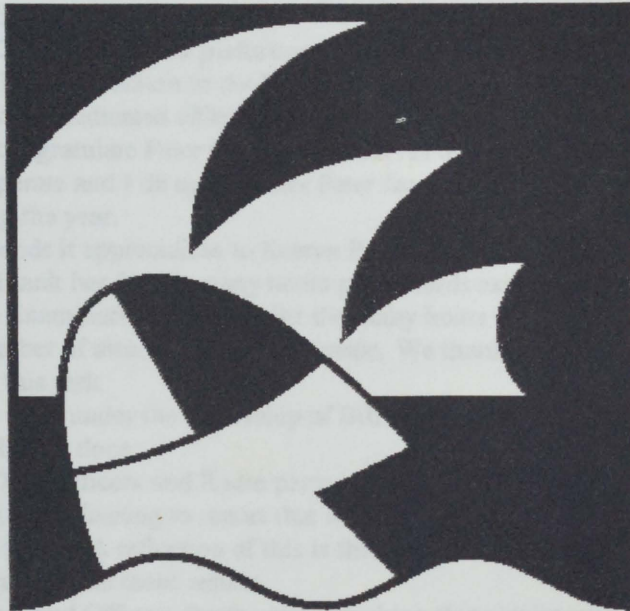


W. G. MARSHALL  
*W. G. Marshall*

**surf life saving**



**sydney**

Peter W Pearce  
President

Surf Life Saving Sydney Branch Inc.

## **Second Annual Report**

**Surf Life Saving Sydney Branch Inc.**

**Board of Life Saving &  
Board of Competition**

**1999 - 2000**

## BRANCH PRESIDENTS FOREWORD

A very successful year has now concluded. The performance of Board Officers and Members were outstanding and the results from this are detailed within this Annual Report.

The continuation of two Boards has been successful this season with the Board of Life Saving and Competition performing all tasks in a professional manner. The Board of Life Saving under the leadership of Stephen Leahy has performed exceptionally well, this is through the strong direction from Steve. The Secretary Peter Quartly and the Executive who after many years of struggling it is now pleasing to see some positive results taking effect.

The Board of Life Saving during this season has looked at major issues and these are to do with youth, examinations and life savings. This has definitely set the path for the coming season and shows one of strength for the continuation of this Board.

Competition under Dick Bignold has performed well. Dick will not be seeking re-election this year and I thank him for his contribution to the Board of Competition, I believe this is one of the best in the State, it is nice to see dedicated officials at Carnivals being excited and motivated by Dick. I would also like to congratulate Peter Quartly without his dedication and drive the Board would find it most difficult to operate and I do again thank Peter for his high performance in difficult circumstances during the year.

The Branch also extends its appreciation to Kerry Briody, our Examinations Manager for her dedication and I do thank her for the many hours put towards examinations within our Districts. We also thank all active Examination members for the many hours that they contributed for putting through a record number of awards during the season. We thank you for the time and effort you contributed towards this task.

To the Branch Gear team under the leadership of Bill Singleton, again we extend our appreciation for your efforts and a job well done.

To our IRB crews, Duty Officers and Radio personnel your dedication and time at the Sydney Branch is much appreciated. It is pleasing to report that membership as well as awards are up and this is a positive sign for the future. A reflection of this is through the efforts of all Board members and I trust you will look favourably upon these results.

Again, to all members and Officers thank you for making this a most successful and enjoyable year and we will look forward to your continued participation again next season.

**Peter M Pearce**

President

Surf Life Saving Sydney Branch Inc.

**SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY BRANCH INC.**

**BOARD OF LIFE SAVING**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the 2nd Annual General Meeting of Surf Life Saving Sydney Branch Inc., Board of Life Saving will be held at the Maroubra Seals Sports and community Club on Wednesday 28th June 2000 commencing at 7.30pm.

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome by Stephen Leahy, Life Saving Director.
2. Apologies and Leave.
3. Confirmation of Minutes of the 1st Annual General Meeting held on 25 June 1999.
4. Presentation of the 2nd Annual Report for the 1999-2000 Season.
5. Election of officers and Sub-Committees for the 2000-2001 Season.
6. Task Force Report.
7. General Business.

**Peter Quartly**  
Honorary Secretary

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES 1999-2000

Director of Lifesaving .....	Stephen Leahy
Rescue Services Manager .....	Stephen Leahy
Educational Manager .....	Kerryn Briody
Board Secretary .....	Peter Quartly
Communications Officer .....	Vacant
Royal National Park Life Saving Supervisor .....	Michael Hodsdon
Royal National Park Education Supervisor .....	Margaret Pearce
Cronulla - Sutherland District Life Saving Supervisor .....	James Sherratt
Cronulla - Sutherland Districts Education Supervisor .....	Anthony Coffey
Randwick District Life Saving Supervisor .....	John Restuccia
Randwick District Education Manager .....	John Restuccia
Waverley District Life Saving Supervisor .....	Alexander O'Hara
Waverley District Education Supervisor .....	Peter Agnew
IRB Technical Adviser .....	Craig Lovell
ORB Technical Adviser .....	Michael Hodsdon
Radio Technical Adviser .....	Vacant

## BOARD OF LIFE SAVING COMMITTEES

### GEAR INSPECTION COMMITTEE

Stephen Leahy (Convenor), Frank Osborne, Margaret Pearce, Alex O'Hara,  
Michael Batty, Peter Davis, Michael Hodsdon

### MERITORIOUS AWARDS COMMITTEE

Neil Miller, Bill Singleton, Mike Batty

### MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE

Peter Quartly (Convenor), Peter Murphy, Frank Osborne, Ernest Stephens

## RESUSCITATION RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTION AND MEDICAL PANEL

Peter Quartly (Convenor), Peter Murphy, Frank Osborne, Keith Grima, Dianne Lovell

## ATTENDANCE AT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Officer	Position	Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Stephen Leahy	Director of Lifesaving	12		
Kerryn Briody	Educational Manager	12		
Peter Quartly	Board Secretary	12		
Michael Hodsdon	RNP Lifesaving Supervisor	10	2	
Margaret Pearce	RNP Education Supervisor	9	3	
James Sherratt	Cronulla Lifesaving Supervisor	6	5	1
Anthony Coffey	Cronulla Education Supervisor	7	3	2
John Restuccia	Randwick Lifesaving Supervisor	9	1	2
Alexander O'Hara	Waverley Lifesaving Supervisor	7	4	1
Peter Agnew	Waverley Education Supervisor	7	5	

## DIRECTOR OF LIFESAVING

Ladies and gentlemen, fellow lifesavers

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the Sydney Branch Board of Lifesaving. The report will highlight our achievements and recognises the fact that there are opportunities to improve our performances.

There's no doubting that the Board has gone through some rough patches in recent years. The aim of the Board's Management Committee was to consolidate what we have already in place. We needed to strengthen the leadership and increase our ability to act coherently as a Board. We also had to reduce the number of drownings on our beaches. I think we're well on the way!!!

We are very proud of the fact that no person drowned on a Sydney beach this season – this is testament to efforts of our club patrols and support services. I believe that Sydney Branch boasts some of the best lifesaving services in this state, if not Australia. A combination of our Offshore Rescue Boats, IRBs, patrol members and Duty Officers were beamed into living rooms around the world in television reports of that tragic diving accident at North Bondi in early February – an excellent example of our total integrated service provision.

Our Offshore Rescue Boats continue to expand their capabilities. Offshore 2 regularly has an ambulance paramedic on board and has been tasked by the Ambulance Service of NSW to a number of patient retrievals. Offshore 3 has performed some amazing rescues in the middle of the night when all else failed. My thanks and congratulations to the crews of both these vessels.

I must pay homage to an amazing group of surf lifesavers and they are our Duty Officers. These men not only support our club services but readily respond to callouts from the Police Service, Ambulance Service, the Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter to any incident along the coastline, 24 hours a day, every day. Duty Officers have attended more than 350 missions over the last 12 months and these statistics are an accolade to their worth.

Our Duty Officers are George Shales, Brad Taylor, Peter Cleary, Tony Graham, Ron Camilleri, Peter Fuller, Roy Gruenpeter, Greg Purvis, Matt Scott and Greg Morris.

Surf Life Saving Sydney thanks every active member who can be justly proud of the 1,344 rescues we performed this year. A further 14,608 people were offered help or advice preventing them from getting into trouble. A further 2,650 people received first aid treatment.

Liaison with the statutory emergency services improved immensely this year. Regular meetings are held with the police and ambulance service. We provided a patrol and response service along the eastern beaches during New Years Eve celebrations this year, with a number of taskings. My thanks to Peter Fuller, Brad Taylor and Matt Pacey who were on duty between 6.00pm and 7.00am that evening.

Plans are well developed as to how our support services will assist the police and ambulance services again during the Olympics.

For a number of legitimate reasons, we transferred our radio room operations to Waringah Surf on the northern beaches. Unfortunately, it didn't work for us and we re-commissioned the Branch Radio Room at the Branch Office. The clubs were certainly happy with this but it fell to a small group of members to operate it each weekend. Some of them were supporting us for 10 hours a day. To our radio room operators, I say a very sincere thank you.

One of the first things the Board undertook was a review of our lifesaving services. A Task Force comprising Jodi Culbert (Chair), Mike Batty, Chris Giles and Cameron Miles spent the season watching patrols, speaking with members and reviewing documents, plans and data. This has been presented to the Board and its recommendation will receive serious consideration in the planning for

the new season. My appreciation to Jodi, Mike, Chris and Cameron for their efforts in the development of this important document.

While the Management Committee meets regularly, it was felt that board members needed a forum on a regular basis so four meetings of the full Board were held during the season. The dates were confirmed early and members were invited to submit any relevant agenda items. Meetings were generally well attended and fruitful.

Communications were continued through the production of a newsletter every two months. This was a précis of appropriate items from the Committee minutes. This level of communications will continue to improve as we approach next year!

I strongly believe that our Club Captain and Chief Instructors are an important part of our leadership strategy – for this reason, we will continue to invite Captains to our management meetings and Duty Officers, Captains and Chief Instructors to our full meetings – we need to know how we can provide a better service and these are the people to tell us!

Our Education Manager will report on her activities further in the report but I must mention that the Board were very keen to offer advanced training and development programs for our active members. We saw excellent crowds for Patrol Captains Courses and a highlight of the year was the Resuscitation Update evening lead by Dr Ian Mackie. We will continue to offer such programs.

At the Branch Dinner we were able to recognise some special members of the Board and again we congratulate:

Lifesaver of the Year:	Jodi Culbert
Volunteer of the Year:	Kerryn Briody
Training Officer of the Year:	Ernie "Solly" Stephens; and
Examiner of the Year:	Ken Café.

In closing, your Management Committee deserves a vote of thanks for their untiring efforts in ensuring that we provide "vigilance and service" to the standards that this organisation is world famous for. I must particularly thank Peter Quartly who has extremely broad shoulders and is already ready with a word of advice.

My thanks to Peter Agnew who has advised that after 10 years on the Board, he will step down from a management position to concentrate on his club and his personal studies – I have said to Peter before that I believe that he will be an ideal national Director of Lifesaving in the not too distant future. To my other officers who are retiring this year, again, your valuable time and efforts are sincerely appreciated.

It is important to recognise those that we work with and to Phil Wilson and Sue Webster from the Ambulance Service of NSW, to Bob May, John Cox and their colleagues at the NSW Police Service, to John Broom, Paul Newland, Trevor Cracknell and the team at the Westpac Lifesaver Helicopter Service, thank you for your advice, encouragement and assistance and we look forward to working with you again.

Of course, to our local Councils we certainly appreciate the support you provide to us – we will continue to strive to work closer with your Lifeguard Services so that the bathing public are protected by the best possible service. We saw the placement of Rescue Equipment at Wattamolla in the Royal National Park and our ongoing liaison has been well maintained with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Sometimes, we never say thank you to those that really do work hard behind the scenes – they are always there, they help with hundreds of hours of patrols, they always assist with exams and they never say "no". As a result, the Branch has agreed that the Director of Lifesaving may recognise these people at the Board's AGM. I intend to present at least one "Director's Award" at this meeting.

Next season is already on us and the wheels are already in motion so that we are prepared. A strategic planning will be held for the Management Committee and key lifesavers in July. We are appointing competitions and youth advisors to the board so that we can better service these areas. Oh, then there's the Olympics! – Who says there's an off-season.

Thank you for your personal support this year – I'm looking forward to working with you again over the next 12 months.

#### 1. Stephen Leahy MAIES

Director of Lifesaving

### HONORARY SECRETARY

It seems incredible that another season has come and gone. The last AGM brought us back to earth with the position of Director not being filled, as well as a number of others. This left a cloud over us all.

Fortunately Stephen Leahy, who stood as Rescue Services Managers, took up the challenge and took over the leadership of our group. This led to us quickly picking up from where we left off last season and having one of our most successful seasons in recent memory. Steve's people and management skills resulted in us becoming more professional in all facets. Steve took over the *newsletter* and gave it a new life. Our numbers at full meetings were up, as was participation.

Our meetings became more productive, and in an endeavor to get a better working relationship with our member clubs, we invited the Captain of each club (over a period of meetings) to attend and fully participate. Those who attended provided some valuable insights and great feedback. It is envisaged due to its success that this innovation will be continued in the coming season.

Kerryn Briody took over the Education side and slipped into the role (that Di Lovell had so capably held) without a hitch. After a years apprenticeship, we can only look to better things as she beds down the new awards which are starting to come online.

We had a number of highlights to come out of the season. Firstly the results of the Task Force under the stewardship of Jodi Culbert, who was ably assisted by Mike Batty, Chris Giles and Cameron Miles. Judi has provided an overview in the report. The full report has been included as an agenda item for the AGM and will be fully canvassed at such time. I believe overall it is a great document which if used correctly will be a valuable tool in moving forward in the coming season(s). They are to be congratulated.

An important outcome is the proposal adopted in full by the Branch for a Planning Seminar to be held on the weekend of the 14<sup>th</sup> July, by your Committee. They will review our role as a service provider to the fifteen clubs, our position within the Branch, where we are heading and how we will get there. This will not be a one off event, but a launching pad for our ongoing activities.

The Branch subsidised the purchase of heavy duty raincoats. Unfortunately they not been received at the time of writing. I am assured they will be available in the very near future. Duty Officers had new pagers provided, as well as vests and a number of new radios.

The Silver Medallion Life Support Award after a lot of delay will be available next season; which I am sure will be a relief to many.

A number of officers are retiring and to them, I wish to record our appreciation of your efforts over this past season and the ones before. A special thank you to Peter Agnew, who was responsible for my returning to the fold and has held Executive and Management positions since season 1991/92, when he started a four year term as Superintendent. Your insightful participation will be missed at meetings as will your enormous contribution to the Waverley District specifically and the Branch generally.

Proficiency tests this season were delegated to the clubs to perform on specified dates and under the control of nominated members, who were sanctioned by the Management Committee. This went very well from our overview and it has been decided to do the same next season, however, we will allow the clubs to nominate as many dates in advance as they require.

The Gear Inspection format was changed with it being all done on the same day, on a District level, under the stewardship of the Lifesaving District Supervisors and nominated personnel. This was most successful and the format will be used again this coming season.

Due to problems with the Radio Room staffing last season, we trialed Warringah Surf running our operations. This was a big step to take, however, it was an even bigger step to acknowledge that they were not able to provide the level of service that clubs and our support services required, so we reopened our operations. To Steve and all those who assisted, thanks for the time and effort put in and the professional spirit that was displayed. This is one area where we can do a lot better. Unfortunately many are sitting back and not accepting they have a responsibility and need in performing at 100%. This season neither the positions of Radio Advisor or Communications Officer were filled. If you know of anyone who can assist, please let us know, as we will make them most welcome.

There were no drownings during patrol hours and the feedback provided by the Lifesaving District Supervisors indicated patrols in the main are what we expect and the public demand. One aspect that needs to be improved is a laxity in signing on and off of occasion.

It was disappointing that the Branch Patrol Competition was not held this season. We believe the competition is vital as it replicates what we are all about and it behoves all clubs to participate in it fully. To this regard and with the support of the Branch, we will take over the control and running of the event and all other lifesaving competition (as against carnival competition) next season. In addition we will trial the new position of Lifesaving Competition Advisor, who shall be responsible for same.

Another innovation next season will be the trialling of the position of Youth Advisor. The successful person will be responsible for building bridges with the youth of the Association and encouraging their greater participation in our activities and just as importantly, advising their views to us.

A lot of heat and energy was expended on what the Olympics impact will be on our beaches, especially prior to and during its running. It was surprising the views expressed by some clubs that the impact would be negligible. It was finally agreed by the Branch that patrols will start on the 9th September and be of a surveillance nature.

Another season has passed and our Constitution has still not been ratified by the Branch. This is something which will have to be addressed in the next twelve months, especially with the trialing of the new positions and our conference, which I am sure will crystallize what our roles in the future should be.

IRB Waterways licenses have now been incorporated into proficiency tests and examinations, where the license was obtained gratis. There have been a few teething problems, which I am confident will be ironed out prior to the start of the coming season.

Kerryn has successfully trialed an electronic 14A form, which should speed up processing of examinations and reduce errors. Those clubs that do not have e-mail facilities will still be able to forward them by post or facsimile message.

It is pleasing to report the success of members Jodi Culbert and Kerryn Briody on being selected Branch Lifesaver of the Year and Volunteer of the Year respectfully.

Although Di Lovell retired as Education Manager, she continued to be very active in co-ordinating ARC activities in Districts 1 & 2, with Keith Grima continuing to do the 3 & 4 Districts.

We have in recent times had some problems with written papers. Solly has advised that he now has a set of Japanese papers, although candidates are still required to answer the questions in English.

Two important common law cases were determined during the season. The first case, Waverley Municipal Council & Bloom, involved a swimmer hit by a surfboard, where Council was found to be negligent for allowing it to be ridden within the flagged area at Tamarama. The second Fitzpatrick v. Marouchy Shire Council, relates to the use of a boogyboard.

We ran three successful "full Board" meetings, a Club Captains meeting which was very well attended and what was probably our most successful meeting, a "Resuscitation Seminar" for the Branch. This was a practical evening at which Guedel airways were reintroduced, after an absence of some twenty years; we also had a briefing on semi-automatic external defibrillation. Kerry is to be congratulated on same and it was good to see Dr Ian Mackie back in action.

We confirmed to Duty Officers and Clubs that in the event of counseling being required for member(s), they were to use the Salvation Army's Critical Response group, who have the required expertise to deal with such situations.

It is with deep regret I record the passing of Peter Murphy's wife Colette. To all lifesavers that have lost loved ones this season, our thoughts are with you.

I record my thanks to my fellow Management Committee members, for making my job so easy and rewarding. To the Branch office staff, Bob, Liz, Cheryl and Natalie, for your wonderful assistance in what at times can be trying and chaotic conditions. And to all members for putting in another great effort over the season. I look forward to the coming season with enthusiasm and confidence that our service to the clubs and their members will be second to none.

**Peter Quartly**  
Honorary Secretary

#### EDUCATION MANAGER

The Sydney Branch Education programme for season 1999-2000 has produced a total of 463 new Bronze Medallion Members and 253 Surf Rescue Certificate Members; this represents a slight increase on last season's awards. The ARC Awards were down 35 % on last seasons numbers, but overall Awards are up. The District Award winners are:

Waverley	North Bondi	138
	Bronte	138
Randwick	Coogee	118
Sutherland	Cronulla	94
R. N. P.	Garie	23

The stand out Club for improving their award numbers this season is South Maroubra who has increased their Awards by a massive 430 %. Maroubra continued to hold their Community Resus Courses which they had 127 participants.

With the introduction of the Patrol Captains Award the Branch ran 2 courses, which there were 114 successful candidates.

The Branch has trailed an electronic Form 14 Examination Request, which has eliminated duplication of documents and has assisted the office with management of Award processing. We will be encouraging all clubs to utilise this system next season.

The District Supervisors, Peter Agnew, John Restuccia, Tony Coffee & Margaret Pearce have managed their Districts well and I would like to thank them for their efforts.

The Examiners have done an exceptional job over the season, there were 2 examinations held earlier this season with over 100 candidates presenting themselves for Bronze Medallions and Surf Rescue Awards, both exams were completed within two and a half hours, a credit to all who attended.

A special thank you to our Specialist Examiners, Keith Grima, Dianne Lovell, Peter Jones, Peter Pearce, Craig Lovell, George Shales & Ron Camaleri for their assistance with ARC, IRB & Offshore Awards.

The Branch also was involved the continuing Education Programme of Japanese Lifeguards which Wanda hosted and awarded 20 Japanese candidates with BM, TBM, & ARC Awards. We now have examination papers in Japanese for BM & ARC, which will assist the programme.

I would like to thank the Branch Office staff Bob King, Liz Grady, Gail Bignold, Natalie Walker-Windmill & Cheryl Thompson for all their assistance and patience over the season, to Stephen Leahy for your direction and continuing support, and the Branch Lifesaving Committee for their assistance.

**Kerryn Briody.**  
Education Manager.

The following table lists the awards gained for the 1999-2000 Season, compared with the five previous Seasons and total awards gained by each club in the Branch.

AWARD	1999/00	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95
Surf Rescue Certificate	268	240	188	217	220	239
Training Officer - Surf Rescue	1	1	9	7	9	6
Bronze Medallion	507	457	421	448	448	382
Training Officer - BM	37	22	13	41	39	45
Examiners - BM		3	12	6	4	12
Patrol Captain	114	15	-	-	-	-
Basic Resuscitation Certificate		22	49	48	8	29
Resuscitation Certificate	129	136	-	-	-	-
Advanced Resuscitation Cert	155	161	43	115	78	148
Training Officer - Resuscitation	9	18	7	16	11	21
Examiners - Resuscitation	3	1	-	2	-	1
IRB Crewman's Certificate	35	36	-	-	1	-
IRB Driver's Certificate	36	32	28	41	40	21
Training Officer - IRB	6	4	5	9	9	1
Examiner's - IRB	2	0	3	1	-	2
ORB Crewman's Certificate	4	2	7	6	6	11
ORB Driver's Certificate	3	2	3	2	4	5
ORB Specialist Crew Certificate	1					
ORB Skipper's Certificate		2	1	1	2	3
Examiner's - ORB		0	1	-	1	2
Radio Operator's Certificate	1	35	135	55	98	125
Training Officer - Radio		0	4	4	1	10
Examiner's - Radio		0	1	1	-	3
Radio Controller's Certificate		0	-	3	5	-
Senior First Aid Certificate	1	15	16	47	2	28
Training Officer - Life Support		3	-	1	2	1
Examiner's - Life Support		0		1	-	1
Advanced Life Saving Certe		0	3	1	2	2
International Training Officer's		0	-	-	3	1
TOTAL	1312	1207	960	1073	993	1108

# CLUB TOTAL AWARDS

	1999/00	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95
Bondi	102	63	68	64	66	53
Bronte	138	109	45	41	58	46
Burning Palms	10	34	11	21	33	7
Clovelly	34	23	24	28	25	45
Coogee	118	109	71	153	44	86
Cronulla	97	164	90	124	82	117
Elouera	62	125	24	118	81	193
Era	0	3	6	2	4	21
Garie	26	6	20	24	9	24
Maroubra	263	200	186	57	80	49
North Bondi	138	114	135	123	185	196
North Cronulla	54	74	89	100	72	138
Sth Maroubra	110	18	40	57	63	102
Tamarama	30	11	11	10	25	24
Wanda	130	140	140	151	166	108

# CLUB PROFICIENCY NUMBERS

CLUB	SRC	BM	ARC	IRB	FAC	RADIO
Bondi	1	203	6	14		
Bronte	40	160	25	12		
Burning Palms		21	6			
Clovelly	5	66	22	6		
Coogee	18	189	27	23		
Cronulla	31	250	30			
Elouera	20	128	31	11		
Era	4	35		7		8
Garie	17	33	21			1
Maroubra	36	146	33	3		
North Bondi	10	198	16	12		
North Cronulla	21	138				
South Maroubra	48	242	19	40	8	
Tamarama	1	66		42		
Wanda	18	152		10		
TOTAL	270	2027	216	170	8	9

## **LIFE SAVING SUPERVISOR WAVERLEY DISTRICT**

Ah winter! Time to hide the swimmers in the bottom drawer, put the sunscreen away in the cupboard and enjoy a few restful weekends at home. It is like that for most of us but there is still work being done through the winter to prepare for the season ahead.

IRB drivers have been in training. Racing crews have been gearing up for the coming Australian Tiles to be held in the warmer climate of Queensland. Another chance to hone their skills. All our board, ski and swim competitors have started their winter training regime preparing for the busiest season we may ever see. Most importantly of all, the Olympics is on the way and we have to be ready!!!

The season past has once again been fairly eventful. The high number of shark alarms on the beaches has showcased the diligence of Life Savers and our commitment to the safety of our bathers on the Sydney beaches.

We have also had commendations from Government bodies praising the work done by the life savers in the district and most notably from the Police with the assistance offered by Bondi and North Bondi in the search for a missing diver off Ben Buckler point.

There has been some bad press over the past season and we must stress to all club members that as an Australian icon, the Surf Life Saving movement will have interest focused upon it from many international visitors to our shores from early September. We must be on our best behaviour for the season ahead and I am sure Club Captains will be doing there best to make sure we have the best patrols on the beach.

The Patrol efficiency competition in the past season was a close one as predicted last year and was fought down to the last weekend. Under controversial circumstances the points were added up and Bronte SLSC has come out on top. Further congratulations goes to Bronte for taking out the Branch Point Score. Well Done!!

Clubs are continually improving with regards to patrols. If we can keep this improvement going we are in good shape over the next few years to come.

One thing all clubs must concentrate on is gear inspection. Remember patrols start early next season and gear inspection will be on August 5<sup>th</sup> - a little over a month and a half away. So start preparing now! There will be a date set for reinspection but hopefully with a bit of work we will not need this day making it easier on all involved.

Due to the increased number of visitors next year we are going to be working very hard and it could be very busy. It is up to every member to put in hours next season. We will need every one of you!

Until next season, enjoy your time off and I will see you on the beaches next summer.

**Alexander O'Hara**

Life Saving Supervisor Waverley District

## **EDUCATION SUPERVISOR WAVERLEY DISTRICT**

Another successful season in lifesaving education within the Waverley District thanks to the efforts of the instructors and examiners within the area.

Part A examinations started off early in the season running right through to several weeks after the season had finished. Again Bronte and Nth Bondi put through a large number of candidates with a good showing of candidates also Bondi SBLSC. Tamarama although small in numbers put through a number of quality candidates. Thanks again to the Chief Instructors Kerrie Vish, David Radford, Sean

Tagg and Jenny Bond. A special thanks to John Ranson, Jason Madsen who were the main liaison in the area of education with the Bondi and Nth Bondi Clubs.

Most of the Part A examinations were carried out by Kerrie Vish, Ken Cafe, and Cameron Miles from Bronte and Jason Madsen, Alex O Hara from Nth Bondi. These examiners continue to be active in instruction within their own clubs and have provided exceptional examiners for the district.

A number of new probationary examiners have joined the Board of Lifesaving during the season including: Paul Booth and Brenton Parry from Bronte and Aran Maree and Matt Pacey from Nth Bondi. It is still of some concern that Bondi and Tamarama have not provided any new members to the Board over the last several years.

Congratulations to Ken Cafe who also gained the Branch's Examiner of the Year Award.

Thank you to my fellow Board Members for the interesting and productive season especially the Boards Director, Steve Leahy and the Education Director, Kerry Briody. Your support, advice and flexibility towards the district throughout the season has been much appreciated.

**Peter Agnew**

Waverley District Education Supervisor

#### **LIFE SAVING & EDUCATION SUPERVISOR RANDWICK DISTRICT**

This season was great, both in life saving and awards.

Let's start with life saving and patrol inspections. I was impressed by the way all clubs conducted themselves while on patrol. We just need a little more work on the uniforms and we will be a fine unit. Congratulations to Maroubra for winning the Patrol Competition.

Awards were up in the District within all Clubs. Well done Coogee who took out the most awards, keep up the good work. Closely followed was Maroubra and South Maroubra with a late run. Clovelly did well with consistent numbers for a club of its size.

In closing I believe that this coming season will be trying and long however, I believe our District will shine when put under pressure.

**John Restuccia**

Life Saving & Education Supervisor Randwick District

#### **LIFE SAVING SUPERVISOR CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND DISTRICT**

Fortunately this season was not as dramatic as the previous one, patrol numbers were adequate and equipment up to standard. As in previous years I received good cooperation from patrol captains and patrol members.

Patrol scenarios were well received and I am sure all involved gained in knowledge and improved their personal skills. I consider it is not only the patrols who gain from scenarios the clubs must also take notice of the information provided in the reports. It must be a concern to all clubs that for a third time I must report on the poor standard of resuscitation within patrols. It is now obvious that the PROFICIENCY TEST is not able to detect these problems and retention in its present form should be discussed.

Once again I was present with Tony Coffey for an IRB crew exam. The young members were well trained and had fun in obtaining this award, my congratulations to Cronulla SLSC and all involved.

The gear inspection was very successful; a competent team with members from all clubs made the task easy. The clubs also contributed by having all of their equipment presented in a manner that made the inspection a success. To the team members and the four clubs I wish to express my thanks to all involved, I recommend to the Branch that this format be kept next season.

Congratulations to Wanda SLSC, Sydney Branch Champion Club 2000. I would like to note that there was improvement to the club's patrols over the previous year, well done.

As in previous seasons I have enjoyed the good company of club members at patrol and management levels. Thank you all for your cooperation and help throughout the season.

**James Sherratt**

Life Saving Supervisor Cronulla Sutherland District

### **EDUCATION SUPERVISOR CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND DISTRICT**

Season 99/00 passed with the few glitches encountered overcome with the assistance of Kerryn Briody, Bob, Liz and more recently, Natalie, in the Branch office and a band of supportive examiners in District Two whose help is always greatly appreciated.

We held fewer examinations this season with the majority of Part A's being conducted at Wanda and Elouera clubs. Both clubs offered every assistance and I'm sure all of the candidates appreciated their hospitality as much as I did. After the inservice at the beginning of the season and with the examination format in its third year, there should have been no surprises in store for Chief Instructors or Training Officers.

With some notable exceptions however, the overall standard of candidates in my opinion was appreciably lower, particularly in the areas of resuscitation, patient care and rescue skills. Unfortunately there are still some Training Officers willing to put forward candidates to "see how things go". This should be overcome by ensuring squads are preexamined at club level by a BOLS member or Vice Captain who will accept responsibility for them with an emphasis on the areas previously mentioned.

Organising of these squads, Training Officers and paperwork, was once again in the capable hands of the "indefatigable" Wendy Smith, "now old hand at this" Steve Frawley and "enthusiastic new comer", Sasa Mrkonja, all of whom ensured accurate papers and numbers prior to notice and enthusiastic assistance at exam time.

Another large group of Japanese candidates, well prepared by Solly san, successfully achieved BM's, TOC's and ARC's under trying circumstances following a tragic accident to one of their squad. The translated theory paper made the Part A less of an ordeal thanks to Solly's initiative. Some heavy conditions and the occasional lack of sand on the beach for our Part B's not only tested the candidates but also our IRB drivers and examiners, all of whom did a sensational job especially when the odd change of location was required.

My sincere thanks to all our examiners, who stood up to ensure the future of Surf Life Saving in Cronulla-Sutherland, both mid-week and on the beach, Sean McKirdy, Mick Brannock, Karin Jones, Fern Elliott, Barney Johansen, Jim Sherratt, Wendy Smith, Steve Frawley, Barry Gillroy, Chris Giles, Solly Stephens and especially Mike Batty. Also those stood when they could, Di Lovell, Andrew Dawes, Kerryn Briody, Neil Miller, Phil Veitch, Ursula Cartner and Mike Clancy.

**Tony Coffey**

Education Supervisor, Cronulla-Sutherland District

### **LIFE SAVING SUPERVISOR ROYAL NATIONAL PARK**

The three clubs within the Park have again completed their patrol obligations some with more difficulty than others. All three clubs can be proud of their members as no major incidents occurred on their beaches this year.

Patrol inspections were carried out on a monthly basis (although a little late at times) and patrols welcomed the feedback and were quite happy to participate which was good to see. The competition was very close all through the season with Burning Palms winning it at the end.

Once again we saw problems with the radio network. At the start of the season the problem was due to the fact that there weren't enough operators so Sydney Surf went to the other side of the Harbour. The only problem we had then was that the operators did not like to listen to the South Coast clubs continually talking so they would turn the volume down (too bad if we were trying to call). But the problem was fixed by moving Sydney back to Prince Henry Hospital, so all we need now is for clubs to support Sydney Surf and provide some operators or we will probably lose it again back to Manly.

I wish to thank the members of the Board and all the club members for their time and effort and I hope you have a pleasant Winter break and I may see you back on the Supervisor's position next season.

**Michael Hodson**

Life Saving Supervisor  
Royal National Park District

**EDUCATION SUPERVISOR  
ROYAL NATIONAL PARK**

This is the time of the year when we reflect on the achievements and, unfortunately, the disappointments that occur throughout the season.

The Garie Club is to be congratulated for their efforts this season in gaining the most awards in the Royal National Park District with a total of 21 awards (13 Surf Rescue Certificates, 6 Bronze Medallions and 2 Training Officers). The Club also conducted ARC examinations and members attended and gained their Silver Medallion Patrol Captain's Awards which was administered by the Board of Life Saving. This is the largest number of awards for some time for the Club and was rewarded for their achievements at the Branch Presentation night in winning a rescue tube supplied by the sponsorship of Coca Cola.

Burning Palms' awards were down on previous seasons, with only 3 Bronze Medallions, 1 Training Officer and 4 Silver Medallion Patrol Captain's Awards being completed. As always, a matter for concern is the need for new members.

Unfortunately Era did not gain any awards this season, a disappointing outcome for both the District and for the Club. All efforts will have to be made by the Club to encourage new members and also inspire current members within the club to gain further awards.

To Michael Hodson, The Royal National Park District Lifesaving Supervisor, thank you for your assistance and thanks also to the following examiners, Mick Bretherton, Jodi Culbert, Brad McDonogh, Peter Pearce and Brad Taylor who were available for examinations throughout the season.

This season there was only one probationary examiner, Paul Walton from the Garie Club and we look forward to Paul gaining his Examiner's Certificate in the new season.

One aspect that is rewarding about being the Education Supervisor is that you get to meet the candidates and encounter the quality of these young (and not so young) members who are joining the Association and continuing the tradition of Surf Life Saving in gaining awards and then maintaining the safe environment for the public who use our surf beaches.

**Margaret Pearce**

Education Supervisor Royal National Park District

## **SYDNEY BRANCH LIFESAVING TASKFORCE REPORT 2000**

*(Summary - For complete report contact Board of Lifesaving)*

By memorandum 24<sup>th</sup> May 1999, Sydney Branch Board of Lifesaving invited expressions of interest from members to form a committee to investigate lifesaving strategies for the 199-2000 season. The committee was determined by October to include Jodi Culbert (Burning Palms convenor), Mike Batty (Elouera), Chris Giles (Cronulla) and Cameron Miles (Bonte).

The terms of reference for the taskforce included: evaluation of the lifesaving service in Sydney Branch, to investigate ways to be more active in drowning prevention, assess our role in education of the bathing public and to present a set of recommendations relating to these issues to the Board of Lifesaving for consideration.

At the initial meeting it was determined that it would be valuable to utilise the expertise of current and former active patrolling members. A comprehensive questionnaire was developed and sent to each club captain for distribution to as many active members as possible. Overall response to the questionnaire was disappointing both in number of clubs responding (9/15) and the number of individual responses from each club. The quality of information from those who did respond was high.

Input was also sought by random visits to clubs to carry out observations of beach conditions and apparent patrol efficiency (unobserved) and interviews of patrol members in groups. Interactions with patrol members at clubs visited were positive with open exchange of information. Records of individual clubs were not kept or reported on for this section, as this was an information gathering exercise to reflect patterns across the branch not a patrol inspection.

Other information was accessed for reference including drowning statistics; initiatives in other branches and direct submissions were sought from members via board of lifesaving newsletters and meetings.

Observations of patrols revealed; good numbers of advanced awards on patrols, but a lack of use of mobile individual equipment, very minimal use of outpost, roving or other methods, most lifesavers tended to be in the patrol enclosure rather than on waters edge therefore affecting the visibility and active presence of lifesavers especially related to those areas outside the flags.

Interview of lifesavers and questionnaire results naturally yielded a wide variety of responses however some common themes emerged. Many positive aspects of lifesaving were identified and especially included lifestyle, fun and social aspects of being a member. There were strong feelings expressed by members, particularly relating to patrols (uniforms, duration of each patrol, lack of empowerment of patrol captains,), competition and competitors (especially increased elitism), recognition of efforts and many others.

A set of recommendations has been outlined by the Lifesaving Taskforce in response to these findings and detailed version is available for review from the board of lifesaving. Some recommendations include, education and support to vary patrol methods used, improved communication to members via newsletters and increasing participation in board of lifesaving, increased flexibility and autonomy for patrol captains (for surveillance patrols), conjoint training exercises with other rescue service organisations, revitalise lifesaving competitions and development of an ongoing strategy for evaluation of our lifesaving service.

The scope of the taskforce was very broad and the method of data collection has seen a vast array of issues and topics raised. It is not possible to have addressed all of them in this report. Additionally the recommendations are not exhaustive and may provoke further questions, discussions or improvements. This is to be encouraged in order that appropriate measures are put into place to continually improve the quality of our lifesaving service and the appropriate with support of our patrolling members. Thanks must be extended to all whose participation in some way added to the pool of ideas and information on which we were able to draw. It is now important that the recommendations provided be considered promptly in order to stimulate discussion and guide the development of lifesaving into the next season and beyond.

**Jodi Culbert**  
Convenor

## 1999/2000 BOARD OF COMPETITION REPORT

### OFFICERS 1999-2000

Director of Competition.....	Dick Bignold
Assistant Director.....	Peter Davis
Youth Superintendent.....	Barney Johansen
IRB Supervisor.....	Luke Targett
Female Adviser .....	Leigh Habler
Youth Adviser.....	Ryan Hartup
Gear Steward .....	Bill Singleton

#### Officials Advisers

Water .....	Pam Vallis
Craft.....	John Restuccia
Beach.....	Geoff Martin
Boat.....	Ron Hammond

#### Discipline Advisers

Water .....	Nathan Steiner
Craft .....	Jim Walker
Beach.....	Damien Bulian
Boat.....	Steve Swane

### DIRECTOR OF COMPETITION

#### Overview

Another season has come and gone. This year proved to be extremely long and arduous with the added conduct of the World Championships at Manly.

As expected, our highly experienced officials continue to excel in all manner of competition. We are extremely fortunate to have such a high standard within our Branch.

Competition was strong, although numbers at times were down. No doubt due to many competitors being selected in events such as the Nutri Grain Series.

#### Administration

The success of the Board of Competition continues to grow. In the final year of the trial we have added a youth adviser and female adviser. While the Management Team was unable to meet as frequently as last year, they nevertheless were able to address the needs of officials and competitors in a professional manner. It is my strong belief that the structure and operation of the Board of Competition should now be fully adopted by the Branch.

The management team on reviewing last years new events has recommended they should be trialled for another season as a substantial number of competitors were involved with other commitments, this will also allow for the introduction in the change of age from U18's to U19's.

With regard to block racing of boats, a small group has been empowered to further investigate and recommend the conduct of boat events. The problems encountered in this trial can be attributed to insular people not prepared to consider the welfare of all competitors. Fortunately, the majority of these people were not from our Branch.

#### **Accreditation**

A Level 1 Officials course was scheduled for early in the year, however, lack of numbers resulted in this course being cancelled, but eleven people completed this course at Cronulla and Elouera carnivals.

The full board has decided that Level 1 courses be held during the night time and that a register be introduced for interested persons wishing to obtain accreditation.

#### **Scrutineering**

Bill Singleton ably assisted by Ted Cahill undertook this onerous task at every Carnival. Not content with measuring and weighing craft at Carnivals, Bill also found time to visit many Clubs in the Branch during afternoons and night. We are indeed grateful for Bill and Ted's time spent on scrutineering. Some 553 craft were inspected. Most frustrating was the number of stickers that did not adhere properly to the craft due to a manufacturing fault and the ensuing concern and consternation from parents, competitors and officials.

#### **Competition**

Some fifteen carnivals and special events were held during the season. The success of these events was achieved with the support of our very experienced officials. My sincere thanks are extended to all officials for their efforts during the year, in particular, to our "senior" members who never miss an event. We could not conduct events without your support. Well done!

Also to the members who attended State, National and World Championships, your efforts set the benchmark for other aspiring officials.

Carnivals were generally well attended by competitors, although at times, a number of high profile competitors were "missing" due to other surf commitments. Notwithstanding these "missing" competitors, competition was extremely keen with the Cronulla Club leading the way. Clubs hosting these events are thanked for their ongoing support.

Of some concern is the IRB competition. Declining numbers of teams competing need to be addressed. It is hoped that a committed IRB Supervisor will come onboard to arrest this decline or the "use-it or lose-it" principle will have to be invoked.

A strong Branch Team was selected for the Interbranch Championships at Swansea Belmont. Unfortunately, a number of competitors had to withdraw due to stillwater commitments. Their replacements certainly performed to our expectations. The Team ably led by Richard Garnsey (coach) and Doug Bruce (team manager) came up against a very strong Central Coast Team. Our never say die attitude pushed the Central Coast right down to the wire, only to see us just fall short at the finish. Congratulations are extended to our team on their sterling performance. Central Coast have now built up a formidable base of competitors. We now become the hunter rather than the hunted in the coming season.

#### **Awards**

It is always difficult to select winners for these much sought after awards. This year proved no easier than the past. Congratulations are extended to the recipients on their outstanding performances:-

Official of the Year  
Open Male Competitor  
Open Female Competitor  
Under 18 Male Competitor  
Under 18 Female Competitor  
Under 16 Male Competitor

Phil Veitch, North Cronulla  
Kane Heussner, Maroubra  
Leigh Habler, Coogee  
Ryan Hartup, Cronulla  
Krystal Smith, Cronulla  
Chris Allum, Wanda

Under 16 Female Competitor  
Rookie of the Year

Kate Krywulycz, North Cronulla  
Jessica Hamilton, Cronulla

### **Summary**

This season proved to be no less hectic than those of the past. In fact, as competitors become more professional in their disciplines we are required to become more professional as officials.

To this end, the management team and all members have displayed a willingness to keep pace with an ever-changing environment. Change is not easy and our member's dedication cannot be faulted. Observations in other Branches throughout the State have shown that our people are second to none.

### **Conclusion**

The past four years have been challenging and provided much enjoyment in working with like-minded people. We have set about to improve and raise the profile of competition, tend to the welfare of officials and above all, break down the perceived barriers between competitors and officials. It is therefore pleasing to see us achieving our goals.

Further pleasing is the fact that conducting these many varied events is they are cost neutral, ie entry fees pay for all of the costs and any profit is returned to the Branch. This coupled with our other achievements show that this Board is successful and puts to bed the myth that "everything is for competition".

As I am not seeking re-election for the coming season it would be remiss of me not to thank some special people who made life easier during my tenure.

To two former employees, Liz Grady and Gail Bignold, thank you for your assistance, perseverance, harassment and naturally your sense of humour. The only question you could not answer was "what time do the Boats start?"

To Harry Brown, Bill Singleton and Steve Strange your infinite knowledge, guidance and friendship is genuinely appreciated.

Finally, to whoever takes on this position, I wish you well in your endeavours and I am happy to provide any assistance should it be required.

May all members continue with success and above all enjoy themselves.

**Dick Bignold**

Director of Competition

## SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY BRANCH BOARD OF LIFESAVING MEMBERS

Agnew Peter	Elliott Fern	Lovell Dianne	Scott Matthew
Batty Michael	Falkiner David	Maree Aran	Shales George
Benson Doug	Farrugia Craig	McGroder Don	Sheldon Richard
Bretherton Michael	Ford Graham	McKirdy Sean	Singleton Bill
Briody Kerry	Francis Reg	McLellan Robert	Smart Greg
Bruce Graham	Frawley Stephen	Miles Cameron	Smith Wendy
Burst Peter	Giles Chris	Miller Neil	Stephens Ernie
Cafe Ken	Goldberg Errol	Miller Shane	Taylor Brad
Camilleri Ron	Grima Keith	Moseley John	Troy Ben
Cartner Ursula	Hodsdon Michael	Murphy Peter	Veitch Phil
Causar Greg	Hosking Andrew	O'Neill Patrick	Visch Kerrie
Clancy Michael	Johansen Barney	Osborne Frank	Volkers John
Coffey Tony	Jones Karin	Palmer Darren	Ward Wendy
Cooper Paul	Jones Peter	Park John	White Arthur
Culbert Jodi	Kelly Michael	Purvis Greg	Williams Craig
Daly Gary	Kramel Peter	Quartly Peter	Wilson Paul
Davis Peter	Ledden Michelle	Russell Rob	Wilson Paul
Dawes Andrew	Linke Suzie	Rutherford Yvette	Windsor Greg
Elliott Col	Lovell Craig	Schellhammer Helmut	

## SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY BRANCH BOARD OF COMPETITION MEMBERS

Agnew Peter	Elliott Col	Marshall OAM Bill	Robinson John
Ainsworth Ann	Elliott Fern	Martin Geoffrey	Robinson Raymond
Allan Robyn	English Ken	McGroder Don	Ryan Jack
Allum Greg	Evans Grahame	McGroder Don	Sandstrom Ron
Allum Patricia	Fahey John	McKirdy Gordon	Sargeant Merle
Beecroft Michael	Fleming Mark	Metti Darryn	Sargeant Rex
Berita Neal	Francis Reg	Miller Garry	Sears Margaret
Bignold Kathryn	Garlick Patricia	Miller Neil	Seddon Joe
Bignold Richard	Garlick Peter	Molloy Mark	Shales George
Borich Tom	Giles Cheryl	Molloy Philip	Sims Ray
Brandson Robert	Giles Chris	Moseley OAM Albert	Singleton Bill
Bretherton Michael	Giles Graham	Mountain Merryl	Smith Beverley
Briody Kerry	Goode Ian	Muldowney David	Smith Don
Briscoe Carl	Graham Jenni	Mullinger David	Stenson Peter
Brooker Ted	Gray Marie	Munsami Mangla	Steer Jeff
Brown Grant	Hammond Ron	Oliver Neil	Stephens Ernie
Brown OAM Harry	Harris Brad	Osborne Frank	Stewart Roger
Bruce Graham	Hawkins John	Payne Sharon	Strange Stephen
Bryan Rod	Hedlund Christine	Pears Ron	Swane Carol
Burke Lynne	Hilton Geoffrey	Pearson Michael	Toll Ian
Burst Peter	Hormann Cheryl	Phillips Michelle	Turinui Jennifer
Cahill Edward	Howells Gloria	Piddington Norman	Vallis Pam
Cahill Jeanette	Howells Ron OAM	Piggott Kathie	Vaughan Joan
Cane Robert	Iredale Doug	Piggott David	Vaughan OAM John
Cartner Ursula	Johansen Barney	Powell James	Veitch Phil
Ciganda John	Johnson Bob	Quartly Peter	Watson Gaelyn
Daly Gary	Jones Karin	Rayner Denise	White Arthur
Davis Peter	Kelly Michael	Reilly Mark	Windsor Greg
De Cean John	Koppl John	Rennie Warren	Winters Andrew
Douglas John	Leahy Stephen	Restuccia John	Woodger Bob
Duran Tony	Lippmann Robert	Ridley Frank	Workham Del
Edwards Paul	MacPherson Ian	Ridley Rosemary	Workman Don