

shore break



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**NORTHERN BEACHES
COUNCIL**



UNITED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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Picture: A Warriewood patrol on the opening day of the new season.

HOW TIME FLIES ... ANOTHER NEW SEASON

Welcome to our 2016-17 patrol season. It seems like only yesterday that we had just packed up and cleaned down our gear and celebrated a fabulous 2015-16 surf life saving season.

Firstly, I would like to thank and welcome each and every one of our members back to the beach, particularly our patrolling members who are at the pointy end of our rescue service, which protects our communities as they enjoy our magnificent beaches.

However, without the support provided by our support service teams, which includes our Duty Officers, Surfcom Operators, Jet Ski Operators, TIPS team and all our committees and panels, our members would not be able to provide such an extensive and complete service.

I also extend a big welcome back and thank you to all of our Trainers, Assessors and Facilitators, who train and upskill all of our patrolling members, you undertake a great deal of work, that is not always recognised, so thank you. Additionally, our Surf Sports Officials are back on the beach and a big thank you to all of you as well.

To our Nippers, Past Active and Associate members, your contributions are also greatly appreciated and go to the total make up of the entire fabric of surf life saving, the length and breadth of such a marvellous organisation.

To our Branch staff, welcome to the start of a new season, as with our club committees, it's not welcome back as your contributions are all year round.

I would also like to highlight the very generous contribution that Dee Why RSL has made through the provision of our Rescue Services

Vehicle, which is a vital tool in supporting the Branch and our 21 surf life saving clubs.

We also look forward to working positively with our newly formed Northern Beaches Council in protecting and serving our community.

Congratulations to our Australian representatives Georgia Miller, Dane Farrell, Jake Lynch (opens) and Isaac Smith, Charlie Brooks and Callum Lowe-Griffiths (youth team), who did our country proud at the world lifesaving championships in The Netherlands in early September.

I look forward to catching up with you on the beach.

Doug Menzies - President



VOLUNTEER LIFESAVERS BACK TO PATROL OUR BEACHES



IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR AT SOME CLUBS

The great thing about surf life saving is that mums, dads and their teenage kids can be actively involved as volunteer lifesavers on the same patrols.

A number of family members were on duty with their respective clubs when patrols on the northern beaches commenced on September 24.

At Newport SLSC, Alex Warwar was on patrol with his daughter Sabrina.

Alex hails from Sao Paulo in Brazil and only started four and a half years ago when his two older daughters did their Bronze Medallion. "I started helping out with the water safety and then I decided to do the Bronze Medallion," Alex said.

"I have another young daughter who is doing nippers now. Instead of doing nothing, I decided to come and help out and doing patrols."

Alex said to learn about safety on the beach is very important. "Especially to get the confidence for the little ones to go in the water," he said.

"For me by doing patrols, it is giving back to the community basically."

Sabrina, who attends university and is in her last year of medical science, has been with Newport SLSC for six years.

BOYS EXPERIENCE BRAZIL

What attracted her to the surf club? "The beach, the people and helping saves lives," she said.

At Warriewood SLSC on opening day of the new patrol season were David and Caroline Jollow and their son Patrick and Susie George and her son Zac.



Pictures: Top left: Scene at North Narrabeen on opening day of patrols ; Top right: Susie George (left), Zac George, Patrick Jollow, Caroline Jollow and David Jollow at Warriewood; Below: Alex and Sabrina Warwar.



David and Caroline have been patrolling about 10 years and were joined by their son four years ago.

"It's just so wonderful to come here as a family," says Caroline.

Mum Susie George is very proud to have her son Zac with her on patrols at Warriewood.

"We came through the nipper system and now we are doing patrols together," Susie said.

Brothers Fin and Lachlan Ashby were on patrol together at Mona Vale SLSC.

The brothers, along with Jay Aitken, saved the lives of three men when they got into trouble at the southern end of Mona Vale beach in

February. And it was all because of the skills they learnt paddling boards.

Fin and Lachlan started late as nippers. "We were living in Brazil for five years as my dad (Ross) was working there," Fin said.

The boys, who grew up in Eastwood, said they enjoyed the experience of living in Sao Paulo.

"It was pretty fun. We were contained and lived in a little complex, hidden away," Fin said.

"My dad used to live in Dee Why. He wanted that (beach) to be a lifestyle culture for us so that's why we ended up living on the northern beaches when we came back to Sydney."



WELCOME OUR FIVE NEW CLUB PRESIDENTS

Saul, Andrew started out together

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Branch welcomes five new presidents this season and one returning for a second stint. Chris Bell (Manly LSC), Alan Burns (Freshwater (SLSC), Bryce Munro (Mona Vale SLSC), Andrew Pearce (Whale Beach SLSC) and Saul Brown (Palm Beach SLSC) are fresh faces, while Rob Emerson returns to head Newport SLSC.

Saul Brown and Andrew Pearce first met while members of Whale Beach Surf Club. "Saul was my first patrol captain," Andrew recalls. Andrew has been a member of Whale Beach for 23 years and held a number of leadership roles. "I was a patrol captain for about 10 years, chief instructor and just finished two years as secretary," Andrew said.

"The plan of Phil Schmidt (former president) was to see younger people moving up into the ranks and club leadership. That's originally why I started as secretary two years ago to get involved in club management and get a feel for how it works with a view to stepping into the presidency at some stage."

While Andrew works as a business analyst in the wine industry, he is actually the caretaker at the surf club.

'I HAVE NEVER LOOKED BACK'

Andrew is a very big supporter of the volunteer movement. "I love the whole idea of giving back to the community," he said.

"I fell into lifesaving because my best friend (Micah Clark) at school. His family owned the house next to the clubhouse at Whale Beach, so I spent many summers and holidays there and then we gravitated next door and got our Bronze Medallions. I have never looked back ever since."

"And Micah is still involved with the club."

When Kate MacDonald knew she would be vacating the president's chair at Palm Beach SLSC, she had a word in Saul Brown's ear. While Saul had started out at Whale Beach, he's been at Palmy now for just over 20 years. "When Kate asked me if I would be interested, I didn't have to think twice," Saul says.

"Surf lifesaving is something I always liked to stay involved in and it seemed like as good a time as any to take it (presidency) on."

Saul, a management consultant, found his way to Palmy because of his business colleagues.

"I was working with a bunch of them at the time and they invited me to join," he said.

A father of three sons, Ethan, Casey and Tyler, Saul has served on the Palm Beach Surf Club committee as honorary secretary for a couple of



Pictures: Old mates catch up Saul Brown (left) and Andrew Pearce.

Below: Saul with his sons Ethan (left), Tyler and Casey



years and has been co-ordinator of the Branch Championships, held at Palmy a couple of times. "Palm Beach has a bit of a unique committee setup," he said. "There's a 'holding' club that looks after our land and property and I have been on that for a couple of seasons."

Saul loves the great club competition and enjoys competing in masters competition. He won gold (board), silver (ironman) and bronze (ski) in his age group at the Branch Masters last season.

FROM LITTLE NIPPER TO THE TOP

As a boat sweep, there's been few better than Bryce Munro. His record of three Aussies titles and runner up in men's open competition speaks for itself.

Bryce quit the boats last season to spend more time with his four kids Charli, Will, Jack and Luke who also love the beach scene and are nippers at Mona Vale SLSC.

While Bryce will again cart the kids to junior carnivals, he now has the added responsibility of club president at Mona Vale SLSC.

The club's new building will be his chief project, along with making sure the social activities continue.

Commenting on his new role, Bryce says: "I could see some things I could do, some directions I could take the club in and some things I could move forward with and keep the club progressing.

"Every club has ebbs and flows and things you are good at and not so good at. Yeah, fix the things we are not so good at."

Bryce was only four years old when he started out as a nipper with the club and in recent years was made a Life Member.

This is the biggest challenge for him out of the water. "We have plenty of good people at the club and it is important to continue the good work that has happened at the club," he said.



CHRIS IS BORN LEADER

Some people are just meant to be leaders – Chris Bell is one.

Not surprisingly, the former banker and literacy teacher, always had a desire to become a president of a surf club. And that club just happened to be Manly LSC where Chris obtained his Bronze Medallion at 16.

Chris was a nipper chairman and club captain. Last season he was deputy president at Manly and groomed to take over from Mark Epper.

"We had a succession plan. I am not working now and I have the time to do it," Chris said.

On the club's future, he says: "We are a very big club and very competitive. There is a need to pay coaches and the No 1 responsibility is to make sure the money keeps coming in.

"Also I want to see a lot more social engagements happening at the club."

Chris says he will certainly continue to compete in masters competition in the water. "I love it so much," he said.



ALAN READY FOR NEW ROLE

While he had visions about becoming a surf club president one day, Alan Burns now finds himself in the top job at Freshwater SLSC.

"I recently retired so I am ready to devote my time to it," Alan says.

Alan makes no bones that the No 1 priority at Freshwater will be fund raising activities.

"We have extensive renovations taking place at the club. That's the chief project," he said.

Alan will continue his strong involvement in R and R. He won bronze as a member of the club's Open 5-man R and R team at Aussies last season and he also coached the 6-Person R and R team that won gold.

Alan also serves as the chairman of the National R and R Steering Committee.



YOUNG BEN THRIVES ON GIVING TO COMMUNITY

Ben Matthews gives so much of his spare time to voluntary work that he sometimes wonders whether he is dressed in the right uniform. Whether it is doing lifesaving patrols, helping the Rural Fire Service or public speaking engagements, the 23-year-old nurse is just full on giving to the community.

Ben was Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Volunteer of the Year in the 2015-16 season and, more recently, won the 2016 Sydney North NSW Youth Volunteer of the Year (under 24). This award covered a range of volunteering activities.

An amazing young man considering he has Cerebral Palsy.

"It (latest award) is just awesome," says Ben, who is a member of the Newport SLSC. Not only that, he is a Patrol Captain and heavily into IRB's. "I get so much fulfilment from what I do in the community," Ben said.

"But I have to say that when I turn up somewhere to volunteer, I have to look at my uniform and see if it's the right one. I am on the go."

Ben works as a nurse in the Children's ward at North Shore Hospital.

"I work with sick kids, young babies to teenagers, and one of the great pleasures is to see them come back to health," Ben said.

"I have been doing it for two years now and I love it."

Ben's public speaking has also taken off.

"That all started when one of the guys on my patrol (at Newport) nominated me for a community service award and it subsequently led to me talking about disabilities," Ben said.

"As my mum (Jill) is a teacher at Newport Primary School, I first did a talk to Year 1 students there.

"I had butterflies when I first started doing this but I have grown to be a lot more confident."

Now he's giving motivational talks to senior students and was at Pittwater House School last month captivating the audience.



JAKE IN RED HOT FORM AT WORLD TITLES

When Jake Lynch went to The Netherlands last month with the Australia team for the world lifesaving championships, he knew he'd have to be at his very best to beat South Africa's Ryle De Morny in the sprint and beach flags.

Jake came third in the sprint and was placed fourth in the flags, the two events De Morny won in France two years earlier.

Jake thought he was a bit lucky to make the national team for Rescue 2016 after being unplaced in the sprint final at Aussies on the Sunshine Coast but he did finish second in the flags.

He stepped up the training and gym work after Aussies and it certainly paid off in Holland.

This time the Newport local excelled on the beach and won both events.

His Newport training partner Dan Grbac, running for Canada, finished third in the sprint.

Jake later went on to win his third gold medal, this time wearing his Newport cap and taking out the open sprint at the world interclub championships.

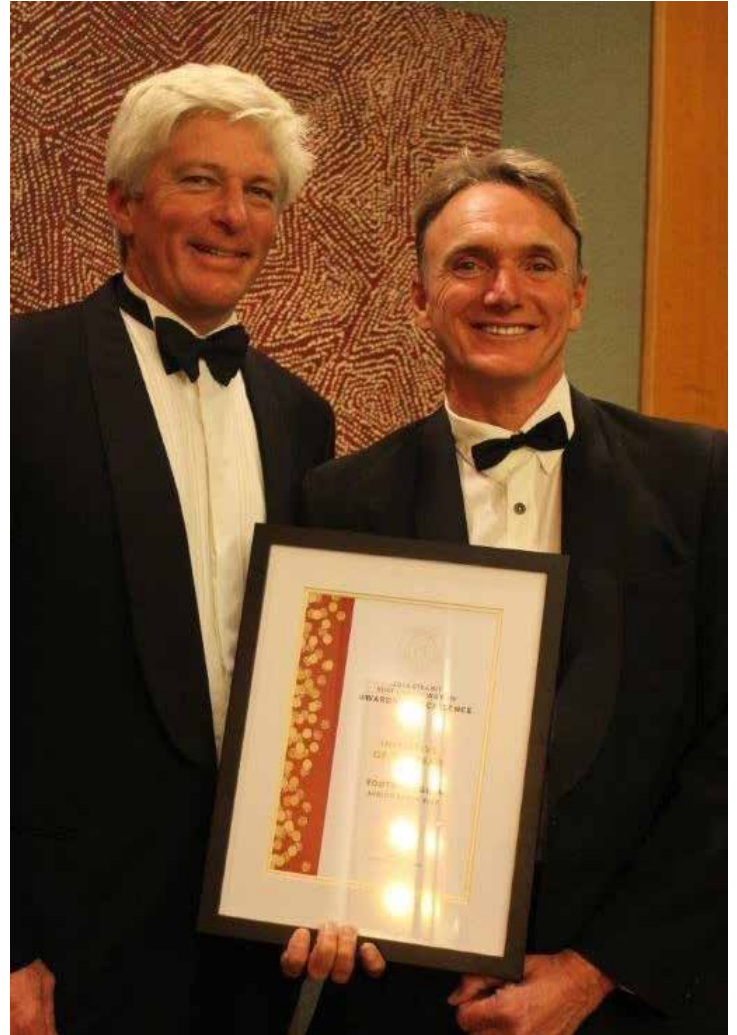
He also picked up two silver medals, open beach relay and open point score for Australia. Georgia Miller was also an individual gold medal winner for Australia, taking out the ironwoman event.

New Zealand won the world title for a third time in succession.

Australia won the world youth championships with Newport pair Isaac Smith and Charlie Brooks the stars of the show in ocean events.

Picture: Jake Lynch shows off his medals.





PETER RECEIVES STATE AWARD

Peter Spence described the season he had as boat sweep with Palm Beach last season as just incredible.

"I had some amazing crews," he said.

The six medals he won at State will probably never be equalled. He swept a record 48 races. At Aussies, he swept 58 races and won four medals. But Peter is more than just a sweep – he's coach and mentor.

Peter had such a heavy workload as both Stephen Cox and Matt Giblin were out of action due to surgery.

At the Surf Life Saving NSW Awards of Excellence it was hardly surprising Peter won Surf Sports Coach of the Year.

"The award was unexpected but I think I put my best foot forward and had an amazing year," Peter said at the awards.

Peter said most of his crews were backing up but he won't have the same workload as both Cox and Giblin are back.

Peter is marrying Steph Brown on October 8.

"After the honeymoon I'll rip into the season," he said.

Apart from Peter's honour at the NSW Awards of Excellence, Avalon Beach SLSC took out the Initiative of the Year, while Ella Cook, from Narrabeen Beach SLSC, was the Female Junior Lifesaver of the Year.

Mike Stanley-Jones was the man behind Avalon's youth program.

"The program was more about recreational activities. It had nothing to do with competition. It was about participation. They are just people who just want to have a go and we have doubled or tripled our numbers in the age groups (15-18 years)," Mike said.

Ella Cook didn't win the Branch JLOTY award but she was a late replacement for Freshwater's Gracie Kiely and then sensationally stepped up to the plate at the State interviews.

Picture: Top left: Peter Spence with Steph Brown, Avalon Beach president Richard Cole (left), with Mike Stanley-Jones and Ella Cook (bottom).



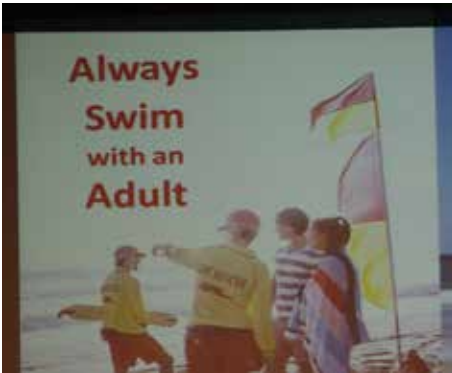


SURF TALKS SMASHING HIT WITH KIDS

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Surf School instructors certainly had a busy time in September spreading the surf safety and sun safety-cancer prevention message through the classroom program in the schools. Sydney Northern Beaches Branch owes a huge debt of gratitude to Cancer Institute NSW who sponsor the program. Last season we were able to reach 7000 students in the greater Sydney region. In Term 3 this year, our instructors gave talks at St Vincent's Ashfield, St Ives Park, St Martin's Davidson, Sacred Heart Catholic Pymble, Villa Maria Catholic Hunters Hill, Frenchs

Forest and North Curl Curl Primary Schools. Instructors Jayke Rees and Maddie Spencer had the kids at St Ives Park Public School captivated with their talks and the children just loved question time. Other valuable members of our staff are Ian Crutch, Ray Merton, Ollie Signorini, Mechelle Hare and Michelle Kaye. The program continues in term 4.

Pictures: Students from St. Ives Park Primary School enjoy the talks from our instructors Jayke Rees and Maddie Spencer.







NORTH CURLY'S DAY

It was a big day for North Curl Curl SLSC at the annual SLS Sydney Northern Beaches Golf Day at the Bayview course last month with one team from Built taking out major honours and their other team in third place.

It was spectacular weather for the Ambrose competition which raises funds to help send the SNB Branch team away to the NSW Inter Branch Championships each year. This year the titles will be held at The Lakes SLSC on the Central Coast on December 10 and 11.

The Golf Day has now been running 23 consecutive years at the Bayview Golf Club and during that time, more than \$250,000 has been raised for Branch teams.

John De Met, Evan Jones, Darren Chandler and Chris Vella won with a handicap of 10-1/8 and a net score of 51-7/8.

Dee Why's Roger Jacobs, Steve Rashleigh, Cam Wylie and Grant Marshall were second with a handicap of 12 and net score of 53, with North Curl Curl's Stephen Brown, Tim Bath, Phil Heneka and Matthew Keast third. They were also off a handicap of 12 with a net score of 54. The best scratch score (gross 59) was Avalon Beach SLSC, represented by Sam Phillips, Ian Thom, Bill Hutchinson and Peter Akehurst.

Alas, there were no winners for the two hole-in-one events for a Toyota Corolla Hybrid Hatch, courtesy Bill Buckle Auto Group and \$10,000 cash provided by Barrenjoey Insurance Brokers. However, some competitors went very close.



