

Whale Beach
Surf Life Saving Club
Annual Report

2017 / 2018



In Safe Hands



Proud home of SLSNSW Awards of Excellence: Lifesaver of the Year and SLS Sydney
Northern Beaches Awards of Excellence: Rescue of the Year • Young Volunteer of the Year

Donations and Sponsorship

Whale Beach Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) exists to save lives, create great Australians and build a better community at Whale Beach. Donations can take many forms such as personal and corporate time, loan of equipment, purchase of equipment, loan of facilities, donation of products and direct monetary donations. The Management Committees of Whale Beach SLSC Incorporated and Whale Beach Property Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated extend sincere thanks to all sponsors and corporate, member and private donors.

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Federal Government Beach Safety
Equipment Funding Program
NSW Government's Department of Justice
NSW Government's 2017 Community Building
Partnership Program

NSW Government Office of Sport, Surf Club
Facility Development Program
NSW Government Office of Sport,
Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program
Northern Beaches Council

Major Sponsor

Macquarie Group



MACQUARIE

Club Sponsors and Supporters

Belle Property, Avalon
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Fresh Produce Group
Knox Grammar School
Mana Island Fiji
Manly Daily
Marine Rescue NSW,
Broken Bay
Oceanswims.com

Pittwater Life
Pittwater Online News
Pymble Ladies College
Rural Fire Service,
Ingleside
United Resource
Management (URM)
Vittoria Coffee
Surf Life Saving
Australia
Surf Life Saving
Foundation

Surf Life Saving NSW
Surf Life Saving
Sydney Northern
Beaches Branch
Local Surf Clubs:
Avalon Beach SLSC
Bilgola Beach SLSC
Newport Beach SLSC
North Palm Beach SLSC
Palm Beach SLSC

Member / Private Donors

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Armstrong, Ursula
Arnott, Richard
Bamford, John
Baptist, Sam
Blundell, Peter
Borean, Derick
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Bracey, David
Bradshaw, John
Cameron, Elizabeth
Cameron, Ian
Campbell, Michael
Campbell, Yvonne
Collier, Terry
Constable, Thomas
Coughlan, Owen
Crisp, Danny
Crivelli, Michael
Cullis, Jeff
Dobrow, Wal
Enestrom, Ron
Enestrom, Suellen

Fielder, John
Figgis, Christopher
Fraser, Peter
Gale, Eric
Gaven, Isabel
Gay, Dylan
Gepp, Michael
Gray, Stephen
Gribble, Shannon
Gu, Nonie
Hansford, Richard
Hennessy, Ross
Higgins, Floyd
Jarrett, Matthew
Joseph, Rachel
Kellaway, Charles
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Lenehan, Julie
Lynch, Suzanne
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McFarlane, Linda

McGrath, John
McRobert, Martin
Mears, Laura
Miles, Harry
Miles, Jennifer
Molesworth, Michael
Moore, Nicholas
Myers, Peter
Nash, Janet
O'Brien, Paul
Oag, Angus
Paul, Ryan
Payne, Jack
Phillips, Bill
Pope, Alex
Pozniak, Sheldon
Pratten, Jon
Pursell, Virginia
Rains, Richard
Ramsay, Barb
Ryan, Danny
Schmidt, Philip
Selig, Gordon

Shirbin, John
Sippe, John
Small, Will
Smith, Christopher
Smith, David
Spencer, Ian
Steiger-Thorpe,
Jessica
Stewart, Graeme
Stewart, Ian
Stewart, Richard
Strong, David
Symons, Nicholas
Symons, Patricia
Taylor, Peter
Warburton, John
Webster, Evan
Webster, Morgan
Weymark, Kiana
Wines, Robert
Wood, Angus
Young, Paul

Our Charitable Purpose

The following objects of the Association are taken from the Whale Beach SLSC constitution:

- The study, practice and teaching of the methods of surf lifesaving as promulgated by the National Association.
- To minimise the loss of life from drowning by providing efficient lifesaving personnel and apparatus.
- To promote demonstrations, and arrange classes of instruction, and to further the best interests of surf bathing and surf lifesaving.
- To appoint patrols to render all possible aid to those in distress.
- To organise and conduct carnivals and social functions for the benefit and assistance of the Association in the attainment of the above objectives.
- To carry on any other activity whatsoever calculated directly or indirectly to enhance or further the interests of the Association.

Revived



Contents

Management	2
Financial Report	7
Beach Operations	10
Surf Sports	16
Community	22
Notice of AGM	32

Management

President's Report	3
Secretary's Report	4
Key Metrics at a Glance 2017 / 2018	5
Officers and Committees	6



President's Report

Andrew Pearce / President



Revived and headed in the right direction, the business of running the Club gets easier each year. We have recorded three seasons of membership growth. At 448, this year's membership is the highest in 10 years. We are in a sound financial position. The clubhouse is in good repair and continues to be enhanced. The calibre of leadership in the Club has lifted.

Whale Beach SLSC grew and flourished throughout the past year.

September

- The season opened with a Captain's Patrol. We celebrated Club Captain Lara Boyle being awarded Surf Life Saving NSW Lifesaver of the Year.
- Long time member Sue Kearney commenced as Club Administrator.
- The lifesaving leadership restructured the patrol teams to ensure we perform at our best on every patrol.
- Our Education Team ensured our lifesavers completed their annual proficiency tests.
- The new Master of Aquatic Sports at Knox Grammar School, Nicholas Warby, has revived the Knox Surf Lifesaving Program.
- A review of our logo and club colours resulted in a refreshed brand.

October

- In support of our community, the Palm Beach Community Kindergarten held their annual art auction in the Club's lounge.
- We introduced two pieces of technology to improve efficiencies: Swapsea and G Suite.
- The first aid room was upgraded with new fixtures and fittings, lifting our capability to provide medical treatment.

November

- A Whale Beach SLSC contingent attended the National Awards of Excellence in support of Club Captain Lara Boyle's quest for Lifesaver of the Universe.
- We welcomed new Marketing Officer Brittany Smith who has done a fabulous job along with her colleagues, Digital Officer Annika Harrison and Social Media Officer Tom Sanderson.

December

- Sue Kearney hosted her very popular Little Rippers program which received an astonishing amount of positive feedback.

- Patrol 9 rescued two people, resuscitating an unconscious patient, who made a full recovery.

January

- Another major incident occurred on patrol, we aided a patient who suffered a stroke in the surf.
- Over 250 people attended our annual Neighbours Night, a wonderful evening of great food and socialising on the barbecue deck.
- In its second year, the Midget Farrelly Memorial Surf Competition was staged.
- On Australia Day, Life Member Chris Hendrikson hosted his eight legged roast lamb and a keg.
- Our major fundraiser, The Big Swim, went off without a hitch, despite the alleged sighting of an underwater visitor or two.

February

- Member Laura Mears of Belle Property, Avalon donated her time commencing monthly workshops to help our Club officers develop their management skills.

March / April

- The season closed with a Captain's Patrol. Pleasingly we did not breach our Lifesaving Service Agreement.
- Our Development Application for installation of solar power was approved. Next we will apply for grants to assist us in this \$35,000 endeavour.
- A review of The Big Swim was initiated assessing the scope of work involved in managing and staging this iconic event.

May

- Our fabulous tenants, Moby Dicks, hosted our Awards Night with the generous support of Belle Property, Avalon.
- Boatshed renovations commenced. New lighting was installed, fresh paint applied and the flooring resurfaced. We are pursuing funding to replace the roller doors at a cost of \$35,000.

June

- Sydney Northern Beaches Branch Awards of Excellence dinner where we had nominations submitted for Rescue of the Year, Patrol Captain of the Year, Young Lifesaver of the Year and Volunteer of the Year.

July

- Club Captain Lara Boyle, Chief Training Officer Georgia Roberts, Lifesaver Christina Mayne and myself attended the Surf Life Saving NSW State Conference along with representatives from the 129 NSW clubs.

August

- At the Club's Annual General Meeting, the annual report and financial reports are presented and next season's officers elected.
- The Gear Committee service all the lifesaving equipment to be presented for annual inspection and certification.
- Winners at the Branch Awards of Excellence progress to be nominated at the annual Surf Life Saving NSW Awards of Excellence which we attend.

Our strategic plan for the future is built on these six objectives:

Membership: To increase membership through engagement and retention. To deliver greater value to members.

Community: To foster an all-inclusive organisation that protects, educates, prepares and embraces everyone.

Profile: To position Whale Beach SLSC, within government, community, media and the business sector, as a professional volunteer emergency service.

Work Together: To engage with all levels of the organisation and develop our leaders to drive the Club now and in the future.

Strengthen: To ensure the continuity of a financially sustainable and resilient organisation and to utilise innovation to drive efficiencies.

Capability: To ensure our lifesavers are skilled, trained, resourced and ready to respond to the needs of our community.

Thank you to all our volunteers, members, officers, friends, patrons, Pymble Ladies College, Knox Grammar School, Sydney Northern Beaches Branch, Surf Life Saving NSW, Surf Life Saving Australia, all government bodies, our generous sponsors and donors. All these groups contribute in making Whale Beach SLSC the amazing volunteer organisation that we all know and love.

Indeed we are in safe hands.

Secretary's Report

Kieran Gallagher / Honorary Secretary



As I reflect on the Whaley year that was, again the word that comes to mind is WOW!

I thank every member for their contribution to the Club, and for my opportunity to act as Secretary for this season. It's an honour and a pleasure to breathe the same salty air as you wonderful people.

This year I have witnessed exceptional people collaborating to achieve a goal. What unites them is an ongoing sense of purpose, generously offering their time as they continue to selflessly and tirelessly commit to keeping Whale Beach a safe place for the community.

The inherently practical nature of each member is reflected in the achievements of a few and I saw first-hand what world class teamwork looks like in practice. I was humbled to see the amazing Patrol 9 drag a couple of men back from the sea's clutches.

I also saw the efforts of so many participants of the Club that went in to making those efforts on the day fire seamlessly.

To know that the resources we have available are the very best due to the thankless efforts of the Management Committee.

To know that the gear has been meticulously checked by Richard Stewart and the team.

To know the first aid training offered by Georgia Roberts and the team, works in practice as well as it does during repetitive hours spent refining techniques.

To know that Lara Boyle and Al Burchett have embedded a teamwork ethos within Whale Beach Lifesavers. Deeply entrenched is the ability to co-operate, to accept and deliver instructions, to clearly and confidently manage stakeholders including emergency services personnel, beachgoers, and other team members with respect and professionalism. Our challenges were our achievements this year. These skills are transferable into day-to-day living. Nothing will help the generation of tomorrow more than learning both how to save lives, and how to live.

Much of the sense of gratitude I have for the season that was, goes to the unsung heroes. The members of the team that without which the sum of the parts would be so much less.

Seeing Paul Hughes' face on the poster for The Big Swim 2018 was the greatest reflection of Club culture imaginable. Respect and tradition live long and prosper

at Whale Beach. It's safe to say Paul sure ain't a model, but I sure want to be a little bit more like him when I grow up. And he's not the only one. I am blessed with the support of a myriad of wise, valued, decent members who offer their talents, advice, their ears and their company. I hope one day to be in a position to do the same.

I look to the future. We are so blessed by the expert financial curatorship of generations past that has put the Club in a position to deliver the outcomes we see every day. I am grateful we can focus on the execution rather than the foundations. The tradition of hands-on mentoring and support is working and this must continue. The inclusive culture works. The support and contribution in time terms offered by so many members is the lifeblood of the Club. Its soul is you. And being part of this awesome machine is both liberating and humbling.

We set out to achieve a few things this year, some of them bold initiatives under the expert leadership of President extraordinaire Andrew Pearce - more members, more engagement, better prepared, better equipped, more skilled as a club. We have some evidence that this is happening. And it is not held as data. It's held as smiles. And when anyone talks 'Whaley Pride' I know this thing they speak of.

Total Members by Category

Category	2017 / 2018 Total members	Male members	Female members	2016 Total members	Change versus 2016
Life Member	17	17	0	16	1
Reserve Active	24	20	4	23	1
Active Senior (18 years and over)	91	52	39	94	-3
Active Junior (15 to 18 years)	75	54	21	46	29
Cadet Member (13 to 15 years)	38	28	10	19	19
Award	3	1	2	0	3
Long Service	37	36	1	35	2
Past Active	7	4	3	10	-3
Honorary	4	1	3	3	1
Associate	141	81	60	125	16
Probationary	11	11	0	13	-2
TOTAL	448	305	143	384	64

Key Metrics at a Glance

2017 / 2018

Member participation



448 Total
211 Patrolling / 109 New

31h

Hours average per
patrolling member



6,475 Hours patrolled
this season

Safety outcomes



35 Rescues



432 Preventative
actions

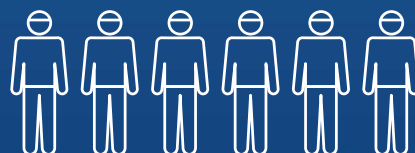


173 First aid
treatments

Financial health of club



Income \$286,714 (+5%)
Expenses \$284,483 (+3%)



+16% Membership growth

Officers and Committees

Patrons

Jason Falinski, Kylie Ferguson, Rob Stokes

President

Andrew Pearce

Immediate Past President

Philip Schmidt

Honorary Secretary

Kieran Gallagher

Treasurer / Public Officer

Jon Pratten

Club Captain

Lara Boyle

Club Vice Captain

Alex Burchett

House Captain

Andrew Pearce

Property Officer

Brian Lamrock

Marketing Officer

Brittany Smith

Digital Officer

Annika Harrison

Social Media Officer

Tom Sanderson

Communications Officer

Vacant

Membership Officer

Alex Burchett

Chief Instructor

Georgia Roberts

Work Health and Safety Officer

Bill Phillips

Gear Officer

Richard Stewart

Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) and Power Equipment Captain

Lindsay Kershaw

Surfboat Captain

Brett Babicci

Board and Ski Captain

Floyd Higgins

Radio Officer

Edward Connolly

Entertainment Secretary

Floyd Higgins

Handicapper

Graeme Stewart

The Big Swim Race Director

Simon Morgan

First Aid Officer

Jonathan Stubbs

Competition Secretary

Floyd Higgins

Junior Activities Captain

Sue Kearney

Club Administrator

Sue Kearney

Delegate to Branch

Andrew Pearce

Honorary Medical Officers

Peter Saxon-Williams, Graeme Stewart

Honorary Solicitor

Bill Phillips

Honorary Architect

Vacant

Honorary Engineer

Vacant

Honorary Photographers

Chris Hendrikson, Tom Sanderson,
Max Zagorski

Management Committee

Andrew Pearce, Jon Pratten,
Kieran Gallagher, Lara Boyle,
Alex Burchett, Simon Morgan,
Philip Schmidt, Brian Lamrock,
Georgia Roberts, Floyd Higgins,
Sue Kearney, Brittany Smith,
Richard Stewart, Brett Babicci

Executive Committee

Andrew Pearce, Jon Pratten,
Kieran Gallagher, Lara Boyle

Governance Committee

**(consolidates previous Life Membership,
Judiciary and Constitution Committees)**

Jon Pratten, Bryan Webster, Martin
Armstrong, Bill Phillips and Philip Schmidt

Finance Committee

Jon Pratten, Martin Armstrong,
Philip Schmidt, Bill Phillips

Property Committee

Brian Lamrock, Andrew Pearce,
Rob Berry, Philip Schmidt

Lifesaving Committee

Lara Boyle, Alex Burchett,
Georgia Roberts, Richard Stewart,
Lindsay Kershaw, Ed Connolly,
Floyd Higgins, Jonathan Stubbs

Competition Committee

Brett Babicci, Lara Boyle, Floyd Higgins,
Simon Morgan, Graeme Stewart

Education Sub-Committee

Not appointed

Ocean Swim Sub-Committee

Not appointed

Administration Committee

Not appointed

Entertainment Sub-Committee

Not appointed

Election Sub-Committee

Not appointed

Junior Activities Committee

Not appointed

Management Committee

Property Club (PC)

Andrew Pearce, Jon Pratten,
Kieran Gallagher, Martin Armstrong,
Rob Berry, Chris Hendrikson,
John Lewis, Bill Phillips, Danny Ryan,
Richard Stewart, Bryan Webster

Executive Committee (PC)

Not appointed

Building Committee (PC)

Brian Lamrock, Andrew Pearce,
Rob Berry, Philip Schmidt

Finance and Investment

Sub-Committee (PC)

Not appointed

The Legal Sub-Committee (PC)

Not appointed

Annual Report Production Team

Brittany Smith, Isabel Gaven,
Heather Noakes, Andrew Pearce,
Kieran Gallagher

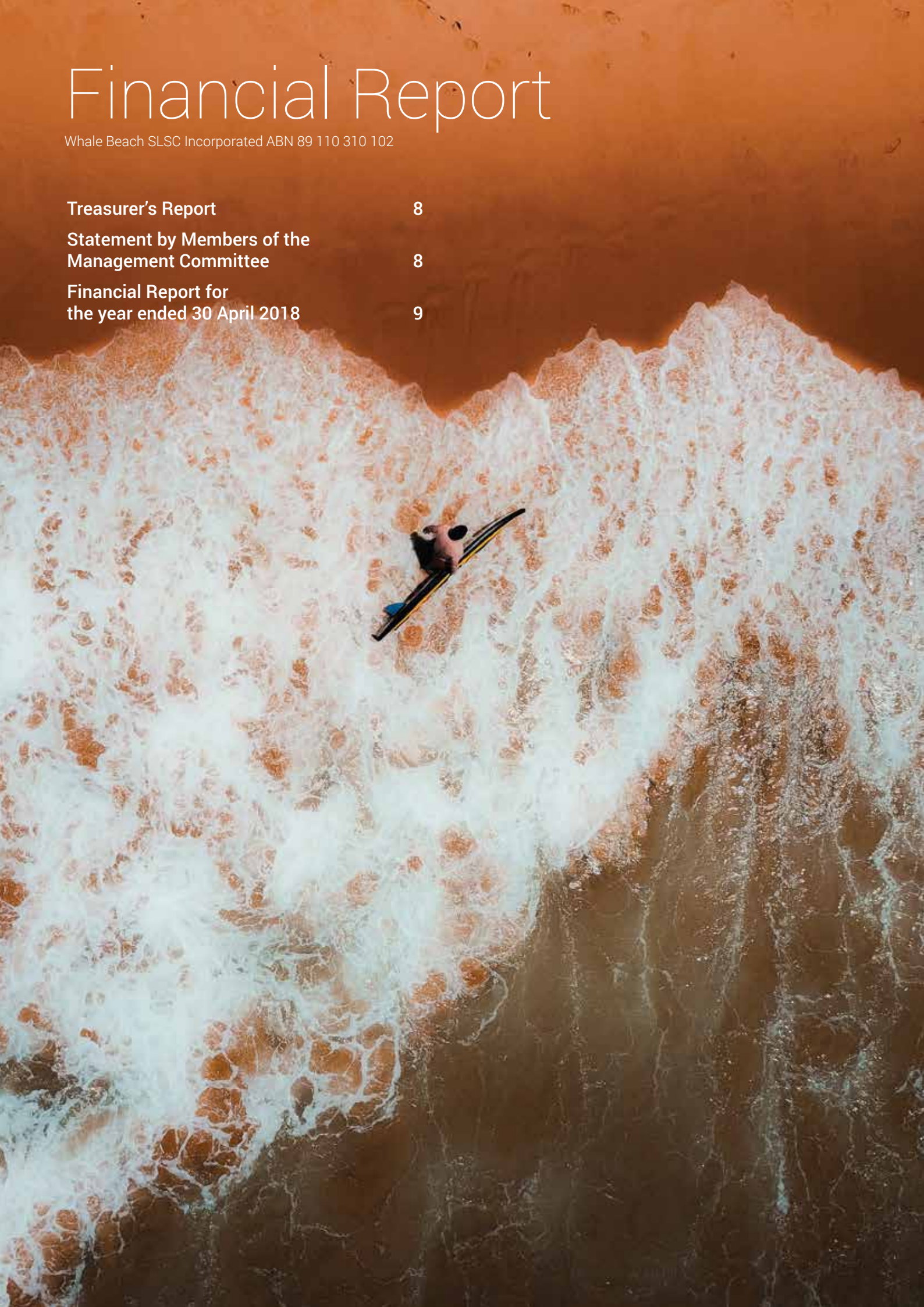
Photos

Chris Hendrikson, Mike O'Flynn,
Tom Sanderson, Max Zagorski and
countless others

Financial Report

Whale Beach SLSC Incorporated ABN 89 110 310 102

Treasurer's Report	8
Statement by Members of the Management Committee	8
Financial Report for the year ended 30 April 2018	9



Treasurer's Report

Jon Pratten / Honorary Treasurer

This year has again been financially satisfactory with revenue and expenditure both increasing. We had a net profit of \$2,000 after a donation from our Property Club of \$39,000. Income was \$287,000, with the main contributions coming from The Big Swim (\$106,000), members' subscriptions (\$50,000), donations other than the Property Club (\$31,000) and sponsorship and grants (\$21,000). Expenses were \$285,000. Major expenses were The Big Swim (\$50,000) and repairs and maintenance (\$60,000).

The Big Swim continues to be a most important contributor to our financial well-being. Our thanks again go to our major sponsor for The Big Swim, Macquarie Group. Macquarie Group have sponsored The Big Swim for 20 years, and have again agreed to renew their sponsorship. Thanks also to our major sponsor for the Little Big Swim, United Resource Management, who also help us greatly by providing our rubbish removal service at no charge.

Donations and grants are lifeblood to the Club. Again, thank you so much to all member, friend and private donors. It is easy to take for granted the key assistance we receive from government and non-government entities. This year we had a \$10,000 grant for our boat shed refurbishment from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services, a \$10,000 grant from the Australian Government for beach safety equipment, an \$8,000 donation from Northern Beaches Council, a \$6,000 donation from Surf Lifesaving NSW, and a \$1,000 donation from Clubs NSW. Australian Lifesaving Services provide us with the use of their All Terrain Vehicle at minimum cost to us.

Club functions made a small profit this year. We are again indebted to Andrew and Pip for the favourable terms offered by Moby Dicks. Moby's help out generously for our Community Night, Awards Night and other regular club gatherings.

Our main expenses for the year were repairs and maintenance. Major contributors here were electrical and plumbing repairs and improvements (\$14,000). We also commissioned an independent report on workplace health and safety (\$2,000), which has resulted in an impressive re-arrangement of our boat shed by our tireless member volunteers. We are embarking on other improvements to the boat shed, including resurfacing the boat shed floor and replacing the roller shutters. This work will be carried out in our 2019 financial year, and we are working hard to have it financed by grants and donations.

Printing, photography and media expenses were higher than normal (\$20,000). For this we have impressive new club branding which is reflected in our stationery, apparel and merchandise. Those of you who have visited our new website will have been mightily impressed and may be surprised to know that this was achieved at minimum cost to the Club by another group of tireless member volunteers.

We take a fairly heavy-handed approach to depreciation (\$24,000) of our surf lifesaving gear, as it does a tough job in a tough environment. We want our patrols to be properly turned out with the best equipment available. The biggest contributors to our depreciation expense were rescue boards, surf skis, IRB's, surfboats and oars.

Training costs were up at \$21,000, and you will observe the wonderful results we had for that from other correspondents in this report.

We completed the year with \$19,000 cash on hand.

Statement by Members of the Management Committee

Whale Beach SLSC Incorporated (the Club) is incorporated as an Association under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW). The Club is required to meet certain obligations pursuant to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Act 2012 (as amended) and Regulations, the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) (as amended) and Regulations, the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (as amended) and Regulations.

The financial statements included in this Annual Report are a summary extract from our full Financial Report which may be found at www.whalebeachslsc.com/about/annual-reports/. Our full Financial Report includes our comprehensive compliance statements and the independent audit report from our Auditor, Reanda Business Intellect Pty Ltd.

The Club's Management Committee takes responsibility for the financial statements included in this Annual Report and declares that the Club meets its obligations under the Acts and Standards under which we operate and that the summary financial statements included in this Annual Report are an accurate extract from our full Financial Report. We believe the Club is able to pay its debts as and when they become due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Management Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Andrew Pearce
President

Jon Pratten
Honorary Treasurer

Date 15 June 2018

Financial Report for the year ended 30 April 2018

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 April 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	19,430	11,671
Trade and other receivables	216	659
Inventories	12,649	3,724
Total current assets	32,295	16,054
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	31,647	50,077
Total non-current assets	31,647	50,077
Total assets	63,942	66,131
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	42,407	13,183
Other liabilities	1,356	35,000
Total current liabilities	43,763	48,183
Non-current liabilities		
Total liabilities	43,763	48,183
NET ASSETS	20,179	17,948
EQUITY		
Retained earnings	20,179	17,948
Total equity	20,179	17,948

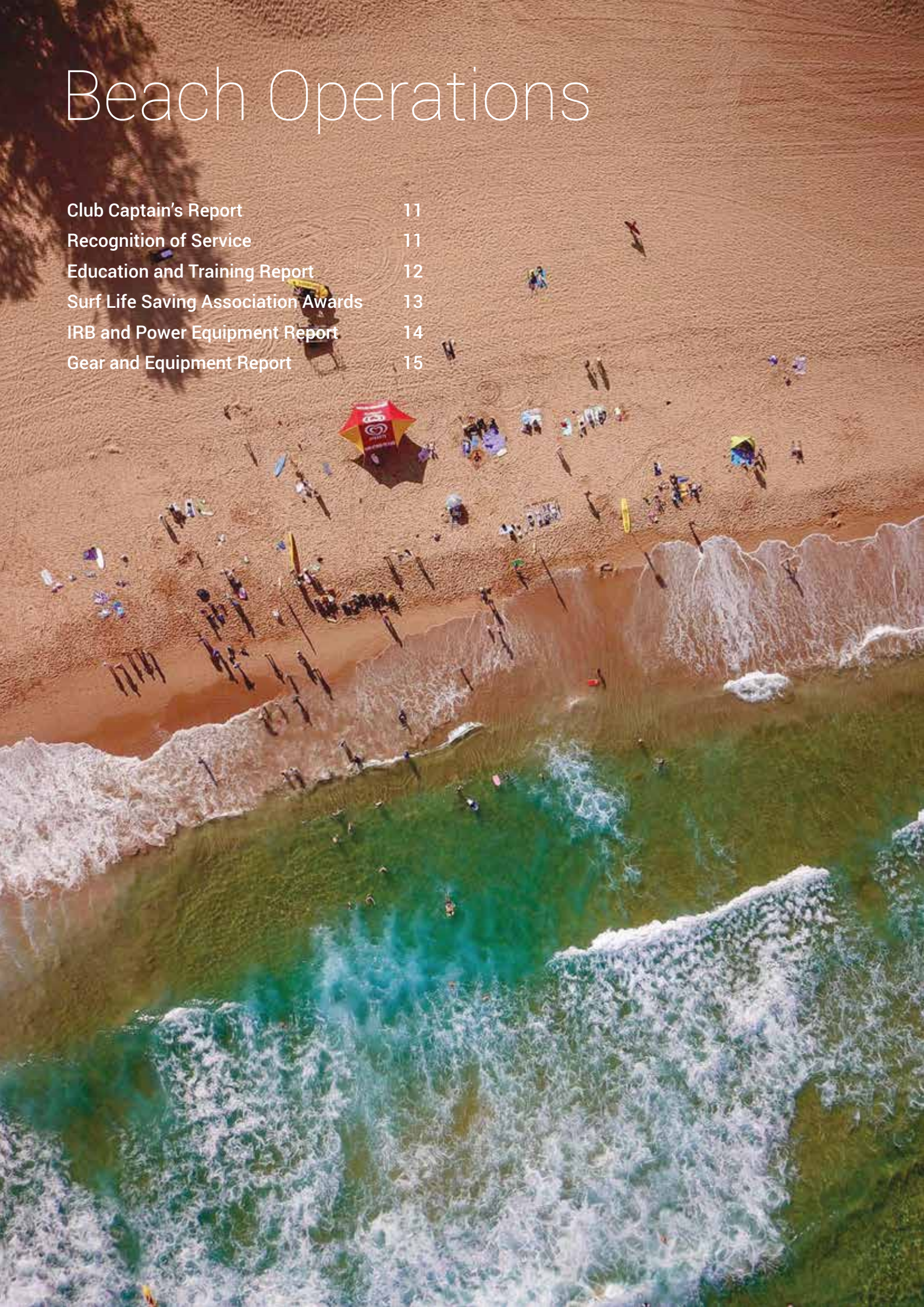
Detailed Profit and Loss Account

This statement does not form part of the audited accounts.

	2018 \$	2017 \$
INCOME		
Interest received	13	7
Member subscriptions	50,330	42,335
Apparel sales	6,795	2,563
Food and beverage	8,627	10,379
Miscellaneous income	9	2,304
Raffle receipts	-	1,718
Rent received	-	318
Surf Club functions	21,927	23,993
Training	1,329	127
Big Swim income	106,377	103,322
Donations and bequests (other)	31,079	55,786
Donations from Property Club	39,000	-
Government grants	21,228	30,737
Total income	286,714	273,589
LESS: EXPENSES		
Administration and management fees	31,614	28,280
Apparel purchases	8,528	9,135
Auditors remuneration	4,500	4,500
Bank charges	1,163	1,055
Big Swim expenses	50,397	33,177
Carnival fees and costs	4,378	2,810
Depreciation	23,958	19,510
Miscellaneous expenses	2,411	-
Office expenses	3,852	2,817
Postage and freight	1,793	16
Printing, photography, media	19,921	11,791
SLS Branch / State fees	12,224	11,913
Repairs and maintenance	60,637	60,147
Surf Club functions	24,264	30,375
Training	21,581	12,735
Trophies, prizes and tributes	3,896	7,206
Utilities	9,366	9,308
Donations to Property Club	-	31,387
Total Expenses	284,483	276,162
Profit before income tax	2,231	(2,573)

Beach Operations

Club Captain's Report	11
Recognition of Service	11
Education and Training Report	12
Surf Life Saving Association Awards	13
IRB and Power Equipment Report	14
Gear and Equipment Report	15



Club Captain's Report

Lara Boyle / Club Captain

Like the dynamic and ever-changing sandbanks of Whaley that transform the swells of the beach, we've seen lifesaving change and grow dynamically this season. 2017-18 marked a reinvention of our Club's image with new merchandise to adorn our members, and also a revival of our core values with our tagline 'In Safe Hands' resonant.

Patrols were adjusted this year to leverage our skills and experience, as young members took on leadership roles and we expanded to 10 patrols. Patrollers who had never met were working side by side and forming lifelong friendships, with the support of our Patrol Captains facilitating the growth.

New technologies were rolled out at the start of the season: our online patrol roster Swapsea, the digital radio network, and the Patrol Operations App from SLSNSW. Swapsea allowed near seamless patrol swaps and provided a hugely positive experience for members, and we're working closely with the developers to enhance the platform for next season. New radios provide GPS location during times of crisis and a faster more reliable network, while

SLSNSW's tablet and Patrol Operations App began the process of going paperless.

Our lifesavers' exemplary responsiveness, teamwork, and leadership skills were exhibited on 23 December 2018 when 25 members performed a once in a generation rescue. An unassuming day turned for the worst as two men slipped off the sandbank and began to drown between the flags. An extremely responsive team was deployed and the patient was retrieved from below the surface. Patrol Captain Suzy Bownes and Vice Captain Sophie Rothery mobilised 25 members with responsibilities, and had teams prepared for the patient's return to shore. Faultless CPR was performed and the first patient was revived. The second man was treated for secondary drowning and shock, while a third friend was supported emotionally and treated for shock. The team involved was awarded NSW and Sydney Northern Beaches Rescue of the Month, and are now nominated for SNB Rescue of the Year, with Suzy Bownes as Patrol Captain of the Year, and Sophie Rothery as Young Lifesaver of the Year. Congratulations and thank you to all members involved on the day, the education team for fostering

model lifesavers, and to those who volunteered over the busy holiday period.

This season I've been amazed by the maturity, capabilities and enthusiasm of our youngest members. From the 18 junior members involved in the resuscitation, to the composure of our young members on boards at The Big Swim as a shark was heading their way. Despite our sea creature friends, this year's Big Swim was a huge success and for the first time the overwhelming support of our patrolling members meant all roles were filled, with idle hands to spare.

2017-18 was a uniting season. From a once in a generation rescue, to a change in culture and attitudes, we've been reminded how crucial our service to the community is, and I'm indebted to the generosity of every patrolling member. It's been a hard season personally, and my deepest gratitude goes to our Vice Captain Alexander Burchett who consistently went above and beyond, carrying the team when I couldn't. I've never been more thankful or proud to be a part of our phenomenal team, and I've never seen a more united Whale Beach SLSC.

Recognition of Service

Most Valued Patrollers

Patrol 1: Rob Burfitt-Williams
Patrol 2: Juliette Hackett
Patrol 3: Charles Carnegie
Patrol 4: Celeste Vinci
Patrol 5: Stephanie Darley
Patrol 6: Amey Sheridan
Patrol 7: Lachlan Taylor
Patrol 8: Maddie Zagorski
Patrol 9: Jack Bregenhoj
Patrol 10: Richard Leonard

Contribution to Education

Harry Smith

Outstanding New Member

Stephanie Darley

Patrol Captain of the Year

Suzy Bownes

Patrol of the Year

Patrol 9 'The Naughtycool Nines'

Surf Life Saving NSW Lifesaver of The Year

Lara Boyle

Young Lifesaver of the Year

Sophie Rothery

Lifesaver of the Year

Lindsay Kershaw

Outstanding Service

Edward Connolly
Sue Kearney
Lindsay Kershaw
Richard Leonard
Bill Phillips
Tom Sanderson
Graeme Stewart

Captain's Service Award

Lara Boyle
Alexander Burchett
Stephanie Darley

Upside Down Duck

Oliver Bownes

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Rescue of the Year

Patrol 9 'The Naughtycool Nines'

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Young Volunteer of the Year

Sophie Rothery

Education and Training Report

Georgia Roberts / Chief Instructor

This season we have seen how important training, upskilling and proficiencies are and what a difference it makes on the beach. From successfully resuscitating a patient to learning how to control the IRB in rough surf, our lifesavers are stepping up and equipping themselves with confidence and qualifications.

At the beginning of the season our members hit the beach with renewed energy and completed their proficiencies which involved them being tested both physically with a run swim run and mentally with first aid scenarios. A huge thank you goes to all trainers for digging deep and helping the proficiencies run smoothly and efficiently.

Mid-season our members were offered a wide range of courses, a total of eight courses to be exact. All in all a staggering 180 awards were gained in the 2017-18 year. What an achievement. Well done to all the members who furthered

their education and thank you to Surf Life Saving NSW and your wonderful trainers for facilitating the courses.

We welcomed in a bunch of keen new Bronze and SRC members. All 69 of our new members well and truly revived our beach and made an impact on patrols. Thank you to Lara Boyle and Sydney Northern Beaches Surf School for training and supporting our newest members.

A huge congratulations must go to Harry Smith who completed his Certificate IV in Training and Assessment this season. Harry's massive commitment means so much to the Club as he is now qualified to officially mentor new trainers and help build our education team.

Speaking of our new education team, I would like to congratulate Richard Leonard on completing his Training Officer course and becoming a probationary Bronze course trainer. Richard will help us train and mentor new members in

seasons to come and will continue to be a fantastic role model for the Club.

Leading up to the end of the season our amazing IRB Captain Lindsay Kershaw has been generous enough to give up his weekends to run an IRB drivers course. His hard work will mean that the Club can gain several new IRB drivers which will greatly assist our patrols. It never gets old watching Lindsay surf the IRB in three to four metres high surf. All members on this course have had a fantastic time and have certainly had their adrenaline fix for the season.

Wrapping up, we are looking forward to next season. Our goal is to grow our education team and help build up each patrol's qualifications. If anyone is interested in joining the awesome education team here at Whaley please let me know. It would be fantastic to have you on board.

"...our lifesavers are stepping up and equipping themselves with confidence and qualifications."



Surf Life Saving Association Awards

SNB Branch Lifesaver of The Year

Boyle, Lara

5 Year National Patrol Service (23)

Bownes, Angus
Bownes, Oliver
Bownes, Suzannah
Boyle, Lara
Bridges, Natasha
Browne, Cameron
Burchett, Alexander
Clarke, Saskia
Cooper, James
Cooper, John
Dreyfus, Rachel
Harrisson, Juliette
Keft, Eleanor
King, Richard
Lawrance, Harrison
Lewin, John
McEntyre, Lachlan
Puertolas, Cesar
Roberts, Georgia
Rowlinson, James
Taylor, Cameron
Van Westing, Marco
Wright, Michael

10 Year National Patrol Service (13)

Burfitt-Williams, Robert
Cooper, Nicholas
Gellert, James
Haigh, Peter
Harrisson, Annika
Hromas, Alexander
Kearney, Suzanne
Kershaw, Lindsay
La Ginestra, Byrne
Reichelt, Philip
Schmidt, Philip
Stewart, Graeme
Vial, Ella

15 Year National Patrol Service (2)

Pratten, Jonathon
Schmidt, Philip

20 Year National Patrol Service (2)

Cullis, Jeffrey
Phillips, Bill

25 Year National Patrol Service (3)

Clark, Micah
Hendrikson, Aaron
Pearce, Andrew

30 Year National Patrol Service (1)

Myers, Peter

40 Year National Patrol Service (1)

Ryan, Daniel

45 Year National Patrol Service (2)

Fielder, John
Hale, Geoffrey

50 Year Long Service (6)

Archer, John
Crisp, Danny
Fraser, Peter
Hall, Peter
Pickering, Noel
Szagmeister, Tibor

50 Year National Patrol Service (4)

Becroft, John
Stewart, Richard
Strong, David
Timms, Colin

60 Year Long Service (5)

Berry, Robert
Kirby, Neil
Stewart, Richard
Taylor, Peter
Timms, Colin

70 Year Long Service (1)

Patterson, Darcy

Advanced Resuscitation Techniques (3)

Clarke, Saskia
Darley, Stephanie
Sheridan, Amey

Bronze Medallion (35)

Barker, Harry
Bonu, Anhiti
Bracey, Hamish
Breden, Daniel
Campbell, Braeden
Constable, Thomas
Darley, Chris
Davis, Alyssa
Fernandez Beschtedt,
Milagros
Freeman, Emily
Gibson, Will
Gosper, James
Harrison, Douglass
Hill, Joanna
Huang, Aofeng
Issa, Audrey
Leonard, Caitlin
Liubinskas, Jaimee
Marlow, Lachlan
McInerney, Anthony
McInerney, Joshua
Metcalf, Elliot
Metcalf, Jacinta

Millard, Harry
Phillips, Bodhi
Power, Christopher
Rechner, Samuel
Reid, Charlotte
Reynolds, Nick
Sheridan, Amey
Slack-Smith, Charles
Sternberg, Zac
White, Angela
Zagorski, Max
Zhou, Weijun Zoe

Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (1)

Smith, Harry

First Aid (37)

Adams, Lily
Breden, Daniel
Burns, Elliott
Connolly, Edward
Davis, Alyssa
Elliott, Archie
Fernandez Beschtedt,
Milagros
Furst, Peter
Haigh, Jennifer
Haigh, Peter
Harrisson, Juliette
Huggins, Emily
La Ginestra, Laura
Lamrock, Brian
Liubinskas, Jaimee
Love, Eloise
Maguire, David
McInerney, Anthony
McInerney, Joshua
Middleton, Kathryn
Molesworth, Michael
Myers, Susan
O'Brien, Naomi
O'Brien, Olivia
Riley, Isabella
Robertson, Sydney
Rothery, Sophie
Sanderson, Thomas
Sheridan, Amey
Smith, Brittany
Steiger-Thorpe, Jessica
Stollmann, Charlotte
Taylor, Peter
Wines, Sophie
Wright, Michael
Zagorski, Max
Zagorski, Samantha

Provide First Aid (2)

Hale, Geoffrey
Stewart, Richard

IRB Crew Certificate (15)

Bregenhøj, Jack
Dalton, Digby
Darley, Stephanie

Hackett, Andrew
Jackson, Mathew
Kaderavek, Nikolas
Kellaway, Angus
Leonard, Richard
McDonald, Wil
Miles, Harry
Muller, Harrison
Parks, Luke
Ravenhall, Ethan
Sanderson, William
Thomson, Oscar

Probationary TAF (1)

Higgins, Floyd

Provide Advanced First Aid (5)

Clarke, Saskia
Connolly, Edward
Harrisson, Annika
Harrisson, Juliette
Sanderson, Thomas

Provide Work Skill Instruction / Make a Presentation (1)

Leonard, Richard

Radio Operator Certificate (34)

Adams, Lily
Bannigan, Zack
Bennett, Samuel
Bracey, Henry
Carolan, Finn
Edwards, Kane
Gordon, Freya
Gordon, Oliver
Gosper, Harry
Gosper, Isobel
Hansen, Ethan
Hiller, Benjamin
Hogan, Madison
Humphrey, Angus
Jones, Hamish
Krelle, Ben
Lapsley, Hamish
Lawson, Harry
Liddle, Saxon
Love, Eloise
Masters, Rhett
Naito, Ami
Nethercott, Jonah
Orth, Lachlan
Parker, Bill
Press, Edward
Reynolds, Camilla
Riley, Amelie
Robertson, Lara
Rogers, Nicholas
Rothery, Ben
Smith, Noah
Watkin, Jonah
Wines, Sophie

Silver Medallion Advanced First Aid (1)

Roberts, Georgia

Silver Medallion Beach Management (9)

Connolly, Edward
Darley, Stephanie
Dodd, Rebecca
Drummer, Harrison
Mayne, Christina
Rothery, Sophie
Rowlinson, James
Stafford, Matthew
Stollmann, Charlotte

Surf Rescue Certificate (34)

Adams, Lily
Bannigan, Zack
Bennett, Samuel
Bracey, Henry
Carolan, Finn
Edwards, Kane
Gordon, Freya
Gordon, Oliver
Gosper, Harry
Gosper, Isobel
Hansen, Ethan
Hiller, Benjamin
Hogan, Madison
Humphrey, Angus
Jones, Hamish
Krelle, Ben
Lapsley, Hamish
Lawson, Harry
Liddle, Saxon
Love, Eloise
Masters, Rhett
Naito, Ami
Nethercott, Jonah
Orth, Lachlan
Parker, Bill
Press, Edward
Reynolds, Camilla
Riley, Amelie
Robertson, Lara
Rogers, Nicholas
Rothery, Ben
Smith, Noah
Watkin, Jonah
Wines, Sophie

SS - ASC Community Coaching General Principles (1)

Maguire, David

SS - Development Coach Surf Boat (1)

Maguire, David

IRB and Power Equipment Report

Lindsay Kershaw / IRB and Power Equipment Captain

It has been another glorious year for the Whale Beach team as we welcomed a number of new crew and drivers into the fold. Congratulations to those who have gained their award this season and good luck to those we continue to train in the winter course. Some may have noticed the unorthodox yellow tent and shipping container arrangement we have down on the grass parking area at the moment; no it is not there for style points, even though the yellow does make the clubhouse pop. While the boatsheds are being renovated, we have set up a temporary IRB base for training the recruits. Feel free to come down and say hi on Saturday as we figure our way through the training material and overcome some bonus challenges like inconsistent access to the ATV. But we like to think we can come up with some creative solutions around these hurdles.

Wouldn't be a season in the ducks without a few of them ending wrong way up. Big

congratulations to Oli Bownes for receiving the widely acclaimed upside down duck award for a spectacular nose over tail, flinging out his crew, like out of a trebuchet. Condolences to James Rowlinson who came a close second for a flip in very calm conditions while wearing Viking attire.

For all those who want to train in the ducks please come and ask myself, Lara Boyle or Harry Smith and we'll happily run you through how to go about becoming one of the crew or drivers at the Club. This season in particular we have seen the ability for the IRB to quickly respond to serious rescue situations and the effectiveness of the craft on the scene. If we continue our drive forward, with more crew and more drivers ready on the beach, you can be sure that Whale Beach will be ready to handle whatever gets thrown its way. The next step is yours, you can be one of the hands that catches those who fall, or you can watch while the rest of us do.

" This season in particular we have seen the ability for the IRB to quickly respond to serious rescue situations..."



Gear and Equipment Report

Richard Stewart / Gear Officer

The Club boatshed was constructed and opened in 1972. Since then there has been many improvements to the layout and storage of our gear and equipment with no material change to the premises. Until now.

With funding from Northern Beaches Council the boatshed is having a major make-over. Cleaning the dirt and dust of many years, painting and rejuvenating and a fresh cement floor to fill all the chips and cracks.

Patrol Uniforms

Surf Life Saving Australia has acquired a new patrol uniform sponsor commencing the 2018-19 season. Our new sponsor is Holden, a most appropriate Australian sponsor for an iconic Australian organisation.

All Terrain Vehicle (ATV)

The Northern Beaches Council lifeguards provided the patrol with the weekend use of their ATV. This is the first time since these vehicles have been available for patrol use, our Club has not purchased an ATV, which is, by council arrangement, to be made available for lifeguard weekday use. The vehicle was plagued by

mechanical and electronic failures and the commitment by Australian Lifeguard Services to provide a new and dependable ATV will be welcomed by our patrols.

First Aid

The first aid room is small by standards however the experience of First Aid Officer, Paramedic Jonathan Stubbs and the reorganisation of the room together with a new height adjustable bed, provided a more usable and functional treatment room. Entry into the boatshed through the first aid room is most unsuitable, given this brings sand and dirt into the first aid room, preventing it from being maintained as a clean environment. Change is essential and plans are in place to rectify this.

Public Available Defibrillator (PAD)

Automated Emergency Defibrillators (AEDs) are nowadays located in most public places including shops, railway stations, sporting facilities and beach locations and surf lifesaving clubs.

As Gear Officer I have requested a clearly available PAD be purchased and located, on or around the boatshed for ease of public access. A PAD is essential when

the surf club units cannot be accessed. Although there is a risk of vandalism, units are available with back to base monitoring, a camera to take a photo of a person accessing it, stainless steel cabinets for all weather protection, and with verbal and visible operating instructions.

In addition, training Whale Beach residents in the operation of an AED and also CPR would be a worthwhile service to our local community.

Thanks and Appreciation

Resourcing our patrols demands weekly maintenance, sterilisation and repairs a task vital to our principal objective. Inadequate and / or defective gear could compromise the lives of both the public and of our members. To this end my thanks to the team of senior members who make their time available every Thursday during the season to prepare the beach patrol gear and equipment.

In conclusion my thanks and appreciation go to Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches staff for their wisdom, direction and always available support.



"... training Whale Beach residents in the operation of an AED and also CPR would be a worthwhile service to our local community."

Surf Sports

Surfboat Crews Report	17
Competition Handicapper's Report	18
Club Championships Results	19
The Big (and Little) Swim	20



Surfboat Crews Report

Brett Babicci / Surfboat Captain

David Maguire / Coach and Sweep

Returning for another season was the 'Flying Fish' after a successful 2016-17 season. The Reserve Women's crew consists of Julia Garside (stroke), Amy Gojnich (second stroke), Lucy Stranger (second bow), Suzy Bownes (interchange second bow), Maddie Finlay (bow) and David Maguire (sweep) with Alice Collins, a reserve rower and active supporter due to a back injury before the season start.

The 2017-18 season saw another wonderful year achieving third place in the Sydney Northern Beaches Premiership points score for this division. The Reserve Women's division is a very competitive category with 32 crews competing across NSW state and branch levels. The 'Flying Fish' worked together as a crew to keep the boat in the water at each carnival during the highly competitive season, missing only a couple.

The newest rower to the crew was Suzy Bownes, a quick learner for a novice surf rower who showed no fear in big surf. The 'Flying Fish' took on some big surf during the year and, despite a higher than average number of boat rollovers and breakages during the course in these big conditions, the crew was always amongst the leaders in the division.

It has been wonderful to watch the crew develop into excellent rowers. More importantly is that the crew has come together as good friends and wonderful athletes.

This year after competing at each of the Sydney Northern Beaches carnivals and Branch Championships, the crew placed third in the SNB Premiership. The crew was successful in making the finals at the carnivals they competed in.

The girls competed with the best, and with strong rivalry, they won against the neighbouring Avalon crew and NSW representative team that eventually went on to win State Gold. The curse of unlucky lane draws again. The crew's best race of the year saw the 'Flying Fish' racing in the semi-final of NSW Championships. Off to a flying start, they maintained boat speed with the really strong field. Into the beach 'The Fish' were on the same wave as the rest of the field, the result could have gone to any crew but 'The Fish' were called fifth on the line and didn't proceed to the final. These ladies had beaten all the medalists over the season and I am sure would have done well in the final, given the chance.

The hard work and dedication of the crew was evident all season, consisting

of early morning surf sessions and afternoons at Clontarf for still water pieces. It's a proud and happy moment to witness a crew develop their surf and boat skills, increase their competence in the surf and become one of the best crews in the Reserve Women's division.

The Reserve Men's crew for the season saw the return of the Whale Beach 'Big Fish'. Having the best of intentions, the 'Big Fish' had a false start as many of the crew had conflicting work schedules and holidays booked. The crew consisted of Willy Thomas (bow), Angus Woods (powerhouse 2), Hugh Stevenson (3 seat), Will Beaumont (stroke) and Nick Wubben (the substitute) and Brett Babicci as the sweep. The crew enjoyed every success at the away carnivals however!! A formidable crew, these men ranked in the top three of all crews in the division after day one of racing the Pacific Palms Carnival, the infamous Rec Club did take charge from this point forward... unfortunately. Travelling to Mollymook and Pacific Palms carnivals is always the highlight of the season, together for both groups of friends. Davey Maguire swept the 'Big Fish' crew at Pacific Palms, despite them being unable to row for the majority of the season.

Once again, the Whale Beach boat division would like to sincerely thank the Whale Beach SLSC Management Committee for supporting the season's campaign. It takes a strong commitment from all to have the 'Midget' boat in good condition to race. The results are not in winning, but the enjoyment of this great sport.

Should anyone be interested in joining the boats, competing and learning to row in future seasons please contact Brett Babicci (Surfboat Captain) on 0410669511 or at bbabicci@gmail.com



Competition Handicapper's Report

Graeme Stewart / Handicapper

The weekly Sunday competition has been a part of the heart and soul of Whale Beach SLSC throughout its 80 year history.

It provides a training ground for those who go on to represent our Club with distinction at branch, state and national levels, most recently Bill Phillips, who has joined many before him in bringing Australian gold back to Whale Beach.

The Sunday swim, board and ski races also strengthen camaraderie and the sense of being part of a great group of people. If the handicapper gets it right, all in the swim get back to the surf break at the same time with a wave and a run determining who wins. With good handicapping, everyone has a chance to win, regardless of speed.

In addition, the comp provides a regular opportunity to display the surf skills essential to our mission of keeping the beach 'in safe hands'. Those who compete show to fellow members, to their patrol and Club Captain and to the

public every Sunday, just how fit they are and how capable they are of getting through the surf, by swimming or by rescue craft. Proficiency is best maintained when tested regularly throughout the season, not just once at the start.

The nearly 70 club members who competed at least once in the 2017-18 season greatly enjoyed the experience. Many competed several times and some many times throughout the season. Several members compete every weekend that they are at Whale Beach.

Based on overall points achieved, the 2017-18 Sunday Competition Champions were:

Open: Suzy Bownes and Floyd Higgins

Juniors: Eloise Riley and Ben Rothery

Masters: Sue Kearney and Brett Babicci

Veterans: Philip Schmidt
(sadly, no female competitors)

All were acknowledged at the Club's annual awards presentation night.

The number competing each week was a little down from previous years, particularly for the board race, a key safe beach skill. The comp would gain from fresh ideas from younger members, both with incentives to join in and in novel prizes. In past years we have had monthly points prize-winners (usually T-shirts), a practice it would be good to re-instate.

Many Sundays were lost due to beach closures, and surf conditions allowed only one 'Point to Point' swim this season, and sadly, not a single 'Bay to Breakers' swim from Dolphin Bay back to Whale Beach. We look forward to more of these great 600m+ ocean swims next summer and perhaps some novel events that test and display our skills individually, as teams and as an organisation deeply committed to serving the public at the highest level and to honouring and maintaining tradition.

"With good handicapping, everyone has a chance to win, regardless of speed."



Club Championships Results

Women	Veterans	Masters	Opens	Juniors	Cadets
Beach Sprint	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Beach Flags	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Surf Swim	N/A	Jac Rees-Ewen	Ellie Keft	N/A	N/A
Tube Race	N/A	Jac Rees-Ewen	N/A	N/A	N/A
Board Race	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wave Ski	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Club Champion	N/A	Jac Rees-Ewen	Ellie Keft	N/A	N/A
Sunday Point Score Champion	N/A	Sue Kearney	Suzy Bownes	Eloise Riley	N/A

Men	Veterans	Masters	Opens	Juniors	Cadets
Beach Sprint	Graeme Stewart	N/A	Floyd Higgins	Dylan Rees-Ewen	Ben Rothery
Beach Flags	Peter Taylor	N/A	Floyd Higgins	Dan Breden	N/A
Surf Swim	Bill Phillips	N/A	Floyd Higgins	Dylan Rees-Ewen	Ben Rothery
Tube Race	Bill Phillips	N/A	Floyd Higgins	Dylan Rees-Ewen	N/A
Board Race	Graeme Stewart	Aaron Hendrikson	Floyd Higgins	Tom Constable	Ben Rothery
Wave Ski	Paul Young	N/A	James Rowlinson	Dylan Rees-Ewen	N/A
Club Champion	Graeme Stewart	Aaron Hendrikson	Floyd Higgins	Dylan Rees-Ewen	Ben Rothery
Sunday Point Score Champion	Philip Schmidt	Brett Babicci	Floyd Higgins	Ben Rothery	N/A

Whale Beach ocean swims 'Bay to Breakers' and 'Point to Point' were not held due to bad conditions.

Midget Farrelly Memorial Surf Competition
Dylan Rees-Ewen

The Big Swim
Fastest members
Male: Bill Phillips
Female: Eloise Riley



The Big (and Little) Swim

Simon Morgan / The Big Swim Race Director

In 2018 numbers for Macquarie Big Swim and URM Little Big Swim increased, giving a nett number of swimmers on par with 2017 being 1567. The Club has enjoyed growth in numbers, 1370 in 2015, 1520 in 2016, 1468 in 2017.

Given the long association of The Big Swim with Macquarie Group, 20 years, the event is clearly recognised as the Macquarie Big Swim and the support of that organisation is very well identified in the community and hugely appreciated.

URM's commitment to the URM Little

Big Swim has allowed the Club to accommodate shorter distance swimmers in a safe environment but these swimmers are now progressing to the longer distance event providing organic growth overall.

With its first start in 1974, The Big Swim is thought to be New South Wales' longest continuing running ocean swim. The Big Swim is a journey swim, not around buoys in a bay, or up and down a beach outside the break, but a true ocean swim, from Palm Beach to Whale Beach around the headland, through the Tasman Sea.

Held on the last Sunday of January each year, it is known as The Big Swim because it is BIG. Conditions vary from dead calm to testing south-easterlies or uncomfortable nor'easters with swells from all directions making for challenging swimming. It is a huge achievement to just finish! But finish they do with over 40,000 swimmers since 1974.

The assistance of Macquarie Group, URM Group, The Boathouse Group, Rob Nugan's Fresh Produce Group, Mana Island, Fantasea and Brown Bros. are





Macquarie Group: principal supporter of The Big Swim since 1999

valued as supporters of our volunteer community organisation, Whale Beach Surf Life Saving Club. Our event is indebted to similar organisations and our thanks to Rural Fire Service Ingleside and The Pittwater community of Volunteer Marine Rescue, particularly Broken Bay Flotilla.

The collaboration provided from all our local surf clubs is greatly appreciated, particularly the Palm Beach SLSC, who now bring a level of safety and professionalism to this event not seen previously. My thanks go to Alistair Shields and Dylan Kovacevich.

As ever, the list of those volunteers who support our major fundraiser is enormous, not only on the beach and in the water, but also with the provision of food and beverages, parking at Careel Bay, the gear transport and all the preparation and post event clean-up. It's a huge job, thanks to all.

I have tried to make mention of those who assist me in the swim, it is a very long list, too long for here, however, on a personal note I single out Rob Burfitt-Williams, Ella Vial, Lindsay Kershaw, Al Burchett, Jon Pratten, Michael

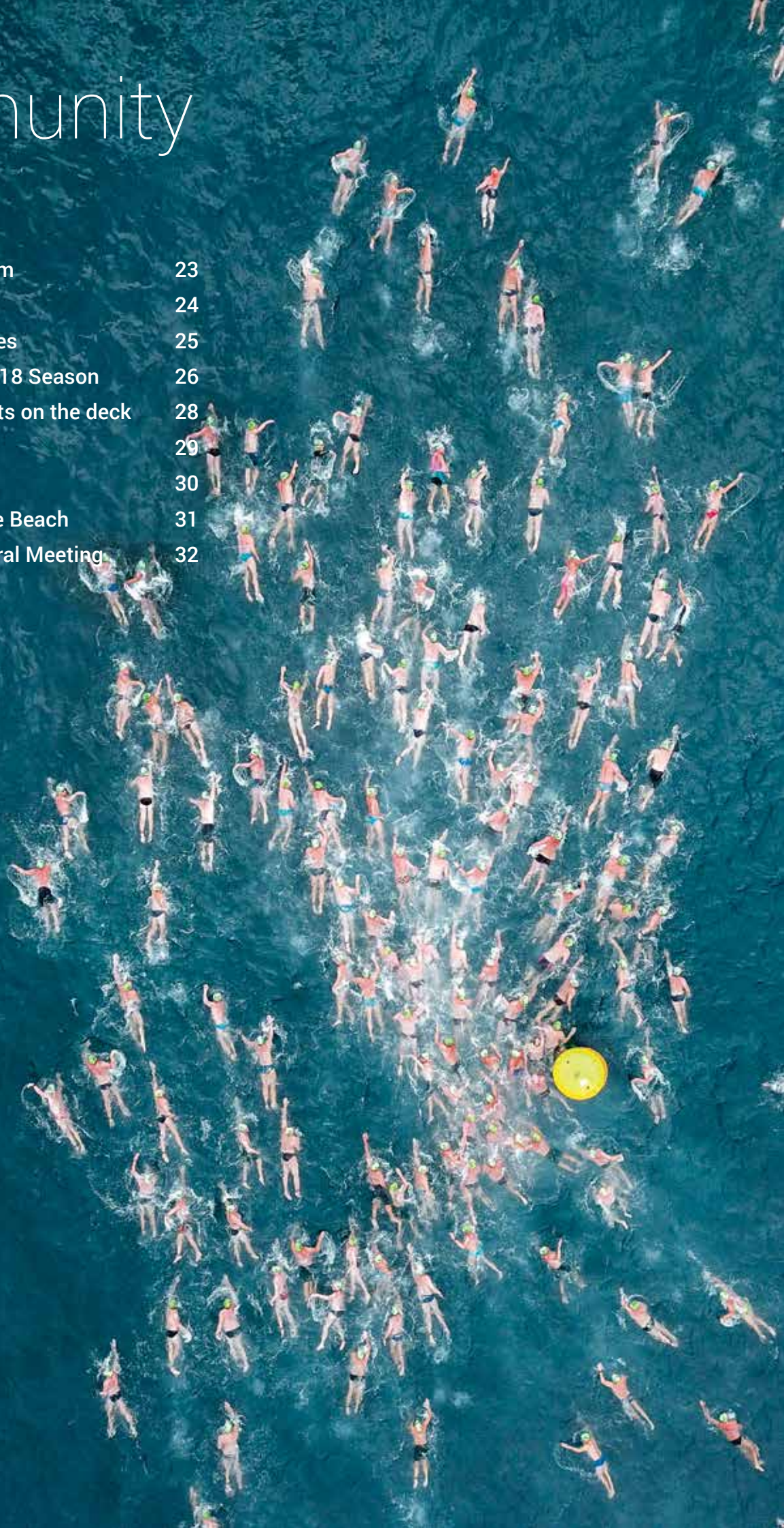
Riley, Philip Schmidt, Andrew Pearce, Harry Smith, James Rowlinson, Danny Ryan, Paul Hughes, Ed Connolly, Tom Sanderson, Bob Wines, Carolyn Morgan and of course our Club Captain Lara Boyle, for the fantastic support and encouragement they have given me in 2018. My apologies for any omission.

In 2019 The Big Swim is on Sunday 27 January following Australia Day. Please put a note in your diary as this is truly the one day of the year your Club needs you.



Community

Knox Grammar School Surf Lifesaving Program	23
Rescue by Patrol 9	24
Cheers for the Memories	25
Membership 2017 / 2018 Season	26
Tail's End - social events on the deck	28
Awards Night	29
Little Rippers	30
Historical Life at Whale Beach	31
Notice of Annual General Meeting	32



Knox Grammar School Surf Lifesaving Program

Nick Warby / Director of Aquatic Sports, Knox Grammar School

Captain: Richard Leonard

Vice Captains: James Pegg and Barney Allen

Coaches: Mr Tim Piper, Mr David Stenning, Mr Harry Stocks, Mr Tom Biddle, Mr Jack Cherry and Mr Seth Fitisemanu

The 2017-18 summer proved to be a particularly strong and successful season for the Knox Surf Lifesaving Program. We saw many highlights and firm growth across the areas of lifesaving, education and surf sports.

Prior to the season we further developed the Knox Surf Lifesaving Program to enable a large number of students to complete at least one SLISA award and end the season with a sense of having achieved an increase in their skills across one or multiple areas of surf lifesaving. This target was met with 21 students completing the Surf Rescue Certificate and six completing the Bronze Medallion award. Under the watchful eyes of several Whale Beach trainers, nine students completed the IRB Crew award.

The summer holidays saw great participation of Knox students using the Club facilities and contributing through patrolling. We congratulate the 14 Knox students who were involved in the successful search, rescue and resuscitation incident on 23 December 2018. These

students included Nicholas Dijohn, Sydney Robertson, Liam George, Jack Bregenhoj, Angus Kellaway, Dylan Gay, Archie Elliott, Max Zagorski, Ted Harrison, William Harte, Barney Allen, Harrison Penn, Ben Rothery and Zack Bannigan. The efforts of these students were recognised by the Headmaster and Deputy Headmaster in a school assembly.

First term saw all Knox Surf Lifesavers involved in several interschool and interclub carnivals. The Sydney Northern Beaches Branch Championships was well attended by Knox students, Wil MacDonald, Mike Huang, Ben Rothery, Zack Bannigan, Hamish Lapsley, Nick Rogers, Ben Hiller, Bill Parker and Angus Humphrey. This team hotly contested a range of water events at Collaroy Beach under Team Managers / Coaches Mr Simon Rothery, Mr David Stenning and Mr Andrew Pearce. Team Knox also competed at the Shore Invitational Carnival (placing equal second) and the Barker Invitational Carnival (placing third). Both of these carnivals saw great participation on the beach and in the water with Braeden Campbell and Will Sanderson showing their great skill in the water while James Simmonds, Ethan Hansen, Nick Rogers, Josh Johnson and Ben Rothery displayed their skill in the water.

Up in the clubhouse, Mrs Pru Kellaway along with an army of Knox parents ran a weekly barbecue. This barbecue along with other fundraising activities, including the Knox Gala Day, raised over \$900 which will be invested in equipment for the benefit of Knox and Whale Beach SLSC.

The leadership of Richard Leonard, Barney Allen and James Pegg, along with their team of year 12 leaders, has enabled the program to go from strength to strength this season. Their positive leadership and experience across many areas of surf lifesaving has been of great benefit to the Club and the school. 2017-18 has been a season in which our program and students have grown in many areas. Due to the sporting, educational and community service aspects of surf lifesaving, the school will continue to place an ever-increasing emphasis on sports such as surf lifesaving.

Knox Grammar School would like to thank Whale Beach SLSC for allowing our partnership to continue to thrive. Knox wishes to particularly recognise the efforts of club members Andrew Pearce, Alex Burchett, Lara Boyle, Lindsay Kershaw and parents Mrs Pru Kellaway, Mrs Bonnie McDonald, Mr Simon Rothery, Mrs Loretta Leonard for their many contributions to Knox Surf Lifesaving throughout this season.



"We saw many highlights and firm growth across the areas of lifesaving, education and surf sports."

Rescue by Patrol 9 on 23 December 2018

Summary of events by The Bownes Family

What a couple of years it has been for Patrol 9. Despite seeing stocks depleted a few years ago, Patrol 9 has made a resurgence, marked by the addition of some of the Club's youngest up and coming members.

At the core of the patrol is the Bownes family. Oliver led the way when he joined Whale Beach SLSC through the Knox program in 2007. Angus and Suzy joined two years later seeing how much Oliver had enjoyed and benefited through the experience. The newest, oldest and least decorated Bownes, Iain stepped up in 2016.

On 23 December 2018 Patrol 9 faced its biggest challenge yet.

Iain witnessed two young men, in their early 20s, enter the southern side of the red and yellow flags. They began playing around on the sandbank and there was no way of assessing their swimming abilities. Within 30 seconds, one of the men was swept off the bank into water above his head height. Iain raised the alarm and entered the water with Jack Bregenhoj and Angus on boards, followed by Lachlan Williams and Oliver with tubes.

By the time the rescue team had got past the break, one of the men had disappeared underwater. Unbelievably, in the confusion

of the patient's whereabouts, Angus observed bubbles on the surface of the water and a faint silhouette below. He left his rescue board and dived down with the hunch that the patient was submerged below. Angus pushed him to the surface and yelled "I've got him". You have to stop for a minute and asked yourself how Angus even lifted this 80kg unconscious patient from the bottom of the ocean.

At this point the rescue team rolled him onto the board. He was unconscious, blue with white foam coming from his mouth. The trip to the shore seemed to take an eternity as it was hugely difficult to keep the unconscious patient on the board and the sense of urgency was building.

Suzy, as Patrol Captain, led the young team on the beach to instigate the response for the pending resuscitation whilst alerting Surfcom of the emergency. With the benefit of training, she coordinated all the resources on the beach to ensure the rescue was successful.

The boys carried the patient up the beach to the awaiting oxygen and defibrillator. There were no signs of breathing or a pulse detected and Angus began CPR whilst Iain performed mouth to mouth. Sophie Rothery applied the defibrillator with the assistance of Sally Collier. Twice the patient had to be rolled into the recovery position to clear his mouth. After five rounds of CPR, Oliver

relieved Angus and continued compression. Miraculously the patient began laboured breathing and a pulse was detected.

The ambulance arrived within ten minutes of Surfcom being alerted where Patrol 9 then turned their attention to the other patient who had made his own way to shore. Suzy had to alert more emergency services as it was felt he was suffering from secondary drowning.

As the ambulances drove away from the beach we definitely breathed a sigh of relief that both patients were breathing but then our concern centred upon their recovery. Two days later, our family was jubilant to receive a copy of the text from Sophie that the unconscious patient had left hospital.

In the words of Iain "It has been a privilege as a family to be so integral in saving a man's life. I could not be prouder as a father to have witnessed how they all performed in such an extreme circumstance. The teamwork, the training all came together to create a lasting family experience".

As a patrol team we cannot stress the importance of checking in on one another after an incident like this. Such a near death experience reminds you of the real dangers of the ocean and the important role we all play for the community, and the need to get around one another in times like these.

"...The teamwork, the training all came together to create a lasting family experience".



Cheers for the Memories

Reflections on the Deck

One Saturday afternoon, as the sun was hitting the golden Whale Beach sand, we had a chat with longstanding members of our community, Bryan Webster, Paul (Hughsie) Hughes and Dugald Walker. It seemed the perfect opportunity to ask them a few questions about the changes they've seen over the years. These few words are small tales from a repertoire of stories. If you would like to have a chat or learn more about Whaley's colourful history, you can generally find our gentlemen at the ready at our monthly drinks, or down on the deck during summer.

What got you into Whale Beach?

Bryan: I grew up here and my father was the original Captain in the late 1930s. Surf Life Saving at Whale Beach is a family tradition, we're up to our fourth generation.

Hughsie: I turned up in the 60s from Ocean Beach after doing my Bronze in the 50s.

What keeps you here?

Bryan: I live here and it is a longstanding family tradition, now with both my kids following in the footsteps.

Hughsie: I stay for the barbecue... and the Club, once you live down here you become entrenched in the community. More than any other club, I love doing my portion for the community as a way to pay it back.

What's your favourite memory?

Bryan: December 1993 stands out with The Green Truck / Heroes of the Surf rescue. The oldies were on patrol with a few young whippersnappers and patrollers' kids, together, we did the rescue right. We got inquisitive about two windsurfers getting blown around. We sent out a duck, using radios to stay in communication, finding one troubled windsurfer and a mate sticking by him, resulting in a successful rescue.

What's your proudest moment?

Bryan: I trained the first girls Bronze squad in August 1980. It changed the culture of the Club. I had four girls training over winter so they could be competent on the first available day women could earn their Bronze Medallion. It was a

challenging winter and I'm still in awe of the girls, two of them were nurses. I was overwhelmingly proud of them all passing.

What's changed, what hasn't, and what's continuing?

Dugald: My family has been here since 1923. I remember stories of how Bryan's parents' horse in the 1920's used to burgle anything that wasn't nailed down!

Bryan: When I started we used a reel line and belt for rescues. There's been big culture changes from being men only to being skills inclusive. There's been many changes in methods of rescuing and reviving but also culture. I've met a bunch of amazing people from a variety of walks of life and have had a wealth of friendships as a consequence.

Hughsie: Powerboats changed a few things - a jet boat! New equipment and technology including rubber boats were game changing. The ever-evolving techniques for rescues made swimming less critical compared to thinking. What endures about Whale Beach is the isolation - it makes the culture.



Membership 2017 / 2018 Season

Life Member (17)

Armstrong, Martin
Baird, John
Berry, Robert
Cullis, Philip
Hendrikson, Christopher
Hughes, Paul
Lewis, John
Patterson, Darcy
Phillips, Bill
Pratten, Jonathon
Ryan, Daniel
Stewart, Richard
Strong, David
Timms, Colin
Tosi, Peter
Webster, Bryan
Young, Paul

Reserve Active (24)

Barrell, Bryan
Bracey, David
Buckingham, Simon
Clark, Micah
Coombes, Evan
Cullis, Jeffrey
Dauncey, Helen
Denning, Marshall
Fielder, John
Gellert, James
Hale, Geoffrey
Harrisson, Annika
Harrisson, Juliette
Hendrikson, Aaron
La Ginestra, Byrne
Lewin, John
Madden, Philip
Mullens, Joshua
Myers, Peter
Norrsgard, Vern
Schmidt, Philip
Smith, Harry
Taylor, Cameron
Webster, Morgan

Active Senior (91)

Baptist, Sam
Barker, Harry
Barkworth, Alexander
Beaumont, William
Bownes, Angus
Bownes, Iain
Bownes, Oliver
Bownes, Suzannah
Boyle, Lara
Bradford, Ben
Bridges, Natasha
Browning, Georgia
Burchett, Alexander

Burfitt-Williams, Robert
Carnegie, Charles
Chapman, Karen
Clarke, Saskia
Collier, Sally
Collins-Gallagher, Alice
Connolly, Edward
Cooper, John
Cooper, Nicholas
Darley, Chris
Darley, Stephanie
Dodd, Rebecca
Dreyfus, Rachel
Drummer, Harrison
Fenkart, Jade
Fernandez Beschtedt, Milagros
Findlay, Madeleine
Freeman, Emily
Gallagher, Kieran
Gardner, Stephen
Garside, Julia
Gojnich, Amy
Green, Elizabeth
Hackett, Andrew
Hackett, Juliette
Hackett, Reuben
Haigh, Peter
Heal, Kate
Higgins, Floyd
Hromas, Alexander
Huggins, Emily
Humphrey, Adam
Issa, Audrey
Keft, Eleanor
Kellaway, Charles
Kershaw, Lindsay
Kindred, Thomas
Marshall, Sophie
Mayne, Christina
McEntyre, Lachlan
McInerney, Anthony
McInerney, Joshua
Middleton, Kathryn
Morgan, Sebastian
Murdoch, Harry
Pearce, Andrew
Power, Christopher
Puertolas, Cesar
Rae, Michele
Rees, Jacqueline
Rees-Ewen, Olivia
Roberts, Georgia
Rowlinson, James
Scheiner, Joshua
Sheridan, Amey
Smith, Brittany
Smith, Christopher

Stanwell, James
Stanwell, Lachlan
Steiger-Thorpe, Jessica
Stenning, David
Stevenson, Hugh
Stewart, Graeme
Stollmann, Charlotte
Stranger, Lucy
Stubbs, Jonathan
Taylor, Lachlan
Thomas, William
Van Westing, Marco
Vial, Ella
Vinci, Celeste
Webster, Evan
Weymark, Kiana
White, Angela
Williams, Lachlan
Wood, Angus
Wright, Michael
Wubben, Nicholas

Active Junior (75)

Allen, Barnaby
Baker, Imogen
Bardon, Isabella
Bonu, Anhiti
Bracey, Hamish
Breden, Daniel
Bregenhøj, Jack
Browning, Tas
Burns, Elliott
Campbell, Braeden
Clarke, Hugo
Constable, Thomas
Dalton, Digby
Davis, Alyssa
Dijohn, Nicholas
Elliott, Archie
Frear, James
Freestone, Nicole
Gay, Dylan
George, Liam
Gibson, Will
Gosper, James
Griffiths, Oliver
Hansen, Ethan
Harrison, Douglass
Harrison, Edward
Hill, Joanna
Huang, Aofeng
Jackson, Mathew
Kaderavek, Nikolas
Kaleski, Imogen
Lee, Thomas
Leonard, Caitlin
Leonard, Richard
Liubinskas, Jaimee
Marlow, Lachlan

Metcalf, Elliot
Metcalf, Jacinta
Millard, Harry
Miller Hill, Blaise
Moore, Charlie
Muller, Harrison
Nethercott, Jonah
Oag, Angus
O'Brien, Olivia
Parks, Luke
Paul, Ryan
Payne, Jack
Pegg, James
Penn, Harrison
Phillips, Bodhi
Photios, Claudia
Powell, Mac
Ravenhall, Ethan
Rechner, Samuel
Rees-Ewen, Dylan
Reid, Charlotte
Reynolds, Nick
Riley, Eloise
Riley, Isabella
Robertson, Lara
Robertson, Sydney
Rothery, Sophie
Sanderson, Thomas
Sanderson, William
Scheiner, Benji
Shortis, Mia
Slack-Smith, Charles
Stafford, Matthew
Sternberg, Zac
Thomson, Oscar
Wang, Samuel
Webster, Willa
Zagorski, Max
Zhou, Weijun Zoe

Cadet (38)

Adams, Lily
Asher, Samuel
Bannigan, Zack
Bennett, Samuel
Bracey, Henry
Carolan, Finn
Edwards, Kane
Gordon, Freya
Gordon, Oliver
Gosper, Harry
Gosper, Isobel
Hackett, Barnabas
Hiller, Benjamin
Hogan, Madison
Humphrey, Angus
Jones, Hamish
Kellaway, Angus
Krelle, Ben

Lapsley, Hamish
Lawson, Harry
Liddle, Saxon
Love, Eloise
McDonald, Wil
Miles, Harry
Naito, Ami
Orth, Lachlan
Parker, Bill
Press, Edward
Press, Oscar
Reynolds, Camilla
Riley, Amelie
Rogers, Nicholas
Rothery, Ben
Simmonds, James
Smith, Noah
Watkin, Jonah
Wines, Sophie
Zagorski, Madeline

Award (3)

Furst, Peter
Gribble, Shannon
Gu, Nonie

Long Service (37)

Archer, John
Babicci, Brett
Bamford, John
Blundell, Peter
Bosson, James
Collier, Terry
Crisp, Danny
Davis, Charles
Dunger, Matthew
Elvy, Robert
Fraser, Peter
Graber, Brian
Gray, Stephen
Hall, Peter
Hannaford, George
Hansford, Richard
Hennessy, Ross
Horder, Luke
Jarrett, Matthew
Kearney, Suzanne
Kirby, Neil
Lamrock, Brian
Laurence, Michael
Lerpiniere, John
Lerpiniere, Robert
Lewis, Benjamin
Macnab, James
Maguire, David
McRobert, Martin
Montgomery, Peter
Pickering, Noel
Reynolds, Anthony

Stevens, Nicholas
Stewart, Ian
Szagmeister, Tibor
Taylor, Peter
Wilcox, Allen

Past Active (7)

Burgess, Peter
Clark, Michelle
John, Benjamin
Lenehan, Julie
Pope, Alex
Symons, Nicholas
Wells, Alice

Honorary (4)

Gaven, Isabel
Goldsmith, Andrew
Goldsmith, Philippa
Hughes, Monica Kim

Associate (141)

Allan, Don
Anderson, Peter
Archer, Martin
Armstrong, Ursula
Arnott, Richard
Azar, Benjamin
Baggie, Annette
Baldey, Andrew
Balkin, David
Barry, Denise
Benneyworth, Joanne
Benneyworth, Steve
Birks, William
Bonouvrie, Amanda
Bonouvrie, Jeremy
Borean, Derick
Bowra, Nigel
Bradshaw, John
Brock, Matthew
Cameron, Elizabeth
Cameron, Ian
Campbell, Michael
Campbell, Yvonne
Carr, Lorna Alison
Carr, Robert
Castles, Gary
Cook, Jennifer
Cook, Judith
Cook, Stephen
Coughlan, Owen
Crivelli, Mike
Crivelli, Susie
Dibbs, Kerry
Dorahy, Simon
Dowe, Andrew
Doyle, Greg
Edwards, Lisa
Enestrom, Ron
Enestrom, Suellen
Farrelly, Beverlie
Figgis, Christopher
Forster, George
Friend, Ryan
Friend, Tina
Froggatt, Tony
Gale, Eric
Gallagher, Steve
Gay, Richard
Gepp, Michael
Gole, Elizabeth
Gorman, John
Haigh, Jennifer
Hauserman, Alan
Hill, Natasha
Hromas, Harriet
Hrones, Catherine
Ingram, John
Jarvis, Robyn
Johns, Elliott
Jones, Matthew
Karhan, Giles
La Ginestra, Laura
Lee, Cedric
Lee, Wanhee
Leonard, Loretta
Lindberg, David
Lynch, Suzanne
Lysaght, Timothy
Macdonald, Scott
Mackay, Ross
Malcolm, Hugh
May, Andrew
McFarlane, Lynda
McGoldrick, Brent
McGrath, John
Mears, Laura
Miles, Jennifer
Mitchell, Leon
Mitchell, Luke
Molesworth, Michael
Moore, Helen
Moore, Nicholas
Morgan, Carolyn
Morgan, Simon
Mulligan, Jennifer
Mulligan, William
Myers, Susan
Naito, Cate
Naito, Kazuma
Nash, Janet
Nolan, David
Oates, Lisa
O'Brien, Naomi
O'Brien, Paul
O'Flynn, Michael

Ong, Julia
Osborne, Barbara
Pearce, Daniel
Pozniak, Elizabeth
Pozniak, Sheldon
Pratten, Alison
Pratten, Robert
Pursell, Virginia
Purvis, Rodney
Rains, Penelope
Rains, Richard
Riley, Ian
Riley, Michael
Ristevski, Peter
Rose, Sheila
Rothery, Simon
Rouhan, Michael
Rowntree, Andree
Schmidt, Kerrie
Sedgley, Jocelyn
Selig, Gordon
Shirbin, John
Simmons, Ross
Sippe, John
Spencer, Ian
Stewart, Margaret
Strain, Kaye
Sullivan, Allan
Sullivan, Peter
Walker, Desley
Walker, Dugald
Warburton, John
Waters, Kathleen
Weir, Janine
Westcott, Julie
White, Suzi
Williams, Penelope
Wines, Barbara
Wines, Michael
Wines, Nina
Wines, Robert
Woodall, Kerry
Zagorski, Roger
Zagorski, Samantha
Zorica, Alistair
Zorica, Monique

Probationary (11)

Baylis, Alex
Buchanan, Jake
Buchner, Toby
Hodge, Max
Johnson, Joshua
Masters, Rhett
Miller, Flynn
Ross, Fraser
Scott, James
Weir, Jettjoonha
Weir, Zeke Joon Woo

Tail's End - social events on the deck



Awards Night

Thanks to Moby Dicks and Belle Property, Avalon for their support.



Little Rippers

Sue Kearney / Junior Activities Captain

2017-18 has been a year of great excitement and growth for the Little Rippers program.

When Whale Beach SLSC was formed, its founding members consisted of local lads from Pittwater, the Sydney metropolitan and country areas. The Club has always been a close group of dynamic members from far and wide, and continues to expand, while staying true to its roots.

Now, older members' children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, have had the opportunity to become part of the innovative and fun Little Rippers program, established in 2010.

The program runs over the Christmas / New Year period, our busiest on the beach, when many families holiday in the area. It's a time, when children aged 3 to 12 years, local and from afar, make the Little Rippers program part of their summer. They bring their energy, enthusiasm and happy

faces, ready to participate in fun activities and friendly competition, be educated in beach safety, and form friendships.

Since the program's inception, I have had the privilege to meet a number of visiting country families. In November 2017, I was honoured to receive an invitation from St Joseph's Primary School, Merriwa, to give a presentation on beach safety awareness, to infants and primary students, their parents and grandparents.

With a number of members' children growing up in the local area, I was also invited on two occasions, to visit The Kindy Child Care Centre, Avalon. The fun and interactive presentations, included learning about the red and yellow flags, how to paddle a board, and run around with the rescue tube.

To run a successful program, I'm thankful for the assistance and support provided. Peter Myers, Jessica Steiger-Thorpe,

coach and adept waterman Evan Webster. club stalwarts, Chris Hendrikson and Dugald Walker, who have been supportive since the beginning. Ed Connolly and his Patrol 6 members, for their tug-o-war participation and for providing water safety. Little Rippers Tom, Alex and James Rowntree, and Angus Wines. Parents and grandparents, and of course the children.

Congratulations to Sophie Wines, who gained her SRC award this season. Sophie has participated and assisted in the program since its inception, and has now joined the legendary 'Heroes of the Surf' Patrol, bringing energy and enthusiasm and decreasing the average age.

These children are developing strong relationships and ties with the Club, ensuring the next generation learns valuable life skills and knowledge, which one day might save their life, or even the life of another.



The Boat Boys

Peter Taylor



This surf club was formed in 1937 and the members dreamed of belts and reels and timber surfboats and colourful march past teams with flowing flags like those of the well established surf clubs. A reel was necessary to save lives in the raging surf, but there was more glory in those ancient times in having a flagship. So a request went out to clubland that we desperately needed a surfboat. The Dee Why club kindly gave us one. Nobody asked why. It was as heavy as a forest log and required a large group of strong men to carry it to and from the surf.

In 1941 to reduce the distance of carry, we built a boatshed on the beach, as close as we dared to the high water mark. In the following years we had several boats and rowed them in competitions with varying degrees of success. The junior crew of Brian Graber, John Baird, 'Spike' Gilligan and 'Choco' Halligan were swept by Keith Jones and they won the (junior) Metropolitan and State titles and were second in the Australian titles at Newport.

In the 1953-54 season, our senior boat crew travelled north to Coolangatta to compete in the Australian titles. The surf there was huge. So all of the crews and supporters drove even further north to Southport where the waves, far out to sea, were still reaching for the sky but this was the northern-most beach and was officially accepted: "Closer to a hospital" they said.

Jack Uren was our trusted sweep who trained our crew of Mal Robson, Frank Gardner, John Arblaster and Alan Gonsalves. They were extremely fit young men who had won the (senior) Metropolitan title. They were champions.

After the heats of the day in this raging surf, they were in the final race of four boats and they knew this would be a tough event. Jack was well aware of the huge waves they would be facing on the very long row out to the buoys, securely moored beyond the cresting mountains of the sea. Jack studied the wave formations. Most of the waves diminished as they ran across a sand bar about 100 metres out, but there was an occasional set that crested even outside of the buoys and these waves were powerful enough to carry right across the bar and continue to the beach. A careful

sweep would avoid such a suicidal wave. A wise sweep might attempt it if he had the complete trust of his crew. In an emergency, a desperate sweep might not tell his crew where he intended taking them.

The starter's gun sounded and they jumped into the boat and rowed quickly and strongly and the broken waves crashed loudly against the hull and the boat bucked and pitched and rolled from side to side like a wild animal and each man in our crew concentrated on his stroke and timing and the bow rose up with the increasing height of the waves and as they approached the line of buoys they could see no other boats astern and as they followed Jack's instructions to turn, it was painfully obvious that they were the last boat. This was an emergency. So Jack became a desperate sweep.

At the beach the announcer said: "We now have three boats preparing to row across the sand bar... and here comes the last boat, it's Whale Beach... on a huge wave... like a ten storey building... it is carrying them across the bar... they are passing the other boats... and now Whale Beach and Bronte are leading and are on the same wave... this might be a dead heat for first place... no, the judges have awarded first place to Bronte by a nose and Whale Beach is second... but first for bravery".

Frank Gardner was interested in the use of fibreglass as a lightweight material for racing car bodies and in 1954 he convinced our Club that a fibreglass surfboat could help us to become Australian champions. However, our committee demanded that the main structural elements of this proposed new craft should be of timber. They compromised and built a timber boat sheathed in fibreglass. It was the heaviest surfboat on the planet. In a race, the timber boats of other clubs rose gracefully over the broken surf on their way out to sea,

while our new baby blue invention acted like a submarine and ploughed through the middle of all waves. Bailing out became an essential skill, and sweeping such an awkward craft was an extremely unpopular recreational activity.

It was so unpopular that one Saturday afternoon when it was suggested that we should take some fishing lines around to Dolphin Bay and catch fish for dinner, the only volunteer to sweep the blue boat was 'Animal' who had no steering experience at all. Undaunted, we packed fishing gear and bottles of beer and far too many people into the boat and set off on a calm sea. In the bay, boredom soon set in when we caught no fish and drank all of the beer. Dusk was upon us. We rowed back towards the clubhouse. The sea had risen and some of the waves were enormous. We were sure that 'Animal' couldn't catch a big wave and so we rowed bravely on, until, still a long way out we felt the boat surge forwards and realised that we were actually on a wave and it was a big wave. We waited for the sweep's instructions. There were no instructions. We studied the expressions on his face which began to reveal signs of fear. He was the only one who could see where we were going and we received the distinct impression we could be going somewhere rather unpleasant. Because there was no known surf lifesaving signal for what he was about to do, 'Animal' gave none. As the stern lifted up on the huge wave, and without any warning, he simply abandoned ship and dived overboard. The boat immediately swung parallel to the big wave and went rolling sideways down the face with all oars out, looking like a giant stick insect in the rough white water and with all of the broken oars and bobbing corks and bottles and people floundering about in the surf it resembled a shipwreck. A flagship wreck.

HISTORICAL LIFE AT WHALE BEACH

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Whale Beach SLSC Incorporated will be held at the Whale Beach Surf Club commencing at 2:00pm Sunday 12 August 2018.

Agenda

- Apologies
- President's Welcome
- Confirmation of Minutes of 2016 / 2017 Annual General Meeting
- Adoption of Annual Report
- Adoption of Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
- Notices of Motion as approved by Club Management Committee:
 1. That affiliation be sought for the 2018/19 season with Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Inc. (The Branch). Further, that the articles, constitution, by-laws, regulations and resolutions, together with the awards and equipment of The Branch, Surf Life Saving NSW, and Surf Life Saving Australia Limited be accepted without reservation.
 2. To appoint our auditor for season 2018 / 2019, Reanda Business Intellect Pty Ltd.
- Nomination for Life Membership: Philip Schmidt
- Election of Officers and Committees for 2018 / 2019 Season
- General Business

Download the PDF of our 2017 / 2018 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report from our website at whalebeachslsc.com/about/annual-reports/

The Annual Report Committee is indebted to the generous photographic contributions of Tom Sanderson, Max Zagorski, Chris Hendrikson and the photo competition entrants.

Your amazing work is an invaluable record of the Club's culture and history for generations to come. We sincerely thank you and hope you continue the project for many more seasons.

IMAGE CREDIT: P31 Source: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/18501722>



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