Point Lonsdale Civic Association Inc.

PO Box 28 Point Lonsdale VIC 3225 **Reg. No. A0017883S**

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Representing Point Lonsdale Residents since 1910

March/Autumn 2026 Newsletter

2026 Annual Subscription Payment and Donations

The annual subscription payment for 2026 is due by the date of the AGM, being 9th January 2026. The **subscription amount for 2026 is $10 per person**. Donations are welcome and appreciated, 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. **Please note: We no longer accept cheques as payment method.**

Please click the **Online Membership Renewal Form, our preferred method of renewal** from link below.

You will be directed to a Google Form, complete it, then hit 'Submit' – and you'll receive further instructions on EFT bank details, to complete your EFT payment.

Online Membership Renewal Form (Renewal) Online Application for Membership (New Members)

The PLCA bank account details are:

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

Please, DO NOT send cash via the post.

***Please ensure you complete the Membership Renewal and Subscription Payment form*.**

New Members: Click link above, **Online Application for Membership, our preferred method of renewal** and fill in online and hit 'submit' - and you'll receive further instructions on EFT bank details, to complete your EFT payment. Alternatively, use PDF form below; print and scan and email to us,or deliver at a meeting, or post.

Print out Membership Renewal Form Application for membership - print out

New Committee Members Required!

The Association still desperately needs new committee of management members to help out. All the current committee members are passionate about 3225, but we do need some extra help to lighten the load for all of us. There are many issues, in particular in CoGG 3225 that we need to start to address. If you are interested, please contact the Secretary for further details: **plcasecretary@gmail.com**

New Borough CEO, Ms. Jane Grover

The Borough of Queenscliffe Council has announced the appointment of Jane Grover as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), following a comprehensive and competitive recruitment process.

Ms Grover brings extensive executive leadership experience across both the public and private sectors, with a strong track record in organisational transformation, governance, financial stewardship, community engagement, and service delivery.
The Association looks forward to working closely with the new CEO, and wishes Ms Grover well in her new role. Additionally, the Association wishes the interim CEO, Mr Michael Tudball all the best for the future on his departure.

Victorian Government Statewide Waste reforms.

At the Borough Ordinary Council meeting 25/2/26. Victorian Government's Statewide waste reform was outlined, which requires all councils to introduce a dedicated kerbside glass recycling (purple bin) service.

The Victorian Government's Statewide waste reforms require all councils to introduce a dedicated kerbside glass recycling (purple bin) service. For the Borough of Queenscliffe, implementation of a kerbside glass collection service will require substantial capital and ongoing operating expenditure, with an estimated $78-$79 per household cost increase to the waste charge in the first year of service operation, reducing to approximately $27-$28 (plus annual escalation) per household in subsequent years. State funding is expected to cover less than 10% of the implementation costs.

The Borough have joined an inter-council advocacy group, with some 30 Councils involved.

The Borough said at the meeting they did not particularly want the extra bin because of the additional cost of collecting and also a further additional cost impost to the rate payment for residents.

Fort Queenscliff Sale *(From one our new committee members, who researched this extensively, Mr. P Talihmanidis)*

The Committee would like to update you on our position regarding the proposed divestment of Fort Queenscliff.

Our priority is to ensure that the heritage, integrity, and public value of this significant site are fully protected before any disposal process occurs. To that end, the Committee intends to pursue the following actions:

- Nominate Fort Queenscliff for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register immediately, to ensure state-level heritage protection.
- Advocate for the application of a Heritage Overlay through the local planning scheme, if this falls within municipal scope.
- Seek a legally registered covenant on the title prior to any sale or transfer, to guarantee that heritage protections remain in place regardless of ownership.
- Ensure that the Conservation Management Plan is made public and is binding on any future owner, so that conservation obligations are transparent and enforceable.
- Build informed public awareness and support, highlighting the cultural and historical significance of Fort Queenscliff and the importance of its long-term protection.

These steps are intended to ensure that the future of Fort Queenscliff respects its heritage value and the interests of the wider community. We will keep members informed as this work progresses and welcome your support in advocating for these protections.

Ballara

A public auction process was held for 'Ballara' in Glaneuse Rd on Saturday, 28/2/26. Hundreds attended, including some Association Committee Members.

The property was passed in with only one bid at $3.2M.

Reportedly, the Commonwealth Government have withdrawn financial support, to purchase the site in conjunction with Deakin University. Under that proposed agreement, Deakin University would have managed the estate, using funds already raised, along with a Government financial allocation.

Meanwhile, the Association has learned (reportedly - this is unconfirmed by family connections as we go to press) that some discussions are taking place that will see Public ownership of the Ballara Estate, perhaps with a number of 'hybrid models' on the table.

The Borough Council has pledged $300k, and the Association has also discussed at a committee level only, of a possible donation – if the Deakin University management/Public Ownership of the Estate comes to fruition – subject to members final authorisation, at a future member's meeting.

The Association is keen to see that the Estate is kept in public hands, carefully managed by an organisation such as Deakin University, and not developed for housing.

Coles Group Property Developments purchase of land at 2341– 2349 Bellarine Highway, Swan Bay

Again, we know for certain that Coles purchased the land in April this year, and that public opinion is divided on this issue. The Association will first and foremost seek facts as to the development parameters. These are not yet in the public domain – as far as we are aware. So, in the meantime we will continue to monitor community sentiment, the proposal and its impact on small businesses, neighbourhood amenity, and importantly the environment.

As yet an official DFP application via the Planning Minister's Office occurs, or even a Planning Application via the Local Government Authority has submitted, as far as the Association knows. The Association will carefully assess the merit of the application as against the Environmental values we value, uphold, and respect as per the Association's Constitution here:

https://tinyurl.com/pointlonsdalecivicassociation

The Association is closely monitoring this matter, and as soon as we know more, we let our members know.

Members/Friends Survey; 3225 Amalgamation.

It has been quite some time since the Association canvassed it's membership on the matter of all of 3225 into the Borough of Queenscliffe. So, in September 2025 we ran a Google Survey asking a number of questions regarding this issue. The Survey is now closed.

The results we have received from our members and friends, were inconclusive as far as 3225 Amalgamation – as we just did not get enough replies.

However, several key themes emerged from the survey in relation to other related matters.

One particular question, and response, stood out to the Committee:

Q12. What factors are most important to you in local government? (Please rank your top 5).

1. *Maintaining local character and identity*
2. *Better strategic planning - Schools, Early Childhood facilities, Health and Aged care, etc*
3. *Cost-effective service delivery*
4. *Access to elected representatives*
5. *Quality of services*
6. *Consistency of service delivery across 3225*
7. *Tourism and economic development*
8. *Environmental management*
9. *Community consultation and involvement*
10. *Historical significance*
11. *Regional coordination*
12. *Lower rates.*
13. *Other:*

The overwhelming top 5 themes were:

1. *Maintaining local character and identity*
2. *Environmental management*
3. *Cost-effective service delivery*
4. *Consistency of service delivery across 3225 & Better strategic planning - Schools, Early Childhood facilities, Health and Aged care, etc*
5. *Quality of services*

These key themes will help underpin the Committee's direction for the future.

Association February Member Meeting – Bellarine VicPol

If you have not been to a Members Meeting for a while, we have many informative and interesting speakers coming up in 2026. Please look out for our email messages on dates and speaker information.

In February, Bellarine Police LSC Mick Tatlock joined us for a very informative session regarding Bellarine VicPol operations on the Bellarine.

Victoria Police now have a permanent Water Police presence at Queenscliff Police Station. Additionally, LSC Tatlock spoke about a topic we all have dealt with - e-scooters. Below is the current state of laws around e-scooters:

If you're riding an e-scooter, you can't:

- ride on the footpath
- ride an e-scooter capable of more than 25km/h
- ride on roads with a speed limit above 60km/h
- ride under the influence of drugs or alcohol (you can be breath tested and lose your licence)
- use a mobile phone
- carry passengers or animals
- ride in tandem (side by side).
- Be under the age of 16.

You must also:

- wear a helmet at all times whilst riding an e-scooters
- follow all traffic rules
- park responsibly in a location that does not disrupt pedestrians or pose a safety hazard

April Member Meeting – Member for Corangamite Ms. Libby Coker MP

Our next member meeting will be held on **Monday 20/4/26, at 7.30 PM at Point Lonsdale School Hall**, with our special guest speaker **Ms. Libby Coker MP**.

Ms Coker will speak about Federal initiatives, current 3225 issues. As you are well aware we have a few major issues swirling around 3225 at the moment; Fort Queenscliff divestment (and Queenscliff Golf Club) by Defence, and Swan Bay purchase of land by Cole Property developments – albeit this is mostly a State/Local issue – however there are Federal ramifications with adjacent, and (hopefully) soon to be declared RAMSAR sites.

You are welcome to come along members and non members alike.

Please enjoy your Easter break if you are having one, and please be patient, as we experience a massive inflow of holiday makers.

Please remember to support our local Traders in both Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale.

Lynne Furness – PLCA President.