

# OPINION

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Writer's Encounter Bay marina submission

I WRITE about the idea of a developing a marina in the protected waters of Encounter Bay. The waters inside The Bluff are well protected, and I have had positive suggestions from members of the sailing fraternity who consider this area to be ideal for mooring while in transit from Port Adelaide via Wirrina and then perhaps on to Robe and beyond. My wife and I live on Franklin Parade at Encounter Bay and naturally we are aware of the large number of motorised craft which are launched at the ramps adjacent to Whalers Inn, emphasising the excellent, safe and very popular waters for boating in this vicinity.

The feature many of us feel is lacking is provision for medium to large sailing yachts either visiting or moored permanently inside the Bluff. The spectacle would be magnificent.

I spend some time at bays in Sydney Harbor such as Rose Bay and Watson's Bay, and I submit that Encounter Bay could be the equal of any of these. We have a million dollar view, but it is under-developed and under-utilised.

Some dredging would be required to accommodate large craft, but businesses will benefit enormously, and there will be a likely upsurge in real estate. Furthermore, a large scale ocean yacht race, perhaps to Port Lincoln, etc, could be initiated. What a wonderful promotion of our region. My submission to council is simply to put aside negativity and embrace the concept with the positivity and excitement which it would generate.

Ross Turner,  
Victor Harbor

### COCKLE TRAIN ACCIDENT

Disappointing to see a train/vehicle accident last week, but more disappointed to read Steam Ranger manager rail safety Peter Charlson, declare luck played a major role. Besides luck the next option was to close the road so the Steam Ranger profits would not be affected, with no consideration to the community inconvenience.

I am of the opinion that Steam Ranger are lucky they have the community on side to allow them to run a profit making venture using obsolete rail equipment on sub-standard rail infrastructure.

One would have thought a rail safety officer, would focus on all the risk factors



**SAILING SEASON:** Warradale's Sally Burgess took this colourful photo of riverboats moored at Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club when she went for a sail on a friend's yacht.

and remedies as a matter of duty, not proffer a glib response to a glaring problem.

We have an infrequent service creating complacency, running through a tourist region frequented by unfamiliar visitors, on sub-standard infrastructure, with a train driver reliant upon vehicle mass & a prolonged whistle that exceeds safety codes, as the safety management of first resort.

Although these are museum pieces that does not give the right to be run and managed using antiquated management models, for profit, within a modern community, as that is a dream world, not facing reality.

Chris Caffin,  
Goolwa

### YILKI FORESHORE

I commend the council for their efforts to maintain and protect the foreshore around the Yilki area. I am amazed that some selfish and lazy people feels it is ok to trample over vegetation and the minimal sand banks that council can maintain just so they can save the 10 or so steps necessary to get to a set of stairs and then get to the beach. I have even seen one person dragging a pram over the banks so they could get it on to the beach

rather than take the 10 steps needed to get to the concrete stairs. From Fountain Avenue to Ridgeway street in particular the council efforts are being trashed. Also in front of the Yilki store by the table and benches, there was once a shrub which died and was cut down. This area has now become a thoroughfare and the sand bank trampled down just to save someone a few steps. Perhaps the council could erect dune fences like have been used on the Grange foreshore to good effect. This has the effect of directing people away from the vulnerable area and encourages the sand to build up and protect the foreshore.

Chris Fletcher,  
Encounter Bay

### A PARK FOR ALL

I was disappointed to hear that a part time resident of a house adjacent to Hurford Park alongside the river at Goolwa has been discouraging visitors to the park from using the area immediately in front of his family's property. I have been told that he does this by giving the impression that the occupants of his family's house have exclusive rights to this part of the Park. A 'Private' sign has also been erected. A check with council staff should confirm that this is not case and that the park is available for everyone to enjoy. In fact, most, if not all of the direct descendants of the people that the park was named after welcome visitors. They are encouraged to enjoy the shady and protected areas created by the extensive stand of native paper barks and other trees and shrubs. Car parking is available on the opposite side of the street immediately adjacent to the park and the area is also ideal for launching and retrieving canoes and other paddle powered craft. All that we ask is that you respect the native vegetation and that you take your rubbish with you when you leave.

Dave Hurford,  
Goolwa North

**Letters to the editor:** Letters must be submitted to [victortimes@fairfaxmedia.com.au](mailto:victortimes@fairfaxmedia.com.au) and must be no longer than 250 words. Please include your full name and town/suburb.

**Photo of the week:** The Times encourages readers to submit their images for photo of the week. Email [victorharbortimes@fairfaxmedia.com.au](mailto:victorharbortimes@fairfaxmedia.com.au) with your high-resolution image (at least one megabyte).

## COLUMN | LORRAINE MCLOUGHLIN



# Making the most of every day

**F**IONA Wood, former Australian of the Year, is a mother of six all the while a surgeon, devising skills in burns treatment, discovering spray on skin, sharing her expertise internationally and making down-to-earth inspirational speeches. How did she become such an achiever?

Her adage: Make the most of every day. I didn't get out of bed to be average.

That dents my ego as I review New Year resolutions made just a week ago and already lapsing.

What about your promises to be creative and write, paint or sing? Are you keeping them? I vowed daily disciplines of walking, meditation and regular writing but where

did that resolve go?

Sure there have been urgent calls on my time, crises and distractions. But there was time enough if I had made other small choices and been present without allowing days slip away.

While 2017 seems the year of self-help books, their truths are already known to us, just pointers as we spring out of bed or slowly creak our way into the new day.

At every turn there will be a choice about how to make the most of it. I need to be present.

Does this choice help me be who I really aspire to be, to live, as Thoreau said, the life I have imagined?

Little by little, small choices in the moment, we can keep our resolve and reassess at day's end. In the new morning we can begin again to take steps mindfully to make our lives what we want them to be.

Not great surgeons or writers or musicians necessarily but living as we determine, daily choosing and enjoying what is possible, making opportunities from the hand we get but not just letting life happen.

Goethe said: Nothing is more important than this day.

**Lorraine McLoughlin (pictured) is a local author and is involved in community literary events in the Yankalilla District. For more see [www.fitzmcl.com](http://www.fitzmcl.com)**