

President's Report

This year has been another successful year for the Sawtell SLSC with no serious incidents on our beach during patrolling hours. Added to this, we had strong performances in all forms and levels of competition, continuing community commitment from our patrolling members, modifications to our work space and a sound financial result.

Some areas of note include:

- Our patrolling members achieved 5,854.5 patrolling hours during the 09-10 season with no serious incidents or major injuries during this time. There were 4 rescues and 1963 preventative actions.
- These facts speak for themselves when we see that Sawtell was the busiest beach in the North Coast Branch with visitors to the beach during patrolling hours counted at over 43,000.
- Our active patrolling lifesavers numbered 165 with 82 of these completing 100% of their rostered patrols. A great effort!
- Sawtell SLSC members earned 339 new surf life saving awards which is a tribute to those who donate their time to training and instructing. The standard of instruction is recognised by the branch as being of a high standard. This standard was maintained even after the club lost its Chief training officer, Mitch Murphy, part way through the season.
- There was continued strong representation in all areas of competition under the successful coaching leadership of Terry de Carle and Greg Russell. Greg has reported elsewhere in this report of those successes. Margaret Gill deserves a special mention as a gold medal winner at the Australian Championships.

This year saw the resurrection of a Sawtell boat crew under the guidance of Nova Cassin who set their sights on competing at the Aussies. This they did, with one winning race under their belt before the carnival was abandoned.

Also to be congratulated is our Junior U13 Female Beach Relay team who were successful at the State Age Championships.

- The Surf Club Cafe continues to provide the club with a reliable income and has continued to be a popular place to eat and take in the beautiful vista from the front of the club.
- Our club has undergone renovations during the year and we now have a smaller gym and a dedicated training room.

Work was also carried out to the patrol room which has made it into a first class space for first aid. A special thanks to anyone who assisted in these renovations and to the businesses who donated their time to help. Special thanks to Laminex Industries and Cody, Ross and Partners - Plasterers

- Our club was again involved in numerous community events and my thanks go to those people who made themselves available to help raise funds for the surf club.
- Congratulations to Terry de Carle on his award as Sawtellian of the Year
- To all our sponsors throughout the year we say a heartfelt thanks for your continuing support without which our club would struggle to maintain the extremely high standards we have set ourselves.
- Finally, a big thanks to our hard working committee. They have made some big decisions this year and have worked many hours above and beyond what would be expected. My special thanks to the two Bruces, Coomber and Macphail for their untiring dedication to the club.

I need also mention the dedication and commitment of our Club Captain, Rob Lyons who has been involved in many projects around the club during the past year whilst still ensuring that our beach and our patrollers remained at a high standard.

- To all who have assisted the club in any way this year, my thanks. I thank you for the opportunity to serve this season as Club President.

Kevin Clancy