

Shellharbour Surf Life Saving Club Nov 2008 – Jan 2009

After a busy start to the 2008-2009 season patrols and other events have continued to keep all members and families to be active and involved.

Registrations/ Proficiencies

Over the pre Christmas months the number of junior members has grown to nearly 350 and the senior membership to almost 250. Thanks to Trina Jensen who gave up her time to conduct the three proficiency sessions. Trina also took part in the SLS NSW Beach to Bush program.

Swimwear

The new costumes worn by members look great. The soft gear stewards continue to work hard to get new costumes for you. See Lyn Jones on Sunday mornings at the clubhouse to order your new "kozzi".

Life Saving Awards

The club instructors continue to put many members, new and present, through a number of awards. There have been two Bronze Medallion & Surf Rescue Certificate squads put through already. A number of other courses, including Beach Management, Advanced Resuscitation, Spinal Management, Defibrillation, Senior First Aid and IRB crewman have been conducted as well. Thanks to the instructors and facilitators that train the members and run these courses to make the members better Surf Life Savers.

Competition Training

All competing members continue to train regularly for the carnivals and competition series that have either been completed or are coming up in the near

future. Cavo and others have been leading board & ski training, Dick Plummer coaching the March Past and R&R. Daniel Tiyce working with the beachies and the boat crews have been under the watchful eye of Mark Bartlett.

Appeal Day

In November many members took part in the annual Appeal Day. Most of the major retail venues, the local clubs were covered and house-to-house door knocking help collect much-needed funds for the club. Thanks to Cavo for coordinating this event and to all the members, both young and older, for helping out on the day.

Patrols

We have over 200 members patrolling this season to provide a safe beach environment at Shellharbour North for the public and the junior members training and education. This season we have had six patrols do a patrol at South Shellharbour beach through the January school holidays. Many patrolling members are on course for 100% attendance again this season. Remember to organise a swap if you can't make your allocated patrol.

Boat Carnival

On the 6th December Shellharbour successfully hosted round 2 of the Warilla Bowls South Coast boat series. A spectacular day of racing was held with our veteran men's and under 23 women's crew performing well.

Club Championships

In November and December the junior and senior members took part in the early rounds of the club championships. As usual the numbers were very high in

the junior events and it is pleasing to see that the numbers are increasing in the seniors. The master's events especially show close and competitive racing. The post competition sipper's functions continue to grow and a great social time is had by all that attend. All club members are welcome to come along to the next sipper's function, even if you don't compete.

Sydney Water Surf Series

The 2008 Sydney Water surf series saw an increased number of competitors take part. All members that took part performed well with Zoe Elkerton, Keely McCauley and Jai Field winning their respective point scores. A number of other members competed strongly to help Shellharbour to finish high up in the overall club point score. Well done to all those that took part and maybe next year we can move up to one of the place getters in the club point score.

Branch Team Representatives

This season saw a very large contingent of competitors selected in the South Coast Branch team to compete at the NSW Interbranch at Catherine Hill Bay in December. Keeleigh McCauley, Jai Field, Montannah Murray (U/12), Shannan Hobson, Nathaniel Bevis (U/13), Jordan Field, Mikayla Rose, Mathew Jones (U/14), Zoe Elkerton, Karri Ryan, Abbie Taddeo (U/15), Rachel Hobson, Luke McKay (U/17), Kate McKinley (U/19) and the evergreen Sharon Rose (Opens) were selected.

Carolyn Elkerton did an outstanding job as team manager and Wayne Cavanagh fired up the competitors as one of the water coaches.

Junior Lifesaver of the Year

Jordan Field and Sophie Jackson were nominated from the club in the South Coast Branch Junior Lifesaver of the

year. Both Girls performed well in the interview process and even though they did not win they are outstanding young surf lifesavers.

Junior's Christmas Day

On the last Sunday before Christmas Santa Claus arrived in an IRB to wish all the members a safe Christmas. Santa had trained for months prior to this to get his IRB crewman's award so that he could ride in the IRB, even though he can ride a sleigh in the sky.

NSW Country team to NZ

Congratulations to Rachel Hobson who represented SLS NSW Country on the tour to New Zealand in early January. Rachel competed strongly in the female beach in the U/16 age group winning a number of events. Rachel had a great time and should benefit from the experience. Well-done Rachel.

2009 Country Championships

In January around 70 competing members and many parents and other club members traveled to Port Macquarie for the Stramit Country Championships. There were many outstanding results from Shellharbour members, too many to mention here (refer to the SLS NSW website for full results). Shellharbour finished 8th in the juniors, 6th in the seniors, 4th in the masters and 6th in the overall point score. Most competitors collected medals and all club members enjoyed the carnival despite the water and beach events being split on the Saturday and Sunday. Thanks to Carol Tyne, Rob Ryan and Ray Hobson for all their organisation and work at the carnival so that the competitors could go out and concentrate on their events. Ronda McKinley again showed good form as the compeer at the after carnival function.

Club Committee Meetings

The Club Management Committee and the JAC continue to meet monthly to deal with administrative issues and to organise upcoming events. All financial members are welcome to attend. The JAC meet on the 2nd Monday of each month and the Club Management Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

Patrols 2009-2011

SLS NSW has asked Shellharbour to do more patrol hours in the coming years. As a result a proposal has been compiled explaining how we might do this.

The present committee does not want each patrolling member to do more hours. In fact we would like to reduce the number of hours that each patrolling member does.

To do this we plan to gradually and sustainably increase the number of patrols that we have. Next season we want to have 12 patrols, the season after 14 patrols and the season after 15 patrols.

With the increased number of patrols we will need to have more members with the necessary awards, such as Beach Management and IRB drivers. If you feel that you can help out in this regard see Paul Schloeffel, or keep an eye on the club notice board to when the next course is being held.

Support our Sponsors

If possible we would like our members to support those that support us. Let them know that you are a member of Shellharbour SLSC as this may result in our club receiving further funds. Shellharbour Workers Club, Warilla Bowls & Recreation Club, Oak Flats Community (Bendigo) Bank, Notts Smash Repairs, Transfield Services,

Telstra, Kel Campbell P/L, Ray White – Shellharbour City, BJ Love Financial Services.

Coolum Youth Exchange

Club Junior's captain Laura Elkerton has arranged an exchange on the first weekend in April five of our younger patrolling members. First preference will be given to under 19 and under 17 members. The aim of the exchange is to expose how patrols and surf life saving operate in another region of Australia. Interested members should contact Laura Elkerton in the near future for an application form so that selected applicants can book airfares.

Jet Rescue Boat

When you think you have achieved all there is to achieve in surf life saving there is always something else. Trina Jensen and Wayne Cavanagh have been accepted onto the Kiama based Jet Rescue Boat patrol. This goes to show that everyone can achieve more in our movement.

Upcoming Events

There are a number of events coming up in the next couple of months for members.

- 7 Feb – Senior Branch Championships
- 8 Feb – Junior Branch Championships
- 14 Feb – Jun/Sen Branch Board riding

All these events are at Shellharbour so we will **need help from all members** to help set up and run these events in the usual high standard that we have done with past events.

- 20-22 Feb NSW Age (Junior) Championships at Swansea Belmont
- 26 Feb NSW Masters Championships

- 27 Feb – 1 Mar NSW Open Championships
- 3-5 April – Coolum Youth Exchange
- 18 April – Transfield Shellharbour Ocean Swim.
- 25 April – Two up at the Workers Club

Building Extensions

Terry Barton and others have been continuing with the necessary work that will see extensions and modifications that will eventuate in a second story on the present clubhouse.

At the start of April members will need to remove any privately owned gear as the present club house will need to be completely emptied. Club owned equipment will need to be stored elsewhere as well.

It is anticipated that the demolition and construction work will get underway before the end of April.

2009 Presentation Night

Following the success of the 2008 Presentation Night at Warilla Bowling & Recreation Club, the committee has re-booked the venue for the next presentation night on 23rd May 2009.