

DOWN THE TRACK

Bungan Beach Surf Lifesaving Club Inc Newsletter – February 2010

Welcome to the second newsletter of the 2009-10 season

After the stunning success of the first issue – no lawsuits, letter bombs, or knocks on the door at 2am – your editorial staff has approached this issue with renewed confidence.

PATROLS

President, Phil Brown, and the committee have been very appreciative of the response for assistance with patrols, and would like to see this continue.

At this time of the year Huey seems to kick into gear, and after one of the flattest summer surfs for years, we are likely to see bigger surf for the rest of the season. This means more emphasis on finding the safest swimming area before putting up the flags, ensuring patrol members keep a good watch on swimmers between the flags, and warning people who start to enter the surf outside the flagged area . Prevention is a lot easier than having to perform a rescue!

Another aspect to improving our patrols is the patrol inspections which will be carried out by the Branch during the rest of the season. Patrol captains should make sure we have all the specified gear on the beach, and go through resuscitation drills, etc with those on patrol.

MEMBERSHIP

Another reminder!

You must fill out a membership form and pay your fees to be covered by SLSA insurance.

Membership forms can be downloaded from the club's website www.bunganbeachsurfclub.com by logging on and following the prompt from "Membership renewals". Please complete and forward the form, together with your fees, to:- PO Box 715, Newport NSW 2106

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

Very pleasing to report that a couple of locals have joined the club and have started training. Please make them feel welcome.

A number of Barker students will hopefully be ready to do their Bronze Medallion in March – the more the better.

Congratulations to Ethan McInnes and Col Rae who have successfully completed a spinal management course.

IRB NEWS

Thanks to the “\$ for \$ gear grant” the club has secured a new rigid hull IRB for patrol duties. Expected time of arrival is probably early March. Please look after the current hulls and motors, as the IRB is our most effective piece of rescue equipment, when it is working properly.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The second (and last) round of the club championships will be held on **Sunday 21st February 2010** **starting at 10am.**

We would like to see as many placegetters from the first round as possible in attendance, plus plenty of others to give them a hard time! Don't forget that winners and placegetters receive trophies at the Presentation Night.

BARKER – WHALE BEACH CHALLENGE

It was Bungan's turn to host the inter-school carnival on Saturday, and we suspect Matt Lloyd is now under sedation after the enormous amount of preparation and organisation he put in to make the day a success. Torrential rain the night before left a gaping hole in front of the boatshed, but Huey gave us a reasonable scenario on the day, with overcast but fine weather, and a relatively gentle surf. The shorebreak was another matter, and provided plenty of entertainment in the board races for the more sadistic spectators.

Unfortunately the strength of Knox College in the boys, and Loreto in the girls, saw them take out first place, but Barker put in a solid effort, particularly in the team events, with some fine individual performances.

Thanks to all who helped on the day, particularly the parents who manned the barbecue and food stalls. The upstairs deck had a solid crowd of supporters who appreciated the comfort of chairs, and the close proximity to most of the action.

INTER-CLUB COMPETITION

The boat crews continue to feature. The Open Men's crew took out the Branch Championship final in convincing fashion at North Steyne, while the Colts made the semis.

The Junior crew were selected to represent NSW in the Novice Junior section at the ASRL Championships held at Wollongong, an honour for them, and a tribute to the work sweep Matt Collins had put in with the boys. The venue was moved because of big seas, but the new venue left something to be desired, with one end having a definite advantage. The Opens and Juniors suffered at the “wrong” end – the Juniors taking 4th spot in their final row for the season. The Opens just missed out on reaching the final after leading all the way in the semi's, while the Colts reluctantly featured in one of the wipeouts of the day to end their prospects.

The Opens and Colts are now focussed on the State and Australian Championships, and the club wishes them every success in these carnivals.

SOCIAL JOTTINGS

The big event of the year, the Presentation Night, will be held on **Saturday 22nd May 2010, at Pittwater RSL Club.** Invitations will be forwarded later in the season, but please keep this night free, and note it in your diaries (electronic or otherwise!)

Our ancient correspondent has pleaded lack of notice for his absence in this issue, although he related one hilariously appalling anecdote which will never get into print. The Bungan of today is a far cry to what went on in the early years of the club and the beach – “ Bungan? That’s where they have all those wild parties isn’t it?” Yes indeed it was, dear reader, but unfortunately we have to draw a veil over many of the goings on of that era.

Editor’s note:- We have been forced to limit this edition as the RSPCA has taken action on behalf of our highly trained typist. The monkey has lodged a dubious claim for an RSI injury which we will be defending vigorously (the usual story).

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Constructive criticism of the newsletter is welcomed (we know where you live!) and if you have any suggestions in relation to subject matter, or presentation, for future newsletters, please forward them to the Secretary, PO Box 715, Newport NSW 2106 or email samsds@optusnet.com.au who will forward them on to the editor.