



► Vale Di Clark

PAGE 2



► Clubhouse
Development
update

PAGE 5



► Club works

PAGE 6



► Great Support

PAGE 6

SEPTEMBER | 2019

SAWTELL

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Message from the President

With heavy hearts the Club farewelled a much loved and valued club member at the funeral of Dianne Clark last week. It was gratifying but not surprising to see so many of our members in attendance and paying their respects to Di. As usual, many of our members rallied to make sure Di was sent off in style organising things back at the club for the wake. In the midst of such a sad week, I was struck by a comment made by Norelle Reeves the day after: 'I was so proud of our club - we didn't ask people to help set up, bring food or clean up - they just turned up'. In much the same way that Di would have. I was proud too. Thanks everyone for being there and helping out.

Last weekend, another success that made us all very proud was the awarding of the Surf Lifesaving NSW Coach of the Year Award for 2019 to our very own Sean Golding. Congratulations to Sean for this well-deserved award and also to those he coached through the season.

Sean and Leigh attended the Gala Dinner in Sydney, along with the U17 Female Gold medal winning team of Alyssa Golding, Emily Meacham and Libby Waugh who were nominated for the Best Team award. This is a very exciting and prestigious award for Sean and for the Club.

Garry Murray who has been leading the charge on our Club Redevelopment project recently

Coach of the Year



attended a presentation ceremony hosted by Coffs Harbour City Council where our club were recipients of a \$28,549 grant as part of the Community Capital Infrastructure Grants Program. These funds will go towards the reconstruction of our Clubhouse balcony. It's

exciting to see the rate of progress of the work happening both on the balcony and on the new patrol room construction. I'm looking forward to seeing the end result.

The start of the patrolling season brings a number of activities and responsibilities, not least of which is our annual gear inspection. I'm constantly impressed and humbled by the dedication and ►

UPCOMING DATES

- | **NIPPERS
REGISTRATION**
15 September
- | **PATROLS
COMMENCE**
28 September
- | **MEMBERSHIPS TO
BE FINALISED**
30 September

THANKS



Many thanks to Alistair Lane and his upholstery skills which enabled six rescue tubes to be repaired and put back into service.

GYM

For members information the Gym is **not available 4-5pm Tuesdays and Thursdays** whilst being used by the training squads.



► commitment shown by our club members who ensure we are in the best shape possible for this inspection which requires a systematic and thorough review, overhaul and occasionally repair of all equipment. Given the challenge we have at present with access to key areas - the fact that we have got through this process relatively smoothly is a tribute to all those involved - thanks to all those people for ensuring such a positive outcome.

The new season is a reminder that we also need to renew our memberships. Our Registrar Amanda Ensbey has reported a small percentage of our membership have already taken advantage on online renewal, which is the strongly preferred method by the club. There will be details elsewhere in this newsletter as to how you can renew your membership for the coming season. Those patrolling members who renew before 30 September can take advantage of \$10 discount.

The school holidays are just around the corner and our friends from Manly SLSC Nippers return here once again for their annual Nippers Spring Training camp.

This is a great opportunity for our Nippers to join in a three-day, very well organised and resourced training camp with a large group of Manly Nippers (usually in excess of 100). Apart from being an excellent season-starter and way to brush away those cobwebs, it's also a chance for our kids to make friends with nippers from other clubs, train with their highly experienced coaches and have a great time.

On the training front, I recently attended a Silver Medallion Beach Management course run by the Branch. It was a great way to refresh my skills and feel mentally prepared for the patrolling season. There are many learning opportunities on offer through the club or branch and I urge you to take advantage of them. The quality of the instruction is excellent and the content is generally tailored to the situations and scenarios we are likely to face in our local environment.

I look forward to seeing you on the beach or in the water soon.



Sheena McTackett
0477 771 481

VALE DI CLARK The Club was shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Dianne Clark last month. Di was a much loved and valued member of our club for more than 20 years. Di served 20 seasons as a 100% patrolling member. In addition to her role as a patrolling member, Di was also an Executive Committee member and served for several years as Club treasurer. Even after retiring from Executive roles, Di continued to be actively involved on the social committee and was a key organiser of our annual Presentation event. With her characteristic no-nonsense style, Di had no need to be recognised or patted on the back for the fantastic contribution she made to our club. But you could always count on Di to turn up whether it be flipping snags on the bbq for a nippers do, manning the tables at a club registration day or flogging t-shirts and club attire at the Sawtell Chilli Festival.

Di could be found on the beach most mornings, purposefully striding along, armed with her backpack and ready to take on the friendly sledging with anyone prepared to have a chat. No shrinking violet, Di gave as good as she got outstripping all on weather facts, footy trivia or her opinion on the latest political scandal. Di's absence will be keenly felt not just by our club members, but also by the Sawtell and Coffs community. Her legacy is one of strong community values, commitment, dedication and loyalty. She loved being part of our surf club 'family' and had a fierce love of life. We look forward to commemorating Di's life in the environment she loved so well and will be organising a paddle out for club and community members on **Sunday 22 September**. We hope you can join us on the beach or in the water to say a final farewell to Di. Travel well Di - we know you will be looking down with your wry smile, urging us all to live the best life we can.

Message from Club Captain

*The start of the 2019/2020 Patrol Season is fast approaching. **The first day for patrols is Saturday 28 September which is the first day of the September School Holidays.** Our patrol obligations remain the same as last year. **We are required to patrol every Saturday, Sunday and Public Holiday from 28 September until 26 April next year.** The Patrol Hours remain at 9:00 am to 1:00 pm for the morning patrols and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm for the afternoon patrols except for the Christmas School Holidays when we finish patrols at 5:00 pm.*

This year the patrol with the honour of being the first for the year is Patrol 9 ably captained by Barry Walker. Patrols 10 (Peter Singleton), 11 (Leanne Stuart) and 12 (Rob Lyons) get the remainder of the first weekend. The Patrol Roster, Patrol Teams List and Phone numbers of the Patrol Captains and Vice Captains are on our web site. Could I ask that patrol members notify me without delay if they do not intend to patrol this year so that the patrol teams list can be updated.

It is important that any rostered person who cannot patrol arranges a substitute. This is best done by them directly phoning a mate to sub for them. Only if that fails you can let me know and I will send out a text message to all members via SurfGuard. As some of the patrols are light on for key skill areas such as IRB Drivers and IRB Crew it is absolutely critical that those members make sure that they have subs if they cannot attend. This is vital as we cannot patrol without the 4 key qualifications of Silver Medallion Beach Management, IRB Driver and Crew and Advanced Resuscitation Techniques in every patrol. Each patrol must have a minimum of 3 Bronze Members.

For the first time since 2003 I did not undertake IRB Driver training this winter deciding that the warmth of north Queensland was required instead. However, I did get back in time to see 5 of our candidate IRB Drivers assessed on Sunday 1 September. It was a real pleasure to see those drivers perform at such a high level in the ordinary conditions of that day. The other 3 drivers will be assessed on 8 September. Our IRB training team is without doubt the best in the Branch and the Club owes a great deal of thanks to them. It's a really big commitment taking about 22 weeks each autumn and winter to train our IRB Drivers and Crews. Our IRB trainers are Neil Robertson, Scott Rayson, Shelley Lantry, Shane Golden and Shannon Wilson. I also want to thank our willing team of IRB patients without whom this training is not possible. This season Shelley Lantry and Shannon Wilson have done a great job as the lead trainers for the Crewpersons and Drivers courses respectively.

The annual gear inspection took place on 25 and 26 August. Many thanks to those members who assisted in ensuring that the gear was prepared for inspection and presented as required. Thanks also to North Coast Branch for allowing such inspection to take place over a number of days due to limited space whilst the current building work was taking place.

The Club still has 4 of the older model Hytera radios in service. When these radios become unserviceable they will be replaced with newer model Hytera radios which hopefully will prove to be more durable. While the radios are meant to be waterproof their life will be greatly increased if they are always placed in waterproof bags. Please do this for all radios all the time and use the old model Hyteras in the IRBs in preference to the new model Hyteras.

This Club is extremely fortunate that we are able to continually update key patrol gear. What we need to do is to develop a culture of caring for that gear as though it was our personal property to ensure that it is always in the best possible condition and is fit for service. This requires all members to look after the gear. Not handling it roughly, not driving vehicles in water, following operating procedures and carefully washing things down at the end of every afternoon patrol etc. It's not difficult. If we can do this the service life and reliability of the gear will be extended and the workload on those tasked with its maintenance particularly the Gear and Maintenance Officer (Shannon Wilson) and IRB Captain (Scott Rayson) will be made easier.



To help with gear maintenance and to ensure the safety of members and the public, all equipment which is defective, broken or unsafe must be removed from service immediately and noted in the Patrol Log or IRB Log. Shannon, Scott or I also need to be advised as appropriate along with your Patrol Captain. The Defective Equipment Tags are to be attached by Cable Ties. There is a supply of the tags and ties under the IRB Log in the downstairs gear shed and in the IRB Shed. The Tags can only be removed by a Gear Steward, IRB Captain or Club Captain or by the person who affixed the Tag if that person has rectified the problem. The use of any equipment that has a Defective Equipment Tag in place or the removal of a Tag by anyone not authorised to do so is a major safety breach which could seriously endanger members of our Club or the Public. Obviously the Club must treat such breaches very seriously.



Steve Rayson 0429 025 845

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Message from Chief Training Officer

UPCOMING EDUCATION IN THE NORTH COAST SLS AREA				
AWARD	MINIMUM AGE	PRE-REQUISITES	CONTACT	DATE & VENUE
2019/2020 SKILLS MAINTENANCE		► This is the preferred method for members to complete the written components for your annual proficiency	Log onto your members portal account, click on e-learning and navigate to the learning portal	Now available online to all members: Click on Training Library, click on SLS-Skills Maintenance view course button and enrol
TRAINERS/OFFICIALS/ ASSESSORS		BRANCH EDUCATION MEETING		8 September Sawtell SLSC
SILVER MEDALLION AQUATIC RESCUE	16 yrs	Bronze/Cert II ► 400m swim in 8 minutes ► 16 years old at time of assessment	Sue Neil sneil2456@gmail.com	27 Sept Start: 6pm & 28 Sept from 9am Urunga SLSC
FIRST AID (AID)	15 yrs		Sue Neil sneil2456@gmail.com	5 October Urunga SLSC
BRONZE MEDALLION	15 yrs	► 400m swim in 9 minutes ► 15 years old at time of assessment	Andrew Martin CTO training@sawtellsurfclub.com.au	early October Sawtell SLSC Further information: www.sawtellsurfclub.com.au/educationtraining/



Andrew Martin 0419 485 401

Nipper News

Registration day is only few weeks away! The Junior Activities Sub Committee (JASC) has been organising all that is required for **Registration Day on Sunday 15 September**. The 2019/2020 Nippers season will officially commence on **Sunday 13 October**.

Families who are re-registering can do this online through their SLS Member Portal at www.members.sls.com.au and then complete their swim proficiencies on **Sunday 15 September at Sawtell Pool between 10:15am – 12:15pm**. The Clubhouse will be open during this same time for new members, uniform purchases, and for existing members to renew their memberships. Active kids vouchers can be used for Nippers registration fees!

Manly Nippers will hold their annual pre-season training camp at Sawtell during the first week of the next school holidays, from **2–4 October 2019**. This is a combined camp for both Manly and Sawtell Nippers, with this year the camp being open to all Nippers from all Nipper clubs from U9 to U15. Information and bookings can be made at <https://manlyslc.com/nippers/camp/>

Details of the first Branch Carnival have become available. The first Branch Carnival (which serves as the first selection trial for the Interbranch Team) will be held on **Sunday November 3 2019** at the Jetty. Other Branch Carnivals are **Sunday 17 November 2019 at Woolgoolga** and **Sunday 16 February 2020 at Coffs Harbour**.

Looking forward to a great season with all our Nippers and their families.

Tiffany Easman 0437 000 030

Proposed 2019/2020 season dates

The following dates have been proposed:

Registration Day	Sunday 15 September 2019
Nippers begins	Sunday 13 October 2019
Christmas break up	Sunday 15 December 2019
Nippers returns	Sunday 12 January 2020
Last day	Sunday 15 March 2020
Presentation Day	Sunday 22 March 2020

Building Development Update

Building activity at the surf club involving construction of the new members room balcony and the clubhouse extension is progressing quickly.

Following completion of excavation and shoring work, the new building extension is now emerging from the rubble with the recent installation of a concrete base slab and blockwork revealing the layout of new lower level storage area. A further concrete slab followed by more blockwork and roof construction will soon be installed to house the new upper level patrol and first aid rooms.

The realigned driveway has been surfaced with gravel for the short term to enable all weather access until concrete pavement is installed at the completion of the project. Use of the driveway and access to all roller doors on the lower level of the clubhouse will become available to nominated club members in the week starting 23 September. It is anticipated that driveway access will still be controlled to prevent free pedestrian movement adjacent to the construction zone.

Work on the new balcony is also progressing following our successful funding application to Coffs Harbour City Council. Our Club sincerely thanks Council for the grant. Footings for the new balcony columns, and the provision of scaffolding and formwork are now in place ahead of a concrete pour for the new balcony slab. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by Friday 4 October when access to the members room and patrol room will be returned to club members.

The mature pandanus tree that was transplanted from the construction site to a new location adjacent to the northern beach ramp appears to be in good condition and will continue to be an important feature of the club's landscape setting.

Garry Murray
0428 517 665



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Message from Registrar

Club membership renewals should now be completed.

Log-in to the Members Portal www.portal.sls.com.au Surf Life Saving's "one-stop-shop" for all SLSA members. All surf club members can use the service to electronically renew their club membership and to view and edit their own membership records at any time, while also having access to online education, Surf Sports news, circulars, policies & procedures, Beach Safe and other apps etc.

Log in using your username and password. You can reset them if you can't remember them.

This will take you to your Members Area – click on **RENEW**. Check that all your details including Drivers licence and next of kin are correct and tick the declaration boxes.

This will take you to a new page that says that your membership renewal has been recorded.

YOU MUST MAKE A PAYMENT at this stage as otherwise the Club has difficulty in matching renewals and payments.

Please click on the large **MAKE A PAYMENT** button and enter your payment details and finalise your payment. If a payment is not made your membership renewal will be rejected and you will have to start the process over again.

If you are making payment for several family members – PLEASE log on as each family member and make the appropriate payment for each person.

The Club strongly advises members other than Nipper parents NOT to attend on Nippers registration day to avoid delays.

Amanda Ensbey
0438 587 711

Thank you McGrath Sawtell

Sheena Mctackett and Leanne Stuart were recently presented with a cheque for \$1000 from the Sawtell Team. This is part of their community benefit program – working together to create great communities.



Pandanus tree in new location



Remnants of the previous surf club in rubble

Driving in sheet piles

WANT TO BE A LIFEGUARD?

Any members interested in becoming a lifeguard this season can email Scott McCartney direct for more information at smccartney@australianlifeguards.com.au or visit the website at www.lifeguards.com.au.



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CONTACT

Sawtell Life Saving Club

Fourth Ave

Sawtell NSW 2452

www.sawtellsurfclub.com.au

COMMITTEE & CLUB EMAILS

info@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

president@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

secretary@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

treasurer@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

registrar@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

competition@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

clubcaptain@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

training@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

website@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

iasc.secretary@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

www.sawtellsurfclub.com.au



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