



## Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated

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PT LONSDALE RIP VIEW SWIM CLASSIC

### 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 Pt Lonsdale Rip View Swim Classic**, on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2005**.

The **Stockland Pt Lonsdale Rip View Swim Classic 2005** (now in its 17<sup>th</sup> year) is widely regarded as a compulsory warm up for many swimmers who take part in the Pier to Pub Swim at Lorne one week 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 **11 am**.

Event Director Mr. David Ponsford reports that, "Last year we had a fantastic number of entries – 1,232 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."

"Entries are \$ 35 (prior to 20/12/04) or \$ 40 on the day. Entrants will receive a souvenir tee-shirt, back pack, cap, water bottle plus swim cap, certificate and refreshments (retail value over \$ 55), with 50 spot prizes up for grabs. This certainly makes for the best value open water swim in Victoria"

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 delighted to welcome **Stockland** as major sponsor and thanks 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 people can enter online at [www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au](http://www.pointlonsdaleslsc.asn.au) or obtain an entry form from the website, major swim pools, gymnasiums, the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club Clubrooms and Pt Lonsdale front street traders.

Full results will be available from the website or from the official event timer's 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: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004

*Serving the community since 1947*

*1 501 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