

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 15 Carols on the Lorne,**
St Cuthbert's Church Lorne,
sausage sizzle from 6:30pm and
carols from 7:30pm
- 16 Carols in the Marsh,**
Christmas fun for Community,
family & friends. 6pm Deans Marsh
Reserve.
- 28 Lorne Falls Music & Art
Festival,** Dec 28 – 1 Jan

A joint proposal to combine and strengthen *health services*

Over the past 18 months, the Boards of Lorne Community Hospital and Otway Health have been exploring our ability to share resources, to ensure the long-term success and viability of our existing health care services.

Our General Practices are now integrated, and we are confident that we have structures in place that will sustain doctors' services into the long term.

This exploration has identified additional opportunities for a sustainable health service along the Great Ocean Road and as a result, Lorne Community Hospital and Otway Health are planning to seek approval from the Minister for Health and Human Services to combine operations under a single entity.

The joint proposal of the two Boards to combine the health services of Lorne Community Hospital and Otway Health will ensure the provision of improved service delivery and greater access to care for local communities, still close to home.

Otway Health and Lorne Community Hospital are both faced with challenges experienced by regional and rural health facilities (e.g. recruitment and retention of staff, service availability),

which can impact on how we deliver health services to the people in our community. Our geography and seasonal population on the Great Ocean Road put us in a rather unique position. The two current Boards are taking a proactive approach to ensure the future sustainability of our health services across the local regions of Apollo Bay, Lorne and surrounds, by coming together to build and further improve on our existing safe, high quality services. We want to meet the health needs of our communities in the best way possible, into the future.

By joining the two health services we can:

- Enhance the sustainability and increased stability of GP services throughout the local region;
- Increase access to a broader range of health services locally, and we would have greater choice of where our health services are conducted;
- Improve levels of care as we share knowledge, expertise and training across both sites;
- Provide greater work opportunities for staff such as professional development and extended scope of practice, flexible job sharing and workplace location, resulting in a highly skilled workforce in this



area; and

- Improve operational effectiveness that can be directed towards enhancing direct patient care.

We anticipate that the community members and visitors who use our health services, as well as those who work with us, may have a range of questions as to what this all means.

We welcome you to engage in direct discussions via small group 'tea talks' with the CEO and Board members. In addition, regular information updates will be published via local newspapers and newsletters, Otway Health and

Lorne Community Hospital websites, mail-outs and social media platforms.

To register your interest to attend a 45-minute Tea Talk session, please contact:

• Otway Health

Phone: (03) 5237 8502

Email: CAC.OH@swarh.vic.gov.au

• Lorne Community Hospital

Phone: (03)5289 4386

Email: Info.lorne@swarh.vic.gov.au

COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

A word from the Chairman

We are fast approaching the end of 2018 and with Christmas Day less than three weeks away, it's a time of the year when everyone is racing the clock for many different reasons. Local "tradies" are flat out meeting pre-Christmas deadlines, local traders preparing for the influx of summer visitors and local volunteers preparing our town and facilities to ensure our visitors enjoy what we all love.

Our loyal group of "Lornecarers" are hard at it again this weekend with a working bee to put the "polishing touches" on the Bert Alsop track from 10am on Sunday. The hard working team would love to welcome any new faces to the "crew" and are invited to meet with the stalwarts in the Lions Club Car park. Following the working bee, there will be a special Christmas BBQ at approximately 12.30pm.

The Lorne Country Club are having their final working bee the following weekend, Saturday December 15 from 8.30am, followed by the Presidents BBQ. Within excess of 20 members present at each of their last two working bees, this passionate group are sure to have the course in first class condition for our visiting golfing enthusiasts. These are only two examples of the continued community spirit that is so special and unique to Lorne!

Congratulations to Lorne Branch of the RSL who partnered with the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee on the completion of the new Cenotaph and surrounds on the Lorne Foreshore. In the weeks following the November 11th commemoration of 100 years since the end of the First World War, I took time out to walk and enjoy the recently completed site and I love it.

Simple understated elegance in an environment to match the ANZAC Memorial garden is a special place of remembrance and a great example of how such facilities can also provide and maximise opportunities for enjoyment of Lorne's fantastic open space environments. If you haven't done so already, go for a walk and check it out; it's well worth a look.

Over the last month, the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club has been front and centre on many competitive stages and various disciplines with the biggest stage of all being the recent World Surf Boat Rowing Championships at the Glenelg Beach in South Australia. The local Club continues to be a powerhouse on the Australian Surf Boat rowing scene and that strength continued on the world stage with the local Club adding two World Titles to their

illustrious trophy cabinet.

The Lorne ladies crew won Gold in the Open World Women's following on from their Silver at the Australian Titles earlier this year; a mighty achievement. Lorne also won Gold in the Men's Masters section capping off a brilliant carnival for the Lorne Club. Our local crews again look set to dominate the upcoming Victorian Competition season and stamp our Club as one of the strongest Surf Boat Rowing Clubs in Australia.

Don't forget to mark in your diary the Annual General Meeting of the Committee for Lorne on December 13 at 5.30 pm at the Lorne Leisure Centre, we would love to see you there.

Ian Stewart

Chairman - Committee for Lorne