

# THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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## Lorne Historical Society Celebrates 50th Anniversary

**This year we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the formation of the Lorne Historical Society. At such a time it is appropriate to ask why do research the past and study history? We certainly do not learn from the lessons of history.**

Each decade sees yet another genocide perpetrated in parts of the world. It is arguable that the trade restrictions imposed by the United States on Japan in the 1930s forced Japan into World War 2. The United States is now imposing trade restrictions upon China.

Humans are naturally curious and have a thirst for knowledge. We do want to know about our past, our family history and our place in space. The research undertaken by the Lorne Historical Society enhances our sense of community. It is to the twelve people who met at the Lorne School in 1968 to form the Society that we owe a great debt, and to the many who followed and who worked so diligently to collect photographs, stories and memorabilia.

The twelve were Paul Birch, Martin McHugh, Myrtle McHugh, Joan Wheal, Lorna Inderberg, Judy Watts, Ivy Baldry, Bert Alsop, Doug Stirling, Murray Mill and Ian Gribble. The minutes of that meeting in March show that the membership fee was one dollar and a vote was taken to raise one dollar for petty cash. A sub-committee was formed to write a constitution and the first display was planned for the shop front at the Lorne Cinema.

We will plan a more formal celebration later in the year, but at the end of the guesthouse exhibition and at the start of the planning for

the fishing exhibition it was appropriate to raise a glass on Sunday to toast our founders.

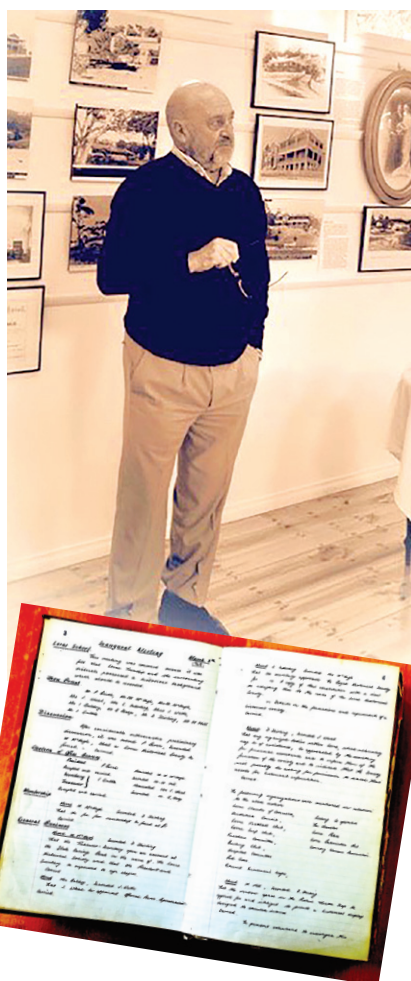
Since the Society's rooms were refurbished last year, we have staged two themed exhibitions. The first was of the shipwrecks which occurred around the coast close to Lorne and the second exhibition told the stories of the Guesthouses of Lorne.

That exhibition is now closed and were are gearing up for our next themed exhibition related to the fishing industry in Lorne. This time, when there over twenty fishing boats based in Lorne and raised and lowered by a crane on the pier was a boom time for industry in Lorne. The Society has many images of the boats on the pier, fishermen cleaning their catch in Louttit Bay and of the last days of launching boats using the crane.

We would love to have more material; photos, stories, memorabilia, to document and display this important era of Lorne's history.

The Society has facilities to digitise photographs and documents and we would be grateful to anyone who is prepared to loan any memorabilia to allow us to copy and catalog as part of our collection. We will respect any material you wish to loan and after creating digital copies all material will be returned to the lender. If you have such material and would like to contribute to this new display, you can contact the Society either by leaving a message at 5289 1191 or emailing us at [info@lornehistoricalsociety.org.au](mailto:info@lornehistoricalsociety.org.au)

**Gary Allen**  
President



## A word from the *Chairman*

Hats off to Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMV)! Over the past month, communication from their team has been first class about planned burns being imminent and information regarding community awareness of the program. On Easter Sunday, I took a call from Bodin Campbell a Senior Forest Fire Management Officer with Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMV), to update the Lorne Community on the week ahead, and his information was then distributed among our community databases.

Favorable weather conditions had the planned burn areas ready to ignite prior to Easter, however with the continued forecasted weather pattern, and recognition of the busy Lorne Easter period, they delayed ignition. All going well, there is likely to be smoke in the air as this column goes to press. It's been a pleasure over the past month to work with Bo and his team and we very much appreciate the consideration they have given the greater Lorne region.

And I'm so glad they did as Lorne was an absolute picture post card for the entire Easter break. On Sunday with my wife and daughter we walked the magnificent Lorne Sculpture Biennale trail which was spectacular in its own right, but there was also so much more which added to this unique experience. As we started the Sculpture Trail at the Swing Bridge, kids with mum and dad by their side we're excited to

be fishing in the Erskine River, nearby sun lovers exposed themselves to the afternoon rays, coffee lovers in their element at the Swing Bridge Café; this was Lorne in all her glory.

Past Erskine Paddock where again the artwork attracted many visitors, campers spilt out of the Riverbank precinct to view the artistic performances in the "Paddock", while only 100 metres away, came the echo of people enjoying a classic Easter wave and the numbers on the "Sculpture trail" were amazing. Along the Cliff Walk, again with sculptures as the major focus, the beach shoulder to shoulder with sun lovers, the starters whistle of the Lorne Surf Clubs Club Championships fading into the sounds of the summer like crowd – Lorne at its very best!

The Doug Stirling Cliff Walk provided a world class backdrop to what was on display and equally the Lorne Pier to perfect "red carpet" to my favorite piece of work, while the grounds of the Anglers provided the "Crown Palladium" type atmosphere where "Couta Memory" was announced as a very popular Lorne Sculpture Biennale People's Choice award. Congratulations Tony Wolfenden and Lorne Men's Sheddors

On the return walk one could not help but notice the sculptured formation of Lorne Surf Club (LSLSC) Boat Oars with a "Champagne Stocking" ready to christen the latest edition to their successful Surf Boat fleet. LSLSC Boat Captain Geoff Matthews conducted

the "boat naming" ceremony in recognition of the outstanding contributions of one of their own. The announcement came as no surprise as Lorne favorite Kevin Van Deuren was named recipient of this high honor.

The brand new boat aptly named 'Big Kev' sat proudly on the sand and was superbly complemented by the smile on the big fellas face – You champion Kev!

The Great Ocean Road Taskforce has recently released an issues paper outlining the key issues and proposing a new management model to strengthen protection of the landscape setting, improve the visitor experience, provide greater certainty in land-use planning and attract investment proposals that will benefit visitors and local communities. I urge everyone of you to go online a view the document with an opportunity to have your say by the 30th April 2018.

The Committee for Lorne are pleased to be able to provide the opportunity for you to listen the Co-chairman of the Taskforce in a low key local non political environment. I am sure this will be one of our most popular luncheons and attendance is only available by RSVP to [nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au](mailto:nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au) by April 5 – do it now!

**Ian Stewart**  
Chairman - Committee for Lorne



## COMMUNITY PROFILE

**BARBARA BARBER**

Sixty five years ago Barb, remembers walking to Kalimna Falls as a five year old, something she has only just repeated. It was the Queen who gave the family another reason to come to the area again. They waited by the rail tracks in Geelong to see her arrive by train.

Barb grew up in the Wimmera at Donald but attended senior school as a boarder at Morongo in Geelong. Since Lorne was her parent's favourite spot, many weekends were enjoyed here. She had thought she would study teaching after school but instead began a business career in Melbourne. She became a director and partner of Suzan Johnston's School of Department and ended up teaching anyway.

She married John and they produced two girls. When the girls reached senior school, Barb took up a position as Court Officer in the Federal Court and was employed for 12 years. As it was casual and part time, it suited her perfectly until she retired permanently to Lorne in 2017.

Barb admits she has been passionate about sport all her life and puts tennis top of the list. She still goes to Melbourne once a week to play. Golf rates highly too and since retiring she has become an active member of the Lorne Country Club. She also enjoys theatre and her garden.

A love of travel has taken the Barbers all over the world, on numerous cruises and lately on long road trips around Australia. They have driven to Perth, northwest Queensland and to Uluru to see the giant solar light installation. With a daughter in London, this year they are going to Spain and Portugal via the UK, to visit her. "We have managed to get tickets to the Chelsea Flower Show while we are there and I am also hoping to spend a day at Wimbledon."

The Barbers regularly rented accommodation in Lorne for family holidays but 20 years ago bought land and built their house, big enough to entertain children, their two grandsons and friends. Lorne is home now. "I found Lorne's vibrant community easy to settle in. As well as the Golf Club I'm a member of the Aquatic Club, Bowling Club, Gardening Group, attend yoga and play bridge". They volunteer at the Lorne Sculpture Biennale too.

**CW**

## LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

### April

20

**Committee for Lorne Luncheon**, at the View Room, Lorne Hotel. Guest speaker Terry Mulder, Co-chair of the Great Ocean Road Task Force. The Task Force released its issues paper, entitled - The Governance of the Great Ocean Road Region. With the one common goal – protecting and growing the Great Ocean Road. View the issues paper here: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/great-ocean-road> Reserve your seat by contacting Nicole Spiteri at Great Ocean Road Real Estate [nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au](mailto:nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au)

21

**Lorne vs South Colac football and netball**, at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm

### May

4-6

**Lorne May Music Festival weekend**

**COMMITTEE FOR LORNE**