



POST SEASON BOOMER

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FROM THE PRES

As I reflect on our Club's 74th season of lifesaving at Portsea Back Beach, I am taken aback by the at-times extraordinary achievements of our people. We are truly blessed to have such fine members, who again went above and beyond for the community and for our club.

On the beach this season our people were kept very busy. Difficult conditions saw our patrol members rescue 35 people, who without us may not have made it home. On top of that, our patrols recorded almost 3,000 preventative actions. We also tended to 5 major first aid incidents on patrol, most of which required ambulance transfer to hospital.

We had a particularly incident packed few weeks from late December, with our members attending a tragic fire in the car park, a post-requal heart attack, our own minibus crashed at high speed (miraculously no one was hurt), there were other heart scares, snake bites, broken bones and a range of other incidents which seemed to plague us! Our members were also called upon to assist in the tragic drowning at Gunnamatta on 6 January.

I could not have been prouder of our members as they responded to these challenges. Not only did they display amazing lifesaving and first aid skills, the support they offered one another was amazing to watch.

Despite all of this, we delivered a record-breaking nipper program to more than 650 nippers, and our SRC, Cadet, Bronze, Silver and other advanced lifesaving programs were again incredibly popular. We also introduced our new Platinum Camp held during winter for our 17/18+ year old lifesavers, one of only two clubs to offer this program. Regardless of whether these lifesavers patrol for one season or twenty, we are hopeful that they take away from these programs skills that will be with them for life.

Our community education program also expanded beyond our much-loved Frankston High School Bronze and SRC program, to a much bigger offering

with a further six schools across the peninsula. More than 200 students were able to learn valuable lifesaving skills and we look forward to further expanding this offering. Also new was our "SNippers" or senior nippers program, aimed at grandparents of nippers, who were able to learn a range of lifesaving skills across three sessions in late January.

Our events were also able to operate without COVID-19 restrictions for the first time in three years. The Portsea Swim Classic and Pier to Perignon swims were fantastic events delivered without issue, and the Bay to Surf almost doubled in size in only its second year.

We can't do any of this without the support of our sponsors and partners. I'd like to particularly thank our Principal Club Sponsor United Energy, without whom our education offering would look significantly less, and our Gold Sponsors Balter, Grainshaker, LGT Crestone, Kay & Burton, Portsea Estate wines and RT Edgar.

We established almost an entirely new professional team, led by General Manager Rod Leonard and Food and Beverage Manager Sally Meaden. They hit the ground running and were able to introduce a number of new initiatives that proved popular. Please know that they are working hard to continue to offer an improved member service, and already we are seeing the benefits of this work. A big thank you to all of our professional team!

We may be professionally managed, however we remain volunteer led, and I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to our club.

We are fortunate to have Rob Fildes as our Patron, whose unwavering support and invaluable contributions have greatly influenced our achievements.

We are now Australia's largest lifesaving club, by a considerable margin, and this takes a lot of work. So, if you patrolled, helped at an event or around the club, delivered an education program or contributed to one of our many

subcommittees, I say a very big thank you.

To the Committee, I also extend a massive thanks. Your expertise and guidance have been instrumental in our Club's success. I'd particularly like to single out our Club Captain Jess Lamb who has indicated that this, her third year in the role, will be her last. You have been a pleasure to work with and have been a great contributor to our success. In a similar vein we are also sad to farewell Rob Mellor from the role of Secretary, which he has held for the past nine seasons. Our longest serving person on the Committee, Rob has been a great friend and wise counsel throughout. Both will be missed.

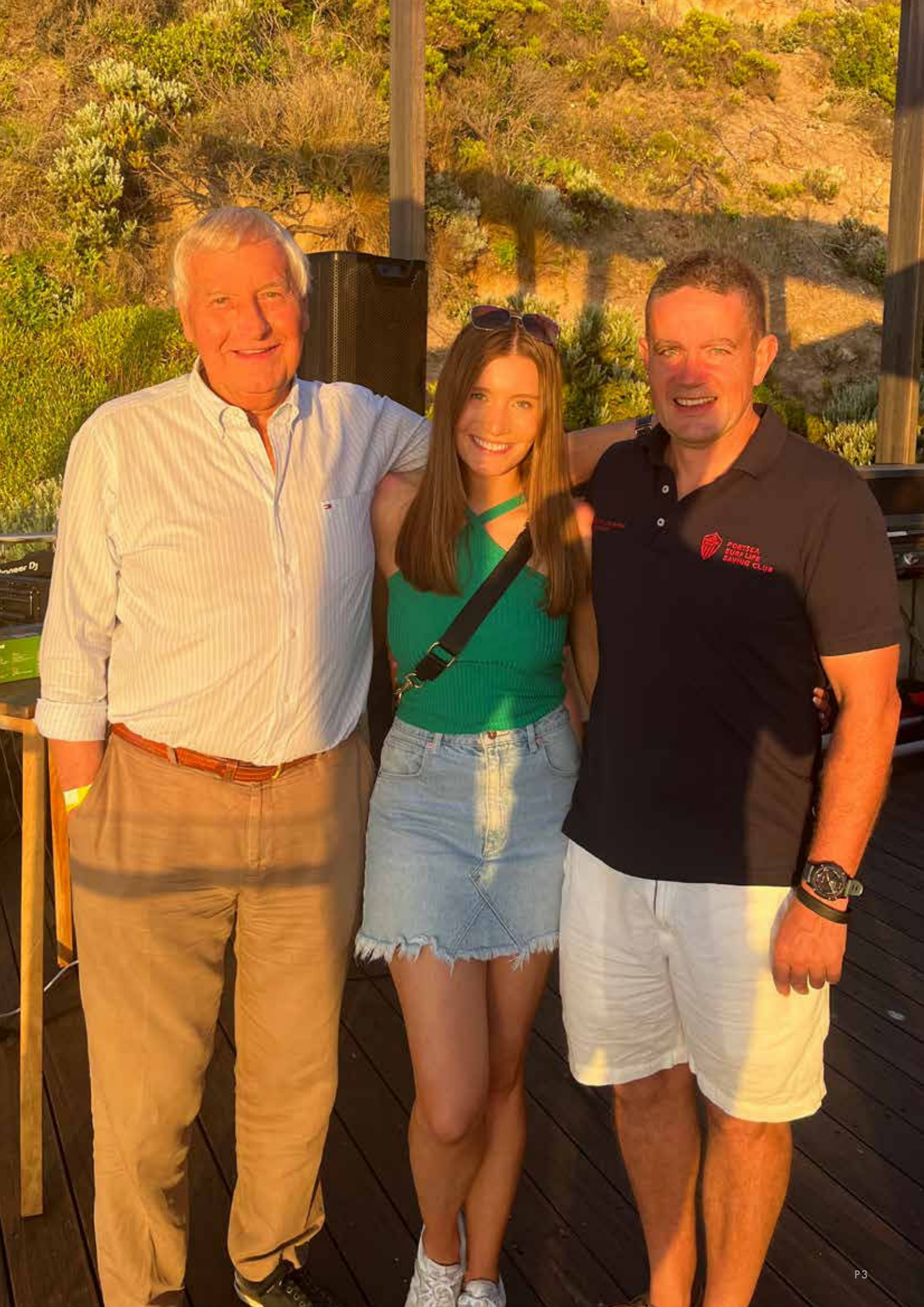
Lastly, I would like to extend my gratitude to all our members. Your enthusiasm, involvement, and unwavering belief in our purpose have been crucial to our ability to deliver another successful year.

There is a lot of exciting work being done behind the scenes, and I am truly looking forward to what our 75th season holds.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

See you on the beach,

Matt Mahon
President



CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

What a season! As a team, we managed to accomplish some incredible feats both on and off the beach.

35 major rescues, 157 minor rescues and almost 3000 preventative actions. These record numbers are indicative of the incredible response we saw from our members in the face of a huge surge of near drownings across Victorian beaches following two years of lockdown. If you stepped up as a Patrol Captain or Vice-Captain this season, please give yourself a hearty pat on the back. Feats such as these cannot be accomplished without impeccable leadership. I'd also like to shed light on our Lifesaving Director, Sas McNamara's fantastic efforts this season. She played a vital role in ensuring that not only patrons at Portsea Back Beach were kept safe, but beach goers across the entire Mornington Peninsula in her roles at a state level. Finally, thank you to every single one of our patrollers, I hope you feel very proud of your efforts.

Likewise, our education team went above and beyond this season. The demand for our education programs in recent years has been unprecedented and our education teams have been hard at work, devising novel strategies with the intent of providing vital surf awareness and skills training to more and more members. This summer we managed to educate a record number of 650 Nippers, 5 Starfish Nippers and hundreds more through our Platinum, Silver, Bronze, Cadets, SRC and suite of advanced training programs. Thank you to all our Program Directors, Subcommittee Members, Camp Chiefs, Trainers and Assessors who made this possible.

Similarly, we reached a record number of participants across all our fundraising events. Thank you to every member who volunteered their time at the Swim Classic, Bay to Surf and Pier to Perignon. These events generate vital funds for our lifesaving operations, and all together provide over 4000 competitors with a day of activity, fun and connection and would not be possible without you.

As usual, in the competition arena our competitors have been hard at work, representing the club at state and national events. I'd like to congratulate all our summer competition team members on their accomplishments this season, as well as wish our IRB competition team members luck as we head into winter.

Outside the water, our social calendar was jam packed, offering our full suite of club social events for the first summer in three years. This season saw the revival of the Nipper Cocktail Party, as well as, the introduction of several new events, one of the highlights being our new female networking event. Congratulations to our Events Director, Oscar Hunter and Member Engagement Director, Holly Hart, who do a lot of work behind the scenes to make these engagement opportunities possible. Additionally, it was fantastic to have our new General Manager, Rod Leonard, around to support our volunteers in the delivery of these events.

Lastly, on a more personal note, after three seasons as Club Captain the time has come for me to pass the baton on. When I stepped into the role, our club was undergoing a period of rapid change due to the expansion in our membership base in conjunction with the new clubhouse. Consequently, my primary goal was to ensure that we provide a diversity of opportunities for all our members to engage with the club. I'm proud to say that following untiring work across all our subcommittees, our number of active members, the size of our education programs and our number of member engagement opportunities are at an all-time high. This is something that I hope you can all take great pride in reflecting on with me.

Thank you to all the wonderful mentors I've had in this club over the years. I have received a tremendous amount of support from general committee members, operational committee members and so many others. My favourite part of this club is the relationships you forge with members

of all demographics. In particular I would like to thank our Club President, Matt Mahon, not only does Matt have his own bursting to do list, but somehow, he always finds time to help others, especially me with my own suite of questions. I've learnt so much from you over the years, from how to be a strong leader to how to treat other people in day-to-day encounters.

I'm really excited about the future of our club. We are so fortunate to have a wealth of passionate, clever, committed members in our ranks. One of whom will be nominated for Club Captain, Jacqui Hart. Anyone who knows Jacqui knows that she will be a fantastic leader and team player.

Jess Lamb
Club Captain



CLUB AWARDS

| CLUB AWARDS | WINNER 2022-23 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Presidents Award | Josh Nilsen |
| Club Captains Award | Jack White |
| Patrol of the Year (Red Towel) | Point Break |
| John Wishart Award | Andrew May |
| Junior Wishart Award | Tom Scalzo |
| Junior Development Manager's Award | Claire Whitbread |
| Pier to Perignon Director's Award | Tony Castricum |
| Portsea Swim Classic Director's Award | Darren Kerr |
| Bay to Surf Director's Award | Sue Crow |
| Richard Fisher Award | Henry Kiss |
| Education Directors Award | Nick Flockart |



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

What a season it has been and what an experience I have had taking on the role of General Manager at the Portsea Surf Life Saving Club.

With my commencement date in late September 2022, the ball was rolling from day one. Having limited time to get to know key stakeholders, members, procedures, processes and policies I was straight into the tide of what is a Portsea Summer at the club and it was a case of getting moving quickly to keep up with the pace and be ready for the summer.

Early in my role I was quick to recognise the need for a full time Food and Beverage Manager and also an Administration Manager at the club, so we could create more structure around our service and delivery to all of our members. By the end of November we had appointed Sally Meaden as our full time Food and Beverage manager and Amanda Dyer as our Club's Administration Manager.

Sally and Amanda have done such a wonderful job in their respective roles after starting late in the year. They have committed themselves wholeheartedly to our club and have certainly made my transition into General Manager a lot easier.

The appointment of these two key roles and the personnel we were lucky enough to employ certainly played a key role in the club being able to provide a consistent and ongoing service through the whole peak period, which was our main intention after the interrupted years COVID has delivered.

Before we hit our peak season, I was lucky enough to witness the work of our Education Manager – Henry Kiss, our volunteer Education personnel Jacqui Hart, Jack White and Andy May run Silver and Bronze Camps at the club. It was a great experience to witness in essence the main purpose of this

club – Education and Life Saving. It was inspiring to see our dedicated volunteers apply their surf lifesaving skills and knowledge to teach over 100 new lifesavers. This experience highlighted the culture, learnings and significant purpose of the club that has been developed over many seasons of lifesaving at the Portsea back beach.

With this in mind, I was also very well aware of the service that we were about to provide to our whole member base as we entered the busy December, January and February period. We got to work inducting over 40 staff, mostly young members of the club to carry out our food and beverage services over the summer period. Ranging in ages from 15-21 the club sees this as an important offering to our young members to gain some valuable whole club and life experience.

Over the course of the summer we had some excellent work completed by a number of our young staff who took on leadership roles within their time working at the club which was pleasing to see.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of these staff members for their efforts over this extremely busy period.

Through December, January and February the club ran in excess of 40 events and functions, which consisted of a combination of volunteers and paid staff. Events varied from training programs to our education team, the weekly President's Club in January, The famous Nippers Cocktail Party, which catered for 400 members and guests, sponsor functions, networking events and surfing contests.

I would like to particularly highlight three main events that our club's volunteer base brings together each year and I found by experiencing it this year, it really highlighted the

efforts and coordination from 100s of volunteers to a very small paid staff team to pull these events together. A real team collaboration.

With the Bay to Surf Run conducted on Friday the 20th of January, we saw well over 700 runners and walkers tackle the 4.5km and 9km courses, which started at Quarantine and finished at Portsea back beach in front of the surf club. Some great scenes at the finish line with competitors of multiple age brackets completing the distances. This coupled with a schnitzel night and drinks back at the club, it combined fitness with some indulgence and was a wonderful event.

Closely followed the next day was the Grainshaker Portsea Swim Classic. With its biggest field ever – over 2700 competitors across a multitude of events the Classic put on a perfect day with great conditions to run for its 37th consecutive year. A logistical challenge, which includes water safety, travel, coordination with Parks Victoria, first aid, sponsor coordination, food and beverage services and so much more. This event could not be made successful without the dedication and commitment of well over 200 volunteers from our club. A fantastic day with no incidents and one I am looking so forward to experiencing again next year.

The Pier to Perignon was conducted on Sunday the 12th of February. This event sold out with over 900 swimmers and was another perfect day for a bay swim. As stated earlier these events do not come together without 100s of volunteers.

However, there are key players who really drive these events and make them happen from a volunteer perspective. Jess Lamb pulled together the Bay to Surf run, with close help from Sue Crow and many other volunteers. Again, Craig Evans managed the Swim

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Classic smoothly and produced a fantastic event. Finally, our P2P event saw Sam Paynter at the helm, directing the swim to one of its most successful years! These are such key member events for the club that continue to build and grow year on year.

Closer to the season conclusion, I have certainly spent some time reflecting back on what has been a whirlwind initiation. There were many positives but also many areas of improvement from my own development and within the club.

With this in mind, we conducted our first member survey through the early parts of April and have started working through the data and information received from this. With over 400 responses we have strong information to start planning on improving our services to our whole membership.

Improving our services is a main goal for myself in the role of General

Manager. Continually improving on our offerings to all our members is an integral aspect of improving our club. We may not get it right all the time, but we will continue to keep working towards fixing issues that need attention and improving. I feel we have a really strong base to work from and the feedback provided from our members, which will lay a foundation for our planning moving forward in 2023-24 season, and beyond.

Personally, I would like to thank the following members of Portsea SLSC for the support and guidance they have shown me in my initial period in this role – Matt Mahon (President), Rod Mellor (Secretary), Wayne Stoll (Sponsorship Manager/ former GM), Mark Grooby (Administration Support), Jess Lamb (Club Captain), James Nola (IT & Building Director) and Brett Croft (Vice President). I will not go into individually what each person has done to support me, but they have all gone beyond expectations to provide

me with guidance to navigate my way through this initial phase of PSLSC General Manager – thank you.

From here I am looking forward to a fabulous 75th year at the club in 2023-24. Planning is already underway for some wonderful events and recognition of the 75th year patrolling Portsea back beach.

I look forward to what lies ahead and if you are down at the club, please pop in, say hello, pass on any suggestions as we are always looking how we can continue to improve our services and tailor these services best to our membership.

Rod Leonard
PSLSC General Manager



LIFESAVING REPORT



Thank you and congratulations to every single active patroller this season for once again ensuring we had a successful patrolling season at Portsea SLSC. We were faced with hot weather, huge swells and large crowd numbers, yet the commitment of Portsea's patrollers in ensuring every beach goer had a great time and also left the beach safely never wavered.

The season began on 26th November with the Patrol Captains, Vice Captains and Mentors coming together for a leadership and pre-season discussion and then hitting the beach to put the flags up for the very first time this season. The season finished with our patrollers giving up almost 9000 hours of their time, conducting 35 rescues, providing minor first aid to 157 beach goers, and major first aid to 5 beach goers, and carrying out 2963

preventative actions for the 18,000 beachgoers that visited Portsea Back Beach during patrol hours. As always, I am extremely grateful for the amazing leadership team that I was surrounded by this season. A big thank you to Charlie Flockart for your help as Deputy Lifesaving Director. Charlie is an incredibly gifted waterman and has a huge passion for the Lifesaving service. Thank you for being by my side through all the problems and fun we faced this season.

I would also like to say a huge thank the Patrol Captains, Patrol Vice Captains and Mentors from each patrol group. These Patrol Leaders accounted for 2963 preventative actions, this is 2963 possible rescues or injuries that would have occurred if these patrols were not there, and is an increase of 200 more than last season.

I would also like to thank the Expert Lifesavers In Training (ELIT) Team, consisting of Flora Gillies, Emile Stigter, Nick Flockart and Spencer Thomas. These keen beans have elite Life Saving knowledge and skills. Watch this space as they continue their ELIT journey through your patrols!

Sas McNamara
Lifesaving Director

LIFESAVING AWARDS

| LIFESAVING AWARDS | WINNER(S) 2022-23 |
|---|---|
| JR Wright | Phil Harford |
| Lady Nelson | Mackie Hunter |
| Patrol MVPs | Not awarded in 2022-23 season |
| 50+ Hours | Jack White - 85.83 Sas McNamara - 78.81 Andrew May - 71.77 Andrew Kiss - 66.59 Hayley Mckee - 63.77 Nicholas Flockart - 57.69 Eliza McNamara - 57.6 Thomas Sagar - 53.16 Heather Gould - 52.76 Sophie Courtney - 52.19 Tim Hart - 51.99 Simon Knight - 50.91 |
| 100+ Hours | Not awarded in 2022-23 season |
| 100% Patrol Attendance - Patrollers (Bronze) | Charlotte De Zoete Heather Gould Andrew Kiss Alexander Prosser Jacqui Hart Peter Wilson Julian Byrne Kerri Hart Janet Theodosi Finnlay Gillson Bec Gould Nick Flockart Sas McNamara |
| 100% Patrol Attendance - Patrol Captains (Silver) | Flynn Chable Simon Knight William Kift Andrew May Tim Hart Jack White |
| 100% Patrol Attendance - 5 Years (Gold) | Justin McNamara |
| 100% Patrol Attendance - 10 Years (Platinum) | Not awarded in 2022-23 season |
| Junior Patroller of the Year | Thomas Sagar |
| Patroller of the Year | Simon Knight |
| Gold Standard Patrol Award | Not awarded in 2022-23 season |
| 50 Year's of Patrolling | Not awarded in 2022-23 season |



EDUCATION REPORT

This year we had an amazing season of education programs, and I would like to start with a massive thank you to all our Chiefs, Instructors, Water Safety, Trainers and Assessors who were involved in education at Portsea this year and are essential in successfully running these education programs – we are all so grateful for your considerable contributions!

Over winter this year we held our first ever Platinum camp, led by Jack White. The camp was run to give our young members an opportunity to develop advanced lifesaving skills after completing their silver camp! The camp was a great success, and we are excited to run this program again next season.

We then kicked off the season with another successful part-time bronze, led by the amazing Henry Kiss and Josh Nilsen. The program saw 25 candidates successfully attain their Bronze Medallion award. Congrats to all candidates on obtaining their Bronze and thank you to Henry and Josh for running another great course!

Excitingly we were able to run our normal Silver Camp in September

school holidays this year. Steph Mahon and Andrew Argyrou did a great job of organising the camp, where we were able to offer First Aid, ART and IRB crew award to 40 eager participants and a great start to everyone's season with a few days of fun in the surf!

We had another amazing Bronze Camp this year with 80 candidates living in at the surf club. Despite some bad weather. The camp ran smoothly thanks to our amazing Bronze Chiefs, Instructors and Water Safety, as well as a great group of candidates. We were lucky to be visited by the Westpac helicopter on camp with the new crew member Sas McNamara, it was awesome for the candidates to be able to see one of the different opportunities that exists after attaining your bronze! It was overall an awesome week, with participants enjoying spending time at the beach with friends and obtaining their Bronze Medallion! A massive congrats and thank you to Andrew May and Sam Lindeman for their amazing leadership.

Next up was the SRC program, which was in such high demand that we had to run two separate camps! Chiefs,

Charlotte Mahon, Cormac O'Callaghan, Milla Richardson and Spencer Thomas did an incredible job of organising and managing this program, which resulted in a wave of inspired 13-year old's eager to patrol the beach.

To ring in the new year was Cadet Camp with our leadership team of Tom Scalzo and Nick Flockart leading the program, who provided a great opportunity for last year's SRCs to develop their surf lifesaving skills both in and out of the water including improving their board handling skills and enhancing their first aid and CPR knowledge.

Thanks again to everyone involved for enabling a great season of education. A special thank you to the Deputy Education Director, Jack White, for his amazing support over the season, education is a massive portfolio, and your support was essential in making everything achieved this season possible!

Jacqui Hart
Education Director





NIPPERS REPORT

United Energy Portsea Nippers Program

What an amazing season we have just completed for the 2022-23 United Energy Portsea Nippers program (incorporating the Starfish Nippers Program). We had our largest ever cohort undertake the program this year with 650 excited participants hitting the water with determination to learn all important surf lifesaving skills from some of our most experienced members and a large number of our best and brightest younger members. Our program is undoubtedly the leading program of its nature and it can only occur with the dedication and support of the Nippers Committee – including retiring members Glennis Winnett and Claire Whitbread who have both been amazing with their contribution of time, skill and commitment to the program, as well as Jodi (the new "Hoff") Lancaster (Back Beach Manager), Julian Sallabank (Front Beach Manager), Jo Robertson, Kristen Sagar, Anita Zanchetta and Bridget Smith together with our Starfish Nippers Leaders Andrew Argyrou and Alexandra Madden as well as our Nippers Water Safety Officers and emerging leaders in Arabella Mitchell, Jack De Fraga and Alice Molnar, all of our valued Age Managers, Parent Helpers, Set-Up/Pack-Down Teams, Medical Teams, Administration Officers, Communications Team, Merchandise Team and all important Water Safety personnel. You were all fantastic to work with and I hope that you feel the same way as I do when I say that the smiles on the faces of all of our Nippers continue to make all of this hard work worthwhile.

Once again, thank-you to all of the Nipper parents for your support and for the trust you put in us to develop the skills of your children. Their eagerness

and desire to learn surf lifesaving skills will keep them safe and will equip them well as they grow and develop into the next generation of life savers on the Portsea back beach.

Also thank-you to LSV, Parks Victoria and the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council who were very supportive and accommodating to what we wanted to achieve this year with our increased numbers and for the Victoria Police for the fantastic fly-by by the Police Helicopter (a highlight of the program for many of our nippers).

A program such as ours is not possible without the generosity of our sponsors – led by United Energy who are incredibly engaged in what we seek to achieve as a club and how we are developing our people and members of the community on the Mornington Peninsula – as well as EY, Linfox, TGI Fridays, RT Edgar, Backbeach Pizza, My Plan Manager, Top Gear Prestige and LAWD amongst others. Please continue to support those who support our club. If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please reach out to Wayne Stoll (wayne.stoll@portseasurf.com.au)...it is a great investment to make in the development of the younger members of our community.

As a final note, the season just past represents my final year as Junior Development Director after being involved in the Nippers program in various roles over the past 10 years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my involvement and I look forward to seeing the continued evolution of the program under Julian Sallabank. I was asked recently what it was that I found the most enjoyable aspect of being involved – and the answer was simple - seeing the development of our Nippers – graduating from excited squeals of delight from when they catch their first wave at the back beach through to seeing the very same nippers all grown up and confidently leading patrols and

protecting the beach going public. It really is a thing of beauty and immense pride. Our Nippers are, and have always been an amazing group of young people – and we are proud to have them (and their families) as members of our Club.

Stay safe and look out for each other on and off the beach.

Brett Croft
Vice President and Junior
Development Director



NIPPERS REPORT



END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

The Portsea Competition Team continued in the 2022-23 season to be a focal point of skill development and engagement. From our enthusiastic under 8 youngsters through to our over 70 years masters, competition events bring members, their families and supporters together, racing on the sand, in the ocean, in the IRB boats, surf boats, and this year also in the pool.

IRB RACING TEAM

The 2022 IRB racing season was incredibly successful for Portsea. We achieved fantastic results across the season in the suite of Victorian carnivals, and the team rounded off the season admirably with an incredible performance from a small group of elite racers representing both Portsea and the Victorian Racing team in the Australian Championships. These athletes achieved 1st place in the U23 Male Tube and 2nd Place in the Open Women Tube. I congratulate Andrew May, Sas McNamara, Finn Nicholas and Sophie Courtney for attaining these results.

The 2023 Winter Carnival season has already started! On the 16th of April, the IRB Racing Team competed at Point Leo for Round 1. Whilst the weather was nothing to be admired having been a 35km/h onshore wind and patchy rain all day, we performed excellently. The racing team attained 1st in Female Open Tube and 2nd in Open Male Tube. Given such a strong start for Round 1, we are very excited for what this season might bring!

The 2022/23 PSLSC Presentation evening marks the introduction of the first IRB Competition Award, The IRB Racer of the Season. The criteria for this award includes, season performance, positive contributions to team dynamic, willingness to support team members, and attendance and presence in training. Furthermore you cannot receive this award more than once. I look forward to presenting this award

at the upcoming presentation night. I am thrilled to race alongside our squadron for the 2023 racing season and look forward to overseeing the continual development of Portsea's IRB Racing Team. Please reach out if you would like to join or support the IRB Racing team, new members and officials will always be welcomed.

Blair Nuske – IRB Racing Captain

JUNIOR COMPETITION TEAM

The Junior Competition Team came together over January, training both at the back beach and at Quarantine under the guidance of our club coaches, led by Tom Regan. The team attended carnivals at Mt Martha and the Point Leo state qualifying carnival.

Portsea SLSC fielded a small but strong team of U9-U13 athletes at the Victorian Junior State Championships. Twenty Portsea junior members were up against 700 young Victorian athletes at Warrnambool beach over the March long weekend. Learning new surf skills, teamwork and how to cope with the challenges of rules and racing, celebrating with team mates who do well and supporting each other when things don't go to plan are all part of the journey!

Portsea Juniors who represented our Club were:

- U10: Boston Brandi, Sasha Robertson, Bobby Preston, James Hall, Hudson Spiegel.
 - U11: Camilla Klein, Scarlett Lancaster.
 - U12: Sophie Hall, Lachlan Wills, Cooper Robertson, Jimmy McNamara, Edward Barnaby, Hunter Spiegel.
 - U13: Sophia Barnaby, Freya Regan, Isla Morris, Ruby Lancaster, Monty Tucker, Ted McNamara & Harley Lancaster.
- Portsea finished 14th overall out of 24 Victorian Surf Life Saving Clubs. A great result considering most Victorian SLS

clubs are made up of predominantly local residents, unlike Portsea. Congratulations to all our athletes who made finals, especially to our medallists and State Champions.

Our Silver & Bronze medallists:

- **EDWARD BARNABY:** U12 boys long run **BRONZE medal**
- **TED MCNAMARA:** U13 boys surf race **BRONZE medal**
- **SOFIA BARNABY:** U13 girls surf race **SILVER medal**
- **MONTY TUCKER:** U13 boys beach relay team **SILVER medal**
- **TED MCNAMARA:** U13 boys beach relay team **SILVER medal**

Our Gold Medallists:

- **SOPHIE HALL:** U12 girls long run **GOLD medal, State Champion**
- **SOPHIE HALL:** U12 girls surf race **GOLD medal, State Champion**
- **SOPHIE HALL:** U13 girls surf teams **GOLD medal, State Champions**
- **ISLA MORRIS:** U13 girls surf teams **GOLD medal, State Champions**
- **FREYA REGAN:** U13 girls surf teams **GOLD medal, State Champions**
- **SOPHIE BARNABY:** U13 girls surf teams **GOLD medal, State Champions**

The highlight was seeing our graduating U13 Nippers competitors do so well. Ted McNamara and Sophia Barnaby both finished 6ths overall in their U13 Age Groups for all water events; and our U13 girls (with Sophie Hall U12) won gold in the Surf Teams swimming race. This group of young lifesavers are all future patrolling members at Portsea. Our beach will be in safe hands as our graduating junior squad members complete their SRC and Bronze Medallions over the next few years.

END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT



END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

Lastly, thank-you to our parents who took on duties supporting the team, in logistics roles, and acting as officials, water safety, age managers and supporters both over January and the summer carnival season.

CLUB CHAMPS

The weather was glorious for our 2023 Portsea Club Champs with flat conditions that might suit all the pool swimmers but lacked the excitement Portsea is renowned for, when the racing back-markers dial a wave from nowhere to glory. Thirty participants turned up on the day, across all our defined LSV age groups, to race their mates and have a bit of fun.

First up we had the Open Surf Race, where all competitors, regardless of age and gender, front up to the line for a race to the can and back. Male and Female winners are rewarded with the Yencken Cup and Nat Hood Cup respectively. In the male category, distance swimming specialist Harvey Larke took line honours, and in the female race, Mackie Hunter stormed home to get her name on the cup for a second year in a row.

In the Board Race we saw our cohort of Portsea Lifeguards keen to show their prowess as they grabbed their pet craft and placed a front foot on the line. Despite the small surf, there was a display of skills and tactics with some choosing to take the longer route into the eastern surf zone. In a zip down the face of a wave, and run up the beach, one of our more experienced lifeguards, Nik Rathmayr took the title and boasting rights to go with it.

The women volunteered to line up first in the iron, insisting on the same course distance as the men. Mia sat hot on the tail of Mackie, both making the most of the beautiful race conditions. The men's iron was in the starter's hands

as Griffin Mitchell ran down the beach having battled the summer traffic back from work at Gunnamatta. Fresh arms and legs weren't quite enough to hold off Ned Betts, who took first place, with Griff a close second behind.

The glorious beach conditions saw some of our ocean lovers disappear back into the water but they were replaced by a group of beachies. First up was the long run where Griff Mitchell sat on the heels of Oscar Hunter, only to put on the after-burners and sprint away in the last 50m. Masters competitor Peter 'Pickles' Wilson used the same race plan against Jim Unkles. The women's race was never in doubt with long distance runner Bev Thomas streaking the field.

Sprints and beach flags became the deciding events in a couple of our age group categories. Some were encouraged onto the line to try their hand. Others willingly jumped in for some serious fun.

Club Champs honours go to those who do the most races, accumulating points across all six events. A shout out goes to Maggie Betts, the only entrant on the day to enter the full sweep. As such, Maggie became our Open Female Club Champion. Henry Walters U17 and Mia Horskins U15, both competed in five of the six events, each winning four, to take out their age group Club Championships.

The Open Male Club Championship went to Griffin Mitchell, who despite missing the first two events, excelled in the last four.

Thanks to our officials, water safety and event organisers, and to the weather gods for such a beautiful day.

Results:

- U14/15 Male Club Champion Equal 1st - Josh Wills & Patrick Benson

- U14/15 Female Club Champion Mia Horskins

- U17 Male Club Champion Henry Walters

- U17 Female Club Champion Mackie Hunter

- U19 Male Club Champion Harvey Larke

- U19 Female Club Champion Steph Hunter

- Open Male Club Champion Griffin Mitchell

- Open Female Club Champion Maggie Betts

- Masters Male Club Champion Jim Unkles

- Masters Female Club Champion Bev Thomas

POOL LIFESAVING

Touring as the doctor for the Australian Life Saving Team competing at the 2023 World Life Saving Championships in Riccione, Italy, our club medical officer Natalie Hood was lucky enough to be poolside watching the best in the world, including Australian swimming superstar Lani Pallister, competing in a whole new lifesaving competition arena that Portsea members had yet to embrace. Known as 'pool lifesaving' by the Royal Life Saving Society, and 'pool rescue' by the Surf Life Saving Association, the competition events are the same, and governed by International Lifesaving Federation Rules of Competition.

Back home, Life Saving Victoria was calling for swimmers to come and try pool lifesaving for the upcoming Australian Pool Life Saving Championships that were to be held in Melbourne in January 2023. Five of our best swimmers attended Sunday training sessions at MSAC, with Campbell Wilson Moran being selected

END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

in the LSV Victorian Team to compete at the National Championships. It was a three-month long, steep learning curve - diving for and towing manikins, throwing ropes, donning a tube and fins at lightning fast speeds and swimming under barriers, plus CPR and mock search and rescue scenarios. The races are technical and require precision skills. Disqualifications are common amongst novice racers. Campbell has come through our Portsea Junior Competition Team and recently attained his Bronze on our December Camp. He was already a national backstroke champion in the pool, which set him up to race fast. At the end of the three-day national lifesaving competition, he found himself on the podium multiple times, and five-time National Champion.

- GOLD Mens U16 200m Obstacles
- GOLD Mixed U19 4x50m Obstacle Relay
- GOLD Mens U16 100m Manikin Carry
- GOLD Mixed U16 4x25m Manikin Carry Relay
- GOLD Mens U16 100m CPR
- SILVER Mens U16 200m Superlifesaver (pool equivalent of the ironman race)
- BRONZE Mixed U19 4x25m Manikin Carry Relay
- BRONZE Mens U16 50m Manikin Carry

Success in pool lifesaving rescue events is a pathway onto an Australian Lifesaving Team and we wish Campbell well in his swimming and lifesaving endeavours.



END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

MASTERS COMPETITION TEAM

A small but extremely talented group of clubbies trekked to Lorne for the annual Masters' weekend. Once again the weekend was split with water events on Saturday and beach events on Sunday.

For the first time in a few years we were able to field a women's taplin, great result! Chloe Hardman, Sue Crow and debutant Alice Miliani had a very successful carnival, in both individual and team events, sweeping home with multiple medals - mainly gold! The gents had a smaller team than previous years but made up for it with a distinct lack of injuries and increased amount of optimism. Young-Old Bull Unkles came away with surf race, board race and board rescue golds. Michael "Whippy" Wilson was in fine form once again, being the fittest 77 year old on the planet, winning golds in the surf race, board race, ski race and iron, with a medal in the taplin as well! Rob Mellor took gold in the surf race plus gold in the surf teams with Tom Kennan and Phil Harford.

Sunday saw the continuation of Masters' competition, this time with beach events. Our athletes swapped bathers for shorts and running shoes and hit the firm sand. The first event saw the 2km run take place over 4 laps of 500m. On a beach containing land mines of seaweed and soft pockets, Chloe Hardman, Alice Miliani, Michael "Whippy" Wilson, Matt Mahon, Brett Croft, Henry Kiss, Jim Unkles and Nick Tissot stepped up onto the line. In typical Portsea fashion, club banter was high, with encouragement and friendly fire being thrown around as laps of the 500m course were run. Congratulations to Alice for winning the 30-34 Women's, Chloe Hardman for winning the 50-54 Women's, Matt Mahon for placing 2nd in the 50-54 Men's, Brett Croft for placing 2nd in the 50-54 Men's, Michael "Whippy" Wilson for placing 2nd in the 75+ Men's, Jim Unkles for placing 2nd in the 30-34 Men's and Nick Tissot for

placing 3rd in the 30-34 Men's - all with calves intact!!

After the light warm up of the 2km run, competitors turned their slow twitch muscle fibres up a few notches to fast twitch for the 70m beach sprints. On a track length perfect for Masters - not too long and not too short, Portsea as always showed impressive speed skills on the hard sand. It was the luck of the draw with lower lanes closer to the water's edge digging starting blocks in pools of water and higher lanes battling softer sand edges but our competitors raced strongly. We had numerous top three positions, with Alice and Henry winning gold!

The most anticipated event of the weekend had finally arrived, the Mens 170+ Beach Relay (at least for Henry, Brett, Jim and Nick, who considered themselves clear favourites and the team to beat). An aura of energy and excitement surrounding the Portsea team as they practised baton changes and marshalled. Leading the first leg, Brett shot out of the blocks placing the team in a strong 2nd position, handing over to Nick, as the pair slightly fumbled the baton but recovered. Nick pinned the baton to his chest, passing through to Jim, still in 2nd place. Jim put on a show and levelled the race to equal first before Henry, running quicker than in his glory days, stormed home for a first place win.

A crowd favourite, beach flags were next. Supporters surrounded the two flag pits to watch competitors battle it out. Alice Miliani, in fine form, continued her winning streak taking out another first place finish. Brett Croft ran strongly taking out 2nd place against Mount Martha, Jim Unkles finished in a very respectable 4th place and Nick Tissot finished with a 2nd place against Black Rock.

Thank you to Chloe Hardman who assisted with marshalling duties (in between racing) and to Jim Unkles and

Nick Tissot who volunteered for IRB duties on Sunday afternoon. Overall the weekend was a terrific success with Portsea's refined but fiercely competitive team achieving 94 points overall and finishing in 5th place.

We look forward to growing the team and seeing more Masters athletes racing next year.

Co-Masters Captains Nick Tissot and Jim Unkles

Youth & Open Competition Teams

Our youth/open team members had been doing the miles over winter, swimming and paddling, some as members of the LSV winter development and high performance programs. Xavier Purcell and Gabe Cornwell were selected as members of the Victorian Open team, along with beach sprinter Cooper Stanley, a patrolling member of Portsea who competes for Anglesea. Sophie Jacka was selected in the Victorian Youth Pathway Team. The Victorian teams competed in Sydney in January, gaining much sort after, high standard, racing experience.

Our team's strength in ocean swimming stems from years of open water training sessions held at the Portsea Pier. This season saw our athletes truly shine in the summer open water events, Portsea Swim Classic, Lorne Pier to Pub, and then at the Swimming Australia Open Water Nationals in Busselton, where Logan Brandi and Sophie Jacka won silver medals in the 5km events and Mackie Hunter bronze and silver in the 7.5km and 5km events. Campbell Wilson-Moran won the Point Leo swim, and Domi Hart the Bass swim. We encourage others to take the opportunity to join in summer training next year with our open water specialists.

The 2023 Victorian Youth/Senior Lifesaving Championships were hosted

END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

by the Ocean Grove SLSC on the last weekend in February and the timing of the event saw a return of the red and white team to the beach.

The weekend kicked off on Friday afternoon with the rescue events. Mia Horskins won a GOLD medal in the U15 women's tube race and Mackie Hunter BRONZE in the U17 tube race. Combinations of Domi Hart, Steph Hunter, Charlotte Mahon, Mackie Hunter and Georgie Kerr won SILVER and BRONZE in the open and U19 women's rescue tube rescue events. The tide was high which made for long tough swims. The 'patient' Mackie Hunter, raced to the cans and signalled, the 'tube swimmer', Steph or Domi, raced into the water with a tube and fins, sprinted to the can, then towed the patient back to shore. After a gruelling effort, the patient was handed over in the shallows to 'the rescuers' Georgie and Charlotte for the drag across the finish line.

Saturday started with the March Past where Domi Hart volunteered for the honour of representing our team, marching at the opening ceremony with our Portsea pennant. In the water arenas, surf races and ski races kicked. Successes went to Charlie Cornwell with GOLD in the U17 ski – a result he has dreamed of all year and set him up well for the upcoming Kayak Nationals in WA. Big brother Gabe took GOLD in his U19 ski, and the two paired up to take GOLD in the U19 double ski. Xavier Purcell could only afford one day off year 12 studies, but made it count with some outstanding performances to win GOLD in the U19 iron, followed by Gabe Cornwell in BRONZE, the U19 swim GOLD, again with Gabe in BRONZE place and the U19 taplin GOLD with team mates Gabe Cornwell and Logan Brandi. Gabe Cornwell won BRONZE in the U19 board on his way to his medal haul that totalled 6 gold and 3 bronze and 4th in the open iron and open board.

Down in the youth arena, we were represented by our stalwart U15 women's cohort. Sophie Jacka and Mia Horskins won GOLD and BRONZE in the U15 surf race, then teamed up with Amber Larke and Annabelle Mahon to take SILVER and BRONZE in the surf teams and cameron relay races. Sophie showed her strength across disciplines, with a second GOLD in the U15 iron event.

The men's surf teams races were a pre-planned strategic success story. Our goal was to win all 3 ages groups of the event, using our six U17 and U19 competitors, with each individual only being allowed to swim in two of the three events. First up in U17 were Archer Larke, Hamish Robson, Logan Brandi and Charlie Cornwell – SILVER! Next up were Xavier Purcell, Gabe Cornwell, Archer Larke and Charlie Cornwell in Under 19 – GOLD! But the best was saved for last – the open men's surf teams race – our Portsea youngsters,



END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

two U17 and two U19, all 'bottom age' swimmers, up against the experienced Half Moon Bay open men's team that included 2020 Olympic 400IM bronze medallist Brendan Smith, plus one of the most experienced ocean swimmers, Sam Shepherd, and another national level swimmer. Xavier Purcell stunned the crowd by out-surfing the Olympic gun to take line honours!! As the young Portsea men kept coming out of the water, they alternated with Half Moon Bay, to have all four Portsea swimmers across the line in the top eight. We ended up tied on points for first place. The tie-break looks at the placing of the fourth swimmer, to see which team, in its entirety, was out of the water first. Portsea's fourth swimmer was eighth and the HMB swimmer was tenth meaning our young top guns had snatched the GOLD from the star-studded team – truly outstanding, and a team effort to be proud of!!

Sunday racing saw the appearance of our traditional rescue craft – the surf boats. There is no better way to warm up than with a race – that being the opening leg of the lifesaver relay. The lifesaver relay is a traditional event, held at Aussies, and comprises a surf boat, swimmer, board paddler, ski paddler and runner. The team must have four men and four women, and U17 and an U19 competitor. Our Portsea boat crew of Scarlett Blewett, Amanda Rukuwai, Alex Hagan, Em Von Moger and sweep Stephen Blewett hit the beach in first place. The results came over the radio, triggering the start of the swim leg with Logan Brandi racing into the water, then followed by the Cornwell brothers Charlie and Gabe extending our lead in the craft legs. The final glory of the run across the line was left to Archer Larke. What a way to start the final day of racing with another GOLD medal in a team event and automatic qualification to represent the state at Aussies. Back in the surf boat arena our rowers progressed on

through the boat race rounds to take SILVER in the open women's boat race.

The last races of the day were the belt races – another traditional event that requires long tough swimming towing lines, and skilled team work to manage the reel and safety of the belt swimmers. Mackie Hunter and Domi Hart were our swimmers and teamed up with the experienced line crew of Matt Mahon, Charlotte Mahon and Georgie Kerr who are previous belt crew finalists from Aussies. Mack's team took GOLD and Domi's BRONZE to top off a successful weekend of racing.

Off the beach, team spirit prevailed and this is what makes the training and travelling all worthwhile, not just for the competitors, but all those who support them. There was a Friday night pizza, pasta, cheese and wine team gath at the cabin park, followed Saturday night by a team dinner at the Barwon Heads Hotel. Officials' duties were required by Matt Mahon, Nat Hood, Sam Horskins and Chloe Hardman. Team managers Stu Larke, Marni Jacka, James Cornwell and Cam Hunter saw our athletes get the most out of themselves and their racing. The arduous logistics of trailer loading, unloading and towing were performed by Anthony Purcell and Chloe Hardman, whilst Marni Jacka took on social event coordination.

When the overall results were published, Portsea placed in 9th spot overall. We look to building our team next year, hoping to once again field a beach team – an area where we have previously shined. There are more opportunities to recruit, and we are hoping for a return of competitors who have taken time out for studies.

AUSSIE TEAM 2023

The Portsea Competition team continued with its commitment to send athlete representation to Aussies

– which this year was held in Perth. Despite the distance to be travelled and the logistics required to get gear and our surf boat across the Nullabor, we had representation at the Youth, Open and Masters Aussies, plus the ocean swim events.

Youth competitors Mia Horskins and Annabelle Mahon competed for Portsea over two days of competition against 150 under 15 girls. On the first day they both raced in the board, surf race and iron events, with their best results in the surf race; Mia making the semi-final, and Bellsy missing by just one place. On the second day of competition, they both had great swims in the 2km ocean swim, with Mia finishing 11th and Bellsy 17th. Their weekend finished with the team event, board rescue. Both girls loved the racing and the highlight of the end of season Aussies experience.

Next up was the Masters' Aussies, starting with Sue Crow who took SILVER in both the 66-69 year old 2km ocean swim, and the surf race – not a bad result!! Down in the beach arena, Portsea had lots of finals action on the sand. Henry Kiss placed 6th in the 55-59 years beach sprint, with Nick Tissot 6th and Jim Unkles 7th in the 30-34 years age group sprint. Brett Croft joined Nick, Jim and Henry in the 170+ beach relay final, placing 4th. Beach flags the following day saw Henry Kiss up first in the 55-59 years dash for the flag, placing 6th in the final. On his Master's debut, Nick Tissot impressed, doing the red and white proud with a BRONZE medal in the 30-34 years beach flags.

As the sun set on the Masters' Aussies, the Open Aussies and surf boat racing kicked off. Portsea's open women's boat crew of Scarlett Blewett, Alex Hagan, Em von Moger and Amanda Rukuwai, swept by Stephen Blewett, showed exceptional promise with first and second placings in their round robin prelim races. The crew moved into the semi finals the next day ranked

END OF SEASON COMPETITION REPORT

5th. Rowing hard in their semi, the crew narrowly missed a finals' berth but didn't let the disappointment stop them from enjoying the moment, the camaraderie, and the whole Aussies experience.

In summary, a big thanks to all who have raced and helped over the summer competition season. Enjoy the

break and we hope to see you all back next year. New Comp Team members welcome and want – come and join us in 2024!

Natalie Hood
Competition Administrator



COMPETITION AWARDS

| COMPETITION AWARDS | WINNER 2022-23 |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Most Improved Nipper Competitor | Male: Edward Barnaby Female: Isla Morris |
| Charlie Schall Award | Male: Harley Lancaster Female: Freya Regan |
| Best Athlete, Nipper Competition | Male: Ted McNamara Female: Sophie Hall |
| U14/15 Female Club Champion | Mia Horskins |
| U14/15 Male Club Champion | Josh Wills & Patrick Benson |
| U17 Female Club Champion | Mackie Hunter |
| U17 Male Club Champion | Henry Walters |
| U19 Female Club Champion | Steph Hunter |
| U19 Male Club Champion | Harvey Larke |
| Open Female Club Champion | Maggie Betts |
| Open Male Club Champion | Griffin Mitchell |
| Masters Female Club Champion | Beverley Thomas |
| Master Male Club Champion | Jim Unkles |
| IRB Athlete of the Year | Finn Nicholas |
| Yencken Cup | Harvey Larke |
| Nat Hood Cup | Mackie Hunter |
| Competition Directors Award | Stephen Blewitt |
| Competitor of the Year | Campbell Wilson-Moran |

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

This year member engagement had a range of events and initiatives that were organised by Portsea SLSC and Lifesaving Victoria (LSV); Providing our members with a range of opportunities to engage in.

LSV offers a variety of recognition programs to participate in. We saw this with member's Sue Crowe and Sas McNamara being recognised at LSV international women's days breakfast for their outstanding contribution to lifesaving. We continued to celebrate international women's day at Pink Patrol, celebrating female members' contribution to the club, alongside our male champions of change. Portsea members engaged in the LSV youth development program with Emile Stigter attending U18 Leadership development camp and Phoebe Wilson attending U13 Leadership Development camp. Both representing Portsea SLSC, the camp focuses on developing leadership, communication, and mentoring skills whilst broadening participants' understanding of lifesaving.

Alongside LSV's opportunities, member engagement facilitated several events at the Surf club for our members. In November, Portsea was lucky enough to host a Mental Health Matters workshop run by the Emergency Services Foundation (ESF), a not-for-profit organisation that aims to address shared sector wide mental health challenges. Members from our broader community attended from Peninsula Search and Rescue, Sorrento SES. The workshop was invaluable and shed light on the importance of mental health awareness within our community.

Tribe, a community that aims to empower female participation within our club, evolved this season to host a variety of events to actively encourage and support our female membership and their involvement in the club and our community. With the support of

the "Change our game grant" we hosted a female networking event and female surf upskilling sessions. "Change our game" is a Victorian government initiative that aims to increase the number of women and girls participating in sport and active recreation. Portsea held a female networking event with four keynote speakers. The panel of four women discussed gender equality issues from their own experiences including empowerment, equity, barriers, and challenges they had encountered, use of mentors and advice for the audience. This event was well received and had positive feedback, such as, "I felt privileged to be part of such a wonderful group of women and really enjoyed meeting lots of other club members".

Club member Domi Hart hosted four female surf upskilling sessions. Planning and delivering a program which encouraged and built confidence in participants to improve their confidence in the Portsea surf. A special thank you to Sue Crowe for her efforts towards the "change our game" grant and tribe events.

Lastly, member engagement hosted a networking event where we members met for nibbles and drinks to connect, it was a fantastic event and opportunity to meet new people. We also organised our annual Raffle showcasing the iconic Portsea SLSC custom surfboard created by Phil Grace. A thank you to Trawool Estate, Coastal living, Moonraker dolphin swims, Searoad ferries and Peninsula hot springs for their donations towards the Raffle. Thank you to all our members that engaged in our events this season. It was a very fun season, and we look forward to next season.

Holly Hart
Member Engagement Director



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



This season the Sustainability portfolio managed to complete some very exciting projects with even bigger and better things to come! We are very proud of the work of the Sustainability team and would like to extend a thank you to all our members who helped this season.

Continuing from last year our education programs were delivered in all of our summer nipper and lifesaving programs. These programs were designed to be fun sessions that showcased the important facts about our Portsea environment we live in and how we can help preserve it.

A new initiative of ours was to implement the use of fully synthetic Biomarine Outboard Two Stroke Oil. The oil is fully biodegradable, low smoke, clean burning oil with less environmental impact than conventional 2 stroke motor oils. We now run this oil in all of our IRBs to ensure our impact is reduced to protect the marine environment we love so much.

One of our big focuses for the season was around our continued effort to ensure our environment is clean

for everyone to enjoy. The team in conjunction with patrol captains were able to undertake several beach cleans. Thank you to everyone who came down to support our beach cleans whether it be on patrol or some of our wonderful members who are always happy to help. The main items of rubbish that were collected this season were cans and plastic food containers. It's important to remember that Mt Levy beach and our club is housed in a national park, therefore it's encouraged that you take all rubbish home with you to dispose of correctly.

Last season, with the help of the Accommodation Director Nik Rathmayr, we were able to introduce a waste management system within high traffic and communal areas. The introduction of the recycling and general waste bins has been a success; however, we would like to remind everyone to check if their waste items are recyclable. The recycling and general waste bins have assisted in our goal to provide sustainable alternatives that are accessible to ensure we look after our environment.

2023 and 2024 are going to be very exciting times within the sustainability

space with numerous projects in the works so keep an eye out! If any of this excites you and are looking for a way to get involved in the club the Sustainability Subcommittee is always open and welcoming to anyone willing to get involved. If this interests, you please contact Tom; tom.nelson@portseasurf.com

Finally, we would like to thank the Sustainability Subcommittee for their work over the past season with the commitment and pride shown in their work impeccable. We are very excited to see the continual growth of our team and our initiatives flourish, thank you all for a wonderful 2022-23 season.

Tom Nelson & Finn Nicholas
Sustainability Co-Directors

EQUIPMENT REPORT

This season, the name of the game was safety.

Over the past few seasons, we've been finding our footing in the new clubhouse, mainly focusing on getting the operational side of the equipment right, such as the storage, procedures, logistics, and ongoing maintenance of all our fantastic gear. But this season, we endeavoured to minimise risks to our members, who volunteer hours of their own time for the safety and wellbeing of others.

With the equipment portfolio getting ever larger, and the prospect of some major projects and commitments over the summer period, I pooled together a group of capable gear-headed clubbies to assist. The mini equipment sub-committee consisted of Finn Nicholas (IRB motors), Blair Nuske (IRB hulls), Elliot Nicoll (trailers), Spencer Thomas (boards), Griffin Mitchell (ATVs) and Tom Nelson (maintenance). As a group, we recognised a few key areas of concern and determined long-term solutions, so that the risks are mitigated beyond our time.

Firstly, the polished concrete floor that existed in the equipment room was becoming a slipping hazard with the pooling of motor oils, water, sand and debris; as such, we engaged a contractor to coat the surface with a durable gritted polyurethane coating with high slip-ratings. The project was funded by a safety-oriented government grant known as the Victorian Emergency Services

Equipment Program (VESEP), that matched our funding 2:1. Now, the risk of slipping in the room is remarkably lower, and we feel comfortable knowing kids, volunteers, paid-staff and alike can traverse the room safely.

Secondly, an annual third-party building assessment of our clubhouse concluded that manual handling and storage risks possibly existed in the equipment room. As such, our group reorganised the storage and rack placement, with a focus on placing heavier or larger items at 'hip height', as well as ladders and tubs to store equipment more effectively. A new fuel cabinet was ordered, allowing the 20-kilogram fuel bladders to be stored individually at more appropriate heights. Various trolleys and jacks were purchased to ease transport of heavy goods, and we investigated solutions to make the movement of 60-kilogram IRB motors between racks, trailers and boats more safe and accessible.

Finally, we installed a compressed air system that offers an alternative to sticking one's hand next to a dangerous rotating metal flywheel during the process of drying washed IRB motors. The system has also been successful at preventing de-beading of ATV tires with inflation via a digital pressure regulator, as well as cleaning sandy first aid and oxygen kits after usage on the beach.

Ultimately, as a group, we feel we've taken a few solid steps in the right direction to mitigate some key risks

and will continue this process going forward. We hope that the volunteers appreciate the small work we do in the 'gear-shed', whilst they carry out the enormous task of saving lives on the beach. For next season, we're looking into improving the radio system with the assistance of Life Saving Victoria, as well as the relocation of bins and clutter outside the front of the clubhouse! If anyone has any recommendations regarding safety or the equipment portfolio more generally, we always welcome suggestions and feedback!

On a personal note, I'd like to say an enormous thank you to Hamish McKendrick (the previous Equipment Director), who still mentors me and provides a point of contact for the intricacies of managing such a monumental equipment portfolio. Similarly, to all the volunteers who have assisted me with projects such as the floor resurfacing project, and also to volunteers in the Water Safety contingent of the Swim Classic and Pier 2 Perignon events, thank you, I couldn't do it without you.

Wishing everyone a safe and pleasant off-season. It's only autumn and I can't wait for the summertime again!

Andrew May
Equipment Director



EQUIPMENT REPORT



EVENTS REPORT

Throughout this summer season Portsea SLSC was once again alive and well with a booming social calendar. For the first time in two years the Club was able to successfully run all its social events at full capacity without restrictions. This year we wanted to ensure that every demographic of our membership felt as though they had a tailored event put on for them to enjoy and we can now say with confidence that this was well and truly achieved.

SEASON LAUNCH

Our season started off with two new events that worked to both showcase our amazing clubhouse and welcome members to the commencement of the new season. We kicked off the events this summer with the Club's Season Launch put on by our amazing General Manager Rod. The night was a great success and gave members a taste of what the Club's F&B service

had to offer. Following this we provided new members a chance to take a walking tour throughout our amazing clubhouse, showing them everything the facilities had to offer while providing an insight into how the club operates.

PRESIDENT'S CLUBS

The start of the new year was brought in by the commencement of our much beloved President's Club nights. Every Saturday over January the deck was alive with awesome sunset tunes provided by our resident DJ Griffin Mitchell and delicious finger food making the rounds, as a result these nights were always ones to look forward to. A massive thanks to Georgina Hemmings who pioneered the introduction and facilitation of the new Kid's Activities that took place downstairs, ensuring that the whole family was well entertained.

NIPPER EVENTS

As mentioned, no demographic was left out this season and as a result we saw both the nippers and their parents dancing the night away this summer. The Nipper Cocktail Night saw the deck covered in white attire, with a live band and open bar offering an amazing night for parents to let their hair down. Next the Nippers swapped out the wine and canapés for juice and lolly bags with the Nipper Disco making its first return in years. A big thanks needs to go out to Kristen Sagar and Claire Whitbread, as well as their whole team for putting on these events and making them such a memorable night for the whole Nipper community.

ALL STAR GOLF DAY

The Portsea All Star Golf Day saw some of the Club's finest take to the green at Portsea Golf Course. With beautiful weather, music blasting from the



EVENTS REPORT

ninth hole and a celebrity appearance from Ricky Ponting making for a very memorable few rounds of golf. Thank you to Balter and GrainShaker for sponsoring the event and to Wayne Stoll for organising such an awesome day out.

PORTSEA CLASSIC WEEKEND

Finally, the biggest party of the year rolled around with the Portsea Classic AP, which saw the efforts of members involved with the Bay to Surf and Swim Classic rewarded with an absolutely electric night of celebrations. Once again, our resident DJ, Griff put on an amazing show behind the decks that saw members of all ages having an absolute blast long into the night.

CAPTAIN'S BARREL

The crescendo of the social calendar came with this year's Captain's Barrel where we farewelled our Club

Captain, Jess Lamb. The combination of delicious paella and a live rock out performance from band The Geezers made for an amazing night to send off the social season.

Overall, the 2022-23 season has been a great success for our social calendar. Our events were well-attended, and we received positive feedback from our members. We look forward to continuing to organize fun and engaging social events that promote a sense of community and teamwork among our members.

Oscar Hunter
Events Director



PORTSEA SWIM CLASSIC REPORT

Grainshaker Portsea SWIM CLASSIC 2023

After so many years of having to consistently worry over the ability to stage the event at all let alone the actual day, January 21, 2023, once again delivered for us. A magnificent day at Quarantine that again enabled us to showcase the beautifully pristine waters and other spectacles that the Pt Nepean National Park delivers. This, along with a fast-flowing current, helped all the swimmers enjoy the various races over the 500m, 1500m and 2500m courses.

With the restrictions that the race has endured due to CV19 for the previous three the years, now behind us, we were able to once again enjoy an unrestricted environment allowing for the return of the jumping castle for children, Race sponsor's tent and the Dash for Cash. The removal of the requirement for mandatory mask wearing also reduced the impact on swimmers. Without these restrictions it was no surprise that the 2023 event saw a record number of swimmers take to the water.

This year marked the Portsea Swim Classic's 37th continuous year of the open water swimming event being staged. We are extremely proud of this achievement given that with careful planning and on-day controls we, unlike almost all other events of this type, never staged a virtual race format. The ability to achieve this, given the complexities experienced over the past three years cannot be over emphasized. As has become a common occurrence over the years I am consistently stopped by swimmers and the general public who congratulate the club on the professionalism and the way the day operates seamlessly. Unlike many

other events that have independent management groups running them, the PSC is planned, and run by PSLSC volunteers, which means that the PSLSC gains the maximum financial outcome from the day. This can only be achieved through the unwavering dedication of the area heads of the PSC and those in the greater PSLSC community who work so hard prior and, on the day, to enable the Swim Classic to occur. This is something that we all should not lose sight of and be extremely proud of.

Standing back and watching the PSLSC volunteers efficiently undertake all the of the duties required and ensuring that when issues arose, they were quickly resolved, without fanfare or disruption to the event is a very humbling experience. These moments and the joy, banter and camaraderie that you see as swimmers cross the line are the things that help make this such

a wonderful event and spectacle. These events, and the money they raise, are so important to all lifesaving clubs, not just PSLSC, as they help ensure our training programs and other initiatives can be facilitated.

We can not thank the sponsors of the event enough. Their commitment, and belief in what we could achieve, was critical in allowing us to move forward with the confidence required to effectively deliver the event. In 2023 we had a changing of the guard with Blazer ending its relationship with the event after more than 25 years and Grainshaker stepping into this coveted position.

Major Event Sponsor
Grainshaker

Gold Sponsors
Crestone, RT Edgar Mornington
Peninsula



PORTSEA SWIM CLASSIC REPORT

Silver Sponsors

People4Ocean

Event Partners

Orca, Dry Ears, Funky Trunks, Funkita, Engine, Splitrock, Tiro and World Series Swims

For the second year a massive thank you must also go to the team from RT Edgar, who supported Geoff Wells and took control of the main event microphone and as in 2022 delivered the days information, interspersed with a lot of entertainment and banter. Across all areas that are required from: bag packing, car park, registration, start and finish line, merchandise tent, general helpers and finally the water safety and first aid teams, I think I speak for all of you when I say, "Thank You" to all the volunteers who selflessly gave up there day and countless others prior to the day to deliver such a fantastic event.

A special mention to the core group of people, but certainly not the only people, that once again came together to control specific areas and to support me:

Christine Walton, Andrew May, Darren "Spot" Kerr, Richard "Tricky" Fischer, Andrew Cox, Tim Adams, Brett Croft, James Nola, Mark Grooby, Matt Mahon, Tony Castricum, Angelo Biviano, Steve Walsh, Mark "Boothhead" Grimshaw, Jenny Nola, Wayne Stoll, Jack White, Natalie Hood, Jason and Glennis Winnett

The other groups that help us deliver on the day that would like to highlight and give a massive thank to are Parks Victoria and especially Rick Sissons, The Sorrento CFA, Oz timing and Outlook Communications. The day could not run the way it does without their assistance. Without the dedication and commitment these and all the

people involved, this event would not have occurred. It was once again a challenging year, but in typical PSLSC fashion the event ran seamlessly and most importantly of all, the swimmers and spectators all enjoyed a glorious day at Pt Nepean.

Planning has already commenced for the 2024 Classic weekend with the Portsea Swim Classic to be held on Saturday 20th January and the Bay to Surf - Walk and Runs to be held on the evening of Friday 19th January.

If there are any PSLSC members who would like to become involved in the Portsea Classic Weekend organisation and running, please do not hesitate to contact the club and let us know. We really appreciate any help that people can give in making these events happen.

For sponsorship opportunities please contact Wayne Stoll on the

following email address: Wayne.stoll@portseasurf.com.au

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

Craig Evans
Portsea Swim Classic Director



BAY TO SURF REPORT

With the enormous success of the inaugural Portsea Bay to Surf in 2022, we introduced the fun run as a permanent fixture on our club calendar. On the 20th of January 2023, 577 runners and walkers took to the start line of either the 9km or 4.5km event at Point Nepean National Park.

The feedback we received from competitors was overwhelmingly positive so thank you very much to all the on-day volunteers who made this event possible. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to our site managers, Jacqui Hart, Sue Crow and James Nola. As well as, our First Aid Manager, Jack White and our Administration Manager, Christine Walton. Thank you for going above and beyond to ensure the successful delivery of the event in my absence this year. We would also like to thank our major event sponsors, Brooks and Bared Footwear who supported us for

the second year in a row. Additionally, we would like to thank our event sponsor, Carman's, for their ongoing support. We look forward to working with all our existing sponsors, and new sponsors, in the years to come!

If you are yet to take part in the Bay to Surf, I would strongly encourage you to do so. It's a unique event, traversing through the picturesque landscape of Point Nepean National Park, finishing on the Portsea Back Beach at sunset. Additionally, the three separate races ensure that there is something for everyone. Our 4.5km walk caters to families and individuals eager to explore the iconic scenery of the Mornington Peninsula. Our 4.5km run caters to those looking to make their debut into the running arena and our 9km run is designed for the athletes of our community to demonstrate their prowess across roads, trails, and beach.

We are working tirelessly to constantly improve and grow our new event. If you volunteered or competed on the day and have any suggestions for how we could enhance the day, please email me at Jessica.lamb@portseasurf.com.

Jess Lamb
Bay to Surf Race Director





PIER TO PERIGNON REPORT

The Portsea Surf Lifesaving Club recently hosted the 35th annual Pier to Perignon swim on a beautiful sunny day with perfect water conditions. The event is a highly anticipated open water swimming race from Sorrento pier to Portsea pier, spanning 4km, and is widely considered a prestigious event in the swimming community.

This year, the event attracted 980 swimmers, and the winners male and female in both the wetsuit and non-wetsuit categories were each awarded a bottle of Dom Perignon.

The Pier to Perignon swim is an event that was started by former Premier of Victoria, Ted Baillieu, and Robert Robertson 35 years ago, and it has continued to attract swimmers from all over the world. This year's event was highly successful, with a record number of swimmers competing, and the founders themselves racing each other once again.

The event began at Sorrento pier, and swimmers had to make their way with a strong current behind them 4km to

reach Portsea pier. The race was highly competitive, and participants had to battle it out against each other to win the coveted bottles of Dom Perignon. The top swimmers finished the race in just under an hour, with many others following closely behind.

The event was held on a beautiful day, with a light southerly breeze and sunny conditions. The water conditions were perfect, with clear blue waters that allowed swimmers to see the marine life below. The temperature was also ideal, at 22 degrees Celsius, making it a comfortable and enjoyable swim for all participants.

The success of the event was largely due to the hard work of the many volunteers who helped organize the event and ensure the safety of all participants. The Portsea Surf Life Saving Club's water safety crew did an excellent job, and their efforts were highly appreciated by all participants. The event was also made possible thanks to the generous support of the sponsors, including Kay & Burton, who have been sponsoring the event for

32 years. Other sponsors included LGT Crestone, Tintuppa Landscape, Smith Builders, Light on Landscape & Cousins Travel. Their contributions helped make the event possible and added to its success.

The Portsea Surf Life Saving Club's Pier to Perignon swim is a highly anticipated event in the swimming community, and this year's event did not disappoint.

The perfect weather and water conditions, coupled with the hard work of the volunteers and the support of the sponsors, made it a memorable event.

The P2P 2023 was a great success, and we look forward to next year's race on Sunday February 18th 2024.







Sam Paynter
Pier to Perignon Race Director


















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