

# LORNE



MARY AND TIM FARLEY

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

**Tim bought into Geelong Toyota and Mercedes in 1991. "I'd never run a car business and it was like walking on egg shells at first. " But as Geelong recovered from the Pyramid collapse, the business grew.**

Both from central Victoria and having been sent to boarding school Mary and Tim followed quite different paths. Before moving to Geelong they lived and worked in Melbourne. Mary studied Law at Melbourne University followed by an Arts/Social Work degree. After practising in a suburban law firm she moved to the city and worked in corporate law.

After leaving school Tim went back to the family farm for a time until his father asked him to join him in their Heathcote General Store saying it was time for Tim to learn about business. Very soon after, at aged 20 he became store manager. His mother decided if he was going to be in business he should go and study accounting. Off to night school he went. In 1972 the store was sold Tim saw this as the chance to get back on the land and since he was planning to get married suggested that he and some of his brothers buy shares in the farm. The ten children in Tim's family made his father's decision too difficult. It was now time for Tim to go and make his own way.

Next stop, Melbourne, to finish his accounting degree and marry Mary. Through a series of tip offs from mates, Tim landed finance related work with Kevin Dennis as an accountant with Morley Ford and as an internal auditor with Chrysler before spending 14 and a half years with Toyota.

Although Tim has sold the business they still love living in Geelong, love coming to their Lorne house and travel regularly to visit children overseas. Tim golfs, sails, rides horses and hobby farms.

Mary's passion lies in the Arts, entertaining friends and keeping fit, walking.

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## LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

### MARCH

- 4 **Melbourne Food & Wine Festival World's Long lunch Lorne**, 12:00pm at Mantra Lorne gardens. Tickets \$98
- 6 **Clean Up Australia**, Members and friends are invited to help collect rubbish along the Great Ocean Road from Big Hill to Stony Creek. Meet at the Aquatic club house from 9.00 am
- 12 **Lorne Sculpture Biennale**, running for 3 weeks on Lorne foreshore
- 24 **Lions Easter Art Show Opening Night**, 7:00pm at Senior Citizens Centre
- 25 **Lions Easter Art Show**, 10am-5pm at Senior Citizens Centre, 25-28 Mar
- 26 **Lorne Kinder Fair**, 9am-4pm on the Lorne Foreshore
- 27 **Deans Marsh Festival**, from 10am to 5pm

Please forward the dates of your Lorne Ward community event via the contact details at the bottom of this page.

# Real connection comes to Deans Marsh

Was it community power or the inherent generosity of Telstra or plain old good luck? Or just a fortuitous combination of all three?

Whatever the reason, the Deans Marsh Bamba community are very happy indeed to report that our pleas were heard: ADSL has arrived!

As the *Surf Coast Times* of September 4 2014 reported, the well attended, not to say passionate, community meeting held at Deans Marsh in August 2014 allowed our combined community members to put their case for improved communications to the team from Telstra Countrywide Geelong and Ballarat. We promised to keep you posted, and now we are very pleased to say: we are connected.

Over the years, we had watched while Lorne and Birregurra achieved success and decided to have a go ourselves. The clear message of the August 2014 meeting was we needed a solution to our poor communications situation: we needed ADSL. In response, Telstra Countrywide's area managers, Bill Mundy and Duane Dalton came through for us, and by mid September we had a YES. With the help of Bill and Duane and their teams, we have succeeded.

ADSL arrived in Deans Marsh just before Christmas 2014 and was operational across by early 2015. Not content with a solution that did not extend to as many of our community members as possible – including many school kids and university students who live in Bamba, we kept pushing.

In the meantime, Telstra provided us with a free Community Hub which operates out of the Deans Marsh Community Cottage, so that students, parents, anyone can either use the Cottage computers or bring their own device to log on, agree the terms and conditions, and start communicating.

And then in 2015, Telstra agreed to refit and upgrade the tiny Bamba exchange. The first Bamba residents signed up at a community meeting at Bamba Hall on February 10, 2016. Around 40 families came to sign up, and some are downloading happily already.

While this is definitely a good news story for many of us, not everyone was able to be part of the Deans Marsh Bamba ADSL rollout.

Pennyroyal – once a separate township but now very much a part of our community – has never had a telephone exchange and the distances from the Deans Marsh exchange mean ADSL is not possible for those residents and businesses.... which is a pity .... and we are still exploring what options there might be .....

There are also existing technology and infrastructure factors which mean that not all of us in Deans Marsh and Bamba can access the technology, even if it is available at our local exchanges, and distance does not preclude them.

First, of course a landline is a requirement and



Deans Marsh Community Cottage coordinator Ruth Hamilton helps advertise our new Community Hub: thanks Telstra!

some locals have had to have those installed or reconnected as part of the process. More than that though, the old, not to say ancient, copper wire network, and the ways it was installed in many rural areas all those years ago, mean that many of us have home lines which are operated on what are called pair gains.

These are rather like the old 'party lines' that used to operate when every country town had a manned – or more usually womaned! – telephone exchange, and mean that the lines are not of sufficient quality to be suitable for transmission of ADSL.

So, although it is not like the city where everyone gets access suburb by suburb, many of us are far better off technology-wise than we were. We have Telstra to thank for that and we certainly do.

DEB CAMPBELL  
ON BEHALF OF THE DEANS MARSH BAMBRA AND PENNYROYAL COMMUNITY

Last weekend our main beach was a sea of colour and a hive of activity as the Lorne Surf Club hosted the last of the 2016 summer series of junior "Nipper" carnivals before their State Championships at Warrnambool over the upcoming Labour Day weekend. With almost 1000 junior competitors on the sand Lorne was at its best. A gentle ocean swell, an outgoing tide and a user-friendly competition area all set within arguably the most picturesque setting on the Australian coastline.

To walk the Lorne waterfront on Sunday was an experience to vividly reinforce the rich diversity and cultural experiences that are all shared so passionately in their own very special ways. Away from the hustle and bustle of the competition area permanent residents and visitors alike were enjoying coffee at the Swing Bridge while others sat and read the Sunday papers while grand children played with their creations in the sand.

Then the intensity of the spirited competition of the next generation of Lifesavers and their super enthusiastic parents stood shoulder to shoulder and the mood had changed from relaxation to fierce competition within a couple of hundred metres. Parked vehicles and gear trailers overflowed onto the grassed areas of the Lorne Foreshore sensibly facilitating the need when such events demand.

Stand up paddle and long boards dominated the clean break at the Lorne point where our "more senior" local surfers enjoyed the ocean within a couple of hundred metres from the clearly defined competition courses where the nippers were in battle. Then only a short walk further on, the selfie sticks and latest camera equipment of our Asian visitors were on full display as they jostled for best and most creative photo of our resident seal at the pier.

As I stood at Pier there were two elderly Italian gentlemen sitting side by side in full conversation in their native language and pilchards meticulously aligned in readiness for the next needed bait. Although I couldn't understand a single word of these men the smile on their faces and the way they "talked with their hands" to me said it all.

As I cast my eyes down the gun barrel of Louttit Bay the experiences of all were equal if not better than the successful juniors, and proud parents, with the medals of the days competition – Lorne truly an amazing place in a very special amphitheatre.

A big congratulations to our local lawn bowlers in having a great win last Saturday and progressing to the 2016 Grand Final of Division 2 in the Colac and District Bowls Association. The Grand Final will be Saturday March 19 and urge you to etch the date in your diary in anticipation of your support!

*Ian Stewart*

Ian Stewart  
Chairman  
Committee for Lorne

