



Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated

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THOUSANDS PREPARE TO SWIM “THE RIP”

An estimated 1,500 swimmers will take part in the first of the ‘three big open water swims’ when the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club prepares to hold the **Stockland Rip View Swim Classic**, on **Saturday 30th December 2006**.

The **Stockland Pt Lonsdale Rip View Swim Classic** (now in its 19th year) is widely regarded as a compulsory warm up for many swimmers who take part in the Pier to Pub Swim at Lorne, to be held one week after the Point Lonsdale event, including the majority of the elite swimmers.

Media Release

Swimmers are divided into a total of 24 categories from Juniors (12 – 16 years) to the Grandmasters (70 + years) and the first group of swimmers commence at **2:00pm**.

Event Director Mr. David Ponsford reports that, “Last year we had a fantastic number of finishers – 1 244 and I’m confident that this number will be exceeded this year”. “This is a family friendly event and combined with the beautiful surrounds of Point Lonsdale the entire main street of Point Lonsdale will be turned into a carnival like atmosphere. Many thousands of spectators are predicted to view and participate in the street party atmosphere, with the main street of Point Lonsdale closed to traffic during the day, which is one of the busiest trading days for many of the Point Lonsdale traders each year.”

Mr. Ponsford states that, “The swim is a major event for the Club and people should feel happy that their entry fee is helping the Club provide a voluntary service to the community, through Surf Rescue patrols at Point Lonsdale and at Queenscliff. This event is a major fundraiser for the Club and without these types of events, the Club could not continue to operate. “The Club welcomes the ongoing support of **Stockland** as major partner and thanks the many local businesses and organisations that assist with prizes, donations and other forms of assistance for this big day.”

The quickest and easiest way to enter is on-line and these entries have opened. Just visit www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au, enter on-line and be in the running to win one of 5 2XU wetsuits. Entry forms can be downloaded from the website, or are available from major swimming pools in the Geelong and Melbourne area.

Full results will be available from the Club website and will also appear in the Geelong Advertiser and The Age.

For further information please contact the Event Director – David Ponsford on 0438 580 257.