

Get up to the Stribling Reserve on Saturday to cheer on the Dolphins as they take on Irrewarra- Beeac who are a super competitive club. It all starts Thursday night with ever popular "Club Meals" kicking off from 6.30 and everyone is welcome.

Don't forget our second Committee for Lorne Community lunch for the year will be held at the Lorne View on Friday the 10th of June at 12 noon. With Karen Biggelaar and Graham Brawn as guest speakers you will get the latest on what's happening at the Lorne School and "behind the scenes" work on accommodating Lorne's future. This is an RSVP only event so please confirm your attendance to nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au asap.

Time is running out to have your input into the Surf Coast Shire Draft Council Plan 2017 - 2021 and Draft budget 2017 - 2018 with the closing date for submissions being 4pm on the 11th of May. Go to www.surfcoastconversations.com.au to view both documents and have your say.

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

COMMITTEE
FOR LORNE

THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD - WHO WERE THE MEN WHO BUILT IT?

In March 2018, it will be 100 years since construction work began on the Great Ocean Road. In March of 1918, The Great Ocean Road Scheme brochure was published. The scheme was to build a road in memory of the Victorian soldiers who died in the 1914-18 war and employ returning soldiers. Later in that same month, The Great Ocean Road Trust was established at a meeting in Colac. The Anzac's Highway was proposed as the name for the road.

Construction of the road proceeded over the next 10 or so years as different sections were surveyed and constructed, with celebrations and official openings at various stages as the more difficult sections of the road were completed. The records indicate that the Great Ocean Road Trust advised that the Great Ocean Road was open from Geelong to Warrnambool in 1932. It still required sealing.

During this time, over 3,000 workers were involved in the construction and about 2,400 of those were returned servicemen. As we approach this centenary event we are reminded about how little we actually know about those returned servicemen who worked tirelessly in difficult and hazardous conditions to create the world's largest War Memorial and such an iconic destination for Australian and International tourists.

The Great Ocean Road Trust probably had records of those workers included with many other records related to the construction of the Ocean Road. Those records, correspondence, images, movie footage etc., were all stored in a warehouse owned by Howard Hitchcock, the Chairman of the Great Ocean Road Trust, in Geelong. Hitchcock had founded and managed a film production company. When World War II broke out, it is believed that the records related to the construction of the Great Ocean Road were destroyed to make room for material related to the War. It probably didn't seem that the records were that important at the time, but as with so much of this material, the real loss only becomes apparent with the passage of time.

The late Iain Grant of the Portland Family History Group, started to investigate whether there was a list of the names of the returned servicemen in response to a request from a person enquiring about information about a relative who had worked on the Road. In 2007, Iain launched a campaign to try and gather the names of those workers. He worked tirelessly; contacting history groups all around Victoria, giving talks at interest groups, contacting the media and government organisations to try and find information from

any source he could. Iain in his own words said that the many people and organisations he approached applauded his efforts and made promises of help but very little eventuated.

He stated in an address to a History Group in 2008; "It then becomes as much a story about a journey, that may not in fact have an end. It may always only be about the quest for knowledge, and information that is gleaned slowly over many years and from diverse sources, until at a point in the future, we can honestly say that we have done all that we humanly can, to compile this list of dedicated brave blokes, whose main aim was to build a monument to their mates who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and whom would never see the bright sun, smell the gum leaves, or see the glory of the wattle in bloom, of this wonderful nation Australia, ever again.

And what a marvellous, living, breathing, wondrous, picturesque, and awe inspiring memorial to our brave diggers it has become."

The Lorne Historical Society worked closely with Iain trying to collate a full list of names. Iain passed away about three years ago and his wife Anne presented to the Lorne Historical Society the records that Iain had compiled during his research over the previous seven years. Iain, with the help of many people, had compiled the names of about 390 of the servicemen who worked on the Great Ocean Road, a figure still well short of the estimated 2,400 workers. Iain and the then President of the Lorne Historical Society, Jean Graham believed that many of the records would have been held by the Country Roads Board (CRB) and subsequently passed over to what is now Vicroads. From the minutes of various meetings it appears that Vicroads were reluctant to admit they had records and were certainly not going to make them available, citing Privacy Policy.

As we approach the centenary, it would be a wonderful gesture if Vicroads would make available any relevant material so that we can ensure that the servicemen who constructed this magnificent Memorial can be properly recognised. If any readers have information regarding friends or relatives who worked on the Road, we would love to hear from you. Please send any relevant information to info@lornehistoricalsociety.com.au

Peter Spring
Lorne Historical Society

ANZAC HIGHWAY WORKERS NAMES	
ABRAMOVITCH HENRY GEORGE	JAMGEL ANTHONY
ALEXANDER CHARLES HARRY	KERR EDWARD
BUTLER JOHN ROBERT	LANCASTER GERALD EDGAR
CANARDINE ERIC	MILLER A.E.
CLARKE LANCASTER WALTER	MCDONNELL ALFRED
CASSTY JOHN ROBERT	MAULE ALFRED THOMAS
COWELL ARTHUR ALEXANDER	O'CONNOR PATRICK JNO.
COTTE GEORGE HENRY	O'CONNELL JOHN
DAVIS ALBERT EDWARD	PIKE EDWARD
FORD GEORGE	PATRICK LANCASTER WILFRED PETER
HEALY JAMES FRANCIS	ROBERTSON RALPH BENNY
HENNESSY THOMAS	ROSE ERNEST HENRY
HOD EDWARD STANLEY	WALSHGIST WILLIAM CABLE
	TOURISH WILLIAM
LIST OF WORKERS OF MEN EMPLOYED ON THE BUILDING OF THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD 17-11-1925.	
ON THE SHIPWRECK - WINDOLLEL 40 MEN CARRIED A LITTLE WAY FROM DENMARKS.	
1. WOOD CREEK CAMP.....	20 MEN.
2. BIG BILL CAMP.....	20 MEN.
3. GRASSY CREEK CAMP.....	20 MEN.
4. STONY CREEK CAMP.....	12 MEN.
5. WYE RIVER CAMP.....	12 MEN.
6. JAMTISON RIVER CAMP.....	40 MEN.
7. SEE OAR RIVER CAMP.....	20 MEN.
8. GEORGE RIVER CAMP.....	20 MEN.



JILLIAN
CHAPMAN



COMMUNITY PROFILE

It doesn't matter what angle you come into Lorne it is just beautiful says Jillian with passion. Of course most of us know exactly what she is talking about.

Introduced to the town by her partner for holidays originally, she has retired here. She wasted no time in involving herself in the community. In fact she and her partner Alvis, a keen tennis player, run the popular Hot Shot program at the Country Club for those from Kindergarten age upwards.

Although I have played tennis all my life, he is the expert and I am the organiser.

She loves her volunteer community work. The list is long. *I'm a bit old for the CFA trucks but I'm on the Fire Brigade Auxiliary.* She really enjoys her time helping at the Information Centre, with FOPA, Amy Gran Fondo and Lorne Sculpture Biennale. With others, she is working on a program to reform the safety of all road users of the Deans Marsh-Lorne Road.

Melbourne born, bred and educated, she has had a varied career. In nursing on and off, real estate, crisis counselling and training, and disability services instructor are some of the areas she has been employed. She is well qualified for the babysitting she does for families in the town and although she doesn't have a dog, she loves to mind other people's.

Jillian and Alvis have travelled widely – France, Spain, Latvia, Finland, China and Italy included. Since Alvis was an architect, they have also taken architectural tours, which to Jillian's surprise, she loved. Although challenging they made a bike tour of the Pyrenees. It was phenomenal. Next on the list is a Jewels of Europe Tour which will include plenty of cycling.

Walking on the beach, reading and travelling to Melbourne regularly to catch up with her two children and two grandsons takes up any spare time she has.

CW

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY

- 6 **Lorne vs Irrewarra-Beeac football and netball**, at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm
- 19-21 **Live Music Hub**, Free jam packed entertainment line-up at the Lorne Hotel for the Great Ocean Road Running Festival. More info: greatoceanroadrunfest.com.au/whats-on
- 21 **Great Ocean Road Running Festival**, the Great Ocean Road will be closed between Lorne and Apollo Bay from 7am to 2:30pm, detours in place. The Lorne township will remain open.
- 27 **Lorne vs Apollo Bay football and netball**, at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm

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

 FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @Committee4Lorne

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