

HELENSBURGH - STANWELL PARK

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

\* \* \*

65th ANNUAL REPORT

To be Presented at

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held in the Clubhouse

at 10 a.m. on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1972

OFFICIALS 1971 - 72

PATRONS - C. Williamson (deceased) A. McKenzie,  
R. Jackson M.L.A.

PRESIDENT: - G. Land

SENR. VICE PRESIDENT: - B. Phillips

VICE-PRESIDENTS: - P. Anger, A. Prestage, N. Langton,  
C. Asmussen, D. O'Brien, D. Ryder,  
G. Ryder, R. Palmer

CAPTAIN: - I. Kohlhardt

VICE-CAPTAIN: - C. Collins

SECRETARY: - K. Newell

TREASURER: - K. Newell

ASST. SECRETARY/TREASURER:- A. McCabe

BOAT CAPTAIN: - T. Hargraves

VICE BOAT CAPTAIN - K. Ambler

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: - W. King

ASST. INSTRUCTOR: - All active instructors

BRANCH DELEGATES: - A. McCabe, G. Land

PUBLICITY OFFICER: - J. Collett

GENERAL COMMITTEE - W. Prestage, R. Burke, K. King,  
P. Beehag, R. White, J. O'Brien,  
J. Powell

MEDICAL OFFICER: - Dr. Crossley-Meates

FIRST AID OFFICERS: - H. Garner and all instructors

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: - R. Burke, P. Beehag, A. Prestage,  
W. Prestage, S. Craig, J. Cook,  
C. Jardine

HON. CARETAKER: - A. Prestage

GEAR STEWARDS - R. White, A. Prestage

JUVENILE SECTION "SEAGULLS"

PRESIDENT - A. Fitzgerald

SECRETARY: - B. Piper

TREASURER: - K. Mills

\* \* \*

HELENSBURGH-STANWELL PARK SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT - 1971-72

Gentlemen,

It is very pleasing for me to be able to report that once again there were "NO LIVES LOST" on our beach whilst it was being patrolled this season. To our small group of active members go my congratulations.

Again, this season we held two presentation functions, the first being held one Sunday morning in the Clubhouse for our strong contingent of "Seagull" members. As usual, this was a very successful function.

Our more senior presentation dance was also held in the Clubhouse one Saturday night and it was very pleasing to see it so well patronised. To the ladies who worked so hard to prepare such an elaborate supper I say "thank you" as I do to Gil Grant, our hard-working Branch President, who honoured us with his presence and in doing so made the presentation of trophies.

Prior to the commencement of the surfing season we held two very successful social functions, the first being a car trial, which was very well organised by our skipper Ian Kohlhardt. To the Phillips family go my congratulations for filling the first three placings.

The other pre-season function was our Annual Golf Tournament against the Workman's Club. Thanks to Arthur Finney this was a very enjoyable day with the Workman's Club team winning the "Spike Redshaw" Memorial Trophy for the first time. Thanks to the many donors and the support of all those who attended, this tournament again proved to be a financial success.

To Jack (Daki) Mawson and Jimmy Thorne go my congratulations for their great organisation of the "Reunion of Old Members" day, held at and most generously supported by the Workman's Club. It is hoped that all those who attended turn up again next season to exchange stories.

It was very pleasing to see the Era contingent turn up on our beach this season to contest the "Helensburgh Chamber of Commerce Shield". Mainly due to the fine individual efforts of the versatile Will Phillips, our Club managed to retain this handsome shield. After the carnival we once again adjourned to the Helensburgh Bowling Club for a bowls afternoon where our bowlers were also victorious. Thanks mainly to the hard-working Woggy Josland, our many donors and the support of the Bowling Club this proved to be a more successful day than our previous get-together.

During April of this year our Club members were again guests at the Mona Vale Surf Club. After a brief carnival we were excellently entertained in true surf club fashion with plenty of steaks and beer. Although the Mona Vale boys took out the honours on the beach and in the surf, our boys proved superior at the indoor sports, with Ian Kohlhardt giving them a table tennis lesson and "Baby" John McKenzie humbling "Pencil" Angwin in a "Torpedo" style drinking competition.

This season we were honoured with the presence of the touring Formosan Surf Life Saving Team. The team was introduced to our Club by Gil Grant and Bob Little one Friday afternoon. After the formalities we entertained the team with good old Australian beer, which was donated by the Workman's Club, and plenty of steaks. Although our guests did not have a great deal of surfing experience, they were keen to get into the water with our boys and try out our boards, skis and kyaks, which greatly amused their big team captain. Like all lifesavers the Formosans took a great interest in our bikini-clad girls with whom they posed for many photographs.

Again this season it was very pleasing to see our Seagulls (Juveniles) wearing our Club colours with such distinction. Their memorable victory in the Branch march past championship made each and everybody associated with our Club very proud. I would like to mention all the fine performances put up by the boys but I am afraid that I would not have enough paper. However, one that I feel must be mentioned, was the great effort of young Graham Mercer in winning two silver medals in the State Championships. To Alan Fitzgerald and his team of hard-working instructors go my congratulations for the competent way they conducted the Branch Championship on our beach.

We were again fortunate to have our Senior Vice President Bryant Phillips as our beach inspector. To you, Bryant, I would like to say thanks for the excellent job which you did in organising our Club's first Patrol Dinner, which from all reports was a great success.

Of all the visitors we had to our Club this season by far the most popular was a charming young lady called Rene. Since her visit she has been charged by the police but I expect that if she is put into gaol, both Wobbley and Ronnie Turner will do everything in their power to have her released.

Our State President and fellow member Con Asmussen is now Con Asmussen M.B.E.. It is truly pleasing to see one who has devoted so much of his time and ability to our movement recognised in such a distinguished manner. Con, congratulations.

#### CARNIVALS AND COMPETITIONS:

Unfortunately, in this report I am unable to boast again that any of our boys this season have won a State title. However, our champion surf ski team consisting of Bill Prestage, Lance Morton and Will Phillips, managed to win a silver medal in the N.S.W. Championships. This fine effort, along with their win in our Branch Championships, capped off yet another successful season for our ski competitors.

Congratulations once again must go to Bill Prestage for being selected in two N.S.W. teams and our Branch team this season.

To the winners of our Club point score and championship events go my congratulations, especially to Terry Hargraves in winning the Senior Point Score and Championships after only two seasons in the Club.

Winners of Club Competitions were:-

Patrol Point Score - R. Burke (Capt.), R. White  
G. Thompson, P. Braaz, T. Braaz  
Carnival Point Score - W. Prestage  
Cadet Surf Championship - Tim Lloyd  
Cadet Surf Point Score - I. Anger  
Junior Surf Championship - R. White  
Junior Surf Point Score - R. White  
Junior Beach Point Score - G. Cook  
Senior Surf Championship - T. Hargraves  
Senior Surf Point Score - T. Hargraves  
Senior Beach Point Score - T. Hargraves

FINANCE:

Thanks mainly to our new Patron Alex McKenzie, the Club is still in a good financial position. Alex again this season most willingly donated excellent prizes for us to raffle on Friday and Saturday nights, bringing a profit of approx. \$1,000.00. Of course, it is fully appreciated that we would not have made such a handsome sum if it wasn't for the great job done by our hard-working ticket sellers. To the few members who assisted in this department go my thanks as it does to Iris Hargrave (mother of our Club Champion), Ruby King, Betty Hill and all the other women who helped us out with our raffles.

Alex, it is truly pleasing to have not only your backing but the support of your Patrons and Staff also. Thanks one and all.

ASSURANCE DAY:

This was probably one of the most disappointing events of the season. Although the public's response was good, the small number of members that assisted in this door knock appeal were not able to cover the large area allocated. As a result, in comparison with last season, only half as much money was collected.

DONATIONS:

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

A. McKenzie, W. Russell, Dr. R. Johnson, St. Patrick's College, Strathfield, Helensburgh Workman's Club, A. Clarke, J. Sutherland, C. Ryder, N. O'Brien, C. Asmussen, H. Williamson, K. Chapman, T. Cannon, R. Palmer, F. Ryan, R. Marshall, Old Members' Re-union, A. McCabe, K. Butler, Mrs. Rivers, V. Stewart, Mrs. Kohlhardt, D. Russell, Christian Youth Club, Mrs. Shoobert, J. Haywood, N.S.W. Police Department, P. Dunford and A. McCabe.

CLUBHOUSE AND GEAR:

There have been a few minor repairs and improvements made to the Clubhouse during the season, the most noticeable being the replacing of a First Aid Room window with weatherboards and the installation of a fluorescent light in our kitchen by "hard-working" Archie Fahey. Lino tiles have also been purchased for the kitchen floor but have not been laid as yet.

Once again our gear has been well maintained and the purchase of a new cotton line was made early in the season.

A special committee has been elected to investigate the capabilities of a power-driven rescue boat (Rubber Duckie). Should their findings be that they consider this boat an invaluable piece of equipment to our Club, they will recommend the purchase of same at our next Annual General Meeting. Therefore, it would be appreciated if every member would give this matter a lot of thought before the meeting.

APPRECIATION:

Thanks to those who assisted with Club management during the season and special thanks to members who helped on Assurance Day and on our Carnival Day, especially to Roger Hendry and John Ray for the laying of the buoys.

To the Illawarra Branch goes our thanks for their co-operation and advice throughout the season.

Once again our appreciation to the Helensburgh Workman's Club for their continued support.

Thanks also to the Aerial Patrol and Surf Rescue Boat for their vigilance and for every possible assistance that Rod Knell and his good wife have given.

Once again to the obliging small group of women associated with the Club I say thank you for the help you have volunteered.

Last but not least goes my personal thanks to the Club Executive, Bryant Phillips and C.K.A. - M.B.E. for their assistance.

RESCUES, PATROLS AND FIRST AID:

A total of 54 rescues were made by the few reliable members who continue to fulfil their patrol obligations. During the afternoon of January 16 two of our members, Lance Morton and Peter Beehag, courageously paddled a double ski through mountainous seas in an attempt to rescue a man swept from the rocks at Bolga. Although their efforts were in vain a letter has been received by our Club from the Police Department complimenting the boys for their bravery. A report of this rescue attempt has been forwarded to the Illawarra Branch for their information.

First aid was administered to a total of 102 people.

MEMBERSHIP:

Although the table below states that we have an active membership of 34 it is very disappointing to report that a percentage of these members do not make themselves available for patrols.

	<u>1964-65</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
Active	45	48	33	34
Active Reserve	26	10	11	12
Cadet	7	8	9	10
Associate	19	68	70	71
Life	10	13	14	15
	<u>107</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>142</u>

MEETINGS:

It was very pleasing to see that our committee meetings were well attended again this season. To our President, George Land, Bill King and Andy McCabe goes our appreciation for their attendance at Branch meetings whenever possible.

EXAMINATIONS:

A great job was once again done by Bill King and his team of instructors. Unfortunately only one examination was held on our beach this season, resulting in seven boys obtaining their Bronze Medallions. Had it been possible for another examination to be held later in the season, I feel sure that a lot more boys would have received their awards. However, it is anticipated an examination will be arranged early in the coming season for these boys.

A presentation of awards gained will be made at our Annual General Meeting. Congratulations go to our instructors and successful award winners.

VALE -- CLARRIE WILLIAMSON. The passing of our long-standing Patron was a sad occasion for all members and to his relatives goes our deepest sympathy. Clarrie's quick wit and smiling face will be greatly missed by all. He had been a member of our Club since 1946.

Although the following is not directly connected with the Surf Life Saving Movement I feel it warrants a mention. Congratulations go to our Captain, Ian Kohlhardt for winning the Illawarra Singles Table Tennis Championship.

To our fellow member Ross Birrell and former member John Bringolf go our congratulations, also for their success as players with the strong South Sydney Rugby League Club.

CONCLUSION:

To all members I say thank you for honouring me with life membership. It is with regret that I have to announce my resignation as Secretary/Treasurer of our Club. To my successor I offer every help and guidance.

K. A. Newell  
HONORARY SECRETARY.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Gentlemen,

Again thanks to all members for their efforts and hard work during the Season to keep our Club operating.

By now we all realise the problem of recruiting new members and I must repeat, if any of you have mates at work or school who may be interested, bring them along.

To Keith Newell, thanks for the drive and efforts behind fund-raising, assisted by his capable merry men.

To Con Asmussen, congratulations on an award well deserved by a dedicated man.

Thank you.

G. LAND

CAPTAIN'S REPORT:

Another Season has passed and I feel it has been a solid year, considering the number of members we have. Finance has improved thanks again to the members who sell tickets around Clifton. Patrols were attended more regularly than in recent past Seasons. Congratulations to all members who were successful in competitions. On the social scene the various functions were well attended and enjoyed by all.

My personal thanks go to the members who helped with Club activities and I look forward to next year.

I. KOHLHARDT.

"SEAGULLS" REPORT FOR 1971-72 SEASON:

Once again the "Seagulls" proved to be a force to be contended with. Their efforts during the Season were very outstanding and showed the other clubs that even though we are short in numbers we have a tower of strength. During the Season our boys contested 11 carnivals plus the State and Branch Titles. Overall results were:-

1st Place - 122  
2nd Place - 118  
3rd Place - 126.

Our March Past Team who have only had two (2) Seasons together were very outstanding by winning 8 times and runners up 4 times. They finished the Season by winning the Branch Championship and running 4th in the State Titles.

In the water events Mark Fitzgerald was by far the best performer in winning 6 events and running 2nd in two (2) of the nine(9) races he started in.



The 11 year old Chariot Team had a Season with 7 wins, 3 seconds and 2 thirds out of 12 contested events. This included 1st in Branch Championship and 3rd in State Titles.

Grahame Mercer was the most successful Seagull of the Season at the State Titles. He ran 2nd in the Sprint and 2nd in the Beach Flags.

Ross Burns was an outstanding competitor during the season with a tally of 10 firsts, 6 seconds and 5 thirds. It was very unfortunate for Ross, his family and the "Seagulls" that towards the end of the Season this lad suffered a serious leg infection which caused hospitalisation for many weeks. As a result of this Ross was unable to attend the Branch or State Titles. At the time of writing I am pleased to report Ross is well on the way back to good health and we all hope he will be fit for the coming Season. "Good Luck, Ross, we need you!"

The ten (10) year-old relay team was again the best on the coast. They won 10 out of 12 contests and were once again Branch Champions. This team has won the Branch Titles each year, firstly as 8-year-olds, then 9 years and now 10 years. We hope they keep going until they reach the maximum - Senior State Title Champions.

For the 1971-72 Season we had a total of 120 boys on our books, but unfortunately only about 50% of these lads competed regularly. We hope we have better attendance next Season. For the coming Season we should have one of the best swimming squads on the coast. We are fortunate to have acquired some top swim stars from Sydney who will give this Club the boost it needs.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Senior Surf Club, Helensburgh Workman's Club, Helensburgh Bowling Club, Mr. Neil Langdon - Mr. Frank Little, Seagulls Ladies Auxiliary and all the organisers of the Seagull contests - together with everyone who helped out at the Branch Championships and Presentation Day. Without the untiring and financial assistance of these people we wouldn't be able to survive.

Once again, thanks a million and please come back for the 1972-73 Season. We need you.

All the best in surfing.

B. PIPER  
Hon. Secretary.