

April 2023



# SURF SUN & Sand



# Important Dates

## Upcoming Events

Keep up to date with what's happening at the club! Don't forget to check the Club Facebook page or the Torquay SLSC Website for events and updates in case there's any changes or new items that pop up!

- 29  
APR

NIPPER PRESENTATION NIGHT

✓
- 18  
JUN

AGM
- 15  
JUL

SENIOR PRESENTATION NIGHT
- 15  
JUL

VOLUNTEER & SPONSOR NIGHT



Want your photo or artwork on the cover of Surf Sun & Sand? Email your graphics through to [marketing.tslsc@gmail.com](mailto:marketing.tslsc@gmail.com)

Remember the artworks have to be original and belong to you. We also need them in a format suitable to be blown up to A4.

We'll feature your name as the creator and/or photographer and include your contact details so that people can reach out to you.

“ Those who look for opportunities enjoy greater lucky chances than those who wait for opportunities. ”

Terry Mark

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 MOUNT MORIAC    PENNYROYAL  
 BARRABOOL    BIRREGURRA  
 BELLBRAE    BUCKLEY    TORQUAY  
 WENSLEYDALE    INVERLEIGH    BAMBRA    WINCHELSEA  
 MODEWARRE    PARAPARAP    BENWERRIN  
 BREAMLEA    OMBERSLEY    GHERANG    MORIAC    WURDIBOLUC  
 CONNEWARRE    MOGGS CREEK    DEANS MARSH  
 JAN JUC    FRESHWATER CREEK  
 EASTERN VIEW    BELLS BEACH    BIG HILL  
 BOONAH    FAIRHAVEN

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Surf Coast Times



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## Gold



## Silver



## Bronze



GRAND SLAM  
PHYSIOTHERAPY  
TORQUAY



## Friends





# LEST WE FORGET.

Wreath laying at dawn on ANZAC Day 2023.



Julian Sweeney  
President

# President's Report



# TORQUAY

## SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB ARE VICTORIAN NIPPER CHAMPIONS FOR SEASON 2022/23!

This is an achievement that needs to be celebrated. Our Nippers are the foundation of what our great club is built on.

If you have been lucky enough to be a Torquay Nipper like me, you will know what I am talking about.

The nurturing and the passing down of lifesaving skills from the many members and sections of the club makes each nipper's experience priceless. From laying on your stomach for the first time doing beach flags in front of the club to paddling out on a board in a relay at the Cosy Corner Carnival, nothing compares to the community that we call the Torquay Surf Life Saving Club.

I would like to congratulate and thank every last nipper, member and contributor to our nippers' team success. Without you this achievement would not be possible! Go TORQUAY!



# AS THE SEASON ENDS THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE AND MANY EVENTS THAT NEED CELEBRATING!

## **THE AUSTRALIAN TITLES 2023.**

AUSSIES 23 was one of these events where we saw our Masters, Youth and Senior competitors excel on the big stage. The results of this year's team will lead to bigger and better things next year with the experience gained at Aussies 2023. I am told we have an overwhelming number of highly qualified members looking to mentor our competition team and support our coaches in season 2023/24.



**ST KEVIN'S COLLEGE BRONZE CAMP 2023.** I would like to welcome the members of the St Kevin's College Bronze Camp 2023 to the Torquay Surf Life Saving Club. Being a St Kevin's Old Boy I was proud of the way the boys presented themselves to the club and represented their school. All of the boys are now Torquay Surf Life Saving Club members and will be welcomed back into the club in season 2023/24 to perform patrols as well as being given the opportunity to represent the club in Surf Life Saving carnivals state-wide.



Thank you to all of the members that patrolled our beach this year. From the new SRC's to our Bronze Medalion holders NEW and OLD we could not have kept our beach safe without you. Thank you Patrol Captains and Vice Captains for making sure the patrols ran smoothly. Thank you to the swimmers, board paddlers, ART's, first aiders, scribes, roving patrollers, IRB drivers and crews. We look forward to sharing the amazing honour of patrolling Torquay Surf Beach with you all again next year.

Training and up skilling of our current members will be a priority in 2023/24 so if you have the desire and passion to increase your lifesaving IP please contact Michelle in the office for more information on [info@torquayslsc.com.au](mailto:info@torquayslsc.com.au).

See you at the beach.







## TEAM TORQUAY

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU.  
PART OF TORQUAY SINCE 1945.

MERCH  
MERCH  
MERCH

We know everybody is excited about Torquay SLSC Merch! We're well on the way to restocking inventory in the Merch Store! Stay tuned for more updates via the website & Facebook!

WEAR THE  
COLOURS  
PROUD!

Want to show your support to the Club? Looking for brand exposure & brand affinity that's second to none? We're always looking for ways to engage in partnership agreements that bring benefits to both you and the Club. Drop a line to [info@torquayslsc.com.au](mailto:info@torquayslsc.com.au) and we can get the ball rolling!

# Club Captain's Report

## Grant Matthews



### *'Options - something for everyone'*

Our club has never had as many options available to its members as it has now. With our lifesaving pathways starting with SRC, through to professional lifeguarding, paid Victoria support all clubs and members to further their lifesaving skills and knowledge with courses and programs ready to start.

Our nipper program is the best there is around. The program is run by a great committee. Their thoughtful planning and consideration of the needs of all nippers and their families who support it is impressive. High participation numbers and great competition results all season culminating in winning the State Titles are proof of its success.

Our competition team is ready to expand every one of our competitors who represent the club with pride. A strong competition team equals an amazing history, equal to that of any other club nationally. It is time for us to be a very successful Torquay Rescue. Our program started four years ago as a youth squad and has established itself as the entry point into lifesaving and competition at our club.

And then the most important piece of the whole pie... 'club life'. From the 'old blokes' who swim every morning and help out whenever asked, to everyone who has ever assisted on the bbq, attended a working bee, helped out at carnivals, rattled a tin, donated money, been a friend, towed equipment, had a chat, filled in a patrol, 'you are the club'.

And to the growing group of 14+ year olds who are starting to loiter at the club (you know who you are) 'May the force be with you'.

over the following seasons. Each and every one of our competitors who represent the club with pride. A strong competition team equals an amazing history, equal to that of any other club nationally. It is time for us to be a very successful Torquay Rescue. Our program started four years ago as a youth squad and has established itself as the entry point into lifesaving and competition at our club.

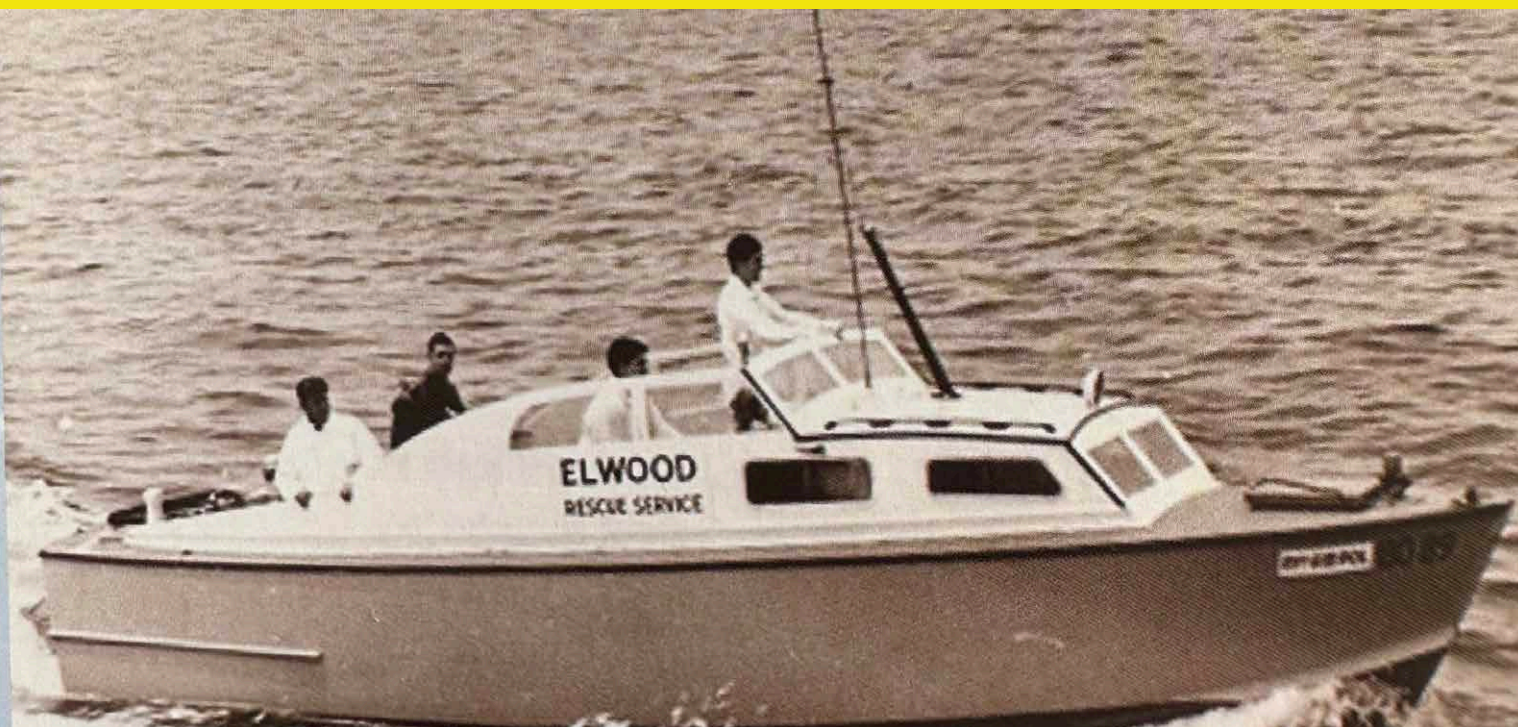
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# Historian News

## Tony Fraser



The Elwood Life Saving Club in Port Phillip Bay was the starting point for many Torquay SLSC members in the past. It was part of the Royal Life Saving Society with all other bayside clubs prior to joining the Victorian Surf Life Saving movement 20 years ago which later became Life Saving Victoria. The Elwood Life Saving Club became known worldwide as the only Life Saving Club with its own Ambulance and Rescue Boat. This was attributed mainly due to the outstanding work of the late Jack Conabere.

From the late 1950's the lure of Surfing and Life Saving took many people to Torquay. Bill Booth, Des Couch, Tony Fraser, Roger Fullard, Neil Inglis, Brian Kiely, Anthony Knight, David Knight, Edward Knight, Paul Knight, Richard Knight, John McSweeney, John Ross, Geoff Seeley, Ian Seeley, Gary Stevens, Scott Taylor, Bev Unwin, John Cawthorn, Don MacDonald & Gerry Saunders.

Out of this group we have 3 Life Members, 2 Past Presidents, 1 Club Treasurer and many stalwarts and successful competitors.



# Competition Update

## Peter Quinlan



Special mention to our Youth Male team who finished 7th and 10th in the Board and Cameron Relay Finals. Congratulations to the boys involved in these teams: Taj Purcell, Jack Patel, Adam Liddell and Connor Boswell.

Well season 2022/23 is now over with the completion of the Aussie Titles that were held in Perth. The club had competitors in Masters, Youth and Open events. The highlight being the Strahan boys, David and Simon winning a bronze medal in the Board Rescue event at Masters.



Our U19 girls were unlucky not to make several teams finals missing out by one place in the Taplin and Board Relays. However, Jemima Asher did qualify for the U19 Female Surf Race final.



# GUARDED MEDICAL

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In the master's we had Grant Matthews team up with David and Simon Strahan in the Board and Taplin relays again just missing out on the medals and our only female master competitor in Nikki Matthews who finished in 4th place in her Longboard Final.

Special mention to our coach Nick Thomas who has been in the role several years now and continues to find a way for each training session to be different. His ability to do this keeps our athletes engaged and enthused at levels equal to some high-profile Queensland clubs.



There is certainly a lot of people who chip in and do their bit to help the seniors fulfill their club requirements. Thank you to our regular officials Bill Johnson, Tiff Quinlan, Daph Henderson and Naomi Patel. Thank you for taking the time out of your weekends to help out the senior crew.

In other news, Taj Purcell has been invited to attend the LSV U15 leadership camp. Taj is another youth competitor who is following in the footsteps of current senior competitors forging a path to gain a Gold Medallion and eventually someday maybe becoming a Patrol Captain as well. Well done Taj.

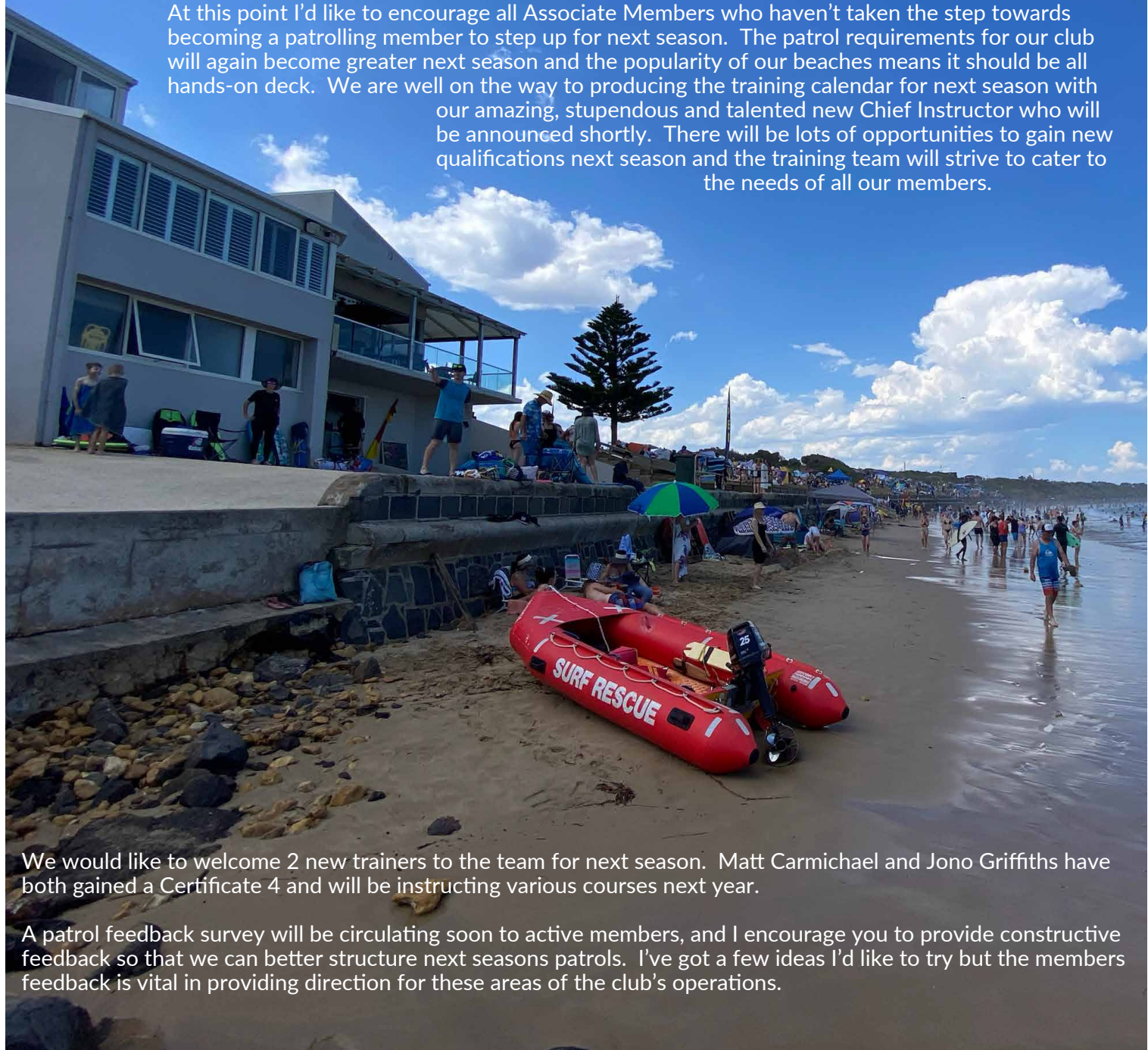




## Lifesaving Update Mat Blair

By the time this goes to press the amazing volunteer members of our club will have completed patrol season 2022/23 and I'd like to thank everyone for another great season on our beach. This season our beach was patrolled for an unprecedented 348 hours of weekends and public holidays with the peak season hours running through until the end of February. We covered every request from Life Saving Victoria to stay an extra hour during hot weather events and responded to critical incidents with professionalism and compassion. Well done Team Torquay. A full breakdown of our patrol performance will be published in the Annual Report shortly.

At this point I'd like to encourage all Associate Members who haven't taken the step towards becoming a patrolling member to step up for next season. The patrol requirements for our club will again become greater next season and the popularity of our beaches means it should be all hands-on deck. We are well on the way to producing the training calendar for next season with our amazing, stupendous and talented new Chief Instructor who will be announced shortly. There will be lots of opportunities to gain new qualifications next season and the training team will strive to cater to the needs of all our members.



We would like to welcome 2 new trainers to the team for next season. Matt Carmichael and Jono Griffiths have both gained a Certificate 4 and will be instructing various courses next year.

A patrol feedback survey will be circulating soon to active members, and I encourage you to provide constructive feedback so that we can better structure next seasons patrols. I've got a few ideas I'd like to try but the members feedback is vital in providing direction for these areas of the club's operations.

# U13 LSV Development Camp

## Special Report by Joshua Sampson



On the first weekend in April, I represented Torquay SLSC at the U13 Development Camp with lots of other club representatives from across Victoria.

The Camp was held at Lake Dewar Lodge in Myrniong. This was an awesome setting in the bush with a huge lake and outdoor activities.

At the camp I made a lot of new surf lifesaving friends, who I had been competing against for years and knew them on the beach. However, the camp gave us an opportunity to connect in new ways outside of competition.

The focus of the camp was leadership development. We challenged ourselves with a lot of team activities and different skills where everyone had a chance to shine with their strengths. This included raft building, scooter riding, trivia, tunnelling through shipping containers and negotiating an amazing race and obstacle course. Health and fitness were also a focus with morning training runs!

We also spent a lot of time learning about what's next in surf lifesaving and the different pathways you can be involved with and reaching your gold, silver and bronze medallion. This made me excited about undertaking my Surf Rescue Certificate with my Torquay friends and being able to patrol and do water safety to support the nipper program in a different way.

Thanks to Torquay Surf Life Saving Club for giving me the opportunity to represent them.

For future participants, I highly recommend, and my 4 key takeaways are:

1. The camp was super fun and a great way to make friends and connect outside of competing;
2. Good communication skills are important in surf lifesaving, especially in emergency situations;
3. You are always stronger working as a team and ensuring everyone has a clear role;
4. There are lots of different ways to get involved in surf life saving and support your club.





# Marketing Damian Chappell

What a season.

Time went by so fast it feels like only yesterday that I put my name forward to lend a hand at the club. Since then I've had a ball putting the occasional smile on your face and creating content that made you feel proud to be part of Team Torquay. The name of the game for next season is to create a foundation that takes our marketing plan and adds some more structure behind it. That takes people. We've formed a sub-committee to create a more constant feed of social media messaging, content creation and getting the message out. If you have some creative capacity, have experience in creating content or social media messaging, or just want to learn - please drop me a line via [marketing.tspsc@gmail.com](mailto:marketing.tspsc@gmail.com) - it's actually really fun being part of everything that's happening at the club and meeting so many people from all walks of life.

Speaking of amazing people I'd like to take another opportunity to thank all of our amazing sponsors. It's the support from these wonderful organisations that allow us to provide such a valuable service to the community, goodies that make membership at the club something special, and allow us to keep our pricing structures as low as possible.

We're working on something that's very exciting and if it comes to fruition will change the profile that the club has with the general public by about a million percent. Watch this space and we hope to be able to share the news with everybody very soon!

Work on the Annual Report is well under way and it's all aboard the train as it makes its way to the AGM.

Just because it's creeping into winter, it doesn't mean we're stopping. We plan on running activities and events during the offseason and your support will make all the difference - they'll be fun and light hearted and designed to foster the club spirit that we've been building all summer.





What an amazing night with Bodyjar performing at The Club. Was great seeing the clubhouse filled to the rafters!



**BODYJAR BODYJAR BODYJAR BODYJAR BODY**

GEELONG

EST. 2014

BLACKMANS  
TORQUAY, AUSTRALIA

JUICY  
BANGER

5.8%  
ALC / VOL

375ml

GABS  
HOTTEST  
100 AUSSIE  
CRAFT  
BEERS  
2022

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
BANGER LOVE!

- THE SURF COAST'S #1 BEER -

# Fundraising Jay Muir



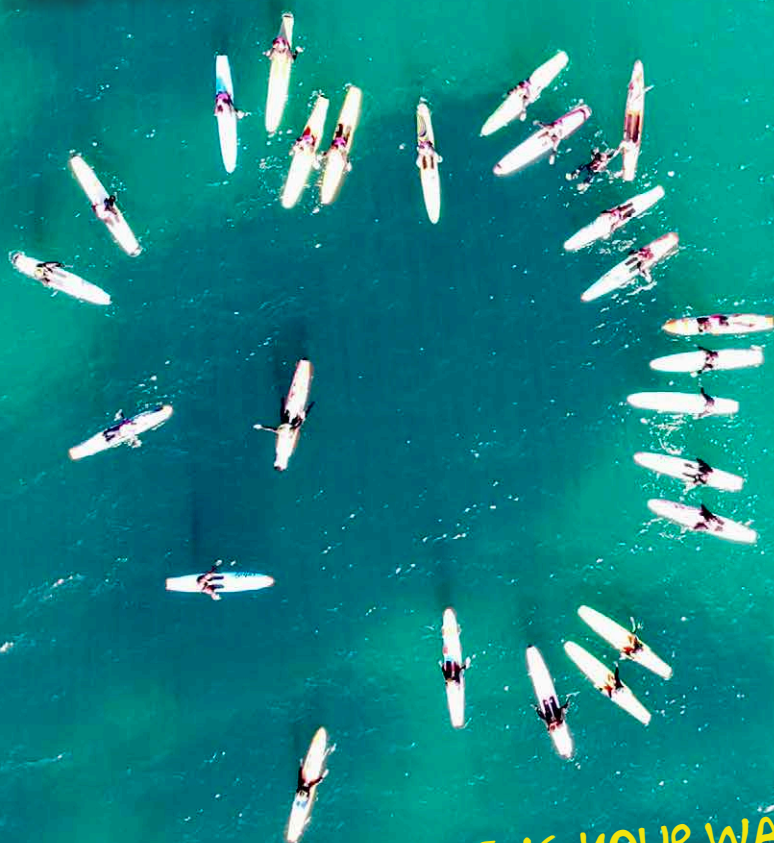
As we all transition to our winter sporting pursuits, I would like to thank all our members who have either helped with or supported our club fundraising efforts throughout the season. From tin rattles to flipping snags, none of these events work without you..... and I'd like to give a special shout out to under 10 nipper Finlay Minter who goes above and beyond with his tin rattling and raffle ticket selling any time we need him.

I would also like to express gratitude to our new fundraising friends in Blackman's Brewery, Day on the Green, Zacaria Concerts (By the C & Summersalt) and Handshake Events (Sunset Sounds). We look forward to working with these brilliant organisations again soon.



THE OCEAN CAN BE KIND AND CRUEL. THE OCEAN CAN CHANGE ON THE FLIP OF A COIN.

TORQUAY RESCUE TEACHES US TO ACCEPT, COPE AND GROW... LEARNING FROM THE OCEAN.



IF THINGS ARE NOT GOING YOUR WAY, ACCEPT, COPE AND GROW.

IF IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE IN HELL YOU CAN COME BACK!

# TORQUAY RESCUE



# Membership News

## Danny Hayden



### **Membership Renewals**

As the season rolls around to a close, we are also at that time of year where membership ends, and renewal begins.

With club operational costs rising, the fee levels for the past few seasons have become unsustainably low. The Board has taken the

difficult decision to increase fees slightly for the 2023/24 season, including a surcharge for every nipper & active category member to be provided with a current SLSA compliant high visibility vest. (see more below).

This decision was not taken lightly, but we believe that the value our members receive still far exceeds

the cost of our club's fees and represents incredibly good value when compared to other sports and organisations.

A reminder that fees are due and payable on the 1 May 2023 with renewals & payments processed through the SLSA Members Portal.



## **Club Governance Documents**

The Board has been working through a process of reviewing all the club's governance documents

- Constitution, By-Laws & Policies
- to ensure they are appropriate

for today's operational and legal environment. This has been an exhausting and ongoing process of reviewing hundreds of pages of existing documents and potential amendments. The first step has been completed, with all the club's Policies now reviewed and ratified.

They have been published to the club website and are available for all members to view. As changes are made in future, this web page will be updated to reflect the current versions of all club governance documents.

## **High-Vis Vests**

One of the important safety policies adopted is the Wearing of High Visibility Vests Policy.

To comply with SLSA, LSV & TSLSC policies, every member who will enter the water during a club sanctioned activity (skills maintenance, training, competition, water safety, etc) is required to wear a high visi-

bility vest. This season every active category membership has a mandatory surcharge to cover the cost of the required compliant high-vis vest, which the club will purchase and distribute later in the year.



# Nipper News

## Matt Carmichael



As many at the club will have heard or read by now, the Torquay nipper team were unstoppable at the State Championships in Warrnambool this year.

There were some fantastic individual and team performances and helped by the depth of talent in the nipper group, we managed to accumulate significant points lead by the end of the first two days of competition.

This was fortuitous as the inevitable push from the strong Ocean Grove SLSC team came on day three with Torquay SLSC managing to hold on to finish in top spot by just 19 points.

would like to thank all the age managers and team managers for all their hard work this season. Their dedication to developing the skills of all the nippers this season is evident in the size of the nipper team that felt confident to represent the club.

Not only with carnivals results we achieved throughout the season winning 4 out of 5 carnivals but also taking top spot at the State Championships. The age managers and team managers have reassured the nippers that they are strong when they doubted themselves, showed them how to be brave when they were frightened and have taught them how to be respectful when they are

# HAYDEN



triumphant.

It was great to see so many of you at the Nipper Award Celebrations at the club. Showing our appreciation and gratitude for the dedication and sacrifice of these legends and the squad of budding club legends that they are helping to develop.

Preparations have begun for next season and it has been great to spot the odd nipper or two down at the club having fun in the surf and on the beach. Meanwhile we have been busily cleaning up, counting stock, and making plans in preparation so that we can deliver an even bigger and better program for next season. We have had a fantastic response to a call for more members to join the Nipper Sub Committee. It is great to see so many parents enthusiastic about helping to prepare and deliver the program. We will continue to map the positions to the skills of the new faces and make introductions to all members at the start of next season.

We have also had a great response to calls for volunteers this season. Even managing to get enough IRB drivers and crew qualified to fill our rosters, thanks to the hard work of the Director of Lifesaving Mat Blair. We will be looking to expand our pool of technical officials' next season. This being the biggest shortfall in skills we encountered this season while attempting to fill our LSV ratios. I do however think we should count this as a success, as it means we are providing an environment where all nippers feel safe and empowered to represent the club at carnivals.

Nevertheless, we do desperately require more parents/ members to complete the Technical Officials accreditation and our focus next season will be to achieve this so these roles are shared more equitably.

Finally, if any families have borrowed equipment such as boards or taken water safety rashies home to wash please return them to the club at your earliest convenience. Contact any committee member or the club office to arrange drop off.





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# STATE CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALLISTS

## GOLD

U9 Male Board Relay

George Liston, Henry Heyes, Reef Carton

U9 Male Surf Race

Henry Heyes

U9 Male Surf Teams

George Liston, Henry Heyes, Kit North, Reef Carton

U9 Male Wade Race

George Liston

U10 Female Wade Relay

Amelie Durocher, Eva Bayles, Isla Browning, Mia Winter

U10 Male Beach Flags

Leo Flakemore

U10 Male Surf Race

Angus Liston

U11 Female Board Relay

Harriett O'Dwyer, Milly Russell, Sienna Shaw

U11 Female Surf Race

Neve Harrison

U11 Male Aqua Cameron Relay

Braxton Smith, Henry Noonan, Jack Heyes, Taj Dokos

U11 Male Board Race

Tully Gordon

U11 Male Board Relay

Ben Thompson, Braxton Smith, Tully Gordon

U11 Male Iron

Jack Heyes

U11 Male Surf Race

Jack Heyes

U11 Male Surf Teams

Jack Heyes, Lennox Allan, Taj Dokos, Tully Gordon

U13 Male Surf Teams

Gulliver Masters, Angus Brereton, Joshua Sampson, Max Flakemore

# SILVER

U9 Male Beach Relay  
Freddy O'Dwyer, George Liston, Henry Heyes, Kit North

U9 Male Beach Run  
Freddy O'Dwyer

U9 Male Board Race  
Reef Carton

U9 Male Surf Race  
George Liston

U9 Male Wade Relay  
George Liston, Henry Heyes, Jude Harrison, Reef Carton

U10 Female Beach Flags  
Eva Bayles

U10 Female Beach Relay  
Eva Bayles, Isla Browning, Lucilla Joseph, Zali Martin-Alcaide

U10 Male Aqua Cameron Relay  
Angus Liston, Leo Flakemore, Liam Arvaud, Kai Morrison

U10 Male Board Relay  
Angus Liston, Leo Flakemore, Tyler Moran

U11 Female Beach Relay  
Harriett O'Dwyer, Matilda Carmichael, Neve Harrison, Sienna Shaw

U11 Female Surf Teams  
Harriett O'Dwyer, Neve Harrison, Pia Monk, Sienna Shaw

U11 Female Wade Relay  
Erin Robertson, Harriett O'Dwyer, Neve Harrison, Sienna Shaw

U11 Male Beach Run  
Chace Beardsley

U11 Male Board Race  
Braxton Smith

U11 Male Iron  
Tully Gordon

U11 Male Wade Relay  
Ben Thompson, Jack Heyes, Lennox Allan, Oliver Robinson

U13 Female Beach Run  
Mackenzie Allen



# BRONZE

U9 Female Beach Flags  
Dakota Moran

U9 Female Beach Relay  
Dakota Moran, Matilda McGree, Winifred Mckeag, Olive Feldman

U9 Male Beach Flags  
Freddy O'Dwyer

U9 Male Beach Sprint  
George Liston

U9 Male Board Race  
George Liston

U9 Male Board Relay  
Freddy O'Dwyer, Jye Monk, Kit North

U9 Male Surf Teams  
Arlo Phillips, Freddy O'Dwyer, Jude Harrison, Will Russell

U10 Female Beach Sprint  
Eva Bayles

U10 Male Wade Relay  
Angus Liston, Bede Muir, Paddy Gebing, Kai Morrison

U11 Female Aqua Cameron Relay  
Harriett O'Dwyer, Laila Robertson, Matilda Carmichael, Neve Harrison

U11 Female Board Race  
Harriett O'Dwyer

U11 Female Iron  
Sienna Shaw

U11 Male Aqua Cameron Relay  
Ben Thompson, Lennox Allan, Oliver Robinson, Tully Gordon

U11 Male Beach Flags  
Braxton Smith

U11 Male Wade Relay  
Ben Thompson, Jack Heyes, Lennox Allan, Oliver Robinson

U13 Female Beach Run  
Mackenzie Allen