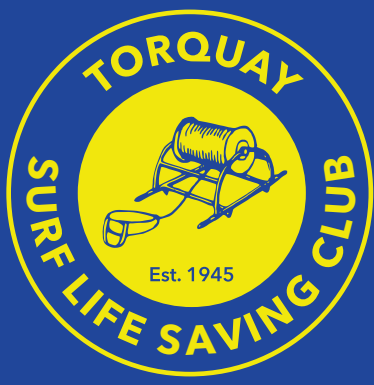


May/June 2023



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!

- 01
MAY

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!

✓
- 10
JUN

VOLUNTEER & SPONSOR NIGHT

✓
- 18
JUN

AGM

✓



Want your photo or artwork on the cover of Surf Sun & Sand? Email your graphics through to 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.

“

Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength.

”

Arnold Schwarzenegger

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MODEWARRE LORNE

BREAMLEA OMBERSLEY GHERANG MORIAC

CONNEWARRE MOGGS CREEK DEANS MARSH

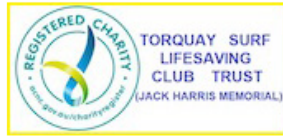
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TORQUAY



Friends



President's Report

Julian Sweeney
President



It has been a very busy end to the financial year for the Torquay SLSC.

With the winding up of season 2023 at the Torquay SLSC we now look towards season 2024 with excitement.

The end of the season brings nominations for the Club's new Directors. This leaves me as the President, with a chance to issue some well-earned thank you's.

Thank you to Sandie Richmond for filling the role of Treasurer for the last 12 months keenly assisted by Steve Marvilla the world's greatest banker. What you both have achieved as a team this season has been amazing and leaves the club's accounts in great condition for our next Treasurer.

Thank you to John Mercer (Life Member) for the years of love and devotion to all thing's facilities. You and your army of helpers over the years in keeping the club's building standing has been nothing short of amazing. I will miss having you in our committee meetings, but I will enjoy spending time with you on all other things Torquay SLSC that you are still involved in.

Thank you to Peter Quinlan for not only the many years as Competition Director but also for the rich vein of PQism that runs through our club. From nippers to youth and into seniors PQ (as he is affectionately known) has done it all. Thank you, PQ, for leading the Competition Team through some seriously tough years with COVID 19 when most other clubs' competition teams stumbled the Torquay SLSC Competition Team prospered.

Thank you also to all our volunteers, active members and supporters.

Thank you to the Jack Harris Trust for once again supporting and providing essential lifesaving equipment. The purchase of the much-needed equipment including the 2 IRB hulls go a long way to keeping and making the Torquay surf beach a safe place to visit.

Thank you to the Torquay Foundation also for the purchase of the much-needed nipper boards. These boards will go a long way to helping our youth and lifesavers of tomorrow prepare for the years of competition ahead.

Finally, thank you to the Torquay SLSC Competition Team.

The Torquay SLSC competition team are our ROYAL BLUE and GOLD citizens, and we look forward to what they/we can achieve on the big stage in 2024 with the swell of support that will be coming their way.

See you at the beach.





The fabulous team at MCG Signs popped over last week to apply the signwriting on our two new rubber dummies! The two new hulls now proudly wear the names of their benefactors! The TSLSC Trust Jack Harris Memorial was established in 1995 and generously assists the Torquay Surf Life Saving club procure vital life saving equipment. In 2022/2023 the "Jack Harris Trust" supported TSLSC with two IRBs and 14 resuscitation manikins. Since its creation, the Jack Harris Trust has provided the club with more than \$224,000 in donations. Now that's a helping hand!

Victorian Surfboat Rowers Inaugural Hall of Fame

Gary Pettigrove

The Victorian Surfboat Rowers League (VSRL) inducted its inaugural members into its Hall of Fame in May 2023. A number of these inaugural members competed in Torquay SLSC surfboats over the years.

The first group inducted included John Pettigrove and Ray Heathcote. Both Torquay SLSC members won Australian and State medals over many years and are icons of the sport of Surfboat racing over many years. Jill Heathcote (Ray's wife) and I were proud to collect Ray and John's Hall of Fame award at the VSRL presentation.

Then the next inductee to be congratulated was Stephen Blewett who began his surfboat experience at Torquay SLSC as a rower and then a great Sweep before continuing his surfboat racing very successfully at other clubs.

The final group included in the Hall of Fame members who successfully raced Torquay SLSC boats during their surfboat life were Peter Grant, Geoff Matthews, Alistair McCoomb, Scott Tannahill and Jessica Kellner. Congratulations to these people.

Other members inducted into the VSRL Hall of fame were Trevor Clausen (Woolamai SLSC), Keith Hodgson, Suzie McKinder and Rex Dale (Point Lonsdale SLSC).

All Torquay SLSC members are proud of our surfboat icons and plans are in place with the Club Captain to re-turn Torquay SLSC surfboat racing to the National Level, our natural place.




Victorian Surfboat Rowers League

HALL OF FAME

John Pettigrove

For significant and sustained
competitive excellence.

Inducted 13 May 2023



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!

**2023/24
MEMBERSHIPS
OPEN**

It's time to renew your memberships! Before you know it, the season will be upon us and so will the Spring & Summer rush. Head over to The Club website and renew your membership! It's also a great time to introduce friends, family and associates to the Torquay SLSC and get them signed up too!

Club Captain's Report

Grant Matthews



HEAD COACH ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with great pleasure to announce Nick Thomas as our Head Coach for season 2023/24. Nick will be expanding his coaching to cover all areas of participation in our competition team.

We are absolutely blessed to have Nick as our Head Coach. He is an outstanding role model to everyone in our club. Nick has achieved amazing individual results as an athlete. Nick brings everything to a team and leaves nothing undared, even if this affects a result of his individual events. Nick finishes every team event with an 'empty tank'. This is in the true 'Torquay way'! Nick's record speaks for itself, and I believe his best is yet to come.

Nick has the support of an amazing sporting and loving family. Morally strong, absolutely fearless, determined and always calibrated towards the spiritual outcomes and virtues of competition.

Nick has done an amazing job over a number of seasons, and we look forward to an exciting 23/24 season.

SURF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT COACHING TEAM

I am extremely excited and proud to announce an amazing group of Torquay members to make up our new Surf Sports Development Coaching Team.

I believe as a team, we cover all areas of lifesaving, surf sports, club culture and development.

The team is a vital resource in the future growth of the club and lifesaving community. All members have served and competed in lifesaving, related sports, and professional careers to an elite level.

I look forward to announcing the team in the near future.



Historian News

Tony Fraser



Where Nippers Started!

As the result of a minute, moved by H Pittard/T Fraser on 27 January 1967 – “that the recruiting sub-committee consider the possibility of introducing a Nipper membership” this section of the club got under way in December 1967. The necessary preparation was taken on by Charles Lyne who reported its progress to the Committee at intervals throughout that year. With committee approval on 18 October 1967 - “that the juvenile club be run as a sub-committee of the TSLSC” its establishment was formalised.

The nippers were to be aged 5-13 years however this changed to 7-13 years. A sub-committee comprising; Chas Lyne (Convenor), Ian Stevenson, John Fay, Russell Mole, Alan Coulson, David Brownlee, Frank Trainor, Dick Major, Stewy Skene & Club Captain John Pettigrove was instituted. Fees were set at 0.50 cents with all accounts and fund raising to be handled by them.

The aim and objective of the nipper movement was to train young boys, (initially nippers were boys only) in safe surf procedure, life saving techniques and beach competition fundamentals. It was hoped that on reaching the required age they would advance to the senior club and continue their training to become fully fledged lifesavers.

Parents were also encouraged to take up membership. It was apparent that many young girls wanted to join the nipper movement and be involved also. This was fulfilled when a member of the Ladies auxiliary Mrs Margaret Bradshaw, gained permission from the club executive to form the Nipperettes at the start of season 1973/74. They showed they were equal to the lifesaving tasks and beach events set by the instructors. Both groups eventually integrated. The 1st nipper carnival was held at Point Lonsdale SLSC on 28 December 1969. Teams from Point Lonsdale SLSC, Ocean Grove SLSC ,13th beach SLSC and Torquay SLSC participated. Reports at the time indicated it was a great success. The Nipper Movement was on its way.



Marketing Damian Chappell

Just a quick update from me this issue. It's been a super busy period for me and the new team. Yep! That's right! The Marketing Team has grown to include the dynamic duo of Hannah Phillips & Danny Phillips! Please give them a warm welcome and next time you see them at the club give them a shout. You've probably seen the outputs of all their work on our social media channels already but what you're not seeing is the foundation of work that's going on behind the scenes. We're always on the lookout for anybody who wants to give a hand or learn some new skills. If you're interested in marketing, social media or promotions drop us a line and come and give it a go!

The Annual Report was a huge effort and on behalf of the club I'd love to thank Michelle Gilling for her tireless efforts in getting it over the line, onto the website and into the hands of you, the members. We're chuffed with it and from the feedback we've been getting, we're pretty sure that you all love it too! Grab a copy from the website or Club Office!

One of the best parts of being involved in the Marketing team is getting to see a tonne of photos and videos that come in from the members. The photo below is one of my favourites for the season. It's moments like this, and sharing them that make it all worth it! The perfect summary of everything that we're about!

I'd like to finish with a MASSIVE shout-out to MCG Signs. I can tell you for a fact that their work is second-to-none. They do a marvellous job for the club and for a tonne of businesses all over "Torqs". Anything from large format printing, pull-ups, signage, wraps to rubber ducky customization!

Highly recommended!



Life Saving Victoria U15 Leadership Development Camp

Special Report by Taj Purcell



Earlier this month I was so excited to represent the Torquay SLSC at the LSV U15 Leadership Development Camp with almost 60 other representatives from all over Victoria.

The Camp was held at Anglesea Recreation Camp, and I knew this was a great location, as I have been on a school camp there before. It's close to the beach but it feels like you are in the bush, and they have lots of outdoor activities.

When I got to the camp, it was great to catch up with my other close U15 friends from Mentone LSC & Ocean Grove SLSC. However, it was also a great opportunity to meet so many new people from other clubs near and far. It was great to meet people that I may not see or meet when doing lifesaving competitions.

The focus of the camp was leadership development. We were split into various groups and assigned many tasks and activities spread over the weekend. This included a mock Amazing Race Challenge, The Big Wall which is part of an obstacle course and the Giant Swing. All these activities required us to challenge ourselves and more importantly work as a team. We each had an opportunity to put our leadership skills into practice. We also got to start each morning with a run, and if you know me, I love a good long run!

What was also interesting was learning about the pathways and the opportunities that LSV have to offer. This included obtaining your gold, silver and bronze medallion, something that I would love to achieve outside of competition.

For the nippers and youth coming through the club, I highly recommend looking out for all of the extra courses, camps & activities that LSV has on offer.

There were so many awesome times at the camp but here are my top 3.

1. *The camp was fun, and I really enjoyed making new friends from clubs all over Victoria that I might not have met from going to carnivals.*
2. *Being a good leader requires multiple skills, however working together in a team with strong communication skills and cooperation will always equal great results.*
3. *There is so much more to LSV than you think. Whilst I personally love competing and patrolling, if you are not interested in these options there are still so many ways to be involved in such an important community organisation.*

If you are interested in finding out some more, I'd be happy to share my experience. Thank you to the Torquay SLSC for giving me the opportunity to represent them, I was proud to do so.



Torquay Rescue Jono Cole

TO HELL AND BACK!



Hi, my name's Jono and I'm a member of the Torquay SLSC and have been for most of my life. Torquay Rescue is a program run by Grant and Nikki Matthews for kids aged 13 and over.

It's a great program to join straight after nippers. Torquay Rescue is a way of getting in the water and learning how to keep yourself safe and protect others. During the summer season Torquay Rescue runs a session every Saturday morning.

Everyone is welcome and everyone will find something helpful and fun from the Torquay Rescue program:

- People who aren't ready to compete can build their skills and join in the senior competition training sessions when they feel they are ready.
- People who love the beach and club but don't want to compete.
- People who want to live a healthy lifestyle can join in for exercise and fitness.
- People who love the social side of having fun at the beach with friends.
- People who want to maintain their skills and fitness for patrol.

I spent all summer at the club and with Torquay Rescue I enjoyed it so much more. After nippers I thought, I was going to quit, but I went to Torquay Rescue and after only 2 weeks of participating I was having so much fun that I couldn't stop going to the beach.

Grant and Nikki are really friendly and fun, and they are great surf lifesaving coaches. They have both encouraged me to do things I didn't think I could do. Torquay Rescue is what has helped me to stay active with the club and become the best lifesaver I could be.

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



Member Profile:

JONATHAN GRIFFITHS

FACILITIES DIRECTOR

I grew up in Ocean Grove where my passion for the beach began and where I was a nipper... don't hate me!!

I started my career as a plumber though progressed quickly into facilities management.

I moved to Torquay 14 years ago and joined the Torquay SLSC when my son Jake decided he wanted to do nippers. I completed my Bronze in 2022 so that I could spend more time with my kids and really enjoyed patrolling and helping where possible. Nowadays I find it difficult not to be at the surf club... and am nearly always floating around somewhere!!



Member Profile:

GREG MINTER

TREASURER

We relocated to the Surf Coast from the UK in 2016 with our children, Finlay, and Isla. My wife Sarah and I got involved with the Torquay SLSC as soon as Finlay was old enough to join the nipper's program as an U6 in 2018.

We encouraged the children to get involved as we felt that if you grow up by the ocean that you should know how to be safe in it.

Like most parents, we stood on the sidelines and watched the children and Age Managers get on with it, and soon found ourselves being the parent helpers at every session.

One thing led to another and in 2021, I achieved the bronze medallion at the age of 48. I did this mostly to help as water safety on the nippers' sessions and then discovered beach patrol.

In 2022, I became an assistant age manager for the U10s. I absolutely enjoy nippers' season and love being on the beach and in the water with the kids. It so rewarding to see them develop and grow in confidence in the water.

I am in awe of the hard work of everybody in in the Torquay SLSC community and their devotion to surf lifesaving and the nippers program.

Outside of the Torquay SLSC, I run a small accounting practice (Foodie Accounting) in Torquay, working with entrepreneurial businesses, mostly in the hospitality industry. I enjoy food and wine and the occasional juicy banger. We also enjoy going to see live music and we'll try and get to as many gigs as we can.

I really appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the club in a professional context and look forward to the years ahead and the success and prosperity of the club and all involved.



Member Profile:

TIM ALTMAN

COMPETITION DIRECTOR



I am looking forward to taking on the role of Competition Director at the Torquay SLSC. I am keen to instil a sense of culture and pride within our athletes and members. I've competed and coached in Surf Lifesaving and other paddling modalities for over 40 years, and remain in touch with club, and national coaches in these modalities through my work. As such, I believe my experience and connections will make me very suitable for this role.

I joined the Torquay SLSC in 1980 and I have been the Head Ski Paddling Coach since 2011 before finishing up in December 2022.

My results for Torquay SLSC include 3 silver medals at the Australian Surf lifesaving Championships. I won 2 silver medals in 1984 & 1985 teaming up with Tim Munro in the Junior Double Ski & in 1987 in the Open Ski Relay with Tim Bush & Calvin Newstead we won another silver medal.

At the Victorian Championships I won 3 Open Single Ski Titles and 6 x Open Double Ski Titles and many Open Men's Ski Teams & Open Men's Taplin Titles – the last being a Victorian open double ski title with Glenn Singleton and Open Taplin Relay in 2019 at age 52.

I have loved being a Torquay SLSC team member for most of these years. I have blue and gold in my veins.

In addition, I have twice been a member of the Australian Flatwater/Sprint Kayak Team & former member of the AIS, VIS & QAS flatwater kayaking programs, winning 4 Australian sprint kayaking championships

In the last 10 or so years in ocean paddling my best results include top 10 overall in the 2012 & 2014 Molokai World Surf Ski Championships, and have travelled to Hawaii for this event many times since. I am also a qualified Naturopath, breath coach/respiratory therapist, nutritionist, herbal medicine practitioner and Mickel Therapist specialising in chronic illness.





A MESSAGE FROM

THE COACH'S BLACKBOARD

WE'RE GOING TO BE BUILDING AN ICONIC GENERATION OF SURF LIFE SAVERS THAT ARE TRUE TO THE SPIRIT OF WHAT TORQUAY SLSC WAS FOUNDED ON & CONTINUE US INTO THE FUTURE!
WITH SOME OF THE BEST SKILLSETS AVAILABLE IN THE COUNTRY, WE WANT TO DRAW UPON THE RICH EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE OF OUR AMAZING TORQUAY MEMBERS TO DRIVE US FORWARD!

AS WE MOVE THROUGH THE WINTER OFF-SEASON LET'S TAKE A SECOND TO REFLECT ON WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE'RE ABOUT...
TRUE CHAMPIONS KNOW WHO THEY ARE & WHAT THEY'RE COMPETING FOR!

OUR VALUES

- X INCLUSIVITY
- X TRANSPARENCY
- X RESPECT
- X CARE
- X FUN & ADVENTURE
- X HONESTY
- X ACCOUNTABILITY
- X CULTURE DRIVEN