

Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

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www.plca.org.au

Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910

2018 Annual Subscription Payment and Donations

The annual subscription payment for 2018 is now overdue & payable. The subscription amount for 2018 is \$10 per person. Donations are welcome in addition to the payment of the subscription amount. The preferred method of payment is by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to the PLCA bank account. Alternatively, payment can be made by cheque or cash by hand delivery.

2018 Membership Renewal form link is below, please fill in and return with your payment:
Membership Renewal Form: [Membership Renewal Form](#):

The PLCA bank account details are:

Account Name:	Point Lonsdale Civic Association
Bank:	Bendigo Bank, Queenscliff
BSB:	633108
Account Number:	131346017
Description:	Surname and Initials of the member must be shown

If payment is made by cheque, please write your name on the reverse of the cheque if it is from an account different to your name. Please, DO NOT send cash via the post.

Please ensure you complete the Membership Renewal and Subscription Payment form. Forms will be available on website for new membership, if you know of family or friends who wish to become a member of PLCA, please advise them to join. Just scan & email form link below or deliver at meeting or post. [Application for membership](#)

Committee of Management Changes.

Our Secretary Sue Wasterval tendered her resignation in March. We were sad to see her go, and her contributions to the PLCA were very well considered & insightful, particularly on Environmental & LCA matters. We wish her well, and we very much hope she will continue to advise the committee when required. Consequently, our Treasurer Laurie Muscat has stepped into the job, and our Membership Officer Andrew Rogers has picked up Treasury duties.

ANZAC Day Service.

Fay Agterhuis Principal of the Point Lonsdale Primary School, and past president of PLCA continued her connection with ANZAC Day event by presenting “The Call to Remembrance” at the Point Lonsdale memorial Service at the cenotaph. There was also a wonderful presentation “A youth Perspective” by students of Point Lonsdale Primary School that was enthusiastically acknowledged by the audience. The presentations added to what many said was an event that is getting better and better every year.

Saving our memories of ANZAC.

A common theme through the major addresses at the Dawn Service on the Rip and Point Lonsdale Service was the importance of the memories and symbols of ANZAC within the Borough.

Icons such as the Fort and all or the structures and emplacements throughout the dunes, the Avenue of Honour and its importance to residents who had or have serving family and friends, the honour roles with new homes and others yet to find one and the museums and displays which all recognise the rich and full history of the area.

These reminders of sacrifice and history and our place in it must be preserved. I do not believe that any of the significant numbers present at the events I attended would begrudge the relatively small amount it takes to preserve the past when so much is being spent on what we are told is our future.

Landcare – Bellarine/Point Lonsdale

As a coastal community surrounded by a vulnerable dune system, Point Lonsdale is an amazing place to explore nature. From bunny woods, up to and behind Rip View Car park, across the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve and across the Buckley Park. They each hold significant nature conservation values due to presence of remnant vegetation and habitat.

The long term protection of these coastal dune systems, relies on the support and goodwill of the community together with the help of coastal managers and government agencies. All these issues come at a cost. Many communities are working with local councils, CMAs and government agencies to plant trees, pull weeds, build fences and monitor wildlife to improve the quality and extent of coastal nature.

Landcare is a community-based movement that began in Victoria in 1986. It now involves thousands of Victorians and more than 600 groups working together to shape the future of our land, biodiversity and waterways. The movement has grown from this to the adoption of a broader focus on sustainable management of all of Victoria's natural resource assets. It now encompasses individuals and groups across the whole landscape from coastal to urban and remote areas of Victoria.

Being a part of Landcare is a way to help our environment, wildlife, community. Landcare people range from retirees to families, surfers to farmers and business people to students. United by a shared desire to create positive change in their local community and environment, these individuals recognise that collectively their efforts have greater impact.

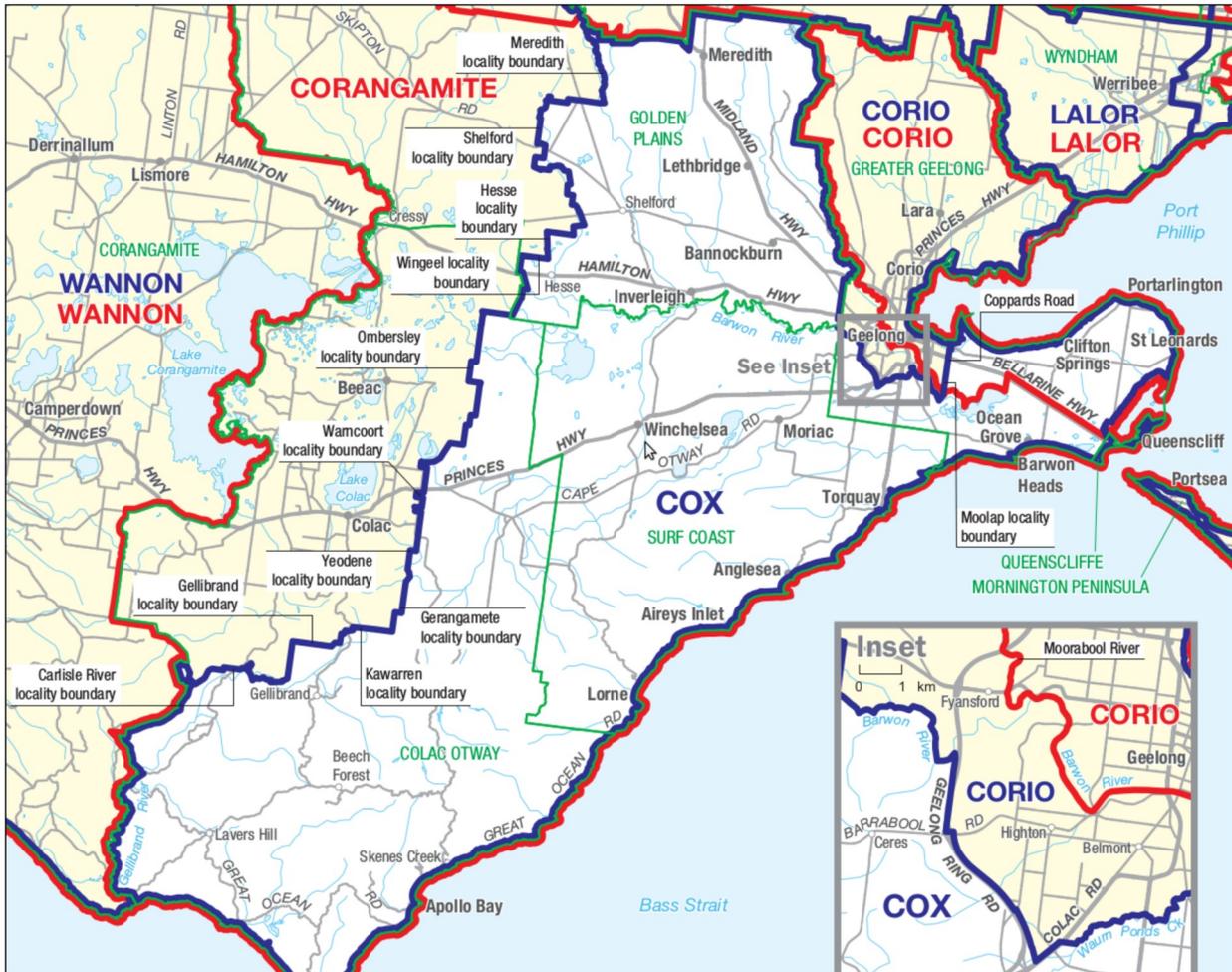
The success of the Landcare model is due in part to its grass roots philosophy. A Landcare group usually starts when community members with common objectives come together to tackle a local environmental issue, for example, weeds affecting agricultural productivity or the protection of an area of remnant native vegetation.

The Landcare organisation is building connections on the Bellarine. Between 25 - 27 May, 2018, the next regional Landcare Forum will be held at Camp Wyuna, Queenscliff. With a view to establishing a Point Lonsdale Landcare Group, a PLCA committee member will be attending the Forum. Any members who would like to join the forum, and would keen to assist in establishing a Point Lonsdale Landcare Group, are encouraged to contact Ms. Michelle Jepson, PLCA, Community Liaison Officer, on 0400 029 737, or 5258 2875.

Draft program and more details at lvi.org.au. To register - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VKYRZ2W>

Proposed new Federal Redistribution – From Corangamite to Cox.

The AEC is proposing a Federal re distribution for the Federal seat of Corangamite



The AEC proposes changing (part of) the name of the Division of Corangamite to ‘Cox’ in honour of May Cox (1883–1953), for her lasting legacy in the teaching of Victorian swimming and lifesaving. Map here (below): <https://preview.tinyurl.com/ya46shgz>

The proposed Redistribution outcome will be known around July this year. The major change will be mainly, all of the Bellarine peninsula will be part of Cox (was Corio), Cox Boundary will be along Geelong ring Rd, and the rest of Corangamite will become more a Rural based Electorate and be absorbed into Wannon & the rest into Corio.

At a recent Borough Council meeting (26/4/18), the Council moved and passed a motion supporting the boundary change. A second motion was flagged by the Mayor, to support the name change to Cox: [from BoQ Unconfirmed minutes April 26] “ *This name has been proposed in honour of May Cox who previously resided in the Borough of Queenscliffe but more importantly played a critical role in establishing a state learn to swim program that has become an institution in Victoria, making a substantial contribution to children participating in this activity and learning this fundamental survival skill.*”, but did not receive any support and, therefore, was not even put to the meeting.

Three Headlands: Pt Nepean, Queenscliffe, & Pt Lonsdale.

Members may be aware a nomination for the National Heritage listing of the Queenscliff Headland (including Shortland Bluff) has recently been lodged with the Commonwealth Government. This follows the 2016 submission made for the Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Reserve which resulted in the site being nominated for National Heritage assessment in 2017.

If successful, it is hoped these endeavours will ultimately link the three headlands of Queenscliff, Point Nepean and Point Lonsdale into one listing. This would ensure long overdue national recognition of the important story Port Phillip Heads has played in the early settlement of the colony and the defence of both Melbourne and the nation.

The Hon. Sarah Henderson MP, has written to the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP, Minister for the Environment and Energy. This is not surprising as from the outset Sarah has offered encouragement to include adjoining areas with the initial nomination for Point Lonsdale (which has now advanced to the finalised priority assessment list).

We are at a point now where it would be very useful to have as many individuals and organisations as possible write to Minister Frydenberg, with support for heritage listing. Support letters from other people who have a knowledge of the significance of these places would be very effective in influencing government ministers. You can find more information the website, including both the Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff nominations here: <http://www.lonsdalelighthousereserve.org/home.html>

This link will make it easier for readers to understand the objectives. The PLCA understands a decision by the Minister will be made this month, so time is of the essence.

Any organisation or individual, who would like to support this application should write to Hon Josh Frydenberg, MP, Minister for the Environment, House of Representatives, PO Box 6022, CANBERRA, ACT. 2600; OR email at:

<https://onlineservices.environment.gov.au/contact-your-minister/eform>

Also a Copy to Hon. Sarah Henderson MP at: *(Note: this link will automatically open and complete your email client recipient details).* Sarah.Henderson.MP@aph.gov.au

The PLCA suggests a follow-up hard copy letter to Minister Frydenberg, would be appropriate at this time.

Queenscliff / Shortlands Bluff Heritage Listing.

At a recent BoQ Council meeting, Cr. Ebbels outlined [From 26/4/18 Unconfirmed Minutes] that a “..copy of an application by a private citizen for National Heritage Listing of Shortlands Bluff (including Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve) and Queenscliff Foreshore Reserve, including Princess Park, Citizens Park, Pilots Row and Pilots’ Jetty..”

The following was put to the meeting and moved & carried successfully [From 26/4/18 Unconfirmed Minutes] :

“ That Council includes as a priority task in the heritage review an assessment of Shortlands Bluff (including Queenscliff Lighthouse Reserve) and Queenscliff Foreshore Reserve, including Princess Park, Citizens Park, Pilots Row and Pilots’ Jetty against the National Heritage Listing Criteria.”

The PLCA is pleased to see the Borough finally support this initiative that has been worked on for quite sometime by members of the community – including PLCA committee members. It clearly shows what can be achieved by members of the community who take up the initiative in projects that benefit the community and our pristine natural & historic environment.

Borough Caravan Park Master Plan.

The Caravan Masterplan has been released for public comment but without any financial documentation to support its aims and objectives. The PLCA feels the a proper and fair analysis cannot be undertaken by the community unless all of relevant documentation is released.

At this early stage, the PLCA have concerns with the following aspects:

- Sale of public Land – once it's gone it's gone!.
- Possible restrictions for Public Access at Victoria Park, ie. Boom gates(?).
- Possible Zoning changes at Point Lonsdale.
- Business case for 58 Cabins?
- Potential degradation of old existing Moonah's with year-round camping at Victoria Park.
- Royal Park's remnant indigenous vegetation and home to indigenous flora and fauna.
- Phasing out of Annual sites.
- Project Funding hinges of Grants being found and allocated to the project.
- Actual design of Luxury-cabins at Recreation reserve.

It has also been pointed out by members the recommendations include the sale of public owned land, the fencing off of Victoria Park, Sports precinct, Royal Park Point Lonsdale and Golightly park.

Recommendations are all parks to be converted to full time caravan parks with the loss of public access to optimise income and manage access via boom gates and card systems.

Council has arranged a number of open house for residents to view the Plan. The first is Friday May 4 at the Point Lonsdale Primary School Hall 6 – 8 pm looking at Golightly Park.

The second is at the same venue Saturday 9 – 11am looking at Queenscliff Rec Res, Victoria Park and Royal Park Point Lonsdale. PLCA will attend events to gauge member/public sentiment.

City of Greater Geelong Report

The CoGG has received an application for a new mobile phone tower, proposed to be erected at 391 Old St Leonard's Road, Bellarine Peninsula, and has completed (12/17) the mandatory notification period, and is now being considered. No decision has been made as yet. The tower will be some 33M high and will be visible across Swan Bay. The PLCA will keep members informed on any developments.

QEDAC advisory Committee.

The new members of the Borough's Queenscliffe Economic Development Advisory Committee (QEDAC) have been recently named. They are; Hugo T Armstrong, David Beaumont, Lorraine Golightly, Stacey Hunter, Barry Iddles, Matt McDonald, Robert Minty (PLCA president) and Andrew Orvis will be joined by Borough of Queenscliffe Mayor, Cr Susan Salter and Cr Ross Ebbels, who complete the membership of the new committee. As of time of print they have not met.

Fisherman's Wharf Rebuild.

Queenscliffe Council have now granted a permit for demolition works needed for the Fisherman's Wharf rebuild at 1 Beach Street Queenscliff which includes the demolition of wharf buildings and other marine works needed for the reinstatement of over 80 metres of wharf and Cayzer's Slipway. Improvements will also be made to the adjacent dinghy basin next to Swan Island Bridge which is not part of the harbour's 60 plus year lease. Following the disastrous stingray feeding stadium proposal in 2015 -16, a further permit application was lodged by the harbour leaseholder (Queenscliff Harbour Pty

Ltd) in late 2017 resulting in a number of objections requiring 2 mediation meetings involving local residents (both for and against the concept plan), council planning officers and QHPL.

Because the area is subject to a Heritage Overlay Council's Heritage Adviser provided a 14 page heritage report in January this year in which he indicated that he could not support the demolition of the former Fishermen's Co-operative fish processing building on the wharf adjacent to the slipway.

Objectors also supported the retention of at least one of the three wharf building as part of the wharf rebuild which is expected to cost over \$3 million of which state taxpayers will be contributing about \$2.3 million. A condition of the permit is that before demolition commences an approved Conservation Management Plan must be completed which includes identification and removal of parts of the heritage wharf building which is to be demolished for re-use in a new building once the reconstruction of Fisherman's wharf is complete.

All involved wanted a resolution to the saga that has seen the entire wharf become derelict and grossly mis-managed over past 20 years. A number of interesting aspects have arisen from the planning process, apparently the contract Heritage Adviser's advice can now be overridden which seems strange in what is a key heritage precinct in the township, and Councillors have not involved themselves from this important planning process allowing the planner (under delegation) to determine the final outcome.

Queenscliff Recreation Reserve – Update.

Problems continue to plague developments within Queenscliff Recreation Reserve which is deemed by Council to be part of the "Destination Queenscliff" project along with plans for high end eco-cabins and developments around Queenscliff Fort.

Following the recent \$400,000 cost blow-out for additional drainage works needed for the large car park currently being built within the Reserve which displaced many revenue earning camping sites, Council now has to find an additional \$550,000 for netball change room facilities, which are agreed to recently, but not part of Council's original plans for upgrading sporting facilities. .

Dune excavations for the new netball courts has also required engineering advice and the construction of an unattractive steel sheet wall along the south and western boundaries of the courts. Adjoining "Crows Nest" neighbours and other residents have also been unhappy with heavy machinery being used on site which has caused vibrating in their homes each time it's used. The PLCA understand that some of these adjoining residents were not even informed of the earthworks to be undertaken on the site.

A former military installation, thought to be a WW2 underground air-raid shelter, was also discovered at the south western end of the reserve during car park excavations. At the time of writing Council has yet to divulge the results of its \$800,000 Hassell's consultancy including the design of 10 mostly 2 storey eco-cabins to be constructed where the current 7 single storey cabins, camp manager's quarters, and kiosk currently sit within the Reserve. Details of Council's \$220,000 Deloitte Business Case consultancy for nearby Queenscliff Fort have also not be released to date.

By the time all the new uses, including new sports facilities (netball courts, cricket training nets and new netball changing rooms), upgrading the Monahan Centre, 90 car parks, 10 x 5 star eco-cabins, a large above ground water tank for the fire fighting system, electrical services upgrades and a new ablution block are completed, the Recreation Reserve, zoned for public park and recreation uses, will effectively be divided into 3 separate sporting, caravanning and cabin precincts.

The next Public Meeting will be held later this year after our Winter recess. Please watch your inbox for further details.

Rob Minty PLCA President.