



## Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated

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Registered Number A0016072K

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### LOCAL SURF CLUB GEARS UP THANKS TO TELSTRA Telstra Surf Lifesaving Assistance Fund 2004

Mr. Matthew Ponsford, Secretary of the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club said he was delighted to receive three new Malibu Rescue Boards as part of the 2004 Telstra Surf Lifesaving Assistance Fund to help keep local beaches safer for all.

“As important as it is to ensure our network of trained volunteer surf lifesavers are equipped with the most up-to-date skills and knowledge, it is important for them to have access to the best gear and equipment,” Matthew said.

The Telstra Surf Lifesaving Assistance Fund is a national grants program designed to assist Surf Life Saving Australia, the nation’s major water safety and rescue authority, to equip surf clubs with vital surf life saving equipment.

“Last season we performed a total of 21 rescues, with the majority involving a Rescue Board and Rescue Tube” he said.

On average, a rescue tube is worth \$100; a rescue board is worth \$1,000; an outboard motor is worth \$3,500; and an Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) or Waverunner (PWC or Personal Water Craft) is worth in excess of \$10,000.

“By the end of 2004, the grants program will have distributed more than \$500,000 worth of surf lifesaving equipment to surf clubs across Australia, helping to keep our beaches safe this season and for those to come,” Jodi Manion, Telstra Country Wide Area Manager said.

The Telstra Surf Lifesaving Assistance Fund is one of five major national surf lifesaving programs made possible by a three-year partnership between Telstra and Surf Life Saving Australia that began in 2003.

For more information on the Telstra Surf Lifesaving Assistance Fund or Surf Life Saving Australia visit [www.slsa.asn.au](http://www.slsa.asn.au)

**Picture and photo opportunities are available on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2005.** Please meet at the Point Lonsdale SLSC Clubrooms at **10:00am** (Corner of Ocean and Buckley’s Roads Point Lonsdale.

For further information please contact Matthew Ponsford on 0419 52 52 58.

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*Serving the community since 1947*

*Over 1 500 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