

# THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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## LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

### October

**27 Mantra Garden Party.**  
Celebrating 150 years since the first hotel opened on the site that is now Mantra. Lots of activities. All welcome

### November

**3 Lorne Foreshore Market,** local produce, art & craft, books and yummy treats. 10am-4pm.  
**4 Deans Marsh Market,** Fantastic Otway food and wine, a unique artisans craft market, music and Kids entertainment. 9am-2pm at the Deans Marsh Reserve.  
**4 LAAC Major Fishing Comp,** Weigh in at 12 followed by presentations and roast lunch for competitors and members.  
**17 Lorne Football & Netball Club AGM,** Lorne Leisure Centre, Stribling Reserve at 10am

# Great Ocean Road Action Plan

## Protecting the iconic coast and parks

**The Great Ocean Road Action Plan was unveiled last week by the Minister for Energy, Environment & Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio and the Minister for Tourism & Major Events John Eren at Lorne.**

Major reforms detailed in the Action Plan include:

- stand-alone legislation that recognises and protects the coast, parks and scenic landscapes along the Road as the 'one integrated and living entity'
  - a dedicated (statutory) coast and parks agency with an independent, skills-based board, to manage –and be publicly accountable for – the protection of the environment, sustainable visitation and delivery of government investment
  - development of a community vision with a long term outlook and overarching strategic framework plan for the length of the Great Ocean Road
  - a better planning approvals process.
- The Great Ocean Road Action Plan follows the 26 recommendations made by the Great Ocean Road Taskforce's independent Co-Chairs – former state transport ministers the Hon Peter Batchelor and the Hon Terry Mulder – who carefully considered the community feedback provided earlier this year in face to face conversations with 780 people, and in 570 survey responses and submissions.

The Co-Chairs examined governance models

of a number of places with high visitation around the world and found that no model could be transplanted from another location. Victoria's response to the challenges facing the Great Ocean Road needed to be customised in response to the unique challenges of the region.

The Co-chairs concluded that:

- The area is so important that it needs, and deserves, special place-based governance arrangements - it has outstanding natural, cultural, and heritage values, and is of immense importance to the State economy.
  - The first priority must be to protect the environmental assets and isolated beauty experience that are the attraction for visitors.
- The Victorian Government supports all 26 of the Co-Chair recommendations (subject to funding) and proposes to implement the recommendations through 18 actions in five key areas.

A standalone Act of Parliament that – for the first time –recognises the landscapes and seascapes along the Great Ocean Road as the one integrated and living entity and makes the management of the region publicly accountable.

The Victorian Government commits to – for the first time –establish a dedicated, statutory parks management authority, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, to protect and manage the coastal Crown land and marine waters along the Great Ocean Road for the benefit of future generations.

This will not alter the underlying management tenure and conservation objectives of any national parks areas for which the new authority

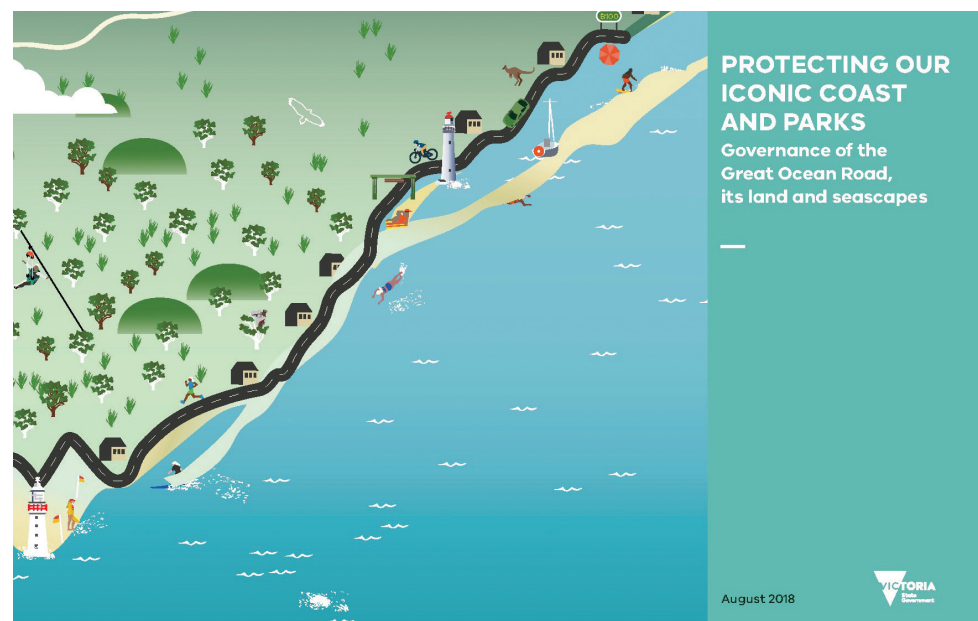
assumes responsibility. The new authority will work closely with Parks Victoria who retain responsibility for broad-acre parks management - including for most of the Great Otway National Park - and who will provide parks management services to the new authority for its field operations to ensure environmental conservation objectives are met.

This is similar to the management model for the Great Barrier Reef where the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service provide field

management services to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for the marine and island national parks.

This will simplify the governance of the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes. Currently there are 11 different managers of Crown land operating in different geographical locations.

View the Action Plan, the Co-Chairs Final Report and Community Views Report at [www.engage.vic.gov.au](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au).



COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

## A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

What a week its been in Lorne with the mercury getting close to 30 for the first time on Monday past and then reminding us that it's not quite summer yet as the week rolled on. It's a great time of the year in the lead up to Christmas as the weather continues to improve, we have more hours of daylight and we can enjoy our town intimately before the arrival of our summer visitors.

While you have the chance, a visit to the current exhibition – *Lorne's Fishy Tales* - at the Lorne Historical Society is an absolute must. The fishing industry was such a vibrant and rugged chapter of Lorne's colorful past and a legacy that we must preserve forever. Head

down to the Lorne Historical Society on a Friday or Sunday before noon to check it out.

There are so many stories over so many years that can be shared about the industry which, along with logging, was the lifeblood to our town. My favorite remains well documented and presented in a framed article at the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club of the day the Norton brothers Couta boat was sunk by a white pointer shark in Louttit Bay – what's yours?

Those that read this column will know that I am a "glass half full" type of person and positivity plays a major role in the values that I aspire to achieve, sometimes to the criticism of

others – but that's OK. At times I've received comments how readers enjoy the same "up beat" views in the way I share the experiences of Lorne, and that's great – but more than anything it's real!

There was no better reinforcement of this than a social media post that I was alerted to earlier this week and I wanted to share it with you word for word and it went like this.

"Hi, I am posting to express my gratitude and appreciation for the welcome I have received from members of the Lorne Bowls club. You couldn't find a nicer, kinder or more patient group of people; even when my bowl went in the wrong direction onto another lane and my

hat flew off my head across the green during my first pennant game. My team lost surprise, surprise.

I have had a pretty tough and lonely few years and being a member of a group such as this has helped me more than I can say, thank you so much – Dory Hompas".

Absolute gold and at the core of living in this town are the feelings that Dory was kind enough to share and others lucky enough to experience. Thank you Dory and may your first pennant win not be too far away.

**Ian Stewart**

Chairman - Committee for Lorne