



# A FRESH UPDATE



OCT 2011

## President's update



It is hard to believe that summer is coming with the patchy weather that we have had since we started patrols at the end of

September but it is pleasing to see patrols are at full strength and despite the weather, they have been kept busy with dealing with incidents that have arisen. The preseason preparation has helped with a smooth start to the patrolling season.

After two hectic registration days we had in excess of 840 Nippers attend their first day of Nippers. The commencement of Nippers for the 6, 7 and 8 year old age groups being brought forward to 8.30am with the older age groups starting at 9.30am seems to have helped reduce the pressure on the beach and car parking. Well done to **Dave Kiely** and his team for the work that they have done with registrations and planning for the season ahead.

With our large number of active members, **Lindsay Davis** and her team of instructors have already commenced organising proficiency sessions for bronze and higher award holders so don't leave it to the last

minute to do your proficiency. Further details for dates and times are in the newsletter or can be found on Freshnet.

As with everything in society in this day and age, the need to be accountable is a focus in running our activities. Surf Life Saving Australia recently released a new water safety policy to cover all aquatic activities carried out by surf clubs. This policy requires a more stringent assessment and reporting process of all training and water activities being undertaken by the club. The operation of this policy has been the centre of discussions at all levels of surf lifesaving as it is increasing the administrative burden placed on clubs. But thanks to efforts from **Wayne Freakley** and the committee we believe that we have set the appropriate processes in place to administer this policy. We do not anticipate any major changes at member level as member safety has always been paramount but it is essentially the documentation that is required to be prepared to conduct an aquatic activity.

I am very happy to advise that our two major sponsors the **Harbord Beach Hotel** and the **Freshwater Branch of the Bendigo Bank** have agreed to support our activities

for the coming season. The support from these sponsors is greatly appreciated and essential to the operation of the club's services to the community. Please support these two great local businesses and other club sponsors which are listed within the newsletter. For anybody who would like to sponsor the club please do not hesitate to contact our Director of Sponsorship and Marketing - **Naomi Donohue**.

On Saturday 29 October 2011 at 11.00 am the unveiling of the plaque to mark the Freshwater end of the Manly-Freshwater Surfing Reserve will take place. All members are very welcome to attend this ceremony as it is a significant event for Freshwater Beach.

Well done to the group of members who competed in the recent Coolangatta Gold, particularly **Michael Kirkby** who took on the individual event in very grueling conditions.

With the 2011/12 season now underway we are all looking forward to another successful and enjoyable season and remember what will continue to make us "the Greatest Club on the Greatest Beach in the World" is member participation so please be involved.

*Stephen Bennett*



### SOCIAL NEWS

A reminder that **Freshies on Friday** is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, with the next one being on

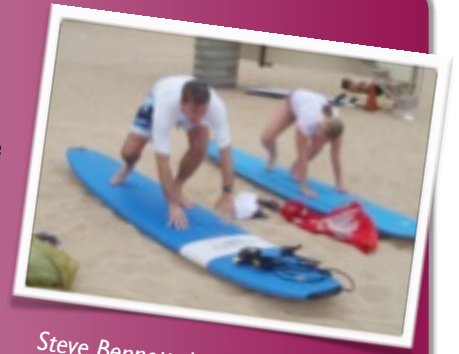
**14 October** starting at 6pm. We would like to see as many currently endorsed club officials attend this FoF for a get together over a couple of drinks to catch up and discuss the coming season. Our other regular social get together - **Sunday sippers** - is held on the last Sunday of the month starting at 4pm with the next one on **30 October**.

### inside ...

- \* what happens on tour..
- \* Captain's report
- \* around the club
- \* early season results
- \* nippers
- \* ... and more!

## WHAT HAPPENS ON TOUR ...

Now that they are back from Hawaii, tales tall and true are beginning to emerge about some of the goings on of our intrepid globetrotters. As reported in our last edition Steve 'Get out of my way' Bennett did his bit for Austra-American relations by dropping in on his American competitors in the old blokes long board event, with legendary US Surfer Fred Hemmings.



*Steve Bennett doing some dry run throughs of his drop in technique*

Not to be outdone in the water, the entire Freshie contingent braved the famous Waikiki swell by having a paddle in one of the outrigger canoes, with local mayer and coub member **Michael Regan** quickly gaining the nickname "Shalala" from the Hawaiian master of the vessel.



*L-R Hawaiiin hunk, Steve Bennett, Judy Bennett, Naomi Wilson, Max Jones, Pauline Jones, Michael Regan, Bronwen Regan & Naomi Donohue*

When she was spotted in the bushes looking over fences into backyards, **Judy "Foo" Bennett** was quick to say that she was studying the architecture of the houses for ideas for the new home she and husband Steve are about to build. Word is however that many of the said yards behind said fences had well built local Hawaii lads in them so there was some question about the nature of the architecture Judy was really studying.



*Judy Bennett studying the local Hawaiian "architecture"*

Hawaii is noted for its spectacular lava flows when the lava pours out of the volcanoes and makes it way to the ocean. We're told **Max "The Big Kahuna" Jones** battled a lava flow of his own except this lava flow was a bit different - a notorious Hawaiian cocktail at the final function of the tour. Though in "good spirits" throughout the night, the BK ultimately ended up quite fluent in what appeared to be a local version of Swahili and was eventually chaperoned home to bed by wife Pauline.



## DID YOU KNOW????

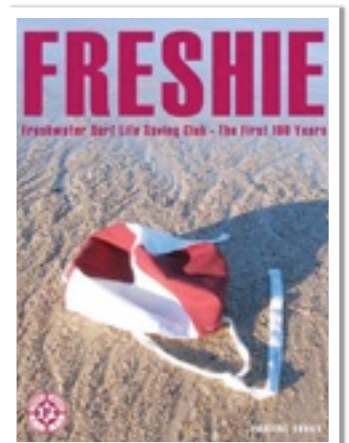
...that the Sunday morning surf race held at I Iam is part of a year-long competition that has a long and proud tradition within the club. Points are awarded for each of the participants, with first place receiving 10 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 and so on down the line with all entrants receiving at least one point. The points are totaled up at the end of the season and the person with the highest points is declared the winner of the annual **President's Cup**. The competition for the "Cup" has been run continually for 85 years since the 1927/28 season and while the actual Cup has long since vanished, to be declared the winner remains a great honour.

There are also two long standing competitions within the President's Cup itself – the Jock McPhee Trophy (named after former multiple State & Australian surf race and R&R champion) for the highest point score for the 1<sup>st</sup> three races of the season (run continuously since 1955/56) and the Alec McPhee Trophy (named after former long time club treasurer) for the last three races (run continuously since 1957/58).

The first surf race for the season is scheduled for Sunday 16 October - it would be great to see as many members as possible turn up to try and gain the honour of being the first winner for the year and the first to hoodwink club handicapper **Ross Parry**.

## HISTORY BOOK

Just a reminder that there are still plenty of copies of the club's 100 year history book available for purchase. The book provides an extensive outline of the club's history and member achievements and would make a great Christmas present for family and friends. The book can be purchased for \$35 and can be collected from the office or for additional cost of \$10, can be posted to anywhere within Australia.



# Club Captain's report



## Patrols:

The 2011-2012 patrol season commenced on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2011. There have been some awful conditions which saw 2 patrols close the beach on the long

weekend due to dangerous surf. Every patrol has now patrolled the beach.

Please can all patrol members check FreshNET as there have been some further changes to patrols as we are learning more about those members who have been unable to return this season. I would like to thank every member who has returned to the beach this season. It is through every member's dedication and commitment that we serve our community to ensure no lives are lost on Freshwater Beach whilst the beach is patrolled.

I would like to say a big thank-you to **Naomi Donohue** who has resigned from the Patrol Registrar position. It is a meticulous and time-consuming job that is essential for our members' patrol hours record keeping and providing the stats for the patrols in order to enhance funding. I would like to thank **John Cherry** the Club Vice Captain as he has taken on the role of Patrol Registrar for this season. I would also like to remind those people who have shown a keen interest in the role as patrol captain, the Honorary Beach Inspectors Course is on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 7.30pm at Freshwater SLSC. If there is anyone interested in learning about being a patrol captain please do not hesitate to contact me

If you have any enquiries about your patrols please advise your patrol captain first. It is essential that all members sign the log and write their patrol hours in. I remind all members that if you are seeking to be excused from your patrol obligations, you must first seek approval from your patrol captain. Patrol captains are able to grant one exemption each season – any further applications for exemption must be made to the Club Captain. In order to achieve 100% patrols this season you must attend all your rostered patrols.

## Patrol Equipment:

1. Patrol tent pegs: We have two new spiral tent pegs for the patrol tent. They have been tested in windy conditions and they are robust and stand up to the conditions. I am investigating getting two more for the club.

2. ATV: I have also replaced the two rear tyres on the ATV with new rubber on the rims. Please ensure the tyres are not heavily deflated as this destroys the rubber. I remind people that if you find any faulty lifesaving equipment can you please document it in the patrol log so it can be rectified.

3. Radios: There are issues with the new radio frequencies but Surfguard believe it is repeater issues rather than the radios. Testing of the repeaters was conducted last Friday 7 Oct but there are still some issues since the testing.

## Other news

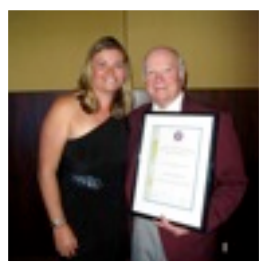
I was honoured to have been present on Saturday, 8 October 2011 at the SLSA Award of Excellence Dinner to see **Ray Brennan** receive his SLSA Life membership. This is not by any means easy to obtain & requires a life-long commitment to Surf Life Saving. Congratulations Ray this is an amazing achievement.

Ray joined surf life saving in 1946 and since then has served Surf Life Saving in a variety of roles including that as an official, administrator, fundraiser and historian. However Ray's greatest contribution during his time was the junior movement. He was one of the early visionaries who could see the positive impact of nippers on clubs and the need to

engage female family members into the club activities. He served in leadership roles of Secretary, Treasurer and President of Junior Activities across all levels of the association being club, branch, state and national.

Once again, congratulations Ray.

*Yours sincerely in lifesaving  
Sharon Johnson, Co-Club Captain*



*Ray pictured with club captain, Sharon Johnson*

## EARLY SEASON RESULTS

Proving that they are versatile & can perform in good weather as well as foul, our erstwhile bunch of ski paddlers have recorded some encouraging early season results in the Ocean Ski Series being conducted by Sydney Northern Beaches. Leading the way in Round 1 was head coach and resident ski champion **Tim Jacobs** who won both the overall race and the 20-39 Male Ocean Racing division. The incredible shrinking man, **Jono Chalmers** won the 20-39 Male SLSA Ski Division and Club Grand Poobah **Steve "Out of my Way" Bennett** won the old timers 50-59 Male SLSA division. Other notable performances were recorded by **Tim Kirkby** (2<sup>nd</sup> U19 Male Ocean Racing), **Kim Low** (3<sup>rd</sup> 20-39 Female Ocean Racing), **Scott Carpenter** (20<sup>th</sup> 30-39 Male Ocean Racing), **Nigel Hoshcke** (2<sup>nd</sup> 20-39 Male SLSA Ski), **Carl Henderson** (7<sup>th</sup> 20-39 Male SLSA Ski), **Kevin Crow** (3<sup>rd</sup> 50-59 Male SLSA Ski) & **Phil Fagan** (4<sup>th</sup> 50-59 Male SLSA Ski).

The **Coolangatta Gold** has also come & gone again for another season and the club was represented by Surf Sports Director **Michael Kirkby** who put in a great individual performance to finish in 9<sup>th</sup> place in the 40-49 years age group and our U19 girls – **Jessie O'Carroll, Deandra Godoy, Nici Stirton & Laura Crerar** who managed 6<sup>th</sup> place in their division. **Kim Low** also joined with 3 other pain loving women (non members of the club) to finish in 7<sup>th</sup> place in the Open Women's Team event.



*Michael Kirkby undergoes his secret pre-race training routine prior to the start of the Coolangatta Gold*

And last weekend, club member **Peter Jacobs** undertook the ultimate torture test – the Hawaii Iron Man – and put in an incredible effort to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> and along the way recording the fastest run leg (over the standard marathon distance) of the day. A truly outstanding effort!

## AROUND THE CLUB

❖ Our informants tell us that club Life Member and recently inducted SLSA Life Member **Ray Brennan** – see the Club Captain's report for more details - has been seen splashing the cash around at a local club though not for any altruistic purposes – more a case of early onset Alzheimer's as Ray, while managing to remember to collect his drink, forgot to pick up both his ID card and change from the bar. Thankfully his mates came to the rescue, making sure he was re-acquainted with his ID and folding stuff.

❖ And while on Ray, his recent investiture as a Life Member of SLSA means he now holds a unique Club record – the only person to be awarded Life Membership at 5 levels – Freshwater nippers (now discontinued), Club, Branch, State & SLSA.

❖ Couldn't help but notice the recent article in the Manly Daily concerning long time member **Ian "Wrong Way" Hanson** getting lost in China while covering the World Swimming Championships. Unable to speak Chinese – unlike at the recent wake of former club member Nelson Chad when towards the end of the evening we're told it certainly sounded like he was speaking Chinese – Wrong Way found himself in the middle of nowhere and with no idea how to get back to his hotel. He ultimately was somehow able to communicate his predicament with some locals who soon got him back on track and home to his hotel room.

❖ And speaking of getting lost, early morning ski paddler extraordinaire **Ian "Wally" Wallace** and the gang had some fun recently as they embarked on their usual early morning trip up the coast only to paddle into a pea soup fog. Having paddled for some time and deciding to turn home, our intrepid bunch had no idea where they were, slowly moving through the water like modern day equivalents of the Mary Celeste. Luckily, Wally stumbled onto a fishing boat which emerged out of the gloom. Wally duly sought directions from the anglers and ultimately he and the other staggered home to the safety of Freshie beach.



❖ And while on topic of ski paddlers, we can't let pass the story of **Michael "The Rock Hopper" Kirkby** and his recent adventure on the shoreline near Fairy Bower. Taking a tack a little too close to the rocks, Rock Hopper soon found himself caught in a surge which separated him from his ski and they ultimately ended up on the rocks, with his ski then being blown several meters across the rocks before he could retrieve it. We're told MK now includes a pair of swimming goggles and a pair of cleated fisherman's shoes as standard ski paddling equipment whenever he leaves the beach for one of his early morning paddles



❖ A huge turnout of new nippers and their parents was the order of the day for the two nipper registration days in September. With a record number of over 850 nippers on board for the season, the beach is certainly going to be busy on Sunday mornings this season. Members should note that to accommodate the large number of kids involved, the nippers will be subject to a staggered start time this season – the U6-U8s will commence at 8.30am and finish at 9.30am and the U9-U14s will commence at 9.30am and conclude at 11am.



❖ The club working bee was held on Sunday 11 September and a range of odd jobs was undertaken by the motley work crew gathered together under the leadership of Club Facilities Director **Phil Fagan**. Thank you to those members who managed to get to the club to offer their assistance for this mundane but necessary annual task.



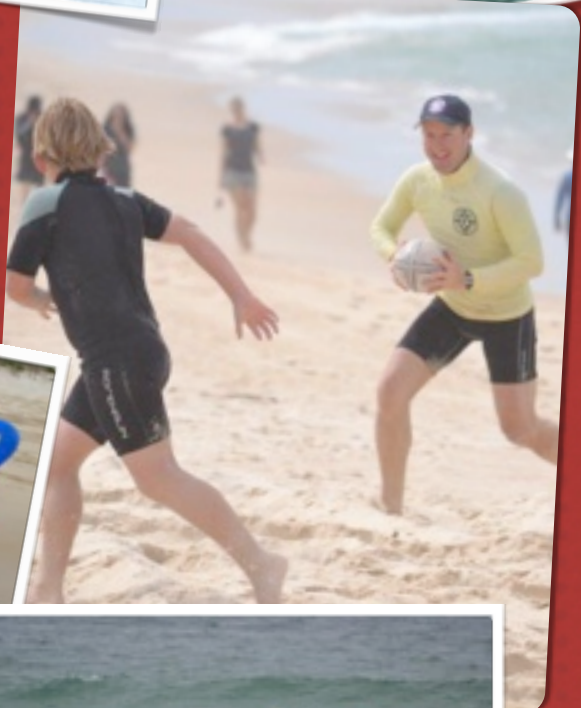
❖ And spare a thought for those members who are about to embark on their HSC exams during October and November – **Blake Cradock, Anna Hoekstra, Lachlan Horlyck, Ally Lee, Emily Lemlin, Claire McConnell, Anushka Miller, Paul Obern, Carl Probst, Jeremy Ryburn, Maddie Taylor & Declan Whealing** and anyone else we may have missed out on – best of luck!

❖ The recent NRL Grand Final saw not only our club colours proudly on display via the Manly team but it also featured a former Freshie nipper in the form of **Ivan Cleary**, the coach of the Warriors team. Young Ivan was a handy runner in his day and won the 9 years State beach sprint title at Freshie Beach in 1981.



**CALLING ALL WOULD BE MARCH PASTERS**  
The club is on the lookout for any members who may be interested in joining its march past squad for the coming season. We have a long and proud tradition in this traditional event and coaches Bob Evans and Peter Rowlands are keen to improve this year on the team's 2<sup>nd</sup> place at last season's Australian Championships. No previous experience is necessary – just a willingness to train each week and to join in the fun and laughter with the great bunch of guys and gals that make up the squad. All enquiries to **Peter Rowlands or Ross Parry**.

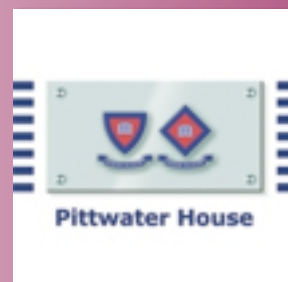
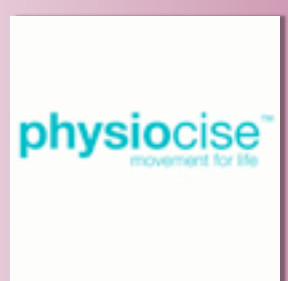
# NIPPERS



LAST WEEKEND THE NIPPER SEASON STARTED WITH A RECORD OF OVER 850 NIPPERS REGISTERED AT OUR GREAT CLUB.

ON THE FIRST WEEKEND IN THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS, OUR NIPPERS COMPETITORS ATTENDED A TRAINING CAMP AT SHOAL BAY. HERE ARE A FEW PHOTOS SHOWING OUR FUTURE IRONMEN & WOMEN IN ACTION.

## FRESHIE'S GREAT SPONSORS



JUST GO TO OUR SPONSORS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE [freshwaterslsc.com](http://freshwaterslsc.com) AND CLICK ON THEIR LOGOS TO FIND OUT MORE DETAILS ABOUT OUR WONDERFUL SPONSORS