

# Shellharbour SLSC Newsletter Dec 09/Jan 10

## Shellharbour SLSC Junior Surf Lifesaver of the Year

In November, our club held interviews for the Junior Surf Lifesaver of the Year. Our two successful candidates were **Naomi Flood** and **Ella Ryan (U14's)**, who subsequently attended South Coast Branch Interviews in early December. The South Coast Branch winners will be announced at the Gerringong Surf Carnival on 2<sup>nd</sup> January and will go on to the State selection process and camp in February.

Shellharbour has had considerable success in this area and wishes the girls all the best and congratulations on their well rounded approach to surf life saving. Hot off the press – **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Naomi Flood** in being named the South Coast Branch female Junior Surf Lifesaver of the Year – best of luck in the State interviews in February.

## Paddle 320 for Bowel Cancer

On the 6<sup>th</sup> December, our beach was lucky enough to welcome in Peter Wells (a former member of our club and brother to Martin and Terry) and Doug Lucas as they completed the Paddle 320 to raise funds for Bowel Cancer. The boys set off from the Forster area paddling Ocean skis and battled some heavy seas and marine life to make it to our great beach on a sunny Sunday. They were met by proud family and local media (as well as a local radio station's rock bands and bikini girls!) Check out <http://www.paddle320.com/> for full details or to make a donation. Well done on a top effort and best of luck to Peter as he works towards his next challenge – climbing Mt Everest no less!



Doug Lucas, Dene Herbert & Peter Wells at the completion of the Paddle 320 for Bowel Cancer



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# Surf Sports Calendar

January/February are shaping up as busy months for the surf sports calendar. On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January we have the Gerringong Surf Spectacular Surf Carnival at Warri Beach, followed by the annual Captain Christie Ocean Swim the following day. Shellharbour Nippers are encouraged to don a club cap (the blue with red and gold stripe ones) and make your way to the beach by 8.30am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January to participate in a fun day and make up teams to compete against other clubs from our South Coast Branch.

The following **Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> January**, sees us backing up for the **Nowra-Culburra Carnival**, and once again we advise our nippers to be at Wairo beach (south side of Culburra shops – follow the signs to the surf club) by 8.30am for another fun day of competition. (8am for R&R teams)

On the **10<sup>th</sup> January**, we are back on our home beach for a Sunday training day, before heading up to South West Rocks for the annual **NSW Country Championships on 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> January**. We wish all our competitors, junior, senior and vets (of which we seem to have a few!) the best of luck for a great carnival. If you are yet to advise of your attendance at Country, please advise Carol Tyne on 040 195 858 prior to 3<sup>rd</sup> January so that you can be entered. Late entries attract a fee, which you are liable to pay yourself.

Whilst we are away at Country there will be no normal home beach activities for Nippers, nor will there be on the following weekend (24<sup>th</sup> January) due to Australia Day. On the **31<sup>st</sup> January** we return to a normal Nippers training day, just in time to sort out teams for the following weekend's annual South Coast Branch Championships. (Seniors 6<sup>th</sup>, Juniors 7<sup>th</sup> February)

The final round of Junior Club Championships will be held on **14<sup>th</sup> February**, with Seniors running a twilight event on 12<sup>th</sup> February, followed by a Sippers evening.

The **NSW State Age Championships** will be held from **19-21 February** at Swansea – Belmont (a normal training day will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, as the bulk of our Nippers don't attend). If your child is keen to attend, entries will be closing late January so speak with your age manager soon.

## Interbranch team representatives

Congratulations to Keeleigh McCauley, Montannah Murray, Shannon Hobson, Alex Westlake, Zoe Elkerton, Kate McKinley, Rachel Hobson, Matt Jones and Jake Westlake for representing the South Coast Branch at the recent NSW Interbranch Championships at Cape Hawke Bay. South Coast Branch improved it's placing overall at the Championships and all Shellharbour competitors did us proud. Well done to Super Coach Cavo for his efforts over the weekend, and to Caroline Elkerton for all the work behind the scenes.

## Sydney Water series

A number of junior and senior members recently competed in the Sydney Water series of carnivals. These are tough events, attracting the cream of Illawarra, South Coast and Sydney Surf Life Savers. Our club had some excellent results – the final round results are yet to be officially posted on the web, but congratulations to all our club representatives.

## New Bronze/SRC patrolling members

Congratulations to all of our newly awarded Surf Rescue Certificate/Bronze Medallion holders who busily went about training for these awards over the last few months. Achieving these awards allows them to wear our Patrol uniform and serve the community as patrolling lifesavers on our beach. They are also able to provide Water Safety to our Nippers. So if you are keen to help out some more, see Paul Schloeffel for future course dates.

Congratulations to:

Jake Chalker, Rachele Cole, Annalise Farugia, Jayden Gaston, Sophie Jackson, Harry Keeling, Jake Knox, Kyle Miller-Duncan, Tara Phelps, Benjamin Robinson, Nicole Schloeffel, Josephine Troutman, Nathan Watts, Alexandra Westlake, Stephanie Cole, Matt George, Danielle Mangos, Laura Worthy on all successfully completing your **Bronze Medallion**.

Heuan Armstrong, James Boyd, Rachel Condran, Sarah Cook, Tobias Dobbie, Naomi Flood, Brennan Gaston, Tegan James, Meg Keeling, Sarah Kras, Corey Mantuano, Montannah Murray, Ella Ryan, Emily Spaseski, Bradley Starr, Jorja Vernon, Martina Vuleta, Jack Leahey and Ryan Sorrell on gaining their **Surf Rescue Certificate**.

## Membership Update

Our club numbers continue to grow, with 520 members registered in total, 315 of which are juniors.

## Appeals Day Results

Since our last newsletter we have held our annual Appeals Day. Many members, young and old, were out rattling buckets in front of local shops, doorknocking the local area or rustling up donations from the local watering holes' clientele. We were able to raise approximately \$7000, which goes towards our operations .

## More congratulations – Commonwealth Sports Awards

Congratulations to our veterans – Jo Helson, Steve Ballard and Dean Boyton for their receipt of Commonwealth Sports Awards for their efforts and achievements in 2009. All three were successful at the recent World Masters Games in Surf Life Saving events and continue to shine in competition.

Dean Boyton, Jo Helson and Steve Ballard receive their Awards from Jennie George, MP Member for Throsby ( and one of our Club Patrons)



patrolling the beach. Thank you to all who participated. We hope to see even more of you out there next year!

## Patrol uniform exchange

Some of our patrolling members are still to update to the new patrol uniforms. A swap system, for proficient members, has been available in the clubhouse boat shed each Sunday morning in December. Please make an effort to get up to date ASAP. See Dene Herbert for further information.



## Some more familiar faces to get acquainted with

Last newsletter we ran some photos of some of the people you may want to get to know. This issue, we have a few more for you.

**Richard King** and **Brad Bevis** are two of our unassuming Dad's who, rain, hail or shine seem to pull out the BBQ and ensure our Nippers don't go hungry for a sausage sizzle and a drink. They are ably assisted by many others, but a special thank you to these two dads who show the true spirit of our club to fundraise and provide service, despite our current lack of facilities. Well done Brad and Richard!



**Melinda Flood** (wife of Michael – last issue!) ensures our **Water Safety** just happens each Sunday. Michael and Melinda do all the signs and make sure our volunteers are briefed on the particular requirements each week, as well as ensuring they have a nice clean orange rashie and hat to wear! Thanks Melinda and Michael for making this happen each week. If you want to assist with water safety for your kids, we just require you to hold a Surf Rescue Certificate or Bronze Medallion and sign on with Melinda and Michael. While we are at it, a **HUGE THANK YOU** to those members who volunteer their Sunday mornings to provide

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Illawarra Line Dancers

Surf Rider Caravan Park

water safety to our Nippers. Your efforts are not unappreciated! Some of these members are parents of current nippers or cadet members giving something back, but we also see regular attendees whose kids have grown up and left the Nippers behind them coming back to give up their time to help our latest batch of future surf life savers.



For those of you yet to become acquainted with **Paul Schloeffel**, here's a photo. Paul is our club's **Chief Instructor**, so he is the man to see if you are seeking to do any Surf Life Saving Award courses. Paul is ably assisted by a great team of trainers who give up their time to train our members. He's also got a pretty good sense of humour, so kids, don't take him too seriously when he suggests trying Butterfly to swim around the cans if you are struggling a little on the free-style!



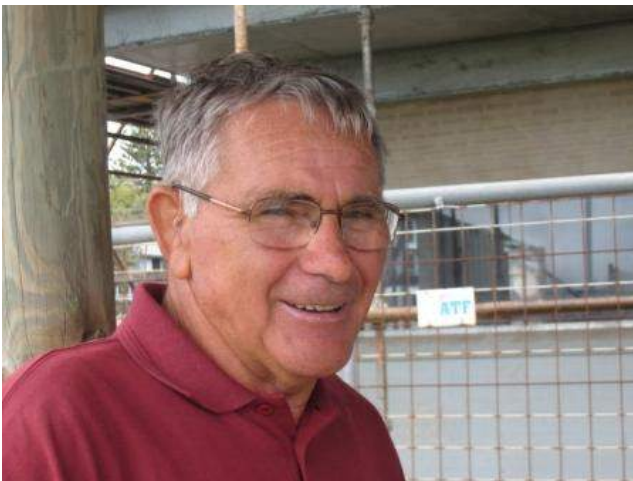
**IAFP** ILLAWARRA ACCOUNTING & FINANCIAL PLANNING

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Last newsletter we mentioned our **Club Treasurer – Bruce Kejda** below this time round so you can recognise his face if necessary.



We also mentioned **Dick Plummer** – Life Member, **March Past** and **R&R Coach** – once again here is a photo (below) so you know who we are referring to!



## Clubhouse building project

As you may have noticed, our clubhouse major extension is going extremely well. The roof is on and the upstairs walls are going up. The slab was poured in November and the boys have already worked out the dimensions of the bar.

So far, we have been extremely grateful to receive funding from the State Government (\$350,000 from the **NSW Dept of Sport & Rec/SLS NSW Building Development funds**; in excess of \$250,000 from the **Federal Government’s Jobs Fund** and \$50,000 plus a \$50,000 interest free loan from the **Shellharbour Community Bank (Bendigo Bank)**. In addition, we have contributed approximately \$250,000 of our own club funds and many members have provided in kind support and labour. A special thanks to Life Member **Terry Barton** for managing the project gratis and to **Sandy Rose** and **Steve Burton** for all their efforts. I’m sure you will agree it is looking good and we all can’t wait to get up there and use our new training and storage facilities.

In the meantime, we have coped remarkably well without a clubhouse for the first half of the season. It isn’t always easy, especially in poor weather, but it’s amazing what a great bunch of members can achieve with a few containers and a piece of Colorbond! We still manage to run weekly nipper BBQs and Sippers and get 300+ nippers onto the beach every Sunday, whilst maintaining professional patrols every weekend!

## Additional Club training sessions

During the school holidays additional board training is being held on **Tuesday** and **Thursday** mornings from **9am**. The regular Wednesday afternoon and Saturday morning sessions will also continue.

**Wednesday** mornings at Oak Flats pool, you will also find a group of club members swim training from 6am. This is open to young and old and includes a series of run-swim-runs and stroke correction. Come on over and pay your entry to the pool to join in. See **Dana Richards** for further information.



## Grant success

We have had recent success with several grant applications to assist us on the beach. The **NSW Dept of Sport & Rec** dollar for dollar grants will allow us to purchase key ring face masks for our patrolling members, several new radios, waterproof binoculars and a new Soft Top Dolphin Rescue Board.

**Shellharbour City Council** also granted us \$500 towards a new ride-on mower, as Dick's old one has given up the ghost.

**Telstra Surf Life Saving Grants** have also allowed us to gain 6 extra rescue tubes.

We should also be seeing our new teardrop shaped swim buoys in the water soon, courtesy of a **Woolworths Fresh Food Kids grant**.

Our club also participates in the **Rebel VIP Club Card** programme, where members show their Rebel VIP Card when shopping at Rebel Sport and we receive a portion of their spend in funds to spend in the store. We recently were able to purchase some more hula hoops and Wahu Balls for the under 6's and 7's and fund a successful Christmas raffle (Boogie Board etc) to raise further funds with our earnings. If you don't already have a Rebel VIP Card, see **Bernadette Miller-Duncan** (U13 Age Manager – green caps).

**Beach Street Surf Scene** also has a Value Member programme, which we participate in. Cards are available from **Dana Richards** - [danarichards76@gmail.com](mailto:danarichards76@gmail.com)

**Telstra** also run a Surf Life Saving Promotion, where those signing up to a new mobile phone plan, or buying a new phone, advise Telstra they are with Shellharbour SLSC and the club receives a rebate/donation.

**Bendigo Bank** offers a similar programme for home loan customers, so don't forget us when you are signing up for a new phone or mortgage!

Thank you to all our supporters! Please support those who support us!



## Sunday Social Swim



There is also a group of regular club members who swim a length of the beach each Sunday (all year round) at 9.00am. All are welcome to join in, for the swim and the chat and cuppa (BYO) afterwards. Occasionally a few have been known to swim towards NZ and there are all speeds in this group, including some who zig zag and therefore seem to do twice the distance, so don't feel put off if you are not the fastest member. The photo to the left shows a post Christmas Sunday swim group enjoying their cuppa after the morning swim.

