

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

P.O Box 168, Lorne 3232. info@committeeforlorne.org.au www.cfl.org.au ☎ 0438 843 258
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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 9** Victorian Surf Life Saving Masters State Championships, at Lorne beach
- 23** Victorian Surf Life Saving State Junior Carnival, at Lorne beach

MARCH

- 3** Clean Up Australia Day, Meet at the LAAC at 9am. Bring gloves & sunblock.
- 24** Deans Marsh Festival, Live music, local harvest, market stalls, dog jumping, kids events, and much more. 10 am – 5pm at Deans Marsh Oval.

LORNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY to get a Facelift

The façade of the Lorne Historical Society's rooms is to get a much-needed facelift.

As you come into Lorne, the current façade is the drab, cedar wall with treated pine poles you see as you cross the Erskine River and turn into Mountjoy Parade.

The only highlight on the façade is a series of panels which were installed in around 2002, decorated with coloured handprints of children in the community as a community Arts Project.

Now, with the financial support of Surf Coast Shire and the in-kind support of a lot of people in our community the façade is to be upgraded, providing a more visually appealing experience as visitors and locals alike, enter town.

About four years ago, the Surf Coast Shire carried out an extensive refurbishment of the interior of the Society's rooms, giving us a space more

suitable for the current operations of the Society. Removal of a toilet and small storage rooms allowed us to create a space more suitable for themed exhibitions; the Society's current plan for exhibiting material from its extensive collection. Installation of air conditioning, a fresh coat of paint, repolished timber floors and an office for our computer equipment, made the space far more functional and visually appealing.

Two years ago, the Committee turned its attention to the exterior façade. Local architects Bob Sinclair and Chris Wood volunteered their expertise to design a new façade which would transform the outside of the building and at the same time be achieved within a reasonable budget. The images accompanying this article show the current façade and the conceptual design for the new look. The key elements of the design are:

- Panels of timber battens fixed to the

existing structure

- A large window providing opportunity for a look into the Society's display space
- A series of metal panels etched with historic photos from the Society's collection
- A new entrance
- As architect Chris Wood said, "It will be simple and dramatic. It's an exercise in carpentry".

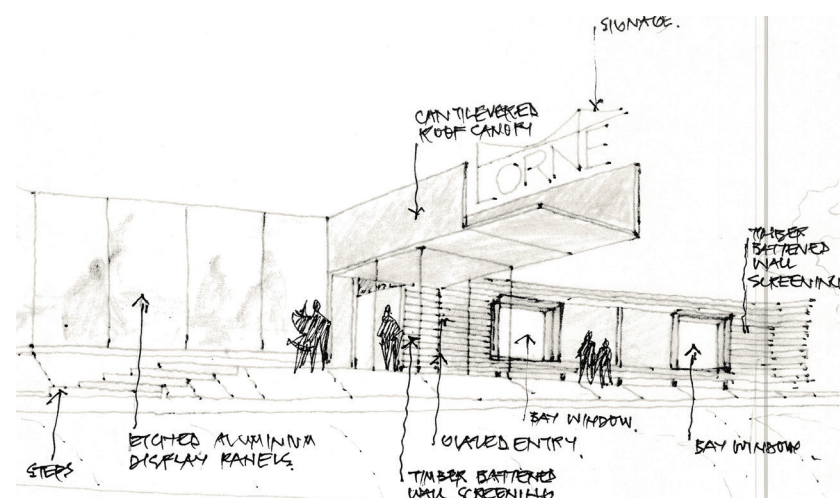
The Surf Coast Shire committed \$50,000 to this project to be provided on a basis of matching dollar for dollar, in-kind contributions and donations from our community.

The first significant contribution was from Barwon Timber who have donated all the timber to construct the panels and fix the battens. That timber is now stored at the Lorne & District Men's Shed. The Sheddies are also a very significant contributor, having

volunteered their services to construct all the timber panels. The Society has carried out fundraising over the past two years and we have also been the beneficiary of some very generous donations. Under the watchful eye of Bob Sinclair, the first panels are now under construction.

Prior to commencement of construction, it is important that the community are informed of the proposed new look and to assist with that, a couple of panels will be placed on the façade so that people can see what it will look like. This has been a true partnership project with Surf Coast Shire, and Council will be providing more details to the community in the coming months.

Peter Spring
Vice President
Lorne Historical Society



COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

A word from the Chairman

Last Sunday's Total Fire Ban had many on edge and others ready to enact their fire plans if necessary. While Hepburn Springs was under threat of fire last weekend, most of the town's residents had evacuated. CFA crews fought around the clock as planes and helicopters circled the haze of smoke. You would have assumed that activities for our local Brigade would have been non-existent – not to be.

With memories of the Wye River Christmas Fires in 2015, the ten year anniversary of Black Saturday and Ash Wednesday approaching 36 years ago almost to the day, our emergency service teams are always on call. On Sunday last I was on the Lorne Golf Course with Rodney Stewart who was

considerate to inform us that he needed to keep his mobile phone within earshot.

We were soon to learn that Rod had been rostered by our local CFA as the designated tanker driver for a regional strike team consisting of all Lorne volunteers, that were on standby awaiting a call to Hepburn Springs. You soon realize just how big the commitment is from those in our community who are in the CFA, SES and other emergency services.

"Touch Wood", the number of incidents experienced this year by our Lorne crews has been minimal, but with the continuing warm weather and lack of rain, the bush around us is becoming dangerously dry and the need to adhere to warnings and advice

is crucial. Although we are far from past the danger period, you cannot help but to have admiration for the likes of Rod and his many other colleagues and the sacrifices they endure to serve our community.

And while talking golf, the Lorne Country Club have certainly been active as they continue to groom and improve their course and courts. Last Saturday, thirty of their members joined forces with rakes, whipper snippers and other assorted equipment to continue the great work they have been doing on their facilities. The well executed and structured working bee represented in excess of 100 hours of manpower (including ladies) and has the golf course looking as good as it ever has.

Was also great to see the Club change direction with their traditional Friday afternoon nine-hole chicken run, which for so long was a men only event. On Friday last, all this changed as the male members welcomed the female members to join as one for the weekly Friday mixed chicken run. With just under thirty players on the course and a fantastic social environment that followed, what a great success it was and very fitting that we had both a female and male competitor filling first and second place.

Ian Stewart
Chairman - Committee for Lorne