



YAMBA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

Founded 1908



Annual Report 2025/26

118th Edition

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YAMBA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

PATROLLING MAIN BEACH SINCE 1908

Our Mission

Yamba Surf Life Saving Club is a not-for-profit charitable organisation, with funds raised directed primarily towards charitable purposes, including lifesaving services, community education, and the intangible social and community benefits derived from Surf Life Saving membership. We strive:

*To provide a safe
aquatic environment
at Main Beach
Yamba.*

*To educate
members in surf
rescue and
resuscitation
techniques.*



*To educate the
community on water
safety.*



*To provide
programs for
members that
encourage
education and
skills
enhancement.*

Acknowledgement of Country

The Board and members of Yamba Surf Life Saving Club acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet, train, patrol and compete. We recognise the Yaegl people as the traditional owners of the land and waters of Yamba, home to some of the most beautiful and dynamic beaches on the Far North Coast.

We are grateful for the care the Yaegl people have shown to this coastline for thousands of years, and for the deep and enduring connection they continue to have with land and sea.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our club and wider community.



NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 118th Annual General Meeting of Yamba Surf Life Saving Club Inc will be held at the Clubhouse, Main Beach Yamba on **Sunday, 16 August, 2026 commencing at 11:00am.**

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chairperson
2. Apologies
3. Adoption of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
4. Presentation of Annual Report
5. Presentation of Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet
6. Notice of Motion
 - (i) That affiliation be sought for the 2026-27 season with Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Branch.
- Further that the Articles, Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations and Resolutions, together with the awards and equipment of Surf Life Saving Australia and affiliated States and Branches, be accepted without reservation.
7. Election of Office Bearers for season 2026-27
8. General Business as may be transacted according to the Rules
9. Close meeting

(Only Active members, Reserve Active, Long Service and Life Members - as well as elected office bearers - are permitted to vote at the AGM. 'Active' members are those who hold a Bronze Medallion, fulfil patrol requirements and are proficient for the current season.)

Leah Essex

Administration Director

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BRANCH PRESIDENT

To Yamba Surf Life Saving Club,

Congratulations to Yamba Surf Club on an outstanding 2025/26 Season, culminating with the Club President (Joe Dougherty) receiving the President's Award at the Branch Awards of Excellence, which really reflects the strong overall performance of the Club.

Competition wise the results were excellent, including winning the F.N.C. Branch Titles, placing 4th at the Country Titles, gaining 8 representatives in the Inter-Branch Team, and claiming 44 Medals at the State and Australian Titles.

But, importantly, in respect of your Lifesaving obligations, again the performance and outcomes both "Between the Flags" and with Support Operations was simply first class. In this respect, the Club was recognized by the Branch with Assessor of the Year (Jill Ennever) and Official of the Year (Rebecca St. John).

Yamba, definitely a Club on the rise.



Wilson Cregan
Far North Coast Branch President.



Images from the Far North Coast Awards of Excellence Dinner held at Brunswick Heads SLSC

(Top row, L-R): 1-Joe Dougherty receiving the FNC Branch President's Award 2-U13 Surf Team receiving FNC Surf Sports Team of the Year Award 3- Bec St John receiving FNC Official of the Year Award

Bottom row (L-R): 1-Jill Ennever receiving Assessor of the Year Award 2- Yamba Members 3- Logan Miltiadou received FNC Junior Lifesaver of the Year Award



YAMBA SURF LIFE SAVING INC.

Affiliated with Far North Coast Branch of Surf Life Saving NSW

Patron:

W.M. (Bill) Dougherty OAM

Vice Patrons:

K. Hogan, R. Williamson, M. Dougherty, D. Lee, A. Schofield, T. Sahlqvist, J. Baird

ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS FOR SEASON 2025-26

Board of Directors

Chairman	Joe Dougherty	Deputy Chairman	Chris Moran
Administration	Leah Essex	Finance	Damian Bennie
Life Saving	Francis Aird	Surf Sports	Jim Dougherty OAM
Education	Kieran Lynch	Clubhouse	Mark Rice
Junior Activities	James Kemp		
Ass. Education Dir.	Jill Ennever	Patrol Gear Steward	Mark Rice
Registrar	Cathy Dougherty	Comp Gear Steward	Jim Dougherty
Club Vice Captain	Ben Plunkett	Radio Officer	Peter Sweetman
u/19 Captain	Jett Nikas	UAV Coordinator	Celeste Neander
Boat Captain	Ray Wiblen	First Aid Officer	Jo King
Boat Vice Captain	N/A	Ass. First Aid Officer	Bill Onslow
IRB Captain	Trent Stainlay	Publicity Officer	Rebecca Walker
IRB Vice Captain	Thore Kemp	WH&S Officer	Mark Williams

House Committee

Mark Rice, Bill Grainger, Brian Badgery

Social Committee

Sally Gilbert, Liz Macrae, John Macrae, Bill Onslow

BOARD APPOINTMENTS 2025-26

Branch Delegates: Joe Dougherty, Jim Dougherty **Public Officer:** Leah Essex

Sponsorship Committee: Damian Bennie, Roley Green, Alan Schofield, Sally Gilbert, James Kemp

Member Protection Officers: Leah Essex, Chris Moran

Conflict Resolution Officer: Andrea Nikas

Child Safe Coordinator: Sean Newton-Thompson

Youth Development Officer: Tash Hancock

UAV Equipment Officer: Mark Neander

Merchandise Officer: Lindsay McLennan

Trauma Officers: Jo King, Bill Onslow

Hon. Solicitor: Joe Fahey **Auditor:** Skybridge Financial

Licensee: Yamba SLSC **Event Manager:** Sally Gilbert (employee)

Administration Officer: Rebecca Walker (employee)

Caretakers: Jason Murray & Deb Fornarini **Kiosk:** Andre Rizk

Clarence Duty Officers: Ray Wiblen, CJ Samuels

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I present to you the Yamba Surf Lifesaving Club Annual Report for season 2025-26. Yet again we can proudly say, another season with no lives lost on patrol. This season will go down as one of the most successful in the 118-year history of the club.



At the AGM in August there were no changes to the Board with all Directors returned unopposed. We welcomed 2 new life members with Leah Essex and myself both being awarded this honor. Also at the AGM, the club christened its new surf boat, generously donated by the Schwinghammer Foundation and its directors, Derek Alden and Mike Dougherty. We are very grateful to receive such significant support.

We continued to see strong growth in our membership this season, led once again by our Nipper group which is at its highest level in more than 15 years. The progression into the senior club and onto patrols has continued with some great work being done by our Youth Development leader Tash Hancock to ensure these kids stay engaged in the club as they move into the senior ranks.

Throughout the season our members performed over 400 preventative actions and 3 rescues. It is pleasing to see our large patrol numbers on the beach actively watching out for swimmers and keeping the number of rescues to a low level by staying so vigilant. Everyone should be very proud of their efforts throughout the season. Special thanks must go to Frankie Aird, and our Patrol Captains for all their hard work.

On the education front it has been another very busy year with over 90 awards completed. We had large Bronze Medallion and Surf Rescue Certificate numbers this season with many of these candidates having come through our nipper ranks and it is great to see them now starting their patrolling journey. Thanks go to Kieran Lynch and Jill Ennever for all their hard work and to the many trainers and assessors who contributed to these impressive numbers.

As I write my report, I am pleased to be able to say that the repair work to Marine Parade is now complete. This has been a recurring problem for the club over many years and hopefully we have now seen the end of any issues with access to the club going forward. On the clubhouse side, we are eyeing off a couple of larger projects addressing maintenance issues around the club. With a building that is so exposed to the elements there are always issues that arise and need to be dealt with. Thanks to Mark Rice and his team for staying on top of this. In the near term, priorities focus on installation of a grease trap that was funded by a Government grant, and remediation works on the retaining wall behind the clubhouse. We are also acutely aware of the lack of space for equipment storage that only gets worse as the club grows and are looking at options to alleviate this.

The club hosted 2 major events during the season. The Far North Coast Branch Titles in December and the Yamba Ocean Swims in January. Thanks must go to all the members who helped out at these events to ensure they were successful. With more than 400 swimmers taking part in the Ocean Swim it continues to be a great source of funds for the club and a fantastic community event.

On the competition front, we had a season for the record books. It started with 8 members selected to represent Far North Coast at the NSW Inter-Branch Titles at Avoca in November.

Then, at the Branch Championships on our home beach, we had a close runner-up finish in the Junior Pointscore followed by a dominant victory in the Senior Pointscore. At the NSW Country Titles the club excelled, finishing 4th overall.

At the NSW State Titles, our nipper team finished 15th in the pointscore with 4 gold medals, 3 silver and 4 bronze. silver and 4 bronze. Highlights included individual gold to Mostyn Brown in the u/14 flags and Zara O'Brien in the u/9 Surf Race and both the u/10 female and u/13 Male Surf Teams being victorious. Our Masters team were not to be outdone with a top 10 finish and 7 gold, 7 silver and 3 bronze medals.

At the Australian Surf Lifesaving Titles the club was outstanding. Gold to Mostyn Brown again in the u/14 flags capped off an undefeated season. Our u/13 Surf Team dominated the field to back up their State title and win the club's first ever surf team medal at Aussies. Leo Dean and Clarry Dougherty also took bronze in the u/13 Board Rescue. There were several other results just out of the medals for our Youth team to cap a brilliant season. The Masters shone with 2 gold, 4 silver and 7 bronze medals seeing them finish 18th overall. We also had a senior, all female, March Past Team compete at Country and Aussie Titles for the first time in many years which was great to see.

After a brilliant year, Mostyn Brown was selected to represent NSW at the Pathways Interstate Championships and remained undefeated, helping NSW to the overall title.

Congratulations to our major award winners, Club Person of the Year Tash Hancock and Lifesaver of the Year Sean Newton-Thompson. Well done also to Abe Patricks who was awarded the Far North Coast Junior Lifesaver of the Year and represented the Branch at the State Junior Life Saver of The Year awards. The club saw success at the Far North Coast Awards of Excellence with the following winners:

- Young Lifesaver of the Year - Logan Miltiadou
- Assessor of the Year - Jill Ennever
- Official of the Year - Bec St John
- Masters Athlete of the Year - Alan Dunne
- Surf Sports Team of the Year - U/13 Male Surf Team (Reed Batinovic, Ziggy O'Brien, Leo Dean, Clarry Dougherty)
- Junior Club of the Year

None of the above success happens without a lot of hard work from a lot of people.

Special thanks also go to Sally Gilbert and her team for doing a great job running functions as well as the regular Friday night bar openings.

Thanks to Bec Walker in the office who has stepped into the role this season and carried on the great work of her predecessor.

The club wishes to acknowledge and thank all of our generous sponsors and supporters. Without this support we would not be able to provide such a great service to the public, or support our members in their competitive endeavors. In particular, we acknowledge the Merchant Foundation and Schwinghammer Foundation, Clarence Valley Council, The Federal Government and the NSW State Government.

Thank you to the Far North Coast Branch Executive for their assistance and support during the season as well as SLSNSW for their support.

Thank you to my fellow Board Members for their hard work, dedication and support.

Finally, and most importantly as always, on behalf of my fellow Board Members a massive thank you to all our volunteers who contribute to the fabric of this club and ensure its ongoing success. Let's hope the 26/27 season can be every bit as good as the one just gone.

Joe Dougherty
Board Chairman



Images from the Annual Awards Night (Top row, L-R): 1- Logan Miltiadou & Kieran Lynch., 2- Jim Saunders, Ziggy O'Brien, Leo Dean, Ella Horton, Mostyn Brown, Reed Batinovic, Clarry Dougherty, 3- Bec St John, Lindsay McLennan, Leah Curtis, Ash Kemp, Mel Brown. 4- Jill Ennever, Libby Thomas, Zahli Plunkett, Clarissa Cannon, Giselle Dean, Josie Chapman, Susan Walker, Tash Hancock & Kayla Hancock.

Second row (L-R): 1-Justin Dean, Dave O'Brien, Dave Fleming, Joe Dougherty, Richie Williamson, Pete Rheinberger, Michael Miller. 2- Tash Hancock. 3- First Aid Awardees. 4- Sean Newton-Thompson Terry Hoppitt, Logan Miltiadou. 5- Alan & Jane Lawrence with Ray Smith.

Bottom row (L-R): 1-Terry Hoppitt & Kim Morgans, 2- Jim Saunders, Pete Rheinberger, Michael Miller, Dave Fleming, Bobbie Winger, Dave O'Brien. 3- Roger Varcoe, Jim Wheeler, Jo King & Pat Ridgway. 4- Richie Williamson with the U13 Surf Team & Mostyn Brown.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

At the 2025 AGM Club President, Joe Dougherty and Club Secretary, Leah Essex were both awarded Life Membership of Yamba SLSC for their distinguished service over a long period of time. They were presented with their Awards by past President Alan Schofield.



LEAH ESSEX

Leah joined Yamba Surf Life Saving Club as a Nipper in 1987. With 26 years of membership now behind her, she has provided exemplary service to Yamba SLSC. Joining as a Nipper from 1987 then attaining her Bronze in 1991, Leah went on to become a patrolling member until 1994 during the end of her school days. After some years away from patrols, she rejoined as an active patrolling member in 2009 and has been a remarkable patrol team member since then. In that time, she has completed over 700 patrol hours, averaging close to 45 hours per season for the last 17 years.

With her father a very keen 'boatie', Leah followed his lead and began competing as a rower for Yamba enjoying many years as part of Yamba's female boat crews, rowing to distinction gaining Bronze medals at the World Masters Titles in Adelaide in 2018 and the Gold Coast in 2024 before recently succumbing to injury. Leah's 2 children also came through Nippers and became patrolling members of Yamba SLSC.

In 2015, whilst still patrolling and competing, Leah took on the role of Club Secretary (Administration) and continues in that role today, coordinating the many and varied tasks that come with this important role. Her 11 consecutive years as club secretary also makes her the 3rd longest serving club secretary behind Fred Hall (21 years) and Reg Morris (14 years).

Well done, Leah, on an outstanding contribution to Yamba SLSC.



JOE DOUGHERTY

Joe has been a member of the club for almost 35 years having joined Yamba SLSC as a 9-year-old nipper in the 1980's. After training and competing as a nipper, he then progressed through the lifesaving ranks at Yamba gaining his Surf Rescue Certificate first, then his Bronze Medallion in 1993 becoming a regular patrol member on Main Beach for many years. He also qualified as a Lifeguard and worked solo during many school holidays on Pippi Beach. During this time his dedication to training saw him achieve medal success in competition at Australian, NSW State, Country and FNC Branch Titles.

Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather who each served many years as club administrators, Joe took on the role of Club Captain (Lifesaving) for 4 years from 2010, before being elected as President of Yamba SLSC in 2015 – a role he still carries out. With 11 consecutive years, he is the 3rd longest serving club president in club history behind the legendary Fred Hall (17 years) and Frank O'Grady (13 Years).

His involvement has covered the whole spectrum from Nippers through to Masters and it continues, as he now also spends time coaching and officiating back with the nippers where his children competes, and where his own involvement began almost 40 years ago.

Congratulations Joe – another outstanding contribution to Yamba SLSC.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

This is my eleventh consecutive Administration Director's Report for Yamba Surf Life Saving Club, and I am pleased to say it has been one of our most successful seasons yet.



Across all areas of the club, our members have continued to excel. Our competitors achieved outstanding results throughout the season, while our fundraising activities once again demonstrated the incredible support we receive from our community. Events such as our Annual Ocean Swim attracted record attendance, while the Trivia Night and Friday Night Bar Sessions continued to be both successful fundraisers and valuable social gatherings for members and supporters alike.

Our Sponsorship Committee has worked tirelessly behind the scenes, securing much-needed funding for lifesaving equipment and club initiatives. To all of our sponsors and donors, we extend our sincere gratitude. Your generosity plays a vital role in ensuring our club can continue to provide lifesaving services, develop our members, and maintain the high standards expected of Yamba SLSC.

We were also fortunate to receive support through several important grant programs, including the Merchant Foundation, Schwinghammer Foundation, Beach Safety Equipment Fund, Clarence Valley Council and Surf Club Facility Grants. These grants have been instrumental in assisting the club to improve facilities, upgrade equipment and strengthen our capacity to serve the community. Thanks to Deputy Chairman Chris Moran for his work in the applications for many of the Grants.

Locally, we continue to benefit from the ongoing support of both the Yamba Bowling Club and Yamba Golf Club. Their contributions directly assist both our Nippers and Senior Club programs in a variety of ways, and we cannot thank them enough for their continued commitment to our club and our members.

This year, Rebecca Walker has been instrumental in redeveloping our website, alongside Matt Jones, whose expertise and support have been invaluable throughout the process. The new website, together with numerous improvements to office systems and administration processes, have significantly enhanced the efficiency of our operations. Bec, thank you for your outstanding effort, dedication and support. On behalf of the Board, I can confidently say that we could not perform our roles without you.

A special thank you also to Cathy Dougherty who continues to work tirelessly behind the scenes as our Registrar. While Cathy continues to suggest she is stepping back, she remains an invaluable source of knowledge, assistance and support whenever needed. Cathy, your contribution to this club over many years is greatly appreciated.

Sally Gilbert continues to do an exceptional job as our Events Coordinator, ensuring that all hirers enjoy a professional and positive experience when booking functions at what is undoubtedly one of the best venues in Yamba. Sally also works tirelessly to coordinate our popular Friday night gatherings, creating opportunities for members and guests to come together and enjoy the unique club atmosphere.

A huge thank you to Elise Hassey, who generously provided the stunning photography featured throughout this new look Annual Report and on our website. We are incredibly fortunate to have someone of Elise's talent within our club. Her images capture the spirit of Yamba SLSC and help showcase our club in a way that truly sets us apart.

It has been both an honour and a privilege to serve as part of Yamba Surf Life Saving Club. Reflecting on the past ten years as a competitor, active patrolling member and administrator, I am immensely proud of what our club has achieved and the people who have contributed to its success.

Thank you to all members, volunteers, staff, sponsors and supporters who make Yamba SLSC such a special club. It has been a privilege to be part of the journey.

Leah Essex
Administration Director

MEETINGS

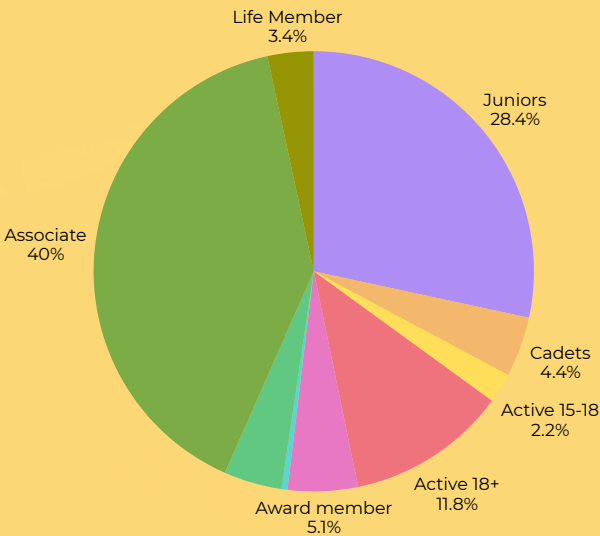
A total of 12 Board meetings have been held throughout the season. Board Member meeting attendance is as follows:

Director	Meetings Attended
Joe Dougherty	12
Jim Dougherty	12
Leah Essex	11
Chris Moran	10
Keiran Lynch	10
James Kemp	9
Mark Rice	9
Damian Bennie	9
Frankie Aird	8



Membership this season has grown by 5% (34 members)

Membership Type	Totals
Junior Activity	193
Cadet 13-15 Years	30
Active 15-18 Years	15
Active Over 18 years	80
Award	35
Reserve Active	3
Long Service	29
Life Member	23
Associate	272
Total Members	680



LIFE SAVING REPORT

Another patrol season has come to a close, and what a magical season it has been. For once, Mother Nature decided to play nicely, sparing us from cyclones, major swell events, and prolonged beach closures. After the challenges of recent seasons, it was a refreshing change and one we were certainly happy to accept!

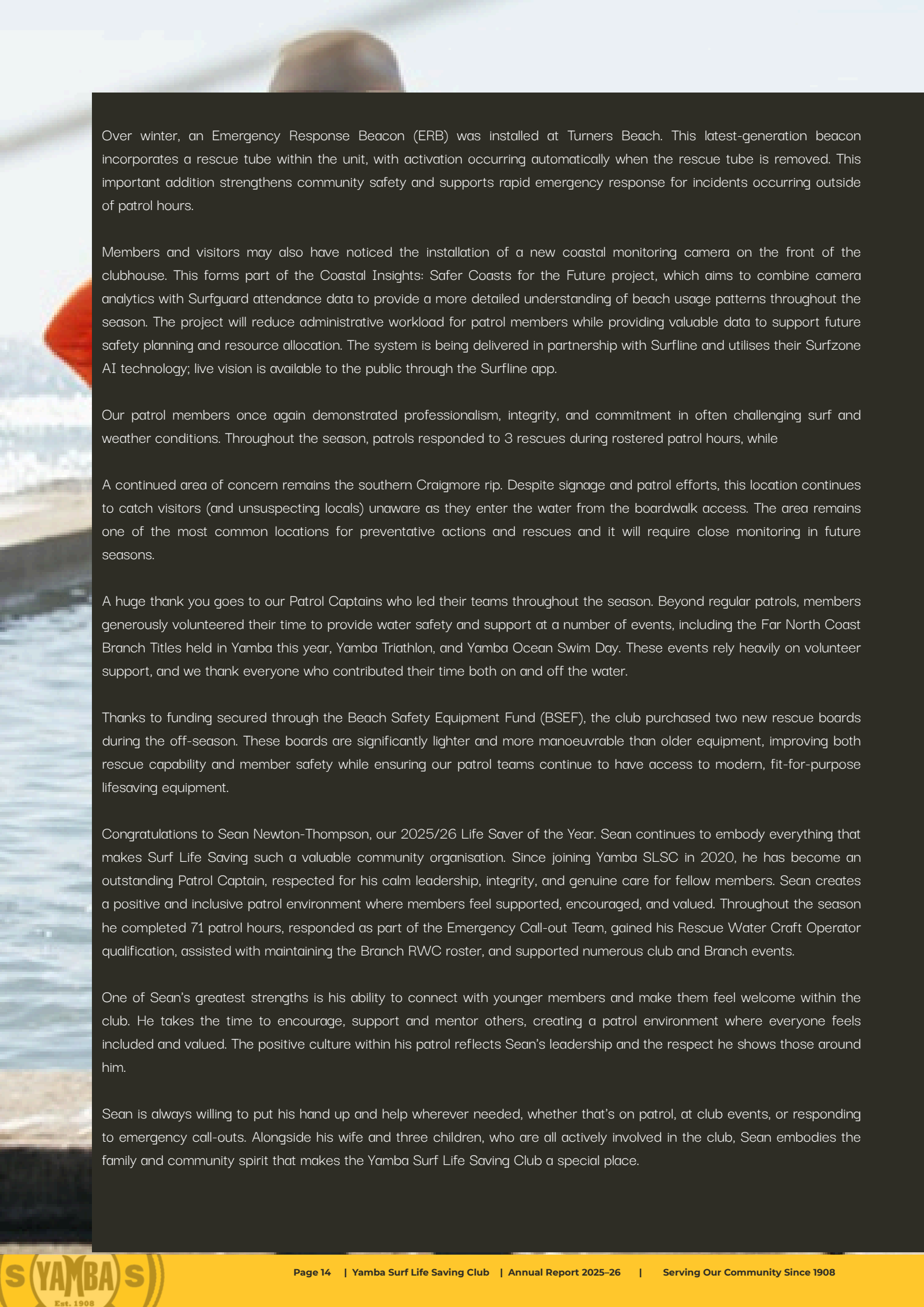


This season marked the second and final year of our current Life Saving Agreement (LSA), which continued with 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. patrols during the shoulder season and half-day patrols throughout the peak summer holiday period. Importantly, we also retained the flexible patrol model first trialled last season, allowing Patrol Captains to reduce patrol strength in response to low beach attendance and conditions. Our members continued to give positive feedback on the flexible LSA. It helped reduce volunteer fatigue, better respect members' time, and create a more sustainable patrol model while maintaining a high standard of public safety.

This season also saw the introduction of Surf Risk Ratings, completed by Patrol Captains at the commencement of each patrol. This process has helped standardise beach risk assessments across patrol teams (and the State) and provided a framework for decisions related to beach operations.

Another successful initiative was completing proficiency assessments during patrol hours when beach attendance and conditions permitted. This approach reduced the time members needed to take from their already busy schedules. It also assisted our amazing Chief Training Officer, Kieran, in ensuring the club completed all proficiencies before the 31st of December deadline. The initiative reduced pressure on dedicated proficiency days and was well received by both members and Patrol Captains.

An unexpected benefit was the opportunity for ongoing skill refreshment throughout the season. As Patrol Captains worked through proficiencies with their teams, members could revisit and practise key lifesaving skills. Personally, I found the repeated exposure to the updated Life Saving CPR format invaluable, allowing me to refine my own knowledge while helping train and assess patrol members throughout the season. Members performed several additional rescues outside patrol time. More than 400 preventative actions were undertaken, highlighting the importance of proactive intervention and public education in keeping beachgoers safe. Patrol teams also provided over 20 First Aid treatments throughout the season.



Over winter, an Emergency Response Beacon (ERB) was installed at Turners Beach. This latest-generation beacon incorporates a rescue tube within the unit, with activation occurring automatically when the rescue tube is removed. This important addition strengthens community safety and supports rapid emergency response for incidents occurring outside of patrol hours.

Members and visitors may also have noticed the installation of a new coastal monitoring camera on the front of the clubhouse. This forms part of the Coastal Insights: Safer Coasts for the Future project, which aims to combine camera analytics with Surfguard attendance data to provide a more detailed understanding of beach usage patterns throughout the season. The project will reduce administrative workload for patrol members while providing valuable data to support future safety planning and resource allocation. The system is being delivered in partnership with Surfline and utilises their Surfzone AI technology; live vision is available to the public through the Surfline app.

Our patrol members once again demonstrated professionalism, integrity, and commitment in often challenging surf and weather conditions. Throughout the season, patrols responded to 3 rescues during rostered patrol hours, while

A continued area of concern remains the southern Craigmores rip. Despite signage and patrol efforts, this location continues to catch visitors (and unsuspecting locals) unaware as they enter the water from the boardwalk access. The area remains one of the most common locations for preventative actions and rescues and it will require close monitoring in future seasons.

A huge thank you goes to our Patrol Captains who led their teams throughout the season. Beyond regular patrols, members generously volunteered their time to provide water safety and support at a number of events, including the Far North Coast Branch Titles held in Yamba this year, Yamba Triathlon, and Yamba Ocean Swim Day. These events rely heavily on volunteer support, and we thank everyone who contributed their time both on and off the water.

Thanks to funding secured through the Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF), the club purchased two new rescue boards during the off-season. These boards are significantly lighter and more manoeuvrable than older equipment, improving both rescue capability and member safety while ensuring our patrol teams continue to have access to modern, fit-for-purpose lifesaving equipment.

Congratulations to Sean Newton-Thompson, our 2025/26 Life Saver of the Year. Sean continues to embody everything that makes Surf Life Saving such a valuable community organisation. Since joining Yamba SLSC in 2020, he has become an outstanding Patrol Captain, respected for his calm leadership, integrity, and genuine care for fellow members. Sean creates a positive and inclusive patrol environment where members feel supported, encouraged, and valued. Throughout the season he completed 71 patrol hours, responded as part of the Emergency Call-out Team, gained his Rescue Water Craft Operator qualification, assisted with maintaining the Branch RWC roster, and supported numerous club and Branch events.

One of Sean's greatest strengths is his ability to connect with younger members and make them feel welcome within the club. He takes the time to encourage, support and mentor others, creating a patrol environment where everyone feels included and valued. The positive culture within his patrol reflects Sean's leadership and the respect he shows those around him.

Sean is always willing to put his hand up and help wherever needed, whether that's on patrol, at club events, or responding to emergency call-outs. Alongside his wife and three children, who are all actively involved in the club, Sean embodies the family and community spirit that makes the Yamba Surf Life Saving Club a special place.

Congratulations to Logan Miltiadou who was named Far North Coast Branch Junior Lifesaver of the Year and will represent the Branch at the State Awards presentation.

Logan has continued to set an exceptional example for young members through his dedication, maturity, and willingness to contribute wherever needed. This season he gained both his Silver Medallion Patrol Captain qualification and Rescue Water Craft Operator Certificate while completing over 61 patrol hours and more than 54 additional hours on the RWC before commencing university studies in Sydney. Logan has played a significant role in patrol operations, emergency call-outs, water safety activities, and member training, while also mentoring newer IRB members and working towards his Training Officer qualification.

Despite his young age, Logan has earned the respect of members throughout the club through his calm nature, reliability, and selfless attitude. His commitment to supporting patrols, emergency response, training, and club events demonstrates the values of surf lifesaving and provides great confidence that the future of our club is in very capable hands. A huge thank you to Andre and the Kiosk team for once again looking after our patrol members throughout the season. The breakfasts and lunches provided by the kiosk in conjunction with the club during patrols are a very generous gesture and one that is genuinely appreciated by each and every member. Your ongoing support of our lifesavers does not go unnoticed, and we are incredibly grateful for everything you do for the club.

As we close out another successful season, a massive thank you goes to each and every patrol member who volunteered their time, skills, enthusiasm, and commitment to keep our beloved Main Beach safe throughout the season. From the first patrol in September to the final flags down in April, our members continued to show up with professionalism, a sense of humour, and a genuine desire to serve the community. Yamba SLSC is only as strong as its volunteers, and this season once again proved just how fortunate we are to have such an incredible group donning the red and yellow.

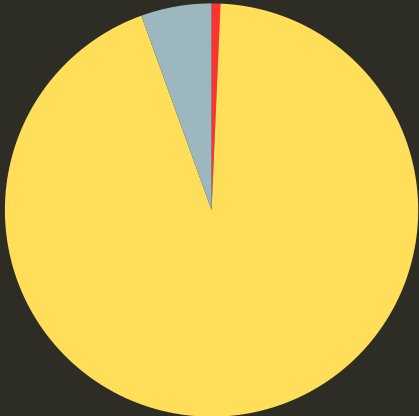
Frankie Aird
Life Saving Director



Patrol Team 6: (L-R) Terry Hoppitt, Lynette Fabian, Jane Lawrence, Paddy Hintz, Roger Varcoe & Rory Gibson



- Rescues 3
- Preventative Actions 408
- First Aid 24



PATROL CAPTAINS

- Patrol Team 1** – Kieran Lynch
- Patrol Team 2** – Pat Ridgway
- Patrol Team 3** – Trent Stainlay
- Patrol Team 4** – Rhys Comerford
- Patrol Team 5** – James Forbes
- Patrol Team 6** – Roger Varcoe
- Patrol Team 7** – Pierre DeBillot
- Patrol Team 8** – Frankie Aird
- Patrol Team 9** – Sean Newton-Thompson

Individual Patrol Hours (includes logged Water Safety Hours)

Patrol Attendance Awards

Adams	Ceri	4.00	Horton	Ella	25.00	Seivers	Willow	19.50	Frances Aird
Aird	Frances	47.50	Hyne	David	64.50	Smith	Brittany	19.00	Lorraine Allen
Allen	Lorraine	45.00	Hyne	Sue-Ellen	46.50	Smith	Georgie	30.00	Sarah Appleford
Appleford	Sarah	36.50	Johnson	Candice	46.50	Sowell	Alex	11.00	Scott Butler
Batinovic	Hudson	0.00	Kemp	Ashlee	50.50	Sowell	Tim	35.00	Steve Butler
Becker	Joe	35.00	Kemp	Isabella	18.00	Stainlay	Ben	3.00	Josie Chapman
Becker	Katie	35.50	Kemp	James	51.00	Stainlay	George	108.0	Dayla Chapman
Becker	Lucas	22.50	Kemp	Poppy	53.50	Stainlay	Jessica	31.00	Braiden Crook
Becker	Robert	37.50	Kemp	Thore	51.50	Steele	Nathan	51.50	Rachelle Dean
Becker	Tennyson	41.00	King	Jo	60.00	Sweetman	Peter	21.50	Arnold Ehlers
Bennetts	Sasha	43.50	Klein	Helmut	31.00	Thomas	Libby	32.00	Matthew Eke
Bourke	Katie	6.00	Kratzmann	Ky	6.00	Thompson	Ellis	51.00	Jill Ennever
Brown	Mahlia	21.00	Kratzmann	Richard	7.50	Thompson	Kyan	48.50	David Erbacher
Brown	Melinda	3.00	Lawrence	Alan	77.50	Thompson	Lani	56.50	Leah Essex
Brown	Mostyn	25.00	Lawrence	Jane	64.50	Thorburn	Michelle	45.00	David Fleming
Burgess	Ben	34.00	Lehman	Rebecca	20.50	Thorburn	Milla	31.00	James Forbes
Burgess	Ian	19.00	Low	Harry	33.50	Todhunter	Zac	50.50	Sally Gilbert
Burgess	Stewart	41.00	Lynch	Kieran	62.00	Tucker	Warren	54.50	Kevin Gillard
Burke	Mathew	26.50	Macrae	Elizabeth	49.50	Varcoe	Roger	50.50	Bligh Grant
Butler	Scott	56.00	McLennan	Anderson	27.00	Walker	Rebecca	41.00	Eliot Groom
Butler	Steve	49.00	McLennan	Lindsay	44.00	Walker	Susan	12.50	Natasha Hancock
Callanan	Owen	38.00	McLennan	Vanette	62.50	Wall	Brendan	10.50	Terrence Hoppitt
Cannon	Clarissa	16.00	McMahon/Willott	Matilda	4.00	Walmsley	Aaron	3.00	David Hyne
Chapman	Belinda	25.50	Meldrum	Jeunesse	16.00	Walmsley	Bridie	3.00	Sue-Ellen Hyne
Chapman	Dayla	47.00	Miller	Michael	54.50	Wheeler	James	62.50	Candice Johnson
Chapman	Josie	56.50	Miltiadou	Andrea	63.50	Wiblen	Raymond	23.00	Poppy Kemp
Churton	Sonny	39.50	Miltiadou	Carissa	13.50	Wiblen	Theodore	51.00	Thore Kemp
Comerford	Rhys	24.50	Miltiadou	Logan	61.50	Wicks	Chelsea	31.00	James Kemp
Commings	Alex	35.00	Moon	Bonne	15.50	Winger	Bobbie	49.00	Ashlee Kemp
Cook	Sahara	8.00	Moon	David	13.00	Womersley	Dean	47.00	Jo King
Crook	Braiden	59.50	Moran	Chris	57.00	Worboys	Joanne	19.00	Alan Lawrence
Curtis	Leah	19.50	Morgans	Kim	14.00	Worboys	Sasha	16.00	Jane Lawrence
Davey	Tessa	41.00	Morris	Jake	6.00	Worboys	Simon	26.00	Kieran Lynch
de Billot	Pierre	30.00	Mortimer	Trent	56.00	Young	Harry	25.50	Vanette McLennan
Deakin	Amber	31.50	Motio Robson	Jessamine	4.00	Young	Zavier	37.00	Lindsay McLennan
Dean	Giselle	28.00	Myers	Imogen	21.00	Zimmerman	James	6.00	Michael Michael
Dean	Justin	9.00	Neander	Celeste	109.0	Zvatora	Marlie	12.00	Andrea Miltiadou
Dean	Rachelle	47.50	Neander	Mark	109.0				Logan Miltiadou
Don	Jacob	10.00	Newman	Emily	21.50				Chris Moran
Dougherty	Joseph	8.00	Newton-Thompson	Sean	71.50				Trent Mortimer
Dougherty	Martin	14.00	Nikas	Andrea	45.00				Mark Neander
Douglas	Adele	4.00	Nikas	Jett	44.00				Celeste Neander
Douglas	Luke	15.50	O'Brien	David	28.00				Sean Newton-
Dunne	Alan	12.00	O'Brien	Kendall	7.00				Thompson
Ehlers	Arnold	55.50	Onslow	William	53.00				Andrea Nikas
Eke	Matthew	57.00	Palmer	Kirk	47.50				Kirk Palmer
Ennever	Jill	61.50	Patrick	Abe	35.00				Clinton Patrick
Erbacher	David	62.00	Patrick	Clinton	45.50				Judith Perks
Essex	Leah	54.50	Perks	Judith	47.00				Mark Purcell
Fabian	Lynette	35.00	Philip	Dale	17.50				Mark Rice
Fahey	Joseph	3.50	Pilkie	Emma Iani	10.50				Patrick Ridgway
Fahey	Noah	20.00	Pim	Shirley	4.00				Banjo Ridgway
Fleming	David	61.00	Plunkett	Benjamin	28.50				Fraser Robinson
Forbes	Felix	21.50	Plunkett	Zahli	44.50				Jolanda Scott
Forbes	James	56.50	Purcell	Chloe	37.50				George Stainlay
Forbes	Kate	16.00	Purcell	Mark	49.00				Nathan Steele
Gibson	Rory	16.50	Rennex	Eric	38.50				Lani Thompson
Gillard	Isabella	5.50	Rheinberger	Mick	20.00				Ellis Thompson
Gilbert	Sally	45.50	Rheinberger	Peter	23.50				Kyan Thompson
Gillard	Kevin	77.50	Rice	Mark	54.50				Michelle Thorburn
Grant	Bligh	52.00	Ridgway	Banjo	47.00				Zac Todhunter
Groom	Eliot	41.00	Ridgway	Patrick	56.00				Warren Tucker
Gunn	Colin	35.00	Robinson	Fraser	65.00				Roger Varcoe
Hancock	Kayla	35.00	Rowney	Willow	10.00				James Wheeler
Hancock	Natasha	48.00	Ryan	Danielle	7.00				Dean Womersley
Hardacre	Thomas	27.00	Ryan	James	7.00				
Hintz	Paddy	35.00	Samuels	Christopher	0.00				
Hoppitt	Terrence	56.50	Scott	Jolanda	47.50				



Images (Top row, L-R): 1-Patrol 6, 2-Water Safety at the Yamba Triathlon
 Second row (L-R): 1- Eric Rennex and Jolanda Scott 2- Patrol 7: Rhys Comerford & Logan Miltiadou
 Third row (L-R): 1-Mark Neander on UAV Patrol 2-Patrol 4 3- Australia Day Patrol
 Fourth Row (L-R): 1-Patrol 1, 2- Rainbow Beaches Day 3- Andrea Nikas & Leah Essex on patrol.
 Bottom row (L-R): 1-Patrol 4, 2-Christmas Morning Patrol, 3- Patrol 9



AWARD TRAINING & SKILLS MAINTENANCE



Images (Top row, L-R): 1-Jill Ennever (Assessor) 2- October Bronze Medallion group with trainers Tash Hancock & James Forbes 3-New patrol members Ella Horton, Amber Deakin & Lani Thompson.
Second row (L-R):1- Kyan & Ellis Thompson completing skills maintenance 2-Helmut Klein completing proficiency
Third row (L-R):1-Kieran Lynch, Ray Smith (Mayor) & Jim Dougherty at Red & Yellow Day event 2-Lindsay & Andy McLennan completing proficiency 3-April SRC candidates training.
Bottom row (L-R): 1-Terry Hoppitt, Keiran Lynch, Chris Moran & Arnie Elhers at Red & Yellow Day event 2-October SRC Awardees 3-Sean & Ellis Thompson 4-April SRC Awardees.

EDUCATION REPORT

**Building capability today.
Ready for tomorrow.
Here for our community.**



This season has been one of consolidation, innovation and continued growth for education at the Club. Three seasons ago we set out to build a deeper bench of trainers, assessors and facilitators, increase participation across all training pathways, and make our courses fit the lives of our members rather than expecting members to fit our courses.

The year-on-year results are reflected in the table above. While growth has occurred across all major award categories, the standout result has been First Aid. The significant increase in First Aid awards reflects the successful integration of First Aid into our Bronze Medallion pathway, being able to ensure every new lifesaver leaves the course not only patrol-ready, but equipped with the emergency care skills increasingly required in today's patrol environment and in the broader Yamba community.

Importantly, this integrated approach aligns closely with the direction of the current Surf Life Saving Australia Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue review (PSAR36). While many of the proposed changes are not expected to be formally implemented until 2027/28 season, Yamba is already delivering many of the intended outcomes. We will continue to adapt our delivery models and make the existing framework work effective for our members while national systems and resources continue to evolve.

This Season's Outcomes

Beyond award numbers, the scale of delivery continues to grow. During the season, Yamba completed almost 500 proficiency and skills maintenance sign-offs and over 100 assessments across awards and operational qualifications. Delivering this volume within a volunteer environment reflects both the commitment of our training team and the increasing operational complexity of the club.

None of this happens without people. Thanks go to our trainers, assessors and facilitators, who again carried the bulk of the delivery workload. Particular thanks also goes to our Patrol Captains who stepped up to support assessors throughout the season, improving flexibility and helping ensure candidates progressed through awards without unnecessary delay.

Building on Last Season's Priorities

Two priorities identified last season translated directly into outcomes this year.

The first was strengthening the Trainer, Assessor and Facilitator workforce. Continued investment in developing new education personnel has reduced reliance on a small number of key individuals and strengthened succession planning for future seasons.

The second was improving accessibility and flexibility of training delivery. Alongside our traditional Bronze Medallion programs, Yamba continued to expand intensive delivery models, school holiday programs and SRC-to-Bronze transition pathways. These approaches recognise the realities of modern volunteering, school commitments, employment pressures and the increasingly narrow training window created by patrol obligations, weather events and tidal conditions.

Throughout the season, education remained closely aligned to operational readiness. Training priorities increasingly focused on ensuring members could transition quickly and confidently into active patrol roles, strengthening the link between education outcomes and frontline lifesaving capability.

Expanding Operational Capability

While Bronze Medallion, SRC and First Aid remain the foundation of our education program, the season also saw continued growth in specialist operational qualifications.

Additional members progressed through IRB Crew and IRB Driver pathways, strengthening our emergency response capability and increasing operational resilience across the patrol season.

The club also continued to support emerging capabilities through UAV training and development and Rescue Water Craft (RWC) capability and integration into Surf Life Saving operations.

Collectively, these initiatives ensure Yamba continues to build capability.

In the Community

Education at Yamba extends well beyond our membership.

Throughout the season our members delivered community education initiatives, particular focus continued through the CP-HER initiative, which seeks to address gender disparities in bystander CPR and AED use. What began as a local initiative has generated interest well beyond the club and contributed to broader discussions regarding CPR confidence, consent, anatomical considerations and emergency care outcomes for women. A full report on CP-HER campaign is provided separately.

Education engagement also extended through local schools, community organisations and youth development programs, including activities supporting Indigenous young people and broader community outreach. The significant contribution of our Nipper education and development programs is reported separately within the Nippers section of this Annual Report.

Beyond the club, members of Yamba's education team continued contributing at Branch, State and National level through training, facilitation, assessor development and broader education initiatives. These opportunities not only support Surf Life Saving more broadly but also ensure contemporary ideas and practices continue to flow back into our club.

Looking Ahead: 2026/27

Four priorities will shape the year ahead.

The first is the continued development of officials. Officials are critical to every competition pathway, from surf sports and IRB competition through to Branch, State and Australian Championships. Without qualified officials, participation at these levels simply cannot occur.

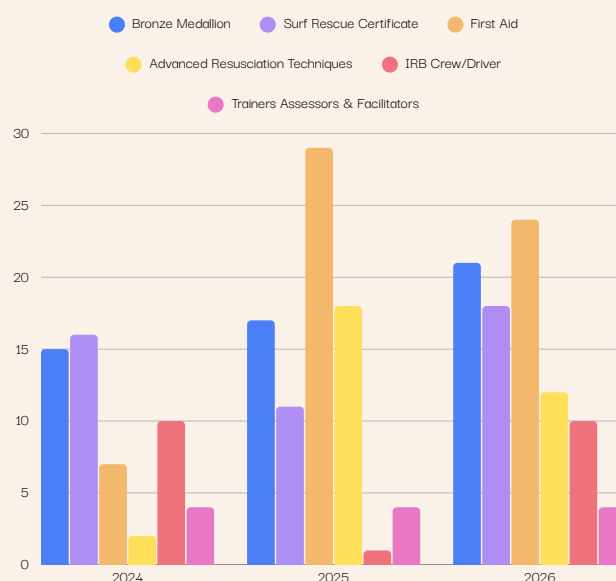
The second is strengthening document control, course administration and digital integration. As our delivery models become increasingly flexible, our systems must keep pace. Simplifying processes, retaining SLSNSW RTA accreditation and improving visibility of candidate progress will remain a key focus.

The third is continuing to develop our Trainer, Assessor and Facilitator workforce. Sustained growth in participation cannot rely on a small number of volunteers and developing future education leaders remains essential and supported by the club.

The fourth is expanding leadership development opportunities for Patrol Captains and Vice Captains. Building greater depth in patrol leadership will provide increased operational flexibility, strengthen succession planning and ensure our patrol teams remain well supported into the future.

Three years ago the challenge was building capability. Today the challenge is sustaining momentum.

We enter the 2026/27 season from a position of strength: growing participation, increasing operational capability, a deeper education workforce and a community that trusts us to help keep them safe. The focus now is ensuring that strength continues to translate into patrol readiness, community impact and sustainable growth for years to come.



Key trends over a 3-year period include: growth in Bronze Medallion awards, an increase in First Aid and ART, recovery in SRC numbers, the re-establishment of IRB pathways and a stable Trainer, Assessor and Facilitator workforce supporting continued program delivery.

Keiran Lynch
Education Director & Chief Training Officer

EDUCATION AWARDS 2025-26

Surf Rescue Certificate (17)

Reed Batinovic
Mostyn Brown
Sahara Cook
Amber Deakin
Leo Dean
Clarence Dougherty
Lola Dougherty
Poppy Erbacher
Ella Horton
Jude Kemp
Gracie McLennan
Ziggy O'Brien
Abe Patricks
Harry Young
Zavier Young
Lani Thompson
Lottie Wiseman

Silver Medallion IRB (1)

Joe Becker

Silver Medallion Patrol Captain (2)

Jett Nikas
Logan Miltiadou

Bronze Medallion (22)

Tennyson Becker
Mahlia Brown
Clarissa Cannon
Josie Chapman
Daniel Clark
Giselle Dean
Tom Doyle
Felix Forbes
Kayla Hancock
Thomas Hardacre
Harry Low
Bonnie Moon
David Moon
Jake Morris
Jessamine Motio Robson
Emma Liani Pilkie
Zahli Plunkett
Willow Rowney
Libby Thomas
Zac Todhunter
Rebecca Walker
Susan Walker

Rescue Water Craft (3)

Terry Hoppitt
Logan Miltiadou
Sean Newton Thompson

First Aid (23)

Christina Avallone
Tennyson Becker
Sasha Bennetts
Mahlia Brown
Ben Burgess
Ian Burgess
Josie Chapman
Giselle Dean
Felix Forbes
Kayla Hancock
David Hyne
David Moon
Jake Morris
Jessamine Motio Robson
Sean Newton Thompson
Willow Rowney
Ellis Thompson
Kyan Thompson
Zac Todhunter
Rebecca Walker
Susan Walker
James Wheeler
Harry Young

UAV PILOTS- (3)

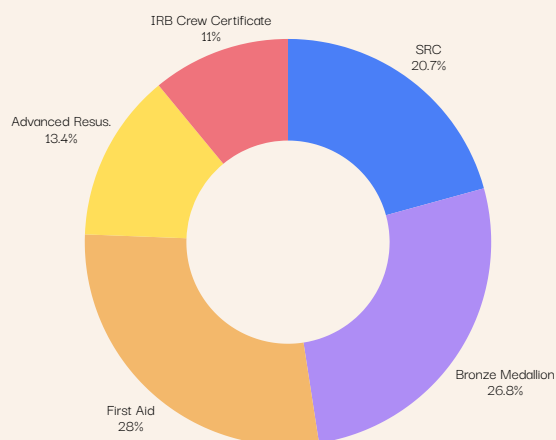
Steward Burgess
Keiran Lynch
Ray Wiblen

Advanced Resuscitation Techniques (11)

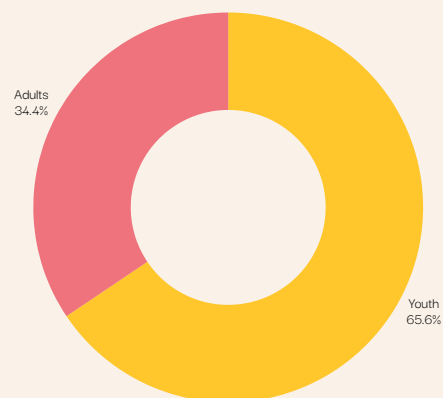
Ian Burgess
Tessa Davey
Noah Fahey
David Moon
Jake Morris
Sean Newton Thompson
Willow Rowney
Ellis Thompson
Kyan Thompson
Rebecca Walker
Susan Walker

IRB Crew Certificate (9)

Ian Burgess
Sonny Churton
Braiden Crook
Tessa Davey
Matilda McMahon Willott
Chloe Purcell
Ellis Thompson
Kyan Thompson
Theo Wiblen



a. Lifesaving Award Count



b. Adult vs Youth Member Participation

SURF SPORTS REPORT

What an incredible season it has been for Yamba SLSC Surf Sports competitors! Not only have we seen fantastic participation numbers, but our results at major carnivals have been nothing short of outstanding.



Beginning with the Far North Coast (FNC) Branch Titles, held on our home beach in December, Yamba scored a runaway victory in the combined pointscore across Juniors, Seniors and Masters. During the two-day carnival, Yamba competitors won an impressive 85 events, setting the tone for a remarkable season ahead.

At the NSW Country Titles at South West Rocks in January, Yamba fielded a large team of 84 competitors. The team won 42 gold medals, predominantly in Nipper and Masters events, and finished second to Cudgen in the gold medal tally. Yamba placed fourth overall in the pointscore with 605 points, behind Cudgen 1,209 points, Warilla 930 and Port Macquarie 671.

The momentum continued at the NSW State Titles, where Yamba achieved its best-ever results at this level. Club members won: 11 medals in the Age Championships (U9-U14); 17 medals in the Masters Championships; 5 medals in the Adaptive Championships

This success carried through to the Australian Championships, where Yamba competitors secured: 3 medals in the Youth Championships (U13-U15); 12 medals in the Masters Championships.

There were many outstanding individual and team performances at State and Aussies, evidenced by the large number of medals won but the two standout performances were:

- **Mostyn Brown** – who had a remarkable individual season. He won both the NSW State and Australian U14 Beach Flags titles, becoming the first Yamba member to win an Australian Beach Flags Championship since the legendary Ron “Ginger” Moloney claimed the second of his two Australian Open Beach Flags titles at Coolangatta 60 years ago! Mostyn was subsequently selected in the NSW Youth State Team for the Interstate Youth Pathways Series, where he again won the Beach Flags event and helped NSW defeat arch-rivals Queensland. His undefeated season included victories at FNC Branch Titles, NSW Country Titles, NSW Interbranch Titles, NSW State Titles, Australian Championships, Interstate Youth Pathways Series.

- **Yamba U13 Boys Surf Team** – this team of Reed Batinovic, Ziggy O'Brien, Leo Dean and Clarry Dougherty also etched their names into club history. The team remained undefeated throughout the season and won both the NSW State and Australian Surf Teams Championships—the first Australian Surf Teams title ever won by Yamba SLSC. In the Australian final, the boys dominated a field of ten teams, finishing individually in 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 14th places. Their combined score of just 25 points easily defeated Swansea Belmont (48 points) and Burleigh Heads (62 points). Their performance earned widespread admiration from larger metropolitan clubs and showcased the strength, talent and depth of our small country club. The team was deservedly recognised with the FNC Branch Surf Sports Team of the Year Award at the Branch Awards of Excellence held at Brunswick Heads.

The club's depth in swimming was highlighted through outstanding performances in Surf Teams events across all major carnivals:

- Country Titles - Gold Medals in Under 10 Surf Team, Under 13 Surf Team, Over 150 Years Surf Team
- State Titles - Gold Medals: U10 Girls Surf Team, U13 Boys Surf Team, Over 170 Years Men's Surf Team, Over 190 Yrs Men's Surf Team
- Aussie Titles - Gold – U13 Boys Surf Team; Silver – Over 110 Years Men's Surf Team; Bronze – Over 170 Years and Over 190 Years Men's Surf Teams

Notably, at the Australian Masters Championships, Yamba was the only club to medal in three of the five men's Masters Surf Teams events—a remarkable achievement for a country club.

The results achieved at the State and Australian Championships have set a new benchmark for Yamba SLSC and undoubtedly represent the most successful Surf Sports season in the club's 118-year history.

One of my personal highlights of the season was the formation of our Female March Past Team. I was 'co-opted' into coaching a team made up largely of Nipper mums and Cadets, including three mother-and-daughter combinations. Following an impressive victory at the Branch Titles, the team then set its sights on the Country and Australian Championships, where they marched with distinction but came up against some highly experienced and exceptionally well-drilled opposition. This marked Yamba's first appearance in the March Past event at the Australian Championships since 1983.

Congratulations to all competitors (participants and medallists), as well as to coaches, officials, families and supporters who made this successful season possible. It is an achievement of which the entire club can be extremely proud.

While the results are outstanding, they are only part of the story. I congratulate and thank our exceptional volunteers who assist in ways too numerous to mention. At Yamba SLSC we have developed an exceptional club workforce both in the water, on the beach and behind the scenes. It has been encouraging to see our club spirit and pride developing alongside our competitive success. I must make mention of Trent Stainlay for his leadership of the IRB crews at our major club events, and of James Kemp who led an outstanding work party over the two days of the FNC Branch Titles on our home beach in December.

FNC Branch Team Representation

Eight Yamba members earned selection in the Far North Coast Branch Team for the NSW Interbranch Championships at Avoca Beach in November. The FNC team again performed strongly finishing 5th overall and first of the Country Branches.

Under 12 – Leo South, Nate Myers, Lulu Kemp

Under 13 – Clarry Dougherty, Leo Dean

Under 14 – Ella Horton, Mostyn Brown

Under 15 – Kayla Hancock (withdrew due to injury)

Under 17 – Mahlia Brown

Assistant Coach – Joe Dougherty

Carl Schaeffer Handicap Surf Race

The Sunday morning Carl Schaeffer Handicap Surf Race continued to attract strong support throughout the first half of the season, particularly from our junior members. Unfortunately, large surf conditions during February, March and April restricted the number of races conducted. Nevertheless, participation played an important role in building confidence and surf skills among our younger competitors.

The benefits were reflected in championship results, particularly for athletes such as Alice Patricks and Zara O'Brien, who both went on to win gold medals at the NSW State Titles. Thank you to Belinda and Joe for coordinating the event each week.

Season Pointscore

Toby Patricks 76, 2. Lulu Kemp 63, 3. Abe Patricks 55, 4. Alice Patricks 54, 5. Clarry Dougherty 50

Monthly Winners

- September/October – Alice Patricks
- November – Dayla Chapman
- December – Alice Patricks
- January/February – Zara O'Brien and Toby Patricks (tie)
- March/April – Clarry Dougherty

Finally, to everyone who contributes to Surf Sports at Yamba SLSC, I extend my heartfelt thanks. I firmly believe a strong and successful group of competitors fosters club spirit, and more importantly, helps develop surf skills and fitness which strengthen the capability of our patrolling membership.

This season has demonstrated what can be achieved when athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, families and supporters work together. It has been a season to remember, and one that all members of Yamba SLSC can be immensely proud of.

Jim Dougherty
Surf Sports Director



Mostyn Brown Winning GOLD in the U14 Beach Flags at the Australian Titles with Yamba Members elated with his achievement. Photo by Dannon Hards.

SURF CARNIVAL RESULTS – COUNTRY

NSW COUNTRY TITLES - South West Rocks - January 23-25

Pointscore: 1. Cudgen, 2. Warilla Barrack Point, 3. Port Macquarie, 4. Yamba, 5. Broulee, 6. Byron Bay

Yamba – 42 Gold Medals, 26 Silver, 30 Bronze.

Gold Medallists:

Under 9 Male Surf Race – Austin Dunne

Under 9 Female Surf Race – Zara O'Brien

Under 9 Mixed Surf Teams – Austin Dunne, Barry Clark, Zara O'Brien, Harvey Kemp

Under 10 Female Surf Race – Alice Patricks

Under 10 Female Board Race – Alice Patricks

Under 10 Mixed Surf Teams – Alice Patricks, Delilah Doyle, Archibald Douglas, Lennox Dougherty

Under 10 Mixed Board Relay – Alice Patricks, Archibald Douglas, Lennox Dougherty

Under 11 Iron Man – Cody Kratzmann

Under 11 Male Beach Sprint – Taio Stanley

Under 12 Male 1km Beach Run – Byron Richards

Under 13 Iron Man – Leo Dean

Under 13 Male Surf Race – Ziggy O'Brien

Under 13 Mixed Surf Teams – Ziggy O'Brien, Reed Batinovic, Leo Dean, Lottie Wiseman

Under 13 Mixed Board Relay – Clarence Dougherty, Leo Dean, Gracie McLennan

Under 14 Female Board Race – Ella Horton

Under 14 Male Beach Sprint – Mostyn Brown

Under 14 Male Beach Flags – Mostyn Brown

40-49 Yrs Male Surf Race – Alan Dunne

50-59 Yrs Male Surf Race – Paul Davis

60 + Yrs Male Surf Race – Michael Stubbs

60 + Yrs Female Surf Race – Paddy Hintz

Over 150 Yrs Mixed Surf Teams – David O'Brien, Paul Davis, Rachelle Dean

40-49 Yrs Male Rescue Tube Race – Alan Dunne

50-59 Yrs Male Rescue Tube Race – Paul Davis

60 + Yrs Male Rescue Tube – Michael Stubbs

60 + Yrs Female Rescue Tube Race – Paddy Hintz

60 + Yrs Male Single Ski Race – Greg Goodwin

40-49 Yrs Male Board Race – Alan Dunne

60 + Yrs Male Board Race – Peter Rheinberger

Over 110 Yrs Mixed Board Relay – Joe Dougherty, Alan Dunne, Rachelle Dean

Over 150 Yrs Mixed Board Relay – Paul Davis, Peter Rheinberger, Leah Curtis

30-39 Yrs Female Board Rescue – Leah Curtis & Rachelle Dean

40-49 Yrs Male Board Rescue – Joe Dougherty & Alan Dunne

50-59 Yrs Male Board Rescue – Paul Davis & Peter Rheinberger

60 + Yrs Male Board Rescue – David O'Brien & Michael Stubbs

40-49 Yrs Iron Man – Alan Dunne

60 + Yrs Iron Man – Michael Stubbs

30-39 Yrs Female Beach Sprint – Adele Douglas

40-49 Yrs Male Beach Sprint – Anderson McLennan

30-39 Yrs Male Beach Flags – Fraser Robinson

50-59 Yrs 2km Beach Run – James Forbes

Over 140 Yrs Mixed Beach Relay – Fraser Robinson, Anderson McLennan, Lindsay McLennan, Adele Douglas

SURF CARNIVAL RESULTS – STATE

NSW STATE TITLES

The NSW State Titles were held at Swansea Belmont from Feb 19 to March 1 with club members winning a record 33 medals.

State Age Titles – 4 gold medals, 3 silver medals, 4 bronze medals. 15th in carnival pointscore

Gold Medals:

Under 14 Male Beach Flags – Mostyn Brown

Under 13 Male Surf Teams – Reed Botanovic, Ziggy O'Brien, Leo Dean, Clarry Dougherty

Under 10 Female Surf Teams – Alice Patricks, Zara O'Brien, Delilah Doyle, Stella Dean

Under 9 Female Surf Race – Zara O'Brien

Silver Medals:

Under 14 Female Board Race – Ella Horton

Under 13 Male Board Rescue – Leo Dean & Clarry Dougherty

Under 9 Male Surf Race – Austin Dunn

Bronze Medals:

Under 14 Male Beach Sprint – Mostyn Brown

Under 13 Male Cameron Relay – Yamba B Team – Reed Botanovic, Leo Dean, Floyd Doyle

Under 11 Male Surf Race – Cody Kratzmann

Under 9 Male Surf Race – Barry Clark

State Adaptive Titles – 5 gold medals

Maverick McLennan – 1st in Under 11 Beach Sprint, Beach Flags, Wade Race, Surf Race and Board Race

State Masters Titles – 7 gold medals, 7 silver medals, 3 bronze medals; 10th in club pointscore

Gold Medals:

70/74 yrs Female Board race – Bobbie Winger

65/69 yrs Male Surf Race – Michael Miller

65/69 yrs Male Rescue Tube Race – Michael Miller

60/64 yrs Male Rescue Tube Race – David O'Brien

Over 190 yrs Male Taplin Relay – Michael Miller (swim), Peter Rheinberger (board), Greg Goodwin (ski)

Over 190 yrs Male Surf Teams – Michael Miller, Michael Stubbs, Peter Rheinberger

Over 170 yrs Male Surf Teams – David Fleming, David O'Brien, Paul Davis

Silver Medals:

70/74 yrs Female Surf Race – Bobbie Winger

70/74 yrs Female Beach Flags – Bobbie Winger

60/64 yrs Male Rescue Tube – Michael Stubbs

60/64 yrs Male Board Rescue – Peter Rheinberger & Michael Stubbs

60/64 yrs Male Double Ski – Greg Goodwin & Michael Stubbs

55/59 yrs Male Board Race – Paul Davis

55/59 yrs Iron Man – Paul Davis

Bronze Medals:

60/64 yrs Male Surf Race – David O'Brien

55/59 yrs Male Rescue Tube – Paul Davis

55/59 yrs Male Board Rescue – Paul Davis & David Fleming

SURF CARNIVAL RESULTS – AUSSIES

AUSTRALIAN TITLES

The Australian Titles were held at North Kirra beach on the Gold Coast from March 21 to 29 and the clubs run of success continued with another record medal haul.

Youth Titles – 2 gold medals & 1 bronze medal.

Gold Medals:

Under 14 Male Beach Flags – Mostyn Brown

Under 13 Male Surf Teams – Reed Batinovic, Ziggy O'Brien, Leo Dean & Clarry Dougherty

Bronze Medal:

Under 13 Male Board Rescue – Leo Dean & Clarry Dougherty

Masters Titles – 2 gold medals, 3 silver medals, 7 bronze medals. 18th in club pointscore.

Gold Medals:

40/44 yrs Male Board Rescue – Joe Dougherty & Alan Dunne

Over 110 yrs Male Board Relay – Hugh Dougherty, Joe Dougherty, Alan Dunne

Silver Medals:

Over 110 yrs Male Surf Teams – Hugh Dougherty, Joe Dougherty, Alan Dunne

70/74 yrs Female 2km Ocean Swim – Bobbie Winger

60/69 yrs Short Board Riding – Peter Rheinberger

Bronze Medals:

70/74 yrs Female Surf Race – Bobbie Winger

Over 70 yrs Male Long Board Riding – Kevin Gillard

60/64 yrs Male 2km Ocean Swim – David O'Brien

60/64 yrs Male Board Rescue – Peter Rheinberger & Michael Stubbs

Over 130 yrs Male Taplin Relay – Hugh Dougherty, Justin Dean, Alan Dunne

Over 170 yrs Male Surf Teams – David Fleming, David O'Brien, Paul Davis

Over 190 yrs Male Surf Teams – Michael Miller, Michael Stubbs, Peter Rheinberger



Womens March Past Team competing at 2026 Country Titles at South West Rocks.

AT THE CARNIVALS



Images (Top row, L-R): 1- Australian Titles U13 Board Rescue Bronze Medallists - Leo Dean & Clarence Dougherty, 2 - Australian Titles U13 Surf Teams Gold Medallists - Reed Batinovc, Leo Dean, Ziggy O'Brien & Clarence Dougherty.

Second row (L-R): 1-Australian Titles 110 Yrs Board Relay Gold Medallists - Alan Dunne, Hugh & Joe Dougherty, 2- Australian Titles Gold Medallists 40-44 Board Rescue - Joe Dougherty & Alan Dunne , 3- Bronze Medallists 190 years Surf Teams -Michael Miller, Michael Stubbs, Pete Rheinberger

Third row (L-R): 1-State Title Winners U10 Girls Surf Teams - Zara O'Brien, Stelle Dean, Delilah Doyle & Alice Patrick's, 2- State Titles U9 Surf Race Medallists - 2nd Austin Dunne, 1st Zara O'Brien , 3rd Barry Clark, 3- State Adaptive Titles U11 Gold Medal Champion - Maverick McLennan. 4- State Titles U14 Beach Flags Winner - Mostyn Brown

Fourth row (L-R): 1- State Titles Gold Medallist Over 170 yrs Male Surf Teams - David Fleming, Paul Davis & Dave O'Brien. 2-State Titles Gold Medallists - U13 Male Surf Teams: Clarence Dougherty, Leo Dean, Ziggy O'Brien & Reed Batinovc 3- State Titles Winners Over 190 yrs Male Surf Teams - Michael Stubbs, Michael Miller & Peter Rheinberger.

Bottom row (L-R): 1- Dave O'Brien - Gold Medallist 60-64 Tube Rescue, Michael Miller - Gold Medals in the 65-69 Rescue Tube & Surf Race, 2- Over 190 Years Taplin Relay Gold Medallists - Greg Goodwin, Peter Rheinberger & Michael Miller. 3 - Bobbie Winger - Silver medal 70/74 yrs Female 2km Ocean Swim and a Bronze in th 70/74 yrs female Surf Race.

OCEAN SWIMS DAY

The 2026 Ocean Swim was held in challenging surf conditions attracting 400 participants. The 700m swim followed its traditional course from Convent Beach to Main Beach while the start of the 2km event was relocated from Main Beach to Convent Beach due to conditions. A welcome southerly change arrived after the 700m swim, significantly improving conditions for competitors in the 2km event and the Dash for Cash.

Club members to win their age group in the 700m event included Ben Burgess (10-14 yrs), Harry Low (20-29 yrs), Kirk Palmer (30-39 yrs), Alan Dunne (40-49 yrs), Michael Stubbs (60-69 yrs), Alan Lawrence (over 70 yrs), Carissa Miltiadou (20-29 yrs), and Kate Armstrong (50-59 yrs). In the 2km event, Kate Armstrong (50-59 yrs) was our only winner.

One of the highlights of the day was the men's Dash for Cash with 8 swimmers catching the winning wave. Four-time winner Alan Dunne stood up in front but was run down just before the finish line by Port Macquarie lifesaver Jake Little. In the women's event Grafton's Tanika Crispin, a regular competitor, plotted the best course to catch a good wave breaking away from the rest of the field to score a convincing victory.

Our annual Ocean Swim continues to be a popular club and community event with a strong focus on participation and providing a safe swimming environment. It was particularly pleasing to see many first timers giving it a go this year.

As always, the event's success relied on the dedication of our volunteer club members, who once again turned up in large numbers to assist with the many tasks involved. Our water safety team including IRB crews, board paddlers and patrol members worked hard throughout the day to keep swimmers safe in the challenging and constantly changing conditions at Main Beach.

Thank you to our Yamba SLSC Board Members for their assistance in organising and delivering the event, and to all club members who volunteered their time.

Sincere thanks are extended to our event sponsors – Clarence Valley Council, Westlawn Finance & Insurance, Ray White Yamba, The Pacific Hotel, The Surf Hotel, The Stella Motel, and Belinda's Store. Their generous support helps ensure the event remains successful and continues to provide a valuable fundraising opportunity for the club.

Jim & Cathy Dougherty
Event Organisers



Yamba Ocean Swim Results – Sunday 11th January 2026

700m Swim	Male	Time	Female	Time
1 st	Lachlan Walker	8.35	Abbie Yourell	10.17
2 nd	Archer Ferguson	9.29	Felicity Walker	10.19
3 rd	Finn Casper	9.40	Ella Horton	11.27
Age Groups	Male	Time	Female	Time
10-14	Ben Burgess	10.04	Stella Skeels	12.11
15-19	Jett Burke	9.48	Freya Meade	11.38
20-29	Harry Lowe	10.42	Carissa Miltiadou	11.47
30-39	Kirk Palmer	10.21	Jessica Wall	13.14
40-49	Alan Dunne	10.22	Andy Burke	12.20
50-59	James Winney	10.29	Kate Armstrong	12.36
60-69	Michael Stubbs	12.41	Freya Hill	17.11
70+	Alan Lawrence	16.01	Alexandra Evans	14.30
2000m Swim	Male	Time	Female	Time
1 st	Lachlan Walker	22.05	Felicity Walker	26.51
2 nd	Kai Portas	24.38	Abbie Yourell	27.17
3 rd	Felix Forbes	24.46	Jorja Barnes	27.25
Age Groups	Male	Time	Female	Time
12-14	Darcy Clare	29.12	Eve Drew	29.59
15-19	Finn Casper	24.53	Gabrielle Parmenter	28.15
20-29	Jacob Gadiel	29.53	Jenna Breetzke	31.47
30-39	Liam Ryan	25.55	Che Hooper	30.22
40-49	Kyle Staitte	28.03	Alison Henwood	35.48
50-59	James Winney	29.42	Kate Armstrong	34.13
60-69	Michael Dougherty	30.12	Kathie Kliendiest	34.59
70+	Michael Bleach	36.51	Alexandra Evans	36.53
Dash for Cash	Jake Little		Tanika Crispin	

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES REPORT

The 2025/26 Yamba Nippers season was highly successful with near record enrolments once again.

The season kicked off with preseason training in August 2025. Our 8 week program had Nippers working on their paddling, swimming and beach skills. This culminated in a 2 day training camp at Byron Bay where the Nippers had the opportunity to train in varying conditions and at different beaches. This was also a great opportunity for the Nippers to bond with their teammates for the upcoming carnival season. The camp was one of the highlights of the year.

Sunday Nippers commenced in October with a run of good conditions and excellent turn outs as we ran the Nippers through their Education programs. With the support of our new Age Managers as well as our seasoned Age Manager crew, Sunday mornings ran smoothly and were hugely successful.

It is clear that the commitment shown by our age managers and having consistency across the season is delivering excellent outcomes as more Nippers return each season to continue their development.

Participation in the Resuscitation Certificate for U12's and Surf Rescue Certificate for U13/14's this season was excellent and we continue to see strong growth in our Cadet cohort. The continued participation of Nippers in the surf club once they have completed U14s is something we are working hard to develop. It is not just one person's responsibility and I thank everyone who contributes to this whether it be the Education team or our Youth Development Officer, Tash Hancock. Having a clear pathway through Nippers and engaging activities post Nippers, we are delivering future lifesavers to the club.

Our carnival season too was highly successful. Across all age groups we delivered excellent results at all the carnivals we attended. Two performances of the season really stand out.



Our U13 Male Surf Team made a clean sweep of all carnivals, Branch, Country, State and Aussies. This is an awesome achievement and the boys, Reed Batinovic, Ziggy O'Brien, Leo Dean and Clarence Dougherty should be immensely proud of these results. Their season was capped off with recognition at Branch Awards as the Team of the Year.

Secondly, Mostyn Brown also completed a clean sweep across Branch, Country, State and Aussies in Beach Flags. Mostyn's dedication to his training was evident this season and it was great to see his reward for effort. Mostyn has been selected to represent NSW in the Pathways Interstate Championship.

Other highlights from the season include the Branch Carnival, hosted at Yamba which was a great success. Good conditions over both days led to some excellent racing. Our Nippers were very close to knocking off Cudgen. It was a massive effort over the few days and lead up and I would like to thank everyone who contributed. 8 Yamba Nippers were selected for the Far North Coast Interbranch team. This is an improvement on our representation from the previous season. The Nippers had to contend with some extremely challenging conditions at Avoca over the carnival. With many top results, we helped Far North Coast secure the Country Branches point score for the 11th year running, and a 5th overall placing.

Junior Lifesaver of the Year representatives for Yamba were Dayla Chapman and Abe Patricks. Both Dayla and Abe have been involved with Nippers for many years and completed their Surf Rescue Certificates this year as part of our U14 cohort. Both are great contributors to the club, competing regularly and are valued members of their patrols. It has been a pleasure watching them develop their surf life saving skills over their time within Nippers.

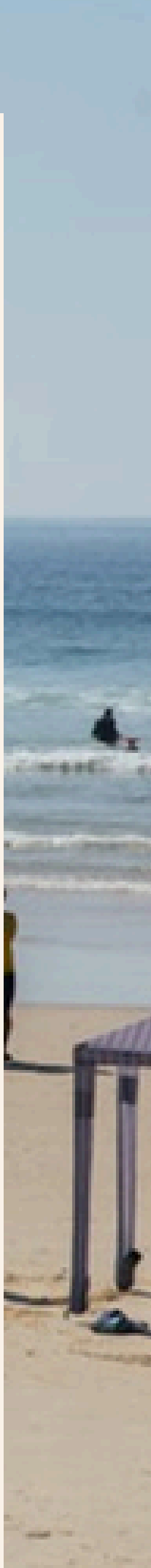
Especially pleasing, Abe was selected as the male representative for Far North Coast Junior Lifesaver of the Year. A first for Yamba in many years. Abe spent 3 days on Sydney's Northern Beaches with all the other reps from every Branch doing all things Surf Life Saving. I know that this opportunity will be fondly remembered by Abe for years to come.

The Yamba Surf Club Handicap Surf Race each season sees more and more Nippers participating. Once again, the overall point score was won by a Nipper, Toby Patricks with many more monthly awards taken out by a Nipper. I feel the opportunity to regularly compete in surf races is helping our younger competitors when it comes to carnival season and it has created some great rivalries and entertainment on Sunday mornings.

I would like to thank everyone who contributes to making Yamba Nippers such a success. Age Managers, water safety, barbeque volunteers, the men and women who pick stuff up (you know who you are), parents and carers - without you all committing to the season, it would not happen. Likewise to our sponsors, contributing funds so we can provide the equipment needed over the seasons. Thank you.

Additionally, to the Junior Activity Committee, Melinda Brown, Kylie Myers and Marty Dougherty, thank you all for your time and commitment over the course of the season. Your support and guidance is invaluable. Yamba Nippers is a part of a very special club. I feel privileged to be a part of such a well-run community organisation and look forward to supporting our Nipper program in the season ahead.

James Kemp
Junior Activities Co-ordinator



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE 2025-26

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

J.A. Co-ordinator	James Kemp
J.A. Supervisor	Marty Dougherty
J.A. Secretary	Melinda Brown
J.A Registrar	Kylie Myers

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES SUB -COMMITTEE

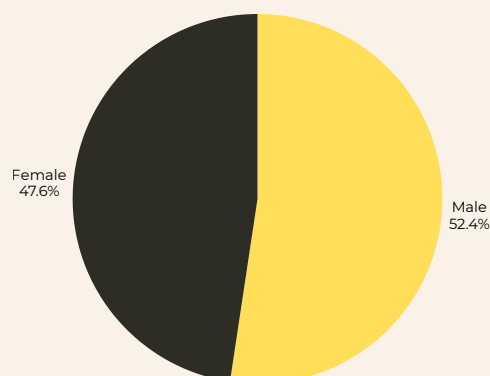
JAC Points Recorder	Kylie Myers
JAC Uniform Assistant	Adele Douglas
	Bec St John
JAC Equipment Supervisor	James Kemp
JAC Social Coordinators	Ash Kemp
	Kaylene Erbacher
	Bel Chapman
	Bridie Walmsley
Water Safety Coordinator	Davie Erbacher
BBQ Coordinator	Daniel Jones
	Matthew Higgins
Carnival Coordinator	Joe Dougherty
March Past Coordinator	Leah Charlton
	Kaylene Erbacher
J.A. Training Officers	Mel Brown
	Kylie Myers
	Clint Patricks
J.A Branch Delegate	James Kemp

VOLUNTEER AGE MANAGERS

Under 7's	Ashlee Kemp Belinda Chapman
Under 8's	Shirley Pimm Ceri Adams
Under 9's	Leah Curtis Brendan Wall
Under 10's	Fraser Robinson Luke Douglas
Under 11's	Tahnee Bultitude Daniel Clarke
Under 12's	Alan Dunne Paul Bews
Under 13's	Kendall O'Brien
Under 14's	Khara Horton Belinda Chapman

MEMBERSHIP MALE v FEMALE

Nippers



U10 Age Manager Fraser Robinson with (L-R) Dolly Dougherty, Alice Patricks, Delilah Doyle & Stella Dean

NIPPERS MAJOR AWARDS



Abe Patricks

Jack Goddard Memorial 'Junior Lifesaver'

Awarded to a senior nipper, Under 12 and up, who has a broad concept of all aspects of lifesaving and has great attendance and participation record. Nominations will be decided and awarded by Nipper Committee & Age Managers.



Dayla Chapman

John Muggleton Award 'Junior Club Person'

Awarded to a senior nipper, U12 and up, who has active participation at all times through regular nippers, training and participation; is a good role model and active helper for younger nippers; is active in tasks associated with the general running of nippers & surf club activities.



Clarence Dougherty

Jacob Lollback Memorial Award - 'Junior Club Champion'

Awarded to the nipper with the highest overall combination of carnival results (taking into account Club Championship and attendance).



Mostyn Brown

Des Eamens Memorial Award 'Beach Event Champion'

Awarded to the nipper with the combination of the highest points/placings for beach events at carnivals (taking into account Club Championship and attendance).



Clarence Dougherty

Alyce Bennett Award 'Water Events Champion'

Awarded to the nipper with the combination of the highest points/placings for water events at Carnivals (taking into account Club Championships and attendance).

2025/26 AGE CHAMPION AWARDS

		WINNER	RUNNER UP
U8	MALE FEMALE	William Dunne Dawn Clark	Van Thomas Tully Dougherty
U9	MALE FEMALE	Austin Dunne Zara O'Brien	Harvey Kemp Halle Dunne
U10	MALE FEMALE	Navrin Robinson Alice Patricks	Lennox Dougherty Stella Dean
U11	MALE FEMALE	Cody Kratzmann Adella Picton	Neville Clark Ashlyn Gell
U12	MALE FEMALE	Leo South Lulu Kemp	Archie Dunne Hannah Dean
U13	MALE FEMALE	Clarence Dougherty Gracie McLennan	Leo Dean Poppy Erbacher
U14	MALE FEMALE	Mostyn Brown Ella Horton	Abe Patricks Dayla Chapman

2025/26 AGE MANAGER AWARDS

	MALE	FEMALE
U8	Alex Hill	Blair Rogers
U9	Hudson Higgins	Tamilla Picton
U10	Lincoln Richardson	Sophie McNeilly
U11	Nick Callanan	Elana Panetta
U12	Byron Richards	Clara Kemp
U13	Reed Batoniciv	Lottie Wiseman



NIPPERS COMPETITION



Images (Top row, L-R): 1-Country Championships U14 Mixed Beach Relay Team:Dayla Chapman, Abe & Toby Patricks, Mostyn Brown 2-Zahli & Ben Blunkett with Ben Burgess 3- James Kemp with competitors at Country Championships.

Second row (L-R): 1- Nippers 2026 Group Photo 3-Gracie McLennan & Poppy Erbacher

Third row (L-R): 1- Nippers at Club Championships 2-Dawn & Merv Clark at Country Championships 3-Harvey Kemp 4- Mel Brown & Tash Hancock

Fourth row (L-R): 1-Lulu Kemp, Rosie South, Kylie, Nate, Brett and Imogen Myers at Country Championships 2- Sarah Patricks & Dave Erbacher at Country Championships 3- Nate Myers & Leo South at Interbranch 4- U12's: Byron Richards, Archie Dunne, Floyd Doyle & Leo South

Bottom row (L-R): 1-Country Championships 2026 competitors & their families 2- Brendan Wall, James Kemp Leah Curtis at Swim Proficiency Day 3-All Age Beach Relay team at Cudgen.

CLUBHOUSE REPORT

Another busy year at the surf club has come to an end. Big thank you to our dedicated House Committee volunteers – Brian Badgery, Bill Grainger and new member Mark Williams. Mark has also volunteered to take on the WH&S portfolio.



Access to our clubhouse has been hindered throughout the season with the ongoing upgrade works to Marine Parade. As I write this report, the finishing touches have just been completed.

Major works completed throughout the season included removing and replacing our old solar hot water system and replacing the roofing sheets that supported the system.

In August, after big tides and seas, the bank in front of the UAV area on the northern side of the clubhouse required urgent remediation work to stem the erosion. Alan (Dubbo) Lawrence organized a group of the Lone Rockers swim group to complete the work along with the House Committee.

The club was successful in receiving a NSW Government grant of \$26,000 for the installation of a grease trap – a Clarence Valley Council environmental requirement. Works will begin soon.

Work has also begun to replace the existing shark alarm, moving from the upstairs radio room to the patrol room downstairs. Antenna Pro has kindly donated the equipment, and it will be operational for the new patrol season.

As reported in 2024/25, substantial work is required to upgrade the retaining wall on the road side of the clubhouse. We met Clarence Valley Council's 'Open Spaces' team with the Engineering Report and requested them to include this work in their next Budget – unfortunately without success. We are now looking at other Grant opportunities.

Through the off season we are trialing two types of non-slip materials in the downstairs shower areas in an effort to make these areas safer for members.

Finally, to our new Caretakers Jason and Deb, we say welcome and thank you for your work in looking after our clubhouse – your contributions are appreciated.

Mark Rice
Clubhouse Director

FINANCE REPORT

On behalf of the Board I'd like to present the Finance Report for the 2025-26 Annual Report. Once again I'm pleased to advise that the Club is in a sound financial position again this year. Our profit of \$17,532 is modest compared to the 2025 profit which is due to the substantial grant we received towards rebuilding of the deck.

I'd like to thank both Sue-Ellen Hyne and Bec Walker in their role for all the assistance they gave me throughout the year. Without their tireless efforts in processing income, invoices and payments, the Club would not be in such a sound financial position. The administration of our club would be very onerous if we did not have this paid position.



I'd like to identify some items from the financial statements for you which illustrate our success as a club. We had an increase in competition fees as a result of increased participation in carnivals. Our grant application for financial support for the grease trap installation from the "Club Facilities Grants" for \$24,000 was successful. Income from the bar/hall hire is again a significant source of income through the valuable efforts of Sally Gilbert in her role of Bar Manager. The "Ocean Swim" was again a huge success which generated funds for the club from visitors to the area.

In conclusion, I'd like to thank all the members, sponsors, volunteers for events and especially the patrolling members who contribute their time and support to our club.

Damian Bennie
Finance Director

OUR PARTNERS

Throughout the 2025/26 season, Yamba Surf Life Saving Club has continued to benefit from the support of government agencies, grant providers and the wider Surf Life Saving movement. This funding has enabled us to maintain and improve our facilities, invest in equipment and resources, and continue delivering vital lifesaving, education and community programs.

We sincerely thank the organisations below for their valued support throughout the season:

- **Surf Club Facility Program** from the NSW Government Office of Sport for grant approval to install a Grease Arrestor. We thank the NSW Premier, the Minister for Sport and the Hon. Kevin Hogan for supporting this project- \$26 400.
- **Beach Safety Equipment Fund** from SLISA and the Federal Government which financed new First Aid and Life Saving equipment - \$11,000
- **Club Life Saving Equipment Grant** from SLSNSW and the NSW Government to upgrade operational equipment for lifesaving activities - \$2,500
- **SLS Fundraising Distribution** - \$8,000
- **Merchant Foundation** provided a new IRB and motor.
- **Schwinghammer Foundation** provided a new surfboat.

Significant cash donations have also been received by Borderline Street Rodders, Craig Willis, Janelle Carpenter, James Strong, Michael Madden, Richies IGA & Yamba Bridge Club along with other donors whose contributions both large and small are always appreciated.

CLUB SPONSORS

Yamba Surf Life Saving Club would like to sincerely thank our sponsors, donors and community partners for their ongoing support throughout the 2025/26 season. Their generosity helps us deliver life saving services, training opportunities, surf sports programs and community events that benefit our members and the wider community.

Some of the highlights of the support this season include:

- **Clarence Valley Council** for continuing to support our Ocean Swims and Lifeguard Service.
- **Yamba Bowling Club** for generously contributing funds towards new Nipper boards.
- **Yamba Wholefoods** for helping launch and promote the club's CP-HER initiative.
- **The Kiosk** for subsidising patrol lunches, and coffee for our Nipper Age Managers.
- **Yamba Fair Butchery** for donating sausages for nippers & meat trays for our Golf Club raffles.
- **Yamba Golf & Country Club** for its ongoing partnership with their weekly raffles.
- **East Coast Access** and **Coastal Construction & Excavation** for support in outfitting our touring team.
- **TNN** for their continued assistance with technology and IT support.

We also extend our thanks to **2GF, Premium Beverages (Coopers), Westlawn Finance, Access Fuels, Yulgilbar Pastoral, The Laundry Yamba, Yamba McDonald's, Ray White Yamba, Belinda's Store, The Stella, Sue and Roger Varcoe, The Landscape Construction Company, North Coast Occupational Hygiene, Yamba Distilling Co., Downer, Signcraft, Pacific Hotel, BK Engineering & Consulting Solutions, Northern Rivers Boat Builders, Yamba Bakehouse, and Pilot Hill Property** for their valued support throughout the year.

The continued success of Yamba Surf Life Saving Club would not be possible without the generosity of these businesses and individuals. On behalf of all our members, thank you for helping us keep our beaches safe and our club strong.



Yamba Surf Life Saving Club Inc.

ABN:15 327 568 072

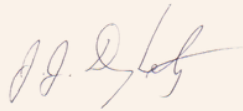
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your Board Members submit the Financial Statements summary of the Yamba Surf Life Saving Club for the Financial Year ended 30 April 2026. The complete Financial Statements are available through the Yamba Surf Life Saving Club office.

In the opinion of the Board:

1. The Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the activities conducted by the Club in the period.
2. The Financial Statements show a true and fair view of the financial results of fundraising appeals conducted during the year.
3. The accounting and associated records have been properly kept during the year in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 19991 and the Regulations.
4. The monies received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted through the year have been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the Regulations.
5. At the date of this Report there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Club will be able to pay its debts when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Joe Dougherty- Board Chairman



Damian Bennie - Finance Director

Yamba SLSC - Balance Sheet	2026	2025
As at 30 April 2026	\$	\$
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	247,537	224,518
Trade and Other Receivables	15,270	9,204
Inventories	22,283	36,651
Other Current Assets	10,895	15,025
Total Current Assets	295,985	285,398
Non Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	710,381	706,575
Total Non Current Assets	710,381	706,575
Total Assets	1,006,362	991,974
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	15,305	12,727
Other Current Liabilities	1,000	1,000
Total Current Liabilities	16,305	11,727
Total Liabilities	16,305	11,727
Net Assets	990,057	980,247
Equity		
Retained Earnings	990,057	980,247
Total Equity	990,057	980,247

Yamba SLSC - Profit and Loss	2025	2026
<i>For year ended 30 April 2026</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Income		
Bar Account	85,560	76,237
Merchandise Account	(72,362)	(7,349)
Publications Account	4,955	7,009
Clubhouse Hire	60,303	34,801
Donations Received	51,091	30,818
Fundraising Income	69,264	70,015
Grants Received	66,035	160,655
Gym Membership	9,273	5,364
Membership Subscriptions	30,608	29,809
Refates	236	-
Sponsorship	<u>24,692</u>	<u>13,235</u>
Total Income	<u>411,667</u>	<u>452,266</u>
Expenses		
Administration costs		369
Advertising	-	250
Auditors remuneration	3,636	3,636
Awards	2,594	2,476
Bank charges	3,295	3,601
Carnival expenses	63,616	32,375
Cleaning	7,998	5,626
Contractor payments	990	-
Depreciation	45,902	37,665
Donations and gifts	167	-
Electricity	11,711	10,466
First aid expenses	5,602	3,526
Fuel and oil	1,063	991
Fundraising expenses	35,241	29,075
Insurance	41,994	31,236
Interest paid	483	-
Kitchen supplies	-	700
Motor vehicle expenses	-	1,600
Patrol expenses	3,607	6,307
Permits, licences and fees	6,266	3,062
Printing and stationery	2,747	2,221
Professional fees	6,834	5,675
Rates and taxes	7,673	5,660
Rent	560	546
Repairs and maintenance	30,662	49,009
SLSA Payment fees	302	366
Subscriptions	699	-
Subsidies	6,500	3,639
Sundry expenses	4,166	972
Superannuation contributions	9,539	6,563
Telephone and internet	3,471	1,826
Training expenses	6,167	6,365
Travelling expenses	4,814	647
Uniforms	12,346	7,725
Wages	<u>79,621</u>	<u>67,612</u>
Total Expenses	<u>404,991</u>	<u>322,002</u>
Profit from Operations	<u>6,676</u>	<u>129,262</u>
Other income		
Fuel Tax Credits	305	165
Interest received	<u>2,549</u>	<u>2,706</u>
Total Other Income	<u>2,854</u>	<u>2,871</u>
Profit	<u>9,530</u>	<u>132,133</u>

UAV REPORT

The UAV programme at Yamba Surf Lifesaving Club has experienced another outstanding season, continuing to elevate our beach surveillance, member safety, and search-and-rescue capabilities. Our dedicated team of pilots and operators remained vigilant from the sky, providing an invaluable layer of protection for the Yamba community.

We were again able to roster at least one pilot and/or operator on every one of the nine Surf Patrols.



Our team's achievements included the following milestones this season:

This season marked a significant leap forward in our technological capabilities with the delivery of a new Matrice4 UAV. The integration of this asset into our daily operations has already had a profound, noticeable impact on the quality and accuracy of our coastal surveillance.

627
Total Patrol
Hours

900+
Launched Flights

3000+ km
Total Distance
Covered

The Matrice 4 brings critical advantages over our previous frontline aircraft, the Mavic 3:

- double the magnification allows for vastly improved hazard and marine life tracking from safer, quieter altitudes.
- larger, brighter display provides a larger footprint and allows pilots to more accurately identify shark species and swimmers in distress.
- Extended battery time, enabling longer flight times and increased surveillance
- Siren, loud and able to be heard over surf noise, enables rapid warnings for swimmers to leave the water when a dangerous shark is detected nearby.

The government's expansion of the shark-spotting programme which came into affect on 1 July 2026 provides for 365 days a year dawn-to-dusk drone coverage across 73 beaches in NSW. Operated by Surf Life Saving NSW, this programme includes Yamba Main Beach. As a result, we will be unable to continue the volunteer UAV patrols for the 2026/27 season. We will continue to monitor the government initiative for possible opportunities to restart the volunteer UAV patrol programme in the future.

A sincere thank you to our 11 pilots and operators who volunteered their time, honed their skills, and kept a watchful eye over our beaches and events this season.

Celeste Neander
UAV Coordinator

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

What an incredible season it has been. Stepping into the role of Youth Development Officer for the first time has been an absolute pleasure, and I couldn't be prouder of everything our cadets achieved throughout the season.



We saw a fantastic increase in cadet retention and participation—not only in competition but, more importantly, on patrol and at training. Our focus was engaging members aged 14–17, helping them see a clear pathway within surf lifesaving while creating an environment built on flexibility, fun, opportunity and connection. The result? Our cadets are thriving.

A dedicated group of cadets proudly represented Yamba at local, Branch, Country, State and Aussie carnivals with outstanding determination, sportsmanship and team spirit. Our regular competitors were Zahli Plunket, Kayla Hancock, Poppy Kemp, Zac Todhunter, Ben Burgess, Mostyn Brown, Dayla Chapman and Ella Horton, while Willow Rowney, Josie Chapman, Giselle Dean, Mahlia Brown and Jessamine Motio-Robson also competed throughout the season. A special congratulations to Giselle Dean, Josie Chapman and Poppy Kemp, who competed at Branch, Country and the Aussies in the Ladies Senior March Past Team.

Thank you to Giselle Dean, Poppy Kemp, Josie Chapman and Braiden Crook for volunteering their time to provide Water Safety at Nippers and the Country Championships. A huge thank you also goes to our trainers—Jim, Joe, Ben, Brett and Deacon—and to the families who assisted with setup, officiating and enthusiastic support throughout the season.

Congratulations to our newest Bronze Medallion holders: Kayla Hancock, Zahli Plunket, Willow Rowney, Giselle Dean, Josie Chapman, Ben Burgess, Zac Todhunter, Felix Forbes and Tennyson Becker. We also welcomed a fantastic group of new Surf Rescue Certificate graduates: Clarence Dougherty, Lola Dougherty, Ziggy O'Brien, Reed Batinovic, Poppy Erbacher, Gracie McLennan, Leo Dean, Lottie Wiseman, Jude Kemp and Toby Patricks. A sincere thank you to every Cadet who patrolled our beaches this season. Your commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism make a real difference to the safety of our community.

This season we introduced regular strength and conditioning sessions, helping our cadets build fitness, confidence and resilience. Thank you to Matilda Sumner for coaching these sessions and to Yamba SLSC for supporting the program. We also hosted a nutrition education night with Kate Collins from NSW Health, giving our cadets practical advice on fuelling, recovery and performance.

Finally, thank you to every member of Yamba SLSC for welcoming and mentoring our young members. Your encouragement at training, on patrol and around the clubhouse has helped create an environment where our cadets feel valued and excited about their future in surf lifesaving.

It has been a privilege to serve as Youth Development Officer this season. Thank you to our cadets, parents, trainers, assessors and club members for making my first year in the role so rewarding. Enjoy the off-season, and I look forward to seeing everyone back on the sand next season.

Tash Hancock
Youth Development Officer



(Top row, L-R): 1-Life members Jim Dougherty & Ken Ryan, 2-Rainbow Beaches Day- Judith Perks, Pierre de Billot & Sally Gilbert 3- CPhE Awareness: Sally Gilbert, Keiran Lunch & Jane Lawrence
 Second row (L-R): 1-Lani Thompson & Amber Deakin. 2-New Surf Boat kindly donated by the Schwinghammer Foundation. 3-Vanette McLennan & Jo King on patrol.
 Third row (L-R): 1-Skills Maintenance Day: Kieran Lynch & Alan Schofield 2- 2026 Life Members Luncheon.
 Bottom row (L-R): 1-Jane & Alan Lawrence 2- Luke & Archie Douglas, Fraser and Navrin Robinson, Marty & Lenny Dougherty 3-Clarry & Joe Dougherty Interbranch Team.

YAMBA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Life Membership for Services Rendered

Baird, James	Essex, Leah	Morgans, Kim	Schaeffer, C.W*
Burridge, Raymond*	Godbee, N.M OAM*	Morris, R.C*	Schaeffer, Geoff
Carmon, O.J*	Goddard, C*	O'Grady, F.R*	Schofield, Alan
Collis, Bradley	Goddard, J.C*	O'Loughlin, F*	Smith, Michael
Cox, H.*	Hall, F.J BEM*	Patrick's, John	Stevens, A.V*
Donovan, E.E*	Hockey, A.A*	Phillips, Trevor OAM*	Sweetman, Peter
Donovan, H.G*	Horton, Linda	Ryan, James	Tarrant, Andrew*
Dougherty, James OAM	Lee, Donald	Ryan, Kenneth	Tiernan, L.*
Dougherty, Joseph	Lovell, K.*	Sahqvist, Terry	Zietsch, Gregory
Dougherty, W.M OAM	Lowien, Clifford*	Sanders, Geoff	
Eades, S.J*	McGrath, Cletus	Saunders, James	

Associate Life Members

Bradley, Keith	Dougherty, Catherine	Kelly, J.F*	Robinson, W.T*
Chalmers, W.G*	Howe, Ted*	Morgan, Aub*	Smith, R.R*
Cousens, Marjorie*	Kelly, Jack*	Page, M.	Zietsch, W.J*

Life Members Surf Life Saving Far North Coast

Baird, James	Godbee, N.M OAM *	Hall, F.J BEM *	Onslow, William
Dougherty, James OAM	Goddard, Colin *	Lee, Donald	

Life Member Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Branch Board of Junior Activities

Bruce Muggleton *

Life Member Surf Life Saving New South Wales

Godbee, N.M OAM *

Life Member Surf Life Saving Australia

Godbee, N.M OAM *

SLSA 70 Year Service

Dougherty, W.M. OAM Saunders, James

SLSA 60 Year Service

Emslie, John	McGrath, Clete	Onslow, William	Sanders, Geoff
Don, Lee	Moran, Ray	Sahqvist, Terry	

SLSA 50 Year Service

Dougherty, James OAM	Morgans, Kim	Smith, Michael
Marsh, Don	Ryan, Kenneth	

SLSA 40 Year Service

Baird, James	Killen, Raymond	Sweetman, Peter	Fahey, Joseph
Collis, Bradley	Schofield, Alan	Zietsch, Gregory	

SLSA 30 Year Service

Horton, Linda Winger, Bobbie Wheeler, James

SLSA 25 Year Service

Dougherty, Joseph	Lawrence, Alan	Wiblen, Raymond
Fahey, Joseph	Lawrence, Jane	

*Not forgotten

FINANCIAL MEMBERS 2025-26

Long Service (29)

Bennie, Damian
Brown, Melinda
Davis, Paul
Dean, Justin
Dougherty, Hugh
Dougherty, Martin
Dougherty, Michael
Dunne, Alan
Emslie, John
Fahey, Daniel (Dan)
Fahey, Joseph
Felton, John
Goodwin, Gregory (Greg)
Killen, Raymond (Ray)
Klouzal, Harry
Marsh, Donald (Don)
McDermid, Robert
McDonald, John
Moran, Raymond (Ray)
Morris, Heather
Muldoon, Peter
Rheinberger, Peter
Schafer, Allan (Jim)
Spicer, Deacon
Sullivan, Benjamin (Ben)
Wall, Brendan
Wall, David
Winger, Bobbie
Wiseman, Joel

Active Reserve (3)

Plunkett, Benjamin (Ben)
Worboys, Joanne (Jo)
Worboys, Simon

Active Over 18 (80)

Aird, Frances
Allen, Lorraine
Appleford, Sarah
Becker, Katie
Becker, Lucas
Burke, Mathew
Butler, Scott
Butler, Steve
Cannon, Clarissa
Chapman, Belinda
Comerford, Rhys
Commins, Alex
Curtis, Leah
de Billot, Pierre
Dean, Rachelle
Ehlers, Arnold
Eke, Matthew
Ennever, Jill
Erbacher, David
Fabian, Lynette
Fahey, Noah
Fleming, David (Dave)
Forbes, James
Forbes, Kate
Gibson, Rory
Gilbert, Sally
Gillard, Kevin
Grant, Bligh
Groom, Eliot
Gunn, Colin
Hancock, Natasha
Hardacre, Thomas
Hintz, Paddy
Hoppitt, Terrence (Terry)
Hyne, Sue-Ellen
Johnson, Candice
Kemp, Ashlee
Kemp, James
Kemp, Thore
King, Jo
Klein, Helmut
Lawrence, Alan
Lawrence, Jane
Lehman, Rebecca (Beck)
Low, Harry
Lynch, Kieran
McLennan, Lindsay
McLennan, Vanette
Miller, Michael
Miltiadou, Andrea
Moon, Bonne
Moon, David
Newton-Thompson, Sean
Nikas, Andrea
O'Brien, David
Onslow, William
Palmer, Kirk
Patrick, Clinton
Perks, Judith
Philip, Dale
Pilkie, Emma Iani

Active Over 18 (80)

Purcell, Mark
Rheinberger, Mick
Rice, Mark
Ridgway, Patrick (Pat)
Robinson, Fraser
Salvestro, Alexander
Smith, Brittany
Smith, Georgie
Stainlay, George (Trent)
Steele, Nathan
Thomas, Libby
Thorburn, Michelle
Tucker, Warren (Wazza)
Varcoe, Roger
Walker, Rebecca
Walker, Susan
Wheeler, James
Wiblen, Raymond
Womersley, Dean

Active 15-18 (15)

Becker, Joe
Brown, Mahlia
Burgess, Ian
Kemp, Isabella
Miltiadou, Logan
Morris, Jake
Motio Robson, Jessamine
Newman, Emily
Nikas, Jett
Ridgway, Banjo
Sowell, Alex
Thompson, Ellis
Thompson, Kyan
Wiblen, Theodore
Worboys, Sasha

Cadets - 13-15 (30)

Becker, Tennyson
Bennetts, Sasha
Brown, Mostyn
Burgess, Ben
Chapman, Dayla
Chapman, Josie
Churton, Sonny
Cook, Sahara
Crook, Braiden
Davey, Tessa
Deakin, Amber
Dean, Giselle
Forbes, Felix
Hancock, Kayla
Horton, Ella
Kemp, Poppy
McMahon/Willott, Matilda
Myers, Imogen
Patrick, Abe
Plunkett, Zahli
Purcell, Chloe
Rowney, Willow
Seivers, Willow
Thompson, Lani
Thorburn, Milla
Todhunter, Zac
Wicks, Chelsea
Young, Harry
Young, Xavier
Zvatora, Marlie

Award (35)

Adams, Ceri
Batinovic, Hudson
Becker, Robert
Burgess, Stewart
Callanan, Owen
Clark, Daniel
Don, Jacob
Douglas, Adele
Douglas, Luke
Doyle, Thomas
Gilbert, Gus
Hyne, David
Kratzmann, Ky
Kratzmann, Richard
Macrae, Elizabeth
McLennan, Anderson
Meldrum, Jeunesse
Miltiadou, Carissa
Moran, Chris
Mortimer, Trent
Neander, Celeste
Neander, Mark
O'Brien, Kendall
Pim, Shirley
Rennex, Eric
Ryan, Danielle
Samuels, Christopher (CJ)
Scott, Jolanda
Sowell, Tim
Spicer, Mac
Stainlay, Ben
Stainlay, Jessica
Stubbs, Michael
Walmsley, Bridie
Zimmerman, James



Yamba Members at the Australian Titles 2026

(cont'd over page)

Junior Activity Members U7- U14 yrs (193)

Under 7 (35)

Allison, Ava
Barter, Ziggy
Beresford, Hugh
Berridge, Cooper
Bourke, Harvey
Burke, Paddy
Churchin, Florence
Clark, Mary
Corbett, Dakota
Davidson, Nellie
Dean, Matilda
Deo, Matteo
Douglas, Ferne
Gallagher, Adaline
Gill, Safira
Goodin, Lily
Harper-Qua, Tully
Higgins, Lincoln
Higgins, Maverick
Howland, Daniel
Hunter, Beau
McNeilly, Luca
Mitchell, Safia
Moran, Noah
Richards, Goldie
Robinson, Leo
Savill, Sunnie
Skinner, Nash
South, Morgan
Stark, Bobbie
Stojko, Ocean
Thomas, Kai
Wells, Madeleine
Wheeler, Bodhi
Worthington, Paxton

Under 8 (31)

Adams, Sonny
Austin, Sonny
Beetson, Missy
Bice, Rudy
Browning, Douglas (Dougie)
Callanan, Ollie
Clark, Dawn
Dean, Albie
Dougherty, Tully
Doyle, Freddy
Dunn, William
Durney, Juliet
Fisher, Niah
Guy, Archer
Harris, Lachie
Hill, Alexander
Marks, Koa
Rheinberger, Isla
Ribton-Turner, Edward
Roberts, Vera
Rogers, Blair
Rouvray, Arlo
Schmidt, Harvey
Sim, Georgia
Sozou, Liam
St John, Thea
Stevens, Aspen
Thomas, Van
Van Tongeren, Logan
Vanderham, Zoe
Walmsley, Finn

Under 9 (32)

Allison, Nullah
Barter, Willoh
Bews, Lachlan
Brierley, Alira
Campbell, Duke
Clark, Barry
Cooper, Pepper
Curtis, Charlie
Dunn, Austin
Dunne, Halle
Higgins, Hudson
Howland, James
Jenner, Lisanna
Johnson, Jeronimo
Jones, Lucy
Kemp, Harvey
Lambert, Banjir
Locke, Everly
McLeish, Jagga
O'Brien, Zara
Picton, Tamilla
Richards, Banjo
Roach, Vada
Savill, Bowie
Steele, Taura
Thomas, Ruby
Vorbau, Daisy
Wall, Tanner
Walmsley, Jimmy
Wells, Scarlett
Wiseman, Louie
Wongsanuphap, Anawin (Marwin)

Under 10 (29)

Brierley, Cohen
Chapman, Noa
Dean, Stella
Dougherty, Dolly
Dougherty, Lennox (Lenny)
Douglas, Archibald
Doyle, Delilah
Fung, Ziggy
Harper-Qua, Nina
Hill, Katherine
Houston, Maximilian
McGoldrick, Rocco
McNeilly, Sophie
Patrick, Alice
Pattas, Athena
Peel, Emerald
Richardson, Lincoln
Robinson, Billy-Blai
Robinson, Franky
Robinson, Navrin
Robinson, Pyper
Robinson-Laurie, Catalina
Rouvray, Jai
Schwenke, Kaia
Senz, Phoebe
Styles, Wanita
Tasi, Talia
Tuckett, Sophia
Warrener, Arlo

Under 11 (27)

Allomes, Hayley
Bice, Lola
Bleach, Iluh
Burgess, Ruby
Callanan, James
Callanan, Nick
Clark, Neville
Cook, Kahiah
Corbett, Charli
Corbett, Nivana
Gell, Ashlyn
Gray, Stevi
Green, Lani
Higgins, Eliza
Johnson, Jasper
Kratzmann, Cody
Law, Olive
McLennan, Maverick
Mortimer, Maeve
Panetta, Elena
Picton, Adella
Roach, Sadee
St John, Amelia
Stanley, Taio
Tasi, Koa
Walmsley, Archie
Wiseman, Alby

Under 12 (21)

Bennetts, Nikolai
Bews, Harlan
Burgess, Tom
Cunningham, Skylah
Dean, Hannah
Doyle, Floyd
Dunne, Archie
Green, Evie
Higgins, Henry
Houston, Harry
Kemp, Clara
Kemp, Lulu
Myers, Nate
O'Brien, Kenny
Purcell, Myles
Richards, Byron
Rowney, Hazel
Schwenke, Phoenix
South, Leo
Tuckett, Lara
Woodward, Nathan

Under 13 (14)

Batinovic, Reed
Dean, Leo
Dougherty, Clarence
Dougherty, Lola
Erbacher, Poppy
Fung, Jayda
Jenner, Henry
Kemp, Jude
McLeish, Lenni
McLennan, Gracie
O'Brien, Ziggy
Patrick, Toby
Roach, Hamish
Wiseman, Lottie

Under 14 (4)

Brown, Mostyn
Chapman, Dayla
Horton, Ella
Patrick, Abe



Yamba Club Members featured on Channel 7 Sunrise this season.

(cont'd over page)

Associate Members (272)

Adams, Kennith	Davis, Peter	Holst, Christopher (Chris)	Muldoon, Chris	Stevens, Brett
Allison, Jason	De Caria, Maria Gloria	Holst, Gillian	Murray, Jason	Stormon, Michael
Allomes, Dave	Deakin, Sonia	Hope, Melissa	Myers, Brett	Styles, Vanessa
Anderson, Helen	Decock, Isabel	Horton, Chad	Myers, Kylie-Ann (Kylie)	Tarasenko, Paul
Andrews, Anna	deLucia, Gail	Horton, Khara	O'Brien, Erica	Tasi, Alicia
Armstrong, Kate	Don, Gregory	Houston, Erin	O'Connor, Kathy	Thomas, Michael
Armstrong, Trevor	Don, Nicole	Houston, Matthew	Odea, Cecil	Thomas, Morgan
Auliff, Peter	Dougherty, Megan	Howland, Andrew	Ogilvie, Veronica	Thomas, Nikki
AUSTIN, Christopher	Doyle, Felicity	Huebner, Rianna	Palmer, Saxon	Thomas, Ryan
Avallone, Cristina	Dunn, Kurt	Jane, Adam	Patrick, Martin	Todhunter, Greg
Badgery, Brian	Dunne, Jo	Jenkins, Joanna	Patrick, Sarah	Trotter, Patrick
Badgery, Heather	Durney, Luke	Jenner, Edward	Pattas, Loukas	Tuckett, Benjamin
Barter, Abby	Eke, Lynne	Johnston, Alistair	Peel, Shane	Verran, Kate
Batinovic, Ebonnie	Erbacher, Kaylene	Jones, Daniel	Peeters, Loni	Vorbau, Trent
Beetson, Jai	Esterbauer, Diana	Jones, Matthew	Pickering, David	Walker, Shinae
Bennetts, Anna	Fabian, John	Jowett, Brett	Pickering, Lesley	Wallace, Mark
Bennetts, Joshua (Josh)	Fahey, Harrison	Judge, Talitha	Pickering, Reilly	Waller, Glenn
Beresford, Richard	Farmer, Graeme	Kelly, Andrew	Pickup, Janet	Waller, Robyn
Beresford, Sophie	Fato, Anne	Kelly, Peter	Picton, Jason	Warrener, Molly
Berridge, Rebekah	Fisher, Matthew	Kemp, Richard	Pritchett, Gai	Wells, Deborah
Bevz, Andre	Flannigan, Rosie	Kershaw, Matthew	Purcell, Charmaine	Wells, Kent
Bevz, Victor	Foley, Andrew	King, Judith (Judy)	Rare, Audrey	Wells, Leasha
Bews, Emma	Foley, Joann	Kirkman, Connor	Rheinberger, Brody	Wheeler, Jason
Bews, Paul	Ford, Nadia	La Greca, Maggie	Ribton-Turner, James	White, Sean
Bice, Aimee	Fornarini, Debora	Laurie, Mareka	Rice, Joanne	Williams, Jeanette
Boge, Matthew	Frazer, Craig	Law, Simon	Richards, David	Williams, Maree
Bottomley, Lyn	Freeburn, Paul	Leonard, Matthew	Richardson, Melissa	Williams, Mark
Bottomley, Matt	French, Jessica	Locke, Sarah	Ridgway, John	Williams, Stephanie
Bourke, Abby	Fung, Daniel	Macrae, John	Roach, Teliesha	Willis, Craig
Bourke, Katie	Fysh, Fergus	Manusu, Tianne	Roberts, Taylor	Wiseman, Ellie
Bowles, Jillian	Gallagher, Alysse	Matthews, Catherine	Robertson, Lalita	Woodhead, Christine
Boyce, Susan	Gallagher, Oscar	Maunder, Rocky	Robinson, Maria	Woodward, Michael
Boychuk, Kat	Gerth, Jumano	Mawhinney, Jennifer	Rogers, Rian	Worthington, Rebecca
Brierley, Jessica	Gilbert, Isabella (Bella)	McBean, Helen (Jude)	Rouvray, Guy	Wright, Simon
Browning, Jennifer	Gill, James	McCallum, Peter	Rowney, Dale	Wright, Sophia
Bultitude, Tahnee	Goddard, Deanna	McDonald, Deborah	Russell, Jenny	Wunderlich, Kerri
Bunce, Charles (Charlie)	Grainger, William (Bill)	McDougall, Philip	Ryan, Rebecca	Ziems, Corey
Bunce, Wendy	Granleese, Graeme	McEvoy, Stephen	Sanders, Belinda	
Burgess, Jessica	Greeff, Dylan	McFarlane, Kim	Savill, Abbie	
Burn, Laura	Green, Colin	McGoldrick, Danielle	Schafer, Luke	
Carruthers-Qua, Michael	Green, David	McKenny, John	Schofield, Roslyn	
Cashman, Tim	Green, Heidi	McKenny, Skye	Scott, Steven	
Causley, Graham	Green, Roland	McKimm, Stephen	Senz, Damian	
Chapman, Matthew	Griffin, Larry	McKimm, Sue	Shirlow, Michael	
Cook, Kerry	Griffin, Mary	McLeish, Bradley	Sim, Lisa	
Cooper, Kieran	Grundy, David	McMaster, Phil	Skinner, Courtney	
Cooper, Leanne	Guy, Christopher	McNeilly, Elly	Sluyters, Anton	
Corbett, Brad	Haines, Stephen	Medina Peris, Alicia	South, Jordan	
Corbett, Tameka	Hancock, Kane	Meehan, Claudia	South, Rosanna	
Cordell, Meghan	Harris, Molly	Meehan, Matthew	Sozou, Matthew	
Costa, Greg	Hartigan, Bill	Mehan, Jye	St Barbe Sitters, Morgan	
Crook, Jodie	Hassey, Elise	Mitchell, Jess	St John, Rebecca	
Cunningham, Janelle	Hassey, Kevin	Mitchell, Matthew	Stanley, Cobie	
Daebritz, Susan	Hays, Ross	Morey, Connor	Stark, Ellie	
Daley, Shannon	Higgins, Cassandra	Morgans, Analese	Stark, Stuart	
Dalton, Courtney	Higgins, Mathew	(Annalese)	Steele, Luke	
Dante, Scotty	Hill, Michael	Morton, Clair	Steele-Boyce, Chloe	
Dante, Veda	Hobbins, Joanne	Morton, Flynn	Stephenson, Amy	
Davidson, Kate	Hodgson, James	Moule, Richelle	Stephenson, Kayla	

CP-HER

CHANGING ATTITUDES, CHANGING OUTCOMES

“CP-HER started as a local conversation about fairness in lifesaving. It is now contributing to national awareness, training reform and cultural change across Surf Life Saving and the broader community.”

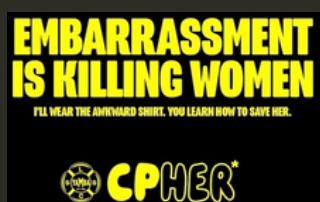
CP-HER emerged in 2024 following an international campaign by St John Ambulance UK that highlighted a confronting reality: women experiencing cardiac arrest are significantly less likely to receive bystander CPR and defibrillation than men. When research confirmed the same disparity existed in Australia, a simple but challenging question was posed to Yamba SLSC: **“So what is Surf Life Saving doing to fix this?”** At the time, there was no single answer. What began as a discussion about international health disparities evolved into a community-led initiative addressing the social attitudes, unconscious bias and training practices that delay or prevent lifesaving intervention. Essentially, embarrassment is killing women. **CP-HER became Yamba SLSC’s answer.**

Over the 2025/26 season, CP-HER reached local communities, influenced training delivery, and generated national media attention. The campaign attracted coverage across Australia through radio, television, online news and social media – including a feature article by [ABC News Online](#), and national television exposure via [Sunrise](#) and [ABC News Breakfast](#), helping bring the message to mainstream audiences from metropolitan centres to regional communities.

Community engagement was central to the campaign. CP-HER was formally launched on Red & Yellow Day and presented at [Clarence Valley Council Chambers](#), receiving strong support from Council and community leaders. Public awareness sessions were delivered across the region – including Iluka – where participants discussed barriers to intervention and gained practical experience using female anatomical CPR manikins. Social media, educational resources and community networks extended the campaign’s reach and reinforced its core message: unconscious bias can affect not just how someone performs CPR, but whether they act at all.

Within Surf Life Saving, CP-HER moved beyond awareness to practical application. Female anatomical manikins were introduced into training, enabling more realistic conversations about emergency response and helping normalise care provision regardless of gender. The campaign also contributed to broader discussion within Surf Life Saving Australia, with SLSA advising that future updates to the PSAR36 Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue Manual will specifically address CPR and defibrillation for women – a direct transition from local innovation to national influence.

Importantly, CP-HER has never been solely about equipment or technique – it has always been about changing attitudes. The campaign’s **“Embarrassment Belongs in the Bin”** message challenged the hesitation and social discomfort that can cost lives. The next phase will focus on sustaining behavioural and cultural change, with plans underway for Red & Yellow Day 2027 street-banner and lighting campaigns to keep the conversation visible long after the training session ends



Yamba SLSC Education & Training Team

THANK YOU

we acknowledge:

- The NSW Government through the Emergency Services portfolio for ongoing funding of state wide operations and programs which benefit clubs, members and the community
- The NSW Government for the support of the Office of Sport, for their support to increase usage, safety and participation in Surf Life Saving through ongoing programs, specifically the Surf Club Facility program.
- The Federal Government for the Beach Safety Equipment Funding which directed \$10, 000 to every SLSC for the purchase of vital rescue equipment, first aid and medical supplies.
- The SLS Foundation
- Yamba Surf Life Saving Club members also thank Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Board members, officials and hard working staff for their support this season.

we acknowledge the FNC Branch Sponsors:



we acknowledge the partners of Surf Life Saving NSW and Surf Life Saving Australia:



Many thanks to all report and photographic contributors, with special appreciation to member Elise Hassey for the many images featured throughout this edition.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this report. We apologise for any inadvertent errors or omissions.

-Leah Essex, Rebecca Walker & Cathy Dougherty (Editors)



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SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES