

President's Update

Tiffany Quinlan

I had hoped just one edition of SSS might be Covid free but here we are again. The club, like most, has been hit with members who have been impacted by Covid in varying degrees, and we wish each and every member a speedy recovery and to stay safe. Please remember to email the club if you received a positive test result (covidsafe.tslsc@gmail.com) as it is important that we track volunteers, and also maintain contact tracing detail. Life saving services across the region have been hit hard and we are monitoring the situation closely.

On a positive note, there is much to be proud of over the last month or so. We have managed to run a Nipper program with more than 500 registered nippers and minimal Covid interruptions so a huge thanks go to Matt, Hayley and the Nipper team for making that possible. The logistics, admin and protocols required were immense and executed seamlessly. Amazing!

Jim Wall has been run and won and we sure were lucky to get that one completed. The racing was incredible, and this is starting to build as an important fundraiser for the club, as interest in the event continues to build every year. Again, this just wouldn't be possible without our wonderful volunteers, so thanks to all involved.

Patrols have been well attended which is pleasing to say the least. Thank you to all those who step in when others are unable to fulfil their roster and to the Patrol Captains who are managing team communications better than ever before.

So, as we continue to navigate the ever-changing external factors around us, we know we are lucky to be involved in a club that just always seems to find a way forward.

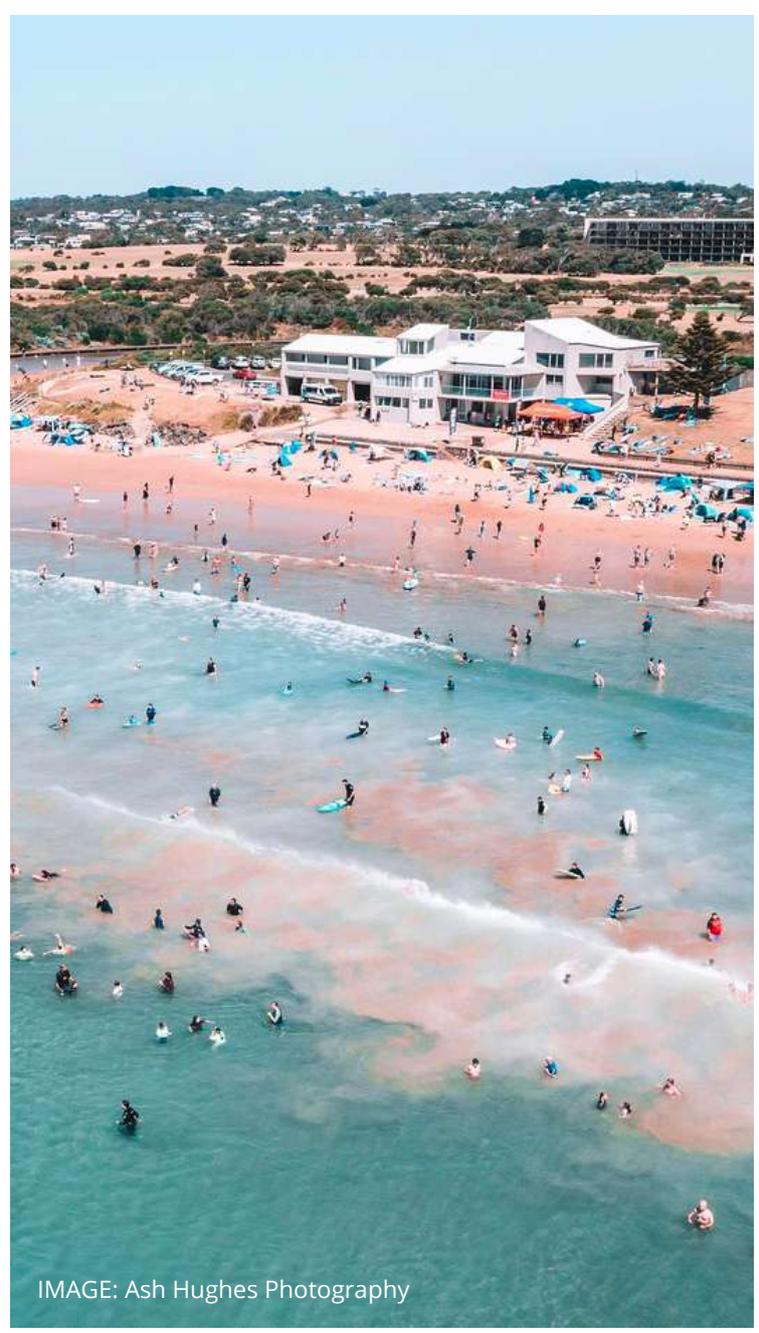


IMAGE: Ash Hughes Photography

For the DIARY

- Jan 19 Family Night at the Club - Steak Sandwiches!
- Jan 21 Bar Open & Gypsy's Lunchbox
- Jan 22 Nippers Carnival Mordialloc
- Jan 23 Bar Open & Gypsy's Lunchbox
- Jan 23 Family Night at the Club - stay tuned
- Jan 26 MADD Swim Mount Martha
- Jan 26 Jan Juc Friendly Nipper Carnival TBC
- Jan 28 Bar Open & Gypsy's Lunchbox
- Jan 29 Bar Open & Gypsy's Lunchbox
- Jan 29 Warrnambool Battle of the Bay Youth/Seniors
- Jan 30 Bar Open & Gypsy's Lunchbox

Around the Club

Julian Sweeney, Club Captain

How great has our summer been?

It started a bit slow weatherwise and we had a couple of windy days, but overall it has been a fantastic summer. If it hasn't been as good for you as it has felt for me it's probably because I have been blinded by the feeling around the club of warmth, acceptance and inclusion. We have embraced, and been embraced by all members, no matter how far we have travelled to be at our great club. Whether we have come from the city or the country or anywhere in between, we have all been made to feel like we belong.

Nippers 2021/22 has been a huge compliment to the club! The number of nippers (over 500) is an indication that Torquay Surf Life Saving Club is a place that people want their children and their families to be. The success of the program has not happened overnight, and it is a reflection of the long hours and dedication of the current (and previous) Nipper Committee and their huge support crew. It's been amazing to see numbers in the 40's when it has come to water safety and the parents putting their hands up to cook the world-famous egg and bacon rolls. Parents helping with coaching, parents helping with setting up, parents sharing lifelong memories with their children and one awesome mother washing hundreds of boards in one week with a smile on her face. It truly amazes me how much people have to give.

There have also been many highlights this summer none more exciting than the Jim Wall Iron event. Peter Quinlan and his amazing crew planned, set up and packed up what will be remembered as one of the highlights of our season. The results of the event were results the club could only dream of. Each of our competitors represented the club with honour, distinction and excitement.

I would like to thank every person that assisted on the day. From the absolute club legends on the barbecues (Doyley, Delly and crew) to the MC's (DJ Grant and Zeb on the microphone's), Tiffany and Sarah handing out the awards with precision and Brian Hayden presenting the Trophy. Every person that pitched in is a champion.



Have you seen our club flags on show on the hill? They certainly look smart and show the pride we have in our club.

Thanks John Mercer for co-ordinating our working bee and removing the tree that blew over due to stormy weather before the summer season began. Also thank you to Cam Mercer pitching in where he can and reminding us how great a member and asset he remains to be. And to Grant and Nikki Matthews' the culture gurus making our club an exciting and seriously cool place to be.

There have been many more highlights to this point including the 'Greatest show on Surf' and the golden fins. The competition teams training session in front of the club including the 'boats' followed by breakfast.

The list of thank yous at this time of year is endless and I apologise if I haven't mentioned everybody personally.



COMPETITION NEWS

PETER QUINLAN
Competition Director

youth & seniors

With the year 2022 only a few days old now, the landscape of continued competition for both Nippers and Seniors remains up in the air at the moment, due to the increased spread of the virus.

Fortunately, we were lucky enough to run the Jim Wall event in early January. We were greeted with great weather and for the first time in a while only a very small swell showed up. With 200 competitors in attendance and a number of interstateers the racing was fast and exciting. The eventual winners of the Jim Wall Iron were Sophie Thomas and Matt Gilling who deserved their victories. This is Sophie's first win in the event and Matt's third win.

A big thanks to all helpers who assisted in making this event a success. From the set up crew, water safety, IRB teams, officials, commentators, BBQ, registration and recorders, this event would not have run so smoothly without you.

Finally, we say goodbye to another competitor in Josh Patterson. His passion for the sport has seen him decide to make the move north to Southport SLSC. Josh has been with the Club since he was 12 years old and was a member of our successful Victorian Titles Open Taplin Team for the last two years and a member of many other successful teams at the Vic Titles over the past three years. We wish Josh all the best and we will certainly catch up with him and his family at our annual team dinner at Aussies this year.

boat crews

Crews have been training hard over the Xmas New Year period with some great weather on offer to those up early. The Ocean Grove carnival was a great first hit out for our new U23 women's' crew who rowed well despite some injury issues. The U23 men's' crew had a solid outing finishing second overall and are in the hunt for state selection at Anglesea on the 30th January.

With our new sponsor on board and the sign writing done, the Energizer Solar boats look fantastic. The club logo splashed across the bow looks the goods as well.

A huge thank you to all our sponsors from the boat section.

Mathew Blair, Boat Captain





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Surf Coast Times™



JIM WALL WINNERS Crowned

Burleigh Heads athlete Matt Gilling secured the trifecta winning his third Surf Coast Times Jim Wall Iron Man event on Sunday, meanwhile Torquay SLSC's own Sophie Thomas was dominant throughout the day earning her first Iron win in her career. See page 20 for more photos of the day's action. Photo: MICHAEL CHAMBERS

BY VINNIE VAN OORSCHOT

ALMOST 200 athletes, their families, and hundreds more spectators and passers-by witnessed a wonderful start to the Surf Coast event calendar at the 2022 Surf Coast Times Jim Wall Iron Man on Sunday morning.

Local Torquay SLSC athlete Sophie Thomas and Burleigh Heads' Matt Gilling were crowned the Jim Wall winners at the conclusion of the 61st edition of the event.

Thomas made her first trip to the podium in front of a home crowd, while Gilling cemented his Jim Wall dynasty earning his third win in four years.

"I could not be prouder of the club's efforts on the day," Torquay SLSC president Tiffany Quinlan said.

"All the volunteers and the other clubs that have supported us run this event for a long time, we have all worked really hard to build this event up.

"The weather certainly turned it on, we would have loved to see a decent wave or two, but this day really showed the depth of the clubs involved and it produced an exciting and friendly atmosphere.

"We were starved of carnivals last year, so we were stoked to kick this year off on the right foot and it was a bit of a risky move bringing the event earlier in the day, but we really pulled it off so we might see next year's event start at the same time as well."

A total of 188 participants, with a handful of late entrants, filled the event lists with five interstate competitors amongst the ranks hailing from Surfers Paradise and Burleigh Heads.

The Open Male and Female Surf races begun the day at 9am sharp with club tents and spectators from all over the state lining Torquay Surf Beach and the 32 staggered events rolled on without a cloud in the sky.

The day's revised format saw plenty of tight finishes and shoulder to shoulder jostling, making for a day filled with adrenaline and excitement.

Prior to the headlining Jim Wall acts, the Under 13 and 15 male and female Irons were decided.

Katie Gorvett-Page (Mentone SLSC) and William Goldstraw (Ocean Grove SLSC) took the 13's Irons, while Annabelle Harpley (Mentone SLSC) and Hayden Mellow (Mentone SLSC) secure a club-double in the Under 15 age bracket. Both fields in the Jim Wall Iron were reduced to 10 at the conclusion of the second round of eliminators for both men and women.

Gilling picked up where he left off with a solid win in round two of the eliminators, despite a hot start from Surfers Paradise's Archie Vernon.

The breeze picked up for the finals of both Iron Man races, but the women were the first to brace the change in condition.

The pack dwindled down to a three-woman race on the swim, with Mia Cook hot on the heels of Sophie Thomas on the final leg.

Strong in the water, Thomas solidified a decent lead on the way into the arch and had only a clear line of site as she earned her first Jim Wall Iron Man event win.

"It was really exciting to win," Thomas said.

"I've watched this race go around so many times and been in it too, but I'm absolutely stoked to get my name on the lines with Jim Wall.

"I decided to race all of the other races leading up to the eliminators because I'm someone who gets better later on in competition, I'm a bit of a diesel engine, I guess.

"Just needed to push the pace and in the last race it was important to just sit in front of the pack and lucky enough I ran off with it."

In the men's final, the pack stayed close on the board with Half Moon Bay's Jesse Coulson leading the way, but six separated on the first wave in for the ski leg.

This saw Surfer Paradise's Archie Vernon quickly gain the advantage on the first and second transitions, but Gilling saw the opportunity to level things out on the swim leg.

As Gilling had done all day, the swim was his forte.

Putting a few body lengths between himself and Vernon and then catching the first wave in, it was a comfortable third Jim Wall win for the Burleigh Heads representative.

"Getting the third win was awesome," said Gilling.

"The third in four years is nice too after 2019 and 2021, but this one was super tough with the new format and shorter races.

"Doing three Jim Wall races made it super tough to back it up, so I used the first two races to build a bit of confidence and swam home strong on the third, which I was able to lean on a bit."

Second and third in the women's Jim Wall was Grace Harris of Burleigh Heads and Mia Cook of Warmambool. In the men's, it was Archie Vernon finishing second and Jesse Coulson solidifying third.



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NIPPER NEWS

MATT CARMICHAEL
Director Junior Development

Despite COVID's relentless Omicron wave we have been super busy in the Nipper Section! We have managed to deliver our biggest Summer Holiday Program yet, with over 500 Nippers on the books and an average attendance of 325+ nippers across all days. It was awesome seeing a sea of Hayden rashies on the beach again, but the best part for me was the amount of support we were getting from the other sections of the club.

We had an average of 41 members with bronze medallion and SRC supporting our nippers on each day of the program. It is great to see such enthusiasm at the club for chipping in and helping out. We could not run this program or our regular aquatic sport program without the assistance of parents and members. Thank you to everyone that has contributed so far. From the Age Managers, team managers and water safety who are there every session and to the parents that help on the BBQ or kiosk each week. A special shout out to all the new parents that took the plunge and completed their Age Manager training online. There were 16 in total that completed the modules so they could assist with delivering the SHP, bringing our pool of Age Managers to 50+. Thank you.

Thank you to sponsors supporting our Summer Holiday Program, including Kings Funerals, Torquay Animal House and Aussie BBQ Cleaning for helping with our mammoth egg & bacon roll machine! Over the Summer Program the Nipper crew cooked and sold 1,715 egg and bacon rolls and 288 sausages, that's a huge fundraising effort from parents!

Our focus has now returned to Aquatic sport training on Wednesdays and Sundays. Unfortunately, at the moment we are seeing Omicron wreak havoc on all clubs' resources, particularly patrol teams, with the knock on effect that LSV are checking the viability of each carnival on a week by week basis. Everyone's favourite carnival at Cosy Corner was cancelled - hopefully no others are affected. We did have a few of our U13's competing at the seniors carnival in Anglesea which was also unfortunately cancelled. LSV has been including the U13s in a couple of the senior carnivals this year to help them transition to youth and senior competition.

HAYDEN

Following this we have the Mordialloc carnival scheduled for 22 January. At this time the friendly carnival with Jan Juc has been pencilled in for Friday 28 January. Fingers crossed we can get this one up and running this year. This is always a fun event - it's mate against mate and a social event that the parents can also enjoy! After this we have Point Leo on the 6 February before the Junior State Championship start in Lorne on the 25 February.

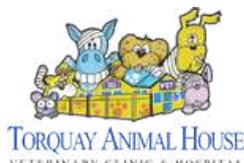
Thanks to all the parents and kids for continually observing the COVID safe guidelines again throughout this season. It is a testament to our procedures and the good will of our families that we have been able to deliver such a large program over such an extended period with minimal disruption. We are very fortunate to be one of the only clubs in Victoria which has been able to do so, with many clubs being unable to deliver programs at all. I am sure there will be a few more challenges ahead but with the energy and the enthusiasm in the section, and the support we are receiving from all sections of the club, there is going to be some great racing and fun over the next 6 weeks!

See you on the beach!





Starfish NIPPERS



LOUISE TRACEY

What another great Starfish Nippers program we had this year! The improvement and enthusiasm from the kids was great to see. There was a big shift in confidence from all participants who were initially somewhat tentative about going into the ocean to not wanting to return to shore when the session finished.

We also held beach activities including Tug of War which was a clear favourite with all participants, parents and helpers alike. Big thanks to Curt, Josh, Sue and Claire who dedicated their time to making Starfish Nippers a success with the one on one ratio enabling the kids to progress at their own pace. Can't wait for the next one.



FUNCTIONS UPDATE

ROB GERVASONI

Functions Director

Happy new year!

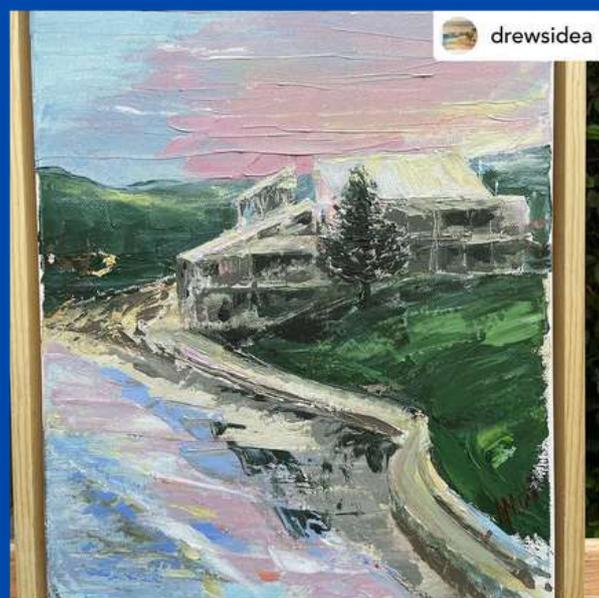
Hoping everyone had a chance to come down to our club between Christmas and New Year to enjoy a burger or some loaded fries from The Gypsy's Lunchbox food truck and soak up the sun in our beer garden.

We kicked off our first Wednesday family night and although the weather wasn't great, the club was pumping with everyone enjoying a chicken parma and chips.

Unfortunately with the current Covid uncertainty, we need to be a bit flexible from week to week with volunteers in isolation and staff shortages at times, so please look out for weekly updates on social media posts. We also need to comply with all density limits to ensure we as a club keep everyone safe at all times.

Hoping to see you all at the club this summer and stay safe everyone

A recent series of my palette knife work. 2 studies of Torquay SLSC at sunset as shadows quickly consume my subject & 2 at sunrise with the light reflecting so brilliantly off the white walls and glass. Painting this building was quite challenging with the knife. Particularly at sunrise I was careful not to overwork it. I'd like to think this architectural icon is still recognisable in this stunning setting. On display @surfcoast_artspace Torquay, just opposite the library entrance. 10-4pm



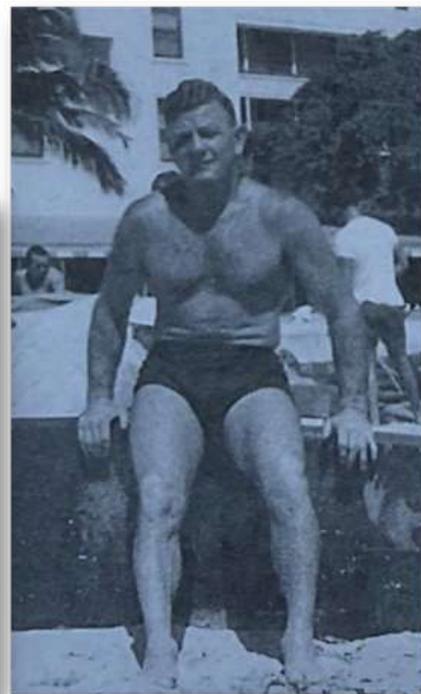
FROM THE ARCHIVES *Tony Fraser Club Historian*

The Late Dick Garrard

The below photo taken at Waikiki beach in 1954. Dick is sitting on his board ready for a surf. He was in the club's first bronze squad in 1946.

Dick represented Australia at 4 Olympic Games in the wrestling team. In 1936 in Berlin, 1948 in London, 1952 in Helsinki and in 1956 in Melbourne.

Prior to joining Torquay, Dick Senior was an active member of the Mordialloc Royal Life Saving Club. An all-rounder, he also won the Yarra River 3 mile swim, when it was unpolluted.



VALE

HARRY MILBURN

The late Harry Milburn joined our Club in season 1965/66. He obtained his Bronze Medallion on 10/12/1972 and enjoyed his 50 year membership in 2017. Harry gave great assistance over many decades whenever help was needed at club functions and surf carnivals on our beach.

Harry was a man with a great physique. He was a keen board rider, distance runner, long distance bike rider and a well known AFL footballer and coach with the East Brighton Vampires. Prior to joining Torquay SLSC, Harry was a member of the Albert Park Life Saving Club.

Fellow members have shared stories of Harry, a plumber by trade from Albert Park, as a superb athlete often running to Torquay from Anglesea or cruising to Torquay from Geelong on his bike with no gears but always with his signature rain coat on! He was often seen surfing his 'loomaroo' at Bells or his balsa board at Drainos, he loved a wave.

He was a strong footballer and Vic junior weight lifting champion with a magnificent physique in his early days.



Harry proudly completed the Great Victoria bike ride when quite elderly and was a great support to Brian Taylor and Maurice Rayner in the 70's competition group.

He is survived by his wife Gaynor and children Peter, Kelly and Lee.

Waves roll always.



PEOPLE of TSLSC

It was almost 19 years ago now that I first had the opportunity to follow in my father, uncle and brother's footsteps and pull on a blue and yellow Torquay cap. Although those years have flown by, the memories I still hold are very precious.

Starting out in Nippers I was most definitely not the most talented athlete, nor was I always jumping for joy to head to a carnival or training session. Though, my love for spending time with others in my age group and for the sport soon grew. I was lucky enough to be a part of large age group, housing so many talented athletes. The likes of Millie Holding and Ella Vernon are a huge part of my earliest memories of racing. Dating right back to Under 8s with Tracey Holding guiding us as the most enthusiastic Age Manager on the beach. Winning my first State Title that very same year in the Beach Relay.

Growing up in Ballarat, my Surf Club friends quickly became my closest relationships. As the competition group we would spend hours upon hours on the beach and in the water. Torquay always provided us with opportunities to go away racing together as a group. So many of my fondest memories are during my teen years where we were under the tutelage of Brendan Garreau (Swiv) and Dad (Bryan). Whether it was camping and racing in Point Leo or Inverloch, or heading up to the Aussies, the group dynamic at Torquay was always something so special.

Now back at Torquay this year after 6 years racing for Warrnambool, it is so pleasing to see that the new generation of athletes at the club still have this incredible team bond and spirit.

The knowledge of so many of the members, and the support given to every athlete at Torquay was what originally developed and has now reignited my passion and drive to achieve in the sport of Surf Life Saving.

Though not only that, it has also brought me life-long friendships and connections I will never forget.

IMAGE: Shaun Smith

SOPHIE THOMAS



MEET the PATROL TEAMS



Nipper 1



Boat 1

Still to be snapped, Saver 3 & Comp 2

'solving the problems of the world'

IMAGE: Third Wave Kiosk



LIFE SAVING

William Fleming

Hello everyone at TSLSC, the patrolling season is now well underway, with us smack in the middle of the holiday season. Covid is still causing us grief with patrolling members and Patrol Captains impacted by infections and being associated with close contacts hampering attendance. Please follow all the government rules and keep yourself and fellow patrolling members as safe as possible. Hopefully this will be all past us very soon.

This season we have moved to the new fully internet-based system of patrol logging. All the Captain's now log the status of patrols on a system from Life Saving Victoria called LIMSOC. All your attendance and hours is selected from the system knowing who are current patrolling Torquay members. There is no longer a paper logbook. The system will get better, and it allows LSV to know what is happening across Victoria in real time. Amazing how technology is impacting even the surf life saving process for patrollers.

Reminder to please keep in touch with your Captain if you have issues with making patrols etc. If a patrol looks short on numbers, the Captain can then escalate it and if possible, we can get extra people to fill in. Please make all your continuing best efforts to patrol when you are rostered.

Thanks again to everyone in the club either doing patrols or supporting our great club to implement the infrastructure that provides patrols, it is much appreciated. Stay safe in the surf and with your health.



Don't get caught in the rip like this old guy did at Avoca Beach in NSW at Christmas!

PATROL	CAPTAIN
Saver - 1	William Fleming
Saver - 2	Cameron Mercer
Saver - 3	Hannah Wilson
Comp - 1	Peter Quinlan
Comp - 2	Ben Harris
Comp - 3	Jayden Schram
Comp - 4	Lachlan Jenkins
Nipper - 1	Vaughan Furniss
Nipper - 2	Scott McCardel
Boat - 1	Ashley Harper
Boat - 2	Julian Sweeney



LOCAL SUPPLY

PLANT-BASED EYEWEAR

TORQUAY RESCUE



Torquay Rescue recently hosted the U13 Nippers in a session as an introduction to next season. We had 27 kids attend the session with Grant & Nikki and the smiles were aplenty!

The Rescue gang hope to hold another Come & Try session before the season ends.

QUIZ > what's the pre-paddle ritual of the Rescue group??

You'll have to come and watch a session to find out the answer! See you Saturdays at 9am...

RECORD NUMBERS!

Looks like season 2021/22 is set for the TSLSC hall of fame with record member numbers to date! We look like hitting the 1,400 member mark this season which is an all time high for the club. This is testament to the important role TSLSC plays in the community, amid the ongoing existence of COVID, our member numbers continue to grow. You are all a part of something great!

IMAGE: Third Wave Kiosk



THANKS JULIE!

'Just wanting to thank everyone who helped me support Torquay SLSC through purchasing my 2022 calendar. One very happy clubroom also: boasting this new gift on their wall.' Julie Fitzpatrick



HAYDEN

HOME TO SELL OR RENT?

Every referred sale or property management earns for TSLSC!

Hayden Real Estate is a long time supporter of life saving & TSLSC, you've probably seen some of the team around the club! For every sale referral from a TSLSC member, the Hayden team will donate \$1,000 to the Club or a much-needed training mal for our Rescue group, and for rental referral they will pledge \$200 to the club.

Contact ph. 5261 2101 for more information





sponsorship NEWS

Sarah O'Dwyer
Director of Marketing

The Club has certainly been 'abuzz' with activity over the last few weeks, and our sponsors' brands are everywhere! We are very focused on supporting our sponsors through patronage and endorsement, it is the foundation of our long term partnerships, it must be a win-win situation.

Jim Wall 2022 has been claimed the best ever, wondering if we do say that every year? But if we do, that's great, it means we are continuing to improve and grow the event. For 2023 we plan on creating a Jim Wall Marketing and Sponsorship Committee, charged with the promotion, communication and sponsorship of the event. If this is something you can be involved in, please reach out.

We are excited to get a new 3-year sponsor on board with Energizer Solar, an Australian clean energy company providing global renewable energy products for the residential, commercial and industrial sectors. Their brand is the perfect fit on our boats, we look forward to seeing more of it around town. Our boat signage is the perfect mobile billboard, more than a piece of equipment to be used for training, you will notice our fleet parked at various locations around the Surf Coast, they're hard to miss!

We have just about finished our roll out of Local Supply sunglasses to our patrol teams. This has been such a fantastic project for TSLSC and we hope we can be involved in more projects like this moving forward, thank you to Local Supply.

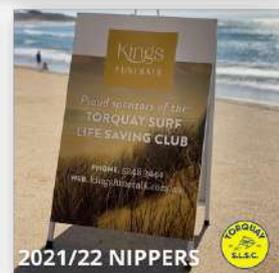
Another partnership extension we activated in December was Grand Slam Physiotherapy running a stretch and mobility session within our Teen Bronze Camp. The kids loved the session and we look forward to Ben presenting again in our next training course.

Our Rescue group supported by Barwon Valley Smallgoods has also had a win with the new training mal donated by Coastal Insurance. These boards are fantastic to help our Nippers transition to the long board, and we hope to secure more of these as our group numbers swell.

We are planning a TSLSC Ladies Luncheon to coincide with our Pink Patrol in February. If you are a business that would like to be involved in this initiative through raffle prizes and giveaways, please get in touch. We look forward to recognising the important role of women in lifesaving across the years.

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SPONSORSHIP TEAM HELP

We are calling out for help with our sponsorship program. Meeting new sponsors, looking for new partners, opportunities and managing relationships. If this sounds like you, we'd love to know! email: sponsorship.tslsc@gmail.com



save the date!

THE INAUGURAL
TSLSC LADIES
LUNCHEON

CELEBRATING
WOMEN IN LIFESAVING
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19

more details to come





SUMMER NIGHTS

TORQUAY SURF CLUB

21

22

We've got a great summer of events planned at the Torquay Surf Club.

The Gypsy's Lunchbox through Dec. & Jan. **PLUS** our favourite Family Nights!

EVERYONE WELCOME

GYPSY'S LUNCHBOX

bar open 4pm, food from 5pm

December	January
26 - 30th	1st, 2nd, 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 21st, 23rd, 28th, 29th, 30th



FAMILY NIGHTS

bar open 5pm, food from 6pm

Wednesday Nights
Through January &
February

for weekly menus

OUR SPONSORS

2021/2022

PLATINUM PARTNERS

Surf Coast Times



—3228—
TORQUAY
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SILVER PARTNERS

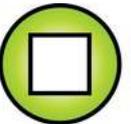


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