

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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The Great Ocean Road has its 85th Birthday

On the 26th November, it will be exactly 85 years since the iconic Great Ocean Road officially opened.

The Great Ocean Road is a memorial to the lost lives and sacrifices of the Australian diggers in World War One. More than 3000 returned soldiers built the section of the Road between Eastern View and Cape Patton from 1919 onwards, conquering steep cliffs, rugged terrain and dangerous weather so that the isolated towns along Victoria's stunning western coastline could be joined together. Since its official opening in 1932, the Great Ocean Road has breathed life into the local communities along it and become a mecca for tourists. It is an engineering marvel.

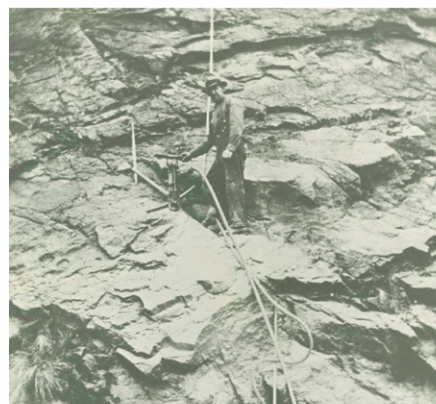
Seeing the current maintenance works on the Great Ocean Road using modern equipment, it is hard to fathom the work that was accomplished by hand and shovel some 85+ years ago, taking over 13 years to complete.

It is a credit to the vision and fundraising efforts of Howard Hitchcock and the members of the Great Ocean Road Trust, with funding from community donations and the sale of land, and with the combined efforts of many people. The meticulous planning of the engineers and surveyors nearly 100 years ago is amazing in itself.

The Great Ocean Road has many stories and memories are created and are forever told.

Celebrations are being planned to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the construction of the road, when more history and stories will be relived and created.

To discover the story of the Great Ocean Road you only have to look around Lorne's iconic guesthouses and hotels or simply drive the road linking all the towns together.



Two workers on the Great Ocean Road. One is a Digger, the other a Rigger. Almost 100 years apart.



Discover more...

The Lorne Historical Society opens its doors every Sunday from 10am-12noon with a 'Remembering Lorne's Guesthouses exhibition'.

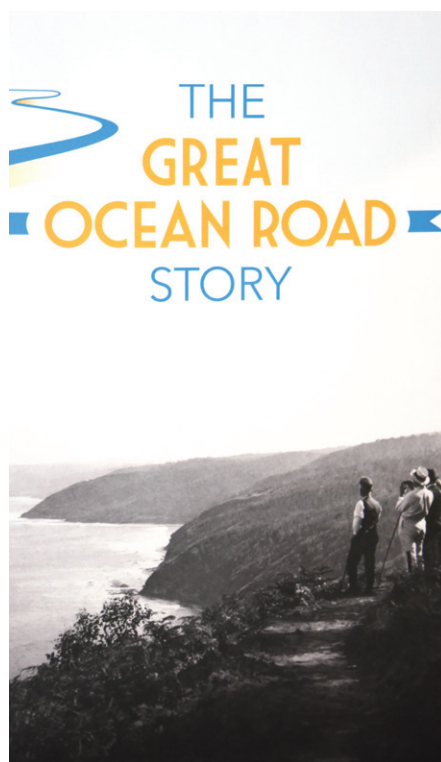
There is The Great Ocean Road Story Exhibition at the Lorne Visitor Centre and a recently completed guide book produced with funding from an Anzac grant titled: "The Historical Drivers guide to The Great Ocean Road" available from the Lorne Visitor Centre.

The Great Ocean Road is a story in itself, with Lorne having an affiliation with history and its people.

This week we see school leavers arrive for a week of well-deserved celebrations, having completed their 13 years at school, gives these young people the opportunity to make their own lifelong stories and memories of our lovely town, which hopefully they pass onto generations to come like those before them.

So come on down to Lorne and discover and create your own special story...

Lorne Visitor Information Centre



A word from the Chairman

The Committee for Lorne (CfL) recently hosted our final joint agency meeting for 2017 with the Surf Coast Shire and Great Ocean Road Coast Committee coming together. It was great to welcome new Surf Coast Mayor David Bell to the meeting for the first time in his new role and rounded of a year where the full commitment of agency representatives has been unwavering and fully appreciated by the Lorne Community.

It was interesting to hear that funds have been set-aside in the current budget for the background study prior to the commencement of the review of the Lorne Strategy and Structure plan 2003. Preliminary work is likely to commence in March. Of equal interest to the CfL is the Governance Model under which the review will be undertaken and I'm sure it comes as no surprise that the CfL is advocating that process be a similar model to the highly successful and now widely used "Stribling Reserve Model".

We will continue to lobby for strong community involvement in this process

and the recent work being completed by the CfL on the Aspirations for Lorne and Accommodating Lorne's Future documents will provide a well researched platform to assist and guide the needs of our community in the future.

As we go to press the 2017 VCE exams will be complete and our school leavers will disperse to celebrate the completion of the schooling journey as part of the annual "Schoolies" celebration. Many will descend into Lorne again this year. As a parent of an 18 year old young lady heading to Byron Bay, I have been interested to follow the reported behavioural patterns of the kids on the national news front.

Whilst all appears to be very orderly, I have really admired the work up north being done by the Red Frogs, a group of approximately 2000 volunteers who aim to support school leavers through their week long celebrations at Schoolies Week, and provide a positive presence within their party culture. The Red Frog Crew assist school leavers by walking them home, cooking pancakes, cleaning their rooms,

handing out Allen's Red Frogs and most importantly – offering emotional support thorough what can often be an emotional week.

These fantastic group of volunteers will descend on Lorne this weekend to support our young visitors and along with our local police and commercial operators look to provide a welcoming, safe environment. I also learnt that this year our Lorne Op-Shop has made a contribution to assist the Red Frogs and the great work they do through Schoolies week in Lorne – Brilliant!!!

Don't forget our final Community Luncheon for 2018 scheduled for Friday the 1st of December at the View at the Lorne Hotel. If you haven't confirmed please do so by RSVP to nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au. It will be a great opportunity to listen to Luke Nisbet from Live Wire Park talk about this exciting new project in Lorne.

Ian Stewart
Chairman - Committee for Lorne

COMMUNITY PROFILE

MILA GUERRERO



One day last summer while on Lorne beach, Mila aged 11, happened to notice two girls 'splashing' awkwardly nearby. "I thought I'd better go and see if they are alright, just in case." She grabbed her surf board and paddled out to investigate. She found two Japanese girls in difficulty. One had her head under water and was not coming back up and the other clearly was having trouble. She was able to use the Japanese she was learning at school to help get them onto her board and then headed for shore where life savers took over. Mila's quick thinking, skill on her board and saving two lives have earned her community awards from Corangamite and Lorne. I asked how she felt about all the recognition and attention she was receiving. Shyly she said, "I feel happy and a bit proud."

She has been a Nipper since she was six but although not having covered rescuing people yet, she felt sure what she had been taught helped her that day. She urges all young people to join Nippers. She is looking forward to earning her bronze medallion, then her silver and gold and becoming a qualified life saver.

Mila came to Lorne with her family from Argentina when she was four. She attended the local school for four years before moving to Christian College in Geelong. Only in grade six, she has plenty of time to think about what she would like to do after school but says maybe a marine biologist or a police officer. I have the feeling Mila will succeed in anything she sets her mind on.

She loves sport. She has played back pocket in AFL football for her school for two years and now is trying out to play in an outside club. "I used to ski in Argentina and now I have started to ski again at Mt Buller". Mila's summers are spent surfing and horse riding.

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

December

- 1 **Committee for Lorne Luncheon.**
12 midday for 12.30pm. Lorne View Room at Lorne Hotel. Bookings essential.
Email nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au
- 2 **LAAC AGM.** 5pm start with Presentation of fishing awards at 5.30pm at the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club.
- 15 **Carols on the Lorne,** Mountjoy Parade.
Lions Club sausage sizzle followed by Christmas Carols.
- 19 **Lorne Business & Tourism Association AGM,** 8am at Lorne Central
- 27-30 **Geoff Lindsay's Crab Club,**
pop up restaurant @ Lorne Hotel.
Reservations call – 5289 1409

January

- 2-5 **Frank Camorra's Movida,**
pop up restaurant @ Lorne Hotel.
Reservations call 5289 1409

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