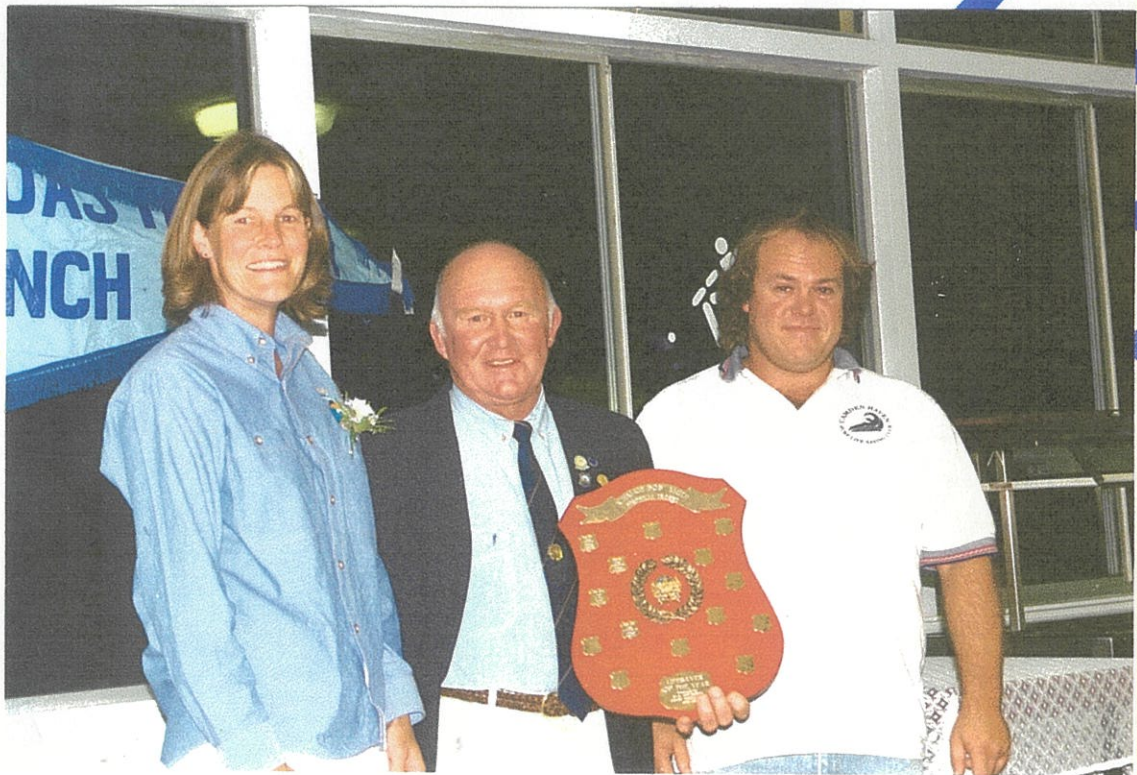
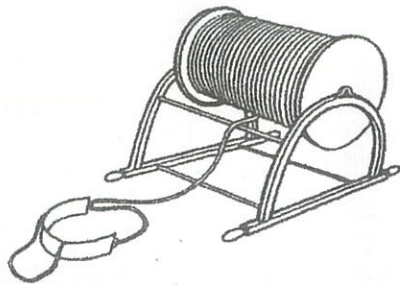


Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch Inc.



Our photo shows:
Life Member, Robert
"Chalkie Bob" Smith,
donor of the Lifesaver
of the Year Shield,
with the 2001-2002
winners, Sue Croad
(Hat Head) and Heath
Balkin (Camden Haven).

ANNUAL REPORTS AND BALANCE SHEET SEASON 2001-2002

ANNUAL REPORTS

and

BALANCE SHEET

to be presented to the

Annual General Meeting

to be held in the ANZAC ROOM, HOTEL KEMPSEY

Thursday, 11th July, 2002

commencing 7.00 p.m. sharp

SURF LIFE SAVING MID NORTH COAST BRANCH Inc.

Affiliated Clubs:

* MACKSVILLE SCOTTS HEAD * SOUTH WEST ROCKS * HAT HEAD * KEMPSEY CRESCENT HEAD * PORT MACQUARIE * TACKING POINT
* WAUCHOPE BONNY HILLS * CAMDEN HAVEN

Address ALL Correspondence to:
THE SECRETARY,
P.O. BOX 8001,
FLYNN'S BEACH, PORT MACQUARIE 2444

ABN 99 526 701 490
e-mail: drips@bigpond.com.au
TELEPHONE/FAX: 02 6583 1358
MOBILE: 0407 103 877

To ALL Club Secretaries, Branch Executive

Notice of Annual General Meeting

You are hereby advised that the next Branch Annual General Meeting will be held in the ANZAC ROOM, of the Hotel Kempsey, on **Thursday, 11th July, 2002, commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

BUSINESS:

1. Club Affiliation and Accreditation of Delegates and Proxies if any
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting.
4. Presentation of and Adoption of Officers' Annual Reports and Audited Balance Sheet
5. Election of Officers for 2002-2003 Season
6. General Business of **essential and immediate nature only.**

Yours in surfing,


MAX WATERS OAM Ac.Sp.Admin.

Hon. Secretary,
Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch Inc.

June 2002

PLEASE NOTE: CHANGE OF VENUE

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2001-2002 SEASON

PATRONS: Robert Oakshott MP, Andrew Stoner MP, Mark Vaille MHR, Garry Nehl MHR, Craig Murray (Country Energy), Wayne Richards (Mayor Hastings Council, Peter Mainey (Mayor Kempsey Shire Council), George Hicks (Mayor Nambucca Shire Council), Paul Hernage (Sports and Recreation Department, Lismore), Norman Davis (Masons), Sid Goddard (Masons), Wayne McAdam (McAdam Surfcraft), Bill Singleton (Bananacoast Credit Union), Peter Townsend (Coastline Credit Union).

PRESIDENT: Dennis O'Sullivan.

VICE PRESIDENT: Michael Lang.

SECRETARY: Max Waters.

TREASURER: Judy Moran (accepted position October).

PUBLIC OFFICER: Max Waters.

DELEGATE TO SLSNSW: Dennis O'Sullivan/Michael Lang.

DELEGATES TO JUNIOR BRANCH: Michael Moran (North), Dennis O'Sullivan (South).

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION OFFICER: Ray Agland.

PUBLICITY OFFICERS: Sheryl Pearson (North), "Chalkie" Bob Smith (South).

BRANCH TEAM MANAGER: Rod McDonagh.

BRANCH TEAM COACH: Dale Rigney.

BRANCH TEAM CHAPERONE: Sheryl Pearson.

MEDICAL OFFICERS: Dr. N. Willcocks, Michael Burg.

AUDITORS: Wrights Chartered Accountants, Kempsey

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER/MINUTE SECRETARY: Edwina Brown.

NOTE: the President and Secretary are ex-officio on the following Committees:

JUDICIARY: To be appointed when required.

MERITORIOUS AWARDS: "Chalkie" Bob Smith, Michael Lang, Bruce Caldwell, Kevin Ruscoe.

CONSTITUTION: Hugh Mackay, Rod McDonagh, Kevin Ruscoe, Ken Wilson, Michael Moran.

FINANCE: Judy Moran, Kevin Ruscoe, Michael Moran.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP: "Chalkie" Bob Smith, Kevin Ruscoe, Bruce Caldwell, Ray Agland, John Vipond, Tony Hayes.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: Max Waters appointed convenor later in season.

COMPETITION/SELECTION: Director of Competition and one representative from each Club.

BOARD OF CONTROL

The following recommendations for Officers from the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Control were adopted:

DIRECTOR OF LIFESAVING: Michael Moran.

DIRECTOR OF COMPETITION: No Appointment made.
(and Gear Steward)

REGISTRAR: Bruce Caldwell.

BOARD SECRETARY: Max Waters.

EDUCATION OFFICER: John Vipond.

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS:

Macksville Scotts Head: Bill Richardson.

South West Rocks: Kevin Ruscoe.

Hat Head: Tony Hayes.

Kempsey Crescent Head: Max Waters.

Port Macquarie: Graham Bingham.

Tacking Point: Dennis O'Sullivan.

Wauchope Bonny Hills: John Vipond.

Camden Haven: "Chalkie" Bob Smith.



President's Report

"It was the best of times. It was the worst of times"
Charles Dickens

It was the best of times because all of our 8 clubs could report that *"No lives were lost while patrols were on duty"*. It was the worst of times because there were 7 lives lost in the Hastings area including the triple tragedy that occurred at Lighthouse Beach.

This single event brought out the best that the members of our Association have to offer. Tony Hallinan from the Port

Macquarie club was the first on the scene and Warren White from Tacking Point was at the beach within 12 minutes of receiving the call from the police. For ten days after the loss, all 4 of the southern clubs had at least 1 IRB each and on many occasions 2 involved in the search from dawn to dusk. All of the clubs and their members can be justifiably proud of the effort.

Earlier in the season the clubs in this Branch had fared well in the hand out of equipment from the NSW Government because of its concerns over the number of drownings in NSW. This equipment was fully utilized in this operation and vindicates the Government's decision.

On the Friday of the following week Heath Balkin and Scott McDonald from Camden Haven had to recover the body of another drowning victim.

Scott was the Association's Curlewis scholar for NSW and he did both his club and this Branch proud. The Association has a bright future with this calibre of member.

Heath later won the Branch's Male Lifesaver of the year award in a red hot final from Bob Smith from Wauchope Bonny Hills and Daniel Pearce from South West Rocks. The female award was won by Sue Croad from Hat Head.

At the same time as the search was conducted 6 of the our clubs, Camden Haven, Kempsey-Crescent Head, Port Macquarie, South West Rocks. Tacking Point and Wauchope Bonny Hills together with the Hastings Lifeguards conducted public CPR courses where over 200 members of the public were taught basic CPR over a 2 week programme. The Programme was organized with the Macleay Hastings Safe Communities Committee which had representatives from the 2 Council, Community Health, Royal Lifesaving and ourselves.

This effort was recognized by a NSW Water Safety Award for Outstanding Contribution to Community by an Organization which was presented to secretary Max Waters by the Minister for Sport & Recreation, Mr. Morris Iemma and Olympic legend, Dawn Fraser at an official function in the Ballroom of Government House in Sydney. Max also ran the successful Schools Programme in Kempsey with the assistance of young members of the Macleay clubs. Max also organized the Branch dinner which was attended by the new State President Peter Pearce and was a great success.

Max as everyone knows has been Branch secretary for many years besides regularly taking on other jobs and his tireless work has seen him awarded an O.A.M. and life membership of the Port club, the Branch, SLSNSW and the S.L.S.A. After working closely with him I can attest that each of these honours would have been well and truly deserved. Max has indicated that he wants to

have a well earned rest from these labours and I can only thank him on behalf of all of us for his efforts and wish him well. They will be very big shoes to fill.

The other positions on the Executive were taken by Cactus (Mike Moran) as Director of Lifesaving who did his usual very thorough job. Judy Moran was Treasurer and managed to keep a vigilant eye on every cent of the Branch's money.

Registrar was again done by Bruce Caldwell in brilliant fashion and his efforts for the movement over many years was recognized by the granting of Life Membership of SLSNSW. Mick Lang deputised for me very ably whenever asked as well as fulfilling his club and official police duties.

The Branch Team was led by Rod McDonagh and Cheryl Pearson and acquitted itself well. Three of our young guns in Matt Smith from the Rocks, Ben Stevenson from Hat Head and Alyce Scott from the Rocks attended the Youth Development Camp and came back full of enthusiasm and new ideas which I feel we should look long and hard at.

The season in many ways was very refreshing with the resurgence of the Wauchope Bonny Hills club in winning the Branch Point Score. The emergence of young members particularly from Tacking Point and the Rocks was great to see and augurs well for the future.

The Branch received great support from major sponsors in the Masonic Lodge, the Banana Coast Credit Union, Coastline Credit Union and Wayne McAdam.

Countrenergy again continued its major sponsorship of the individual clubs and the Branch and Country Championships which was greatly appreciated.

It would not be hard to go on and on as it has been such a great season. The Branch staggered at bit at the beginning of the year but went from strength to strength from there. There are many things that we collectively as the Branch need to address for the future.

The Branch is not far away from its 75th year and serious planning for this event will need to start from this year. I'm sure an active sub-committee will be established to oversee this milestone.

A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. The Branch is US not THEM with the objective of assisting each of the individual clubs through the combined strength of the whole eight clubs and I would urge individual members to give consideration to taking on positions at Branch level as they will find it very fulfilling and some of the incumbents would dearly love a rest for a while.

The tragedies of the past season have presented us with an obligation and opportunity to address community aquatic safety issues by working in conjunction with Local Government and other groups particularly in the field of public education.

We live in exciting times and there is new leadership in SLSNSW for which I have great hopes and this combined with the ground swell of enthusiasm which I think is developing in the younger members will lead to a rejuvenation in the Movement overall.

It has been a hard year but a very satisfying one even though I have only achieved a fraction of what set out to do. Thank you for allowing me to serve as Branch President and I commend this report to you.

Dennis O'Sullivan

Branch Successful in State Water Safety Awards

In conjunction with the Community Health Service, Hastings Council and Kempsey Shire Council, the Branch conducted a number of EAR/CPR programmes in the community.

Two-hour Introductory Classes were held at Laurieton, Wauchope, Lake Cathie, Port Macquarie, Kempsey, Crescent Head and South West Rocks.

Some 230 community members attended the programme which indicated how popular it was. Thirteen members of a six Surf Clubs presented the course.

SLS NSW Northern Development Officer, Ian Gordon nominated the Branch for the Community Involvement Award.

Photo shows: Branch Secretary, Max Waters, with swimming, Legend Dawn Fraser and the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Morris Iemma, following the presentation at Government House.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

"No Lives Lost on our Patrolled Beaches". This is a proud statement that can be made by Clubs within the Mid North Coast Branch Inc. area.

Unfortunately, the past season would have been the worst in regard to drownings – seven – all told, and the search and rescue procedures saw many of our members, working with Police and Emergency Services personnel involved. Many put in twelve hour days for more than seven days in some cases.

Most of these catastrophies occurred on un-patrolled beaches, and/or out of normal Club Patrol Hours. The services given by surf club members in these circumstances is greatly appreciated. These incidents greatly brings home the fact that people should only surf on Patrolled Beaches and during normal Patrol hours. The Government's television, radio and newspaper advertised warnings, as well as those of Surf Life Saving are apparently being ignored. The education of our children and adults in water safety, particularly in the surf must continue.

With more and more people surfing on our beautiful beaches, more strain is being imposed on our members. The Branches eight Clubs have submitted Annual Summary Returns. These returns indicate that the Clubs' rescues increased from 67 last season to 120 this season. A substantial increase, and we had a much shorter season this year. (No Olympic Games).

Preventative actions increased from 1565 to 1621.

First Aid to beach goers also increased this season from 250 to 319 this season.

The above figures give some indication of how important surf clubs are to the community. It is about time that authorities gave more consideration to the needs of the volunteer members.

An interesting statistic was that the Branch's Active Members increased from 420 to 468 this season. This is a good increase; however, the Clubs must continue to increase their membership, not only to reduce the work load on individual members, but to combat the ever increasing rescues that are being made.

Junior Activities membership showed a total for 6 to 8 years, 229; 8 to 14 years, 599.

A break down of these figures appears elsewhere in the report.

ATTENDANCE AT BRANCH MEETINGS:

There is a need for improvement in this area. Only three members of the executive attended all ten meetings of the Branch, ie. Max Waters, Judy Moran and Michael Moran; Bruce Caldwell and Graham Bingham attended nine, whilst Dennis O'Sullivan, Hugh Mackay, Sheryl Pearson and Rod McDonagh attended eight; Sue Croad, Ray Agland, Michael Lang attended seven.

Club Presidents covered most of the meetings; however on the Club delegates side, there were quite a few meetings where clubs had no delegates in attendance.

Members may recall that prior the current constitution being adopted, it was proposed that the regular monthly meetings be called Council Meetings, at which the Branch Executive and Club Presidents attended and dealt with any matters; and that two full meetings, the Annual and a Mid Year Meeting be held at which Club Delegates could attend.

The response of attendance at meetings indicates that this may have been the way to go.

SPONSORS:

Country Energy sponsorship for the "Rookies" was not forthcoming this season. The Branch asked Clubs to continue this programme at Club level. Country Energy did support our Clubs with a donation and reduced electricity costs.

Our other major Branch sponsors, NBN Television, Masonic Lodges, Coastline Credit Union, Bananacoast Credit Union and McAdam Surfcraft continue their support.

VISITS : TRAINING : SCHOOL LEAGUE:

There were four visits from State Centre officials this season, with Andrew Chubb (Chairman of the Education Panel) visiting on two occasions, one for a Patrol Captains Life Support programme, which was attended by 15 members, and the other visit for the Oropharyngeal Airways introduction for Examiners at which 25 attended and completed the course. Andrew was assisted with this programme by Charlene Wellard, also of the Education Panel.

Andrew May (Operations Manager) made a flying visit to Port Macquarie to conduct an introductory session on the Complete Patrol Logger Software Training. This was poorly attended. Andrew has indicated that a further training programme is to held in August. As all information from Club to Branch to State will be via this programme (No More Hard Copy from State), it is essential that the next programme is well attended by Club Executive.

Our fourth visitor was newly elected Surf Life Saving New South Wales President, Peter Pearce. Peter attended the Branch Dinner and Presentation Evening. This is the first occasion that a State President has attended such a function for many years. Prior to the dinner Peter held discussions with the Branch Executive on several important matters. The Branch congratulates Peter on his election and looks forward to working with him at the top level.

Ian Gordon, Surf Life Saving New South Wales Northern Development Officer, attends most Branch monthly meetings.

Ian made an effort to re-introduce the North Coast Schools Surf League Carnival early in May; but unfortunately this was cancelled due to lack of response from the various schools. Apart from being too late in the season (schools have changed to winter programmes and will not revert to summer programmes) and that a fee of \$20 per student was asked for to cover costs. Previously sponsors covered the costs of this event. This too was a contributing factor. One

Sportsmistress reporting to me indicated that "parents, for the most part, would not be prepared to pay this fee; there is a limit to what they can pay for added school sporting events".

An earlier date next year, and NO FEE may be the solution.

Whilst on the Schools Surf League Carnival I personally feel that the wrong age group and personnel are being targeted. At the moment it is restricted to a limited number from each school, and where competition is involved the schools are naturally going to nominate students who are well versed in surf life saving.

Would it not be preferable to target students who were not members of surf life saving clubs; give them several hours of surf awareness instruction and then conduct a mini carnival for them. I feel this type of programme would entice their membership to a club. **It is a waste of time talking to the converted.**

BRANCH DINNER AND PRESENTATIONS:

The Branch dinner and presentation evening was again held at the Crescent Head Country Club. Attendance was down on previous years. Audrey and her staff are to be congratulated on their efforts in providing a sumptuous meal.

Results of the various Branch competition were:

Male Life Saver of the Year:	Heath Balkin (Camden Haven)
Female Life Saver of the Year:	Sue Croad (Hat Head)

Age Champions:

Male Over 60:	Bob ("Chalkie") Smith (Wauchope Bonny Hills)
Male Over 50:	Hugh Mackay (Port Macquarie)
Male Over 40:	Lindsay Lewis (Tacking Point)
Male Over 30:	Scott Williams (Tacking Point)
Male Open:	Daniel Pearce (South West Rocks)
Male Under 19:	Daniel Pearce (South West Rocks)
Male Under 16:	Ben Fegan (South West Rocks)
Female Over ?:	Donna Cross (Port Macquarie)
Female Open:	Paula Stone (Port Macquarie)
Female Under 19:	Natalie Flanagan (Wauchope Bonny Hills)
Female Under 16:	Candice Langfield (Port Macquarie)

Patrol Awards:

Bananacoast Credit Union Rescue Board:	Hat Head
McAdam Surfcraft Trophy:	Wauchope Bonny Hills



Life Member of Surf Life Saving New South Wales...

Congratulations to Mid North Coast Branch member and Registrar, Bruce Caldwell, (at left) on his elevation to Life Membership of Surf Life Saving New South Wales.

Bruce was presented with his Badge at the New South Wales State Championships in March.

Bruce is also a Life Member of South West Rocks SLSC, and SLS Mid North Coast Branch.

Below: A scene at the Mid North Coast Branch Championship Carnival held on Rainbow Beach, Bonny Hills.



Perpetual Trophies:

Bill Balkin Boat Trophy:	Wauchope Bonny Hills
J. H. Brown Trophy:	Port Macquarie
Masons Handicap Shield:	Wauchope Bonny Hills
Tony Hayes Overall Trophy:	Port Macquarie

The Junior Activities Committee also presented the following trophies:

Male Life Saver of the Year:	Andrew McKenzie (Port Macquarie)
Female Life Saver of the Year:	Jessica Oxley (Tacking Point)
Branch Championship Trophy:	Port Macquarie
Branch Handicap Trophy:	Hat Head
Branch March Past Trophy:	South West Rocks

MEDIA COVERAGE:

Our thanks to the media (television, radio and newspapers) for the coverage of Branch and Club events for the season. The past season has seen many interesting and beneficial items appearing on air, screen and print.

CONDOLENCES:

To all members of the Branch and Clubs who have suffered the loss of a loved one we extend our sympathy.

DINNERS AND PRESENTATIONS:

As this report is being prepared a number of the Clubs have or are preparing to hold their presentation evenings. These functions are a great time to recognise the work of individual members.

COMMUNICATIONS:

What a word "**Communication**". As defined by The Macquarie Dictionary: 1. *act or fact of communicating; transmission.* 2. *a document or message imparting views, information, etc.* 3. *the means of transmitting information by telephone, telegraph, radio, television, etc.*

In December I held a meeting with a number of Under 19 club members at South West Rocks, and a report of this meeting was presented at a Branch meeting with copies to all clubs. **Number one** matter of concern from these young people was the lack of communication with them from their Club Officers.

With this information to clubs from a group of young people I had hoped that communication at this level would improve; Imagine my surprise when I was told recently that an Under 16 member of a Club did not know that the club had a Junior Development Officer. However, it is a two-way street, and Younger members must also communicate with Club Officers.

I am not saying that this happens in all Clubs; but I don't doubt that there could be improvement.

If Clubs wish to maintain the membership of young people, better communication could be an answer.

Whilst on "communication" it would again appear that Delegates in some instances are not reporting back to their Clubs, activities from Branch meetings. Delegates are the Club contact to the Branch and it behoves them to give a fair and accurate report on these meetings. Matters of importance occurring at meetings and in between are conveyed to Clubs as soon as possible, either by telephone or letter by the Branch Secretary.

Another matter of concern is the lack of response from Clubs to the Branch enquiries.

Requests from Clubs for Training Courses during the year were followed up at State level, only to have Clubs and/or Members not respond as to numbers likely to attend and on what dates the Courses would be suitable. This action caused the cancellation of some Training Courses that are essential for the conducting of Examinations and Carnivals.

An effort is being made now to conduct these Courses in winter months (as the main excuse was there was not time during summer months). Letters have been forwarded to Clubs requesting numbers, but at the time of writing only Five (5) clubs have responded. I trust that the Branch will not have to cancel these programmes again.

Programmes at present being negotiated with State Centre are the Level 1 Officials and the Level 2 Officials Courses.

A Train the Trainer Course is also planned; this can be conducted by the Branch with the aid of a Schoolteacher or ex-Schoolteacher to deliver the programme; this is to comply with the OH&S requirements. Younger Members must attend this course if they wish to train Examination squads.

Again, it is hoped to have this programme during the winter months.

RESCUES FOR THE SEASON:

As mentioned previously there was an increase in rescues; details of individual clubs are as follows:

Club	TOTAL RESCUES With Tube, Board, IRB etc.	PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS	FIRST AID Stings, Cases etc.
Macksville Scotts Head	2	98	6
South West Rocks	3	353	73
Hat Head	3	16	17
Kempsey Crescent Head	35	40	52
Port Macquarie	15	215	76
Tacking Point	11	149	53
Wauchope Bonny Hills	11	400	23
Camden Haven	40	350	19
TOTALS	120	1621	319

MEMBERSHIP OF CLUBS:

The following is a breakdown of Club memberships:

Club	Active	Active Reserve	Under 19	Under 16	JAC 8-14 yrs	JAC 6-8 yrs	Other	GRAND TOTAL
Macksville Scotts Head	62	4	22	8	47	7		150
South West Rocks	72	4	13	12	55	25		181
Hat Head	25	2	5	20	59	14	57	182
Kempsey Crescent Head	61				64	1		126
Port Macquarie	109	9	23	29	151	72	85	478
Tacking Point	45	1	9	26	151	72	212	516
Wauchope Bonny Hills	65	10	35	13	27	20	44	214
Camden Haven	29	4	4	10	45	18	5	115
TOTALS	468	34	111	118	599	229	403	1962

COMMUNITY EAR/CPR PROGRAMME:

In conjunction with the local Community Health Service, Hastings Council and Kempsey Shire Council, the Branch conducted an EAR/CPR programme. This was well attended with some 230 members of the public availing themselves of the service.

Programmes were delivered at: Camden Haven, Bonny Hills/Lake Cathie, Wauchope, Tacking Point, Port Macquarie, Kempsey, Crescent Head and South West Rocks.

Thirteen Instructors from the Branch presented the programme.

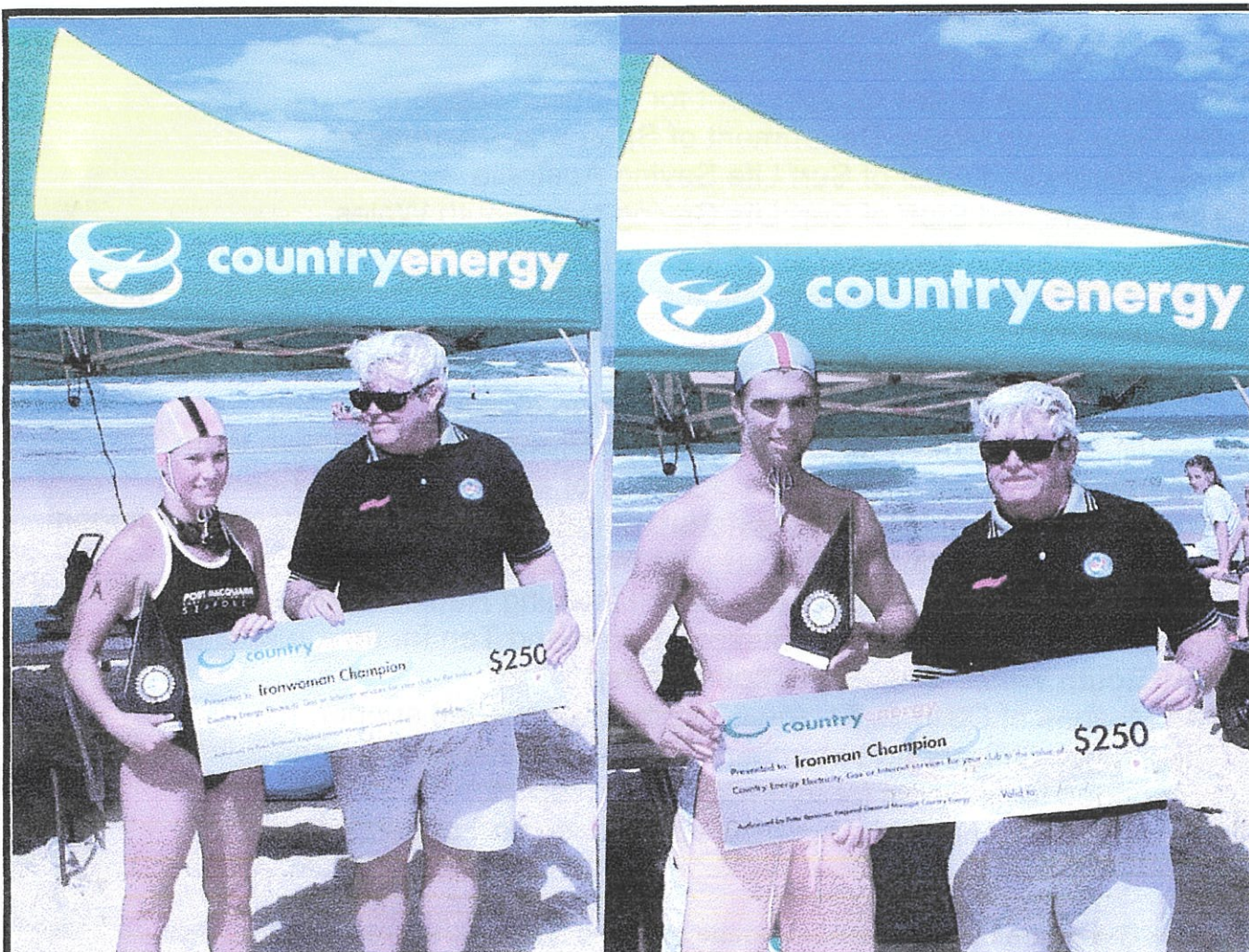
This programme was nominated by Ian Gordon, Northern Development Officer for Surf Life Saving NSW, for the Austswim Water Safety Awards. The Branch was successful in winning an Award for Community Service. Photograph of the presentation appears elsewhere in this report.

APPRECIATION:

At the Branch Dinner and Presentation evening a number of "In Appreciation" Certificates were handed to sponsors. Since that function additional Certificates have been forwarded to other sponsors not present on the evening.

THANKS:

The thanks of the Branch are extended to the following businesses and organisations for their continuing support, without which it would be difficult for the Branch to continue:



Country Energy Ironpersons for the 2001-2002 season with Branch President, Dennis O'Sullivan, presenting a "big" cheque to, at left Candice Langfield (Port Macquarie) and at right Lindsay Ainsworth (Macksville Scotts Head).

A Special "Thank You"...

On behalf of the Branch I would like to express a special "thank you" to Doug Cheetham and members of the staff of Wrights Accountant, of Kempsey, for their dedication and service to Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch Inc. over many years, in the preparation of the Branch's annual financial statements. This service has enabled copies of their analysis to be printed in the Branch Annual Report and distributed to members prior to the Annual General Meeting.

- * The Australian Government for financial support
- * The New South Wales Government for financial support
- * The New South Wales Department of Sport and Recreation
- * The Officers and Staff of Surf Life Saving Australia
- * The Officers and Staff of Surf Life Saving New South Wales
- * Hastings Council, Kempsey Shire Council, Nambucca Shire Council
- * The parliamentarians representing the Branch Area, Mark Vaille, MHR, Luke Hartsyker MHR, Robert Oakshott MP, and Andrew Stoner, MP.
- * Country Energy for its financial support to member Clubs
- * NBN Television for its support and promotion of Surf Life Saving
- * Coastline Credit Union for assistance with Branch representative team
- * Bananacoast Credit Union for its donation of a Patrol Rescue Board
- * Wayne McAdam of McAdam Surfcraft, donation of repairs to rescue equipment
- * Port Macquarie Marine Radio Base for monitoring our radio calls
- * Radio Stations MC/FM, the ABC, Easy Listening Radio, the Regional Newspapers and Television Stations Prime and Ten for their media coverage
- * New South Wales Masons for sponsorship
- * The Masons of Districts 51 and 62 for their continued support
- * The Branch Officers and Members, Club Executive and Members, who responded to requests for information and reports
- * To my wife Patricia for her continued patience and understanding

Most will be aware by now that I will not be standing for the positions of Hon. Branch Secretary and Hon. Public Officer of the Branch. I re-iterate my comments at the Branch Dinner that I believe it is time for a younger person to carry on the position of Branch Secretary. To say that I will not miss the position is an understatement, and there maybe times when I wonder what I am going to do with the spare 20 or 30 hours a week!!!

However, I have discussed with President Dennis the possibility of creating another position within the Branch that I shall be particularly interested in; and the fact that I wish to become more involved in coaching at a Club level should take away the spare time.

I thank you all for your assistance, co-operation and understanding during the time that I have served you as Hon. Branch Secretary.



MAX WATERS OAM Ac.Sp.Admin.
Hon. Secretary,
Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch Inc.

2nd July, 2002

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia Mid North Coast Branch Incorporated:

Scope

We have audited the attached special purpose financial report of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia Mid North Coast Branch Incorporated for the period from 1st June 2001 to 31st May 2002, comprising of Income & Expenditure Statement and Statement of Funds for the Club. The Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein, and have determined that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of the members.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members of the Club for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's accountability requirements. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates, to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion the financial report of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia Mid North Coast Branch Incorporated presents fairly as at 31st May 2002 the Statement of Funds and the Income & Expenditure of the Club for the period in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act.

WRIGHTS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



Douglas F Cheetham
12 June 2002
Upper Level, 44 Forth Street
KEMPSEY NSW 2440

KEMPSEY

Upper level, 44 Forth St,
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Fax: 02 6562 8349

SOUTH WEST ROCKS

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South West Rocks NSW 2431
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SYDNEY

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Ph: 02 9251 2228

Email:
accnts@wrightsca.com.au




**SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MID NORTH COAST BRANCH INCORPORATED**

**ACCUMULATED FUNDS STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JUNE 2001 TO 31ST MAY 2002**

2001		2002
\$21,944.73	Opening Balance	\$23,494.04
<u>1,549.31</u>	Net Surplus(Deficit) for the year	<u>(3,808.80)</u>
<u>\$23,494.04</u>	Accumulated Funds as at 31st May 2002	<u>\$19,685.24</u>

Represented By:

\$11,935.10	Cash at Commonwealth Bank	\$7,621.81
<u>93.34</u>	Coastline Credit Union Passbook Account	<u>93.34</u>
\$11,465.60	Coastline Credit Union Term Deposit	\$11,970.09
<u>\$23,494.04</u>	TOTAL	<u>\$19,685.24</u>



**SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MID NORTH COAST BRANCH INCORPORATED**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE
PERIOD FROM 1ST JUNE 2001 TO 31ST MAY 2002**

RECEIPTS

2001		2002.00
727.28	Affiliation Fees	727.28
3,905.00	Awards	5,252.46
97.36	Bank Interest Received - Commonwealth Bank	65.58
612.03	Bank Interest Received - Coastline Credit Union	504.49
9,006.59	Branch Allocation	8,626.81
1,509.10	Branch Dinner	1,140.00
811.64	Carnival Entry Fees	1,227.97
0.00	Computer Course	38.00
0.00	Computer - Sale	500.00
1,640.00	Directors & Officers Insurance	2,560.00
100.00	Donations	1,035.00
2,084.10	Interbranch Team	3,606.01
0.00	JAC Development Camp	2,000.00
639.50	Manuals & Handbooks	20.00
11,400.00	Public Liability Insurance	14,960.00
250.00	Refund/Reimbursements/Overpayment	100.00
0.50	Sundry Fees	0.00
1,300.90	Secretary's Telephone Reimbursements	1,103.62
13,020.00	Sponsorship	0.00
0.00	Stationery Sales	252.50
50.00	Tee Shirt Sales	0.00
<u>350.00</u>	Trailer/Gear Hire	<u>145.00</u>
47,504.00	RECEIPTS	43,864.72
2,820.05	GST Received from Supplies	2,298.35
<u>473.00</u>	GST/BAS Refund	<u>969.00</u>
3,293.05		3,267.35
50,797.05	TOTAL RECEIPTS	47,132.07



PAYMENTS

2001		2002
3,468.50	Awards, Trophies & Medals	5,213.00
0.61	Bank Charges	44.00
0.00	Banners	112.50
1,545.45	Branch Dinner Expenses	1,113.64
1,360.00	Carnival Expenses - including entries, ribbons, etc	0.00
72.60	Computer & Fax Repairs and Maintenance	211.08
1,845.00	Directors & Officers Insurance	2,880.00
0.00	Education Expenses	105.45
37.00	Filing Fees (Dept of Fair Trading)	38.00
170.91	Floral Tributes & Arrangements	94.54
0.00	JAC Allocation & Expenses	2,400.00
0.00	Manuals	349.50
170.50	Meetings & Exenses	665.26
0.00	Plant & Equipment Starting Gun Caps	129.55
686.00	Swim Cans	0.00
1,000.00	Rescue Board	0.00
0.00	Computer & Printer	5,752.73
2,168.26	Postage, photocopying, printing & stationery	1,870.11
12,825.00	Public Liability Insurance	16,830.00
82.98	Repairs & Maintenance of Equipment	0.00
250.00	Refund/Overpaid	0.00
1,060.00	Rental - Storage & Electricity	1,130.00
400.00	Secretary's Expenses (petty cash)	0.00
2,103.67	Secretary's Telephone	2,181.54
4,104.48	Shirts, Uniforms, Swimmers, Badges, Bags, Shorts	0.00
8,290.00	Sponsorship	0.00
0.00	Travelling Expenses - Other	92.00
2,426.46	Travelling & Expenses - Interbranch Team	5,830.61
0.00	Trailer, Plant & Equipment Insurance	814.00
<u>1,538.55</u>	Trailer & Expenses	<u>63.50</u>
45,605.97	PAYMENTS	47,921.01
3,326.77	GST Paid for Acquisitions	3,031.86
<u>315.00</u>	GST/BAS Payment	<u>188.00</u>
3,641.77		3,219.86
49,247.74	TOTAL PAYMENTS	51,140.87
	Less Previous (2000 yr) unrepresented cheque	<u>200.00</u>
		50,940.87
<u>\$1,549.31</u>	NET PROFIT/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	<u>(\$3,808.80)</u>



**SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MID NORTH COAST BRANCH INCORPORATED**

**BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JUNE 2001 TO 31ST MAY 2002**

COMMONWEALTH BANK

Account No. 2560 0080 0558

Balance brought forward per bank statement	\$11,935.10
Add previous unpresented cheque (14.12.00)	<u>200.00</u>
	12,135.10
Add Receipts	<u>46,627.58</u>
	58,762.68
Add Outstanding Deposits	<u>0.00</u>
	58,762.68
Less Payments	<u>50,700.87</u>
	8,061.81
Less Outstanding Cheques (#445125)	<u>440.00</u>
Bank Balance as at 31st May 2002	\$7,621.81

CASH BOOK RECONCILIATION

Opening Balance brought forward at 1st June 2001	\$11,935.10
Add back previous unpresented cheque #455015	<u>200.00</u>
	12,135.10
Excess Expenses Over Income	<u>(4,513.29)</u>
Cash Book Closing Balance at 31st May 2002	\$7,621.81



**SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MID NORTH COAST BRANCH INCORPORATED**

**COMMONWEALTH BANK ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JUNE 2001 TO 31ST MAY 2002**

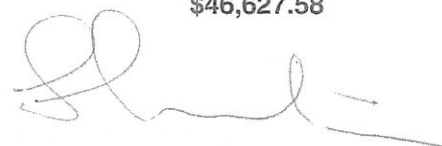
Commonwealth Bank Account 06 2560 008800558

INCOME

DESCRIPTION	\$ Excluding GST	\$ GST Free	\$Totals
Affiliation Fees	727.28	0.00	727.28
Awards	5,252.46	0.00	5,252.46
Bank Interest	0.00	65.58	65.58
Branch Allocation	8,626.81	0.00	8,626.81
Branch Dinner	1,140.00	0.00	1,140.00
Carnival Entry Fees	1,213.97	14.00	1,227.97
Directors & Officers Insurance	2,560.00	0.00	2,560.00
Donations - Mid North Coast JAC	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Donations - J Moran Bank Fee Payment	0.00	35.00	35.00
Interbranch Team	1,136.36	2,469.65	3,606.01
Manuals & Handbooks	20.00	0.00	20.00
Public Liability Insurance	0.00	14,960.00	14,960.00
Refunds/Reimbursements/Overpays	0.00	100.00	100.00
JAC Development Camp	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Secretary's Telephone Reimbursements	1,103.62	0.00	1,103.62
Stationery	0.00	252.50	252.50
Computer Course	38.00	0.00	38.00
Computer Sale	500.00	0.00	500.00
Gear/Trailer Hire	<u>145.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>145.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,463.50	\$18,896.73	\$43,360.23
Add GST Received			2,298.35
Add GST /BAS Refund Received			<u>969.00</u>
			3,267.35

TOTAL DEPOSITS TO ACCOUNT

\$46,627.58



**SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MID NORTH COAST BRANCH INCORPORATED**

**COMMONWEALTH BANK ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JUNE 2001 TO 31ST MAY 2002**

Commonwealth Bank Account 06 2560 008800558

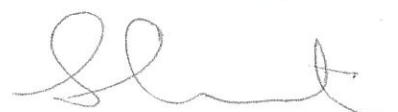
EXPENSES

DESCRIPTION	\$ Excluding GST	\$ GST Free	\$Totals
Awards,Trophies & Medals	5,213.00	0.00	5,213.00
Bank Fee	0.00	44.00	44.00
Branch Dinner Expenses	1,113.64	0.00	1,113.64
Carnival Expenses - Starting Gun Caps	129.55	0.00	129.55
Computer & Fax Repairs & Maintenance	211.08	0.00	211.08
Education Expenses	105.45	0.00	105.45
Filing Fees (Dept Fair Trading)	0.00	38.00	38.00
Floral Tributes & Arrangements	94.54	0.00	94.54
JAC Allocation Expenses	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00
Meeting & Expenses	640.26	25.00	665.26
Plant & Equipment - Computer & Printer	5,752.73	0.00	5,752.73
Rental - Storage & Electricity	1,130.00	0.00	1,130.00
Postage, photocopy, printing & Stationery	1,670.11	200.00	1,870.11
Public Liability Insurance	0.00	16,830.00	16,830.00
Directors & Officers Insurance	2,880.00	0.00	2,880.00
Secretary's Telephone	2,181.54	0.00	2,181.54
Banners	112.50	0.00	112.50
Manuals	349.50	0.00	349.50
Travelling Expenses	92.00	0.00	92.00
Travelling & Expenses - Interbranch Team	5,429.03	401.58	5,830.61
Trailer & Plant and Equipment Insurance	814.00	0.00	814.00
Trailer & Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>63.50</u>	<u>63.50</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$30,318.93	\$17,602.08	\$47,921.01

Add GST Paid	3,031.86
Add GST/BAS Payment	<u>188.00</u>
	3,219.86

TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ACCOUNT **\$51,140.87**

EXPENSES OVER INCOME **(\$4,513.29)**



**SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
MID NORTH COAST BRANCH INCORPORATED**

**BANK ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JUNE 2001 TO 31ST MAY 2002**

COASTLINE CREDIT UNION

Term Deposit No. 8817

Term 12 months

Balance brought forward per bank statement	\$11,465.60
Add Interest Earned	<u>504.49</u>
	11,970.09
Less Bank Fees	<u>0.00</u>
Bank Balance as at 31st May 2002	<u>\$11,970.09</u>

Passbook Account No. 15635 S1

Opening Balance brought forward at 1st June 2001	\$93.34
Bank Balance at 31st May 2002	<u>\$93.34</u>



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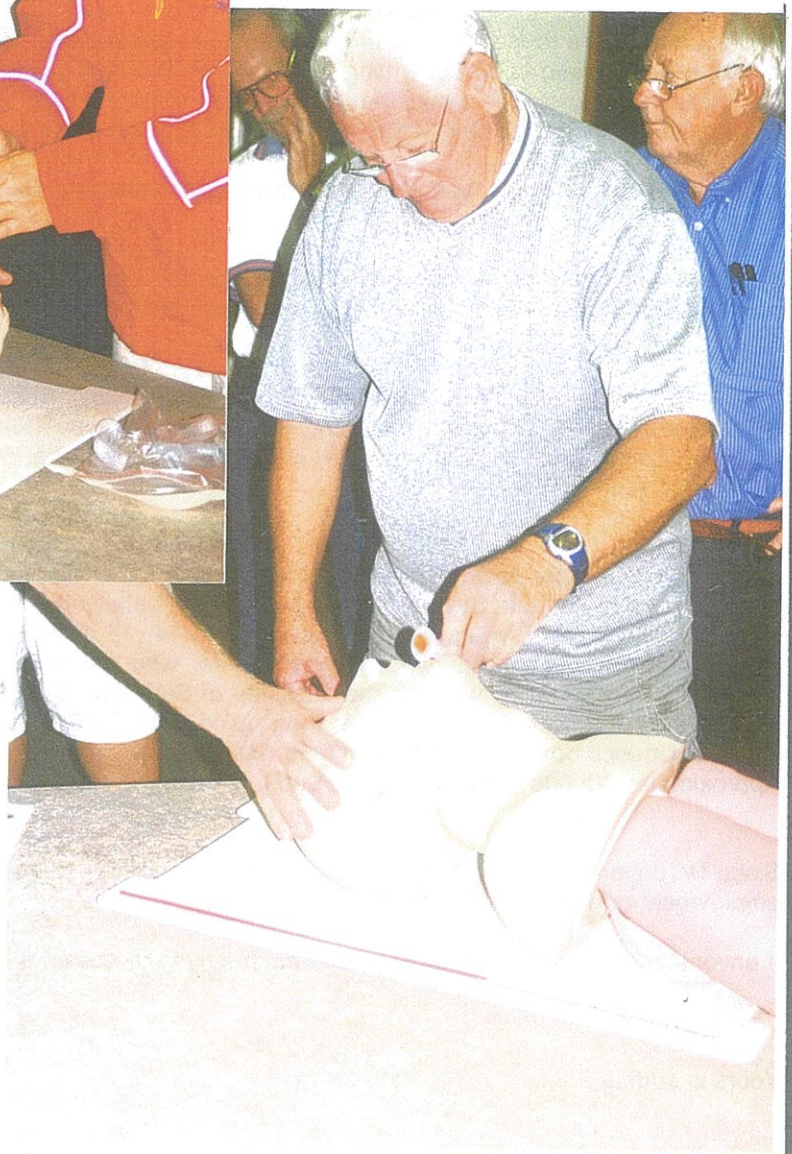
Introduction to Oropharyngeal Airways

State Education Officers Andrew "Chubby" Chubb (chairman) and Charlene Wellard (member) attended the Branch Board of Control AGM in May, and gave Board Members a talk on and the implementation of the Oropharyngeal Airways procedure.



As usual "Chubby" put his message across superbly, and members came away satisfied that they could use the new procedure, as well as instruct others on its use.

Our photos show: Port Macquarie members Hugh Mackay (president) and Ken Wilson being shown the technique by Charlene, whilst Camden Haven's John Vipond, is shown measuring the airway on the dummy to ascertain if it is the correct size.



Director of Life Saving . . .

The season was not as long as the last one, when the Olympic Games were staged.

Club Patrols have improved with a big improvement from Kempsey Crescent Head Surf Club.

All clubs should have enough equipment to Patrol their beaches after the Minister John Watkins' Sport and Recreation Grant, which was well received as were the \$ for \$ grants and the Direct Assistance.

Clubs must have good storage for their Patrol Equipment, as they are important items.

The Awards are down a little but Bruce Caldwell will report on this matter. These have been a headache to Bruce – especially the treatment from State Centre. I would suggest Clubs have Award Training through the winter and this would free up more time during the Surfing season. The commonsense members know that summer can become a nightmare with Instructional Days and Seminars. These should be held in the winter and I hope that we would get better attendance – even with Rugby League in full swing.

It looks like we are to move into Computer Warfare – everyone saying they have the "Best System". Most members do not have the time to do everything on computer. E-mail is Junk Mail. I know as Director of Life Saving I am not getting ALL circulars; then again does State Centre want you to know. During the year I left three calls on a Surf Life Saving Official to call me back, I also left the message with State Centre. Up to now I still have not had a call back.

Computers – all I can say "you can't throw one into the surf and say 'rescue that person' "!

We have had incidents in all districts of drownings and once again I must say that there were no fatalities while the patrols were on the beach. The season's seas were flat to moderate with a few big seas.

I thank my Supervisors, John Vipond (Wauchope Bonny Hills), Bob Smith (Camden Haven), Graham Bingham (Port Macquarie), Dennis O'Sullivan (Tacking Point), Tony Hayes (Kempsey Crescent Head and Hat Head), Kevin Ruscoe (South West Rocks) and Bill Richardson (Macksville Scotts Head). I hope all are available for the 2002/2003 season.

Members of Surf Life Saving are treated like mushrooms – many decisions made by a few, it seems to me. I have had 44 years in Surf Life Saving – active all my life. I believe the Junior Clubs are losing members as they start too young – at 5, 6 and 7 years; by the time they are 14, 15 or 16, they want a change in sport. The only ones that continue are the beach sprinters and swimmers, who usually win all the time in the "Nippers". We need the "plodder" for Patrol work, which is the backstop of Surf Life Saving. I believe the "Nippers" should start at 10 years and do their Resuscitation Certificate; then up to U/15 Rescue Certificate and at 15 gain the Bronze Medallion. National Council boasts 100,000 members. Have you ever counted the amount of these 100,000 that do Patrols? Approximately 25,000 (not too good for Surf Life Saving).

Since U/18 went to U/19, Country Clubs suffer because the 18 year olds have to leave their country towns to gain employment or attend University.

If anyone has a problem with my Report I am happy to discuss any matter.

Yours in surfing,

Michael ("Cactus") Moran

REGISTRAR'S REPORT...

Surf Life Saving Awards for this season are 53 fewer than the previous season of 2000-2001. Bronze Medallions are down while there has been an increase in Surf Rescue Certificates for the season. ARC Awards and IRBD Awards are also down from last season. Community Awards are also down from last season.

Some Clubs are not carrying out their ARC and IRBD updates during the season. In this day of litigation there may be trouble for Clubs if an IRB Driver has an accident and it is proven that the Driver was not proficient, then it could be costly for the Club concerned.

This coming season will see the introduction of the new State Watch and CPL Programme on the computer system.

This will see a change in the way Clubs request an examination for Awards this season.

It will also see a change for me in the way that I process the Awards for the Clubs. Instead of filling out Form 14C and posting them to Sydney every month, I will now have to enter them into the new computer programme and send them to Sydney using the internet.

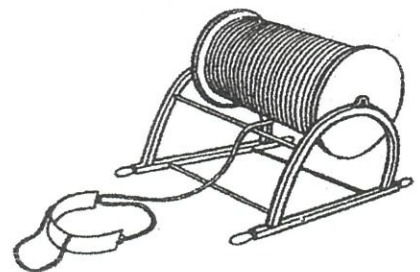
The age of electronics is with us. It is a new learning curve for us all.

Could all Clubs please send in your examination work cards once the Examiners have signed them so that I can process them and send them of to Sydney. It is the Clubs' responsibility to forward the paper work on to me NOT THE EXAMINERS.

I would like to thank all members of the executive, DOS, MAX, CACTUS, JUDY for their tireless efforts and assistance during the season; also to the eight Branch Clubs, thank you for your patience in waiting for your Awards to come back from State Centre after their mix up in trying to introduce a new Awards System half way through the season.

Finally, I would like to wish all Clubs a successful 2002/2003 season.

Bruce Caldwell,
Registrar,
Surf Life Saving Mid North Coast Branch Inc.



AWARDS FOR 2001/2002 SEASON

AWARDS FOR THE 2001/2002 SEASON ARE DOWN 53 FROM 2000/2001 SEASON.

MID NORTH COAST BRANCH												
SLSA AWARD & COMMUNITY AWARD UPDATES FOR 2001/2002 SEASON												
AWARD	CLUB	MSH	SWR	HH	KCH	PM	TP	WBH	CH	TOTAL	00/01	99/00
25 YEAR										0	8	6
50 YEAR												
RC/CPR UP DATE									1	1	2	2
FAC/SFA UP DATE									1	1	3	7
FAE UP DATE												2
ARC UP DATE			5	5		17	28		6	61	54	40
ARCE UP DATE												
IRBD UP DATE							9	16	8	33	35	30
ROC UP DATE												1
ALSC UP DATE												
* C.R.C. / BRC										0	31	12
* C.A.R.C.							12			12		
* C.R.C/C.P.R.												
* SURF RESCUE												
* CRC/CPR UP DATE												
* C.A.R.C. UP DATE												
* C.S.L.S.C.												
* RC/CPR UP DATE												
* COMMUNITY AWARDS & UP DATES												
TOTAL			5	5		17	49	16	16	108		
SEASON 2000/2001		41	12	7	3	15	16	12	27		133	
SEASON 1999/2000			8		6	23	19	15	29			100

Below a smiling David Croad (Hat Head), accepts the Bananacoast Credit Union's Patrol Rescue Board from an equally smiling Credit Union Chairman, Bill Singleton, with Hat Head President, Sue Croad looking on.

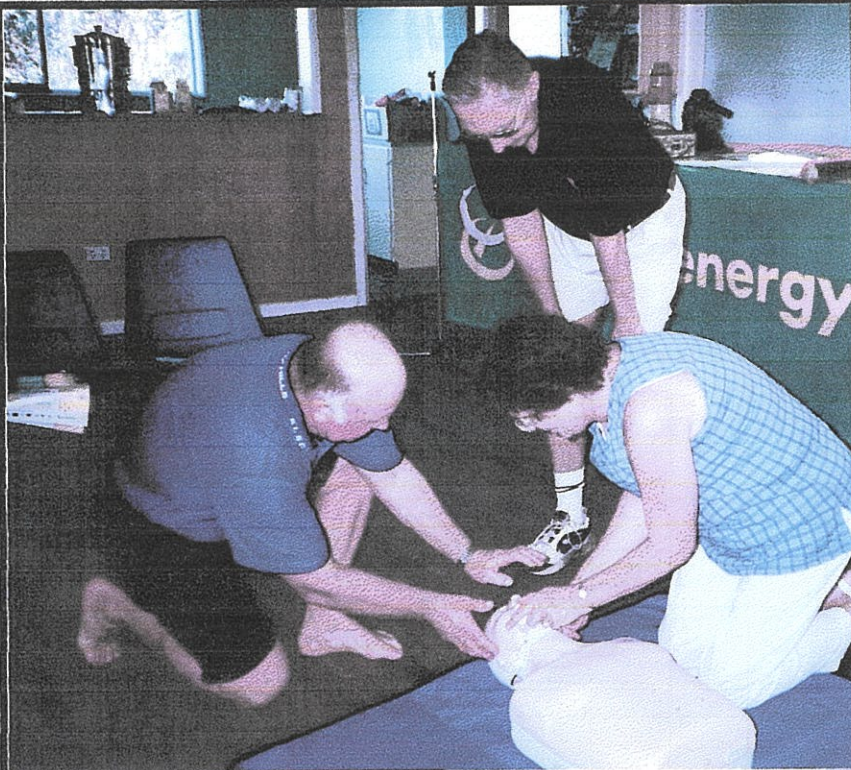


COMMUNITY EAR/CPR PROGRAMME

The Community EAR/CPR Programme conducted this year in conjunction with Community Health, Hastings and Macleay Councils was a resounding success with 230 members of the public availing themselves of programme.

Over 12 life savers from Camden Haven, Wauchope Bonny Hills, Tacking Point, Port Macquarie, Kempsey Crescent Head and South West Rocks took part in the short training sessions.

Our photos show, at top, Bob "Chalkie" Smith (Wauchope Bonny Hills), showing the finer points to a participant, and below part of the group taking part at Port Macquarie.



COMPETITION REPORT...

When no one was prepared to accept the position of Director of Competition at the Annual General Meeting it was decided to proceed and appoint someone at a later date. That date still not has arrived.

As Branch Secretary I represented the Branch at the State Directors of Competition Conference in Sydney and submitted a detailed report of that meeting to the Branch and Clubs.

As a result of this report it was decided that only Level 2 Officials could referee Carnivals in the Mid North Coast Branch.

Several names of Level 2 Officials were forthcoming and with the likes of Sheryl Pearson, Louis Ballangarry, Bob Smith, Michael Moran, and Max Waters all carnivals were covered for the season. A large number of Level 1 Officials took part in the conducting of the carnivals.

It is time that the Branch took stock of its qualified Level 1 and Level 2 Carnival Officials. An attempt during the season was made to conduct a Level 1 Course; however, it was impossible as too many other activities are taking place in the summer. Arrangements are now in hand with State Centre to conduct a Level 1 Officials Course, possibly over the second weekend in August. Some Clubs have not yet indicated if they would have candidates or not. Remember Junior Activities members wishing to officiate at surf carnivals must as a minimum be a Level 1 Official. When final information is received from State Centre, Clubs will be notified.

Level 1 Courses can be conducted by State Officials in the Branch; however Level 2 Officials courses are a different matter, and could require attendance at lectures in Sydney. The Branch needs more Level 2 Officials. Clubs and their members should think seriously about attending one of these courses.

The results of the Carnival point scores appears in the Secretary's report.

Thanks to Max Waters, the Branch now has a complete new set of Beach and Water Flags for the conducting of carnival events.

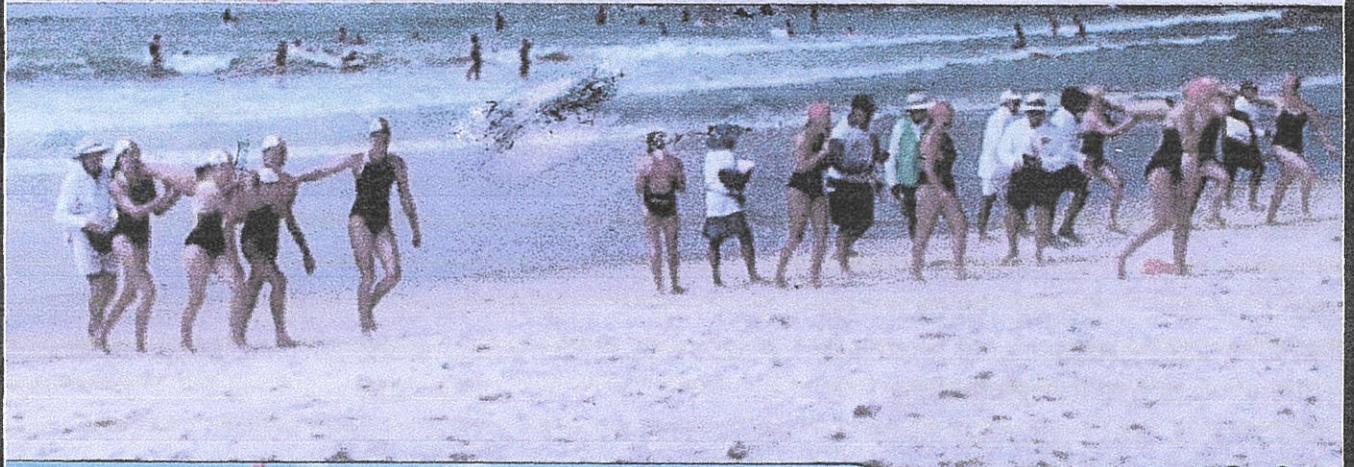
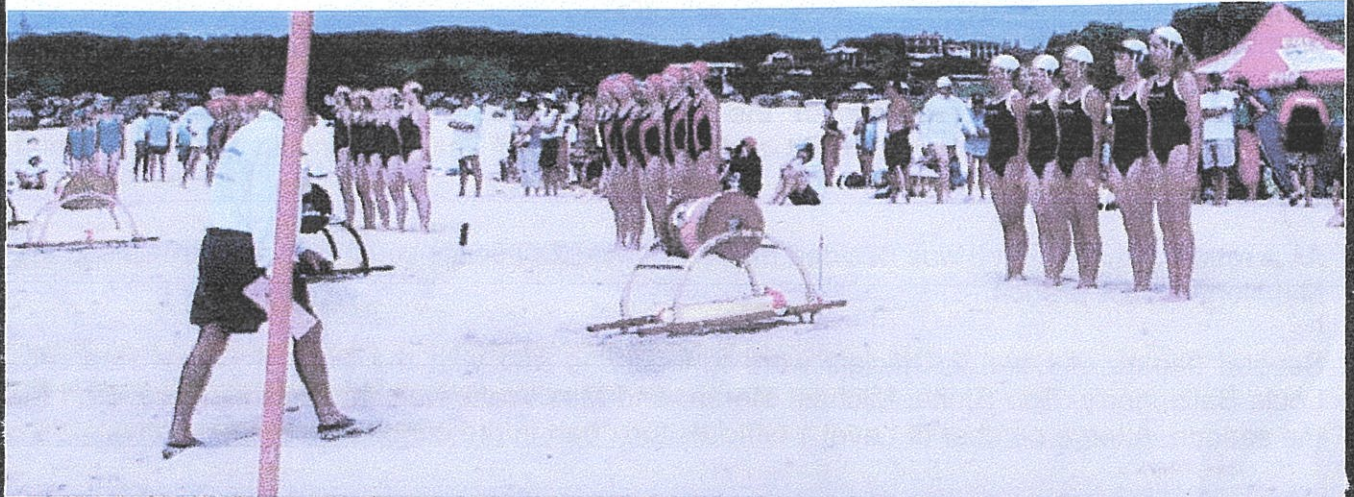
Carnival Gear appears to only require some minor attention for the coming season. However, the replacement of missing pieces is a costly procedure and I feel that the Branch MUST impose a condition on gear use, both in our own Branch and outside, that any gear lost or broken be replaced by the Club or persons using it.

Being a Carnival Official especially Level 2 is similar to that of a football referee. He or she can receive a lot of criticism and very little praise. One should remember that Level 2 Officials decisions are not made lightly, and are usually made after consultation with other senior members of the Board of Control. **The welfare of the competitor is the main criteria for any decisions made despite what members of the public and some Club members may feel.**

All the best for season 2002-2003.

Max Waters, OAM

Will we see scenes like this on beaches in the Mid North Coast Branch
next season?



BOARD OF JUNIOR ACTIVITIES...

The 2001-2002 season has been another successful one for the Branch. There have been many highlights. The opportunities that are created for our Nippers to develop their awareness of surf conditions as well as their skills in the water and on the beach are attributable to the many dedicated and active members, officials and parents who contribute their time, energy and experience at Club and Branch level. This Branch has been particularly fortunate to have had many such people give of their time and experience to our young members ultimately ensuring the continued strength of the Surf Life Saving movement and all that it represents.

The Branch conducted several carnivals during the season. They were held at Port Macquarie, a combined Junior/Senior carnival at Crescent Head and the final carnival at Camden Haven. The Port Macquarie carnival went very smoothly. The Crescent Head carnival was conducted in more challenging water conditions and it was a little disappointing to see the Senior Branch Beach Superintendent cancel some of the junior water events when the water conditions improved as the afternoon progressed. The Nippers acquitted themselves well at the Camden Haven carnival in the prevailing conditions.

I would like to acknowledge the great efforts of Dave Croad, Beach Superintendent and his Deputy Steve Rice for the efficient way they run our Branch carnivals. Their organisational skills have been tremendous. They are conscious of the needs of all age groups and have even planned events to ensure the youngest Nippers are finished first. Credit must also go to Branch officials and water safety for their skills in ensuring events are run efficiently while catering to competitors well being at all times.

In addition I would like to acknowledge Mike Stevenson, Steve Rice, Graeme Mason, David and Sue Croad for the time and commitment they gave to support our Inter-Branch team. While members continue to dedicate an enormous amount of time in providing coaching, support, encouragement, transport etc. our Branch will continue to prosper as our Nippers develop with the opportunities they gain.

We had seven very good nominations for Branch Nippers of the Year. Jessica Oxley and Andrew MacKenzie were selected as our Branch representatives. From all accounts they acquitted themselves well before the State selection committee where they were apparently well placed. Thank you to all those who supported them in their preparation for their presentation and interview.

The Development Camp was brought forward to early in the season. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Kerry Fisher and Karen Young in organising a great camp. The Lower North Coast combined with us for this Camp for the first time. Steve Rice should receive credit for suggesting this initiative. We had approximately 95 participants. Thanks must also go to Peter Cross for organising Certificates and donations from various businesses so that the Nipper participants had a swag of things to take away with them. It was great to see so many senior members and parents lend a hand as educators and chaperones too. Without the willingness of all these people to be involved in providing training and developing a positive culture for Nippers, Surf Life Saving would lose many of their Life Savers of the future.

A special thanks to Mike Stevenson for all his hard work and dedication in the demanding position of Secretary. To Don MacKenzie for presenting very clear accounts that even I can understand; Kerry Fisher for her diligent work as Registrar and with Karen Young and Kim Marshall as Education/Youth Development Officers; David Croad for his great work as Beach Superintendent; Graeme Mason for his assistance with the Gear and for his willingness to provide support and advice. Also to everyone else for their great contribution to the activities of the Branch.

Last but not least I would like to pay special tribute to Reg Laws and Phil Manning who have been their Club representatives to this Branch for a number of years and have indicated they will not be seeking for renomination as Club representatives at this Annual General Meeting. They too have made significant contributions to Junior Development in Surf Life. My apologies if I have left anyone out.

I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to be the Chairperson of this Branch for the past year. I wish the Branch well for the future.

Ray Rushton,
Chairperson

Junior Activities Life Savers of the Year, at left Jessica Oxley, of Tacking Point Surf Club and at right Andrew McKenzie of Port Macquarie Surf Club with retiring President of the JAC Ray Rushton



MACKSVILLE SCOTTS HEAD SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

*

The 2001-2002 season was a mixed one for the Club.

We are again happy to report "No Lives Lost" during Patrol hours. However, our Patrol numbers had dropped considerably by the end of the season. If not for the commitment of the older members of the Club, we may have had difficulty in meeting our obligations.

We again conducted a successful carnival, one which continues to go from strength to strength, and was again our major fundraiser for the year.

The Club's competitive efforts was an improvement on the previous year. We were fortunate to win the Lifesaver Relay at Branch, as well as having finalists and placegetters in Masters events at the State and Australian Championships.

The Club wishes to thank its Patrol Sponsors, many of whom have been involved with the Club since the inception of the sponsorship arrangement, the Nambucca Shire Council, and other supporters who have helped in any way during the year.

In closing we again thank our members who have given up their time this year for Patrols, Fundraising and other Club activities.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Bell,

Hon. Secretary.

SOUTH WEST ROCKS SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

*

South West Rocks Surf Life Saving Club started season 2001/2 early by hosting the NSW IRB Titles. Held over two days it proved to be a non stop weekend that was deemed so well run that we have been awarded the running of it for three consecutive years, 2004/6.

Our Club has had 80 patrolling members this season, and are proud of the fact that while we did perform some rescue, we had no lives lost on our beaches during patrol hours. A job well done.

South West Rocks also hosted the Branch Team selection carnival, and was proud to have 9 members make the Branch team.

Throughout the season South West Rocks were the only Branch Club to compete at all branch carnivals, as well as at Country, State and Australian Championships.

We took out three Branch Champion awards in the U/16, U/19 and Open Age groups and were extremely pleased to have competitors in finals at all major carnivals.

This season saw one of our Life Members, Bruce Caldwell awarded Life Membership of Surf Life Saving New South Wales; a great achievement for Bruce, and one that the Club and no doubt his family are proud of.

Overall we can look back on season 2001/2 as a successful one and look forward to an even bigger and better season for 2002/3.

Anne Pearce,

Director of Administration.

HAT HEAD SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

*

The season couldn't have started any better, with the receipt of State Government' Sports and Recreation donation to all the Clubs in New South Wales.

This year we seen an increase in membership. With some junior families transferring from South West Rocks and some past members returning with their children.

We still however only had enough Senior Award members to conduct Sunday Patrols.

We hope that by 2003-2004 we will have sufficient Bronze Medallion holders to once again patrol our beaches on Saturdays. This will only be possible if we can hold onto the current "Rookies" we have. Of the Surf Rescue Certificates awarded this season only one person did not fulfil their "Rookie" duties.

For the first time in a long time Hat Head had competitors at all Branch Carnivals as well as the Combined Country titles at Mollymook. Our Club has already booked accommodation for next year's combined carnival.

Kimberley Sheldrick continued on from the junior ranks and took out Silver and Bronze at Country Titles and Mike Stevenson took out Gold at Branch Titles.

Not many Sundays go by without our Senior members taking part in a swim, board, sprint and flags. The kids love it and give us heaps.

I'm proud to have won the Branch Female Life Saver of the Year; especially following Kevin Worthing's win last year.

Our Club held it's Annual Presentation Night mid May. Max Waters and Tony Hayes from Branch attended and I hope they enjoyed the feed.

David Croad won "John Goodwin Memorial" Club Person of the Year and Peter Stevenson was the winner of "John Watson Memorial" Junior Club Person of the Year.

The Club's Annual General Meeting will be held in early August when it all starts again.

Thanks to the Branch for their support of our Club again this year.

Sue Croad,
President

KEMPSEY CRESCENT HEAD SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

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The season went well with Patrols being done on Saturdays and Sundays. The Beach became difficult to manage in the later part of the season due to the development of a sand bar in the usually safe patrolled area.

Due to vigilance by the Patrols in taking many preventative measures up to the closure of the beach on several occasions, rescues were minimal and those that were performed were done effectively with either a rescue board or IRB.

During the season we held a successful weekend with a Junior, Open and Masters carnivals being held over the weekend of the 80th birthday of the Club.

Junior activity was strong in the early part of the season, but fell away after the Christmas break.

The following awards were gained during the year:

- 19 Surf Rescue Certificates
- 3 Patrol Captains
- 2 Silver Medallions
- 1 Examiner
- 2 Bronze Medallions
- 1 Radio Operators Certificate

There were 34 Senior Active Members, 24 Cadets and 63 Junior Activity members.

During the year we have proudly added two new Life Members to our history.

The receiving of a complete IRB allowed the Club to sell off the oldest boat, and we now have two IRB's in excellent order.

At the end of the season Coogee Club donated a surf boat to our Club and we hope to recommence this activity.

The Committee worked well to keep the Club on a healthy financial footing with some hard work raising funds, which was done by a small, dedicated group.

Obviously there is a challenging time in front of the Executive to raise the number of Active Patrolling members.

Maurice Fuller,
for the Executive

PORT MACQUARIE SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB Inc.

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Another successful season on Flynn's Beach with no lives lost during patrol hours although the patrol reports indicate a high incidence of rescue and incidents compared to recent years. The beach was well manned by fourteen patrols with an average of seven members in each patrol.

Thank you to Sally Moriarty and her assistants Chloe Wehlow and Jenna Witchard for training the nippers for the Surf Life Saving Certificates and the seniors for the Bronze Medallion. This will boost our numbers in patrols for next season.

Two patrol members sustained injuries on the beach, Jenna Witchard and Larry Brook, both broke feet whilst entering water.

Several members were involved in the unsuccessful IRB search for Bridie Medderman on 16-18 February.

Senior Active members have increased from 93 to 109, and nippers have increased from 152 to 182 this season which is very encouraging.

Major Awards:

Best Clubman won by Col Owen

Patrol People of the Year: Steve and Wendy Rice

Open Male Champion won by Grant Hodge

Open Female champion won by Paula Stone

U/19 Female Champion, Cian Morgan

U/19 Male Champion, Paul Williams

Over 30 Male, Tony Wright

Over 30 Female, Donna Cross (also Rookie of the Year)

Competition:

The Club enjoyed some success at various carnivals. Some highlights were:

Nationals: Bronze, Nathan Valla U/16 Board Riding

Larry Brook and Tony Hallinan achieved their normal swag of medals

The enthusiastic U/16 R & R team coached by Dos O'Sullivan did very well

State: Many competitors made it through to semi finals but were unable to make it to the next step apart from the evergreen Larry Brook who did well again

Country: A small contingent represented the Club at Mollymook and enjoyed the carnival

Branch: Many individual successes were overshadowed by the major blow of the loss of the Branch championships to Wauchope Bonny Hills

Gear: NO major purchases this year – the gear was maintained as required with a few necessary and expensive board repairs.

Building Extensions: Extensions to the rear of the clubhouse continue, with the brickwork, waterproofing and sky lights being completed. Planning continues to refurbish change rooms and members area.

Nippers: Membership up to 182. 22 travelled to NSW Country Titles at Mollymook, with 18 competitors making quarter finals or better. This was judged as a very good performance. A highlight was a Bronze in the March Past.

Paul Adams,
Hon. Secretary.

TACKING POINT SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

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The current season has seen a strong development in many areas of the club, although it has been tinged with sadness due to the tragic drownings at a remote area of Lighthouse Beach.

The search and rescue operation utilised the full resources of the club and served as a bond between various rescue services. Our club is very grateful for the tremendous assistance offered by Port Macquarie, Wauchope Bonny Hills and Camden Haven SLSC's in this period.

The club maintained extended patrol hours to cover the full week end and public holidays and patrol strength has been satisfactory with 13 active patrols.

Roving patrols to the popular tourist area south of Watonga Rocks have been increased in frequency to one hourly intervals since the tragedy in February.

Rescues within the patrol area have decreased this season due to both pro-active patrolling and benign sea conditions during peak holiday periods. Following recent litigation in Sydney, the club will be conducting a risk analysis of Lighthouse Beach to identify hazards and to provide the basis for patrols next season.

A patrol competition covering both theory paper and resuscitation examination was introduced and completed by all patrols in addition to their annual proficiency examination.

Training for awards saw the successful completion of 21 Bronze Medallions, 8 Surf Rescue Certificates, 7 Advance Resuscitation Certificates and 3 IRB Silver Medallions.

Training was also provided to the Port Macquarie Sea Rescue Group and to the general community through a CPR awareness course.

The club conducted the inaugural Hastings River swim in peak holiday season and the success of this event, which was open to the public, ensures that it will become an important annual event on the Port Macquarie tourist calendar. Another event to attract major media coverage was the epic swim from the town centre to Lighthouse Beach by two of our junior members. The associated sponsorship which they arranged allowed for the total refurbishment of the club's First Aid facilities.

Another important acquisition for the club has been the beach caravan (painted in distinctive red and yellow) which acts as our patrol base or a re-locatable operations shelter in emergencies. As well as providing necessary shelter for patrol members and equipment storage it is very visible to the general public.

On the administrative side the club has developed a modern office, Complete Patrol Logger system ready for use next season. We are the first club in the area with a professionally developed web site which can be accessed on www.tackingpoints/sc.org. Our recently established e-mail address is tpslc@ecopost.com.au

WAUCHOPE BONNY HILLS SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

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As the 2001/2002 season draws to a close it is time to acknowledge the achievements of the Club throughout the year. Thanks to the instruction of Chalkie Bob, assisted by Peter Monkley and Peter Monaghan, the following awards were gained:

- 34 new Bronze Medallions
- 2 Training Officers
- 7 Surf Rescue Certificates
- 2 Senior First Aid Certificates
- 1 Radio Officers Certificate

By attracting new members and upgrading qualifications of existing members the club gains strength, and this strength was certainly tested throughout the season. With large crowds and extremely dangerous rips this summer, patrol members were called upon to perform many preventative actions as well as actual rescues. Their vigilance helped prevent many tragedies. Unfortunately six lives were lost in the Hasting area, all outside patrol hours or on unpatrolled beaches. Several of our members assisted in the searches for the victims, from dawn to dusk over many days.

Throughout the year the club hosted two rounds of the Boat Premiership and the Branch titles. The club also organised and conducted two CPR courses for members of Wauchope, Lake Cathie and Bonny Hills community with 60 participants overall. A further CPR course for the community is anticipated for the winter, as well as an Advanced Resuscitation course for members.

Many members travelled far and wide to compete at Country, State and Australian Titles.

Our Club won the Club Championship Point Score at the Branch Championships for the first time since 1984/85 season, with many successes in the Masters, Open and Junior events.

NIPPERS

Another very successful season was had by our Nippers with 121 being registered this season. The club was represented at Branch carnivals at Flynns Beach, Crescent Head and Camden Haven, the Country Championships as well as the State Titles at Swansea Belmont.

Three of our girls made the Mid North Coast Inter-Branch team with the carnival being held at Soldiers Beach.

We take the opportunity to farewell Tahnee Laws, Shaye Turner, Jadie Field, Daniel Ross, Jarin Pennhill, Dane Johnston and Sam Hunter as they move up to the ranks of the senior club.

What a successful year all round and of course this doesn't just happen. Many workers work tirelessly behind the scenes. Nominations have been sent to Australia Surf Life Saving for Long Service Awards for:

- Chalkie Bob Smith – 20 year, 25 years and 50 years certificates
- Beau Bob Smith – 20 years, 25 years certificates
- Wayne Gill – 10, 15, 20, 25 year certificates
- Manfred Sonntag – 10, 15, 20 years certificates
- Paul Hoole – 10, 15 years certificates
- George Storm – 10, 15, 20, 25 years certificates
- Narelle Stokes – 10, 15 years certificate

A huge thank you to all members who contributed to the success of the Club this year.

Chalkie Bob is very keen to form some rescue and resuscitation teams for next season. Anyone interested is asked to contact Bob so that training can begin during winter.

Manfred Sonntag,
President

CAMEN HAVEN SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

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Our season started a little down on Patrol numbers; regardless of this, we were still able to assemble four strong patrols.

Our lady boat crew, in search of a sweep had transferred to Wauchope Bonny Hills Surf Club to pursue their passion, but still supported the Camden Haven Club where needed.

Our male boat crew still training week in and week out, eager for competition.

With the season started our finances were greatly improved with a grant from Hastings Council.

The Club was fortunate enough to receive a fully equipped IRB and Radio from Sport and Recreation at the presentation at Bondi beach. Shortly after the local Bowling Club presented the Club with a cheque for the purchase of our new competition/rescue IRB.

Our Surf Club members showed once again that they were worthy of a challenge when our local Ambulance Station sort funds for a new Defibrillator, raising substantial funds for the cause.

Unfortunately as the season drew close to an end, our neighbouring clubs as well as the Camden Haven were unfortunate to have lives lost on their beaches, and many hours were put into search and rescue procedures.

To finish the season on a higher note our last Patrol Day was mixed with competition and Patrol Championships; a great day was had by all and a great finish for the season.

Then to top it all off, Club member Heath Balkin took out the prestigious award of Life Saver of the Year – Mid North Coast Branch Inc. 2002-06-02

Thanks to all members and their families, whether your contribution was great or small, nothing would have been achieved without your support.

Thank you all.

Peter Lloyd,

President.
