



Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated

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VOLUNTEER SURF LIFESAVERS HAVE PUT AWAY 'THE FLAGS' FOR ANOTHER SEASON

Volunteer surf lifesavers around Victoria, including Point Lonsdale have now concluded another long and eventful season for them.

Point Lonsdale's Volunteer surf lifesavers commenced patrol duties on the 29th November last year and patrols concluded on Easter Monday.

Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club, Club Secretary, Mr. Matthew Ponsford announced that our lifesaving service has now concluded for another season, which marks the conclusion of the 58th year of a continuous lifesaving service being offered in Point Lonsdale.

"In terms of the number of rescues performed, the 2003 / 2004 season has been quieter than last season with 12 rescues performed, compared to 44 last season. In addition this season, 5 people were assisted in the water, but did not requiring rescuing."

"An estimated 8 804 people visited the Point Lonsdale Back Beach during periods of patrols by volunteer surf lifesavers. Lifesavers completed 329 preventative actions, by way of issuing safety / surf advise or by other safety measures to reduce the number of rescues performed. 10 people were treated for minor first aid cases and 2 people were treated for major first aid cases, where medical assistance was required. Finally, one search was conducted by lifesavers.

"Now that patrols have ceased and there is no longer an active lifesaving service present, the Surf Life Saving Club reminds all beach users to continue to Play it Safe by the Water. This includes never entering the water by yourself and if visiting a location that you are not familiar with checking with someone who knows the safest place to swim / surf and where hazards are located." "In the event of requiring assistance at a beach we would remind beach goers to telephone '000' and ask for the emergency service that they require"

For further information please contact the Secretary / Media Liaison Officer - Matthew Ponsford on 0419 52 52 58

Released: 24th April 2004

Serving the community since 1947

*Over 1 450 lives saved by volunteer surf lifesavers and professional lifeguards
Always swim between the red and yellow flags – no lives lost 'between the flags'*

Media Release