



## 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 **Penfold Holden Rip View Swim Classic 2003**, on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December.

Point Lonsdale’s **Penfold Holden Rip View Swim Classic 2003** (in its 16<sup>th</sup> year) is now widely regarded as a compulsory warm up for many swimmers who take part in the Pier to Pub Swim at Lorne two weeks after the Point Lonsdale event, including the majority of the elite swimmers.

Swimmers are divided into a total of 22 categories from Juniors (12 – 16 years) to the Grandmasters (70 + years) and the first group of swimmers commence at **10:30 am**.

Event Director Mr. David Ponsford reports that, “Last year we had a record number of entries – 1 253 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 day 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 is especially thankful to the many local businesses and organisations that assist with prizes, donations and other forms of assistance for this big day.”

Entries are now open and entry forms can be obtained from local businesses or from the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club Clubrooms. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Club’s website and on-line entries are also available at the Club website - [www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au](http://www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au)

Full results will be available from the Club website [www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au](http://www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au) or from the official event timers website - [www.racetiming.com.au](http://www.racetiming.com.au) as well as in the Geelong Advertiser and The Age.

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

Released: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2003

*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