

**MARCH/
APRIL
2011**



ANNUAL DINNER ; JUNE 18th, Venue TBA

So ends a very busy, successful and fun season. Club members contributed on average 25 hours of voluntary patrols per person, and totalled 3600 hours. Horseshoe Bay has been shown to be a safe place to swim in summer, and people can have confidence in the highly trained volunteers who patrol there. Our ranks are growing as more young people in particular are getting involved along with their families. Samewave has added a new dimension, as has the Youth Council. On the competition side, we have competitors from the ages of 9 through to the 60's, all achieving in a vast range of events. No wonder it's all smiles down at the Club.

WHAT TO DO OVER WINTER

We never close! No need to let your skills and fitness suffer just because it gets cold. Thursday night from 5pm there is the usual swim. Danny and Marty are looking to forming a Master's group which will see some variation added with a bit of cross- training.

Saturday afternoon the SAS (Saturday afternoon Swimmers) head across the Bay at 3pm, and then adjourn to the club to watch a bit of football.

AWARDS

Sophie Hill, Sally Nunan, Cameron Smith, and the limping Emma Roberts all passed their Bronze Medallion qualification, and so are now full patrolling lifesavers. Soon after, Abbey –Rose Black, Isaac Burgess, Grace Dennis-Toone, Yianna Dorwood, Ellie Francis, Lili Kiriakou, Bek Mutton, James Panozzo, Alexandra Rayner-Lauchlan, and Ned Ryan-Schofield qualified to become Cadets (or Qualies) by achieving their Surf Rescue Certificate. This means that they have 'graduated' from Nippers and can join patrols. The assessor remarked on the high standard of all candidates, which is something the Club prides itself on.

Meanwhile, over at Middleton, Gary Humphries, Stephen Tummel, and Cathy Venning passed their IRB crew certificate, while Michael Lippet, Daniel Todd, and Mark (Funky) Williams became qualified IRB drivers. What has made them happier is that the Club has just purchased a new IRB! Conditions were heavy at Middleton, and despite the inevitable mishaps such as 'driver overboard', the candidates showed courage and skill to gain their certificates.

TURKEY TALK

As told by Marty :

*Saturday night of State Masters : Peter Francis kicked on back at the club chardonnaying with Di and Terri Mc Millan. Jeff had left them a key to lock up. Around 10ish , while I was semi-conscious in bed at home, I received a phone call from Peter. Jeff's key does not work, can i come down to the club to lock up for them. Yawn. I did. First locked up upstairs - had to fiddle with the inside lock a little. Then went down to lock up the patrol room. They were paying out Jeff for giving them the wrong key and were going to 'turkey' him. I showed them my key and commented that you can tell and newie because it had a square 'head'. Peter then pulled out jeff's key - and guess what a square headed one! ...with which he duly locked the patrol room with. Turns out that none of them had their glasses with them. Omelette on faces.
I went home to bed again.*

RESULT : Peter ; Bronze Turkey Award ; Marty : Silver Turkey award (2 years in a row!)

FACEBOOK GROUP

The club runs a facebook group 'PESLSC – Port Elliot Surf Life Saving Club' which is a forum used to update regularly photos, events and thoughts surrounding your club. If you're a member of facebook, join the group and keep in touch with all the going ons.

PAST EVENTS

Pizza and DVD night

A good night was had by all at the Pizza and DVD night on Friday, 25th, February. Around 50 people enjoyed what seemed like endless amounts of pizza of all varieties, while sitting back watching two surf DVDs, filmed and edited by our club's own Anjie Collins (really good work and worth a watch if you can get a copy). This was followed by two more surf DVDs, big wave surfing from around the world in Billabong Odyssey and movie classic Big Wednesday. During intermission people were served by the youth of the club with ice creams and popcorn. Some even enjoyed the event from the comfort of a VIP lounge.

It was a very successful social night for the club. So a big thank you needs to go to the hard workers who made it all happen; Craig Dennis for organizing the pizzas, Jeff Collins for the DVD's, Penny Smith for the ice creams and popcorn, Randall Warner for setting up the projector, Matt Turley for the loan of a large screen, Hamish McMill for general oversight, those who helped in the bar for short stints and especially the youth of the club, in the form of YIPS, who did all the work on the night, from setting up the hall to serving drinks and the food, as well as the clean up late after everyone else had left.

Danny Smith.

IAN GRANT IS OFF AGAIN

In May I'm heading off to Denang, Vietnam to participate in a World Conference on Drowning Prevention. The aim is to focus world attention on the global burden of drowning, with a specific emphasis on the epidemic of drowning deaths in developing countries. The aim is to draw together world leaders in water safety research, policy and practice in order to reduce drowning through the collaboration in the context of lifesaving, public health, international development, water safety education, lifesaving sport and aquatic disaster reduction. It will expose specific issues in areas such as, rural community drowning, aquatic and tourism related drowning, transportation/occupational related drawings and of course the prevention.

Lifesavers from across the world will use the conference to update and promote their skills, equipment, achievements, as well as seeking ideas for improving standards. If you would like to know more of the conference's content talk to me!

Ian Grant.

STATE TITLE ROUNDUPS

MASTERS

The State Masters Titles were held at Christies Beach. Individual events were held on the Saturday.. Mark James, Danny (Comeback Kid) Smith and Marty Smee contested a host of individual events.

First up was the 2km run not normally in the repertoire of our intrepid crew, but Mark and Marty were made offers they could not refuse, and ended up with Silver and Bronze respectively. Next was the shorter run - the beach sprints, with Marty scoring another bronze, edging out Mark. Danny had a tough time in his age group coming up against a big contingent with some highly trained 'superstars'.

Flags, followed, with Danny having the same story, but this time Mark relegated Marty to 4th and gained the bronze. Mark and Danny also contested the swim and board events, and Marty went in the ski race. We survived!

Sunday morning was the surfboat rower's time to compete. The teams are put into combined age group categories. The 200 plus crew of Michael Lippett, Mark Williams, Gary Humphries, Robert Mooney, with Bryn Bridges as sweep rowed strongly to bring home the Silver medal. The 160 crew comprising Dave Reid, Steve Brown, Paul Buchanan, Danny Smith with Matt Smith (no relation) as sweep faced very strong competition but won the Bronze Medal.

In the afternoon, Mark Williams teamed up with Steve (Draino) Tummel to contest their first ever Board Rescue event and found the going tough. Later, Danny Smith, who by this time had been in a massive number of events, teamed up with Mark James (still not fresh from Saturday), Mark Williams, and Steve Tummel to contest the beach relay. They found the baton to be rather slippery at times, and finished in 7th place.

Overall the Club finished with a creditable 6 medals for the weekend.

JUNIORS

The Junior State Championships were held at Semaphore. The full run down is as follows:

The U9's were represented by Zoe Lippett, Anna Keen and Colby Whitborne. Zoe came 5th in her heat of the sprints, and performed with great technique in the boards and wade. Anna qualified strongly in flags, and with 'great eye' and determination made it through to 8th place. That is a big effort considering the number of competitors. She was steady in boards and also made it through to the wade final, narrowly missing a place. Colby participated in the board race, but his big moment was winning Bronze in the wade race, showing a lot of determination. The performance of this group was a credit to their hard work and sense of having fun. Whether competing or not, the U10's were full of energy the entire weekend with no interest in relaxing! The enthusiastic brother and sister combination of Chloe and Alex Gilchrist-Burne showed true determination throughout and were awesome participating in the most challenging swim and board events, with Chloe coming an outstanding 17th in the swim final. Marcus Lippett excelled in also making the finals and came 1st in sprints and 4th in wades. Matthew Read was exceptional and made the finals, coming 3rd in sprints, 6th in flags and 13th in the wades. Lachlan Williams came 7th in the sprint final and Henry Hill came a most impressive 12th in the flags final. The team highlights were Matthew, Henry, Lachlan and Marcus winning Silver in the sprint relay final; Alex, Chloe, Marcus and Matthew coming 8th in the wade final and, given that it was their first state final carnival ever, an absolutely inspiring, committed effort was made by Henry, Alex and Chloe coming 7th in their board relay. The four U11's had busy weekend competing in a total of 10 individual and 4 team events. The squad of Sam VanOlen, Patrick Cooper, Abby Hill and Brenton Skanes all competed in the board race, and between them contested flags, sprints, the swim, as well as the team events of beach relay, board relay, and the Cameron (board, swim, run). Huge effort.

The U12's were also hyperactive competing in a total of 16 individual and 3 team events. Each member of the squad made it a semi, or final in their chosen event. Madison Turley has to be proud of being now ranked as 8th in the State in Flags, while Luke is 12th in swimming. The board relay team is likewise ranked 10th in the State. Once again, given the numbers of competitors, these are impressive stats.

U13's featured the highly competitive natures of Maddy Warner and Nathan Dennis, along with relative newcomer Zoe Knight-Stacey, and between them had a big weekend. Nathan made the finals of the boards (5th in a nail-biter), and swim, as well as semis in flags, sprints, board rescue (with Maddy), and final of the board relay. Maddy made the final of the boards as well Zoe had a fantastic first States making the semis in sprints, final in flags, and teamed with Maddy and Nathan in the board relay final.

The U14 squad consisted of Rachel Lippett and Sheldon Skanes. Unfortunately due to there being only 2 of them, they could not contest team events. Rachel however had made it into the final rounds of Flags, and narrowly missed out on a medal in sprints. Sheldon also competed in sprints and boards.

SENIORS

The last of the State Championships kicked off on a Friday night with the beach events being held at Glenelg. Rachel Lippett continued her good form from Juniors winning the Silver medal in sprints. Millie Rusby had a satisfying night with 4th in both flags and sprints. Ty Haynes was delighted with his Silver Medal in the U19 Km run, as was Mickey mason with his bronze in the U17 division with Sam Gilgrist-Byrne, also in that event for the first time. Darcy Tucker competed in flags and sprints in very competitive fields.

The action continued on Saturday at Moana for the beach events. Jamie Buchanan was the star finishing first in her heat to make it the finals on Sunday. Jess Dennis, Ty Haynes and Elly Smee competed in the board heats for their age group, as did the board relay team of Dale Francis, Ty, and Cameron Smith. Jamie eventually finished 9th in a very strongly contested final.

Sunday morning and the R&R team were into the 6 person final. Our team being a combination of U17 and U19 competitors (Anjie Collins, Mickey Mason, Elise Tuuri, Ebony Alford, Jess Dennis and Dale Francis) was giving away decades of experience to other teams, especially the exceptional golden oldies from Brighton. Emotions ran high when it was announced that the team had won the Silver medal. The Club owes a huge thank you to Neville Sparron for his brilliant coaching over many cold hours on the beach.

Further down the beach, three PE boat crews were locked in strong competition. The Open men's crew made it through to the semi-final before they were eliminated. Tappy's Reserve grade crew made the final and came 5th, with Tappy still possibly jet lagged. Bryn's reserve crew were eliminated in the quarter finals. It is unusual for PE not to win a surfboat medal at States, but injuries and other commitments have prevented them from being fully prepared. Next season is looking good though.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS AND PRESENTATION NIGHT

This year we conducted the senior club championships as a season finale, on a day of ever changing beach and water conditions. The first event was in the warmth of the clubrooms with the 'ergo' machines. These evidently simulate surfboat rowing, and competitors had to see how many meters they cover in 2 minutes - an obvious advantage to surf boat rowers. Next it was down to the beach for the sprints, just as the wind changed to give us all a headwind.

We then progressed to 'flags' where some of the most brutal competition was not surprisingly in the men's divisions, apart from the gentlemanly Maters. No quarter was given in the Open women's division, while the U19's were far more gentile. To finish off the legs completely, the next event was the 'long run' from Commodore point back. A couple of wily competitors hitched a ride there in the 'mule' but it didn't seem to help them run faster on the way back.

Next it was ski racing. The Club has just taken delivery of the latest evolution racing ski and it was good to put it through its paces, although most competitors opted for slower but more stable 'tupperware' plastic skis. A highlight was president Rod being caught in a shore break wave and riding the ski in, with none of his limbs actually within the confines of the ski. Skis being the most difficult craft to control

and stay upright on, meant that racing was exciting with more collisions and near misses than a demolition derby.

To further punish the upper body, we went straight into board racing. Ty and Mickey had the 'game face' on in the U19's, while the older competitors had the pain face. A highlight seemed to be when your columnist here was unceremoniously decked in the shore break allowing Peter Mason to virtually run over the top of him for an ecstatic win.

Last event was the swim, which also proved to be a somewhat brutal affair with many swimmers trying to occupy the same small space in Horseshoe Bay with arms and legs flailing everywhere.

The results were (in order from first place) :

U19 Female : Jess Dennis, Jorgia Grenfell, Elly Smee

U19 Male : Mickey Mason , Ty Haynes, Sam Gilchrist-Byrne

20-39 female : Lucinda Remiltion, Cathy Venning, Sonia Read

20-39 Male : Adam Foot, Dave Read, Matt Smith, Hamish McMillan, Seb Goldsmith

40 + Male : Stewart Cummings, Marty Smee, Peter Mason

After some fluid replacement the competitors, families, and other club members celebrated Presentation night at the clubrooms. An excellent dinner was organised by Dana, Maggie and Leah from the hardworking Auxiliary. Apart from announcing the winners of the day's events, other awards were presented.

Schellase Trophy , for best knowledge of First Aid : Maggie Savage

President's Trophy : Sam Gilchrist- Byrne

Patrol of the year : Patrol 5

Certificates were also handed out to those members who patrolled for 50 plus hours for the season. Jeff Collins spoke of the highly successful Youth Involvement program, and inducted Alice Harding, Sam., Sheldon Skanes, Ty Haynes as members.

The two 'social awards' are the highly coveted Stirrers and Turkey. The Stirrers Award was 'won' by Matt Smith for fearlessly stirring, niggling, heckling anyone of any age. For some reason club members showed a lot common sense and restraint, making the Turkey Award (for the dumbest deed of the season) not reach the dizzy heights of previous seasons. The Francis Family however dominated the awards by taking out both the Gold (Dale) and Bronze (Peter), and being responsible for this columnist gaining the Silver by association.

SAMEWAVE

"I have been going to Same Wave since January this year. My sister, Beth and I joined this year and we've been treated very well. This month Nat bought six brand new Kayaks and one paddle board. We helped unwrap them. Some Nippers and others were able to be there also to join in the unveiling. They are safe and hard to tumble over, a very good buy Nat. Same Wave received a grant from The Office of Recreation and Sport. Having the additional equipment will mean each of us can learn a new skill and add to the varied opportunities we can have at the club. I also go a new wetsuit that same week but hadn't had an opportunity to have a swim,

so Adrian offered to swim with me so I could try it out. It was great."

From Paul Jenkins (Same Wave Member)

Musings from the Club Captain

It's been a very busy last part of the season and we've had plenty on the go. State titles, samewave, trips away and rescues. Special note should be made of Nathan Dennis and his efforts in saving a swimmer from drowning. Nathan is going to get his quali's this year and he'll be a great lifesaver of the future and his efforts have shown that you're never too young to make a difference.

Speaking of making a difference, our samewave participants continue to shine under the guidance of Nat and our helpers. Never, had I imagined that such a small group of people could make such a contribution to our club. The example set by this incredible group of lifesavers is one to behold. Their enthusiasm, persistence and willingness to have a go epitomize all the best values of surf life saving and the mate-ship shown by this group will see them through anything thrown their way.

We've even had a few members go north, into the bush to start exciting new chapters in their lives. Troy, Tara and kids have all headed into the APY lands. We'll no doubt see plenty of them through school holidays and know that the leadership, these guys have for so many years given to our club will be well received up in the deserts. We also wish Peter and Wendy Trebilcock the best of luck in their new role at Rawnsley Park Station. Good luck to you Pete. You'll leave a hole in our training base that will take some time to fill, but we know you'll love it up their.

To all those that have helped make this year a success on patrol thanks again and especially to the team that run all of the lifesaving services we deliver. The Annual Dinner is all booked in and as most of you would know it's a great chance to catch up with all the members past and present to celebrate the season gone. It's not just for those people that are receiving awards either. If you've never been to a Dinner I'd encourage you to jump in with both feet this year. We'll have a contingent from our sister club in Woolongong coming over and it'll be a great night, so when you get your invitation lock it in your diary.