

## Queenscliffe Hub construction progressing well

Construction work on the state-of-the-art Queenscliffe Hub building on Hesse Street has been progressing steadily throughout the winter months as we prepare for completion before the year is out.

The basement floor slab and walls of the building have been completed, the library fit-out is underway, while underground services have also been installed. The Queenscliffe Historical Museum has been producing a number of videos throughout the construction process, documenting the work that has been completed so far. You can watch these videos, and read more information about the project, by visiting [queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/hub](http://queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/hub)

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Hilary from the Queenscliff Library shares one of her favourite new releases.

## Access Ancestry Library Edition from home

Calling all history buffs! Ancestry has generously made Ancestry Library Edition available to library members wherever they are. For free access, you will need to log in via the Geelong Regional Libraries website ([catalogue.grlc.vic.gov.au/ancestry](http://catalogue.grlc.vic.gov.au/ancestry)) with your Geelong Regional Libraries' card barcode and PIN.

Ancestry is great for the professional or hobbyist, expert or novice, genealogist or historian. Library members can unlock their story with sources like censuses, vital records, immigration records, family histories, military records, court and legal documents, directories, photos and maps inside the more than 7,000 available databases covering United States, UK and Ireland, Europe, Canada and Australia.

## Helping waste see another day

The Borough of Queenscliffe is encouraging residents to reduce their contribution to waste and buy items made from recycled materials by partnering with Barwon South West Waste and Resource Recovery Group's Buy Recycled campaign.

The need to choose environmentally friendly products in order to reduce waste has become a heightened issue in recent times, with council areas within the Barwon South West region generating 760,000 tonnes of waste between 2013-2014, and 24% of this

waste ending up in landfill.

The Buy Recycled campaign aims to inspire the community to reduce their contribution to waste and landfill by consciously choosing to purchase necessary products made from recycled materials. This concept is known as a circular economy, helping to minimise waste and the environmental impact of product consumption.

Reaching residents from Queenscliff all the way to Portland, the Buy Recycled campaign highlights products made from recyclable and sustainable materials as well as the businesses that stock or produce them. To find out more, visit [buy-recycled.com.au](http://buy-recycled.com.au)

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# BOROUGH BITES



(L-R) Borough of Queenscliffe engineer Peter McLean, Mayor Ross Ebbels, and Councillor Michael Grout test out the new crossing on Gellibrand Street.

## Crossing off another pedestrian safety project

The Borough of Queenscliffe has been busy improving pedestrian safety across Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale, with the recent completion of a new pedestrian crossing in Gellibrand Street one of a number of new initiatives in town.

Completed in June as part of a partnership with the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), the crossing, located at the corner of Gellibrand Street and Hobson Street in Queenscliff, was supported by residents during Council consultation on road safety last year. Featuring a raised walkway, road narrowing, signage, and new lighting, the crossing will help pedestrians safely make their way from Queenscliff's shopping precinct to the beach or Princess Park.

Following a traffic investigation last year that found vehicles were regularly exceeding the speed limit, the

benefits of this new crossing are already clear, with motorists slowing down and pedestrians enjoying an uninterrupted path across the road.

The works are just one of many pedestrian safety upgrades Council is making throughout the Borough, which will also include pedestrian crossings in Hesse Street, Queenscliff and on Point Lonsdale Road. Council's 2021-22 budget also includes funding for a detailed traffic study of Queenscliff's road network, aimed at helping Council respond to the way pedestrians, cyclists and cars move through the township.

Council thanks the TAC for their \$15,000 funding grant, which made the Gellibrand Street crossing possible. More information about these improvements is available at [queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/pedestrian-safety](http://queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/pedestrian-safety).

## Climate plan adopted

Council has cemented its place as a climate response leader in the region after formally adopting a Climate Emergency Response Plan at its Ordinary Council Meeting in May.

The plan, which was developed in partnership with the community, commits to achieving zero net emissions by 2031, as well as interim steps including matching local electricity consumption with 100% renewable energy by 2025.

Council will achieve its zero-net emissions goal by completing or facilitating 49 individual actions laid out in the plan. Actions vary from solar bulk buys to a shared commitment to phase out single-use plastics throughout the Borough. Many actions involve partnerships, with community action playing a key role in achieving the targets. Council will now develop an implementation plan to further outline how each of the actions in the plan will be achieved.

The adoption of the CERP builds on existing actions the Borough of Queenscliffe has already taken to reduce its

## In this edition

- New crossings in the Borough
- Climate plan adopted
- New renewable energy program
- Budget promotes park upgrades
- Volunteer celebrations at 360Q
- Fence refurb on Lonnie trail
- Council recommits to aged care
- Queenscliff on the small screen
- Local solar bulk buy program
- Hub construction progresses well
- Ancestry now free from home
- Encouraging to buy recycled

## 2021 Council Meetings

Upcoming Ordinary Meetings of Council will be held at 7pm on the following days:

- Wednesday 25 August 2021
- Wednesday 22 September 2021
- Wednesday 27 October 2021
- Wednesday 24 November 2021

Public attendance at these meetings are subject to coronavirus health restrictions. All meetings will be live-streamed via Zoom and recordings made available on Council's YouTube page. For up-to-date information on attending or viewing Council meetings, visit the Borough of Queenscliffe website.

climate impact, including switching all Council street lighting to energy-efficient LEDs, entering an agreement to purchase 100% renewable energy for Council operations, and reducing its emissions by 34% since 2013.

More information about Council's response to climate change, including the complete Climate Emergency Response Plan, is available at [queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/ceerp](http://queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/ceerp).

## Borough goes renewable thanks to state-wide collaboration

The Borough of Queenscliffe has joined forces with forty-five other Victorian councils by signing on to the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO), the largest ever emissions reduction project by local government in Australia.

The VECO, which officially began on 1 July 2021, will power 45 per cent of all Victorian councils' electricity requirements with renewable energy, reducing greenhouse emissions by 260,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> every year. By joining the project, the Borough will power 100% of its total electricity use with renewable energy, including street lights, Council offices, caravan parks and the Town Hall.

The 240 GWh of electricity purchased each year by participating Councils will be provided by two wind farms in Victoria – Dundonnell wind farm near Mortlake, and Murra Warra II wind farm near Horsham, which is currently under construction. Both wind farms deliver economic benefits to the regions during construction and ongoing operation, and form an important part of state, regional and local economic development.

Meeting all of its electricity needs with renewable energy is the most recent in a series of actions Council has taken to reduce its environmental impact. Other actions include installing energy-efficient lighting in Council buildings and street lights, and introducing a green waste service to divert more than 3,600 tonnes of rubbish from landfill since July 2015. For more information about how the Borough is taking action on climate change, visit Council's website.

## Budget spends up on parks and facilities

Community infrastructure is at the forefront of the Borough of Queenscliffe's 2021–22 budget, which was officially adopted by Council at the Ordinary Meeting of Council in June.

The budget, which includes \$1.3 million for new operating and capital projects, is highlighted by a \$360,000 investment in designing and renewing toilet and change facilities across the Borough. Point Lonsdale's Royal Park Oval has been allocated \$60,000 of funding to scope and design an upgrade, while a further \$20,000 will support the development of a concept design for a bike park.

Council's recently adopted Climate Emergency Response Plan calls for a series of actions to help its implementation, and so \$150,000 has been allocated towards the first tranche of initiatives outlined. Part of this is the \$70,000 put towards installing electric car charging stations in the Borough.

To read the budget in full, visit [queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/budget](http://queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/budget).



New timber fencing has spruced up a popular stretch of walking track between Point Lonsdale Pier and the Rip View car park.

## New fencing spruces up coastal path

Regular users of our Point Lonsdale walking trails will have noticed some welcome improvements over the past few weeks, with new fencing now installed on the path between Point Lonsdale Pier and the Rip View car park.

Council is replacing 100 lineal metres of old wire fencing with brand new timber along the path, beautifying the track while

keeping in line with its coastal feel. Forty metres have already been completed, with the rest to come later this financial year. The new fencing has also supported local jobs, with the works being completed by a Point Lonsdale-based contractor.

Further construction works along the path will be funded via Council's annual budget for improving beach access infrastructure.



Postcards' Brodie Harper joins VIC volunteers and local residents for a Heritage Walk around Queenscliff.

## Postcards visits the Borough

Queenscliff was on the small screen back in May when the team from Channel Nine's Postcards featured some of the must-see

activities in the Borough. Host Brodie Harper caught the ferry over before meeting up with our Queenscliffe Visitor Information Centre volunteers for a bite to eat as well as a Heritage Walk around the streets of town. To watch the episode, visit [gnow.com.au/postcards](http://gnow.com.au/postcards).

## Borough recommits to aged care

Borough of Queenscliffe Councillors declared their support for the continued operation of Council's aged care service at April's Ordinary Meeting, after an independent review found strong public support.

Following the Australian Government's announcement of changes to the way it will provide funding support for aged care, Council undertook a review of the aged care services it provides. Councillors considered the results of this review alongside an officer's report at the April Ordinary Meeting. In light of the strong support clients and the community expressed for the service, Councillors declared their support for the continued delivery of home care services. Council also resolved to update its review of aged care services after the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety come into full effect in 2024.

Council's review was conducted by an independent consultant, and examined the financial sustainability of the service, impacts of proposed changes, and public support for the different options available. Aged care clients and members of the public had the opportunity to participate in the review, with Council hearing from more than 200 participants during public consultation.

## Still time to take part in solar bulk buy

Have you heard about the Geelong+ Community Solar Program? The Borough is one of five local councils supporting the initiative, driven by Geelong Sustainability, that's designed to help homeowners and businesses switch to clean, affordable energy. It's the region's largest ever community bulk-buy solar program, and it's open until the end of August 2021 – so be sure to start your savings today by visiting [geelongcommunitysolar.com.au](http://geelongcommunitysolar.com.au).



Volunteers from across the Borough were able to come together and celebrate at 360Q in May.

## Volunteers come together at celebration

Dozens of hard-working volunteers from the Borough of Queenscliffe community were recently able to join together and celebrate after a challenging 12 months at a soiree in Queenscliff.

After a forced absence in 2020 due to the pandemic, Council was pleased to be able to host its annual volunteer function at 360Q in May 2021, celebrating local volunteers and acknowledging their

contribution and service to the local community.

Attendees were greeted with the sweet tunes of the Shedding The Blues music group, before Dazzling Dan the Magic Man wowed the crowd later in the evening. Council remains immensely proud of the Queenscliffe community's dedication to volunteerism, which continually outranks the rest of the state and country.