

Media Release



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New rescue building marks Fishos milestone

The new building for the Torquay Marine Rescue Service (TMRS) is complete and ready for use, marking a major milestone for the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee's (GORCC's) \$2.8M Fishermans Beach Redevelopment project.

The new, 180m², two storey building will include a state-of-the-art communications and emergency management centre on the upper level and will also securely house the TMRS rescue boat and equipment.

GORCC CEO Richard Davies said the TMRS was staffed entirely by around 70 volunteers who operated the only official marine rescue boat in the area.

"The TMRS was previously housed in an unpowered tin shed, which was barely secure or weatherproof, and unable to safely house important equipment and the rescue boat.

"These new facilities will assist the TMRS in managing incidents between Queenscliff and Apollo Bay and we are pleased to be able to support their important work," he said.

Greg Baeck, Chairman of the TMRS, said he was looking forward to utilising the brand new facility.

"The new building will replace the shed the TMRS was previously using to house our jet ski, the rescue boat and our tractor.

"The operational room will be decked out with radios and second radar on the top floor which we can use to train members and observe smaller vessels in the area," he said.

The design also allows part of the building to be used to house the Torquay Angling Club's tractor which is often used to assist drivers and vehicles bogged during boat launching on the beach.

"The building will house both the tractor and the Torquay Angling Club's general equipment," said Mr. Davies.

The final stage of the project is now underway, with community facilities such as the public toilets and kiosk to be completed in December, while Torquay Angling Clubrooms will be finalised with a fit-out during January.

Caring for the coast and community

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GORCC is allocating \$1.1M to the overall project, which is supported by Regional Development Victoria (contributing \$750K), the Department of Sustainability and Environment (contributing \$750K) and the Surf Coast Shire (contributing \$200K).

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