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○ MAY - JUNE | ○ 2021

SAWTELL

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Message from the President

Anzac Day marked the end of the 2021 Season and I would like to thank all our patrolling members for their time, effort and commitment to helping us keep Sawtell community and visitors safe for the 2020/2021 season. While the season has brought many unexpected challenges not the least of which was the onset of Covid-19, I have to say how impressed and proud I am of all our membership for just getting on with it in the face of difficulties and inconvenience.

First up I would like to thank and congratulate Kerry Bayliss and the tireless team of club members who contributed to making our first effort at hosting the Coffs Ocean Swim 2021 an outstanding success. Thank you to everyone who contributed either as set up or pack up, water safety, or participated in the event. We could not have done it without you. See more on the swim later in this newsletter and look out for some of the amazing photos.

On a slightly smaller scale, I would also like to thank and congratulate Andrew Martin for single handedly running a small but excellent Club Championships - on a day that did not bring us the best conditions or entice those less-brave competitors the show still went on! Thanks Marto for making it happen and to everyone who made the effort to turn up on the day.

There's still plenty of action going on even with patrolling finished for the season. We have just welcomed back the team of competitors

who attended the Australian Titles up at Mooloolaba on the Sunshine Coast - competing in both the Aussie Youth events and the Senior competition. You will hear more about this later in the newsletter but by all reports the team had a great time and enjoyed some healthy competition. Special congratulations goes to Dane who achieved an outstanding result placing second overall in the Surfing, earning Sawtell's only medal. Congratulations Dane on a great result. Also special mention to Libby Waugh who made it to final in the U19 Female Ski - another impressive result and a great way to celebrate her 18th birthday! Well done Libby.

These days, the Surf Lifesaving movement offers many opportunities. It was so good to see two of our members take advantage of one such opportunity by attending the SLS Leadership Development Camp in Narrabeen and Warriewood last month. Isaiah Phillips was there as a youth participant - what a fantastic way to learn new skills, meet new people and get ▶

► out of your comfort zone. Fiona Lane was also on a steep learning curve as a facilitator and from all reports both these people found the experience worthwhile and rewarding.

One important event coming up is the AGM which will be held on **Sunday 27 June**. I urge all members to make an effort to attend this meeting - and to consider taking on a role. The Club needs all the support it can get, with many people on our committee having been in their role for a number of years. Every club benefits from change, fresh ideas and different perspectives that new committee members bring. Please reach out to myself or any of our Committee members if you are thinking of taking on a role but

not sure what is involved. Our model for bringing new committee members onboard is to have them supported and mentored by current position holders so they are not 'thrown in the deep end'.

Finally, we are looking forward to celebrating the end of the season properly this year with our Presentation Awards evening being held at Sawtell RSL on **Saturday 22 May**. A separate invitation has been emailed last week. I would encourage you and your family to attend and support the Club.



See you on the beach!
Sheena McTackett
0477 771 481

Message from the Club Captain

Another patrol year done and dusted! Thankfully the patrolling season was uninterrupted by any COVID outbreak and we could continue to patrol right to the end of Anzac Day. The storms and heavy rain towards the end of the patrolling season was the only dampener in terms of patrolling, which apart from that saw another successful patrolling season if judging by all usual metrics – no drownings or serious injuries, very few rescues and relatively few preventative actions. In addition, all patrol inspections undertaken by the Branch Director of Lifesaving were passed with flying colours. We met all of our obligations under the Lifesavings Service Agreement in regard to patrol times, member competencies and patrol equipment without exception throughout the entire season. As a surf lifesaving club, we really do undertake our role on the beach very competently and professionally.

The after-hours callout crew will continue to monitor and respond to any emergencies which occurs outside of any council patrol hours, and as required until patrols resume again.

With patrols now finished, it is now time to turn our attention to our winter training and to ensure members who are wanting to upgrade their skills and competencies during the winter months can do so in preparation of patrolling again next Spring. One of the greatest needs and compulsory qualifications required to enable patrols to operate is IRB competencies. Last Sunday 2May saw Day 1 of the **IRB Crewpersons** course commence. That course will run for approximately 6 – 7 weeks, and at the completion of that course, we will be commencing the **IRB Drivers** course. You must hold a current competency in IRB Crewperson and be over 17 years of age (as at date of exam) to do the IRB Drivers. Please consider if you would like to commence either and get in contact with me asap. We are missing Shannon Wilson as an IRB trainer this year after he and his family relocated north, however the usual crew of Steve, Scott, Shane, Neil and myself are all



keen and raring to go with for the IRB winter training

The winter period will also allow our gear and maintenance officer, Tony Ensbey and IRB Captain, Scott Rayson time to inspect all the equipment, have necessary repairs undertaken and ensure equipment is ready for the annual gear inspection which will take place in a few months. This will include the rust proofing of the ATV in an attempt to prolong the working life of that vehicle. We were fortunate to have the UTE replaced approximately 6 months ago, and will ensure any maintenance work in terms of servicing, rustproofing etc is maintained on that vehicle as well over the winter months.

Looking forward to celebrating the end of the patrolling season with you all at the upcoming Club Presentation night.

Thank you for your commitment,

Shelley Lantry 0438 518 103

clubcaptain@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

Message from Chief Training Officer

BRANCH COURSES

Currently all branch courses are full however please go to the branch education calendar [SLS North Coast](#)

All registrations for branch courses must be made via the Branch website for ALL up-to-date courses and information. This is the place they must register for courses.

- > This has now added a function to turn off once the course is full.
- > Working on a notification of successful registration.
- > A summary of the upcoming courses on the calendar to save candidates looking through and possibly missing some dates. The only way to do this is for candidates to click on **LIST** under the calendar icon.

The Register button is small, cannot be changed as it is a function of the program.

CLUB COURSES

AWARD	MINIMUM AGE	PREREQUISITES	DATE & VENUE
IRB Crew	15 years at date of final assessment	Proficient Bronze/Cert II	2 May 7am Sawtell
IRB Drivers	16 years at start 17 years at date of final assessment	Currentl proficiency in ALL of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bronze/Cert II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue)• IRB Crewperson Certificate• Meet local state/ NT marine licensing requirements where required	27 June Sawtell

Andrew Martin 0419 485 401

RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Life Member Kerry Clancy on her award as the 2021 Coffs Harbour Electorate Local Woman of the Year.

Kerry has devoted endless hours to the Surf Lifesaving Movement being the first woman elected to both North Coast Branch and then to the Board of SLSNSW.

NORTH COAST BRANCH AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE EVENING

This event has been set down for **Saturday 19 June** at Sawtell RSL. Please pencil in this date.

3 UPCOMING DATES

- **PRESENTATION AWARDS EVENING**
Saturday 22 May
- **NORTH COAST BRANCH AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE EVENING**
Saturday 19 June
- **AGM**
10am Sunday 27 June

KALANG RIVER CLASSIC

Many thanks to Ross Waugh and James Moss for their work in providing water safety for the inaugural Kalang River Classic.

MESSAGE FROM JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

At the Nippers AGM held in March the following persons have been elected for the 2021-22 season:

Chairperson – Tiffany Easman
Vice Chair – Rich McKeon
Secretary – Anita Williams
Treasurer - Jo O'Leary
Registrar – Alex Fraser
Beach Superintendent – David O'Leary

The Club thanks these members for taking on the roles as Nippers are the future of our Club.



Congratulations to those members who have recently successfully completed the following Awards.

○ | BRONZE MEDALLION

Mia McKeon
Jenson O'Leary
Braydan Paunovic
Toi Wordsworth

○ | RESUSCITATION

{AID}

Charlie Burgess
Elijah Carle
Finn Groth
Faith Hardcastle
Tomas Lupinski
Finley Marson
Mariah Mazaraki
Brooke Mulholland
Daniel Opplinger
Eric Russell
Kiara Vine
Tehya Vine
Gabriel Wark
Taylor William

○ | SURF RESCUE CERTIFICATE (CPR ENDORSED)

Kelly Denison
Jade Fisher
Naomi Little
Shaun Powell
Katie Sevenoaks
John Wing



Competition Managers Report

What a way to end the season with 4 Youth Competitors, 1 Master and 7 Senior/Open Competitors at Aussies 2021. More than 700 young surf life savers from the U14 and U15 age groups gathered from across the country, with Maroochydore and Mooloolaba Beaches hosting the first day of competition.

Our Youth Competitors competed at their first ever Aussies Carnival. Jenson O'Leary (U15), Angus Waugh (U14), Dane Lewis (U14) and Fynn Harrison (U14). Congratulations to these competitors. **Day 1** was individual events with Dane Lewis making the semifinals in U14 Boards. **Day 2** was team events.

Day 3 saw the 2km Ocean swim with Margaret McConnachie, Jenson O'Leary, Fynn Harrison and Isaiah Phillips representing our club. A great effort by all swimmers with some getting a PB.

Day 3 also saw our Master competitor shine. Congratulations to Tony Ensbey who competed in his first ever Aussies Titles. Tony competed in the Masters Ski with Grant Kenny also in that age group.

Day 4 saw Jenson and Dane competing in Surfing at Coolum. Congratulations to Dane who placed 2nd in U14 Surfing. An amazing achievement.

Day 5 was start of competition for our Senior/Open Competitors. Margaret McConnachie (U17), Rhys Mulholland (U17), Finn Klinkers (U17), Ruby Ensbey (U17), Alyssa Golding (U19), Libby Waugh (U19) and Sean Golding. All competitors performed extremely well with some stand out results being

Individual Events

Rhys Mulholland – Semifinals Swim and Ski
Margaret McConnachie – Semifinals Board
Alyssa Golding – Semifinals Ski
Libby Waugh – Semifinals Swim and Finals Ski.

Team Events

Double Ski (U19)

Alyssa & Libby – Finals
Ruby & Margaret – Semi Finals

Ski Relay (U19)

Alyssa, Libby & Ruby – Final

Open Mixed Double Sk

We had 3 teams entered comprising of 2 Father and Daughter teams:

Sean & Alyssa
Tony & Ruby
Rhys & Libby

All teams made it into Quarter Finals. I believe it is more about the bragging rights of who beats who in the club.



Rhys and Finn competed in Flags. Both boys made it into Quarter Finals.

Thank you to Cheryl Lane and Andrew Martin who officiated for Sawtell. Andrew was there from the start and Cheryl joined him at the beginning of Opens.



Thank you to the Sawtell coaches, Greg, Sean and Kevin for their time and efforts, along with their support crews.

And last but not least, thank you to our cheer squad who cheered on our Youth and Senior Competitors, Ross Waugh for helping handle skis on the beach, the parents for handling and supporting the children and carting craft to and from the event.

Joanne O'Leary
Mark Mulholland

THE COFFS OCEAN SWIMS An event that has been run annually for 24 years, provides an opportunity for all members of the community, and visitors to the community, to participate in a healthy activity in the safe waters of the iconic Coffs Harbour Jetty Beach area. This was the first year that Sawtell SLSC had taken on the management of the event after the false start in 2020 with Covid causing cancellation of the event. This year's event also looked to be in jeopardy due to the extreme weather event the previous week but fortunately by the day of the event conditions had improved such that the event was able to take place, and we welcomed a fine, sunny, blue sky day.

Whilst a total of 409 people participated in the event numbers were lower than expected, due to many regional areas, particularly those outside of Coffs, being cut off as a result of the extreme weather event, and many swim participants were unable to travel. In spite of these challenges, the day went very well, with all who participated, and/or were involved, deeming the event a tremendous success. The Club relied heavily on volunteers from local surf clubs and other organisations, and the turnout and efforts of all who helped make the event a success on the day is testament to the amazing community members we have here in the Coffs Harbour area. Gratitude also goes to local businesses such as Beachside Radiology, Mike Blewitt Coffs Coast, Kennards Hire, Quality Hotel City Centre, and Stocks and Hogan, who, as well as Coffs Harbour City Council, were also prepared to support this event.

With it being the Club's first year of organising the event, however, there were always going to be learnings, to take away and use in a positive way moving forwards, to improve and build on the event in future years.

The Club is indebted to Brooke Hanson, AOM, multiple Olympic and World Gold Medallist, who was our Ambassador for the event, and brought not only ambassadorial status, but an enthusiastic yet unassuming sense and example of what the event is about – bringing together families and members of the community in a fun and healthy way and to Mick McFarlane who took on the role of MC for the event.

Proceeds from the event allow us to invest back into organisations within our community, such as Surf Clubs, Sawtell Swimming Club, Daybreak Rotary, and Coffs Coast Marine Rescue. With experience gained and lessons learned the Club looks forward to continuing its involvement with this event. Reiterating President Sheena's comments for a big thank you to all who contributed on the day with set-up, water safety or participation.

Message from Board Coach

It has been a challenging 2 years for the junior and senior board squad members. 2018/2019 season ended in April 2019, after which we had a short break and started Sunday board training from late May, progressing to full training from August 2019.

The 2019/2020 season was cut short due to Covid 19 and ended with the State championships. We were able to continue training (with restrictions) for most of the off-season last year and have continued till mid-April this year. The senior (and some of the junior) board competitors have essentially trained nonstop for the past 2 years and deserve a break. (So does the coach!).

I am hugely impressed with the work ethic of the board squad. They trained up to six sessions per week in all weather and surf conditions. Three board, two Gym, and one ironman each week, on top of regular pool sessions. Each year the programme is adapted to the needs of the athletes. The major change this season was to add more surf swimming to the board sessions. I am pleased to say that all members improved in this area. Hard work and clear focus are required to achieve results and all competitors were successful at local carnivals. The standard at State and Australian Championships was very high this year and we will be aiming to achieve even better results next season, with more exposure to out of branch carnivals.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the surf sport programme at Sawtell. Committee support is essential for any of this to happen. Well done and thank you to parents and all helpers, especially coaches and officials.

I will see you all again in the pre-season

Greg Russell

○ COMMUNITY | ○ PLANNING | ○ PROFICIENCY

Our Club, a place to Belong, Grow and be Safe

www.sawtellsurfclub.com.au



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MANY THANKS♥

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