

Shoredump Newsletter

Merewether SLSC

January 2016



The President

Nick Newton

Welcome everyone to the New Year and second half of our patrol season, those of us that have been on the beach following Christmas will know how busy things have been and that has resulted in some great work being done by our patrols with managing some very tricky conditions, thrown into that was some plague proportions of blue bottles so it has certainly been full on.

Sadly as you will all know over this recent period a couple of our Branch beaches had incidences that resulted in fatalities and although none of these were in a patrolled area it's disappointing that people still continually put themselves at risk by not heeding the warnings and advice they are given with tragic outcomes.

We have just attended the first Branch meeting of the year with the main topic being to vote on accepting a new major sponsor. In a deal currently being finalised **Newcastle Permanent will be coming on board as the Hunter Branch's major sponsor** for (at least) the next 3 years. Although Newcastle Permanent aren't new supporters to lifesaving they will take over from what used to be Ausgrid who owing to government cutbacks cancelled their support at the end of the '14 season leaving a big shortfall of working funds for the Branch and its operation. As club members the only difference for us will be to have the new logos on our patrol shirts, on Branch competition vests and on certain equipment but it will be important to have all this in place before the start of next season as the new contract will be very binding in this regard. So at the end of this season (and we will be reminding everyone again later) we will be asking everyone to return their patrol shirts to us after completing their final patrol of the season, this will be so the shirts can (if possible) be re logoed or replaced to ensure that there are no Ausgrid patrol shirts that could be worn or displayed next season. This sponsorship deal is the largest Newcastle Permanent has agreed to so it will be important to abide by the requirements of the contract.

Speaking of sponsors we have been fortunate with the **local Merewether IGA donating a \$1000** and on Christmas Eve **Juice Plus + confirmed their commitment as a Gold club sponsor** – and it's great to receive some sponsorship for the start of a new year, also in the background to all this Adrian is still working hard away with trying to secure a second round of funding from PWCS.



Events

- Sunday morning events 8am
- Branch Age 6th & 7th February
- Branch Open & Masters 13th February
- State 4th to 13th March
- Aussies 16th to 24th April

Unfortunately I once again need to **remind everyone of club security** after an issue last week with non-members accessing rescue boards and then causing problems for the council lifeguards. It followed on after the boatshed front wooden doors and rear sliding door had been opened up to allow a breeze to flow through the shed while some members and guests were sitting in the shade of the doorway, they then walked off leaving the club open with the above result, luckily one of our members was there to assist in getting the boards back and the lifeguards locked the doors for us. Considering the amount of previous publicity about closing and locking doors and club security requirements we should no longer have any problems like this at all, to leave the club open anytime is simply a blatant disregard to not only the security of club and personal equipment but also club rules and by laws.



Congratulations and thank you to Westpac Rescue Helicopter for 40 years of service

Club Captain

Dave Hoar & Simon Lovell

Hello everyone, hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year, with plenty of time to relax and rewire. We are now into the 2nd half of the season, so far our Patrols have been fantastic however there are some Patrols that have struggled for numbers over the School Hols. We would ask that if you can't make your rostered Patrol that let your PC know well in advance, and try to get a swap by advertising in the What's On by emailing mslsc.secretary@gmail.com.

Of course if you are able to additional patrols, or need a valid excuse to escape unwanted visitors or get out of doing housework or jobs around the house, simply turn up and introduce yourself to the PC and the patrol. When we are short of numbers it's usually during the PM so if you can help out that would be great.

A reminder for IRB Drivers and Crew to ensure that the IRB and the ATV are washed down, the IRB's motor is run and that the ATV is left on charge. Both items are worth a considerable amount of \$ so we need to look after them.

AND FINALLY IF YOU ARE NOT FINANCIAL OR HAVEN'T DONE YOUR WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL BE ARCHIVED AND YOU ARE NOT LEGALLY ALLOWED TO PATROL. If you need any help with it contact Pete (Registrar) on 0427 300 034.

Thanks again for all the time you spend doing patrols, and if you have any suggestionson how we can improve what we do talk to your Patrol Captains or one of us.
See you on the beach,

Members over the age of 18 are required to apply for a working with children check. Please submit your WWCC Clearance Certificate that has your check number and expiry date to merewether.spsc.registrar@gmail.com

If you received your certificate last season could you please forward to our new registrar. Registrations can't be finalised until we have your WWC number, thanks.



THANKS TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED TO PATROL ON CHRISTMAS DAY



Last Skills maintenance of the year



Our latest bronzed aussies

A Word on Safety

Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) is guided by the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, along with various legislations, regulations, codes of practice and standards. As such, MSLSC has duty of care to ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of its members, visitors and the general public. This means that as a member you must “work” in a safe manner.

But hang on I hear you say, I get all this at work through the week. On my weekends I just want to have fun. Well I’m here to tell you that you can do both, easily and painlessly. It starts by thinking about the little things and it starts at home.

- Have a stretch.
- Wear good shoes, safety glasses and ear plugs to mow or whipper snip.
- Get someone to hold the bottom of the ladder and tie off the top.
- Clean your windscreen before you drive off, not by using the washers when you’re already blinded by the sun.

At the surf club be safety aware and think about what you are doing.

- Operate within your limitations.
- Be sun smart.
- Are you comfortable with the surf conditions? If you’ve been out late the night before and don’t feel good, don’t go out the back on the board, have an easy swim between the flags instead.
- You need to get a surf ski down from the top rack. Stand and look before you act. Move the chairs out of the way. Get someone to give you a hand. And low and behold you have just carried out a valid risk assessment. You assessed the risk, found it unacceptable and acted to mitigate the risk. It sounds trivial and it is, but that 30 seconds of thinking before you act can make the difference.

So keep thinking about the little things and the big things will tend to take care of themselves. Help each other out, keep safe and, most importantly, have fun.

Anthony Tietze
WHS Officer – MSLSC

Carnivals

For competition information:

Seniors – Nick Brunette at nicholas.brunette@yahoo.com.au

Juniors – Peta Owen at petao@beroa.com.au

January

Sat 30th - East Coast Surf Carnival, Umina

Sat 30th - Wave Warriors Carnival, u9 to u15, Newport

Sun 31st - Nippers Carnival, u8 to u17 team events only, Dixon Park

Sun 31st - East Coast Masters, Collaroy

February

Sat 6th & Sun 7th Branch Age Championships, Fingal Bay

Sat 13th Open a& Masters Branch Championships, Caves Beach

Sat 20th Board & Ski Rd 3, Redhead

March

Fri 4th, Sat 5th, Sun 6th State Age Championships, Umina
Wed 9th & Thurs 10th State Masters Championships, Umina
Fri 11th, Sat 12th, Sun 14th State Open Championships, Umina

April

Sat 16th to Sun 24th Aussie Championships

PLEASE GET ENTRIES IN FOR THESE CARNIVALS AS ENTRIES CLOSE AT VARIOUS TIMES IN THE COMING WEEKS. Speak with Nick or Peta for further information.



All New Webstore
Now up and running on our website.
Nippers and senior gear available.
ORDER NOW

Sunday Morning Events

- Will run each Sunday morning throughout the season. Meet at the club for a start on the beach at 8am with events to be completed by 8.40am. If beach conditions are unfavourable, events will be run down at the baths.
- Planned events include a long swim, run-swim-run, board relay, beach run, beach sprints, and beach flags. Only a few events will be selected each week, a calendar roster of events will be posted shortly.
- Place and participation points will be awarded to those involved, this includes bonus points for Volunteers.
- All members of the senior club are welcome to participate and must hold a SRC or above (eg. Bonze) award.
- Persons entering the water will be required to wear a pink vest, please bring your own however spares will be available for use.
- Volunteers will be needed each week to assist with water safety, any assistance here would be appreciated.
- For more information or to assist with the events or water safety each week, contact bruce_rummins@hotmail.com



Club's Surfcam

The live stream of Merewether Beach plus local weather is available for viewing from the club's website.





PORT WARATAH
COAL SERVICES



Welcome to our new sponsors Juice Plus+. Thanks to our sponsors for their support. Please support these businesses.

