



# MID NORTH COAST NEW SOUTH WALES

## *Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch Inc.*

### ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18





## MID NORTH COAST

### **National Honours**

Bob Kebby M.B.E.\*  
Max Waters O.A.M  
Chalkie Bob Smith O.A.M  
Ray Agland O.A.M \*  
Michael Moran O.A.M\*  
Tony Hayes O.A.M

### **SLSA Life Members**

Reg Saunders\*  
Max Waters O.A.M  
Chalkie Bob Smith O.A.M

### **SLS New South Wales Life Members**

Reg Saunders\*  
Max Waters O.A.M  
W. Tom Saul\*  
Kevin Ruscoe\*  
Chalkie Bob Smith O.A.M  
Tony Hayes O.A.M  
Bruce Caldwell  
Dennis O'Sullivan  
Rod McDonagh

### **SLS Mid North Coast Life Members**

Ken Brenton\*, Sid Griffin\*, Bob Kebby M.B.E\*, Reg Saunders\*, W.Tom Saul\*,  
Max Waters O.A.M, Max Sabien\*, Kevin Ruscoe\*, Chalkie Bob Smith O.A.M,  
Ray Agland O.A.M\*, Tony Hayes O.A.M, John (Yakka) Watson\*, Bruce Caldwell, Ken Corbett,  
John Vipond, Graham Bingham, Dennis O'Sullivan, Ken Wilson, Rod McDonagh

### **Patrons**

David Gillespie MP (Member for Lyne)  
Melinda Pavey MP (Member for Oxley)  
Luke Hartsuyker MP (Member for Cowper)  
Leslie Williams MP (Member for Port Macquarie)  
Peta Pinson (Mayor Port Macquarie Hastings Council)  
Liz Campbell (Mayor Kempsey Shire Council)  
Rhonda Hoban (Mayor Nambucca Shire Council)  
Michael Slater (CEO NPBS)

### **Sponsors**

Newcastle Permanent Building Society  
Safe'n'Sound Self Storage Port Macquarie

### **Supporters**

Ken Little Fruit and Veg  
Lighthouse Beach Quality Meats  
Bakers Delight Port Central

## Office Bearers 2017/18

<b>President</b>	Rod McDonagh
<b>Deputy President</b>	Tim Atherton
<b>Director of Administration</b>	Joanne Hawkins
<b>Director of Finance</b>	Mike Stevenson
<b>Director of Education</b>	Kim Rayner
<b>Director of Lifesaving</b>	Paul Rayner
<b>Director of Surf Sports</b>	Ray McDonagh
<b>Director of Member Services</b>	Gary Hawkins
<b>Director Marketing and Communication</b>	Vacant
Registrar and Assets Officer	Rob McCue
Public Officer	Rod McDonagh
WH&S Officer	Amanda Higgerson
Gear and Equipment Officer	Vacant
Deputy Director of Lifesaving	Mitchell Dawson
Education Officer (North)	Sue Croad
Education Officer (South)	Michelle Garvan
Junior Education officer	Michelle Garvan
Youth Development Program Director	Gary Hawkins
Youth Development Program Coordinator	Joanne Hawkins
Delegate to SLSNSW	Rod McDonagh
Accident Investigation Officer	(North) Rod McDonagh (South)
Duty Officers North	Rod McDonagh, Tony Silvia, David Brunsdn,
Duty Officers South	Paul Rayner, Mitch Dawson, Kim Rayner
Branch Team Coach	Richard Broomby
Branch Team Manager	Melinda Cockshutt
Medical Officers	Drs as required
Auditors	Wrights Chartered Accountants
Solicitors	As required
Meritorious Awards Committee	Chalkie-Bob Smith, Paul Rayner, Bruce Caldwell
Constitution Committee	Rod McDonagh, Joanne Hawkins to convene as necessary
Disciplinary and Grievance Committee	Tim Atherton to convene as necessary
Life Membership Committee	Chalkie Bob Smith, Bruce Caldwell, Tony Hayes, John Vipond, Ken Wilson

Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch comprises eight Clubs:



Macksville-Scotts Head



South West Rocks



Hat Head



Kempsey-Crescent Head



Port Macquarie



Tacking Point



Wauchope-Bonny Hills



Camden Haven

## Presidents Annual Report 2017-18



**Rod McDonagh**

The 2017-18 season has been a year of achievements and challenges, however the efforts of all Clubs and their members is greatly valued. Our core business of Patrols were exemplary, whilst some Clubs were low on numbers the quality was not diminished. The overall function and flexibility of how we patrol is a subject that we need to take into account with the changing trends of where and when the public attend beaches. All patrolling members deserve a big thankyou for their efforts. Unfortunately, we were involved in five drownings throughout the season, three involving swimmers and the other two relating to vessels. The circumstances around the swimmers were particularly tragic in each case and placed an enormous demand on our resources and also had an effect on some of the people involved.

Not to discount the severity of these incidents, it did highlight the skill and “can do” attitude of our membership. Our response was well coordinated, professional, and it was inspiring to see members from all Clubs of the Branch band together to assist with personnel for searches which in some cases went on for days. Unfortunately, it is not always realistic that a favourable outcome is achieved. During these incidents it is important that the health and well-being of our members is managed, and operational debriefs and counselling forums were conducted.

Led by our Director of Lifesaving Paul Rayner and the Duty Officers there were a number of other incidents that were responded to, and this aspect of our operations continues to become an increasing part of our role. For Surf Life Saving to be sustainable we need to remain involved with other emergency services and think outside of the red & yellow flags. My thanks to the Duty Officers and RWC operators who put in the hours in sometimes difficult situations. SLSNSW is reviewing these roles to ensure that Branches have better capability to fulfil these needs.

The Surf Sports program was again implemented with the input from Clubs around the structure of Carnivals and the overall concept made the events more streamlined and aligned to the needs of competitors. Once again we need to be more innovative in surf sport programs to foster the future for junior and senior participation. Director of Surf Sports Ray McDonagh has put in a massive effort to enhance competition in our Branch.

Our Clubs were well represented at all Branch, Country and State Championships with a few Clubs making the journey to Perth. Some great results were achieved which highlights the dedication of the competitors, coaches and Club support. South West Rocks conducted the NSW Country Championships and also the NSW IRB Championships which were both hugely successful and show that small Clubs can put on first class events. Clubs conducted their various annual events such as ocean swims and traditional carnivals which is great for the community. Our Interbranch Team returned some noteworthy results and the efforts of the team management to work to a plan over a number of years is paying off. Regrettably there are some age categories that we are low in numbers which restrict our success but I am sure we will get there.

The North Coast Boat Series has had another successful year and some crews had great results at State and Aussies.

The Member Services Team has again had an outstanding season. Development Camps, Dee Why weekend and Junior Life Saver of the Year were very popular and focussed on the future of our organisation. From my observations at some of these events, our younger members are proud to be involved and great ambassadors. Gary Hawkins and his team have worked very hard to highlight what we do in the broader community, and I hope these initiatives provide us with increased membership and retention of our youth. The annual Branch Awards of Excellence were a great success and well patronised.

Education has been a busy portfolio with courses and updates conducted on a regular basis. The education world seems to be one of constant change and improvement, with the implementation of the various programs not always straightforward. The dedication and efforts of our Director Kim Rayner is acknowledged along with the groups of trainers, assessors and facilitators who keep Clubs on track to develop the skills of the membership.

My appreciation to our Director of Administration Jo Hawkins and Director of Finance Mike Stevenson who undertake a huge workload in the background keeping things moving. Mike is not seeking re-election this term and I thank him for his input to the SLSMNC over many years as both Director of Life Saving and more recently Finance.

Throughout the year myself and Vice President Tim Atherton have been assisting Clubs with internal matters which seem to be more and more prevalent in our movement these days. SLSNSW is looking at methods to better assist Branches and Clubs as these situations are sometimes very complex, time consuming and require expertise beyond our scope. In this light I thank all of the Club Presidents for their assistance and cooperation during the season generally and for the contribution your Committees and members have made in all aspects of Life Saving.

I believe that there are some exciting times ahead for Surf Life Saving in NSW. The recent Strategic Plan formulates a pathway to ensuring we are the premier aquatic organisation in Australia, and whilst some aspects are a work in progress, we need to work together to deliver the benefits for members and the community.

Over recent years Clubs have been provided with increased funding and equipment to make our operations easier. Assistance from the NSW Government towards lifesaving equipment has ensured that Clubs are well equipped to patrol our beaches.

I do acknowledge the workload of Club volunteers in regards to administration, governance, fund raising, sponsorship, patrols, juniors and of keeping a Club harmonious. The Branch has committed to investigating options to assist Clubs with support to carry out these functions.

My thanks to Surf Life Saving NSW Directors and staff, Kempsey Shire Council, Nambucca Shire Council and Port Macquarie-Hastings Council who have afforded various financial and in-kind support throughout the season. We acknowledge the assistance of SLSNSW and SLSA partners, state and federal Government representatives, Melinda Pavey, Leslie Williams, Luke Hartsuyker and Dr David Gillespie for enabling our core functions of building better communities and saving lives. Our major sponsor Newcastle Permanent Building Society is a wonderful organisation who provides us with many opportunities to promote Surf Life Saving on the Mid North Coast and my sincere thanks to them.

The SLSMNC Board of Directors is working towards the future sustainability of our organisation and how we can provide better outcomes for our members. Whilst there are challenges the relationship between the Branch and the Clubs will ensure that Surf Life Saving remains progressive in our area.

Yours in Surf Life Saving,

**Rod McDonagh**  
**President**



## Director of Administration Annual Report 2017/18

Another successful lifesaving season for SLSMNC has drawn to an end with pre-season planning about to commence for the 2018/19 season.

This season saw our members attend State development programs such as the 26+ Development Program, Youth Opportunity Makers and Junior Lifesaver of the Year.

In July SLSMNC Directors and Club members attended the NSW State Conference. It was an informative weekend covering several thought provoking topics and the new Strategic plan for SLSNSW was presented.

Once again, we have seen high level dedication and commitment by our members recognised.



**Joanne Hawkins**



**SLSMNC Members at 2016/17 Awards of Excellence**

The Mid North Coast Branch was well represented at the 2016/17 SLSNSW Awards of Excellence where Sue Croad from HHSLSC was awarded SLSNSW Trainer of the Year, the SLSMNC Member Services Team were the recipients of the SLSNSW Services Team of the Year and following on from their heroic rescue of a young mother in treacherous conditions, Surf Lifesavers from Camden Haven won the SLSNSW Rescue of the Year with Tony Worton and Phil Traves then receiving a Meritorious Award at the SLSA Awards of Excellence held in November.

Maurie Fuller and Ross Foster from Kempsey Crescent Head SLSC both received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to the community of Kempsey.

A special award was also presented to Maurie at the 2017/18 SLSMNC Awards of Excellence for his staggering '60 Years of Patrol Service'.

The 2017/18 SLSMNC Awards of Excellence and Presentation evening was held at SWRSLSC in June. Official guests included Dannielle Lilley from Newcastle Permanent Building Society, Tony Waller SLSNSW Director of Education and James Turnham Port Macquarie Hastings Lifeguard Supervisor.

Thank you to my co-host Tony O'Mara SLSNSW Regional Manager and SLSMNC JLOTY and Cadets for their assistance.

The Surf Sports Awards for the season were also presented on the night. A full list of all recipients of the awards can be found further in the report.

Congratulations to all our members who received awards.

The outstanding awards from the Mid North Coast Branch Awards of Excellence have been nominated for the NSW Awards of Excellence which will be held at Dockside Darling Harbour on the 25 August. We have many members and supporters attending this year and I look forward to the evening. Good luck to everyone!!

SLSNSW and the Surf Lifesaving Foundation have been very supportive and provided Clubs and Branch with funding and resources either via internal fundraising or in partnership with sponsors. Surf Life Saving NSW distributed \$5,781 to compliant Clubs and have also supported the Development Programs we run within our Branch.

The Life Saving Foundation has lessened the burden on Clubs in smaller, regional areas of NSW that don't have the population to support Club based fundraising activities. Conducting state-wide and national fundraising and distributing it to all of our Surf Life Saving Clubs and Branches is a way of ensuring greater equity of funding across the state.

Our longstanding sponsors Newcastle Permanent Building Society have been generous over a number of years and have prominent links to our Branch. Undeniably they have had a major impact on the succession and sustainability of Surf Life Saving on the Mid North Coast.

Special thanks also to our Branch supporters for their continued support; Safe'n'Sound Self Storage, Ken Little Fruit and Veg, Lighthouse Beach Quality Meats and Bakers Delight Port Central.



We must also thank, acknowledge and support our State and National sponsors and supporters. DHL has provided significant uniform sponsorship, enabling uniforms to be provided free of charge to patrolling lifesavers.

Westpac has provided substantial sponsorship towards the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service, the oldest civilian search and rescue service in Australia.

Clubs have also received discounted ATVs/RWCs through the BRP Grant Program and Envirobank Recycling provided support to the Country Championships.



**Holden**



To all the Executive and Clubs thank you for your support during the season.

**Joanne Hawkins**  
**SLS MNC Director of Administration**



## Director of Life Saving Annual Report 2017/18



***Paul Rayner***

Another Surf Life Saving season has passed with our eight Clubs continuing to service the communities from Scotts Head to Diamond Head. Our branch extends through 3 Local Government Area's, being Nambucca Shire Council, Kempsey Shire Council and Port Macquarie Hastings Council and covers approximately 136 kilometres of coastline. We patrol at 8 beaches but cover almost 6 times that, many with our call out teams.

This year consolidated the position of the Australian Lifeguard Service (ALS) with James Turnham heading up the team for the second year. The service was bolstered by the positioning of a part time RWC at the Wauchope Bonny Hills SLSC which was manned by the lifeguards over the school holidays. Again, James and his team worked hand in hand with the volunteer ranks to provide the coverage that is expected across the area.

The Mid North Coast Support Operations Group continued its good work with a number of callouts being attended to during the year. Unfortunately, there were 5 drownings across the Port Macquarie Hastings area. These were not limited to swimming deaths, but included an overturned vessel, a board rider and ski paddler.

All incidents were attended by the duty officers within our branch. This dedicated group of people have been on board since its inception. They all continue to astound me with their professionalism. A huge thank you to Kim Rayner, Mitch Dawson, Rod McDonagh, David Brunson and Tony Silvia



Congratulations to Tony Worton from Camden Haven SLSC for being named the 2017/2018 Branch Life Saver of the Year. Tony was awarded a Meritorious Award for a rescue that I mentioned in last years report, by saving a young mother who got into difficulty at South Beach in the Camden Haven. Good luck at the NSW Awards of Excellence night in Sydney.

Some Patrol stats for this season:

Our eight Surf Life Saving Clubs patrolled 27,952 hours this season and performed 4309 preventative actions together with 214 Rescues. There were also 409 First Aid incidents recorded as well.

Our top patrolling member for the Branch again and for a number of consecutive years now was Paul Rudduck from Hat Head SLSC with 269 hours. Paul has performed 2376.5 hours during the past 10 years. Paul epitomises dedication to the cause.

Congratulations on these results. It was pleasing to see the standard of the patrolling groups on the beach this season and the professionalism when members are attired in their full patrol uniform.

I believe there is a need for a dedicated vehicle within the branch to be used during extended SAR operations and set up as a response vehicle with all the lifesaving equipment necessary. This will enhance our image and portray the professionalism that we have. Our oldest RWC needs to be turned over and new one purchased within the next 12 months.

To Mitch Dawson my Deputy Director, and to the eight Club captains, well done. I thank you for your assistance throughout the season. To all lifesavers whether actively involved or working in the background, thank you all.

Finally, to all members that patrolled our beaches this year I thank you all. Without you doing the hard yards our beaches would not be the safe haven that swimmers enjoy and expect.

I hope to see you all back on the beach for the 2018/2019 season.

**Paul Rayner**  
**SLSMNC Director of Lifesaving**



## Director of Surf Sports Annual Report 2017/18

Making format and program changes to our 2017/18 carnivals represented various views by Clubs on how they want carnivals to be conducted in the future. In the first instance implementing a carnival with a program of team events only including composite and mixed teams was a challenge, however although the numbers were down the general opinion agreed the competitors enjoyed the format and found it to be a bit more fun competing with their team mates.

Next biggest change was to the branch championships by having under 8 to master's beach events only on the Saturday and under 8 to master's water events only on the Sunday. Saturday beach events attracted 258 competitors 135 female, 123 male with a total of 94 events conducted. Sunday water events 270 competitors 150 male, 120 female contested 152 events. Once again Clubs agreed this format was very popular and the 2018/19 branch championships will be conducted under the same format.

One particular change that received a big plus was having the beach events commence after noon and finishing later in the cool of the day. South West Rocks and Macksville Scotts head held their annual carnivals and both were very successful.



*Ray McDonagh*



The North Coast Boat Series conducted their events during the season with many Mid North Coast crews enjoying success at all major SLSA, SLSNSW events.

The talent and skill of our competitors across the branch has improved so much that they are gaining high honours and rewards at country/ state/ Australian titles and more pleasing is the fact that our smaller number Clubs such as Hat Head and Kempsey Crescent Head are now gaining places at the higher end of the scale especially at branch level.

With so many outstanding performances between them at branch/ country/ state/ and aussie championships, members like Hugh Stewart from WBH, Finn Askew TP and Raelene Myers TP in the senior categories, are setting a very high benchmark for competition ability making many competitors within the branch striving to reach the same standard and ability as them. This also applies to Taylah Moffit KCH and Tyse Thrower TP in the junior category, there are many top quality competitors within the branch following their lead. (I stress I have only named a few members that come to mind as I am writing this report). Congratulations to all 2017/18 branch champions, this title is hard earned and well deserved by all the worthy winners.

Under the guidance of head coach Richard Broomby and team manager Mel Cockshutt our inter branch team performed way and above expectations and their conduct away from the competition arena beyond reproach. taking a representative team away for a weekend is a big task and to all concerned I take this opportunity to thank you.

Away from the competition side of surf sport once again our officials have performed their duties at branch/ country / state/ and aussies with great expertise and enthusiasm. With the concept of the two day branch championships I felt this took a lot of stress and weary bodies out of the equation allowing very clear and precise decisions to be made making it better for our competitors to enjoy their events.

Now that Clubs are getting more familiar with the carnival entry system it is starting to be a bonus in many ways, helping carnivals run smoother and faster. SLSA online officials and coaches accreditation courses are available to all Club members and it was disappointing no members took advantage of this therefore as a result there was no new officials or coaches accredited in the branch this season. However this matter has been addressed with the intention to mentor members through the process on one possibly two occasions hopefully before the season begins. Clubs will be kept informed of when this will take place.

One aspect of surf sports that Clubs appear to neglect and take advantage of is the many pathways available for coaching, development and performance squads made available through SLSA /SLSNSW. Hopefully Clubs will encourage more members to take advantage of these programs. Another season has come and gone as usual it goes without saying there are many supporters of surf sports within the branch to thank, amongst a host of many are our Club committees, Officials, MNC Branch Executive, Clubs hosting carnivals and the most important the competitors. One special thank you must go to the Wauchope Bonny Hills Club for supporting and hosting the new two day branch championships. I believe this is the first time any Club has conducted a two day branch carnival event and they did a mighty job. Hopefully the growing competitor numbers and enthusiasm continue to grow making next season bigger and better for our competitors.

**Ray McDonagh**  
**SLSMNC Director of Surf Sports**

## Director of Member Services Annual Report 2017/18.



**Gary Hawkins**

I would like to commence by saying a huge thankyou to all those who have assisted over the previous seasons to make the Member Services portfolio the success it is today.

I have had the pleasure of working alongside our volunteer members that all have a common interest, and a vision to grow Member Services into the future. We are fortunate to have members who take on responsibility and using their great personal, organisation and planning skills, are at the forefront in the team. Allowing them the opportunity to contribute, lessens the load upon me, which in turn allows me to explore and potentially develop other areas in need.

The support from SLSMNC Branch major sponsor, Newcastle Permanent continues to grow. I look forward to strengthening our partnership and exploring ways in which we can both benefit our communities through involvement in a wider range of activities throughout the season. Camden Haven SLSC nominated to run the barbeque at the Newcastle Permanent Cinema under the Stars this year in Port Macquarie. By supporting this event they showed the wider community that we are grateful to have the support of Newcastle Permanent in sponsoring Surf Life Saving.

This season saw the Branch conduct a Raising of the Flags ceremony to signify the commencement of patrols on our MNC beaches. Held at Flynns Beach, flags from our eight Clubs were marched down the beach by our JLOTY representatives and cadets. Following some speeches, the first patrol flags were lifted into place. To encompass all Clubs, it is envisaged this event will be rotated from south to north each season.



**SLSMNC Raising of the Flags Ceremony 2017**

The Newcastle Permanent Junior Lifesaver of the Year was once again hotly contested by our newest U/14 patrolling members who had obtained their SRC. Oscar and Mikaela Wallace (Camden Haven), Jasper Shultz (Wauchope Bonny Hills), Jack Strahorn and Billie Brennan (Tacking Point), Lecke Frost and Sophie Oakeshott (Port Macquarie), Billiarna Hawes (Hat Head) and Kirrilea Silvia (South West Rocks) were this season's finalists. The selection committee of Leanne Goggin, Robyn Cahill and myself had the difficult decision in the selection process, and after deliberation Lecke Frost and Sophie Oakeshott representing Port Macquarie SLSC were named the Newcastle Permanent Junior Lifesavers of the Year. The presentation was made at the SLSMNC Junior Branch Championships by Adam Weir from Newcastle Permanent, and I thank all who participated this season.

Our MNC JLOTY representatives flew to Sydney to participate in the SLSNSW JLOTY program alongside our MNC Youth Opportunity Makers workshop participants Tara Slattery and Grace Kuhnell. They participated in group activities along with other likeminded youth from around the State and are sure to be future leaders within Surf Lifesaving. Another SLSNSW run program, the Beyond My Club 26+ program saw Nicole Chilcott from Tacking Point attend.

A large group of MNC members attended the SLSNSW Awards of Excellence in Sydney in August, with finalists in almost all categories. Congratulations went to Susan Croad representing Hat Head SLSC, being awarded SLSNSW Trainer of the Year for her tireless contribution to Surf Lifesaving. Camden Haven SLSC were recipients of SLSNSW Rescue of the Year, for an afterhours rescue at Dunbogan in April 2017 where a life was saved in extraordinary circumstances. Tony Worton and Phil Trave11s went on to receive an Individual Certificate of Merit at SLSA Awards of Excellence in November. Well done to those members from two of our smaller Clubs within the Branch.

A small yet jovial contingent represented the Member Services Team at the SLSNSW Awards. Having been a finalist for the previous two seasons the Mid North Coast Branch Member Services Team were awarded the SLSNSW Services Team of the Year. This award recognised the growth, strength and commitment in the Mid North Coast Branch portfolio of Member Services by all. As I have said previously, I am proud of what we achieved over the past 5 seasons, so much more than a lot of bigger Branches, but so much more to expand into.

This season our resilient members have participated in searches for missing swimmers, members have lost loved ones from their Clubs and many have been emotionally impacted. Member Services has been there for many of those who have been affected and will be there into the future. Member welfare is important if our organisation is going to retain our lifesavers.

I would like to see more recognition made by our eight Clubs towards their members. We truly have some great achievers who go unrecognised because they are not nominated for the MNC Branch awards. Since the 2005/2006 season to date we have seen the MNC receive 18 SLSNSW Awards of Excellence, previously to that our only recipient was Chalky Bob Smith in 1983/84. A goal for this upcoming season will be to ensure Clubs and their members are aware of the process and importance of recognising their volunteer members. It is not about winning, but the simple act of being recognised and thanked.

Retaining members, especially our younger members has always been at the forefront of many discussions. This season we held two Development Programs which showcased pathways and opportunities these members can participate in the future. With technology advancing, the use of drones, patrol apps and online courses are part of these everchanging programs. The Dee Why program, now in its fifth year, saw three days of activities within Sydney. Thanks must go out to all those who assisted in the planning and execution of this program, with support from SLSNSW and Dee Why, Queenscliff, North Steyne, Manly and Coogee Clubs. Every visit we involve more of their members, more of ours and this networking is having benefits in the ease of future planning. The Scotts Head Program for our younger members continues to inspire, and although numbers were lower this time around, the outcomes were not to be ignored. Two detailed reports follow on from this report.

Thank you to the MNC Branch, the eight Clubs and the members who have assisted in ways both large and small to make this season the success that it was. Behind the scenes there is a myriad of assistants, all contributing in ways to our success. Last but not least, thank you to Joanne Hawkins, SLSMNC Director of Administration for being there for me and our family.

**Gary Hawkins**  
**SLSMNC Director of Member Services**

## Development Program(S) Coordinator Annual Report 2017/18

This Season saw the SLSMNC Member Services Team once again hold two successful Development Programs, a combined U/12 & U/13 and their Age Managers camp at Scotts Head and a Youth trip to Dee Why SLSC.



*Jo Hawkins*

### **MNC Youth visit to Dee Why 2017/18.**

In January 2018 the Member Services Team organised another Youth trip to Dee Why SLSC. Now in our fifth anniversary, LNC youth once again joined us, forging a stronger relationship between the two Branches and allowing our youth to interact and share ideas with their neighbouring Clubbies. Once again the opportunity to travel in school holidays saw us away for three full days.



Our first stop was SLSNSW Headquarters Belrose where we had lunch and toured the facility. We attended Surfcom and learnt about the important role it plays in day to day patrols and we heard how drones are being used more widely in SLS services. From there we drove out to La Perouse and visited the Westpac Helicopter Base. A presentation of the services and duties they provide was delivered with many questions asked from our members.

We attended the Fallen Lifesaver Memorial at Coogee on Saturday morning where the two Branches laid wreaths to remember those Lifesavers who departed the country, never to return. A minute silence was observed and an overview of the memorial's history took place.



After lunch we broke up into five groups. Four groups patrolled at Manly, North Steyne, Queenscliff and Dee Why Clubs whilst the fifth group had the opportunity to go out on patrol with the Sydney Northern Beaches Duty Officer, visiting Surfcom Warringah and the Little Ripper Drone Program.

On Sunday morning the group set off for a visit to Wet n Wild at Prospect for a couple of hours of fun in recognition of their commitment to the weekends activities.



Many thanks for the support given to our group by all from Dee Why SLSC, Sydney Northern Beaches Branch and Clubs, SLSNSW and our local supporters Ken Little Fruit n Veg, Lighthouse Beach Quality Meats, Bakers Delight Port Central and Four Life Care. Thanks for the super efforts by our chaperones and in particular our chef de shoppers Sandra and Michelle.

## U12 & U13 Development Camp 2017/18

This seasons development program at Scotts Head involved the U12 and U13 age groups and their Age Managers. This decision saw a smaller group attend, but the opportunity for better interaction and more focused activities was the upshot. There was also the opportunity to include some of our older youth as specialist topic presenters.

The purpose of the program was to allow our younger lifesavers the opportunity to listen and learn about the pathways available to them within Surf Lifesaving. Discussion took place highlighting the Lifesaving, Education, Member Services, Administration and Surf Sports portfolios, as well as the awards achievable at their own pace.



On the water the young lifesavers had the opportunity to participate in tube and board rescues, relays and team based activities. They learnt that working as a team, they could achieve a more positive outcome than on their own.

Whilst on the water an IRB hull was overturned and righted, and all participated in a simulated IRB, crewing under the watchful eyes of our competent IRB drivers and crews. Paddling IRB hulls out to rescue manikins were some of the activities requiring team work.

For most, the role of being a lifeguard was high on everyone's wish list, and once again Lachlan was on hand to talk about his journey, growing up as a nipper to becoming an ALS lifeguard. He spoke of the awards required and some of his most memorable moments. Having a knowledgeable and youth inspiring person as a facilitator was of benefit to the participants.



With the age managers attending it was an opportune time to discuss the processes behind Junior Lifesaver of the Year, something that all the participants would get a chance to participate in in a couple of seasons time.

The success of the Development Programs relies on the efforts of many.

Thanks must go to the small group of age managers who attended and acted as chaperones and water safety, picking up vital age manager skills and importantly seeing their juniors interacting with others.

Our usual caterer was unavailable, so thank you to our short notice cooks in the kitchen Michelle and Sandra. Once again no one went home hungry.

Thank you to everyone who made the weekend a success, from Bruno and his barbeque, the support from Macksville Scotts Head SLSC, Newcastle Permanent, Mid North Coast Branch and the topic facilitators.

And finally thank you to the participants, we hope the weekend was beneficial towards your future in Surf Lifesaving and look forward to having you attend many more Development Programs.



**Joanne Hawkins**  
**SLSMNC Development Program(s) Coordinator**

## Director of Education Annual Report 2017-18

There is a reason the rear-view mirror is so small and the windscreen is so big, because where you are headed is much more important than where you've been.

This being said, it is really relevant to Education, especially within Surf Life Saving. We need to stay current, as things are always evolving.

Congratulations to Sue Croad, on taking out SLSNSW Trainer of the Year in 2016/17 season. Well deserved.

This year Education has really concentrated on upgrading the members with ARTC award to the new ART AID award. With proficiencies this season, we took on the task of trying to upgrade every ARTC holder to the new award ART (AID), we mostly achieved this. If you still have ARTC and have not undertaken the upgrade, please try and complete this in your proficiency this year. Unfortunately, anyone with the old Advanced Resuscitation Certificate (ARC) will need to redo the new course.



*Kim Rayner*

We have managed to double the amount of IRB Drivers this season from last year. Well done IRB Trainers and Assessors. Thank you to those members that undertook this award. It is a key patrolling award.

### NEW AWARDS:

Club	BM	SRC	ARTAID	Crew	Driver	SM Beach Manager	First Aid	Long Service	Gold
CH	2	4	9		2	5	1	3	
HH	9	5	9	5	2	2	2	1	
KCH	18	5	2	5	4	2		1	
MSH	7	2	3						
PM	17	13	4	1	1		4	1	
SWR	4	11	3		3	1	6	6	
TP	16	13	5			1	1	44	
WBH	18	4	9	1		1		1	
MNC			64				39		

Our trainers, assessors, and facilitators (TAF's) have increased this season in all areas, which is great to see. Our TAF's are a dedicated team who work to the benefit of all members and Clubs but ensuring that everything is done at the highest standards and have participated in Professional Development to upskill themselves and remain current with best practice. They embrace all changes that come to them in their stride, which makes my job a lot easier. Thank you TAF's.

With the new changes in the Certificate IV Training and Assessment there will be some extra Units that the trainers, assessors and facilitators will need to complete to remain current. They have been given the opportunity through SLSNSW to complete this for free and some are currently undertaking this. Thank you to those that undertook this, it certainly is a pleasure to work with a group of professional educators. It is through this professional attitude that we are a branch that education is held in high esteem.

We have completed some Community Education this season with talks to pre-schools in the area, as well as talks at Probus and Rotary. This gives us the opportunity to ensure that the community understands that we don't only patrol the beach.

With the reintroduction of the Silver Medallion Advanced First Aid a successful course was ran during the season and those that attended thoroughly enjoyed it.

In late November 2017 I had the pleasure of going on Beach to Bush with two educators from this Branch. Below is them patrolling the fields in the middle of nowhere. We went half way across NSW towards the border of QLD and ended up at Goodooga, Weilmoringle, Lightning Ridge to name a few. Great experience. I recommend to anyone to put their name forward to go and educate the children of the bush with our surf and water safety messages. It is a great program.

Congratulations to all the members who have gained Long Service Awards this season it is great to see Clubs recognising their members achievements. Congratulations to Maurie Fuller and Ken Corbett on obtaining 60 Year Long Service. Mighty effort.

Thank you TAF's.

**Kim Rayner**  
**SLSMNC Director of Education**



## Registrar's Annual Report 2017/18



**Rob McCue**

Congratulations to all members who attempted, gained, or retained an award this season. It was a very busy year for all Clubs with over 650 assessment requests throughout the year both at Club and Branch level.

Of these 650 assessments there were over 3050 awards issued. Approximately 1920 were for male members and 1130 awards for female members. This gender gap is reducing slowly and is an interesting statistic for MNC Branch to monitor into the future. There are a lot of competing sports and community activities that members can participate in so for an Organisation such as Surf Life Saving reporting of growth areas and areas of decline is very important.

In terms of growth there were over 700 nipper awards processed this season. Thank you to each of the Club surf guard operators/ administrative officer for processing this many awards! It can be a daunting task at times and your time in front of the keyboard and filling out I certainly appreciate vast quantities of paperwork so once again thank you.

In terms of maintaining awards all assessors were kept busy throughout the year with over 2780 proficiencies taking place. This puts a large burden on assessors and I would like to thank those delegates from each Club that helped assist in proficiency days at Branch, Club, and especially junior activity level. Included in the total number of proficiencies is Junior preliminary assessments and competition assessments for nippers. These total over 600 individual assessments which are mainly handled by delegates – again thank you.

Importantly. Over 550 Bronze medallion proficiencies were carried out. This certainly helps the branch have a strong presence on the beach of surf lifesaving capability. Unfortunately, there were a number of drownings on several of our beaches or in the near vicinity of them which highlights the need for every member who has attained this award to remain current by carrying out their proficiency.

Transfers were relatively few this year with only 200 in total. Just over 100 transferred into Clubs in the Branch and slightly less out of existing Clubs into others. I did note that over 30 transferred out of the Branch this year “due to work in other areas” which was the highest I have seen in the two years I have been carrying out this role.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all members of the branch who have assisted in the creation, execution, and completion of paperwork for the registrar to process. Without these tireless volunteers there would be a large amount of people who would be without awards and certificates that are not only valuable for Surf Life Saving roles but roles outside of Surf Life Saving including present and future employment.

Finally, a big thank you to Sonja for putting up with my piles of paperwork and long sessions into the night with processing awards and entering data. Without your support I couldn't do it and I very much appreciate it.

For any Surf Guard matters or certificate/award matters please feel free to contact me and I will assist in any way possible.

See you on the beach in season 2018!

**Robert McCue**  
**SLSMNC Registrar**

# SLS MNC Stats

2,538 – Financial Members within the 8 clubs  
 21,408 – Patrol Hours carried out by members  
 154,000 – Public Attendances at MNC beaches  
 214 – Rescues performed  
 4,213 – Preventative Actions  
 405 – First Aid Treatments  
 3,512 – Awards gained by Junior & Senior Members  
 2,776 – Proficiencies by Junior & Senior Members  
 199 – Member Transfers  
 43 – Beach Closures

## Top Patrolling Members

Bec Mitchell – KCH –151.5	Paul Ruddock – HH –269
Suzanne White – CH –126.8	Malcolm Green – SWR –172.5
Rachel Hosick – CH –14.3	Tony Worton – CH –168.8
Kate Dwyer – CH –95.8	Blake Studders – PM –148.8
Jorja Miller – CH –94.3	Craig Schweikert – KCH –144.5
Michelle Butt – WBH –88.5	Sean Hallett – CH –132.8
Brienna Elford – SWR –88	Charles Brazel – MSH –129.5
Carley Taylor – CH –85.3	Michael Healy – SWR –122
Stacey Moffat – SWR –84.5	Jye Palise – KCH –116.5
Michelle Garvan – CH –84	Cameron McKee – PM –112.5

### Duty Officer Hours

Kim Rayner 157	Tony Silvia 93
Paul Rayner 109.5	Rod McDonagh 82
Mitch Dawson 106	David Brunsdon 75

### SLS Mid North Coast ACTIONS SUMMARY

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>PREVENTIONS</u>	<u>RESCUES</u>	<u>FIRST AID</u>
Macksville Scotts Head	78	13	38
South West Rocks	133	0	54
Hat Head	83	7	62
Kempsey Crescent Head	329	143	89
Port Macquarie	2274	24	68
Tacking Point	486	3	21
Wauchope Bonny Hills	396	14	62
Camden Haven	530	10	15

# Junior Life Saver of the Year

Nominee's were

- Oscar Wallace – CH
- Jack Strahorn – TP
- Lecke Frost – PM
- Mikaela Wallace – CH
- Jasper Schultz – WBH
- Billie Brennan – TP
- Sophie Oakeshott – PM
- Billiarna Hawes – HH
- Kirralee Silvia SWR



**SLSMNC JLOTY – Sophie Oakeshott & Lecke Frost**

## Special Presentation

Thank you to NPBS for the ongoing sponsorship with Junior and Youth Development and Supporters  
Ken Little Fruit and Veg  
Lighthouse Beach Quality Meats  
Bakers Delight Port Central



**Rod McDonagh, Danielle Lilley from NPBS and Gary Hawkins**

# Surf Sports



## JAC Overall Point Score

- 1<sup>st</sup> Port Macquarie
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tacking Point
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Hat Head
- 4<sup>th</sup> South West Rocks
- 5<sup>th</sup> Wauchope Bonny Hills
- 6<sup>th</sup> Kempsey Crescent Head
- 7<sup>th</sup> Camden Haven

### Junior Age Champions 2017/18 Season

Age Group	Male	Female
U/8	Peter Field PM	Ella Oliver PM
U/9	Ben Barlow PM	Lily Mosley PM
U/10	Jarvis Lineham PM	Cleo Schubert SWR
U/11	Tyse Thrower TP	Taylah Moffitt KCH
U/12	Harry Askew SWR	Andie McGrath PM
U/13	Tahj Thrower TP	Auraiha Hewens TP
U/14	Ty Jesse Brabant PM	Alani Cockshutt PM

## J. H. Brown Shield for Water Events

1<sup>st</sup> Wauchope Bonny Hills

2<sup>nd</sup> Port Macquarie

3<sup>rd</sup> Tacking Point

4<sup>th</sup> Hat Head

5<sup>th</sup> Kempsey Crescent Head

6<sup>th</sup> South West Rocks



## A.J. Hayes OAM Shield for Overall Point Score

1<sup>st</sup> Wauchope Bonny Hills

2<sup>nd</sup> Port Macquarie

3<sup>rd</sup> Tacking Point

4<sup>th</sup> Hat Head

5<sup>th</sup> Kempsey Crescent Head

6<sup>th</sup> South West Rocks



### SLSMNC SENIOR BRANCH CHAMPIONS & SURF SPORTS AWARDS 2017/18

Age Group	Male	Female
U/15	Christopher Broomby TP	Kate Field PM
U/17	Hugh Stewart WBH & Finn Askew TP	Taylor Sargent WBH
U/19	Go Kato WBH	-
30-39	Grant Lawler HH	Toni Moffitt KCH
40-49	Duncan Kirkland PM	Deb Bartlett WBH
50-59	Jeff Polverino PM	Sandra Slattery TP
60-69	Dr John Vaughan WBH	-
70+	Ken Wilson PM	-
OPENS	Hugh Stewart WBH	Taylor Sargent WBH

# Senior March Past Champions



Wauchope Bonny  
Hills SLSC  
Senior Ladies

# Bob "Beaurepaire" Smith Memorial Award

Outstanding Competitive  
Performance

Hugh  
Stewart



Wauchope Bonny Hills

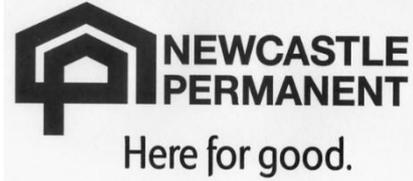
# Bill Balkin Memorial Surf Boat Point Score

The winner for 2017/18  
Kempsey Crescent Head





**MID NORTH  
COAST**



**SLSMNC  
NEWCASTLE  
PERMANENT**

**AWARDS  
of  
EXCELLENCE  
2017/18**



***Raelene Myers TP***

### **Masters Athlete of the Year**

- NSW State:  
2nd Surf race; 2nd 2km Beach run  
3rd Rescue tube  
4th Ironwoman
- Country Titles:  
1st Surf race; 1st Rescue tube; 1st Beach sprint  
2nd Board race; 2nd Ironwoman; 2nd 2km Beach run  
4th Single ski
- Branch;  
1st Ironwoman, 1st Board race, 1st Surf race



***Richard Broomby TP***

### **Coach of the Year**

- Coach of the Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Interbranch Team
- Coach of the Mid North Coast Pathways Group



***Tim Atherton PM***

### **Official of the Year**

- Officiated at;
- Sat & Sun of the Scotts Head Opens & Masters Carnival
- Branch Team Carnival at South West Rocks
- Branch Age Carnival at Scotts Head
- Sat & Sun of the Branch Championships at Wauchope Bonny Hills
- Officiated at Country Championships at South West Rocks.



**Sandra Slattery TP**

## Training Officer of the Year

- Beginning the season as a probationary trainer, has now achieved the status of Training Officer.
- Attended over 90% of training sessions for 2 BM/SRC Courses as well as organising water safety and equipment for all sessions.
- Member of the Education Board for the Club which implemented multiple changes to policies this season.



**Ian Everingham SWR**

## Assessor of the Year

- An integral part of training, assessing and facilitating a range of education awards not just for the SWRSLSC, but the SLSMNC Branch.
- As an IRB expert, has mentored countless IRB Crew and Drivers through continual dedication.
- Attended assessments and proficiencies for the northern Clubs and mentored members in obtaining their Training Officer award.



**ALS, SLSNSW, PM Members & MacKillop College**

## Community Education Program of the Year

- A regional review highlighted less than 10% of secondary school students participated in or had been involved in Surf Lifesaving.
- A blended delivery of the Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC), was developed, and delivered by the PDHPE staff of MacKillop College, Australian Lifeguard Services and SLSNSW.
- The pilot program which began as an idea of how surf education could be improved for kids in year 9 saw over 200 year nine students from MacKillop College attend over 10 weeks.



**Neil Hosick CH**

## Administrator of the Year

- Actively applying for and successful in obtaining many grants for the Club.
- Involved in all major fundraising activities, working with the Executive on business plans and future planning.
- Submitted a proposal to Council for a Birpai Commemorative Sand Hill Path Grants Beach North Haven –which has been supported by Birpai Aboriginal Land Council, local MPs and Council



**CHSLSC**

## Initiative of the Year

- A need for community awareness of beach safety, in particular rip currents was recognised by Club members.
- The best way to get the message across to the community, that was different and interesting was pursued.
- A presentation by Associate Professor Dr Rob Brander aka Dr Rip, and a dye bomb display was presented to over 260 community members.



**Leanne Goggin, Joanne Hawkins, Gary Hawkins, Sandra Slattery & Michelle Garvan**

## Services Team of the Year

- Facilitated an overwhelmingly successful youth visit to Dee Why which saw an inclusion of Lower North Coast Branch where lifesaving, education and assisting with nipper activities was incorporated into the weekend.
- Delivered a high quality development program for the junior members. This year U12 Age Group and their Age Managers attended.
- Communicated to all members the SLSMNC, SLSNSW and SLSA opportunities for development and established clear pathways offered through Surf Lifesaving.



***Stella Moore CH***

## **Young Volunteer of the Year**

- Awarded the Premiers Volunteer Recognition of Volunteer hours, for more than 400 hours over the past three seasons of community volunteering.
- Has supported younger members in junior activities, encouraged diversity and acceptance of people of all abilities.
- Achieved her ART certificate, assisted with Age Managing U8's, board paddling, Water Safety for PMIM, First Aid, IRB Crew and over 60 patrol hours this season



***Ben Hosick CH***

## **Volunteer of the Year**

- A significant water safety volunteer, helping both on a Sunday at Nippers and Friday board training.
- Vice President and Registrar, and also head organiser of major fundraising events for the Club.
- Obtained Bronze Medallion in December 2017, patrolled 87.25 hours since then, also undertaken first aid course, age manager course and Silver Medallion Beach Management this season.



***Jye Palise KCH***

## **Rookie of the Year**

- Gained his Bronze Medallion in September 2017 and has completed 116.5 patrol and water safety hours.
- During the season he gained a further 7 awards - First Aid, Advanced Resuscitation, Spinal Management, IRB Crew, Silver Medallion Beach Management, Gold Medallion and most recently Silver Medallion IRB Driver.
- Has shown a true commitment and passion for the Surf Lifesaving movement.



***Alisha Cooper CH***

## Young Lifesaver of the Year

- A valuable patrolling member who is involved in all aspects of lifesaving within her Club.
- Completed 56.95 hours this season as well as doing part time work and studying for HSC.
- Youth representative who attends monthly Club meetings, offering suggestions to improve the youth program at her Club.



***Tony Worton CH***

## Lifesaver of the Year

- An active patrolling member who has patrolled a total of 168.75 hours this season.
- Not only completing 100% attendance for their own patrol, but to ensure patrols remained compliant throughout the season stepped in as patrol captain for another patrol when their captain left the area.
- Holds the position of Club Captain and Gear Steward, and is the driving force behind board training and the head of the water safety team for Nippers.



***CHSLSC Members***

## Club of the Year

- 27 active patrolling members with over half (14) of these achieving 100% patrol hours and a huge total of 2499 hours completed between 4 patrols.
- Prominent involvement in the community with fundraising and awareness events, including King of the Mountain, BBQ's at Christmas in July and Cinema Under the Stars, and education/information afternoon with Dr Rip.
- Awarded SLSNSW Rescue of the Year Award with two members receiving an individual Certificate of Merit from Surf Life Saving Australia.



**Maurie Fuller OAM Awarded  
60 years PatrolService**



**LM Tony Hayes OAM**



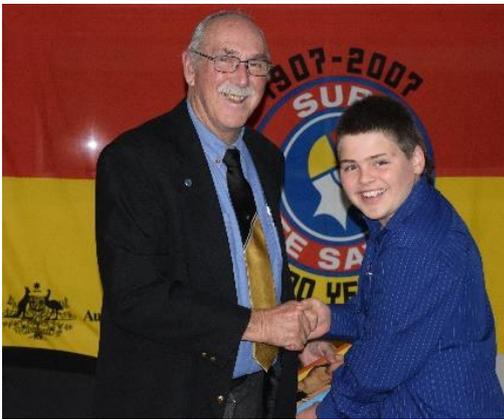
**James Turnham & MCs  
Jo Hawkins & Tony O'Mara**



**MNC Cadets Tara & Grace**



**Rod McDonagh, Danielle Lillley from NPBS  
& Gary Hawkins**



**LM Ken Wilson & JLOTY Lecke Frost**



**Stella Moore & LM John Vipond**



**Marchpast Champions & LM Tony Hayes OAM**



**LM & President Rod McDonagh**



**Community Education Program of the Year**



**Tony Waller & Sandra Slattery**



**Ben Hosick & LM Bruce Caldwell**



**Paul Rayner & Jye Palise**



**Tony Worton & Rod McDonagh**



**ALS Lachlan Hawkins & James Turnham**



**LM Ken Wilson & Alisha Cooper**



**CHSLSC Winners & Danielle Lilley**

## Macksville-Scotts Head SLSC Annual Report 2017/18

Our Nippers had a great 2017/18 season. Continuing with a fortnightly Nipper training day has been a success boosting Nipper numbers from 55 in 2016/2017 to a huge 132 in 2017/2018. This has resulted in more parent interaction with the Club and obviously fostering a love of the ocean for so many more children in our area.

They have been very lucky to have the support of senior Club members throughout the season in providing water safety and support, BBQ fundraising, and a very successful Curry night fundraiser. The Club purchased branded hooded towels that were given to every Nipper upon registration.

This year also saw our Club enter a Nippers contingent in the Envirobank Country Championships at South West Rocks for the first time in many years. The 14 Nippers were hugely successful notwithstanding that some had not competed at a surf Club carnival before. We had Nippers finishing top ten in finals, others having so much fun in difficult conditions but feeling confident to tackle anything the surf could throw at them.

Our Juniors Coordinator, Lara Jones has had great success with a twice season Intra-Club day between Nambucca SLSC and ourselves. This was our second year that we have encouraged all of the Nippers from any age and skill level to be introduced to friendly competition. This sees close to 200 Nippers having fun with both old and new friends hopefully giving them a taste of what carnival competition is all about.

Overall, a very successful but more importantly, fun season for the Nippers.



Anji Walker and Dave Brunson undertook the Club's training responsibilities in the season gone. In particular Anji has stepped up as a new trainer and has done a great job.

The Club had a Reserves and Masters 220 year crew compete during the season in the North Coast Surf Boat Series with the Masters crew competing at the State and Aussies. The Masters placed 2nd in the boat series and the Reserves 3rd. The Masters competed at the State Titles for a bronze but didn't place in the Aussies. It was good to see some new faces in the boat crews with Jason Rolff and Brent Russo.

Financially the Club is holding its own. Good work by former President Jason O'Donnell in refurbishing and extending our Clubhouse together with the acquisition of a liquor licence has resulted in a better presented Clubhouse which is more popular for function hire and community activities.

Thank you to our voluntary bar workers and to Harry our cleaner and general Mr Fixit who keeps the property in great shape. Thank you to Jim Brazel who does most of our ordering and stock control. Thank you to Keith McKay for helping Jim and attending to our grounds. We are fortunate in having the voluntary services of local musicians Rick, Dave, Ralph and Peter who perform at the Club every Sunday afternoon for our Sunday Sips.

The Club proudly supports a number of local community events including the Rusty Iron Rally, Macksville Show, a Stand Up Paddle Board Carnival weekend as well as our local Loggerheads Long Board Club. This is in addition to running our annual carnival on the third weekend in November which remains a popular fixture. On 8 and 9 December 2018 the Club will be hosting a combined round of the Central Coast and North Coast Surf Boat Series.

Thank you to the Mid North Coast Branch, and particularly to Paul and Kim Rayner who often make the journey from Port Macquarie to assist us. Thank you also to our Committee, President Andrew Moran, current Acting President as well as Vice President and Club Captain Jim Brazel, Treasurer Chris Bell, Chief Training Officer David Brunson, Deputy Chief Training Officer Anji Walker, Surf Sports Officer Dave Walshe, Juniors Coordinators Lara and Gavin Jones, Publicity Officer Anna Walsh, Membership Officer Penny Moran, and Facilities and Safety Officer Greg Bell.

Also thank you to our sponsors, including for the Tony Hardge Memorial Award and our local State member, the Hon. Melinda Pavey who is a great supporter of Surf Lifesaving.

But most importantly, we again reached the end of another season with no lives lost whilst on patrol. This is a great accomplishment given the amount of people that visit our community in holiday periods. Together we have been able to save lives, create great Australians and build better communities.

**Michael Coulter**  
**Secretary**  
**Macksville-Scotts Head SLSC**



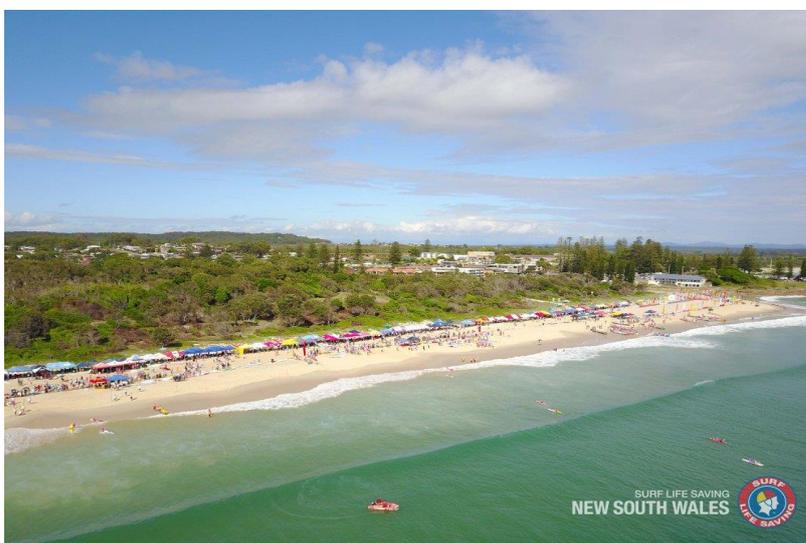
## South West Rocks SLSC Annual Report 2017/18



It gives me great pride to present this report to the Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch on behalf of the Management Committee and members of the South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club (SWRSLSC). The 2017/2018 season has been a highly successful season for our Club in all operational aspects of Surf Life Saving.

The membership held steady for patrolling members, which enabled an additional patrol team to be formed. Many members stepped up and gained additional awards which led to our patrolling teams becoming stronger. Our patrols operated efficiently under our Life Saving Agreement, through the guidance of our Director of Lifesaving, Jason Rushworth and Patrol Officer, Mick Healey. Jason and Mick did a fantastic job ensuring our patrolling duties were fulfilled, resulting in nil breaches for the season. It would be remiss not to mention our call out teams, jet ski operators and duty officers who responded to out of hours emergency situations.

The SLSNSW Envirobank Country Championships were once again back in South West Rocks, for the third year, with over 150 officials and 1600 competitors travelling for the event. SWRSLSC's competitor numbers were down compared to last year which resulted in South West Rocks, bagging four medals. It was once again an impressive effort from all involved in the organising of the event – with special recognition to Rod McDonagh, Anne Pearce



Samantha Smithett, Sid Jeffery, Ray McDonagh and Grahame Ball for their tireless efforts to execute such a fantastic event, which has received nothing but positive responses. We are looking forward to travelling to Cudgen Headland SLSC in 2019!

To top off the season South West Rocks held the 2018 SLSNSW IRB Championship, for the second year in a row, on the first weekend in July. It was a fantastic way to finish off the season, that included over 400 competitors from 30 Clubs across the state.

Since 1998, SWRSLSC has held nine SLSNSW Country Championships, six SLSNSW IRB Championships and two SLISA IRB Championships, totalling seventeen major carnivals. This is a mammoth effort for a country Surf Life Saving Club to host almost one major carnival a year for twenty years.

The annual 'Bay to Boulders' Ocean Swim was held on the last weekend of April and was a great success with over 100 entrants. We also provided water safety for the annual Trial Bay Triathlon and our local and visiting schools.

Our Nippers had a very successful season through carnivals and Sunday morning Nipper activities. A big thank-you goes to our Junior Activities Coordinator, Glenn Etheridge as well as all our Age Managers and those who assist with the beach set-up and water safety each week. Congratulations to Cleo Schubert on being awarded the SLSMNC U/11's Female Point score winner for the season.

Our award numbers remained steady this season, which saw members gaining 4 Bronze Medallions, 11 Surf Rescue Certificates, 1 ARTC, 3 Silver Medallion – IRB Driver, 1 Silver Medallion – Advanced First Aid, 1 – Spinal Management, 2 – Technical Official and 1 – Training Officer. An intensive SRC/BM course was held at SWRSLSC over the September school holidays, which included 29 candidates from four Clubs within the MNC Branch. This course was a huge success for all involved and enabled candidates not only to gain surf life saving skills including the opportunity to work as part of a team, which is essential in any rescue situation. Thank-you to all trainers and assessors that assisted with proficiencies and assessments over the 2017/2018 season.

The bar and bistro operations have seen another profitable year – almost doubling profit for the same twelve-month period last year. During December we launched our own tap beer ‘Lifesaver Lager’, with the logo incorporating an image of one of our Life Members, Gordan ‘Coogan’ Lawrence and has been a huge hit with visitors and locals alike. As with all surf Clubs’ commercial operations, all profits go into the purchasing and maintenance of equipment on the beach as well as education and training.

Our grass roots fundraising was once again a year-round activity with members from all facets of the Club assisting with chocolate wheels, BBQ’s and raffles. Our ‘Old Farts Committee’ (OFCs) are an institution at SWRSLSC. They are a group of retired members ‘guided’ by Tony Hayes OAM, who complete maintenance and odd jobs around the Club, as well as run the weekly BBQ’s on Sunday mornings for our Nippers. Without their tireless work the Club would not function as well as it does.



Our new Director of Marketing, Grahame Ball, made an impressive impact this season, tripling the number of sponsors and supporters of the Club. A huge thank-you goes to all our local sponsors and supporters: The Heritage Guest House, LJ Hooker – SWR, Shoey’s Bakery, Kempsey Macleay RSL Club, Holiday Coast Credit Union, BKM Contracting, Macleay Valley Coast Holiday Parks, Happy Smiles, Ball’s Butchery, Pick of the Crop, Coastline Credit Union, SWR Marine and Auto Centre, Langham’s Tree Service, Jaspa Photography, Ellison Signs, Thorman’s Transport and Landscaping, Macleay River District Fisherman’s Co-op, Lou’s Café – Kempsey, Macleay Argus, Wrights Accountants, Seabreeze Beach Hotel and Chillati. We would also like to acknowledge the ongoing assistance from Kempsey Shire Council, South West Rocks Chamber of Commerce, South West Rocks Rotary and the Arakoon National Parks and Wild Life Service.

We will be represented at the SLSNSW Annual Awards of Excellence Night by Ian ‘Spook’ Everingham for the Assessor of the Year award. Good luck in Sydney!!

On behalf of the South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club our sincere thanks goes to the SLS Mid North Coast Branch committee, your continuous support is paramount in the day to day running of our Club. Many thanks to SLSA sponsors – DHL, Holden, Dulux and Westpac, SLSNSW sponsors ClubsNSW, Envirobank, Sharkskin and our branch sponsor Newcastle Permanent.

Yours in surf life saving,  
**Brienna Elford**  
**Director of Administration**  
**South West Rocks SLSC**

## Hat Head SLSC Annual Report 2017/18



We have had a very safe and successful year again without having to do many rescues. This year was our lowest number of rescues for many years. A big thanks must go to our patrolling members who didn't let anyone down doing a lot of hours, as we have only six patrols, which means we are on the beach more often.

Thank you to all the hard working committee who have put in many hours during the season, without these members the Club would not operate.

This season our nipper numbers increased considerably, meaning that Sundays were very busy. A big thanks must go to all age managers and parents who did water safety every Sunday and the others who look after the BBQ after nippers finish. With more of our nippers being competitive, this means more travelling to carnivals and they have been very successful on the beach and in the water. They all enjoy the fun and competition every Sunday at the beach.

This year we successfully put through our bronze and SRC squads early on in the season, therefore these members were able to join patrol teams this year giving us more members on the beach.



Quite a few of our regular patrolling members updated their skills and awards this season with a view towards being a more active and responsible member of the Club.

Plans have been put into place for a smooth transition into season 2018-2019, with an emphasis on attracting more new member families, upskilling existing members, job sharing of committee duties to wean in new members to the executive committee and raising the profile of our Club in the local area with a view towards attracting funding towards a facility upgrade.

We held our presentation night on the 19th of May at the Surf Club and it was a great success. After dinner, awards and speeches everyone got up on the dance floor and had a great time.



***Nicole Brown receives the John Goodwin Trophy for Clubperson of the year from Luke Hartsuyker***



***Paul Ruddock did over 300 hours on patrol.***



***Serenity Clancy receives the John(yakka) Watson Award for Junior Club Person of the Year from Anthony Patterson.***

Thank you also to Woodside for the cover provided for us to shelter under during surf carnivals and nipper days on the beach.

Also thank you to Telstra and DHL for the uniforms provided, without these we would not have the protection we receive from these on the beach.

**Ken Parish  
President  
Hat Head SLSC.**



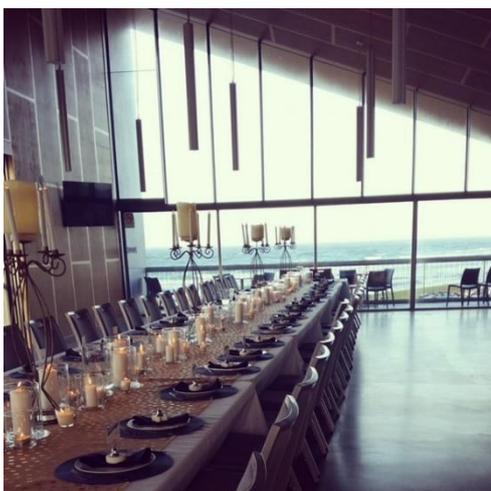
**IT'S HOW  
WE CONNECT**



# Kempsey Crescent Head SLSC Annual Report 2017/18



Kempsey-Crescent Head SLSC  
 ABN 81699434179    Founded 8<sup>th</sup> December 1921



### Executive

President – Carl Thurgood  
 Vice President – Ross Foster  
 Treasurer – Robyn Fuller  
 Secretary – Pam Foster  
 Club Captain- Craig Schweikert

### Patrol Captains

1. Matt Worrall
2. Dave Bartlett
3. Carl Thurgood
4. Belinda Reid
5. David Jacobs

### Statistics

Volunteer Hours – Surf Life Saving activities    3, 313 hours  
 Total Rescues – 143 ( Many of these took place on 18/02/2018 whilst the beach was supervised, but closed.)  
 Beach Attendance – total 23,964 visitors to the beach  
 First Aid – 89  
 Preventions – 329

### New Awards Gained

Surf Rescue Certificate 5	Bronze Medallion 18	Gold Medallion 1
Spinal Management 4	First Aid 1	Advanced Resuscitation 11
Silver Medallion IRB Driver 3	IRB Crew 5	Training Officer IRB 1
Training Officer Bronze Medallion 2		60 Years Patrol Service 1



*Thanks and appreciation to Kim Rayner, Ian Everingham (SWR), Sue Croad, Pauline & Andrew Kirby (HH) for their support.*

The 2017/ 2018 season has been a season of growth. We have grown in numbers, with a total of 218 members. Our Nippers group has grown in enthusiasm, with additional parent support in gaining awards, and after many years, a return to competition. Some of our Juniors have enjoyed success at carnivals, with Taylah Moffitt achieving a branch age champion award. On Sunday mornings, Crescent Head beach is a sea of pink!

Again, our Boat Crews have seen success during this season. Our crews have been very competitive both locally and at much larger carnivals. In the Boat Series, Kempsey – Crescent Head once again secured the Club Championships. As in previous years, our boat crews are the main backbone of our patrols. However, it is important to acknowledge the 'non boaties' who fill in at every patrol whilst our Boat Crews are competing.

Our small Club has achieved success at many levels. Craig Schweikert and Rebecca Mitchell have been successful in becoming Training Officers and are indeed an asset to our Club. Craig, as Club Captain, leads from the front. His 144.5 patrol hours are a testament to his dedication. Bec's 155 hours of volunteering also shows her commitment to our Club.

We are proud to have Jye Pallise as one of our young members. Jye was awarded Rookie of the Year at the Branch Awards night in June. He has not only achieved several awards (including a Gold Medallion) this season, he has also given 116 patrol hours to our Club. Craig, Rebecca, Jye, Steve Pellen and Matt Worrall were all recognised at our Club Presentation for over 100 patrol hours.

Perhaps our most outstanding award was given at the Branch Awards night with Maurie Fuller being acknowledged for his 60 Years of Patrol Service.

Two of our members have received the prestigious Order of Australia Medals in 2018. Maurie Fuller was recognised in Australia Day Awards, and Ross Foster in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Both Maurie and Ross have given distinguished service to many organisations, including Surf Life Saving.

We are also fortunate to have a group of non- patrolling volunteers who have spent many hours throughout the season fundraising for our Club. Our Friday Frothies and Sunday Sippers in our Pandanus Function Room are very well received by both locals and tourists. The success of our small Club is truly a team effort.



**Pam Foster**  
**Secretary**  
**Kempsey Crescent Head SLSC**

## **Tacking Point SLSC Annual Report 2017/18**

This season we have seen a number of achievements within the Club including the commencement our renovations. This will see the completion of Stage 1 and at the present time the Club has ceased opening and as a result we have been unable to have our annual dinner. We are very grateful for the understanding of our members and supporters during this period.

It is envisaged the works will be completed towards the middle of August, 2018.

### **Lifesaving:**

Again under the guidance of Brent Wilkinson we ran very good patrols, kept our beach safe and at the same time met the standards required by the Branch and State Centre as well as meeting the expectations of the general public.

Unfortunately again our members were involved in the search for an 11 year old boy in December, 2017. He went missing in treacherous conditions away from the vicinity of our Club House and outside Patrol hours. Although a very thorough search under the Command of Inspector Guy Flaherty and the co-ordination of Kim Rayner from a Branch point of view, this young boy's body was not found. This doesn't take away the sadness of the incident, but it does ram home the professionalism of our members and the swift action undertaken by them and the fact those involved in the search gave willingly of their time to try and bring closure for the family.

The other issue this incident raised was the fact that tourists who have no knowledge of surf conditions still enter the water approximately 1.5kilometres from the Clubhouse even though the conditions are terrible. It also raises the question that we need large confronting signage at various entry points of Lighthouse Beach all the way down to Bonny Hills indicating the potential dangerous conditions and the fact lives have been lost whilst swimming in unpatrolled areas. It is an extremely long stretch of beach which is very remote from the Watonga rock to Lake Cathie. This is something the Council should address sooner rather than later and I'm sure this is one of the issues that will come out of the Coroner's Inquest. Our Club prides itself on the quality of our patrols. We try and educate the public during patrols by carrying out numerous preventative actions, which has been well received by members of the public who use our beach during Patrol hours. As a result of these preventative actions we had no rescues to speak of, which is a credit to our members lifesaving skills.

I'd like to thank all of our Patrol Captains in their professionalism and all of our patrolling members for their assistance in making our beach safe this season.

### **Education:**

This section basically goes hand in hand with Lifesaving. Our education was in the very capable hands of Sarah Rayner, who took over this portfolio from her sister Jess. Her knowledge and commitment to this important role benefits our Club in many ways. Sarah and her team undertook numerous courses this season, as a result 454 awards were gained by our members. This included 12 Bronze Medallion, 2 Silver Medallion, 62 surf awareness, 10 Advance Resus and 37 CPR. Special mention must be made of Tony Hallinan, Mitch Dawson, Warren White, Paul Rayner, Richard Broomby & Sandra Slattery for their involvement in running some of the courses the Club ran. Well done Sarah.

### **Competition And Coaching:**

This area has really gone from strength to strength this season. All of our athletes trained hard all season and had strict coaching and training sessions locked in for the entire season. The Club was well represented at all the major carnivals this season and there were some great results at Branch, Interbranch, Country and State.

We have an exciting group of young athletes coming through the ranks and I am sure we will commence to achieve the results we had of a few years ago. I can see a new wave of athletes coming through the Club. I would like to congratulate Richard Broomby in his role of Director of Surf Sports for co-ordinating all the junior and cadet training at the river shed and on our beach. Richard was also selected as the Coach of the Interbranch Team and I'm sure the experience he gained this season, mixing with the Sydney Coaches, will assist our athletes next season. As a result of his success this season, Richard has been selected as a Coach for the North Coast Academy of Sport. This is great recognition for Richard and our Club, as I am confident we will have many of our athletes chosen in this Squad.

At this point I would like to thank all the parents for their efforts in assisting Richard and our athletes this season, with things like water safety and gear. It was a great Team Effort.

### **JAC:**

Under the management of Andrew Thrower and his team, many of them for the first time, this section of the Club saw a slight growth in numbers. We are still not back to the numbers of about 5 years ago, but we are getting there.

It was pleasing to see that the junior activities remained at the beach and in the water when the conditions were not kind to us. It is a great time to teach our juniors all about surf conditions and what to do in them. If they can be confident on our beach then they can go anywhere in the world and know they can read the surf. During this season, we had good conditions each Sunday morning and it was great to see so many new families joining our JAC ranks.

Unfortunately at the completion of this season, and after approximately 4 years in their respective roles, Andrew Thrower (Chairman) and Raelene Myers (Secretary) stood down. On behalf of all of our members I would like to thank both of them for the wonderful contribution they have made to our Club in raising the profile of our Junior Activities section. This is an extremely important part of any Club going forward.

If our young members are educated the correct way, this is where our future Patrol Captains, elite athletes and executive members of our Club come from.

A perfect example of what I am saying is, that on our current Executive we have Mitchell Dawson, Brent Wilkinson and Sarah Rayner who all commenced their Surf Lifesaving careers in Nippers!

### **Building refurbishment and development:**

This has been a long and arduous process. As I have indicated this season saw the completion of an awning over the balcony which will provide much needed shade in summer and shelter on wet Friday and Sunday afternoons. Towards the end of April we commenced renovations of the hall. This included moving the bar from one end of the Club to the other, installing a disabled toilet, upgrading the existing men's and ladies toilets, installing a cool room and new bar area as well as upgrading the existing kitchen and providing a storage room over the old internal stair case.

We still have a long way to go with all of our other Stages, but we'll get there!

### **Financially:**

Paul Rayner has done another outstanding job as our Director of Finance. The Club is in a strong financial position and I would like to congratulate Paul on the job he has done again this season.

I'd like to thank and congratulate all our sponsors who have supported us financially over the past season and I hope they continue their support of our Club.

### **Grants:**

Part of our finance this season has been the grants we have been able to obtain.

Our Director of Administration, Lynn Smith completed a lengthy submission for a Surf Lifesaving Grant which saw us being successful in gaining a \$248,000 grant which then gave us the necessary money to complete our renovations to the upstairs area of the Club.

Other grants secured by the Club include, \$2,000 from the Local IGA. This grant application was submitted by Sandra Slattery and allowed us to purchase a trailer. Sandra also applied for a NSW Sports Grant and we received \$1300 which allowed us to purchase a Defib. Sandra also submitted a further grant for \$3,000 to the Holiday Coast Community Grant which allowed us to purchase an IRB motor.

### **Hall Hire, Bar & Bistro:**

The hiring of the hall as well as the bar and bistro are the main income streams for the Club.

Again this season we experienced good crowds on the balcony on Friday and Saturday afternoons. The pleasing aspect of this is that the majority were locals.

### **Administration:**

Lynn Smith the Director of Administration has done another excellent job of keeping this very important side of the Club running smoothly. Lynn does an enormous amount of work to keep every member of the Club up to date with what's happening in and around the Club. Not only that she also keeps our members up to date with circulating Surf NSW weekly updates as well as the President's updates from SLSA.

### **Conclusion:**

Finally I would like to personally thank every member of the Club for your commitment to our Club this season. Without your contribution, it makes my job so much easier and a pleasure to be your leader.

I look forward to another great year on the beach and hopefully we can exceed our efforts of the last season.

Thankyou

**Mick Lang**  
**President**  
**Tacking Point SLSC**

## Wauchope Bonny Hills SLSC Annual Report 2017/18

# WAUCHOPE BONNY HILLS

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## SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB



Wauchope Bonny Hills SLSC is a proud Club having just completed our 59<sup>th</sup> consecutive season.

Our Club is the cornerstone of the Bonny Hills community, yet retains strong links to Wauchope and surrounding districts who continue to provide exceptional support and membership to our Club.

At Wauchope Bonny Hills, our members are considered our greatest asset, and our executive has resolved that every decision we make is couched in terms of “how will such a decision impact/benefit our membership?”.

We are proud of our history and confident in our future.

### Annual Report.

I am proud to once again to submit for Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast a report on behalf of Wauchope Bonny Hills SLSC for the season 2017/2018.

Our Club has once again enjoyed a stellar season across most disciplines of Surf Lifesaving. Our patrols have operated in the most cooperative and efficient manner I have seen in my tenure as president. Our co-lifesaving directors, Michelle Kirkwood and Marie-Louise O'Neill have fostered a great patrol roster/substitution arrangement and our Club members have been so generous with both regular patrols and substitutions. However, in December 2017 Lou commenced her lifelong dream of sailing the oceans of the world and, whilst a huge loss to our Club, we know what this life journey means to Lou and we wish her all the best and look forward to hearing about her amazing sailing adventures in the future.

Whilst I acknowledge and applaud SLS MNC branch members accumulating extraordinarily high patrol hours, I believe that one of the significant challenges for our organization, is for Clubs to operate compliant patrols in a sustainable way. Burnout of members remains a significant challenge. I am therefore exceptionally proud of the manner Wauchope Bonny Hills patrols operated this season, while at the same time allowing members a reasonable patrolling workload.

Once again, our Club was at the forefront of surf sports again proudly flying the “Wauchope Bonny Hills surf Club name and flag” at NSW Country, ASRL, NSW and Australian Championship events. In addition, we were successful in being crowned Mid North Coast senior pointscore champions at the MNC Branch Championships conducted at Rainbow Beach Bonny Hills in what was a brilliant carnival.

Wauchope Bonny Hills also took eight teams to the Coolangatta Gold in October 2017, our teams were successful in winning medals across a broad range of age categories including masters men and women long and short course and under 19 men's short course.

Our Club is community minded and socially spirited.

This season we conducted “Bonny Hills Carols on the Grass”, hosted The Royal Scottish Legion for a Surf Lifesaving demonstration and social event, hosted the annual “Bonny Hills Art Show”, hosted an annual charity fund raising ball in June 2018 - this year's event was “Roll Out The Red Carpet” in aid of the Heart Foundation, conducted water safety and an all day drink / aid station for the Port Macquarie triathlon, additionally our great Club member (and MNC age champion) John Vaughan runs the hugely popular “Dr Johns” a free fitness class for all Club and community members three time a week, all year round.

Additionally, we have recently installed a permanent rescue tube in an accessible purpose-built container under the lifeguard tower at Bonny Hills for public use in the event of an emergency rescue during non-patrol time.

The Wauchope Bonny Hills surf Club annual presentation was conducted in May and attended by approximately 100 members, family and friends. A hugely successful evening of celebration, comradery and fun!

During the season we took possession of a new ATV and new IRB. Our executive has resolved to name both pieces of equipment with the christenings taking place on the opening weekend for the 2018/2019 season – which also coincides with the ‘Back to Bonny Hills’ celebrations. It was announced at our annual presentation evening in May that the IRB would be named the “Jill Trotter” after our long serving and much loved life member Jill and the ATV would be christened the “Jill & Neil (Timber) Woodlands” after Jill and Neil who were instrumental in establishing and running ‘Beaches at Bonny Hills’ for the first nine years - our Clubs function centre, which is our primary source of income.

In early 2018 our Club announced one of our most exciting initiatives ever. The WAUCHOPE BONNY HILLS SURF CLUB / OCEAN SAFETY SERVICES JAPAN LIFESAVING EXCHANGE PROGRAM. This annual program will allow up to four members of our Club to travel to Japan, spending time Lifeguarding, living like a local and enjoying the cultural and social experience, there is time for some sightseeing as well.

The inaugural representatives will be:

Hugh Stewart; Rebecca Ellis; Georgie Bate (junior ambassador), and Jeremy Bate.

We believe that this program will develop into an iconic, prestigious offering which ultimately benefits young Wauchope Bonny Hills Lifesavers and is another plank in our attraction and retention strategy.

At Wauchope Bonny Hills we believe that our members are our most important asset. We strive to ensure our Club members are free to enjoy Surf Lifesaving, our Club environment and associated activities in a welcoming, supportive, non-confrontational, and enjoyable environment. We also recognize an ever-increasing compliance; regulatory and governance workload being placed on voluntary members. Our Club is prepared to speak out and criticize when Surf Life Saving bureaucracy makes the involvement of our members difficult (and let me tell you our wider organization does this quiet a bit!).

During the season our Club, for the first time ever, has employed an Administrative Officer with the goal of assisting our executive manage their workloads, it is hoped that this role will also allow our Club to have a more professional face for our members, sponsors, stakeholders and members of the public.

To every single member of Wauchope Bonny Hills Surf Club, THANK YOU, you are truly amazing! I would like to thank the SLS MNC Branch Executive and all branch Clubs.

Let's make 2018/19 season even better than this year!

**Peter Smith**  
**President**  
**Wauchope-Bonny Hills SLSC**

## Camden Haven SLSC Annual Report 2017/18



The 2017/2018 season provided further evidence of the increasing strength and sophistication of all aspects of our Club, and further justification for confidence in both its shorter and long-term future.

I am truly proud to have been given the opportunity to be president of Camden Haven SLSC for another season.

This season has seen the Club go through highs and lows but through this we have come out at the end of another season with a closer relationship with our community. We are endeavouring to grow on and expand our place as a strong community service who can supply the area with professional and caring support both on the beach and water ways and other community events.



We are proud to say that we have been there to support other Clubs in the branch during tragedy, by assisting with search and rescues and their triumphs of competition with assistance of water safety, IRB drivers and crew as well as officials. Being a part of other community events is what we thrive on.

The foundation of members starts with the junior members and their families, and this season we have seen an increase in membership from 65 nippers to 103. This has been the biggest increase in many years with great feedback from families of the enjoyment and the skills acquired by their children this season, both in the water and their first aid knowledge. Their water skills have been improved due to the wonderful work of all the age managers, age assists and our 2 JAC managers.

The water safety officer and his team of water safety members has also contributed to this growth as they have spent long hours in the water, which at times this year was challenging due to some very cold currents. The efforts of this same water safety officer and his merry band of helpers to run board training sessions on the off week of our nipper Sundays has helped the younger age groups get board experience and better themselves in calmer waters. The older age groups with stronger skills helped out with these younger groups, which gained the respect and admiration of younger members as well as parents.



The Club has seen a 32.5% growth in numbers from the previous season. We now have 228 active members (with 228 all financial), 39% are aged 5 to 12, 42% are Associate members and 19% Patrolling members. We are working on increasing the patrol members percentage. We patrolled a total 2499.09 hours this season which equates to approximately 80 hours per member with a total 14 members out of 24 who had 100% patrols.

We would like to thank the Branch for all their support offered to us this season with helping members who were involved with the rescue of the boat on our bar, the members involved with the 2 traumatic events on other beachers in the area and the loss of a young member of our Club, your support this season has been greatly appreciated.

Our Club has already had our AGM with the re-election of the current executive. We have also gained the assistance of a few other members to help out in other positions. Looking forward to a bigger and better 2018/2019 season.

**Michelle Garvan**  
**President**  
**Camden Haven SLSC**

# NORTH COAST SURFBOAT SERIES

*as part of*

*Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch*

*ABN: 99 526 701 490*

*Boat Series Treasurer*

*PO Box 199*

*South West Rocks NSW 2431*



## NORTH COAST SURF BOAT SERIES PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017-18

The 2017-2018 season has now ended and I would like to thank everyone involved.

Leane you are a treasure and we really appreciate your hard work and organisation, plus you help keep us on our toes. The awards both you and John have put in place are a fantastic idea and which we all appreciate and thank you (again).

Bec you have worn many hats this season and it has not gone un-noticed, you as always have done an amazing job. We would be lost without you and everything you do is very appreciated. Our officials really need a big pat on the back; they stand in the water and walk the beach all day. They don't get to go and sit down or have a break, without them and their dedication we wouldn't have any carnivals.

Mick, we have missed you this season, but this is a just a sport and family comes first. We appreciate your help when you can and your guidance when you aren't there. Always the voice of reason.

Sheenah has worked tirelessly behind the scenes building our media presence, next season she will have the Instagram page up and running. After a discussion with the committee of the Streets Series they are extremely envious of our media coverage as they struggle to get any. After every carnival every local newspaper from Grafton to Taree gets photos and the results. And for organising this season's presentation night and donating the "Best Dressed" prizes.

The Hoey Moey, Toohey's, NBN Television and Croaker Oars are long time supporters, their continued support is very much appreciated.

A couple of seasons ago I bought AW Edwards on board as sponsors, they are responsible for the rashies that are supplied. The rashies help bring us together as a series plus give us an identity. I have also organised with NITTO to supply gear to the officials, as I stated above they work damn hard in all weather so its nice that they can have gear to protect them from the elements. I am in talks with both to continue their sponsorship for next season.

Lastly, I would like to thank you the competitors, the level of sportsmanship is commendable. What really stands out as well is the willingness to help; from extra rowers, sweeps, gear and moving boats. It is a testament to what makes us strong as a series that we work together to make it a success.

I would also like to say thank you and well done to all the clubs that hosted carnivals, they all went well. An excellent job done by all.

It's amazing to think that a conversation I had with members of the Street Series over a beer a few years back has eventuated into our 3<sup>rd</sup> joint series carnival. That conversation with Phil and a couple of others has lead to what is a very successful carnival for both series. Tea Gardens did an excellent hosting and next season it comes to us. The Proposals received were fantastic and thank you. Scotts Head will host for us, I have the upmost confidence that they will do an awesome job as they have the experience behind them.

I have been in discussion with the Secretary of the QLD series, they contacted me as so many QLD clubs want to be involved in our series. I have their carnival dates which I will present at the AGM. I will propose that the first half of the season the carnivals be held in the northern end of the series – Yamba to Scotts Head and be double headers. That gives the visiting clubs ample racing, our competitors increased competition and a chance for the hosting clubs to make a few dollars (as well). As well as a chance to get together after the carnivals and bring a social atmosphere back. Then after Christmas for the carnivals to move further south and be 1 day (only).

Presentation night went well, and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time as usual. The only disappointment is that of the missing trophies, it's a huge let down to the winning crews not to be able to get their photo taken with their trophy. Plus, we had them re-done a few years ago, a lot of donated work went into them especially the open men's.

We are missing the Open men's and women's, under 23 men and women plus the 200 masters. These will all need to be replaced. I also propose that we introduce a under 19 women's trophy. And if we have the numbers having a reserve women's division would also be fantastic. Sheenah collected the under 19 men on the night and Bec has the masters 160.

Sheenah has proposed that the trophies be collected on the night after photos and stay with the committee or sponsors may like the opportunity to display them in their offices. We donated the under 19 men's a few seasons ago and it is displayed in our office. We had the original trophy mounted into the new one.

Also, on the subject of trophies the McSkimming family donated a trophy a few years ago which is also on the missing list.