

SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

**SYDNEY BRANCH
SURF LIFE SAVING
BOARD OF CONTROL**

32nd ANNUAL REPORT

1980-81 SEASON

SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY BRANCH

SURF LIFE SAVING BOARD OF CONTROL

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEASON 1980-81

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Sydney Branch Surf Life Saving Board of Control will be held at Coogee Surf Life Saving Club on Wednesday, July 22, 1981 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting held August 13, 1980.
2. Apologies and Leave.
3. Welcome to Guests and Visitors.
4. Correspondence.
5. Presentation of the 32nd Annual Report for the Season 1980-81.
6. Election of Officers and Committees for the Season 1981-82.
7. Confirmation of IRB, JRB, Helicopter and Radio Supervisors.
8. Motions, of which due notice has been given.
9. General Business.

Steve Strange,
Honorary Secretary,
Sydney Branch Surf Life Saving
Board of Control

MEMBERSHIP

Life Members (22)

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| P. Ainsworth | R. Howells | A. Moseley | J. Switzer |
| K. Andrews | D. Lucas | C. Osborne | J. Vaughan |
| V. Besomo | R. McKenna | A. Purcell | J. Wardall |
| H. Brown | K. Messenger | E. Sier | K. Watson |
| L. Buck | L. McDonald | E. Stephens | J. Young |
| N. Dixon | R. Michaelis | | |

Long Service Members (19)

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| R. Avery | B. Crisp | A. Jordon | V. Mulcahy |
| R. Bridges | J. Donohoe | K. Manton | R. Sargeant |
| J. Casey | H. Hodge | D. Medlin | H. Spurway |
| C. Christiansen | R. Horton | K. Midson | T. Wheeler |
| R. Craig | L. Johnson | J. Minahan | |

Full Members (69)

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| J. Baker | J. Fraser | G. Martin | G. Royall |
| T. Beckett | R. Ford | C. Matthews | R. Sandstrom |
| G. Bennett | A. Gately | J. May | P. Sargeant |
| M. Berger | M. Gladstone | C. Melvey | W. Sawyer |
| B. Breadner | F. Gilroy | N. Miller | J. Seddon |
| E. Brooker | W. Gray | R. Miller | R. Sheldon |
| P. Calder | K. Grima | M. Munsami | F. Smith |
| P. Carney | J. Hall | J. Oldham | K. Solomonson |
| M. Clancy | W. Halpin | R. O'Malley | P. Steenson |
| J. Connolly | G. Hewett | D. Pacey | S. Strange |
| P. Cooper | N. Jamieson | R. Pears | B. Thompson |
| K. Davis | R. Johnson | L. Platt | G. Thomson |
| R. Davison | W. Josland | D. Popplewell | I. Toll |
| J. Dewey | B. Kelly | L. Potapof | P. Vanny |
| P. Easson | B. King | P. Quartly | E. Wallbank |
| T. Elliott | L. Love | W. Rennie | R. Williams |
| K. English | P. McGuinn | K. Rowsell | |
| M. Fischer | K. McKeachie | | |

Probationary Members (6)

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| R. McCormack | G. Shiels | G. Smith | B. Tually |
| A. Gately | R. Silcock | | |

IRB Examiners (3)

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| D. Cooper | B. Gardiner | W. Singleton |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|

JRB Examiners (4)

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| R. Green | D. McGroder | K. Mogridge | A. Morris |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|

Helicopter

I. Badham

Radio Examiner

G. Sewell

ARC Examiner

R. Whitmore

Examination Members (3)

| | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|
| M. DeLuca | D. Smith | D. Wilson |
|-----------|----------|-----------|

Competition Members (6)

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| R. Day | L. Harris | J. Stansell | B. Townsend |
| R. Gilroy | A. Menzies | | |

Country Membership

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| D. Murray | S. Newman | J. Solomon |
|-----------|-----------|------------|

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Superintendent Trevor Elliott
Deputy Superintendent Ron Howells
Honorary Secretary Steve Strange
Examination and Instructional Supervisor Ernie Stephens
Carnival and Competition Supervisor John Dewey

Sectional Supervisors

IRB Supervisor Harry Brown
JRB Supervisor Kym Mogridge
Radio Supervisor John Wardall
Helicopter Director Ian Badham

District Supervisors

No. 1 District Frank Osborne
No. 2 District Mick Berger
No. 3 District Dave Popplewell
No. 4 District Mike Clancy

Assistant District Supervisors

No. 1 District Glenn Thomson
No. 2 District Jim Connolly
No. 3 District Phil Vanny
No. 4 District Frank Gilroy

Board Gear Steward Perc Ainsworth

Board Committees

Resuscitation, Research, Development, Instruction and Medical Panel

Bruce Breadner (convenor), Ernie Stephens, John May, Peter Carney,
Albert Moseley, Mick DeLuca, Frank Osborne and Branch Honorary
Medical Advisers.

Gear Inspection Committee

Nick Dixon (convenor), Jim Connolly, Mike Clancy, Albert Moseley,
Ken English, Bruce Gardiner, John Wardall, Keith Midson, Peter
Steenson, Don McGroder, Bernie Kelly, John Dewey, Ron Howells,
Alan Morris, Bob Davison, Ross Williams.

Meritorious Awards Committee

Trevor Elliott (convenor) Ron Howells, Albert Moseley, Bob McKenna,
Kevin Andrews, Bob Davison, John Fraser.

Manual Revision Committee

Peter Carney (Convenor) John Dewey, Albert Moseley.

Board Seminar Committee

Don Lucas (convenor), Rex Sargeant, Ron Howells, Peter Carney,
Bruce Breadner, Keith Grima.

Boat Racing Investigation Committee

John Vaughan (convenor), John Dewey, Nick Dixon, Jim Connolly,
Peter Steenson, Bob Davison, Ken English, Alex Menzies,
Merv Gladstone.

Patrol Competition Investigation Committee

Karl Solomonson (convenor), Luke Platt, Peter Carney,
Peter Pearce, Mick Berger, John May.

FOREWORD

The Season 1980-81 has been particularly busy for Officers and Members in all divisions of the Board of Control with examination facilities being required to handle a record number of Lifesaving awards and which registered a marked increase in 'Mobile Service' awards, indeed nearly double last years figure.

For the first time these statistics include those awards gained by female active members of the Association.

A total of 1201 awards were gained, consisting in part, of 414 Bronze Medallions, 278 Qualifying Certificates, 195 Mobile Service awards but a meagre 8 basic Examiners Certificates - gained by members from 4 of the 15 Branch Clubs. Female active awards totalled 107.

The introduction this year of Branch and New South Wales IRB Championships and the inauguration by State Centre of an IRB Training Panel will obviously accelerate the popularity and usage of this particular rescue craft.

It is predicted that more of these units will be acquired by Clubs, more Crewmen and Drivers will require examination and the inherent research and development will involve, to a great extent, the time and energies of Association Officers.

Nowadays with examination proficiency required in the various specialist areas as well as basic Lifesaving it is essential that all these facets of administration are adequately 'staffed', not to become a singularly burdensome task shouldered by a few.

Modern rescue techniques have demanded specialised units, revised patrolling methods, radio inter-communication all with respective training and instruction courses and seminars, leading to greater efficiency and ability for the man on the beach to achieve the Association's object of 'Vigilance and Service'. At the same time this has increased the volume of work for the examining authorities to process and handle the some 23 awards that are now available.

The initiative and optimism of members that has served the Association well for three quarters of a century will no doubt assist to overcome any shortage problems, however, I feel it will need more than a bit of help from Club Officials.

The Branch is aware that the Board Executive is reviewing the current membership categories intent on establishing realistic figures on active membership and the capacity to handle the inevitable increase in workload.

Indications are that on the present rate of influx of new members and impending retirements they will be 'under staffed' for such a crisis, at the same time being expected to fulfil the additional requirements of carnival competition duties.

All Clubs must immediately come to grips with the fact that they have the sole responsibility to encourage and provide sufficient members committed to manning and functioning the Board of the future, not to continually rely on those long standing, kind hearted and dedicated men who have shouldered much of the burden of responsibility for so many years.

They, the Clubs, in effect are the Branch and while Branch Officials in the main may predict and highlight apparent inadequacies or suggest solutions the ultimate destiny depends solely on the Clubs and on the co-operation, support and willingness of its members to participate - after all it must eventually benefit us - the Association.

Finally may I, on behalf of Branch Officers and Clubs, offer sincere congratulations to the Board of Control Executive and Members, headed by hardworking Superintendent Trevor Elliott, for the excellent achievements and grateful appreciation to Board Secretary Steve Strange for so ably compiling and printing the words and deeds of this most important arm of Lifesaving in Sydney Branch.

Bill Marshall
Branch President

SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY BRANCH

SURF LIFE SAVING BOARD OF CONTROL

32ND ANNUAL REPORT

1980-1981

Fellow Board Members,

On behalf of the Superintendent and other Officers of the Sydney Branch Surf Life Saving Board of Control I am pleased to present to you for your consideration the 32nd Annual Report covering the Board's activities for the 1980-81 season.

The season under review has highlighted the considerable workload that is placed on the active members of the Board in administering the Lifesaving functions of the Branch.

Over 300 examinations for awards were undertaken, which resulted in a record number of 1201 candidates gaining certificates. In addition, members conducted the annual proficiency tests and over 1,200 Lifesavers were requalified during the season.

Seven Open, the Branch Championships, Interdistrict and Rossfield carnivals were run on behalf of Clubs and as well, Board members undertook to officiate at Manly-Warringah, the Inter-Branch, State and Australian Championships. The inaugural Sydney Branch and New South Wales State IRB Championships were also conducted in the Branch this season and many members helped in their conduct.

The season saw the introduction of the new format 4 and 6 man R & R competition. Some concern was expressed by the Executive in that there was a great reluctance on the part of members to come forward and undertake the necessary training to judge the competition early in the season. However, towards the conclusion of the year, with a number of Branch teams entering these events, a good judging panel was obtained and competent results were achieved at the Branch Championships held at Elouera.

Several seminars were organised and conducted by the Board during the year for the benefit of Club members. A full day Club Captains' and Vice Captains' seminar was held at Coogee in September and the attendance and results obtained have probably in some small way contributed to the overall efficient running of Lifesaving within the Branch. This day was combined with a Chief Instructors' conference in the late afternoon and gave ample opportunity for Club Captains to gain some insight into the functions and responsibilities of the Chief Instructor.

Albert Moseley and Ron Howells held the annual Gear Stewards' conference at Maroubra and again attendance was very good. The small number of deductions incurred by Clubs who were represented at the Conference testifies to the usefulness and the knowledge to be gained on this night. Clubs that were absent from the Conference were noticeable in that they incurred more deductions on their lifesaving gear.

Before the commencement of the patrol season in September, Harry Brown organised an IRB Field Day at Elouera. Representatives from both Outboard

Marine and Mariner International were on hand to give lectures and demonstrations on their particular outboard motors. In addition, demonstrations were given by Bruce Gardiner on simple maintenance procedures for the craft which could be suitably carried out by IRB crews.

Later in the day, a combined practice with the Wales Helicopter enabled crews to gain experience in transferring Helicopter crew from the skids of the aircraft to IRB craft and vice versa. A small carnival was conducted and through the generosity of Outboard Marine all Clubs in attendance won some prize useful in the running of their IRB.

In December, Mariner International provided a mobile workshop and repair facilities as well as demonstrating service techniques for their motors to IRB operators in the No. 1 District which use Mariner motors exclusively. The day provided the opportunity for crews to witness the stripping and servicing of motors and a supply of common parts was left to start a parts exchange within the District.

Two R & R field days were held in addition to those organised by State Centre. They were held mainly for judges to familiarise themselves with the new deduction system but it also gave an opportunity for Clubs interested in fielding teams to observe first hand a team trained in the new format.

A carnival organisers meeting was held by John Dewey for Clubs who nominated to hold carnivals. Attendance was good and the results of the meeting were shown in the successful running of all Sydney Branch carnivals. These meetings are essential in order that carnival organisers can receive the latest information regarding the successful running of carnivals and it is hoped that they will continue each season.

The Annual Gear Inspection took place in the last weeks of September. The attendance by members of the panel at each of the 4 Districts was reasonable and the efforts and diligence of members of the panel led by Nick Dixon is greatly appreciated. Recommendations of the panel for next season include the compulsory attendance at the Gear Stewards' Conference and the use of a bus to transport the panel through the No.3 and No.4 Districts.

The Policy on Rescue Operations introduced during the 1979-80 season was further consolidated, however the Clubs greater use of surveillance patrols and the pooling of mobile services should be more emphasised. The problems being encountered with manpower by some Clubs within the Branch can certainly be alleviated to some extent by the greater use of this type of patrol.

The Wales Helicopter Rescue Service again played a significant role in the mobile rescue services of the Association and within the Branch. The Service performed a record 387 missions, an increase of 41 over last season. This now brings the total missions performed since the inception of the service to a creditable 1,644.

The emergency services had an unlucky misfortune when JRB 4 was washed onto rocks after a motor failure. JRB 3, which featured with the Wales Helicopter in a dramatic rescue off Cape Banks is providing surveillance patrols off the No. 4 District while a decision is being made regarding JRB operations in that District. JRB 2 Group took delivery of a new craft early in 1981 and this operation is functioning smoothly. Joint training of rescue personnel in the both types of craft used in the Branch is continuing and will provide crewmen of each craft with greater experience and flexibility.

Radio operations continue to remain satisfactory, although somewhat static. A seminar was held at the beginning of the season at North Cronulla and 12

Clubs were represented. Although award figures for this year have shown an increase, it is a little dissappointing that Club Radio Officers are not putting forward candidates for their basic awards. Some thought should be given by Clubs to the efforts required to man the Sydney Surf command centre. A small band of dedicated workers have maintained this vital link throughout the season and I would thank them very much for their efforts.

The Board continues to have cordial relations with Clubs in the Branch and the willingness and help provided is acknowledged by the Board Executive. Suggestions and reccommendations have been implemented wherever possible and with no complaint. It is indicative of the excellent working relationships between Club Managements and the District Supervisors of the Board and I hope that it continues in the coming seasons.

Membership

During the year the Board was pleased to welcome as Probationery members Anthony Gately of Coogee, Rod McCormack of Maroubra, Bruce Tually of Elouera, Graham Smith of Clovelly, Garry Shiels of North Bondi and Rod Silcock of North Cronulla.

Full Examiner's Certificates were awarded to Phil Easson, Fred Smith, Karl Solomonson, Dave Wilson, Anthony Gately, Garry Shiels, Barry King and Leonit Potapof. Congratulations and welcome to the Board.

Specialist awards which entitle the holder to membership of the Board were gained by the following and it is hoped that they will join the Board and participate actively in its operations: Advanced Resuscitation Examiner's Certificates were awarded to Gary Shiels, Ross Cotter, Mark Spencer and David Hill; Inflatable Rescue Boat Examiner's Certificates to Bernard Kelly, Keith Grima and Dave Pacey; Radio Examiner's Certificates to Harley Aikman and Keith Schreuder. Congratulations to all concerned.

At the present time a review of Board membership is being undertaken. It was the recommendation of the April Full Meeting that it be completed and members in default of meeting attendance and active service have been asked what their future intentions towards Board Activities will be. The result of this review is shown in the following table of current Board membership status.

| Membership Category | 1977-78 | 1978-79 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Life Members | 20 | 20 | 22 | 22 |
| Long Service Members | 16 | 16 | 18 | 19 |
| Full Members | 73 | 90 | 68 | 69 |
| Probationery Members | 10 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| IRB Examiners | | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| JRB Examiners | | 11 | 8 | 4 |
| Helicopter Examiners | | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| ARC Examiners | | | 2 | 1 |
| Radio Examiners | | | 1 | 1 |
| Examinations Only | | | 5 | 3 |
| Competition Members | | | 9 | 6 |
| Country Members | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| | 120 | 154 | 152 | 139 |

The Table is a list of current membership classifications only and does not truly represent the full strength of the Board. Many members hold more than one Examiners Certificate and share the workload of examinations in these specialised areas as well as conducting basic award examinations and attending carnivals.

A more realistic figure of the Board strength can be gained from the following table, which lists the number of active members of the Board from each Club in the Branch, who are attending examinations and carnivals and who are constructively contributing to the functioning of the Board.

| Club | No. | Club | No. |
|---------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Bondi | 7 | Garie | 2 |
| Bronte | 6 | Maroubra | 12 |
| Burning Palms | 5 | North Bondi | 4 |
| Clovelly | 3 | North Cronulla | 11 |
| Coogee | 7 | South Maroubra | 5 |
| Cronulla | 14 | Tamarama | 6 |
| Elouera | 10 | Wanda | 10 |
| Era | 5 | Total | 104 |

Meetings

At the date of compiling this Report, the Board Executive had met on twelve occasions during the season, including a full day meeting during May at Wanda. Attendance by the Board Executive at these meetings is shown in the table below.

| Name and Position | Possible | Attended | Apology |
|---|----------|----------|---------|
| Trevor Elliott - Superintendent | 12 | 12 | |
| Ron Howells - Deputy Superintendent | 12 | 9 | 2 |
| Steve Strange - Honorary Secretary | 12 | 12 | |
| John Dewey - Competition Supervisor | 12 | 9 | 3 |
| Ernie Stephens - Examination Supervisor | 12 | 11 | |
| Harry Brown - IRB Supervisor | 12 | 8 | 3 |
| Ian Badham - Helicopter Director | 12 | 7 | 2 |
| John Wardall - Radio Officer | 12 | 11 | 1 |
| Frank Osborne - No.1 District | 12 | 10 | 1 |
| Mick Berger - No. 2 District | 12 | 8 | 2 |
| Dave Popplewell - No.3 District | 12 | 7 | 1 |
| Mick Clancy - No.4 District | 12 | 7 | 1 |
| Kym Mogridge - JRB (Note 1) | 7 | 3 | |
| Paul Parsons - JRB (Note 2) | 3 | 1 | 1 |

- Notes: 1. Elected January 1981
2. Resigned November 1980

Four Full Meetings of the Board were held during the Season. The first, in September, 1980 had an attendance of 37 members and was held at Maroubra. A video presentation of the new 4 and 6 man R & R was shown and a lecture and slide presentation was given by Ian Badham of the National Helicopter tour to the United States.

The second meeting was held in November and 33 members attended. Current general items of interest were discussed and a report by Bruce Breadner and Ernie Stephens, supported by slides, was given on the New South Wales European Team tour. The meeting was held at Coogee.

The third meeting, held February had an attendance of 39 members. Held in the No.2 District at Elouera, the meeting elected a panel to arrange the forthcoming Board Seminar. The National Superintendent attended the meeting and briefed those present on what to expect at the Australian Championships. The new Surfboard Riding judging system was introduced by way of a video made by Channel 4, Wollongong. Cards were on hand and a few members tried their skill at judging the event.

The final full meeting for the year was held at North Bondi and was attended by 24 members. Held in April, the meeting directed that a review of the current membership status of the Board be undertaken and any members who were not taking an active interest in the affairs of the Board be asked to give some explanation as to their intentions. As stated earlier, the review is continuing. Also at this meeting the subject of surfboat racing rules was discussed and a committee was formed to report to the Executive on this subject.

Attendance at Full Meetings, when compared to last season (34, 41, 37, 40) has remained fairly constant. Nevertheless, the attendance figures represent less than half the active membership of the Board. It means the information from the Executive is not reaching the full Board but more importantly the Executive is missing any feedback or comments likely to be constructive in the Board's operations.

Under the structure of the Board, only 4 Full meetings are held throughout the year. A concerted effort on the part of all members will have to be made next season in an effort to improve attendance.

EXAMINATION AND INSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

It is pleasing to report that the 1980-81 season shows a marked increase in awards gained by members of the Branch. Whilst one might assume that the increase was due to the acceptance of females as active members of our movement, figures show that they only accounted for about 102 of our basic awards.

During the season 190 squads were examined for basic awards (1979-80, 138). Along with those for specialist awards gives a total of 300 examinations (215). This of course has meant a heavier workload for the Board, who I am sure appreciate it when they see such an increase. The attendance of our members on these occasions has been good with only a few exceptions.

At the beginning of the season, members were asked to report on the standards of the squads and especially those consisting of females. From all accounts they have been excellent, with only a few failures and the females appear to be more dedicated to the task than most male members.

Our figures for Advanced Resuscitation awards are also up on last year. With practically every Club now having Instructors within their ranks, it has taken the load off the shoulders of those members who have been instructing at Caringbah for such a long time and who are showing signs of tiring.

Proficiency tests were carried out on a similar basis as last season. Although we had the same number of dates we cut back the number of venues. A total of 1,207 members were tested, this was 50 fewer than the previous year's figure. There appears to be no answer to the problem of appointing examiners with the number required for Club members who might turn up on any given day. Stricter policing of carnival entries and patrols could possibly help straighten out any problems we might have with the members attitude towards these tests.

Finally, I wish to thank all of those Board members for their support, not only this season but for the past four that I have held this position. As indicated earlier in the year, I will be stepping down from this position and offer my services to my successor.

E. B. Stephens
Examination and
Instruction Supervisor.

11.

AWARDS SEASON 1980-81

| Award | 1977-78 | 1978-79 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Resuscitation Certificate | 173 | 56 | 66 | 61 |
| Qualifying Certificate | 213 | 227 | 172 | 278 |
| Bronze Medallion | 376 | 341 | 307 | 414 |
| Instructors Certificate | 61 | 42 | 31 | 38 |
| Examiners Certificate | 23 | 13 | 3 | 8 |
| Advanced Resuscitation Cert. | 168 | 162 | 192 | 187 |
| Advanced Resuscitation Inst. | | 6 | 10 | 15 |
| Advanced Resuscitation Exam. | | | 1 | 5 |
| IRB Crewmans Certificate | 18 | 6 | 30 | 61 |
| IRB Drivers Certificate | 23 | 14 | 25 | 48 |
| IRB Instructors Certificate | | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| IRB Examiners Certificate | | | 6 | 3 |
| JRB Crewmans Certificate | | 20 | 12 | 3 |
| JRB Drivers Certificate | 2 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| JRB Instructors Certificate | | 4 | | 1 |
| JRB Examiners Certificate | | 3 | | - |
| Radio Operators Certificate | | 18 | 24 | 62 |
| Radio Instructors Certificate | | | 1 | 2 |
| Radio Examiners Certificate | | | | 2 |
| Helicopter Crewmans Certificate | | | 1 | 2 |
| Helicopter Instructors Certificate | | | | 1 |
| Advanced Life Saving Certificate | | | 1 | 1 |
| | 1057 | 923 | 888 | 1201 |

Number of Awards per Club

| Club | Awards | Club | Awards |
|---------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Bondi | 74 | Garie | 38 |
| Bronte | 30 | Maroubra | 65 |
| Burning Palms | 9 | North Bondi | 112 |
| Clovelly | 26 | North Cronulla | 103 |
| Coogee | 115 | South Maroubra | 65 |
| Cronulla | 89 | Tamarama | 58 |
| Elouera | 127 | Wanda | 153 |
| Era | 25 | Miscellaneous | 55 |

RESUSCITATION, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, INSTRUCTION and MEDICAL PANEL REPORT

Resuscitation is the third major object in the training of the Australian Surf Lifesaver. Many people consider resuscitation as one of the foremost skills in which our members are trained and the techniques and instruction to our members is equal to the best in the world. This did not come about by accident. Many hours of work have gone into the research and development of resuscitation by our medical experts and by our Surf Lifesavers. As a result, the Surf Life Saving Association has emerged as an authority on the subject.

The Branch programme began with the revive-a-life scheme and progressed through to the Panel as it exists today. The Branch Panel has been in existence since 1975 and members from all Clubs within the Branch have benefited from the instruction. During the last few years, many groups from other service organisations have taken the opportunity to be trained in the SLSA methods of advanced resuscitation. While this interaction has been beneficial to all concerned, the members of the Panel are aware of the decrease in Surf Club members who are attending the courses. The records indicate that some Clubs are not training people in the ARC methods and many people who have the Certificate are overdue for a refresher course.

Time was set aside during the 1980-81 season for refresher courses and, while the response was good, many people failed to take the opportunity to attend the classes.

The Panel consists of people who are motivated and enthusiastic to carry on the work in this specialised area. Perhaps the time is opportune to re-assess the functions of the Panel and the Panel's responsibility to the Branch and vice versa.

Should the Branch become more involved in their attitude to re-assessment and instruction? Should the Clubs be allocated dates for re-assessment, the actual work being carried out at the Club or the Caringbah Community Centre? Should the Panel become available to visit Clubs rather than have a permanent site?

These questions and others will be discussed by the Panel and a report will be forthcoming to the Branch. Under no circumstances should the expertise, developed over the years, be lost to the Association.

Bruce Breadner
Panel Convenor

IRB SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

It is pleasing to record that there has been a steady growth in the utilisation of Inflatable Rescue Boats within the Sydney Branch during the past 12 months.

Prior to the start of the season all IRB's were inspected during the annual gear inspection by our inspectors and apart from one club all boats and motors were found to be in excellent operating condition. The Club in fault has since received a new boat and a new lease of life.

The IRB continues to play an important role in our rescue and recovery activities and is proving to be a very important tool in controlling

board riders and swimmers to ensure that they maintain their allocated areas in the surf.

Practically all of the Sydney Branch IRB's were involved with the Police and Botany Bay marine search and rescue exercise, simulating a crash of a large jet plane in Botany Bay. The exercise was invaluable and indicated that IRB's could play an important role if properly integrated into the rescue operation. Some of the medical observers felt we were too fast in our rescue manoeuvres and whilst we were only travelling at half speed this could be further evaluated in a later exercise.

The proposed introduction of a Sydney Branch 24 hour Call Out is still ineffective and needs a stronger and tighter control from Branch Officers and Power Craft Operators before it can be successfully introduced.

In recognition of the increasing involvement of IRB's in rescue work, the Sydney Branch saw fit to grant permission for the first Sydney Branch IRB Championships.

The Championships were held at Elouera on 18th and 19th February as a twilight carnival and were sponsored by Siebers Vogels to whom we are indeed grateful. The four events contested all involved an actual rescue and all present agreed that the Championships were an outstanding success.

In further recognition of our Branch's work it is pleasing to record that we were given the honour to conduct the inaugural New South Wales IRB Championships which were held on 6th and 7th June at North Cronulla.

IRB examinations were conducted throughout the season and the table following this Report indicates the various Club IRB activities.

It is good to see that Bronte have recently purchased an IRB and I feel sure that with the quality of surf men in their Club it will do sterling service once the members have gained their IRB awards.

Once again, I reiterate that the winter is the best time to get the necessary driver and crew hours up for awards. The beaches are relatively clear and allow for ideal training.

I wish to personally extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to my team of Examiners, Inspectors and Instructors for their great effort during the past 12 months and congratulate all Clubs on a job well done.

Harry Brown
IRB Supervisor

| Club | IRBE | IRBI | IRBD | IRBC | Rescues |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| Burning Palms | | | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Era | | | 1 | | 4 |
| Garie | | | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| Cronulla | | | 2 | 2 | 37 |
| North Cronulla | | 1 | 7 | 6 | 48 |
| Elouera | | 2 | 1 | 2 | 15 |
| Wanda | | | 6 | 6 | 37 |
| South Maroubra | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 45 |
| Maroubra | 2 | 6 | 12 | 15 | 61 |
| Coogee | | | 7 | 21 | 16 |
| Bondi | | 1 | 5 | | 112 |
| North Bondi | | | | | 43 |
| | 3 | 11 | 46 | 59 | 430 |

WALES HELICOPTER RESCUE SERVICE

Season 1980-81 has proved the busiest in the eight years of the SLSA's Wales Helicopter Rescue Service in Sydney. The Service completed a total of 387 missions, resulting in:

47 people being rescued
149 people receiving medical support
191 search and support missions.

Since its inception, the Service has effected a total of 1,644 missions.

Sydney has the SLSA's only fulltime Helicopter Rescue Service, crewed with its own pilot, rescue and medical crew, on duty 10 hours each day and on call 24 hours a day throughout the year. Apart from its primary function of providing a rescue, search and medical support back-up to Surf Club Patrols and Mobiles, the helicopter is provided for community benefit, in particular through liaison with Police and Ambulance.

The Service's charter is "To provide a search, rescue and medical support service for the community - in co-operation with emergency authorities".

A highlight of the season was the acceptance by the NSW Health Commission of guidelines for the co-ordination of helicopters in medical support missions. These have been accepted by the Health Commission, Ambulance Service, Health and Research Employees Association and the SLSA. The result has been a much closer co-ordination with Ambulance, to the benefit of the SLSA generally and the community.

The helicopter was used to make rescues from heavy seas, from cliff bases and islands along the coast between Newcastle and Wollongong, from a yacht in distress off Long Reef and from a flooded river near Penrith.

The value of having a doctor on the flight crew showed with the many missions where rescued people needed medical attention, or where lifesavers needed intensive care support for patients being resuscitated. In addition to the 79 missions involving treatment in the "field", the crew undertook 41 inter-hospital transfers of critically ill patients, many of them being flights to bring newborn premature babies to the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children at Camperdown.

Search and support missions included bushfire observation flights in Sutherland, Warringah, Hornsby and Wollongong council areas, searches for boats reported in distress and fishermen missing from rocks.

Provision of the helicopter was made possible by the continued financial support of the Bank of New South Wales, supported by Radio Station 2UE Sydney and Channel TEN Sydney. Additional support was provided by the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation, Royal North Shore Hospital and some service clubs.

The appreciation of all involved with the Helicopter Rescue Service is extended to Officers of the Branch and Board, Clubs, Radio Room operators, and the various crews of Jet and Inshore Rescue Boats with which the Helicopter is linked.

Ian Badham
Helicopter Director

CARNIVAL AND COMPETITION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The 1980-81 season was a successful year on the carnival and competition scene within the Sydney Branch. Seven open carnivals, Inter-District, Branch and Australian Championships were held within our boundaries. Inter-Club carnivals within the four districts were also conducted, which gave each and every competitor a fair opportunity to show his worth. The very popular "Rossfield" day was held again at the Bondi Icebergs pool, which gave most Clubs a chance to pick up some much needed funds from this three relay race programme.

All Officials performed well under the control of each Carnival Referee and Sectional Referees. The high standard of the carnivals was very ably maintained by the following referees:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Jim Switzer | Maroubra Carnival |
| Nick Dixon | Garie Carnival |
| John Vaughan | North Cronulla Carnival |
| Ron Howells | South Maroubra Carnival |
| Trevor Elliott | North Bondi Carnival |
| John May | Bondi Carnival |
| John Dewey | Coogee Carnival |
| Steve Strange | Inter-District - Garie. |

Trevor Elliott also controlled the Rossfield Carnival and the Branch Championships at Elouera.

A round of the United Permanent March Past was conducted at the Bondi Carnival at which 25 teams took part, also several heats of the United Permanent Iron Man Knockout competition were held at three of the carnivals throughout the year. Three rounds of the Mayne Nickless Boat Race competition were conducted at Garie, North Cronulla and South Maroubra with the final being held at a televised carnival at Coogee in absolutely atrocious weather conditions.

The standard of all the carnivals improved further this year and this was brought about by the influx of several new members on the Board, closer liaison between the referees and each Club's Carnival Committee and a tremendous amount of co-operation from competitors.

The system the Branch employed several years ago, in restricting the number of events held at each carnival, was again used this season, but several of the Clubs gained approval to run more events at their carnivals. In several instances this was satisfactory, but on two occasions this backfired, due to weather conditions and competitors trying to compete in several areas on the one day. This facet of the carnivals must be seriously looked into in the coming season, so the carnivals do not become a farce and a burden to all concerned - Officials, competitors, spectators and guests.

As in the past, the Carnival and Competition Supervisor from Sydney and the Superintendent from Manly-Warringah Branch held a meeting during May 1980 to allocate dates for each Branch to conduct carnivals. Following this Clubs, who nominated for carnivals, were asked to tabulate the events they wished to hold so a poster could be prepared and distributed to all Clubs in New South Wales. For this poster we are indeed indebted to the United Permanent Building Society.

Another first in the competition sphere was the inaugural Sydney Branch IRB Championships held at Elouera beach in February during the middle of the week - a first class carnival with a 90% attendance from the Clubs. Although weather

conditions were not the best, the standard of competition was of a very high level. All reports from both Officials and competitors indicate the first Branch IRB Championships was a resounding success. Whilst there were a few problems, these have been noted and will be incorporated in future events of this nature.

Mainly due to a submission from the Sydney Branch, the State Centre also conducted the first State IRB Championships at the North Cronulla Club.

The Sydney Branch Board of Control was well represented at all the major championships with 27 at the Metropolitan Championships at North Curl Curl, 21 at the State Championships at Evans Head-Casino and 27 at the Australian Championships at Wanda. The support and experience of the Board members at all carnivals was greatly appreciated by the other Branches in which they participated.

The Australian Championships was an outstanding success. Competitors and Officials from all over Australia spoke very highly of the way in which this great sporting event was conducted. On behalf of the Board of Control, I would like to extend a vote of congratulations to Wanda Club on a job well done.

As mentioned in the beginning of this report, it has been a successful year, but not without a lot of hard work. At all of our carnivals there are at least eight life members - if these men were to decide to give it a "miss" we could be in a lot of trouble. Clubs must appreciate that if they wish to hold carnivals, they must supply Officials. Too many of our members are very busy doing examinations, proficiency tests and their own Club activities as well as assisting at carnivals. Surely, there are ex-competitors around the Clubs who could volunteer their expertise and service. Now we have another avenue for assistance and that is the ladies. Several of the wives and girlfriends of Board members assisted at our carnivals doing the time keeping and assisting with some of the paperwork. In the future we should enlist and train these ladies for Carnival Duties and this should help alleviate our problem.

Members of the Board who must be mentioned are Bill Singleton and Arthur White our Gear Stewards, who have carried out the assembly and repair of our carnival equipment to ensure carnivals were successful. Percy Ainsworth and Jim Switzer also maintained other items such as stopwatches, pistols, radios and stationery. Harry Brown and his crews who manned the IRB's to lay the buoys and change and adjust them on numerous occasions, to you all - thanks.

To compliment our gear, the Branch acquired a gear trailer. Most of the finance was given by the Aquatic Club, with the balance being made up by the Branch. This trailer was specially designed for carnival gear and to date this unit has certainly proved its worth. To offset costs the Branch is in the process of obtaining a sponsor for this very impressive vehicle.

Finally, the Branch had a very successful year in competition - the carnivals were well run - the standard of competition was high. Both these would not have been possible without the 100% effort of the Board members "the Blue Diamonds". To each and every one of you I extend my sincere thanks. To my fellow Board Executive I sincerely thank you for all your advice and assistance throughout the year, I trust my efforts have met with your approval. To my successor I wish you all the best in this position as I feel it is very rewarding. I will assist if required.

John Dewey
Carnival and Competition Supervisor

RADIO SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

In reviewing last season I would say that once again the Branch Radio Room performed its primary function of rescue co-ordination very well indeed.

From a purely Lifesaving point of view, it was gratifying to see the increased level of importance the majority of Clubs placed in having a radio network available to assist in the working of the extra patrols required by our Association.

The wider use and consolidation of radios in IRB's greatly enlarges a beach patrol's area of activity and on a number of occasions a radio equipped IRB was able to relieve the load of many "surveillance patrols"

It is disappointing to have to again record there are still a number of Clubs within the Branch without radio rooms. I hope that either the Board or the Branch will soon "bite the bullet" and have these obvious weak links in our rescue efficiency eliminated.

The radio room was staffed by a group of twelve members for a total of 1357 hours. They carried out their rosters with commendable dedication and I look forward to working with them next season.

Apart from myself, the following Clubs supplied radio operators to man the radio room for a total of 67 days:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Bronte | 1 |
| Maroubra | 2 |
| Wanda | 2 |
| Coogee | 1 |
| Garie | 2 |
| Burning Palms | 1 |
| Others | 2 |

Examinations were conducted at the following Clubs and although the increase in basic awards is nearly three times as many as last year, some Clubs were totally lacking. Greater emphasis must be placed on the ease in which basic awards can be attained and Radio Officers should make this known to their members.

| <u>Club</u> | <u>Total Awards</u> |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Burning Palms | 2 |
| Cronulla | 3 |
| North Cronulla | 6 |
| Elouera | 4 |
| Wanda | 27 |
| South Maroubra | 2 |
| Maroubra | 1 |
| Bronte | 1 |
| North Bondi | 18 |
| Miscellaneous | 2 |
| | <u>66</u> |

I would like to thank the Board of Control members and Officers for their assistance and co-operation extended to me throughout the past season.

John Wardall
Radio Supervisor

NO.1 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The District has done very well in competition this season with Era's State Championship in the Open Boat Race. Burning Palms gained second place in the Restricted Surf Race at the State Championships and seventh in the National Marchpast Championships at Wanda.

On the local scene, the results were as follows:

Pymble Shield

1st Garie, 2nd Era, 3rd Burning Palms

Bobby Liddle Trophy

1st Era, 2nd Garie, 3rd Burning Palms

Resuscitation Trophy

1st Garie, 2nd Burning Palms, 3rd Era

Best Junior Overall

Andrew Josland - Era

Best Cadet Overall

Keith Davison - Era

In proficiency tests, there has been a progressive increase overall:

1979-80

1980-81

| | | |
|----|---------------|----|
| 29 | Garie | 36 |
| 19 | Era | 26 |
| 40 | Burning Palms | 39 |

The great increase in new members at Era of 3 Qualifying Certificates and 15 Bronze Medallions is indicative of the pride of achievement within the Club. The President, Captain and Officers should be congratulated on their efforts and set their sights on even higher figures using the ladies' keenness and enthusiasm. Garie's 6 Qualifying Certificates and 13 Bronze Medallions shows the steady continuous effort by the President, Captain and Officers to increase their Club membership and continue the Saturday patrols which they have taken pride in doing successfully.

In this increase of membership, Burning Palms were not as successful, however they did manage to gain 2 Bronze Medallions. They are still having problems obtaining National Parks and Wildlife's final permission to build their new Clubhouse, without which they are unable to offer accommodation to new members, the essential in this isolated environment.

At first glance the District is doing very well, however, on a closer more discerning look, Garie needs Sydney Branch's aid in the recruitment of new members to replace the Active Reserve Members who have come back as active patrol members to help do the additional patrols. Burning palms needs the Branch's further championship or some supernatural aid to breach their bureaucratic impasse. Era needs Sydney Branch's counsel on setting up and manning their radio network.

Finally, I would like to thank Board members who came into the No.1 District to conduct examinations during the past season and also my Deputy, Glenn Thomson for his support.

Frank Osborne

No. 1 District Supervisor

No.2 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Whilst visiting patrols during the 1980-81 season, I felt that Clubs were not instructing their patrols in surf awareness, the most important tool of the patrolling trade as far as Lifesaving is concerned. Two major components in basic awareness of the surf and the beach are the people and the sea. We are all aware that National Council, through its various State bodies, has been emphasising the fact that the general public has to be educated in its awareness of the sea. However, I think it is time the various bodies turned their attention back to the Clubs and the general beach Lifesaver.

The standard of patrols within my District was very high and I sincerely hope that it is maintained during the incoming season. Next year a roving patrol will be established for the area north of Wanda Surf Club as it has become quite apparent that as a result of the extension of the car park north, people are utilising the beach front directly in front of it. The roving patrol will consist of members drawn from the local Clubs and they will be in radio contact with Sutherland Surf. During roving patrol times, flags will not be positioned on the beach as it is felt that if they were, this would again increase the number of people using the area in front of the car park.

I noted that most of the Clubs did not insist that all their members become proficient until the last moment; and of course it was not surprising to see that all competitors became proficient early in the season in order that they might compete at surf carnivals. I feel that if a person is going to be declared proficient for a season, then he should be proficient at its commencement. Therefore, I sincerely hope when the tests are conducted in the coming season Clubs ensure that the majority of their active members are proficient before the end of October.

It was pleasing to see that the No.2 District excelled itself again in the various awards gained during the past season. The number gained by the individual Clubs demonstrates the activity within that Club. It shows the Club is well aware of its duty to maintain the bloodline, in other words, to make sure they have a continual flow of new members coming into their Club to replace those who either resign or go onto the reserve list.

I feel that the Chief Instructor of a surf Club is nearly as important as the Club Captain for he is the person who is in direct contact with the probationary member during the early days of his Lifesaving career and it is during that period of time his attitude towards surf Lifesaving is created. Observations reveal that a number of Chief Instructors are training a large number of squads during the season. This burden should not be detailed direct to the Chief Instructor for it is his job to organise the training of various squads and also to maintain the proficiency within the patrols on his beach. It is therefore the responsibility of the Club Captain and the administrators to get amongst their members and recruit seasoned members to train squads for their various awards.

During the second half of last season, I conducted a mini-gear inspection. I drew the expertise from the various sections of the Board and the Clubs were given seven days' notice of what was going to be inspected. It was pleasing to note that gear presented by the individual Clubs was of a high standard, and of course, at the same time it made the Clubs aware of what attention was needed to some of their equipment and not wait to repair the equipment prior to the next official gear inspection.

I would like to thank Jim Connolly, my Assistant Supervisor, for his assistance given during the past season and I would also like to thank the four Surf Clubs within my District for their co-operation and courtesy during the past season and I wish them all the best in Lifesaving and in competition in the forthcoming season.

Michael Berger
No.2 District Supervisor

No.3 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

At the time of writing this Report, it appears that Phil Vanny, my Assistant for the past few years, will not be standing in the forthcoming season. My thanks Phil and the thanks of all those others whom you have assisted over the past years.

Congratulations to Luke Platt, Chief Instructor of Maroubra and a fellow Board member on his winning the coveted United Permanent Life Saver of the Year Award. His dedication to Lifesaving has certainly paid off with this prestigious award. Maroubra were also prominent as co-winners of the Sydney Branch Gear Inspection.

Have you been to Clovelly lately? Their Club Captain, Mark McGuire and his assistant Graham Smith have done particularly well in improving the standard of patrols. To this end, No.3 District, via a patrol from each Club has assisted. Thank you.

It took a while but the city's building boom of the early 70's has finally caught up with our District. Building programmes are under way at Coogee, and Maroubra and are at near completion at South Maroubra. The assistance of Randwick Council is greatly appreciated in this respect.

South Maroubra patrols are looking better than ever and very proficient as well, more than partly due to the tremendous efforts put in by their Chief Instructor, Gary Bennett and his team.

The season passed with its serious aspects, its fun and frivolity. Only working together and being dedicated will see Surf Life Saving improve its abilities in the forthcoming season. I would like to congratulate those new Board Members from the No. 3 District and thank all those who have conducted examinations and proficiency tests throughout the year.

Dave Popplewell
No.3 District Supervisor

No.4 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The 1980-81 season in the No.4 District saw some difficulty in the numbers attending proficiency tests in the early part of the season. This was partly due to the cold water and poor sea conditions at some venues. However, it is fair to say that part of the problem was caused by some Clubs failing to motivate their members. This led to a situation that it took some members till Christmas to pass their tests.

It is hoped that Clubs will make an all-out effort from the beginning of next season and not wait till the last weeks to hunt up their members.

The most successful Club in terms of increased membership was Tamarama, who doubled their active strength. I feel this was a reflection of the successful introduction of female members into the Club. Bondi and Bronte saw a small decline in their active members, though it is hoped that these

Clubs can come to grips with this problem.

The southern end of Bondi again caused some problems for the Bondi Club, straining their manpower to the utmost. Towards the end of the season, Bondi suggested that an experiment be held in crowd control by moving swimmers into flagged areas. This proved most successful and it is hoped that this will continue next year.

JRB Captain, Anthony Foley made an all-out effort to have an effective operation, however the boat met with an unfortunate accident and was written-off when a motor failure caused it to be washed onto rocks.

To my assistant, Frank Gilroy, thank you for your help during the past season.

Mike Clancy
No.4 District Supervisor

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The conclusion of season 1980-81 has seen further progress through the Branch Clubs of the "Policy on Rescue Operations". Proficiency testing was very slow and did not get off to a good start as programmed by many Clubs. However, a satisfactory result was achieved by most Clubs by mid-season. The programme for proficiency testing for season 1981-82 needs more attention and co-operation between clubs and the Board of Control.

Surveillance patrols have proved satisfactory throughout the season with minor exceptions. Saturday morning patrols have been effective, but some Clubs are having difficulty with manning. Clubs need to improve administration of both patrol and radio log books.

Problems have still not been completely resolved satisfactorily with surveillance patrols to cover the South Bondi Area, but the north Wanda situation is in hand.

The contribution of IRB's to general patrol work is expanding and developing rapidly. Most Clubs, where IRB's are practical, now have them in service. More crews are qualifying for awards. No.2 District JRB has worked satisfactorily and consistently throughout the season but effective coverage for No.3 and No.4 Districts is still in a condition of re-organisation. The Branch Radio Network has operated effectively but needs more trained operators both for central control and in most Clubs. The programme for additional communication assistance for the No.1 District needs top priority as it is so vital for these Clubs.

The seminar held early in the season with Club Captains and Chief Instructors proved highly successful, due to the excellent organisation and high interest and the enthusiasm of the participants. There is evidence of this high interest and enthusiasm being injected back into most Clubs.

The past season has seen the introduction of major changes in the R & R competition. With the assistance of a special effort put in by the State Superintendent and the demonstration teams the pattern for the Branch to inform and train their R & R judging panel was set. After a slow start and lack of enthusiasm shown by members of the Board we finally succeeded with a very improved representation in R & R events from Clubs and an effective and competent panel of judges prior to the Branch Championships.

District Supervisors, Mike Clancy, Dave Popplewell, Mick Berger and Frank Osborne have consistently supervised the required standards within their

Districts and are to be congratulated for their persistence to achieve effective numbers throughout their Clubs for proficiency tests by mid-season.

Although the Board has gained additional members throughout the season, there are not sufficient prospective members of the Board of Control being encouraged or put forward by the Clubs. The new structure of the Board has opened up the potential for more specialists, but these people are not coming forward. The work load is getting heavier for members and it is imperative that Clubs take a more responsible view of contributing in this area.

Most Board Committees have not been called upon during the season for a great deal of work, but those who have been committed have performed satisfactorily, with the exception of the Meritorious Awards Committee which still has submissions not concluded.

A "Live In" Board members seminar programmed for the winter of 1981 will be most valuable and is much needed to update Board members, particularly in the areas of effective use of radio and the network, examination procedures involvement in the field of training and education and both R & R and March Past judging techniques.

Lifesaving awards have reached record numbers for the past season and the extra workload has been borne by the usual band of examiners who participate so strongly and consistently in this area. Solly Stephens has administered this award programme together with proficiency testing in his usual competent manner and has set an exceptionally high standard for his prospective replacement. It is encouraging to note the number of female candidates that have been successful in gaining awards during the season and to observe the very high standard and keenness of the candidates.

My sincere thanks go to Trevor Elliott, Steve Strange, John Dewey and Solly Stephens who have assisted and co-operated with me in every possible way throughout the season.

Ron Howells
Deputy Superintendent

THE YEAR'S WORK

The various activities of the Board during the past season are summarised below. As can be seen, they involved a considerable effort on the part of all members concerned.

- Appointment of over 250 examiners for Bronze and Qualifying examinations in the Branch
- 300 examinations for a total of 1,201 awards
- Weekly instruction at Caringbah for ARC and within Clubs producing 207 certificates
- 7 Open Carnivals, the Interdistrict, Rossfield and Branch Championships
- Metropolitan, State and Australian Championship participation
- Inaugural Branch and State IRB Championships
- Club and Vice Club Captains' meetings, Chief Instructors' and Carnival Organisers' conferences
- Gear Stewards Conference and Annual Gear Inspection of 15 Clubs in the Branch
- Participation in Botany Bay Disaster Exercise by the Wales Helicopter Rescue Service and Club IRB's

- Conduct of Proficiency Tests with over 1200 Lifesavers requalified
- Organisation of IRB Field Days at Elouera and Garie
- Introduction of the new format 4 and 6 Man R & R and the establishment of a competent judging panel
- 12 Meetings of the Board Executive including a full day meeting at Wanda in May, 1981
- 4 Full Meetings of the Board at Maroubra, Coogee, Elouera and North Bondi
- Lectures and demonstrations by Wales Helicopter Rescue Service
- Instruction in ARC to outside groups at Caringbah Community Centre

CONCLUSION

The 1980-81 Season has indeed been one of record proportions. All members who have contributed to its success in some way can feel justifiably proud of their efforts. However, we must not be content with our present laurels. The whole Board will have to strive even harder if we are to surpass our present high standards.

A full programme of events are before us all in the coming season. Membership must certainly be increased, especially in the areas of examinations and competition membership. The present workload of members is far too great and measures to alleviate this must be one of our top priorities. It is firstly up to present members to inform their fellow Club members the importance of the Board's functions and try to encourage more recruits.

Attendance at the forthcoming Seminar in September must be given thoughtful consideration by all members and a concerted effort to attend has to be made. A full agenda is being planned by the Seminar Committee and unless participation is extensive, and if the Board is to work together to achieve higher goals, a great deal of valuable knowledge will be wasted. Further information on this important event will be advised in the near future.

I would like to thank the Presidents and Committees of Coogee, Elouera, Maroubra and North Bondi for having hosted our full meetings during the year. The co-operation of your members in helping to prepare for these meetings has been greatly appreciated by all concerned. I would further thank those Clubs who have allowed meetings and field days to be held. It is certainly gratifying to know most requests for accommodation will be fulfilled.

The bookwork of the Board has increased along with this record year. I would thank the Branch office and its staff, headed by Joan Vaughan, for the added work undertaken. In this respect, I would also thank Branch Officers for their help and guidance throughout the year.

Finally, to my fellow Board Executive and Board Members, thank you for your co-operation, suggestions and help during the season. The task has been extremely satisfying and I trust well done.

Steve Strange
Board Secretary

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The past season has been one of satisfying activity for the Board of Control with its obligation to administer on behalf of the Branch the fields of lifesaving, examinations and competition.

The lifesaving season was heralded by a successful Captains' Seminar which reinforced the necessity and benefit of communication in our organisation. The day was an opportunity to discuss lifesaving policy with the active side of Clubs and create an awareness of the importance of the Captain's role. It was very pleasing to see the positive and forward thinking approach conveyed by these leaders of their Clubs.

Under the guidance of District Supervisors, Clubs were held accountable for the efficient safeguarding of our beaches and on the whole were equal to the task. The backbone of lifesaving is still the rostered patrolman and we must ensure that the rewards of surf club membership, the mateship and challenge always equal the obligations imposed on an active member. The growing number of female lifesavers, genuinely participating in Club life, their enthusiasm and acceptance by fellow members has been a highlight of the season.

The contribution made by Club IRB's, JRB's and Helicopter has been appreciated by every Surf Club member who has had need to call for them. The integration of these back-up systems to the man on the beach, the availability of assistance from neighbouring Clubs and the implementation of a 24 hour call out will only be accomplished with a full understanding of the importance of accurate, reliable radio communications. The goal of the Association must be to see every Club member a qualified radio operator in a system that guarantees access to emergency services whenever the need arises. This applies to the larger Clubs and just as importantly, to the isolated No.1 District Clubs within the Royal National Park.

The Gear Inspection Panel again did a thorough job. Nick Dixon and the Panel are to be congratulated on the positive way they approached the task and their efforts, which ensured that all equipment commenced the season in good condition. Recommendations on the storage of gear and the preparation for future seasons have been implemented. No Club can have an excuse for not having gear in first class condition for this year's inspection.

The money made available through the Australian Government \$ for \$ Gear Grant again contributed to the overall scheme of Lifesaving within the Branch. The allocation made it possible for many Clubs to obtain front-line equipment more quickly than would have been possible if left to their own resources.

Examinations were under the control of Ernie "Solly" Stephens in his capacity as Examination and Instruction Supervisor, a position he has held since the inception of the "Board of Control". This, often unsung, facet of Board members' duties, examined a commendable 1,201 successful awards during the season. This is a marked increase over past seasons and a credit to the Clubs in the Branch. Although females added to the numbers, male awards in general also increased. Board members responded to the extra workload and must be thanked for the way they attended, when required, to examine more frequently than expected.

Solly also handled the successful running of proficiency tests, which have now been accepted as Lifesavers become more aware of the requirements and procedures. Clubs must now take the responsibility of seeing that their active members, as part of their obligations to the public, complete these tests as soon as possible each season. The delay by some Clubs is of no gain and only causes undue concern to those responsible for the implementation of the testing and the necessity to appoint extra examiners.

On the competition scene, the Branch ran a full programme of carnivals under John Dewey, the Competition and Carnival Supervisor. John and his team must be thanked for their efforts to guarantee that Sydney Carnivals are second to none. The efforts of Clubs to gain major sponsorship for the majority of our carnivals has required professional approaches by both officials and competitors. It means we must try to make competition as spectacular and attractive as possible and use it as a showcase for the Association. Television and the publicity available in this area of activity is only one avenue that has not reached its full potential.

Efforts at all levels of the Association saw the introduction of the 4 man R & R and from the initial reaction it seems that these new concepts will go a long way to reverse the trend away from this form of competition.

The comradeship of the Board is always evident at Carnivals and it has been a pleasure to see the consistent attendance of members over the year. However, the growth in numbers of R & R teams and in other areas is putting pressure on our numbers and more competition members must be found to ensure continuation over the coming years.

The Helicopter Rescue Service maintained its first class record for another season. Ian Badham as well as heading the operation is continually showing us the value of publicity. It is a lesson we all should take note of when we see the way the helicopter people gain media coverage of their operations and achievements. The Branch and Clubs must follow this lead and publicise the Movement and maintain the public support we now enjoy.

The JRB Groups started the season in the most confident manner for many years and provided a level of service above that recently achieved. The unfortunate loss of the No.4 District Boat during the season put pressure on JRB 3, which took on and successfully completed the role in both Districts. The groups have maintained a good liaison with their local Councils. The viability of a replacement boat and the operations of a JRB service in the No.4 District for the coming season is presently under review.

The IRB's, while basically a Club operation, continued to prove their worth. Harry Brown, the IRB Supervisor, has guided this section with practical encouragement and discipline. His enthusiasm is reflected in substantial gains in the number of crewmen and drivers certificates awarded this year. The recommended recording of "preventative actions" will further testify to the worth of these craft to Clubs.

The Advanced Resuscitation Group with Bruce Breadner and Frank Osborne at the helm must be thanked as our most consistent and hardworking committee. The policy of improving the standard of resuscitation teaching in Clubs is borne out by the awarding of fifteen new ARC instructors' and the appointment of 5 examiners.

John Dewey and Solly Stephens have indicated they will not be seeking re-election to their respective positions. The thanks of all Board members go to both these men for a job well done. The contribution and experience brought to the Executive by them will be missed.

Steve Strange has been a great strength as Secretary and has carried out his duties in the thorough manner for which he has become known. To Steve, Ron Howells my Deputy Superintendent and all members of the Board of Control, thank you for your support during the season.

Trevor Elliott
Honorary Superintendent

BOARD OF EXAMINER OFFICERS

| Season | Superintendent | Deputy Superintendent | Board Secretary | Examination Supervisor | Carnival and Competition Supervisor | Registrar | District Supervisors | | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| | | | | | | | No. 1 | No. 2 | No. 3 | No. 4 |
| 1949-50 | D. Lucas | W. Foerster | A. Castleman | | | T. Moran | G. Johnson | H. Small | V. Williams | G. Wild |
| 1950-51 | D. Lucas | W. Foerster | A. Castleman | | | G. Davies | G. Johnson | J. Switzer | B. Cribb | P. Hickman |
| 1951-52 | D. Lucas | W. Foerster | A. Castleman | | | G. Davies | J. Vaughan | J. Switzer | B. Cribb | M. Black |
| 1952-53 | W. Foerster | L. McDonald | V. Williams | | | G. Davies | J. Vaughan | J. Switzer | K. Flannery | M. Black |
| 1953-54 | W. Foerster | L. McDonald | V. Williams | | | G. Davies | J. Vaughan | J. Switzer | K. Flannery | M. Black |
| 1954-55 | W. Foerster | J. Marsden | V. Williams | | | G. Davies R. Simmons | L. Johnson | J. Switzer | K. Flannery | M. Black |
| 1955-56 | J. Marsden | A. May | V. Williams | | | R. Bridges | O. Hailey | J. Switzer | B. Brewin | M. Black |
| 1956-57 | J. Marsden | H. McDonald | B. Brewin | | | D. Lucas | O. Hailey | J. Switzer | G. Cavanagh | J. Wardall |
| 1957-58 | J. Marsden | H. McDonald | B. Brewin | | | D. Lucas | O. Hailey | J. Switzer | R. Davey | R. Young |
| 1958-59 | J. Marsden | H. McDonald | A. Moseley | | | H. Brown | R. Liddle | J. Switzer | R. Davey | B. Brewin |
| 1959-60 | H. McDonald | J. Marsden | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | R. Liddle | J. Switzer | R. Davey | B. Elliott |
| 1960-61 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | R. Liddle | P. Ainsworth | J. Wardall | B. Elliott |
| 1961-62 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | R. Liddle | P. Ainsworth | J. Wardall | B. Walker |
| 1962-63 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | R. Liddle J. Casey | P. Ainsworth | J. Wardall | B. Walker |
| 1963-64 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | J. Casey | P. Ainsworth | A. Kelly | B. Walker |
| 1964-65 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | R. Davison | P. Ainsworth | B. Brewin | J. Young |
| 1965-66 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | F. Osborne | P. Ainsworth | K. Messenger | J. Young |
| 1966-67 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | R. Davison | P. Ainsworth | K. Messenger | J. Young |
| 1967-68 | J. Switzer | A. Moseley | J. Vaughan | | | H. Brown | W. Winzer | W. Rennie | K. Messenger | J. Young |
| 1968-69 | A. Moseley | N. Dixon | W. Swingle | | | H. Brown | W. Winzer | W. Rennie | K. Messenger | J. Young |
| 1969-70 | A. Moseley | J. Dewey | W. Swingle | | | H. Brown | W. Winzer | W. Rennie | J. Casey | J. Young |
| 1970-71 | A. Moseley | J. Dewey | T. Beckett | | | S. Gibson | W. Winzer | W. Rennie | J. Casey | J. Young |
| 1971-72 | A. Moseley | J. Dewey | T. Beckett | | | S. Gibson | W. Winzer | W. Rennie | W. Walton | J. Young |
| | | | T. Beckett | | | | | R. Leix | J. Wardall | |
| 1972-73 | A. Moseley | J. Dewey | J. Switzer | | | S. Newman | W. Winzer | R. Leix | J. Wardall | J. Young |
| | | | J. Vaughan | | | | | | | |
| 1973-74 | R. Howells | J. Dewey | J. Switzer | | | S. Newman | W. Winzer | N. Jamieson | J. Wardall | J. Young |
| | J. Dewey | L. McNamara | J. Switzer | | | | F. Osborne | | | |
| 1974-75 | J. Dewey | J. May | J. Switzer | | | K. English | F. Osborne | N. Jamieson | J. Wardall | J. Young |
| | | J. May | J. Switzer | | | | | N. Jamieson | | |
| 1975-76 | J. Dewey | K. Messenger | J. Switzer | P. Ainsworth | | K. English | F. Osborne | T. Elliott | J. Wardall | J. Young |
| | | K. Messenger | J. Switzer | | | | | | | |
| 1976-77 | J. Dewey | J. May | J. Switzer | P. Ainsworth | | J. Connolly | F. Osborne | T. Elliott | J. Wardall | P. Quartly |
| | | J. May | P. Sargeant | | J. May | | | | | |
| 1977-78 | J. Dewey | J. May | P. Parsons | E. Stephens | J. May | J. Connolly | F. Osborne | T. Elliott | D. Popplewell | K. Andrews |
| 1978-79 | J. Dewey | J. May | P. Parsons | E. Stephens | J. May | J. Connolly | F. Osborne | T. Elliott | D. Popplewell | K. Andrews |
| 1979-80 | J. May | T. Elliott | S. Strange | E. Stephens | J. Dewey | J. Connolly | F. Osborne | J. Fraser | D. Popplewell | K. Andrews |
| 1980-81 | T. Elliott | R. Howells | S. Strange | E. Stephens | J. Dewey | P. Steenson | F. Osborne | M. Berger | D. Popplewell | M. Clancy |

