

# Shoredump Newsletter

Merewether SLSC

March 2016



## *The President*

Nick Newton

Something a little different for the newsletter this month, we have been approached by a television production company to be included in the newseries of COAST Australia. This program is a series which is aired on the discovery channel and looks at different aspects of our Australian coastline.

My understanding is that the new series will be focusing on the areas from the Central Coast up to Newcastle and as a well-known club with some significant history behind us we have been asked to participate. So far the initial discussions of outlining what will be involved have centred on seeing normal patrols in action, training operations, Nippers and their coordinators, interviews of members along with reviewing club historical documents, photos and significant events.

Over the next couple of weeks the production team will be up in our area contacting the selected clubs and people to formalise the scope and content of the show as well as conducting some preliminary interviews.

Filming has been scheduled for a weekend in early April (currently 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>) which is a bit late for our nippers and current Bronze/SRC trainees so we will need to do some work and organising around putting teams together to be able to give a good representation of these groups and what we do.

It will be straightforward for anyone who wants to be involved as you will only be doing what you usually do or are involved with on a normal patrol day.



## Events

- State 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March
- Nipper camp 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March
- Aussies 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April

We will keep everyone in the loop as all the details are firmed up and we are informed with what is happening.

So for all you budding film stars we will be after volunteers to come and be part of this production.

## **Club Captains Report**



by Dave Hoar & Simon Lovell

Hello everyone,

Another season is flying by, with most patrol teams having only 2 more patrols for the year.

So far we've had another great season, with no patrol breaches. A lot of the credit goes to our Patrol Captains that organise and run our Patrols, as well as all of our Patrol Members that give up their time to patrol and keep the public safe and within the flags.

We still do have some Patrol members that don't organise a swap, or don't turn up for Patrols without letting their PC know - so if you can make sure you check your patrol roster in advance and get a swap if you can't make it that would be FANTASTIC.

While on the subject of Patrol Members, our AWESOME Training Team have another group of Bronze and SRC candidates in training - and shortly we'll be allocating the candidates to Patrol Teams and encouraging them to join in on a Patrol whilst they complete their course. So if you see some of the new guys around please make them welcome.

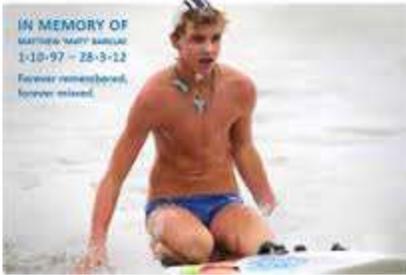
And with the presentation coming up at the end of May, we are after suggestions for 100% patrol attendance award - in previous years we've had towels, water bottles, coffee keep cups, hoodies and watches - so if you can think of anything that would make a great 100% award let us know.

So thanks again for all your time on Patrols, we really do appreciate the time you give up to volunteer. And as per usual if you have any suggestions on how we can improve what we do then talk to your PC or let us know.

See you on the beach,

## A Word on Safety

Matthew Barclay tragically drowned while competing in the Australia Surf Titles at Kurrawa on the Gold Coast in March 2012. He was 14 years old.



The findings of the Queensland Coroner were released on 15 January, 2016. Coroner Terry Ryan concluded that Matthew drowned after being knocked unconscious, possibly by his own board, while negotiating a shallow outer sandbank in rough seas.

Terry Ryan made five recommendations, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of which states:

“Surf Life Saving Australia mandates that surf events are not to start unless a viable means of rescuing an unconscious person from the water is in place. i.e. A crewed inflatable rescue boat or a crewed jet ski is on the water in the competition area.”

The intent of this recommendation can be extended to all water activities at MSLSC, be they the nippers on a Sunday morning or any regular patrols. While I believe that MSLSC already has a very good approach to water safety, keep in mind that the more often there is a rescue board or the IRB actually out on the water the better.

**The window of opportunity for saving an unconscious patient is 4 to 5 minutes – tops.**

So, providing of course that you are comfortable with the conditions, get out on the water. **Take the IRB out, take a rescue board out, practise patient recovery, go for a swim with rescue tube in tow, have a presence.** It is good practise for you and your colleagues and it will pass the time in a positive way while you are on patrol.

(I found a full copy of the “Finding of Inquest” which includes the coroner’s recommendations at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-01-15/matthew-barclay-inquest-coroner-says-mandate-helmets-jackets/7090206> )

Anthony Tietze

WHS Officer - MSLSC

## Surf Sports Carnivals

For competition information:

Seniors – Nick Brunette at [nicholas.brunette@yao.com.au](mailto:nicholas.brunette@yao.com.au)

Juniors – Peta Owen at [petao@beroa.com.au](mailto:petao@beroa.com.au)

### March

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



### April

- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> to Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Aussie Championships



## Visitors

On Sunday Merewether welcomes Oliver Frere-Smith, Club Captain of UK SLSC North Norfolk. Once he has been trained in SLSA protocols he will join the clubs patrols at the weekend. If you hear an English voice come over and introduce yourself.



**Merewether SLSC Webstore**

*Now up and running on our website.  
Nippers and senior gear available.*

ORDER NOW

**Mens and Ladies Polo shirts (\$30)**

