

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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Point Grey Project – An Update

Last week I presented an overview of the Point Grey project as summarised by ArchitectureAU in a media publication that they put together and this week I will talk about the process to get to this point, but in more detail. Back in 2007, the Lorne Community Building Initiative “LorneCH” was established under a State Government funded program. Under this initiative, Community Opportunity Workshops (COW) identified key community issues for Lorne and project teams were established to look at these issues identified by the community.

The Pier Point Grey project team was formed by local community members to investigate options to improve the amenity of Point Grey and to tackle over 20 particular issues identified by the community as a whole which eventually evolved into an exciting design concept prepared for the community by renowned illustrator Robert Ingpen. What followed was the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee Point Grey and Slaughterhouse Master Plan Project – Place Essence Report.

In late 2012/13 GORCC initiated a Community Reference group consisting of 16 Community Representatives that sat collaboratively across multiple sessions to build on the discussions that commenced some five years earlier. At this point, the Community were adamant that they wanted to see two buildings in the precinct (the existing Lorne Angling and Aquatic Club – LAAC - and a Restaurant/Retail outlet). The LAAC was to remain in its current location and investigation was to take place as to how we might embrace the history of our past in the precinct.

Unfortunately, at that time, the then GORCC Chairman presented a plan back to the Community that had a single building accommodating all stakeholders of the precinct. Needless to say the Community was “up in arms” and a local delegation sat with the then State Government Planning Minister to effectively block the plan from

moving forward. As a result of this action, the plan was redrafted and became the DELWP endorsed Point Grey Master Plan 2015.

Although not perfect, the two building precinct had been resurrected, the LAAC location remained where everyone wanted it (albeit smaller than the wish of their members) and discussions were evolving as to how we could preserve that history that runs so deep across our town. There was still no clear statement from GORCC as to project funding and timelines. Later following the resignation of the then GORCC Chairman, a new Chairman has been appointed and a new leadership team established at GORCC. With that came new energy to see the Point Grey project come to fruition.

The follow-on to the Endorsed Plan was the creation of a GORCC led Project Steering Group which contained members of the LAAC, Friends of Queens Park, Lorne Business Tourism and Tourism Association, Committee for Lorne and Lorne Ward Councillor.

What has evolved over many years as the result of a robust, consultative process has seen the announcement of the winners of the Architectural competition to drive the Point Grey Precinct Project. But there is still a long, long journey ahead and that’s before we are able to secure funding. What we have at the moment is “precinct specific” proposal, not including Shelly Beach or any part thereof, that is preparing to deliver the specific detail of buildings and design within the precinct with a land manager (GORCC) that is prepared to work with with the Community.

This precinct is such an important part of our history where names like Norton, Love, Zanoni, Tune, Smith, Raskatos, Campbell and Alsop to name a few, are important to our fishing industry as are the likes of Babington, Armistead, Walters and others to our logging heritage and those who know me well will realise that no stone

will be left unturned to pay homage to our colourful past.

Subject to finalising the design and addressing the detail, the CfL is excited to see the concept and looks forward to each of the stakeholders discussing and developing the specific aspect of the scheme with GORCC and their architects, and understanding how the functional design will include and address historic interpretation, the commercial strategy to achieve the goal of “stop, stay and spend” and the other specific needs of the Community.

This has been one heck of a journey over the past decade and we have never been closer, nor partnered with a stronger GORCC team, to deliver an outcome that all of Lorne can be proud of.

Ian Stewart

Chairman - Committee for Lorne

PS. Don't forget our next Committee for Lorne Luncheon scheduled for Friday June the 8th but please, you must RSVP to nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au.

Our guest speakers for the day will be Damien Smith, Chairman of the Board of Lorne Community Hospital and Kate Gillan, CEO of the hospital, both of whom will provide an update on activities and plans for the future of this wonderful community asset.



Our special thanks to “CW”

When the Committee for Lorne was established in September 2012, the executive team decided to produce a page in the Surf Coast Times as a means of keeping the community informed. The format was to be a main feature on a topical subject, a column written by our Chairman Ian Stewart, a profile of a member or couple in our Lorne community and an events calendar.

The first of these pages was published in December 2012 in time for the start of the summer season. The intent was to publish the page each week until just after Easter, 2013; about 4 months. Well, here we are over five years on and the Committee for Lorne page in the Surf Coast Times is still being produced each week! This week the page appears again – for about the 285th time!

A column that has appeared each week for all that time is the Community Profile: a story about an individual or couple who have made their way to Lorne and either reside permanently or visit often. There

are common threads to these stories: a background on the individuals, an insight into how they came to Lorne and most importantly in all the profiles a shared love of this unique place that has been part of people's family history in many cases over generations.

The other common thread on many of these profiles is the initials “CW” which appear at the end of the profile. These are the initials of Cynthia Wynhoven who now has those initials on well over 250 of those 285 profiles! Cynthia, and her husband Jack, have been stalwarts of the Lorne community for many, many years particularly anything arts related. Cynthia and Jack were driving forces behind the establishment of Lorne Sculpture Biennale and keen supporters ever since.

Imagine if you will, 250 community profiles, each one involving an interview, writing the profile and capturing the image of the subject. One profile at a time, one weekend at a time always conscious of the deadline. Cynthia has now decided to take

some time out to concentrate on her own arts projects. The Committee for Lorne is so very grateful to you Cynthia for the amazing job you have done and the way in which you went about it. Congratulations on a community contribution which has left an incredible legacy and best wishes for your next projects.

The Committee for Lorne would like to continue with a Community Profile as part of our weekly page. We recognise that Cynthia set the bar high but we are hoping that some person or persons would be prepared to take on the continuing task of developing Community Profiles. You will have the full support of the Committee. If you are interested in discussing further, please email info@committeeforlorne.org.au or contact 0417 514 807.

Thank you one again Cynthia.

Pete Spring

Vice Chair
Committee for Lorne



JOAN STURTON - GILL

COMMUNITY PROFILE

One Good Friday evening, after 12 months of looking in various locations for a holiday house, Joan and her husband were taken to view a property on a hill above the town. The moon was shining on the water in its full Easter glory. They bought that block and in 1985 built a house that was to become very much part of their life. *“It has always been a party house, the place for all our major milestone celebrations and many holidays with family and friends. Our motto was ‘LIVE LIFE’ and before Peter died two years ago he made sure I understood that was still to be. We had been married for 49 years”.*

Joan's family came from UK by ship, when she was eight. They settled in Bairnsdale where she began her education. At 14 she went to Melbourne to try nursing. There, on a blind date, Joan and Peter fell in love at first sight and married. They had two daughters who have produced five grandchildren.

At 23, Joan went back to school part time to obtain her VCE to enter university. She not only gained a Bachelor of Arts but followed with a Master of Education and Business. She taught senior boys for 20 years at schools including Xavier College, Whitefriars and High Schools. In 1996, although she loved teaching, she decided on a career change and joined her husband in their family business as General Manager. There was one condition though, she was to have one day off to play golf, something she has continued to do and *“which in fact has kept me going and has contributed significantly to my sanity”.*

After they sold their business, the Sturtions enjoyed *“ten beautiful years of retirement”.* Long before that though they began their travels exploring the world and long road trips around Australia. *“While we had a daughter and her family living in Hong Kong I went there 45 times”.* Joan continues to pursue her passion for travel. She is not long back from Spain and South America and more recently from golfing in NZ. Next is the UK before year's end and in April next year, she will visit Japan to see the cherry blossom.

Opera, theatre, music, art galleries, Pilates, book club, bridge lessons, walking, gardening, following North Melbourne and looking after grandchildren keep Joan on the run. *“Lorne provides a balance for my busy life. I am surrounded by supportive neighbours who I look forward to seeing every week.”*

CW

LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

May

26 **Lorne vs Western Eagles football** and netball, at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm

June

8 **Committee for Lorne Luncheon.**

12pm for 12.30 start at The View at the Lorne Hotel. Guest speakers from Lorne Community Hospital. To book, contact nicole@greatoceanroadrealestate.com.au

9 **Lorne Foreshore Market**, Located on the Lorne Foreshore 9am – 4pm.

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

10 **L.A.A.C 4th Major Fishing Competition**, Weigh in between 12-12.30 pm. Roast lunch for all competitors \$10 Adults, \$5 Children.

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FOR LORNE