

HELENSBURGH - STANWELL PARK

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

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63RD ANNUAL REPORT

To be Presented at

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held in the Clubhouse

at 10 a.m. on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1970

OFFICIALS 1969 - 1970

Patrons: - C. Williamson, R. Jackson M.L.A.

President: - G. Land

Senior Vice President: - R. Palmer

Vice Presidents: - L. Morton, A. Prestage, K. Newell,
P. Anger, N. Langton, A. Clarke

Captain: - I. Kohlhardt

Vice Captain: - W. Wilson

Secretary: - C.K. Asmussen

Treasurer: - C.K. Asmussen

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer : - P. Beehag

Boat Captain: - R. Hendry

Vice Boat Captain: - R. Whitefield

Chief Instructor: - J. Powell

Assistant Instructors: - All holders of Instructor's Certificates

Branch Delegates: - G. Land, W. Wilson

Publicity Officer: - G. Land

General Committee: - P. Glendenning, K. Hills, A. Fitzgerald,
W. Prestage, J. Castle

Hon. Medical Officers: - Drs. Walsh and Fisher

First Aid Officers: - H. Garner, J. Powell and all Instructors

Social Committee: - A. Prestage, R. White, W. Prestage,
J. Castle, P. Beehag, R. Burke.

"Seagull Instructors": - W. Thompson, A. Fitzgerald, K. Hills,
A. Mercer, R. Mercer, B. Hunt

Hon. Caretaker - A. Prestage

Gear Steward - R. Turner

Delegates to Juvenile
Association - A. Fitzgerald,
R. Mercer

HELENSBURGH STANWELL PARK SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 1969 - 1970

Gentlemen,

Unfortunately the first two paragraphs of my last report were not fully heeded, so I repeat that unless a bigger percentage of members pull their weight both with Club management and patrols and other duties a further decline will occur and I am sure it would be easier to arrest the trend now than when we find ourselves having to completely re-organise our Club. These I know are strong feelings, but sooner or later the position will have to be faced.

As will be seen by the remainder of this report things were not all bad, actually there were some very healthy aspects, especially when one can record that "NO LIVES WERE LOST" and there was an increased number of rescues, but these two items should not lead us to believe that our patrols were all that was to be desired, as on many occasions our beach was not adequately patrolled, and often the patrols that were on duty bore no resemblance to the actual patrols rostered, and thus it was by the graciousness of Club minded and public spirited members that our safety record was not tarnished. The foregoing criticism does not refer to all patrol members as it was pleasing to note that some do realise their responsibilities and did a good job and are to be complimented for their continued good work.

Again two presentation functions were held - one for the "Seagulls" and one for the remainder of Club Members. The Juveniles had their "beano" in the Clubhouse attended by most of their number, most of their handlers and parents and a number of Surf Club Members and this was a most successful and stomach satisfying function. The second function was held at the Helensburgh Workmen's Club and to say it was equally as good as the previous year speaks volumes. Again special appreciation is extended to the Workmen's Club not only for a great night but for their continued support.

Northern Suburbs Rugby Leagues Club again granted us a night which was great not only financially but also socially, and those members who have not been in the habit of attending these "Nights" are asked to make every endeavour to patronise them in future, that is of course, presuming that Norths continue to favour us each season. To the Committee and Members of Norths goes a hearty vote of thanks together with best wishes to their various football teams as semi final time draws near.

Again our Juveniles received that encouragement guidance and support to which they are entitled and this will be further elaborated upon later in this report. To the Instructors of the "Seagulls" goes the appreciation of all Club members and it is hoped that the grounding being given to these lads will reflect in our active membership as the lads grow older, but of course as they transfer to the senior Club it is imperative that interest in them is not permitted to fade.

Half way through the season it was decided by the Committee, following a request from the Juvenile section, to grant that section permission to elect their own officers and to handle, independently, their own fund raising schemes. Whilst I personally feel that more thought should have been given to the decision I must admit that the terrific drive by the Juvenile division could and should be copied and co-ordinated to the advantage of all sections of our membership. The organising ability of the handlers of the Juveniles as regards finance, competitions and attendance at carnivals left nothing to be desired.

Possibly it would have been fitting had this report commenced by recording that our Club gained its first ever State title in craft events when Lance Norton, John Bowler and Bill Prestage won the Ski Teams Championship and this win, together with other achievements by ski riders will be further covered under "Carnivals and competitions".

Regretfully the annual competition with Coalcliffe Club was not held and it is hoped these contests will be conducted well before the close of the season in future so as to ensure that they will not have to be missed due to pressure of carnivals around the close of seasons when also football is making inroads into the time available by members.

Whilst we may have missed out on the Coalcliffe day the visit to Mona Vale compensated everyone lucky enough to attend. Well done Mona Vale and we hope to make your visit to Stanwell next season equally as enjoyable (and torrid). Thanks a lot.

Again the efforts of Council Beach Inspectors were most satisfactory. Early in the season we were well served by Frank Manning and a short time after he was moved to the Helensburgh Swimming pool we were fortunate enough to have Bryan Phillips appointed to our beach and he carried on the good work. It's great to have such men on the beach who are conscious not only of the obligations of the position but are also mindful about the well-being of the Clubhouse and gear.

RESCUES, PATROLS AND FIRST AID

Whilst the earlier comment on patrols is quite correct, that is, that often patrols were inefficient, it is not intended to convey the feeling that all patrols were thus, and the recorded 58 rescues bear out that some members were very conscious of their obligations. The 58 rescues averaged out at almost two per active member so each and every member rostered for patrol should visualise what could possibly happen should patrol attendance not improve - however this matter will have to receive the deep consideration of the incoming Committee.

Persons receiving first aid totalled 101, and it is a disgusting state of affairs when our First Aid room is broken into and robbed as happened a few months ago.

MEMBERSHIP

Whilst membership remains fairly static it is disturbing to note that for the last two seasons there has been a reduction in our Active Membership section, and unless a concerted effort is made to improve this position a further worsening of the situation will occur. As will be seen by the table below an improvement is a "must".

	<u>1962-3</u>	<u>1963-4</u>	<u>1964-5</u>	<u>1965-6</u>	<u>1966-7</u>	<u>1967-8</u>	<u>1968-9</u>	<u>1969-70</u>
Active	55	42	45	38	43	48	44	32
Active Reserve	23	25	26	27	14	10	10	8
Cadet	10	7	7	12	5	8	14	10
Associate	18	17	19	30	42	68	69	77
Life	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
	115	101	107	118	116	147	151	141

MEETINGS

Again there was a decline in the attendance at meetings, and unfortunately we were not often represented at Branch Meetings. Club Committee Meetings and Branch Meetings are the places where the smooth running of affairs should be decided and lack of attendance or interest in either or both will result in decisions which are not popular, else it will lead to leadership by a few, whereas rules are drawn up to enable the broadest possible representation at these meetings.

Your Club Committee relies on the assistance and guidance of all elected Committee Members.

EXAMINATIONS

At the commencement of the season it appeared, as usual, that there would be quite a number of candidates presenting themselves for awards, but again as usual, many prospective candidates were permitted to fall by the wayside. Finally only two were examined and it is pleasing to know that each of these were successful, so congratulations go to Ken Ambler and Phillip Ainsworth who gained their Bronze Medallions which will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

It is not sufficient to report each season "that many commence training but few remain" and now it is imperative that a genuine effort is made to see that this state of affairs is greatly improved upon.

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• VALE - Oscar Kohlhardt and Ken Redshaw.

• The passing of these two esteemed members were sad occasions for all .
• members and to their relatives goes our deepest sympathy. .
• Oscar Kohlhardt, though only joining recently as an Associate Member, .
• was most popular and willing and at the time of his death was prepar- .
• ing himself to accept nomination for an important Club position. .
• .

- Ken ("Spike") Redshaw had approximately 45 years membership, was
- a Life Member and holder of an Association Certificate of Merit
- for a gallant rescue performed way back in 1932.

- Our Club is much poorer through the deaths of these members.

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CARNIVALS AND COMPETITIONS

Again competition in carnivals was confined to craft events. The boat crew started at a number of carnivals and a few times gave indications of better things to come, however it was not always possible to have crews selected in attendance and performances did not reach expectations. However performances by ski riders reached unprecedented heights, and each of the regular paddlers deserves real credit.

The single ski team, comprising John Bowler, Will Prestage and Lance Morton besides winning the State and Branch Championships had two more wins and two more placings. Will Prestage had four wins in single ski races and a second in the Branch Championship and with Will Phillips finished third in the State titles, additionally Will Prestage was again selected in the State Taplin team which was well in the lead up to 50 yards from the beach in the last "leg" when a wave upset all calculations. Lance Morton, evergreen as ever, was most successful with two wins in single ski events, was third in the Branch single ski and third also in the Australian Single Ski Championship, and with John Bowler had six wins in double ski races including the Branch Championship, and John Bowler besides the above successes also gaining a meritorious win in a single ski race.

Will Prestage had the distinction of being second, in a "photo" finish in the single ski race at the Royal Carnival at Coffs Harbour before the Royal Family.

More competitors of the calibre of those referred to would work miracles for our image.

Our "Seagulls" again competed with distinction and their performances are adequately covered later in this report.

Unfortunately competitors and spectators were fewer at our own carnival which as usual was well organised and conducted despite the absence of many members who could have been expected to lend a hand.

In the Illawarra Branch Gear Competition our Club finished a very close second and won a "B.P. Rescue Board". Success in this competition can be credited to a large extent to Bryant Phillips and Alan Prestage for their efforts on Club gear - thanks follows.

Again Club point scores and championships did not receive the

support of enough members, and it is hoped that a new approach to this aspect of Club activities can be achieved in future. Those who did compete did so quite well and all successes were well merited.

Winners of the Club Competitions were :-

Patrol Point Score	..	W. King (Capt.), A. Fahy, W. Phillips and C. Collins
Carnival Point Score	..	Lance Morton
Cadet Surf Championship	..	R. White
Cadet Surf Point Score	..	R. White
Surf Ski Point Score	..	D. O'Brien
Junior Surf Championship	..	P. Ainsworth
Junior Surf Point Score	..	R. Burke
Junior Beach Point Score	..	P. Ainsworth
Senior Surf Championship	..	W. Phillips
Senior Belt Championship	..	L. Morton and B. Phillips (Dead heat)
Senior Surf Point Score	..	L. Morton and W. Phillips (Dead heat)
Senior Beach Point Score	..	I. Kohlhardt

FINANCE

Regrettably the improvement of the previous season did not continue and most items of income were less whilst expenses generally remained the same. Main decreases of income were most noticeable in donations, raffles, return from our own carnival and returns from Assurance Day.

Assurance Day

Again the work on this day fell the lot of a few, so few that they could not be expected to cover all houses in our area, so it was that many donations went uncollected. This state of affairs must improve.

Donations

We are most appreciative to each of the following for their donations (in addition to Assurance Day donations) --

N. Langton, R. Mercer, G. Land, F. Ryan, P. Dunford, F. Daintry, K. Redshaw, T. Cannon, C. Ryder, D.F. Russell, F. Wolrige, R. Jackson MLA, St. Patricks College Strathfield, Northern Suburbs Leages Club, R. Johnson, Australian Iron and Steel, The "Seagulls", H. Williamson, C. Williamson, Holensburgh Bowling Club.

CLUBHOUSE AND GEAR

The Wollongong Council has offered materials to the value of \$100.00 for maintenance to the interior of our building and it is hoped that the labour can be organised very soon.

It was necessary to request the Council to repair or replace a number

of windows, some of which have been attended to but despite promises the first aid windows remain in a bad state of disrepair, and no doubt this was virtually an invitation to the person or persons who forced entry and stole all the first aid blankets.

Gear has been well maintained though it is necessary for some repairs to be done to our new boat and it is hoped this can be effected before the start of the season.

After discussions with doctors and Coledale Hospital it was decided to obtain a new "Shark Attak" first aid kit. We are most thankful to both the hospital and doctors and to the Helensburgh Bowling Club and The Australian Iron and Steel who contributed to the cost of the kit.

APPRECIATION

Thanks to those who assisted with Club management during the season, and special thanks to those few who helped on Assurance Day and on our Carnival Day.

Again thanks to the Shell Service Station for their assistance in donating petrol for transport of the surf boat.

For every possible assistance from the local stores, thanks a lot.

Thanks also to the Aerial Patrol for their vigilance, though their "Sweeps" are fewer and our two way radio aerial is in the same state as at the time of the last report - that is that it is still broken thus making reception difficult.

Every approach to the Illawarra Branch received prompt attention and we appreciate their advice and assistance.

Again I had to rely heavily on Captain Ian Kohlhardt and Bryant Phillips to assist with duties which are really the responsibility of a Secretary/Treasurer - their assistance made it possible for me to carry on so thanks a lot fellows.

CONCLUSION

Again this season your report is not over enthusiastic as it has been necessary to draw attention to a number of shortcomings all of which will have to be rectified before we will be the force that we should be, so another appeal is directed to all members to do at least a little more and see that YOUR Club remains one of which you can be proud.

As I will not be available for the positions of Secretary or Treasurer henceforth I wish to thank members for their confidence and assistance over the 24 years that I have held the positions, and

especially do I thank the various Presidents, Captains, vice Captains and Assistant Secretaries with whom I have worked, as without their confidence, understanding and assistance my job would have been much harder. To my successor I offer every help and guidance.

C.K. Asmussen
Honorary Secretary

JUVENILE PRATTLE --- THE SEAGULLS ---- Contributed by Alan Fitzgerald

Membership reached a total of 126 thus providing work galore for those who assisted with competitions etc.

The season was most gratifying from a competition angle as our lads competed at 13 local carnivals gaining 54 wins, plus 69 minor placings. The Illawarra Branch Championships provided us with 9 wins and 8 other placings resulting in our Club gaining third placing among the competing clubs, whilst in the N.S.W. Titles we gained two second placings and five thirds thus finishing tenth among the 72 clubs which participated. A large contingent competed at the Captain Cook Bi Centenary Carnival annexing 3 wins and a total of five placings

The outstanding competitor was Graham Mercer who had 30 wins and 15 other placings in 16 carnivals. The most successful swimmer was Mark Fitzgerald who won a Branch Championship and gained a fourth at the State Titles.

Special thanks goes to the Helensburgh and Stanwell Park business people for their donations which helped make our Easter Gift competition such a success and will provide the finance necessary to purchase a set of March Past costumes for next season.

To the Helensburgh Workmen's Club special thanks for providing a bus for competitors to carnivals.

Our deep appreciation also goes to our Ladies Auxiliary without whose help we would be floundering.

Competitions resulted :-

Seven Year Olds	.. 1st - Glen Connor, 2nd - Aaron Fuller 3rd - Lloyd Griffiths
Eight Year Olds	.. 1st - Graham Mercer, 2nd - Mark Fitzgerald, 3rd - Stacey Mercer
Nine Year Olds	.. 1st - Peter Mills, 2nd - John Thompson, 3rd - Kevin McDonald
Ten Year Olds	.. 1st - Craig Piccinelli, 2nd - Mark Bilbija, 3rd - Mark Thompson

Eleven Year Olds .. Winner - Ian Anger
Twelve Year Olds .. Winner - Jeff Hunt
Thirteen Year Olds .. Winner - Graham Cook
Most Outstanding "Seagull" ---- Graham Mercer
Most Conscientious ---- Paul Mercer who won the
Neil Langdon Cup.

CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

Unfortunately during the past season there were shortcomings in patrols and raising of finance, and my personal thanks go to the members who doubled up for patrols and also on many occasions were the same ones who helped in other aspects of Club duties. It is hoped that next season will see an increase in interest in the Club.

A concerted effort must be made to instruct the lads going for awards and endeavour to put them through their exams quickly.

My congratulations go to all members who had success in competition.

I am sorry that Con Asmussen will not be standing for the position of Secretary/Treasurer as he has been a great help and all I can say is thanks for a job well done.

Ian Kohlhardt
Captain

PRESIDENT'S ADDENDUM

Another successful season has passed by and I would like to thank all members who carried out their duties for the season.

A special thanks to members who doubled up for patrols to cover those who failed to carry out their allotted responsibilities.

Your Club Captain, as usual, has done a great job in organising Club competitions which were better attended by members. It is good to see these competitions improving. The competition gained by those who participate helps condition patrol members for emergencies.

Congratulations to members who had success at carnivals during the season and good luck for the season ahead.

As everyone knows membership is a problem with all clubs, assistance from members of our Club to introduce new members and have them gain their Bronze Medallion would assist us all.

Again - thanks a lot

George Land
President