

# THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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## LORNE COMMUNITY CONNECT INC.

Last year the future of the Lorne Senior Citizens Club, through no fault of the committee or the leadership, was looking bleak. It is a reality facing most senior's clubs in the State that; we are living longer, people retire at a later age, we are more affluent and mobile. A sense prevails that "I'm sixty, but I don't regard myself as a senior". As a result active membership is declining.

The Senior Citizens building was constructed on the old Gracedale site and opened in 1988. It was a hard fought addition to our community's facilities, thanks to the tenacity of Eva Norton and her team. It was a focal point for the retired people of Lorne. There were regular gatherings and activities including indoor bowls, billiards and trips away. It was a growing and active club, but now with fewer members, the activities and therefore the use of the facility has declined and it now operates at a loss.

The facility currently hosts the Lorne RSL sub-branch Anzac Day service and the Lorne Lions Club Easter Art Show. It is used by the organisers of the Falls Festival and the Amy Gillett Gran Fondo. Each Wednesday the seniors have a lunch. There are regular exercise classes and a quilting group. Individual rooms and the entire facility are available for hire. However, it is vacant for a large part of the week and year.

Thanks to the offer of support from Lesley and Clive Goldsworthy, Maxine Spizzica and Wendy Hutchison, the committee continued to operate. It became obvious to them that if the facility is to have a future for community use, there has to be a rethink of its purpose, whilst continuing its traditional use by the seniors group and existing users. At the annual general meeting held last week, the members took several bold and visionary steps. They



New committee (L to R) Gary Allen, Doug Stirling, Pam Fulton, Wendy Hutchison, Lesley Goldsworthy, Clive Goldsworthy, Absent – Vi Dickinson & June Adams

voted to change the name of the organisation to Lorne Community Connect Inc., to update the constitution to incorporate the current model rules and to expand the capacity of people in the community to become financial members by relaxing the eligibility age.

The new committee is a blend of new and past members, thus the experience and knowledge of the past is not lost and members with fresh insights are included. Our challenge is to reach out to the Lorne community for ideas and support. How can you help?

- Become a member, the annual fee is \$10. This will raise needed funds in the short-term, but more importantly it gives us a platform for long-term planning and growth. Membership forms can be obtained from the Lorne Visitors Information Centre and from committee members.
- If you are in the hospitality business or

you love catering, volunteer to cook lunch for one Wednesday a year. At the time of writing we have two businesses committed.

- We will require a new logo. If you have expertise in this area please forward your suggestions and/or designs to our secretary Wendy Hutchison on the Lorne Community Connect email address by the end of June.

### Most Importantly

- You can pay the annual membership by direct credit the details are on the membership form.
- Forward your ideas to the committee at [lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com.au](mailto:lornecommunityconnect@gmail.com.au)

**Gary Allen**

President

Lorne Community Connect

## A word from the *Chairman*

Hello Winter!!! and what a start it's been.

Last weekend's cloudless skies and still conditions have helped usher in a comfortable start to what is historically our coolest time of the year. To see people in shorts and tee shirts through the first weekend of June was a welcome site and a gentle reminder that winter in Lorne can deliver some absolute beauties for outdoor enjoyment. This weekend's Queens Birthday celebration and public holiday on Monday is certain to bring continuing good numbers to town.

And it's not only the land based numbers that are likely to continue as we embark on another Whale migration season. From now until October is the time when Humpback and Southern Right Whales migrate from Antarctica along the Victorian coastline to warmer northern waters of Australia for calving, before returning south to Antarctica in Spring. More than 60 percent of the world's whale population can be found in Australian waters, where numbers have grown steadily over the last

twenty years.

If you're coming to the coast over the coming weeks keep a lookout for these amazing big mammals of the ocean. If you're looking to plan your journey around the movements of the whales go to [www.visitgreatoceanroad.org.au](http://www.visitgreatoceanroad.org.au) where they record and highlight the whale sightings along the Great Ocean Road.

The Committee for Lorne last week hosted the Great Ocean Road Coast Committees new CEO Vanessa Schernickau, Communication Engagement Manage David Petty and members of the appointed Architectural team that were successful in the design competition for the Point Grey Precinct. In bringing together members from Friends of Lorne, Lorne Business and Tourism Association and Lorne Angling and Aquatic Club, it was enlightening to hear visions of the architects as they listened to community feedback and input to the project.

It was a great forum that enabled different views to be tabled and where

appropriate, robust discussions that resulted in positive outcomes. I'm sure most are now familiar with the 10 year journey that preceded where we at today and I continue to promote the belief that we are closer now than ever before to delivering an outcome, subject of course to securing project funding. The continuing community advocacy and engagement is vital to the successful delivery of this project and the foundations are strong for these relationships to further strengthen and move forward.

A big shout out to Carly Enticott who once again hosted the Cancer Council of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea to help raise funds for cancer research. Along with jointly running her local business, overseeing the Lorne Football/Netball Club Netball department, mother to two children and husband to Wes - Carly's efforts are outstanding!!!!

**Ian Stewart**

Chairman - Committee for Lorne

## COMMUNITY PROFILE



**FAY VALCANIS**

Planning has already begun for the seventh Lorne Sculpture Event in 2020. Survey statistics reveal many truths but, importantly for the town, that the ever growing number of visitors contribute to Lorne's economy across the board. Just speak to Jorge at the Swing Bridge or HAH café for starters.

Until Fay Valcanis was appointed Manager of Lorne Sculpture Biennale in 2017 (thanks to a generous donation from the Sydney Myer Foundation), the event was mounted solely by volunteers. An enormous undertaking and commitment by a dedicated few, assisted by many in the community who man the event daily.

Fay grew up and was educated in Melbourne, obtaining a Bachelor of Education in Environmental Studies. Her first assignment was with the then Conservation Department, as a community educator in the Warrandyte State Park where, along with volunteers, she helped residents with properties abutting the park, increase their awareness of pest plants and animals. "It was a lovely job. I got to know the community well and together we worked out the best way to look after the park."

Next she worked on fire prevention on public lands, gaining experience in communication skills from launching programs, making presentations, creating budgets and writing publications for schools. This experience equipped her well for a position as Senior Marketing Officer with the new Melbourne Museum three months before it opened. "They warned me I would be hitting the ground running but it turned out to be a sprint. They were a wonderful group of people and fun to work with". During the next 14 years with Melbourne Museum, Fay had two children and was promoted to Marketing Manager. "I learned a lot from this team about developing partnerships and the way the media works. Fay's next job was as Marketing Manager at The Immigration Museum.

In 2009, Fay and her husband bought a house in Aireys Inlet. In 2011 they began a major renovation and moved in permanently. Fay commuted to Melbourne. In 2014 she took long service leave and went backpacking with her family in south-east Asia. On her return, she resigned her job and took on freelance work until her appointment as Lorne Sculpture Biennale Manager. Combined with her management experience, an interest in the Arts, a love of nature and believing in community involvement, she saw the job as a good match for her background.

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## LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

### 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](mailto: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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