

HELENSBURGH - STANWELL PARK

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

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61ST ANNUAL REPORT

To be Presented at

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held in the Clubhouse

at 10 a.m. on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1968

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OFFICIALS 1967 - 1968

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Patrons: C. Williamson, R. Jackson, M.L.A.
President: A. E. Clarke
Senior Vice-President: B. W. Phillips
Vice-Presidents: K. Corbett, A. Frankland, G. Wardman, B. Redshaw,
L. Morton, A. Prestage, P. Anger, R. Whitfield,
R. Palmer, G. Land, K. Chapman, J. Andrews
Captain: I. Kohlhardt
Vice-Captain: J. Castle
Secretary/Treasurer: C. K. Asmussen
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer: J. Moloney.
Boat Captain: R. Hendry
Vice Boat Captain: L. Morton
Chief Instructor: M. Nugent
Asst. Instructors: B. Phillips, W. King
Branch Delegates: A. McCabe, T. Mott
Publicity Officer: P. Anger
General Committee: K. Newell, K. King, R. Butt, T. Anderson,
A. Andrews, R. Land, R. Chapman
Hon. Medical Officers: Drs. Walsh, Rosen and Fisher.
First Aid Officers: H. Garner and all Instructors
Social Committee: W. Prestage, R. Land, K. King, E. Clarke,
A. McCabe, A. Prestage
"Seagull" Instructors: R. Birrell, R. Butt, T. Anderson, W. King
Hon. Caretaker: C. Redshaw
Gear Steward: T. Anderson.

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HELENSBURGH STANWELL PARK SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 1967-1968

Gentlemen,

It would be the understatement of the year to say that the season under review was a busy one - for a very busy, but also a most memorable one it certainly has been.

Possibly one of the most pleasing features was the improvement in patrols and on this score it would be good to endeavour to further improve them to the stage of being near perfect. On the score of improved patrols appreciation is recorded to those who most assisted in this regard and especially to our District Supervisor Ken Corbett. However those members who were remiss at times should make themselves aware of their responsibilities to our Club and to the public.

Another pleasing feature was the news that the coal wash menace is to be eliminated, and whilst seeing is believing, the assurances given are most heartening. However it would be foolish to relax our vigilance on this score, and should there be any repetition of this menace then it behoves our Club to take whatever steps are necessary to curb the actions of the colliery who have been pouring the filth into the ocean.

The season commenced on a high note with the launching of the new surf boat "Clicka", which was attended by Branch and State Surf Life Saving Representatives, Representatives of State and Federal Government, the press, local organisations, members of neighbouring Clubs, the boat builder and hundreds of local residents and Club members. The launching performed by Mrs. Pat Asmussen, was followed by refreshments in the Clubhouse and voted most successful by all those who attended.

To commemorate our 60th birthday the Dinner Dance at the Masonic Hall Sutherland was held. It was well organised and especially well attended by members and past members as well as dignitaries. We were most fortunate to have His Honour Sir Adrian Curlewis as guest of honour. Also we were happy to entertain Mr. Ken Watson MBE, Mr. Don Dobie MHR, Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Reilly, (NSW State Centre SLSA), Mr. & Mrs. G. Grant (Illawarra Branch SLSA), Representatives of Coalcliffe and Coledale Surf Clubs, Representatives of Northern Suburbs Leagues Club, Helensburgh Workmens Club, Sutherland United Services Club, and another special guest was everyone's friend Jack Mawson. The function was well catered for regards meal, refreshments and speeches, and was most capably handled by our President - Albert Clarke.

RESCUES, PATROLS AND FIRST AID

As mentioned earlier patrols did show an improvement, but also as stated before a further improvement would be welcome.

A total of 33 were rescued - 25 with line and belt, 6 without lines and 2 by craft. Happily none of those rescued needed resuscitation. First aid was rendered to 80 patients, excluding those who were treated for blue bottle stings - and these cases were numerous.

MEMBERSHIP

Most classes of membership remained much the same as for previous seasons, but a notable increase is noted in the number of Associate Members, much of which is brought about by the joining of parents of the "Seagull" members. Given under is our membership over the past seven seasons:

	<u>1961-2</u>	<u>1962-3</u>	<u>1963-4</u>	<u>1964-5</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>
Active	39	55	42	45	38	43	48
Active Reserve	25	23	25	26	27	14	10
Cadet	9	10	7	7	12	5	8
Associate	17	18	17	19	30	42	68
Life	8	9	10	10	11	12	13
	<u>98</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>147</u>

MEETINGS

Committee Meetings were held regularly and attendance at these meetings showed an improvement over recent seasons. The following list shows the attendances at the 8 meetings held (Apology and "on patrol" shown as "present").

- 8 - A. E. Clarke, B. W. Phillips, A. Frankland, P. Anger, J. Andrews, I. Kohlhardt, C. K. Asmussen.
- 7 - L. J. Morton, G. Land, K. Chapman, J. Moloney, A. McCabe, R. Land, H. Williamson.
- 6 - G. Wardman, R. Whitfield, R. Palmer, K. King, An Andrews, R. Chapman, W. King, A. Prestage.
- 5 - R. Hendry, K. Newell, W. T. Mott
- 4 - R. Butt, T. Anderson
- 3 - M. Nugent
- 2 - B. Redshaw.

Representation at Illawarra Branch Meetings was about the same as previous seasons, the problem here being difficulty in getting delegates who can attend meetings at Wollongong on Friday nights.

EXAMINATIONS

The comment on training of candidates seems to be much the same each season - a late start, a falling off of interest by some candidates and instructors, and candidates allowed to fall by the wayside. This state of affairs should not be allowed to continue, for our Club needs all the qualified members it can muster. Again we were most fortunate in the assistance rendered by Ken Corbett. Here's hoping that an early start can be made this season with the members eligible for training together with any new members who may join in the near future.

Unfortunately, awards gained were not to hand at the time of our Presentation Night, but are now available and will be presented at the Annual Meeting to the following successful candidates:-

Instructors: Ross Birrell and Thomas Anderson
Bronze Medallion: E. J. Duffy, H. W. Harding, A. J. Fahy, R. J. Duffy
J. J. Castle and C. M. Collins

V A L E ... John Castle

The tragic death of our popular vice-Captain was indeed a sad blow, coming as it did with many of our members competing at the State titles at Cudgen Headlands. The wearing of black arm-

V A L E . . . John Castle (contd.)

bands by the boat crew was admired by other crews taking part. The large attendance of members and friends at the funeral showed the considerable respect in which John was held.

The sympathy of all members has already been conveyed to his family, and this opportunity is again taken to express our condolences.

CARNIVALS AND COMPETITIONS

Attendance at inter-Club carnivals showed an improvement, and this was mainly noticeable in the craft events. Wins were not as many as would have been wished for, but the fact that our members showed more enthusiasm than of recent seasons was heartening, and the successes that were achieved were well merited.

The Club was represented at all Branch Club carnivals as well as at the Branch, State and Australian titles and at several Sunday and holiday carnivals in the metropolitan area.

A member of our "Seagulls" had the honour of winning our only title. Congratulations to John Egan who won his age sprint title at the Illawarra Juvenile Championships.

Placings in Branch championships were gained by Will Phillips in the single ski, by the boat crew in the Senior Boat and by Bill Prestage and Will Phillips in the double ski race.

Again the only time our Club was represented in the March Past was at our own carnival.

As usual our own carnival was well patronised both by competitors and supporters. We were lucky to entice competitors from three outside Branches and this made for an excellent afternoon of competition.

Our juveniles, the "Seagulls" did not compete at many carnivals but certainly kept their instructors busy each Sunday morning on our own beach. I feel sure that full benefit is not being obtained by our Club of the juveniles who pass out of the "Seagull" section, and a closer watch will need to be maintained to ensure that these lads are not lost to the Club after they turn 13 years of age. The elected "Seagull" Instructors were ably supported by volunteers of the parents of some of the lads.

Again it is sad to record that participation in Club competitions was generally unsatisfactory and disheartening to those who organise the events. This is not meant as a reflection on those who did compete regularly but only on those who do not take part in these events which are designed to improve one's ability and generally to improve the team spirit. Despite the reduced number of competitors, most events were keenly contested and all wins were well earned.

Successful in the various competitions were:-

"Seagulls" Point Score:	Graham Mercer, Graham Hargraves & Robert Kowalski
Patrol Point Score:	A. Andrews, M. Jury, D. O'Brien, R. Land, A. Wallace.
Senior Belt Championship:	M. Jury.
Senior Surf C'ship & Senior Surf Point Score:	W. Phillips
Senior Beach Point Score:	R. Land
Junior Belt & Surf Championships:	W. Grinham
Junior Surf Point Score:	W. Prestage
Junior Beach Point Score:	W. Grinham
Cadet Surf C'ship and Point Score:	R. White
Cadet Beach Point Score	Kim Coghlan
Board and Ski Point Score	B. Phillips
Carnival Point Score	L. Morton

This was the first year of competition for the "Mumma Chapman" trophy donated by Fred Hull for the Board and Ski Point score - a fine addition to our list of perpetual trophies.

The "Easter Cup" was again contested with Coalcliffe Club and resulted in a win for Stanwell.

A most enjoyable visit was made to Mona Vale soon after the completion of the patrol season, and it is recommended that if these visits are to become regular affairs that some thought be given to the financing of them. Thank you, Mona Vale, for a great day.

FINANCE

Heavy spending and very poor efforts at fund raising have resulted in the smallest bank balance for many years, and if we are to continue to prosper, a very determined effort will have to be made to raise funds, which, as your captain points out in his remarks, are readily available to us provided the organisation and effort are forthcoming.

Northern Suburbs Leagues Club Night

An excellent social night for those who attended. With more assistance to those organising this night the result could have been much better; as it was, the proceeds netted us \$90.00. As usual, Norths are to be commended for the assistance given to organisations such as ours - a good lead for other licensed clubs to follow.

Assurance Day

Despite all kinds of assurances given at the last Annual General Meeting, the response by members to this appeal left a lot to be desired. Sincere appreciation is tendered to those who did give a hand. The return from this drive was considerable and every effort should be made to ensure that as many members as possible are encouraged to assist in future.

Annual Carnival

A handsome profit was made on entry fees, and sales of refreshments. Unfortunately, sale of programs showed a loss; this should never happen.

Donations:

In addition to Assurance Day, donations were also received from: Sutherland United Services Club, Northern Suburbs Leagues Club, Helensburgh Workmens Club (Juvenile Reel), N. H. O'Brien, K. Redshaw, Drs. Walsh, Rosen and Fisher; C. Park, T. Cannon, H. Williamson, P. Anger, R. Palmer, K. Corbett, C. Redshaw, G. Kinnell, C. Williamson, F. Wolrige, D. Robson, R. Marshall, M. Simpson, J. Craig, R. Jackson MLA, D. Hood, R. Johnson, A. Prestage, D. F. Russell, R. M. Dignam, M. Rae, J. Sutherland, S. Faulds, S. Boatman and F. Hull (Trophy) - our sincere appreciation has been conveyed to each of these donors.

CLUBHOUSE AND GEAR

Both gear and Clubhouse will need to receive more attention in the forthcoming season. It is disappointing to note at times that minor repairs are not effected promptly; rather, repairs are delayed till such time as a major job is necessary. This applies particularly to the ramp at the south-eastern end of

the Clubhouse, and to the doors in the same vicinity. Likewise, Clubhouse windows still need attention, and at times the untidy state of the premises left a lot to be desired.

It was refreshing to read in a State Centre circular that the boat we gave to Camdenhaven Club has been completely renovated and is fully seaworthy and doing a good job for lifesaving.

Two new lines were purchased to replace lines which had given seasons of service. It is hoped that Wollongong Council will provide a further line to ensure that all our reels have full length lines on them.

The generosity of Helensburgh Workmens Club in donating a reel for the juveniles was a welcome gesture, and will help to further foster interest in the Juvenile division.

As mentioned previously the new boar "Clicka" was received and launched early in the season, but has not been used with the discretion that such an expensive item of equipment is deserving.

APPRECIATION

Again we have been fortunate in the amount of assistance received from some members and supporters, and assistance given lightens the load on your elected officers.

Special thanks are due to those members who helped with Assurance Day and with our Annual Carnival, but on both occasions many more could have lent a hand.

Another season and another special "thank you" to Ken Corbett, our District Supervisor, for the untiring assistance given to our Bronze squad, and the keen supervision exercised over patrols.

Publicity was well cared for, and our Publicity Officer and press, radio and television did a grand job which was greatly appreciated.

Our "60th Dinner" was a tremendous success, and this success was made possible by the tremendous assistance received from a number of members whom I shall leave unnamed in case someone is omitted. The assistance of the Sutherland United Services Club greatly helped.

Petrol for the transport of our surf boat to carnivals was again donated by Bill Hingston of the Stanwell Park Shell Service Station. An annual gesture which is thankfully received.

Local businessmen as usual assisted considerably, and we are pleased that they all appreciate the service rendered by our members.

The Aerial Patrol Service was vigilant throughout the season and their work is appreciated as is the assistance given by the Wollongong Council.

Relations with the Illawarra Branch of the Association, and the Illawarra Branch of the Juvenile Association, were all that could be desired, and their help is gratefully acknowledged.

Due to other commitments, I was unable to be present at Stanwell Park as much as I would have liked, and special assistance afforded to me by our Captain, Ian Kohlhardt, and by my assistant Secretary, John Moloney, and especially by Bryan Phillips and Alan Andrews, was most welcome, and in fact made it possible for me to fulfil my position.

CONCLUSION

Whilst I have been critical where I think it has been necessary, I feel the season under review has been reasonably satisfactory, and hope that the season ahead will see greater co-operation and greater success.

C. K. ASMUSSEN,

Honorary Secretary.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Once again another season is nearly with us. During last season it was pleasing to note an improvement in patrols and continued effort in this duty will ensure that our beach is always safe.

Some heavy spending last season has left our funds at a low mark and it is here that more help is needed. Money is waiting to be obtained at the picnic area every Sunday so, if possible, volunteer to help - don't wait to be asked!

Congratulations to all members who gained awards and to those who did well in competition.

My thanks to all members who helped and performed their duties to the Club and I hope they will continue to do so.

IAN KOHLHARDT
Captain

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM:

Once again I offer my thanks to all members who did everything asked of them during the 1967-68 season. To patrol members for again doing their good work goes a special "thank you". Again we can boast that "no lives were lost on our beach".

Thanks to all those who attended the 60th Anniversary Dinner especially to those members who did all the organising and now we look forward to the 65th birthday Dinner in 1973.

My only regret has been the lack of support by members in raising finance for our Club. We showed we can spend it quickly in large lumps, but failed to raise very much - another season like this and we will be unfinancial.

Once again thanks to all, and make 1968-69 a season we will all remember as a huge success.

ALBERT CLARKE,
President.