

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE

- 22 Deans Marsh Winter Solstice**, 5 – 9 pm at the Deans Marsh Reserve.
- 27 AGM - Lorne Op Shop**. Thursday 27 June at 11am. Held at Lorne Community House

OPENING OF REFURBISHED ARCHWAY - LORNE P-12 COLLEGE

Last week, Lorne P-12 College hosted an event to commemorate the refurbishment of the Archway at the entrance to the school on the corner of Grove Road and Smith Street.

Gary Allen, a former student and later Principal of the School and President of the Lorne Historical Society was invited to perform the opening together with the School Captains. The following is a transcript of his speech:

"Principal Elevato, Deputy Mayor Clive Goldsworthy, Mr Craig Hunt, distinguished guests and most importantly, the scholars of the Lorne P-12 College. I use the term scholars because when you read the official program for the 50 years celebration the pupils are referred to as scholars. The definition of a scholar is "a learned or erudite person, especially one who has profound knowledge of a particular subject." I trust you all regard yourselves as scholars.

It is a great honour for me to be asked to participate in this event to open the refurbished archway along with the student leaders of the college. I am currently wearing four hats...not because I hope, that I have that many personalities, but I think most importantly because I am a relative of James Anderson, son of my great grandparents Richard and Mary Ann, the first enrolled scholar and the first pupil/teacher of the School, who unveiled the memorial gates ninety years ago. He lived to be 103, and I clearly remember meeting him in the early 50s.

It is a great regret of mine that when principal, we searched for, but never found the original gates and I hope that replica gates can be made for the 100th anniversary of this event...and I might say I also hope that I'm still around to

participate.

I must congratulate the College and in particular Geoffrey Couper, who has been a driving force behind this project, and I also acknowledge the great support given by the fundraisers and private donors present today.

At the time that the archway and memorial gates were built and opened (17th September 1929), there were four classrooms at the school. The township was growing. It was the start of the guesthouse era, catering for tourists. The original building had already been extended and in 1922 the concrete room on the west side was built and in 1927 a sloyd room (woodwork room) was built, financed by private and government funds and located near the archway. The community had to fight to have the building painted and a blackboard installed. The current year 12 students use this sloyd building as a common room.

In the records held at the Lorne Historical Society the school was described as "one of the best equipped in the state - there were clocks in each room, all required apparatus, a gramophone, sewing machine and piano". Fortunately, or unfortunately, the bar today is somewhat higher.

The events held on September 16, 17 & 18, 1929 were both a celebration and a remembrance. The archway was erected to celebrate the 50 year anniversary of the Lorne School No. 2162 and most importantly it is a memorial to those students who served and died in World War One.

Students will be learning of the horrors of war and human conflict. However, nothing we read or learn comes close to an understanding of the real suffering and sacrifices made by this generation of our

school and our community.

Later, Mr Craig Hunt, president of the Lorne RSL sub-branch will lay a wreath at the archway as part of our recognition of their sacrifice, made all the more poignant as today is the 75th anniversary of D Day, the allied landings on the beaches of Normandy.

When the archway was opened, community emotions would still have been raw. However, the organising committee ensured that the three days were mainly a celebration of the service by the School to the youngsters of our town.

Festivities included a social on the Monday night in the Beech Hall with an excellent supper served. Other activities included cards, dancing and community singing. There were pianoforte recitals by Miss Mary Gay (a cousin of James Anderson), tambourine and piano selections played by Messrs L. Alsop and Allen and Wednesday was back to school with James Anderson teaching the girls and the first head teacher, Mr. John Danaher teaching the boys.

We are all truly privileged that two of the children present on Tuesday 17 1929, in Grade 1 and in the photograph displayed, still reside in Lorne - Mr. Doug Stirling who will unveil the

Plaque, commemorating today's celebration, with the current grade one students at a later date and Mr Geoff Jarratt whose family also has a long association with our town.

On behalf of the Lorne Historical Society, I wish to thank the school community and the organising committee of the grounds upgrade who sought our views about the refurbishment and retention of the archway in its original position. I clearly remember this as the main entrance to



the School, we did not have students travelling by bus and the area to the south was where we practiced marching, played football, marbles and went to have fights behind the then shelter shed.

A lasting memory is our departure through these gates for the Christmas holidays as all students were given a shilling by Mr. Frank Beaurepaire, the owner of the Cumberland guesthouse; this is approximately equivalent to \$3.00 today.

This symbol means much to the past and current residents of Lorne therefore on behalf them and particularly on behalf of the ex-scholars of the Lorne School I conclude by saying a very big thank you to all those involved in this refurbishment project."

Gary Allen

COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

Another big weekend has come and gone in Lorne as the midpoint of 2019 looms larger than life. From the expansive blue skies of Saturday and Sunday to the drenching rain that waved our visitors good bye on Monday, it was a busy weekend on many fronts. There were Foreshore markets, local sport, Fishing competitions, Community workshops and lunches and even a World Championship event. It all started last Friday with a Community Workshop hosted by the Committee for Lorne in partnership with the Surf Coast Shire and the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee with representatives coming together to endeavor to try and define the next stage of work in "Accommodating Lorne's Future". It was an excellent session facilitated by the Surf Coast Shire's, Shannon Samuel and an expansive cross section of passionate Lorne Community

members.

That same day the Committee for Lorne hosted its second Community Luncheon for 2019 and with just over 80 in attendance, it was one of our most successful of recent times. We were privileged to have Surf Coast Mayor Rose Hodge, CEO Keith Bailey and Chris Pike, Manager of Culture and Community, in attendance as our guest speakers. All three addressed and updated us on issues relevant to their roles but there was underlying theme of Community and Agency co-operation in Lorne.

It is a theme that the Committee for Lorne (CfL) has been working on so hard since coming into existence in 2012 and the results and the relationships continue to build. Our Mayor has been a regular visitor to Lorne, the direct discussions and sharing of information

from our CEO continuing the theme of consultation and collaboration and the vision and drive of our Manager of Culture and Community are being praised and respected by the people of Lorne.

On Saturday at Lorne Community House the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) continued their work on assessing, with community input, the options for a coastal walking (and/or cycling trail) between Fairhaven and Skenes Creek. The study is focusing on the 60 kilometres of coastline connecting the two existing trails of the Surf Coast Walk and the Great Ocean Walk. For further info go to www.engage.vic.gov/trail-study.

Regional Roads Victoria are currently undergoing a major project in Lorne from Hird Street in the south to the Bay Street

roundabout. The four-month project will see under-road storm water culverts replaced, new drainage pits installed and driveway culverts replaced. Roadside drainage will be renewed and the road surface will be smoothed with asphalt patching and topped with an asphalt overlay. On Sunday, Ric Addison became a local champion and a World Champion all in the same day. In the morning he conquered the field to take the Lorne Angling and Aquatic Club (LAAC) fishing competition and then in the afternoon shared equal first place in the inaugural World Sausage Roll Championship when he shared the award with Emily Miller, daughter of event organiser and Commodore Keith Miller. Congratulations to all involved!!

Ian Stewart

Chairman - Committee for Lorne

A word from the Chairman