THE COMMITTEE FOR

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January 31 Time for some Moon gazing

For the first time in over 150 years, three lunar phenomena will collide – producing a Super Blue Blood Moon on January 31.

Not only will it be the second full moon in January, but the moon will also be close to its nearest point to Earth on its orbit, and be totally eclipsed by the Earth's shadow.

While the three aren't particularly rare – the last Super Moon was on January 2 this year, and the last Blood and Blue Moons were in 2015 – the chances of them all occurring at the same time are quite slim.

The result will be a spectacular display – a very large, red full moon – which hasn't occurred since March 1866.

In Lorne, we are privileged to witness some spectacular moonrises, particularly when the full moon rises out of the ocean creating a line of reflected light across Louttit Bay. It's the spectacle that so many people travel to Broome to witness, "The Staircase to the Moon." And yet, it is equally as dramatic right here in Lorne and no more so that on the evening of January 31, when the full moon will rise here in Lorne at around 8.30pm. On this night, it will be a Super Moon which is defined as a full moon occurring at the nearest point to the Earth on the moon's orbit. Due to this proximity, Super Moons appear seven per cent larger and 16 per cent brighter than

the average full moon.

A lunar eclipse occurs when the Moon enters the shadow of the Earth cast by the Sun. The eclipse will be most obvious from 10:48pm on January 31 until 2:11am February 1.

"This will be an exciting time for all those people who have never seen a total eclipse of the Moon," said Perry Vlahos, President of the Astronomical Society of Victoria.

Mr. Vlahos said the eclipse will actually start earlier in the north-eastern sky just before 10.00pm but little difference will be seen until about 11:00pm when the Moon begins to move into the full shadow of the Earth. At this time, the bottom right edge of the Moon's disk will begin to darken. The Moon will become fully eclipsed from 11:51pm till 1:07am the next morning. The Moon will then move out from the full shadow of the Earth and it will begin to brighten again.

"This will be the easiest lunar eclipse to see for many years as it occurs during summer time when it's warm and not in the wee hours of the morning," Mr Vlahos said. "It's not at too late a time and families can stay up to watch it together."

Mr Vlahos said the Moon was not expected to disappear completely even during the period of full eclipse. Even though the Moon will be in full shadow for 90 minutes, some sunlight is bent by the Earth's atmosphere and will dimly light up the Moon's surface.

"At full eclipse, the Moon will be a reddish or coppery colour," Mr Vlahos said. "If there is a lot of dust and smoke in the Earth's atmosphere, the eclipse will be dark. If there is less dust and smoke, the Moon will appear brighter."

Particles of dust and smoke in the atmosphere filter out some of the green, blue and violet rays in sunlight letting the yellow, orange and red rays through so things appear redder. A similar effect commonly occurs in summer during bushfire times. The setting Sun appears red because the light we see is filtered through a thick layer of smoky atmosphere.

"Finally, there's also a third point of interest," Mr Vlahos said. "It will also be the occasion of a 'Blue Moon' meaning the second full moon in the same calendar month."

So, on January 31, you're in for a treat. Fingers crossed that the weather holds good and the clouds stay away.

Peter Spring

Special thanks to Perry Vlahos of the Astronomical Society of Victoria for the specifics.

A word from the Chairman

Last Friday night, the Lorne Football and Netball Club hosted their annual "Celebrity Entertainment Night" at the View Room at the Lorne Hotel. Patrons of the event, Brian "BT" Taylor and Michael "Mick" Turner, continued to give up their time and professional expertise to host the sell out event. It's an evening, which consistently delivers a selection of talent as good a across the national sporting stage. Joining BT on stage were Patrick Dangerfield, Wayne Carey and Billy Brownless adding the football flavour, while Tony Howard QC (husband of the Governor of Victoria Linda Dessau) and Sydney comedian Paul Martell added another dimension.

It was Tony Howard that had many in raptures as he shared stories of a colourful life in his role as a Court Judge and equally from a different dimension, from his journey as partner to our lady Governor. From a meeting with the Queen, to tours of Government House, it was a unique experience shared that many were not expecting and not so much aligned to the

theme of the night – but the complimentary feedback and interest created was huge.

Although many didn't know the name Paul Martell prior to the evening, I'm sure he would have left a lasting impression following his comedy session that had the gathering in stitches. BT conducted a series of auctions featuring a range of items from a Wayne Lynch shaped and autographed surfboard, a week in Port Douglas with airfares to a session of off-shore fishing with the Commodore of the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club. A great night for Lorne Football and Netball Club and for all those that participated.

A brilliant story has been unfolding involving seven young surf-loving Lorne local girls who have come together and designed a T Shirt not only symbolising and galvanising their friendship but also benefiting those less fortunate than themselves. Mimi Guerrerro, Zaiya Kovacic, Lyla Daly, Bella Howley, April Boyd, Elle Borwick and Ella Guerro, all aged between 7 and 12, love spending time together in

the ocean and have quickly become very affectionately known as the Lorne Surf

The girls original plan was to design and sell T Shirts to help them fund wetsuits to prolong their year-round love of the surf. Following on from Mimi completing a school term on the subject of refugees and sharing the sad stories with her "sisters" their appreciation of how lucky they were soon changed the focus of their endeavours. Mimi was quick to reflect that after learning that other children in the world are hiding from planes that drop bombs and losing lives of loved ones that they face a real nightmare every day of the week, their new direction was set.

Lorne Surf Sisters are selling their T-Shirts for \$27 at a number of local outlets and all proceeds are being directed to the Refuge Migrant Children's Centre in Melbourne – How good is that!!

lan Stewart

Chairman - Committee for Lorne

COMMUNITY PROFILE

SELENA WALDING



Selena is famous for cooking Thursday night dinners at The Lorne Football Club during the season. Ask anyone about her barbecued ribs! Her love of cooking led her to try her own catering business for a time but her current position as Events Coordinator at The Cumberland suits her better.

When Selena finished school in Lorne she decided to follow her dream and began study to become a teacher. She soon discovered that it wasn't quite what she wanted and the excitement of travelling the world began to replace any thoughts of a teaching career. For the next five years that's exactly what she did. Her first stop was Hamilton Island where she worked for 12 months. Selena has lived in Canada, UK and Malaysia and has travelled extensively elsewhere. "But I'm sorry I didn't get to Spain and Portugal."

Her next move was to Ocean Grove, where she married and had her three boys. She landed the ideal job with Flight Centre and worked for them for ten years. How better to fulfil an ongoing passion for travel. "The highlight of my travelling for business was a trip to South America and in particular, Machu Pichu."

Eight years ago she moved back to Lorne. Her boys are third generation Austin/Waldings to attend the Lorne School. You don't have to look far to find her on committees. She has been President of Lorne Kindergarten, in the Parent Club, on Lorne School Council, Master Plan committee and uniform committee to name a few. "I have a strong connection to the school here and am willing to offer support in any way I can."

Family and friends are an important part of Selena's busy life. During the football season you will see her running the canteen at weekends.

CW

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

January

27-28 Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race

27 **Lorne Foreshore Market,** 10am – 4pm

February

- Victorian Surf Life Saving Masters
 Championships at Lorne Beach
- Victorian Surf Life Saving Senior Carnival
- 17 **Lorne Castle and Candle Competition** at St George River

March

4 **Clean Up Australia Day** 9am - 11am Register LAAC – 9am

