

Borough Bites

FEBRUARY 2025



The Borough of Queenscliffe's newly elected Council will serve the community for the next four years.

YOUR NEW COUNCIL

Five Councillors were elected to serve the Borough for the next four years following the 2024 Council election.

We welcomed Councillors Di Rule and Brendan Monahan who are serving on Council for the first time, and welcomed back Councillors Isabelle Tolhurst, Donnie Grigau, and former Councillor Helene Cameron, who has previously served two terms as a councillor for the Borough of Queenscliffe.

The Councillors were sworn in on 13 November and with their first formal decision elected Councillor Di Rule as Mayor for a term of one year, and elected Councillor Brendan Monahan as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Rule used her first mayoral address to thank her fellow Councillors for the opportunity to serve in the community she

loves. "As a group of councillors, we recognise what a precious place this is, and we all appreciate the privilege of living here, we also agree that we want to protect and maintain this beautiful space, for now and into the future."

The newly elected Mayor went on to say, "The Borough is small and our biggest challenge is to remain relevant and independent, not overtaken by any neighbouring councils, the Borough also only raises limited funds each year, so we need to make sure every dollar is spent carefully – doing what matters, on the delivery of services that improve our lives, on the management of our coastal and marine areas."

We congratulate our Councillors on their successful campaigns and thank all candidates who nominated for election.

Contact details for your new Councillors are available on the last page of this newsletter.

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2025 Council Meetings

Upcoming Ordinary Meetings of Council will be held at 6:30 pm, at the Queenscliff Town Hall on the following days:

- Wednesday 29 January 2025
- Wednesday 26 February 2025
- Wednesday 26 March 2025
- Wednesday 30 April 2025
- Wednesday 28 May 2025

All meetings will be live-streamed via Zoom and recordings made available on Council's website. For up-to-date information on attending or viewing Council meetings, visit the Borough of Queenscliffe website.

Councillor portfolios

- Cr Di Rule – Heritage, Planning and Infrastructure
- Cr Brendan Monahan – Local Economy
- Cr Donnie Grigau – Health and Wellbeing
- Cr Helene Cameron – Environment
- Cr Isabelle Tolhurst – Governance and Finance



Borough of Queenscliffe
Queenscliff & Point Lonsdale, Victoria, Australia

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At 45 metres tall, the Christmas tree in Point Lonsdale is a sight to behold

Lighting of the Christmas Tree

Point Lonsdale's traditional Lighting of the Christmas Tree ceremony once again brought joy to many, with much excitement as the lights were flicked on!

The Borough of Queenscliffe is a proud supporter of this event and thanks to our wonderful community volunteers, our impressive Point Lonsdale Norfolk Pine was once again lit up for all to enjoy.

Mayor Rule, who spoke at the community event, said, "It was a delight to see the community come together to watch our stunning Norfolk Pine tree come alive with twinkling lights. The performances were wonderful, and there was a real Christmas spirit buzz amongst the crowd, it is lovely to see all ages coming together for a fun evening."

The stunning LED Christmas lights sparkle on the tree from early December until 26 January.

Reminder – Fire Danger Period

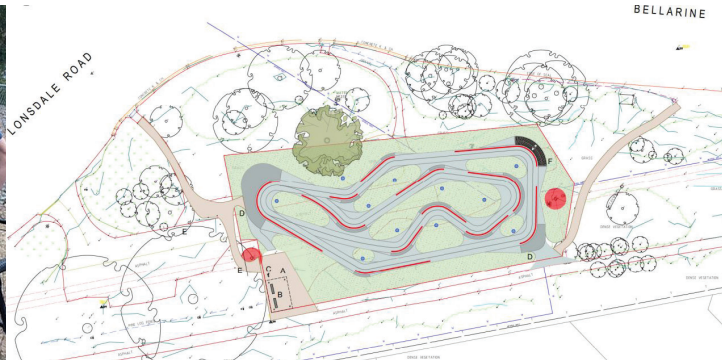
Year after year, summertime remains the Fire Danger Period, and it is essential that we maintain our fire safety awareness.

Things to keep on top of include keeping your gutters clean by removing leaves and twigs. Ensure your grassed areas are trimmed and watered, and rake and clear leaf litter.

The CFA website provides a wealth of information including details on restrictions concerning barbecues, the use of chainsaws and mowers and other activities you may not have considered to pose a fire risk. For further information, head to the CFA website. cfa.vic.gov.au



The drawings look great; now we are looking for funding to bring the vision to life.



PROPOSED BIKE PARK

Council is planning to build a bike park alongside the Point Lonsdale Skate Park.

Pending successful grant funding applications, the park will be a win for riders of all ages and experience. A designated space for riders to challenge themselves and practice their skills will allow us to better protect areas of vegetation that were previously used for riding.

A Community Information Session was held at the proposed bike park site in December. Over fifty people attended, providing feedback on the draft design, and letting us know what matters most to them. The bike park concept design consultant was there to answer questions from the community, along with Council officers who were happy to chat and discuss the project with community members – young and old!

Some features of the concept include:

- A 105m long asphalt track suitable for all levels of riders including beginners and young children
- A 125m long asphalt jumps track including

a berm top wall ride for more experienced bike riders

- Red safety lines and signage to determine a safe direction of travel
- A park shelter
- Shared existing toilet facilities with the adjacent skate park
- Access off the main shared path that runs from Queenscliff to Point Lonsdale.

Council is now seeking Marine and Coastal Act consent from DEECA and pursuing an agreement with the Department of Transport and Planning to use this vacant road reserve land. A cultural heritage management plan is being prepared to allow the construction works to proceed at this site.

Construction of the park will be contingent on achieving financial support through government funding. Council will be advocating for support from local members and applying to existing grant programs for funding. If these endeavors are successful, it is anticipated that construction will proceed in the second half of 2025.

Emergency Markers

You may have noticed we've installed new emergency markers along our coastline.

These markers contain a unique code that is linked to the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority system – or more commonly known as Triple Zero. (000) This code is specific to the location and GPS coordinates which assist in the dispatch of emergency services.

Emergency Markers enable the Triple Zero (000) administrators to immediately and accurately verify the location of an emergency in a public open space, saving time and potentially lives.

If you find yourself in need of emergency



New emergency marker signs enable accurate location information to be shared with Triple Zero.

services along the beach, you'll be able to give the caller the code instead of wasting time trying to describe where you are.

To learn more, head here - boq.news/Markers



LEDG Chair, Bree-Arne Manley (front centre) said that 'an inclusive community is better for us all.'

Access and Inclusion Plan launch

December 3 marked the International Day of People with Disability.

Annually, this is a day for recognising and amplifying the voices of people with differing abilities, and striving to make a more inclusive world, making this the perfect

day to launch the Borough of Queenscliffe's Access and Inclusion Plan.

Together with local community members, Council has formed a Lived Experience Disability Group (the LEDG – also known as LEDGends) to assist us to work towards a Borough that welcomes and accommodates everyone, undertaking to improve accessibility for all.

The Access and Inclusion Plan was officially launched at Wirrng Wirrng (Q Hub), with LEDG Chair, Bree-Arne Manley MC'ing the event. In attendance were LEDG members, Council officers, Councillors Grigau and Tolhurst, along with Federal Member for Parliament Libby Coker, and State Member for Bellarine Alison Marchant. Cr Grigau spoke of the importance of accessibility in the Borough, saying "Council has a responsibility to improve access and inclusion for our community. We know it is important work, we also know that it's the right thing to do, and an accessible, inclusive community is better for us all."



Batteries do not go in any bins

A small act like keeping batteries out of your bins makes a significant impact on the Borough's sustainable future.

Recent bin survey results show that each year over 20,000 household batteries are put in our general rubbish (red lid) and recycling (yellow lid) bins.

When batteries are put in your household bins, they can cause fires both in your bins and in the trucks that collect them.

Never put any type of battery in your kerbside bins. Instead, take used batteries to your nearest battery drop-off location so they can be recycled.

All batteries are made up of toxic substances and can pose risks to you, your property and the people who empty your bins. This includes batteries in mobile phones, cameras, and toys. These hazardous materials pollute the environment when disposed of in landfill.

Recycling used batteries correctly means we can make the most of existing resources and rely less on mining new materials.

Here are some simple suggestions to store your batteries safely at home before taking them to a drop-off:

- Cover the ends of used batteries with duct tape or clear sticky tape, to prevent sparking and reduce the risk of fire
- Store them in a glass container and make sure the container is not airtight
- Don't keep them in metal containers or with other metal objects
- Store them in a cool, dry place away from heat sources
- Keep them away from children and pets.

You can recycle AAA, AA, D, C, button batteries, rechargeable batteries, single use alkaline batteries, rectangle 6V and rectangle 9V batteries for free at our local battery recycling drop off points including:

- Council Offices – 50 Learmonth Street, Queenscliff,
- Queenscliffe Neighbourhood House
- Queenscliff IGA
- Point Lonsdale IGA
- Point Lonsdale News and Post Office.

Mobile phones (with batteries in place) can be recycled at:

BoQ Council Office

50 Learmonth Street, Queenscliff

Wirrng Wirrng (The Hub)

49–55 Hesse Street, Queenscliff

To find out more visit Specialist recycling services Borough of Queenscliffe.



Anyone can use a defibrillator – they have verbal and visual instructions to guide you.

Defibrillator locations in the Borough

AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators), most often know as 'defibs', save lives when they are publicly accessible, and available night and day.

Defibs are simple to use and are fully automatic, they 'speak' to the user, calmly guiding you through the instructions on how to use the device.

You never know when you might need one, so it's a clever idea to make note of where the defibrillators are located across our twin towns.

If you believe someone has suffered a cardiac arrest, take immediate action;

- Call Triple Zero (000) for an ambulance
- Push hard and fast in the centre of the chest to start CPR
- Use a defibrillator as soon as possible to restart the heart

Queenscliff IGA

75 Hesse Street – outside front pavement wall

Wirrng Wirrng

(Queenscliffe Hub) 49–55 Hesse Street

Queenscliffe Town Hall

50 Learmonth Street – inside Foyer on left

Queenscliffe Tourist Park

134 Hesse Street Outside office

Royal Park Caravan Park

172–188 Point Lonsdale Road

Point Lonsdale IGA

93–97 Point Lonsdale Road – outside shop wall

Point Lonsdale BP Service Station

200 Point Lonsdale Road – outside front wall adjacent to entry

PL Tennis Club

58–74 Ocean Road – outside front wall facing tennis courts

The Borough of Queenscliffe thanks David Jarman for ensuring we have defibs available where locals and visitors spend time. David's efforts to ensure AED's were located across the Borough has resulted in lifesaving devices being available in key locations 24/7.

Community Service Awards – Nominations now open

The Borough of Queenscliffe Community Service Awards are back for 2025, and nominations are now open.

Do you know of someone or an organisation that is worthy of recognition for their contribution to our community? If so, please consider nominating. Council's annual awards ceremony is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the many individuals, community groups, and organisations that make outstanding contributions to the Borough of Queenscliffe each year. The awards cover two categories – Citizen of the Year (now an open-age award) and Community Group of the Year. All nominees will be acknowledged, and the winners celebrated at an event to be held during National Volunteers Week in May. The Council appointed community reference group will assess the nominations against set criteria and recommend who might be awarded each title. Anyone who lives, works, or volunteers in the Borough of Queenscliffe can be nominated by any member of the community. For group awards, self-nominations are very much welcome.

Nominations Close: February 25th, 2025

More information about the nomination process is available at boq.news/csa

Councillor contacts

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Cr Donnie Grigau

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Cr Helene Cameron

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Cr Isabelle Tolhurst

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Help shape Council's priorities for the Borough

We're calling on the community to help shape the next four-year Council Plan by sharing your priorities and what matters most to you.

At the start of every new term, Council produces a strategic document that outlines the focus of our work. In line with Victorian Government legislation, we'll soon be starting work on a new Council Plan. Before we do so, we are keen to hear from you concerning the Community Vision.

The Community Vision is a long-term document that describes what our community want the Borough to be in ten years. Council has an important role to play in achieving this vision, and the document will be a useful reference point for everyone in the Borough. We are currently four years into our 2021–2031 document, so it's time we ask our community if any changes or



revisions are required.

Meanwhile, the Council Plan sets out measurable goals and objectives for this four-year term of Council. It will explain the actions Council will take towards achieving the Community Vision and arrange those actions into pillars or portfolios. Taken together, these documents will help Council plan for the long term while also setting targets for how we will play a role in building an improved Borough.

For more information, visit Council's website.

Beach Infrastructure Update

The storm events in September and October and associated tidal surges caused extensive damage to beach access infrastructure across the Borough.

Council has completed repairs on the Point Lonsdale Surf Lifesaving Beach Base access ramp and undertaken some temporary repairs at Springs Beach to help with access and the loss of sand.

We have engaged a contractor to help us with the project to remove and replace the Rip View stairs following an engineering assessment that advised us the stairs were beyond repair and unsafe.

In the coming months we will continue to work on the planning and approvals required to fix the dog beach access ramp.



Work at the Point Lonsdale Back Beach ramp was prioritised for summer beach patrol

The repair of this infrastructure has required Council to coordinate and collaborate with several organisations, government departments, and agencies including the Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA).

Download the Borough Bins app

Here's a great idea – Join the growing group of informed residents who have already downloaded the Borough Bins app to receive personalised reminders on your bin collection dates. You can find out all this and more in the Borough Bins app, where you can search an A–Z list of waste items or download a printable calendar. Scan the QR code or visit boq.news/bbi.



Borough of Queenscliffe
Queenscliff & Point Lonsdale, Victoria, Australia

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