

Borough Bites

MAY 2022



Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club President Charlie Pitney joined Queenscliffe Mayor Ross Ebbels on Clean Up Australia Day to help tidy up along Ocean Road.

Borough volunteers clean up 440kg of litter

Councillors and volunteers removed 440kg of litter and illegally dumped rubbish from public areas on the first weekend of March as part of a Council-organised Clean Up Australia Day event.

Starting in Stoneman's Reserve in Point Lonsdale and continuing through surrounding dunes and bushland, volunteers successfully removed 440 kilograms of dumped rubbish. Items collected during the clean-up included glass bottles, aluminium cans, beach toys, bike wheels, and even a couple of lounge chairs.

Borough Mayor Ross Ebbels joined the volunteer group alongside Deputy Mayor Fleur Hewitt and Cr Michael Grout, sorting litter on the day to separate out recyclables and reduce the amount of rubbish being sent to landfill. Volunteers were then treated to a coffee after their efforts courtesy of the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club, who generously supported the event.

BOROUGH TO INTRODUCE KERBSIDE FOOD WASTE COLLECTION

The Borough of Queenscliffe will be introducing a new kerbside food waste collection service in a bid to make household waste collection more financially and environmentally sustainable.

Starting in August this year, Council will be asking residents to place food waste in their existing green-lidded bins, where it will be processed into compost instead of going to landfill. We'll also be updating the frequency of our bin collection to support the rollout by collecting food and green waste every week, and introducing fortnightly landfill and recycling collection.

Queenscliffe Mayor Ross Ebbels said composting food waste had a range of benefits for residents. "By composting our food and green waste, we're avoiding expensive landfill taxes and the greenhouse gases emitted from organic matter when it's buried in a landfill," Cr Ebbels said. "I'm excited to start processing our food waste in a way that's better for the budget, better for the planet and better for our community."

Cr Ebbels noted that a recent bin audit showed almost 40% of the contents of the Borough's

household landfill bins was food waste. Currently, Council sends this food waste to landfill, where the Victorian Government will be taxing it at \$125.90 per tonne from 1 July this year. "Every tonne of waste we don't send to landfill is a tonne of waste we don't have to pay the Victorian Government's landfill tax on. With this tax increasing every year, these costs will add up for ratepayers if we don't manage our waste more sustainably," Cr Ebbels said. "Composting our food waste will be cheaper for our residents over the long term by avoiding these landfill taxes."

In the coming months, households in the Borough will receive information about the rollout and information sheets on how to sort waste using the new system. In addition to the information, households will be receiving a benchtop kitchen caddy, and a larger 240L recycling bin. Kerbside collections of food waste are expected to begin in August this year, with households to be notified of their first collection date in the coming months.

The rollout follows years of planning by Council, and was recently included in our Climate Emergency Response Plan as an action item.

Cr Ebbels said Council was well prepared to support residents through the transition. "We'll be sending out lots of information and holding interactive presentations to ensure our residents are supported through the transition," Cr Ebbels said. "I'm looking forward to working with our community in the coming months to make this rollout a success."

You can learn more about the project by visiting queenscliffe.vic.gov.au/bins.



Borough of Queenscliffe
Queenscliff & Point Lonsdale, Victoria, Australia

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Vale Cr Salter

The Borough of Queenscliffe mourns the death of long-serving Councillor Susan Salter, who passed away in March following a period of illness.

First elected to Council in 2012, Cr Salter's near-decade of service was marked by a devotion to her community and to the people who live here. Renowned for her accessibility, Cr Salter could often be found discussing issues in depth with local residents and confidently supporting their interests on council matters.

Cr Salter was also a capable leader, using her extensive local knowledge to inform and improve Council's work in the community. During her term as Mayor (2017–2018) Cr Salter oversaw the successful development of major projects like the upgrade to the Queenscliff Recreational Reserve, and maintained a focus on ensuring even the smallest of Council's services were delivering outcomes for our residents, including our aged care clients.

While her passion for many subjects was remarkable, Cr Salter's particular interest in trees, gardens and parks saw her lead renewal works on the Borough's Avenue of Honour and influence a number of other landscaping projects. From the grand old trees she worked to preserve to the newest green shoots of planting she encouraged, Cr Salter's legacy will be in the natural spaces she nurtured that our community will enjoy for years to come.

Cr Salter will be deeply missed by her fellow Councillors, Council officers, and our entire community. Our thoughts go to her family and friends during this difficult time.



An artist's impression of how the new amenities block will appear from the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve's Hesse Street entrance.

NEW AMENITIES AT QUEENSCLIFF RECREATION RESERVE

Construction of a new amenities block at the Queenscliff Recreation Reserve is now under way, bringing modern facilities to campers and the general public alike.

The project, designed by local architects Stonehouse + Irons, will include an array of features for Queenscliffe Tourist Parks guests as well as members of the public, who will now be able to access toilets directly from Hesse Street.

New public toilets (including an accessible toilet), new sinks and handwashing stations, and seating and landscaping areas highlight the list of inclusions for the general public. Campers will also have access to brand new toilets and showers, as well as a dedicated family bathroom and family shower room. New laundry facilities (including washers and

dryers) are also a feature, while a dog wash station means that even your furry friend can enjoy the same luxuries while on holiday.

Caravan users are also looked after, with the inclusion of a dump point to dispose of waste in a safe and hygienic manner. Construction of the amenities block will be completed in stages. With demolition of the existing facilities currently taking place, attention now turns to building the new structure.

We anticipate that the new facilities will be ready for use by summer 2022–23. In the meantime, alternative toilets and showers are available for campers. Council thanks the Victorian Government for their funding of the new amenities block. To learn more about the project and view architectural drawings of the new building, visit boq.news/amenities.

NEW PLAYGROUND FOR GANES RESERVE

Let's swing into spring! Point Lonsdale families will be treated to a brand new set of colourful and engaging play equipment, with Council soon to begin its renewal program on the playground at Ganes Reserve on Ocean Road, adjacent to the Tennis Club.

With the current equipment reaching the end of its useful design life, Council has commissioned its removal and replacement to provide a brand new set of activities for adventurous kids of the Borough.

The new equipment includes:

- A standard swing, toddler swing and nest swing
- Two slides
- Climbing nets and walls
- A catwalk bridge

- A track rider
- And a range of other equipment.

The equipment is designed to marine grade specifications, allowing the materials to withstand the risk of corrosion in a coastal environment. Best of all, the nearby trees and seating will be retained during the renewal. Construction is expected to begin in June.



The new Ganes Reserve playground will feature bright and engaging play equipment to excite children of all ages.



Queenscliffe Mayor Cr Ross Ebbels joined guest speakers Robyn Annear and Jon Faine alongside Queenscliffe Literary Festival President Pauline Nunan to celebrate the release of their jam-packed three-weekend program scheduled for May.

LITERARY FESTIVAL PROGRAM PACKED OUT

The Queenscliffe Literary Festival is returning to the Borough bigger and better than ever, with more than 25 events and workshops taking place across three jam-packed weekends in May.

The festival, which has now become a major drawcard on the Borough's cultural calendar, is sponsored by Council as its Principal Partner.

The program was officially launched at a gala event at the Queenscliff Town Hall in late March, with broadcaster and author Jon Faine appearing in conversation with Robyn Annear to discuss his new book, *Apollo & Thelma*. Mayor Ross Ebbels was

in attendance to give a welcome speech, noting that Queenscliffe still has the highest percentage of library members to population per capita in the state – we really are a community of literature lovers!

The festival's theme for 2022 is *Shifting Sands*, with festival organisers explaining, "As we continue to navigate an uncertain world, we welcome the insights and wisdom of our finest writers and thinkers to help us keep our footing."

Tickets are still available for some events, but with many having sold out already, we encourage you to get in quick. Visit queenscliffeliteraryfestival.com.au to purchase.

Community Grants returning this May

The Borough of Queenscliffe Community Grants program is back again this May following the success of the program last year. Council's Community Grants program assists local community groups and organisations to increase involvement and provide opportunities for Council and the community to work together.

We're excited to see a fresh round of nominations for 2022–23 and the opportunity to support deserving community groups as they recover from the ongoing impacts of the pandemic. This year's application period opens at 9:00am on Monday 2 May and closes at 4:00pm on Friday 17 June.

Applications can be completed online via Council's website at boq.news/cgp. If you'd prefer to complete a hard-copy form, you can pick one up from Council offices at 50 Learmonth Street, and return it via email, post or in person.

And if you'd like to help out with the adjudication of the program, there's still time to submit your interest in joining the Community Grants Community Reference Group. The group is a collection of local citizens who help decide who receives funding in the grants program each year. Fill out the online form at boq.news/cgp before Sunday 8 May to apply.

Easter Bunny arrives for 'Hop Local' campaign

The Borough's 'Shop Local' campaign celebrated a successful rebrand over the recent Easter period, with locals and visitors encouraged to instead 'Hop Local' for their sweet treats and gifts.

Attendees to the Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff shopping villages on Easter Saturday were treated to chocolate giveaways, public street events and even a visit from the Easter Bunny, which made this year's festivities a special one for the many visitors and residents in town for the long weekend.

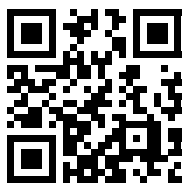
The ongoing 'Shop Local' campaign encourages both locals and tourists to support small businesses as they recover from the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic. To learn more about what our local businesses are currently promoting, follow Council's '3225 Love Local Shop Local' page on Facebook.



Our 'Hop Local' Easter Bunny explored all around town in the lead-up to the long weekend. Here, the Easter Bunny joins Larissa from Bricktown to help make some coffees.

Celebrate our local legends at the Community Service Awards

The recipients of Council's newly renamed Community Service Awards will be announced around National Volunteer Week for the first time this year. The awards ceremony, which features prizes for the Citizen, Young Citizen, Community Event, Community Organisation and Community Environment Project of the Year, will be held at the Point Lonsdale School Hall on Saturday 28 May from 10:00am. Everyone is welcome to attend and the event is free, however registration



is required for catering purposes.

To secure your spot, scan the QR code

SPEND AND SAVE ON DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

Visitors to Borough of Queenscliffe businesses could be eligible for 25 per cent rebates on a range of dining and entertainment experiences as part of a new Victorian Government program.

The state's Dining and Entertainment Program offers customers up to \$125 cash back on food and entertainment spending. Eligible experiences include dining out during the week, visits to galleries and museums, or even tickets to a live show.

Borough Mayor Ross Ebbels said the announcement would make it more affordable than ever to enjoy a visit to Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale.

"The Victorian Government's Dining and Entertainment Program could give you up to \$125 back on the Borough's dining and entertainment experiences," Cr Ebbels said. "Whether you're seeing a show on the famous Blues Train, dining out at Plated Point Lonsdale, or listening to a talk at the

Queenscliff Literary Festival, there's no better time to take a trip to the Borough."

The Borough of Queenscliffe thanks the Victorian Government for supporting local businesses through the Dining and Entertainment Program. More information about the Program, including eligibility and how to apply for a rebate, is available on the Victorian Government's website at vic.gov.au/dining-entertainment



Queenscliffe Mayor Ross Ebbels and Deputy Mayor Fleur Hewitt visited Hesse Street alongside local traders to encourage people to take up this new dining and entertainment offer.

Councillor contacts

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2022 Council Meetings

Upcoming Ordinary Meetings of Council will be held at 7:00pm on the following days:

- Wednesday 25 May 2022
- Wednesday 22 June 2022
- Wednesday 27 July 2022
- Wednesday 24 August 2022

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.

New Councillor elected

Isabelle Tolhurst has been elected as the newest member of the Borough of Queenscliffe Council after the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) held a virtual countback on Tuesday morning.

The vacancy on the Borough's five-person Council occurred following the resignation and death of Cr Susan Salter. In an online presentation which Council broadcast in the Queenscliff Town Hall, the VEC

confirmed the redistribution of Cr Salter's preferences would see Ms Tolhurst provisionally elected to Council. Cr Tolhurst was invested as a new Councillor in a ceremony held by the Borough of Queenscliffe on 20 April.

Get ready for Council's 2022 e-waste drop-off day

What: Borough of Queenscliffe e-waste drop off day

When: Saturday 14 May 2022 from 9:00am to 1:00pm

Where: Ocean View Car Park in Queenscliff Council's perennially popular e-waste drop-off day is back for 2022! You're invited to gather up old, broken or unwanted e-waste items such as televisions, computers and computer equipment, printers, cameras and mobile phones and bring them to be recycled for free.

For a full list of what can and can't be collected, head over to the E-waste Drop-off page on Council's website by visiting boq.news/ewaste or call us on (03) 5258 1377.

