

LEX LOCI'S TRAVELS

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An ad-hoc one-pager from The Public Land Consultancy

Lex Gets His Gear Off

In public, we mean.

But it's mid-winter so (on second thoughts) Lex keeps his gear on. Just as well, because under sec 19 of the *Summary Offences Act 1966* 'obscene exposure' attracts a penalty of 2 years' imprisonment.

Maybe in summer Lex will head to one of Victoria's optional dress beaches.

There's one at Sunnyside North on the Mornington Peninsula and others at Point Impossible and Southside near Torquay. Here, nudity is authorized under the *Nudity (Prescribed Areas) Act* of 1983.

There had been another nude beach, at Campbells Cove, Werribee South. (No doubt Lex will write about Campbells Cove on another occasion - but to do so he will have to decide whether to describe it as one of Port Phillip's hidden gems, or a bunch of insanitary hovels of dubious legality.)

Anyway, the Campbells Cove nude beach was revoked by Planning Minister Richard Wynne in 2015. Like the market gardens of Werribee South, it fell victim to Melbourne's urban expansion.



The original nude bather? Botticelli's Venus surfs to shore on a scallop shell.

When Lex is in nudism mode, he's glad he's not a Queenslander. There are some 15 nudist beaches in the Sunshine State, but they're all illegal.

Rejecting a proposal to follow Victoria's lead, Police Minister Bill Byrne said the current laws were "designed to provide for the safety and protection of Queenslanders. We have no plans to change the current legislation dealing with willful exposure."

But now, in mid winter, it's a non-issue. Lex is happy to remain clad.

See you there! Lex Loci