



THE LAKESIDE REED

Celebrating The Men's Shed

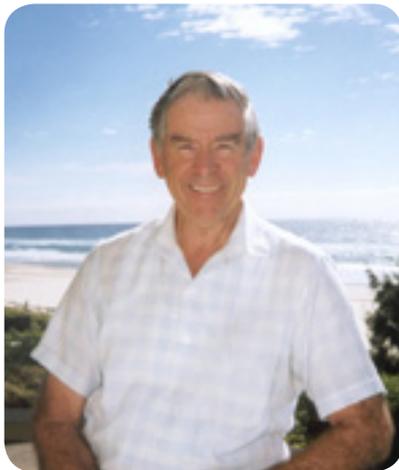
The Founder

written by Maureen Mead

Maurie Mead was born in Ballarat on the 24th October 1925 but lived on a small dairy farm in Hepburn. He was the eldest of six. In 1941, he left home to board in Williamstown where he stayed for 5 years. During this time, he completed his Carpentry apprenticeship with the Victorian Railways. He returned to Hepburn to assist his father on the dairy farm, he stayed there for 8 years.

In 1948, Maurie and his family moved to Hepburn Springs and three weeks later Maureen and her family moved into

the guesthouse next door! Following Maureen's debut with Maurie as her partner in April 1949, they became engaged two months later. They bought a block of land on the Main Street in Hepburn Springs and built their first home doing all the carpentry on his own.



The Story

Maurie and Maureen Mead moved into The Mornington on the 2 February 1999 (their 47th wedding anniversary). Maurie took to village life like a duck to water – he loved it! Maureen took longer.

In 2003, he thought it would be a good idea for the village to have a workshop with a view to making things for charity or doing any repair jobs for the residents (eg. furniture). He consulted with management and, as a result, they asked him to draw up the plans and specifications for the shed – for which they gave their approval. He, along with Val O'Neil and Jim Arnold, went down to the Village Glen to see how their shed operated. The Mornington's shed was completed in 2004, but sadly Maurie couldn't finish what he had started due to the onset of Lymphoma. Val thought of naming it "Maurie's Shed" and when he told Maurie, it was indeed an emotional moment for both of them.

The name piece was made and polished by Val, and Maureen took it in to palliative care to show Maurie. As he was now totally blind, he ran his finger along the name and a smile came over his face and it gave him great pleasure. He would be so pleased to see how it is being run and wish it many more years of use.



Maurie Mead teaching at Tech School

After two years Maurie successfully applied for a job as a temporary woodwork teacher at Maryborough Tech School.

After moving to the city in 1955 and completing teacher training at Richmond Technical School, Maurie's first appointment was Warrnambool Tech School for 4 years then Colac, Frankston Tech and Dandenong TAFE where he was promoted to the position of Head of Building studies, which he held until he retired in 1985.

Celebrating The Men's Shed

The Cohorts!

Jim's Shed Memories

14 years ago the workshop was located in a somewhat dilapidated shed where Teal Court is today. Maurie Mead had been negotiating with management for a new workshop and out of the blue we had a new empty shed. Maurie, Val O'Neal and I visited the Glen to see how to set up a workshop. We obtained their conditions and rules, Maurie undertook to write some rules specific for our shed

and started to plan what was needed to equip it. Ken Lewis the then Village Manager had two benches made and Tony Cunningham insisted that we needed a steel cupboard so there we were with the basics. Charles Hill joined and got the job of organising a tool board on the wall. We were on our way. Regrettably Maurie died

just as the shed was finished. In recognition of the work that Maurie had undertaken the shed was named MAURIE'S SHED. Val retired from the shed and Jack Portman joined the cause. Jack and I used to meet on Wednesday afternoons to make benches and talk. We were both ex UK service men and so had much in common and I miss our conversation since he passed.



In later years Laurie Bennet took a hand at running the shed and now it is Kevin Kersaw as the convener.

Over the years, we have had some luck with major donations of machines which have improved the usefulness of the workshop including a large workshop from a deceased estate. We've sold some of the excess tools to buy bolts and timber. I'm sure Maurie would like to see the place in full swing. It's a handy place to make a noise, operate a saw, make dust and create something. And it is free. Why not give it go!



A reminiscence of a 1999 work room by Val O'Neal



Maurie and Maureen Mead and Joy and I moved into the village at the same time in 1999 as neighbours and became great friends. After recovering from the moving in trauma we realised that in this early stage of the village there was a lack of amenities; two being a workroom and vegetable plots. We approached management with great success. Part of the maintenance shed was converted in to a workroom with benches and cabinets installed.

Donations of machinery equipment and tools soon got things going. Several vegetable plots were constructed in the same area as there was a water tap there. Upon Maurie's sudden death I decided to name the new workshop Maurie's Shed I

had a sign made and fixed it to a wall near the door.

Around Town

A Diamond Jubilee

Congratulations to Ray and Coral Moresi who have recently celebrated their Golden Jubilee!

They were even featured in their local newspaper, The LoddonTimes. The article wrote:

ANNIVERSARY. Former Boort residents, Ray and Coral Morsi marked 60 years of marriage with family and friends recently.

The couple, who now live at Mornington, held an afternoon tea, with the bridal party from the wedding also in attendance.



The wedding party then



The wedding party now

Welcome Morning Tea



From left standing: Harold & Margaret Wilson, Gloria Williams, Charmaine Beggs, Ken & Jocelyn Dark, Jan Morris and Pat Hyde
Sitting: Gwen Trayling, Liz Bedford, Margaret & Neil Allen

We welcome some new residents to our community! Nothing like some fresh friendly faces to meet and greet, when you see them around, please make them feel welcome and don't forget to say hello.

Welcome aboard Doc!

We have a new doctor! Meet Doctor Tran.



Dr Tran is available 9am to 12pm every Tuesday.

Resident Choir

Do you like to sing? There is a Resident Choir that are after more singers to join their group.

The group gathers every Monday at 1pm to rehearse. Please contact Bezza Lizama on 0402 431 356 for further details. She looks forward to singing with you.

Bragging Rights...

successes, achievements & stories of residents, family and friends

A School History Remembered

Thelma Moroney

Thelma Moroney has an excellent memory at 94. It was certainly put to the test over the past few years as she has been involved in a very special project. The very first school Thelma ever attended turned 150 this year and her early school day memories contributed greatly to their commemorative book. It was 5 years preparation to come to this point and the final book.

Thelma started school at 4 ½ and attended a small grammar school in Williamstown in 1927 called Strathmore Grammar. The school was run by Miss Mullond and Miss Gaskell, had about 50 students and classes were in the local church hall.

“Over the next few years I was interviewed by a “wordsmith” who had been employed to put all the pieces together from the other students to form the history. Of course the depression had come and many children left and with the passing of the years not many students now were still alive.” Says Thelma.

“My memory is still reasonable for those days and so I was happy to contribute. The launching of the book was to take place on 21 July 2017 at the junior campus on The Strand at Williamstown by the Governor of Victoria, The Honorable Linda Dessau AC. I was invited with some members of my family. There was one other ex-student who was a little older than me but whose memory was not as clear.”

“The launch day came and my son, myself and two of my nieces drove to Williamstown in the glorious winter sunshine. Hobson Bay was sparkling blue and the day was perfect.”

“We were able to stop in front of the gate and to our surprise the front lawn of the school was full of little boys and girls beautifully dressed in their uniforms all calling “Hello” and “Welcome” as I passed along. I stopped to say thank you to be met by questions coming from all sides “Did you really come to this school 90 years ago?” Even I found it hard to believe! It was very a moving moment to be among these little students of all different cultures remembering myself at their age and being only one of two students still alive so many years later.”



Cutting the cake with students former and present, Governor General and current Principle

There was a ceremony, speeches, the choir singing the National Anthem and then refreshments.

“The governor, the two head students and we two oldies in our 90’s have all held the knife to cut a large cake. Then I was presented with a presentation copy of the History of Westbourne Grammar. The school was previously known in my day as Strathmore Grammar named after the Earl of Strathmore, who was the Queen Mother’s father.”

As part of the day, a film was being made for the school archives and Thelma got a quick crash course in film making. The Photographer asked Thelma if she was happy to be a part of it which with enthusiasm and adrenalin she agreed.

“When I removed my coat the photographer wanted me to put it back on as my grey top blended in too much with the wall behind me. By this time I wondered if I had embarked on something out of my range, especially when he said “I want you to repeat after me, ‘it began with a vision’! which I had to repeat over 4 times until I got it to his liking. Then he proceeded to ask me the questions from the information he had already asked me previously in the interview without the camera. I saw he was only filming when I was speaking so then I realise how these interviews are made.”

Ah but he wasn’t finished with her, first there was one more scene, back to the old school building at Monomieth. “Going up the stone steps leading to the front door and the long passage facing away from the Harbour and the views of Melbourne. The plan was, I was to walk up the passage to the opened front door with a little 5 year old boy named Alexander while he filmed from behind us.

We had to repeat our walk several times and the last time I held Alexander’s hand and we chatted as we walked. Afterwards I thought it was a very clever idea of the old student with her blue coat white hair and a stick walking towards the future with a 5 year old boy. Just magic.”



Lights, camera, action - Thelma’s brush with fame!

Mornington Life

Laurie and The Olympic Flame

Born on Christmas Day in 1926 in the leafy suburb of Kew, Laurie calls himself fairly normal. "I was a typical young man playing football with YCW, and doing Athletics at Olympic Park as a middle distance runner" he says.

"I met the love of my life, Shirley in 1949 and we were married in 1951. We built our first home together which wasn't quite finished, we married so we moved into a partially built home! We literally hammered in every nail" He laughs "I have five wonderful children who look after me following my wife's passing a few months ago."

Laurie worked as a technical officer for Telecom for many years across the automated telephone exchanges and different suburbs around Melbourne.

Laurie is anything but typical as he has an extraordinary link to the Olympics through both his work life and his love of athletics.

Laurie had tried out for the Melbourne Olympics in 1956 but was unfortunately eliminated in the heats for running. That Olympics produced some amazing Aussie runners like Hector Hogan, Allan Lawrence and John Landy, so he was up against some stiff competition.

The Olympics wasn't finished with Laurie yet.

Laurie was part of the team that worked on the broadcasting of the Melbourne Olympics. The Olympics we broadcasted to Europe at night and there was a bit of work to do to get that broadcast out. It was Laurie's job to edit the voice over/commentator of the broadcast.

After the hype of the Melbourne Olympics, a lot of young people became interested in running. Laurie went on to train many of them at Olympic Park, voluntarily, for quite a few years. But, there was one last surprise The Olympics had in store.

"When we were living in Merimbula, I was asked, just out of the blue, to be one of the people that ran in the Sydney 2000 Games torch relay. It was a total surprise. I did the Bega run. Each person carrying the torch had to run 1 mile accompanied by a policeman." He says, "I remember we pulled up near a school and all the school kids came out and we let them run around with the torch for a minute. It was fantastic to see. I still have my torch."



Resident Profile - Laurie Bennett

All the family came from Melbourne to see their Dad run and then all came back to Tura beach for a bit of a celebration.

Laurie has many other interests including caravanning, travelling and camping but a passionate hobby is his HAM radio. With this he can broadcast from his unit to friends all over the world with his call sign VK3BV.

"I once heard a "May Day" distress call from a Russian solo sailor who was in trouble and was instrumental in calling for help and saving him" he says.

"He was on his way from South Africa when he got in trouble and I called the Australian Marine Safety Authority and a nearby tanker picked him and his boat up. This was in 1982 and he sent me Christmas cards for a few years. Though, I havent heard from him for some years now."

Thanks Laurie for telling your story.



Laurie shows off his relay torch



Laurie using the HAM radio - call sign VK3BV

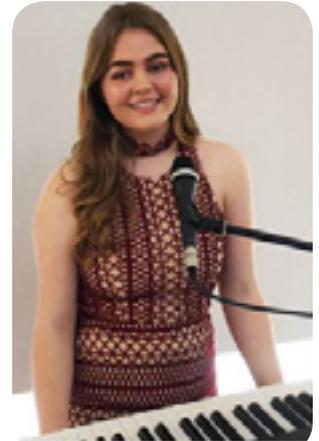


facebook.com/themornington

Tripping Around

Pleasant Sunday Afternoon

On 17 September a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon was held. What a turn out it was. The residents were graced with the beautiful voice of an X-Factor finalist, Amalia Foy! She is a young courageous woman who competed against hundreds of Australians for a place on the show. What a delight it was to have Amalia come to the village and entertain all who attended.



Peninsula Trip

Ro Jackman

On 14 September, we had 8 residents join in on a bus tour from Hastings right out to Merricks. Whilst we were in Hastings we drove down James Hird Drive and Kevin Sheedy Way, nothing like driving on roads named after AFL greats! To continue our trip down AFL lane, we stopped and viewed the Statue of John Coleman. From here we drove to Crib Point and stopped by Stony Point. Then on towards HMAS Cerberus, Somers and Merricks. Despite the cloudy day, all had a great time. To top the day off, we enjoyed our traditional bus trip ice creams.



Farewell to Doreen Austin

It is always sad when one of our friends leave. On 28 September, residents gathered to farewell Doreen who has decided to move back home to England. Those who attended enjoyed a lovely high tea styled afternoon. You will be missed Doreen. We wish you safe travels back to England.

Reportage

Sales Update

**Pauline & Dianne from
Amicum**



It will be wonderful to see the back of this past winter and to welcome beautiful spring blossoms and flowers that are coming out in force around the village right now. The weather has done nothing to dampen the visitors with tours of the new look Clubhouse and café, spurring people on to think of the move sooner rather than later.

Recently we have had two 3 bedroom units come on to the market with one now Under Offer and the other looking to do the same within the coming weeks. We will also have two more 2 bedroom units coming up for sale in the next two weeks and there is every indication they won't last long on the market either. We currently have one of the large apartments available with a beautiful view over the lake. If you have friends or family members looking for assisted independent living, please let us know, as we would love to offer a tour of the lovely Mornington!

Resident Association Report

Jan Morris



The calendar tells us it is Spring, the weather says differently. We have had some lovely Spring days and the flowering trees around the village are a joy to behold.

The Residents' Association has been pleased to present two Pleasant Sunday Afternoon concerts since the last Lakeside Reed. On September 17, we experienced a real treat with Amalia Foy, one of the finalists from X-Factor. She is such a talented young lady!

Planning is well underway for our Open Day on October 14. This will be a perfect opportunity to invite family and friends to experience our beautiful home.

Manager's Report

Joe Ziino



The Annual General Meeting of the Owners Corporation Committee meeting is due to be held on Tuesday 24 October at 10am we are looking forward to a large turn-out of residents who we encourage to be actively engaged in the village. You may have had the privilege of meeting some of our new staff, including one carer and the café staff. We hope that you are finding staff to be easily recognisable in their new uniforms. We are also, as per the resident's request, assisting by providing the appropriate advertisements for an assistant maintenance person.

The preparations for the Open Day continue and I am sure that all will enjoy the planned events.

We are hoping that the Spring weather comes soon so that the Bowling Green and Croquet lawns can be cleaned and put to good use as per our schedule. As all of you are aware, I am more than happy to have a chat and discuss issues when raised, however, if you would like to hold a more formal meeting with me there is now a new process which is being promoted on the in-house TV. Please contact Reception and they will take you through the process.

As mentioned at the last Owners Corporation meeting, I would like to remind you that you may be asked to complete a survey for Lifemark. I am sure most of you are aware that we are an accredited village and the survey is part of the continuous improvement commitment we have towards the village as a whole and is required by Lifemark for accreditation.

Classifieds

For Sale

2 Seater Couch

\$50.00

A beautiful Floral design, in great condition, ONO.

For further details contact Sylvia 0487 352 076 or 5975 8576



4 Wheel Mobility Scooter

\$750.00

Excellent condition, folding wheelchair. Offers are invited!

For further details call Nancy on 0438 802 158

4 Wheeled Weelie Walker

\$250.00 - Brand New

Very Stable, easy to fold, can be stowed behind the front seat of a car!

Make an offer to Ray on 0428 230 437

Are you an avid stamp collector or know someone who is?

There are 60 sets of 5 stamps per set up for sale! The collection is made up of various Royal Mail Mint Stamps.

If you are interested, contact Irene Lucas on 5975 7412.

GOT A CLASSIFIED ?

Email info and a photo to Di at Reception and she will forward to The Lakeside Reed editorial team



Birds of Mornington

The Swan

Australian black swans are very large birds that are up to 142cm tall with a wing span of 2 metres. They have white tipped wings.

They are found on any open water areas, such as fresh or salt water, that has a supply of aquatic vegetation. They will graze on the water-side greenery.

Swans are frequently heard at night, trumpeting as they fly. A wedge of Swans typically fly in a V formation.

Males will make a nest 35cm high and 2 metres in diameter. They will keep building the nest as the females sits on 3-9 blue-greenish eggs. One bird is left to incubate the eggs.



Text & image courtesy of Elaine Watts - Birds of Mornington