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Woolgoolga and the Northern Beaches
OCTOBER 2020 issue #14



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Welcome to Woopi News

www.woopinews.com.au - woopinews@gmail.com - 0410 052 601 - ABN: 27 728 512 311

How quickly the months have gone! September was packed full of positives, in particular how the Woopi community embraced R U OK? Day. A day set aside to show awareness and support to those who might be struggling. Every day is the right day to ask R U OK? but this particular day is a day for awareness, education and community involvement. Thank you to The Neighbourhood Centre for housing our giant R U OK? letters. We have had many comments on how good they look, also for displaying the St Francis Xavier (SFX) Students messages of hope on your verandah.



Mark and Laurie with some of the St Francis Xavier students R U OK? posters

You can still see the positive, funny and caring posters at different shops and businesses around town. This one in particular tickled our fancy.



You might not be able to read it, but this is some of what it says:

R U OK? I am going to try and make you happy. Here's some jokes.

What did one toilet say to the other? You look a little flushed!

Knock, knock. Who's there? A broken pencil? A broken pencil who? Never mind, it's pointless.

Why did the bike fall over? It was two tired.



Nash Coward and Iylah Weller from class 2Red at Sandy Beach Public School showing their support for R U OK? Day

Today at the bank an old lady asked me to check her balance. So I pushed her over.

I told my friend she was drawing her eyebrows too high, she looked surprised.

... and my favourite ... I invented a new word! Plagiarism.

Ha ha, I hope that gave you all a smile. We're not sure of the student's name who created this but if it's your child please let us know as we would like to hear some more.

Speaking of students, this issue we share some of the work from Year One students, also from SFX. They have been walking Woolgoolga getting to know local landmarks. We hope to bring you more student activities from all our schools so keep an eye out.

October is Mental Health Month, so hot on the heels of World Suicide Prevention and R U OK? Day it's an opportunity to keep the message going and learn a bit more about this hidden illness.

It's also Fluro Friday Woopi's 4th Birthday. For four years this beautiful bunch of people have been dressing up bright and funky on a Friday morning and meeting at Woolgoolga Beach to bring awareness of and support and understand mental to health. This is part of a world-wide organisation created in Bondi called OneWave. You can read on page 5 how they are planning to celebrate. Everyone is welcome to join in.

October also brings us a long weekend and the school holidays. The weather is already beautiful, so we hope you can get out and enjoy it.

You might notice we are out a little bit earlier this month. We did this so we could share with you the opening of the new surf club on September 26. We hope you enjoy this special edition featuring the history of the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club and their new Club House.

Thank you to Mel Morandin for our cover photo of young nippers, Lara Hannaford and Isabel Kelly.



Cheers, Lisa and Brad.

Please recycle your edition. If you're not saving it, pass it on to someone else or take it back to the shop you picked it up from.

Also please don't forget to tell our advertisers ...'You saw them in Woopi News!'

Welcome to Woopi News

Are you looking for something a little different to do? Why not try Flavours of the Bush:

A Bushtucker, Medicine Tour and Tasting.

Yarrawarra Aboriginal Cultural Centre is giving you the opportunity to experience Gumbaynggirr Culture first-hand on one of their Bush Tucker and Medicine Tours. Learn about the ancient medicines. nutritional bush foods and the vast range of weaving fibres that the coastal bush has provided for the Gumbaynggirr People for thousands of years.



The Davidson Plum

Afterwards, you can sit back on the big verandah and enjoy some tasty native delights such as Spicy Roo Slider, Warrigal Quiche, Native Spiced Muffin and Native Soda at The Pipeclay Cafe. \$30 per person BYO walking shoes, sun protection and water. Wheelchair accessible boardwalk.

Sunday, September 27, October 4 and October 11, 2020 at 10.30am-12pm.

Due to limited numbers an upfront payment is required to secure a place in the tour. To book you can pop into the gallery or call 6640 7104 and an over-the-phone payment will be sorted.

Woolgoolga and Northern Beaches Chamber **Network Breakfast**

An extra special event is being held at the new Surf Club on Thursday 29th October at 7am. This will give businesses and members of the public an opportunity to learn more about the plans for the new and exciting West Woolgoolga Sports Complex and how it will benefit our town. Representatives from the working group, including Coffs Harbour City Council, will be in attendance. Special Guest will be our local State MP Gurmesh Singh.

For tickets please book via woopibusinessbreakfastoct. eventbrite.com.au or call 0410 052 601.

Are you in pain and nothing seems to work?

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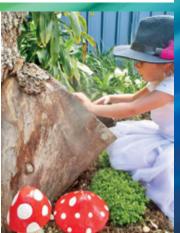
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Woopi Whale Tales 🥣



Hello everyone,

There has been heaps of action off Woopi Headland over the past few weeks and this should continue for a few more weeks, with the adults keeping the young calfs close to the coastline teaching them breaching, tail slapping, feeding, etc.

Baby Humpbacks are nursed for their first year, and are fed milk from their mother. They don't really latch on in the human sense, but instead position themselves over their mother while she squirts milk into their mouth through compressor muscles in her mammary glands. You can tell when a calf is feeding because Mum usually stays underwater, and the baby will surface every few minutes to breathe. They're weaned on to solid food after about seven months.

While swimming with Mum, Humpback babies are positioned over their mother's head. This protects them from attacks from predators. Mum will often place

herself between her baby and any approaching male whale, as they will push the babies out of the way to mate with her. Mum will also place herself between her baby and an approaching boat, although some mother Humpbacks enjoy showing their babies off. Once the baby has grown they often seek out other whales, from their own maternal line, who have learned these same lessons in a similar way.

With the migration back to the feeding grounds of the Antarctic coming to an end for another year, this will be my last whale article. I wasn't sure when Lisa asked me to write about the whales but with Lisa and Brad's help I have enjoyed contributing to Woopi

News and have received some nice feedback, so thanks everyone. Happy whale watching, stay safe and see you up the headland. Thanks again Lisa. I'll leave you with a few images of these great creatures.

- Peter Ryan





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CCSP are still open for face to face consultations and also offering a Telehealth option, don't hesitate to call to discuss further.

Fluro Friday turns 4

Celebrate Mental Health Month

October is Mental Health month and also marks four years of OneWave/Fluro Friday Woopi. Four years of Freeing the Funk on Woolgoolga Main Beach at 6.30am every Friday.

The concept originated in Bondi and is celebrated world wide. The reason behind the bright colours is to attract attention and get people talking and asking why. This then opens the conversation about mental health, which is sometimes a difficult one to start. "Quite often strangers have approached us on the beach to ask what we were doing, then have stayed on and shared their stories of either suffering from mental health or supporting someone who

does", said Co-Founder of the Woopi group, Brett Pilon.

To celebrate their birthday and Mental Health Month the group is joining OneWave in encouraging schools all over the world to celebrate their own Fluro Friday Mufti Day on October 16. Fluro Friday Woopi would also like to invite all members of the community, businesses and shops to wear fluro (or bright colours) on this day.

During the month there is also the opportunity for school students to enter the OneWave Free the Funk School Challenge. For more info on this go to www. onewaveisallittakes.com/school-challenge



A pre covid group shot from when OneWave Fluro Friday founder, Grant Trebilco, was in Woolgoolga visiting our schools last year.







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60 year milestone at Lakeside

Lakeside Caravan Park rolled out the red carpet for Bob Melton when he arrived for the 60th time for his annual holiday.

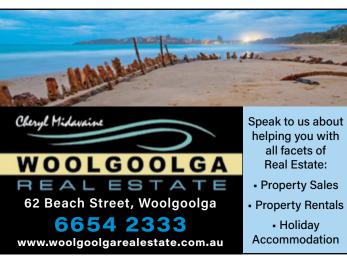
Denise from Reception had balloons, whisky and prawns waiting for him, plus a crowd of other regular holidayers had gathered to greet Bob.

This trip was bittersweet, as it was his first visit since his wife Beverley died here in Woolgoolga, on their last visit in 2018, after a long battle with cancer.

Bob and Bev started holidaying at the park back in 1960.

Their first trip was a stormy rainy night. They arrived in their Austin A40 with a box trailer, a tent and a home made camp oven. The storm was pretty hectic, so they stopped in at Nambucca Heads where they thought they might stay the night, when someone recommended they drive the extra 70 miles to get to Woolgoolga.

They were pretty exhausted by the time they arrived at Lakeside and after setting up they decided to sleep in. Bob laughed as he recalled that all the campers were sniggering, thinking they must have been a couple of honeymooners.





Dot and Bill Easy owned the park at the time. There was no town water, there were two big wooden towers that they pumped the water up into.

The lake was deep and so pristine you could water ski on it. Once he even witnessed a water plane land on it and take off again. He reminisced about the old wooden diving platform that was in the middle of the lake in 10 foot of water and the old kiosk with the Hiawatha canoes that people could hire and paddle. Bob used to take his two boys out in a dingy for a fish and as the tide would come in, so would the whiting. He laughed that his time was spent rebaiting the hooks as the kids kept reeling them in.

Bob and his son Scott talked about the East Coast low of 1977 when the lake filled up so much that Sunset Caravan Park was flooded. The lake channel was then dug open to let the water out, but some people feel in the wrong spot through the dunes which has led to the ruination of the water flow into the lake ever since.

Bob has had sixty years of fond memories at Lakeside Caravan Park and is obviously very popular. He is here for two weeks, then will start the long trek back to Cowra. Not bad for an 83 year old. See you next year Bob.



Humans of the Northern Beaches

Karen Coatsworth

The owner of Eco Threads in Market Street, the shop with all the clothes out the front. Karen is a true Woopi gem and is perfect for my latest Humans of the Northern Beaches story.

I started by asking Karen how long she has lived in Woopi? "32 years" was her answer. Wow and you moved from where? "I grew up in the western suburbs of Sydney and I moved here when I was pregnant with my eldest son". And how did you discover Woolgoolga? "We used to come to Coffs Harbour for holidays and Mum and Dad decided they were going to semi retire up here, which didn't actually work out, because Dad went back to work full time (laughs), and so I followed them up here". So it was a holiday destination? "Yeah it was".

Karen is warm and kind with a straight-up manner and loves the truth, so when you are in her presence you feel relaxed, you feel safe, a sense of 'be yourself or don't bother' style. Her sense of humour, oh yes folks, Karen loves a good yarn and a good laugh.

Knowing the move must have been a big one for her, I asked what did you fall in love with here? "Main Beach, yeah that's a real healing place for me". And Karen you have obviously raised your family here? "Yep." And has that been good? "Oh yes my four kids went through schooling here, they all surfed, played sport and two of them have their own businesses. They all have jobs Woopi has been good to us." So a very successful move then? "Oh absolutely yeah, I wouldn't go back to Sydney for all the money in the world." I can relate.



So Karen can you tell me about Eco Threads? "I love it. I'm right in my element here. I've been working in retail for 35 years, but I really started when I was ten, working in the butcher shop with Dad. That's when I started serving customers and then I went into retail when I left school, so yeah, I love what i'm doing here".

What's the main thing you love about Woopi? "Everybody says hello to each other, yeah, that's the main thing I love".

So you wouldn't move for quids? "Pffft, where would you go? Where would you find somewhere better?"

So Karen, to finish off I have to ask you my most famous question, is it Woopi or Woolgoolga? "Aww how funny, I just had two ladies in here earlier visiting from Lake Macquarie and they asked me the same question, so I told them the story from Jackie Ganderton." A story folks, you will have to ask Karen yourself when you visit Eco Threads.

Jackie only recently passed away at the ripe ol' age of 103, so I'm pretty sure she would have known how we got Woopi from Woolgoolga.

Karen finished by saying "For me it's WOOPI".

Karen Coatsworth is a Human of the Northern Beaches and I can't wait to speak to more.

- Garreth Nicholls







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We have another Woopi Wonder

Congratulations to Sandy Beach resident Carlina Erickson

Last year Carlina started her own business and organised a conference for festival organisers. Sounds pretty brave, but Carlina is fearless. She could see a niche market that needed support and set about organising the inaugural Australian Festival Industry Conference (aka AFIC).

Held at Opal Cove in October last year, Carlina attracted over 100 delegates from all over Australia, which included all tiers of Government, private festival organisers, consultancy services, educational institutions, suppliers and more. The feedback from attendees was extremely positive, with excitement already building for the 2020 version. *Insert COVID-19 devastating music here!*

But it's not all bad news. Carlina's event has been announced as a national finalist in the Australian Event Awards. The category is Best Achievement in Event Education and Training. The ceremony will be held in Adelaide this month and she is waiting for some more border and travelling clarity before making the decision to go.

Carlina says she is determined to see AFIC return again, with the promise of delivering a highly relevant conference program that gives delegates a unique opportunity to learn, share and connect with colleagues, prospective clients and suppliers in a 'neverbefore-seen' way.

"Work on next year's event has commenced, along with a number of interim projects that will provide direct benefit to the industry", she said.

Good Luck from all of us Carlina.





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Critters Distillery

Meet Nicola and Chris Fraser, the owner operators of Critters, an Artisan Vodka Distillery right here in Woolgoolga.

When Chris was little his nick name was Critter. The name stuck with him as an adult even when he left Eden on the south Coast, to study Engineering at University in Lismore. Nicola relocated from Ballarat and headed to the same University to complete an Honours degree in Fisheries Management.

They met, fell in love and a powerhouse couple was formed.

Travelling up and down the highway to visit their home towns, they regularly drove through Woolgoolga, which they loved, so decided this was the perfect town to make their home. Now with a young family, they have turned their passion and hobby into a thriving new business.

When Chris hit 30 he decided he was sick of getting hangovers. With his science and engineering knowledge, plus some experimental years dabbling with home brew beer, he thought he would try making a more pure vodka, without all the hangover-causing impurities. (They extract those bad boys and use them to make hand sanitiser and sterilising products.)

I expected to turn up and find bags and bags of potatoes but apparently we don't make vodka out of potatoes very often anymore. Chris and Nicola source wheat from a malting house in Griffith and cane sugar from Harwood.

The distillery is a spectacular set up, with custom made fermenters and stills. The stills are produced by a North American company. However, Critters source the equipment directly from the local stockist here in Woolgoolga.

They are both ocean-loving people which you can see in their branding.

The Angler Fish is an obvious icon for the Vodka as the spirit is produced using analogue instruments, as opposed to digital, relying on touch, taste and smell, similar to the deep-sea fish' survival. Add to that the couple's love for the ocean and its creatures and the many nights Chris

his first still with a head torch.

was hunched over

They have even entered their Vodka in the World Drink Awards.

"First Woolgoolga then the world!" Nicola laughed.

The couple try to keep their products Australian-made and have almost zero waste with even the waste alcohol and used water being treated again before going to an agriculture farm to use for irrigation.





Vodka in other countries, by law, has to be distilled

until it is odourless and tasteless, but Australian distillers are able to incorporate some taste. The wheat, the time the wheat was grown, the amount of sugar they use etc. can make the taste unique, smooth aromatic on the nose, maybe a bit spicy and definitely clean and smooth. They have produced an Original Blend and a Distiller's Release of only 250 bottles which has a slightly different grain blend and taste. They are also planning to introduce Gin and spice rums to their repertoire.

Anchor Kitchen & Bar contacted them with a desire to use Critters Vodka in their menu and bar.

The two businesses are very aligned with their beliefs in recycling, sustainable purchasing and environmentally friendly practices. They have now joined forces with pairing nights, where Anchor have designed a new spring menu with the Woolgoolga made vodka influencing the cocktail pairing throughout the meal.

Critters Distillery is currently not open for tours or tasting, so for the moment you need to buy their smooth, pure, delicious vodka and cool merchandise online via www.crittersdistillery.com.au Here you can also learn a bit more about the distillation process. Keep an eye on their website and socials for news on when and where else you will be able to purchase.

Anchor Kitchen & Bar



Co owners of Anchor Kitchen and Bar Anthony Amos and Matthew Hannaford (left and right) collaborated with Critters Distillery's Nicola and Chris Fraser to put on a special pairing night.



Lauren Palmer and Chris Braithwaite from Sapphire



Amy Hannaford and Becky Harloff trying one of the special vodka cocktails



Annette Wren, Megan Hewitt, Cayla Sippel and Rebecca Sippel came all the way from Grafton especially for the night



Amos with a tray of Vodka, Drambuie, grapefruit and soda cocktails which paired nicely with our Rainbow carrots, smoked ricotta and glazed walnuts.



SECRET VALLEY PLANTS

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Tomorrow Man





Breaking the Man Code

Last Month The Fluro Friday Group hosted a Bloke's Night. A night where men could meet and have a 'no holds barred' conversation about the state of man, face the stats and create room to break the stereotype.

The stats are bad. Of the eight Australians who take their own life every day, SIX of them are men.



The Tomorrow Man organisation held workshops at Woolgoolga High School, talking to the students about building emotional muscle and how to talk to and help each other.

They also held a night workshop that explored the impact that the stereotype has on men and created a unique conversation about the secret life of men and their mates.

Around 40 blokes attended and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The facilitators enjoyed the interaction with the Woopi blokes so much they have asked to come back and hold another workshop.

Scheduled for 6pm Monday October 12 upstairs at the Seaview, the night is aimed at both first time attendees and those wanting a follow up.

TOTALLY FREE, Funded By The Woohoo Enterprise (Aka Fluro Friday Woopi) Reserve your space via this link or call Brett on 0425 844 671

www.eventbrite.com.au/e/121497308721





Photographer of the Month

Liz McGinnes

I always knew I'd like photography, it was just a matter of taking the leap. I talked myself into buying my first proper camera about seven years ago then taught myself the ins and outs of photography. It's been like learning a whole new language!

I now use a Canon 80D, and one day want to upgrade to something fancier, but have to convince myself it's worth the outlay! I also recently bought a DJI Mavic Pro drone that I am enjoying using to explore the coast from the sky.

You'll often see me at the beach or traipsing through the forest with my camera. Lately I've been trying to go to places I've never been before, with some recent new favourites being Arrawarra Headland and Safety Beach.



I love sharing my photos online and producing a yearly local landscape calendar for friends and family (and anyone else that wishes to order one!)

I'm so excited to continue capturing the gorgeous local scenery to share with everyone on the Coffs Coast.

You can follow Liz at Liz
McGinnes Photography on
Facebook at www.facebook.
com/LizMcGinnesPhotography
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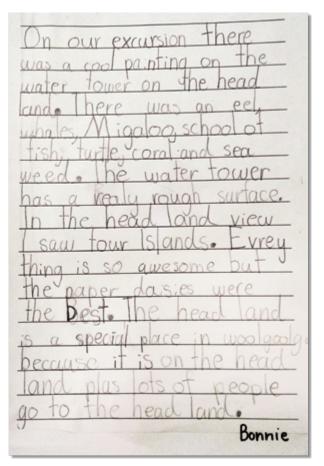
Wondering Wandering Students

Year One students at St Francis Xavier School have been engaged in a unit of Inquiry this term all about Woolgoolga and its special people and places.

The students identified the Water Tower as an important local landmark and visited a few weeks ago to investigate some of their questions and wonderings. We enjoyed a leisurely stroll along Back Beach equipped with clipboards and sun hats, stopping along the way to marvel at the beauty of God's creation and how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful place - all within walking distance of our school!







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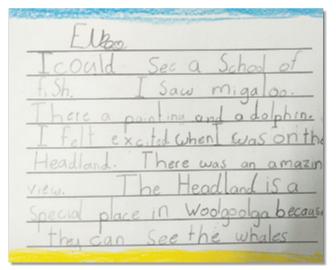
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St Francis Xavier Year One











Finding Love - Woopi Style

Working with Costa has opened up a world of opportunities for Aidan Green, who has not only been able to travel across the country but also met and married his life partner.

Aidan Green, from
Woolgoolga, started work
at Costa's Corindi farm in
2014 and has worked in
all areas of the farm from
picking to the packing shed.
He met his wife Aya, who
is from Japan, at the Costa
farm and the couple has
since travelled to work at
Costa farms on the Atherton
Tablelands in Far North
Queensland, Tumbarumba in
southern New South Wales,
and Tasmania.

"After I finished school in Coffs Harbour I worked at a few different places and then my brother, who was working at Corindi, suggested I try out the farm. I went straight into the packing shed. I've also worked in various outdoor roles".

"Picking was a great job – there's the possibility of earning good money. It's really enjoyable. You don't have many problems and minimal responsibility. You are just sort of your own boss," Aidan said.

"I met Aya in the packing shed. I was planning to go to Japan for a snow boarding trip and after Aya left Australia we caught up in the snow in Hakuba and that's where the flame ignited. She decided to come back to Australia for a second-year visa."

In 2017, Aidan and Aya were offered the opportunity to support the packing shed team at the farm in Tumbarumba and travelled to the small town located



on the western side of the Snowy Mountains.

"After we finished there, we asked to go down to Tasmania and we spent a few weeks there. From there we did our first season in Far North Queensland and stayed there for eight months. Cairns is now our second home," he said.

"The best part about working with Costa is

getting to meet people from all over the world, people with such different ways of thinking.

"We have also had the opportunity to travel around and work in a range of roles." The couple married in February this year in Woolgoolga. A second wedding ceremony planned to be held in Japan has been delayed due to COVID-19.



A little about our business:

With over 30 years of experience, DFM Financial Group Accountants specialise in all business and personal taxation services.

We have a strong team based here in Woolgoolga and benefit from a larger group of Financial Specialists throughout NSW. We welcome new business consultations and can provide the expertise and advice you need to make the right business decisions.

We work with everyone from startups to well established businesses looking to expand operations, improve business efficiencies and increase profitability.

We can look after your business with the preparation of Business Activity Statements, bookkeeping, Accounting compliance and payroll; so you can look after the really important things like running your business.

Taxes touch every aspect of personal finances – from income and investments to superannuation, home loans, financial plans and assets to transfer to future generations. We have strategies and tax structures that can significantly reduce your taxes, increase your cashflow and build your wealth.

We look after every aspect of Self-Managed Superannuation Funds from set-up and management to Audit and Advice.

DFM Financial Group Accountants are experienced, accurate, reliable, informative and knowledgeable on all tax matters.

Employ a young intern

If your business is interested in hosting a paid internship, and directly contributing to the ongoing support of youth living in Woolgoolga and surrounds, improving their employability opportunities, then this program is perfect for you.

Around 400 young Australians will be supported to participate in Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs under the Commonwealth Scholarships Program for Young Australians.

The program provides scholarships of up to \$5,000 a year to participate in Vocational Education and Training (VET) in targeted occupations identified in growth industries and in-demand occupations. Applicants must reside in one of ten regional areas experiencing high youth unemployment. Woolgoolga has been identified as one of these.

Scholarship recipients will complete a VET course and a 20 day paid Internship. Scholars will receive up to \$3000 for paid internship work. Host employers will receive \$1500 per intern.

Commonwealth Scholarship for Young Australians is an Australian Government Initiative being implemented by Busy At Work.

The next round of applications has just been announced by the Department of Education and is due to start late October through to early December.

Eligible occupations cover a wide range, some being Health Care and Social Assistance, Construction, Arts and Recreation Services, Financial and Insurance Services, Hair or Beauty Salon, First Aid Training, Professional and Technical Services, Sports and Recreation. You can view an extensive list via www.busyatwork.com.au/scholarshipprogram-for-young-australians

Local resident Jennifer Smith is the new Regional Scholarship Coordinator for Busy at Work and is excited about working with employees in Woolgoolga and the Northern Beaches. She can let you know the ins and outs and what you need to do. So call her on 0407 768 071 or email Jennifer.Smith@busyatwork.com.au





School Holidays

It's that time again.

At least these holidays the kids can get out a bit more. We are still required to follow social distancing rules, but it seems we're all getting a bit more used to it now.

The Holiday Workshops at Yarrawarra in Corindi are always popular. You can Tie Dye, Learn how to Goori Dance, try some Traditional Weaving or even some Gumbaynggir Art classes. Limited Numbers so you need to book, 6640 7104.

TIE DYE - Wednesday 30th September, 10.30-11.30. You need to bring a piece of white clothing and then you get to turn it

into a kaleidoscope of colour.

GOORI DANCE with Mudjah Devitt - Friday 2nd October 10.30-11.30. Learn the moves that connect us with our country and our ancestors.

TRADITIONAL WEAVING

- Wednesday 7th October 10.30-11.30. Join local artist Lilly Clegg in a traditional weaving circle under the trees and learn the basics of basketry. \$15

GUMBAYNGIRR ART ON CANVAS - Friday 9th October 10.30-11.30. Create your own art using ancient symbols of story telling with local artist Alison Williams. \$22

Coffs By Nature Tour - Rockyshore Xplore Woopi. Magic pools of wonder, filled with mermaid necklaces, sea stars the colour of the universe and tiny schools of fish. Bright orange and purple crabs emerging from spooky rock crevices, spiky sea urchins, smooth deep purple cucumbers and the flash of mysterious octopus sliding into the deep blue waters. All of these magical beings await us as we Xplore the rocky shores of Woolgoolga rock platform. Sunday 27th September 9am-

> 11am. Age: 3+ years Location: Meeting at the car park at the southern end of Woolgoolga Main Beach, FREE

Solitary Islands Surf School has lessons daily 9am or 10.15am all through the holidays. Ring Darryn on 0438 561 370 to book your kids

Plus Keep an eye on the Moonee Tavern Facebook site for some amazing kids activities. www. facebook.com/MooneeBeachTav

Happy Holidays!







Welcome to this very special feature.

When we started putting this together, we didn't realise how much there is to cover in the 88 year history of the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club. This is the fourth club for Woolgoolga. You can see three on our previous page, plus there was a makeshift clubhouse that was used after the first one was burnt down. The surf club is pretty close to Woopi News' heart, as Lisa spent some of the 60s and all of the 70s growing up, with every weekend and every school holidays spent at Woolgoolga and the club house. We weren't allowed inside often and girls were definitely not allowed upstairs. My dad loved his years with the club and in particular his years rowing boats and racing surf skis. Which ironically we haven't covered the surf ski racing era in this issue. So that helped us make the decision to keep running the history of the surf club in all our editions until the end of the surf season. That way we can also keep you up to date with the current-day activities as well.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has helped put this together. In particular Les Pepper who has been a member of the club for 34 years and the President for over

We love this pic of both surf clubs in one shot, so had to share

22. An amazing challenge in itself, but one can only wonder about the amount of extra hours he has volunteered to get this new club house to where it is.

We would also like to thank Neville Collins, Bob Wright, Rod Wilbers, Steve Wood, Trevor Clark, Fiona Fluechter, Patrick Mullan and Mick Slater for helping piece the decades together and everyone who has been supplying us with photos, especially Robert Watkin, Brendan Rae, Bob Weeks, Carl Pitt and Narelle Ward.

Also we would like to acknowledge a very humble man, Jim Philippidis, for his amazing contribution to the surf club build, offering his services as project manager and main builder for absolutely no charge.

There are currently 159 Junior members, 112 Senior, 116 General, 16 Life Members - living, 14 - deceased. But every club is only as good as its committee, so a big thank you to these guys that keep the club running year after year.

President Les Pepper
Director of Administration Mick Slater
Director of Finance John Eyles
Public Officer Sue Neil
Director of Life Saving Brian Sedivy
Junior Club Captain Patrick Mullan
Communication Officer Mick Slater
Vice President Bob Wright
Chief Training Officer Ted McCartney
Boat Captain Trevor Clark
IRB Captain Les Pepper
Board and Ski Captain Robert Hunt.

There are many local businesses who sponsor and fundraise for the club which they are very grateful for.

We will cover them in our next edition so keep an eye out for future Woopi News for more great surf club stories. Meanwhile we hope you enjoy this trip down memory lane.

MEMORIAL MIKE **DYER HONOUR BOARD** PRESIDENT CHEF INSTRUCTOR PRESIDENT SECRETARY THEADAGA . FEXTHERSTON **FEATNERSTON** P. FINE P. 6400 71-12 O. TOMERSON C. CRAHAM O. FENTHERSTON S. O'CONNOR P. GADO J. H. MAN S. NEWHAR N. WOLDSETH DELUMAN P. FIRS P. GADO R. G'CONNOR A. PETERS R MEYER S. SMITH R. G CONNOR A. PARSERS E.A. GALE B. D'CONMOR R. H. SROWN R. C. BROWN SIMILE R. G. BROWNE 18 IN RECESS K. PREST - P. FIAN R. O'COMNOR G. BONN 46-47 47-48 W. EVERY R REWINS E D DWGD F THEFTH N. COLLINS W. EVERY R. NEWMAN R SEPREM P 6400 R. D'COWNER I C LINE MENAMERI S. JABOUR W. MEYER R REWINS N. COLUMN J. IEMERAIS C. SABOUR MUNIMINA B. SUMMERS S NEWWOOD R. O CONNOR D. O CORNER - P. Nº NAME P FINN 6 MISCHMING W MEYER SUDSEL 2 A DEMOCR B. MILLER D FINN P. M"HENRY R. O'CONNER **6. MEXIMANS** R WHIST L FOLIDEW A DAYSON C. GOO GEN E W SEMMINE 84-85 R FINN P SADD R. O' DONNOR W. MEYER S. MAGUE DENTO. DENCOM W: MEYER BU08 1 .0 S. HALLWOOD R. MARTIN WILLIAMS P. FINN N. WELSH J WELSK A SENFIELD L BAYYOSOM G. HALLWOOD S. MESOMMINS W. MEYER R. O COMMOR G. HALLY-1000 MARTIN DEVICE ! 6 M DOMMINI P. MYEND P. FICTORIOS P M'RENTY W. MEYER R D'CONNOR S. MALIWOOD R. WHEELTH A GOVERNO 69-90 K. TONKIES S NEIL P. S'GONNOS A WER C HALLWOOD TIMMINS P. NEWHAN K. TONKIES M. BLACK A.MIDONALI MACCEN E. HALLWOOD P NEWHAN S NEL M. BLACK R WEIGH W. WER-R CONNOR G. HALLWOOD W STAFF M. BLACK 6. HALLWOOD J. TI HMNS R. CHAPLETON A. CAMERO W STAFF K. MF CONNEL K. TONKIES ACAREN L. WILLIAMS H. HNOX P. SASS 6 HALLWOOD S O'CONNOR N. BURKE K. TONKES T ACASON-J BOGS 96-97 W STAFF B DYNCH J EYLES R G'CONNOR N. BURKE L. WILLIAMS F. MICHAEL **B. SMITH** A FYLES B. BENNIE J SDEER - T ACASON S. NEIL B. BENNIE-F. DAKLEY J. EYLES A HAY - P. MTODRINACE S. HALLWOOD R G CONNOR B. KNEIPP R. PERSONS - D. RAILEY D. BALLEY D. BARLLY - N COLLINS S. NEIL R O'COMMOR W. SULLIVIA - W AMOR

A message from President Les Pepper

The Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club journey to this new building and site has been a long one.

At our AGM in 2012, after many years of discussions, I volunteered to take on the project of rebuilding our new surf club. I formed a basic committee to start the process.

After many meetings with council and interested persons we had come to the decision that we had to relocate the club house. This then started a new round of meetings with Marine Rescue, Coffs Council, the Department of Lands, Armidale University and every other person who was interested in the move.

A formal building committee of eight was formed, Rod McKelvey and Ian Preston being the major persons organising the funding applications. This took approximately three years and in August 2015 Coffs Harbour City Council agreed to move forward.

Once again there were many meetings with Marine Rescue, Armidale University and Coffs Council to agree to terms by all parties.

Throughout this process we were designing the new clubhouse with the assistance from Frank Scahill, our architect, and investigating funding opportunities.

In January 2016 a new problem arose, being the location of storm water pipes directly underneath the proposed site of the new club. This meant we had to move the club about eight metres toward Carrington Street. This then started a new challenge with the Woolgoolga Fishing Club which was resolved at a council meeting with our Development Application being approved.

Funding of 1 million dollars was secured from the Federal Government through Kevin Hogan. Other funding was secured from Surf Life Saving NSW and Coffs Harbour City Council and most importantly the balance of 2 million dollars from the NSW State Government with the assistance



of Andrew Fraser, who at the time was the current MP. Finally, in February 2019 the demolition of the Marine rescue commenced.

With the assistance of Jim Philippidis from Solitary Designer Homes as project manager (who donated his time free of charge) the club house is now at the finished stage.

This process has taken eight years and countless meetings, but it has been worth every minute to come up with this magnificent building.

Without the help of John Eyles, Trevor Acason, Michael Slater, Gordon Abbott, Sue Neil, Rick Bennell and all mentioned in this story this project would not have happened.

I thank these people, our members and the community for their support and look forward to many more safe surfing years on Woolgoolga Beach.

Les Pepper

President - Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club

WOOLGOOLGA S.L.S.C. DAVE FRYER HONOUR BOARD LIFE MEMBERS					
02-03 L. PEPPER 03-04 L. PEPPER 04-05 L. PEPPER 05-06 L. PEPPER 08-09 L. PEPPER 10-11 L. PEPPER 11-12 L. PEPPER 11-12 L. PEPPER 11-14 L. PEPPER 14-15 L. PEPPER 15-16 L. PEPPER 15-17 L. PEPPER	SECHERATIV S. NEIL T. ACASON	J. EYLES	A. NEIL P. BOYCE P. BOYCE L. PEPPER L. PEPPER L. PEPPER L. PEPPER L. PEPPER B. SEDIVY	P. Mc CORMACK P. Mc CORMACK P. Mc CORMACK P. McCORMACK P. McCORMACK T. McCARTNEY	C.O.R. NEWMAN † A. JOHNSON † J. DAVIES † G.N. NEWMAN † J.C. LANE J. (Peter) NEWMAN † L. BURKE W. P. MEYER † W. MILLER † G. HALLWOOD † R. O'CONNOR † N.E. WELSH P.N. GADD † E BAKER G.E. TOOVEY N. COLLINS P. FINN A. MAXWELL G. MC SKIMMING R. WRIGHT W. CLARK T. CLARK T. CLARK W.O. STAFF L.K. PEPPER SUE NEIL (1st female) N. CLEARY W. BAILEY D. SYKES J. EYLES T McCARTNEY T. ACASON P. BROWN

A History of the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club – An Overview of the first 50 years

by Life Member Neville Collins who is also the great grandson of Woolgoolga Pioneers George and Susannah Collins

Surf Life Saving in Australia was already 25 years old when a group of young men in the blossoming seaside town of Woolgoolga was encouraged to form a surf life saving club in 1932.

Office bearers were:- Patron - W. Stone; President - W.H.C. (Con) Graham; Secretary/Treasurer - O.R. Featherstone.

A surf reel was provided by the former Dorrigo Shire Council.

The first squad commenced training for their Bronze Medallion almost immediately and the following new members were passed as qualified surf life savers on 19th February 1933:- Lindsay Graham, John (Peter) Newman, Norman Woldseth, Keith Graham, Arthur Toovey, Bert Vardy, Stan Dahl and Doug Richards. Lindsay Graham also gained his Instructor's Certificate.

It didn't take long for the enthusiasm for this local asset to capture the interest of the township, for it was on 26th December 1932 that the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club held its first Surf Carnival. Competing clubs were Woolgoolga, Coffs Harbour, Coffs Jetty, Sawtell and Nambucca Heads.

As the years passed, the club continued to grow and it became necessary for the members to have their own clubhouse, which was built in 1935 on the beach about halfway between the current and new clubhouses. Timber for the clubhouse was provided by Peter Newman's father from his property and all associated expenses were met by Mr. C.O.R. Newman. Volunteers helped with the construction under the guidance of Mr. Geo. Newman who was a builder and local post master.

By 1936, active membership had grown to 19. The club's first Rescue and Resuscitation Team (R & R Team) of Bob Newman, Artie Morrow, Peter Newman, Tom Morrow, Con



Christening Ceremony for the 'Carly' in front of the original clubhouse

Hedwards and Reg Parbery won all R & R events at surf carnivals in the North Coast Branch that season but was defeated by Coffs Harbour in the Branch Championships which was very disappointing, according to Peter Newman. A photo of that team is now displayed as a mural in the Woopi Backpackers accommodation facility. Bob Newman had represented the club and branch at the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships at Bondi in the Junior Surf Belt event that year. Although unplaced, Bob had placed Woolgoolga on the map!

World War II sent the club into recess, although Peter Newman's memoirs indicate that the club was still functioning in 1942 until many of the members joined the army. Eager to get back to life at the beach after the war, the club opened up again in 1946 and patrols were in operation. A new era began to emerge with young men, returning from the war, looking for an activity that gave them a purpose. The north coast also saw a number of former metropolitan lifesavers moving to new occupations away from the city. Men like Bert Sykes (North Bondi), Bill Meyer (North Bondi), Bill Miller (Dee Why), George Hallwood (Freshwater) brought their surf life saving experience to Woolgoolga and the club began to flourish with a solid management foundation.

It was during this post-war period that Grafton business man, Bill Meyer, encouraged young men from Grafton to join the club in the late 1940s. The old clubhouse (on the beach) was in a poor state of repair – no roof – no water. Bill organised the repairs, had the water connected and the members built a dormitory on the headland side of the clubhouse. Electricity was connected and other comforts were installed.

There were not many cars in those days and the highway was a lousy dirt road. As most members were from Grafton in the early '50s, Bill arranged for Jones' Bus Service to make a special fare of 2/6 return for the members. Most would come down on Friday evenings after work and spend the weekends on the beach. Competition training in surf conditions was a feature of these weekends.

Bill Meyer also approached his old club (North Bondi) for a donation of an old set of March Past costumes. North Bondi was reluctant to agree, due to a possible chance that the two clubs might meet at a state championship carnival. So funds were raised for Woolgoolga's own set of March Past costumes. The club did adopt North Bondi's colours of red, white and chocolate though and, for many years, both clubs had identical competition caps (white with red centre stripe and brown "ears"). However, in the 1970s, with Woolgoolga having more competitors at State Championships, North Bondi objected to the clash of cap designed so we adopted the current design of white cap with red and brown centre stripes.

- The First 50 years

Surf Carnivals began to attract spectator attention and it was reported in Grafton's Daily Examiner on 10 January 1950 that an estimated 2,000 people watched the first post-war surf carnival at Woolgoolga. It was reported that "a heavy sea, whipped up by a strong north-east wind, a strong southerly drift and masses of seaweed which, at times, became entangled in surf lines made conditions very arduous for competitors in swimming events".

It was at this carnival that the duty boat from Bellingen-Urunga was swamped and was in danger of being swept onto the rocks. A total of five surf lines were used to secure the boat and a further line was taken from the Jetty to secure the boat and prevent it from striking the rocks. It was reported that the rescue was indeed a most spectacular incident!

Following this incident, the club wanted its own surf boat! Bill Miller went to Sydney and settled on a second hand double ender from the Bondi Club for £25. The North Coast Steamship Company brought the boat to Grafton free of charge but, when it was lowered into the water, it sank! Running repairs and a coat of paint, together with a generous donation from Mr Carl Coutts-Smith saw the "Carly" launched at the club's carnival in 1951.

Bill Miller and his crews competed well with this boat but it was old and heavy. Funds were raised for a replacement boat at a cost of around £500, called 'Rita' at the request of a man who had made a substantial donation. Bill Miller swept 'Rita' to victory quite a few times with his crews including Spiro and Brunos Notaras, Neil (Ebor) Welsh, 'Bomber' Judd and Ted Wolters.

In 1953 the old clubhouse, mysteriously, caught fire. For the next five years, the club operated out of an old cargo shed adjacent to the Jetty while plans were drawn up, funds raised and negotiations were made with local and state government departments in Grafton and Sydney to acquire a suitable site for the current timber clubhouse. Members spent time in the bush, felling about 75% of the timber required and the logs were taken to Ossie Hall's Sawmill. Eventually,



Bill Miller sweeping the Carly at Woolgoolga Beach, check the bareness of the headland

permission was granted for the club to prepare a site in the vicinity of the Jetty access and work commenced. The clubhouse was officially opened in 1959 with a debt of £1,500 to be met (a £1,000 loan from the Surf Life Saving Association to be paid back over five years and a £500 overdraft from the National Bank). Annual repayments almost exhausted the club, so much so, that in 1962, the then Club President, George Hallwood, approached the Manager of Radio 2GF who commenced an appeal for the club, culminating in a Beach Girl Quest and

Concert at the Grafton Garden Theatre. Within a month the outstanding debt of £850 was surpassed.

During the middle of the 1950s the old Jetty became unsafe and moves were made by the Public Works
Department to dismantle the famous landmark. In 1958, the Grafton Land
Board Office approached the club with the offer of retention of the remaining
11 Jetty spans that extended from the clubhouse. The club suggested that it could utilise the last three spans for the purpose of an open-air dance floor but



This R&R team consisting of Bob Newman, Artie Morrow, Peter Newman, Tom Morrow, Con Hedwards, and Reg Parbery was very successful during the 1935-36 season, winning every R & R in the branch except the branch championship

abandoned the idea and the remaining spans were eventually dismantled, leaving just two pylons as a "memorial" to the Jetty. However, these were also removed in the early 1970s.

Funds were always difficult to acquire in the 1950s and so a deputation by Bill Meyer, George Hallwood and Ron O'Connor (wearing their respective



Mr Tom Meigher, president of the NSW
State Centre of Surf Life Saving Association
officially opening the new club house. He
stated it was the biggest single floored surf
shed that he had been in. Junior member
Carl Pitt, Jnr is in the foreground.

North Coast Branch hats) approached the Coffs Harbour Shire Council, with the resultant meeting securing annual donations of £25 to the Coffs Harbour, Sawtell and Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Clubs.

Meritorious Awards – whilst
Woolgoolga Beach could be
considered a relatively safe surfing
beach, two club members, Reg Parbery
21 February 1937 and Greg Rockett
25th July 1965, were presented with
Meritorious Awards of Certificates
of Merit for their individual rescues
in treacherous seas, without the aid
of equipment. Many other notable
rescues have been conducted by club
members both on the main beach and
further afield on northern beaches over
the years.

Despite the decades of calm surf conditions, Woolgoolga Beach does experience the occasional barrage of huge seas. It was in the winter months of 1964, when just five years old, that the surf clubhouse was in danger of collapsing. The north-eastern foundation pier had been washed out and urgent work was required to provide a more secure foundation. The sloping dunes had disappeared, leaving a three metre "cliff" between the reserve and the beach.

With a new clubhouse and bunk facilities, membership grew in the early 1960s. However, in the second half of that decade and with the popularity of the Malibu Surfboard and access to motor vehicles, better waves lured teenage members away from patrol commitments and membership started to wane and patrols were left to a few dedicated members from Grafton.

During the 1968-69 season a former Bronte member, Peter Finn, joined the surf club when his young family joined the burgeoning Woolgoolga Nippers. Peter injected a new enthusiasm and encouraged a strong camaraderie amongst the members. During his five years as President, Peter saw an increase of young members from the South Grafton High School under the training of Physical Education Teacher, Don Tomlinson. The 1970-71 season saw the club gaining 37 awards compared with just 6 the previous year. The state and national associations had called on all clubs to conduct a drive for members and Woolgoolga membership rose to 62. The club was well represented at the Royal Tour Surf Carnival at Coffs Harbour in April 1970, in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Anne. Club members were part of the organising committee and some had non-competitive roles associated with the Royal visit on the day. Club Life Member and carnival organiser, George Hallwood, had the honour of sitting next to Prince Phillip on the dais and the Woolgoolga Nippers (in their red and black colours) were part of the guard of honour for the Royal Party. It was at this carnival that the club unfurled its new March Past Banner, a donation from the Toovey Family who have their roots in Woolgoolga.

The 1970s brought a consolidation to the club with its share of successes at surf carnivals and patrol competitions. Jim Schafer dominated surf events in the North Coast Branch and was selected as a member of the first NSW Country Branches Association Team to tour New Zealand in 1970. Amongst his many wins were the Open Belt, Open Surf and Over 24 Years Surf Races at the NSW Country Championships at Yamba in 1973. The club also won a BP Patrol Efficiency Competition and the CDA Handicap Pointscore in consecutive seasons, conducted by the North Coast Branch.

In 1972, following a lot of fund raising



Iconic photo of Rob Burgess on the new deck of the Surf Club House in 1960

- The First 50 years

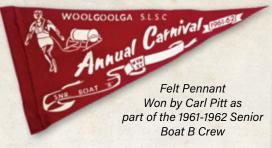
by Bill Miller and Woolgoolga publican, Bruce Wilson, a new Hamilton Jet Boat was presented to the club and Woolgoolga Volunteer Rescue Organisation. This craft was a great asset to the township with local man and club member, Ross Burton, at the helm.

At the 43rd Annual Meeting in 1975 the club added the name 'Grafton' to its title and for many years the club was officially called the Woolgoolga-Grafton Surf Life Saving Club. In proposing the name change, it was recognised that 90% of members came from the Grafton district and that substantial financial sponsorship and material support had been rendered to the club by that city.

In 1976, club member, Neville Collins, was a member of a NSW seventeen man squad of instructors who spent ten days in the Philippines, training 55 members of the Baclaran Life Saving Club for various surf life saving awards. The team then spent seven days in Hong Kong exchanging latest resuscitation techniques and visited the Kuta Beach Surf Life Saving Club in Bali for four days, again bringing that club up to date with lifesaving developments in Australia.

A history of the Woolgoolga Surf Club would not be complete without recognition of its surf boat crews. Bill Miller was the club's first sweep and trained his crews to many successes for about 10 years. Bill then handed the sweep oar to Neil (Ebor) Welsh who continued at the helm for, at least, another 25 years. He, too, taught a lot of members to row and his various crews had many successes at club carnivals, Branch and Interbranch Championships over the years. Two junior crews won the NSW Country Championships - 1975 at Sawtell with Dick Browne as sweep and 1977 at Evans Head with Stephen Smith as sweep. In 1978 the Open Boat Crew, with Neil Welsh as sweep, won the Country Championship at South West Rocks.

Over the first 50+ years, the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club acquired a number of surf boats – 1951 the 'Carly'; 1953-54 the 'Rita'; 1959 the 'Marion Want'; 1965 the 'Bill Miller'; 1970-71 the 'Thooramunga'; 1973-74 the 'Ron O'Connor'; 1976 the



'Neil 'Ebor' Welsh'; 1980 the 'Pow Wow! Later in the 1980s, another boat was purchased and named the 'Tony Notaras'. With a strong rowing interest from the local lads at Woolgoolga in the early '80s, funds were raised in the town for another boat which was aptly named 'Spirit of Woopi' with Alby Maxwell at the helm. The name was so well received in the town that next locally funded boat was named 'Spirit of Woopi II.'

The mid 1970s saw the introduction of the Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) and Woolgoolga took delivery of its first IRB in 1976. Towards the end of the '70s, Dave Fryer and his family moved to Woolgoolga from Sydney where he had been actively involved in a surf club. He encouraged some of the local men to join the Woolgoolga Club and a good deal of interest was shown at the local high school under the guidance of teacher Bob Wright.

History was made on 1 July 1980 when the Surf Life Saving Association finally allowed females to join surf clubs and the Woolgoolga Club changed its constitution at their AGM on 2nd August, 1980 to grant active membership to females.



Lyn Furbank and Bronwyn Smith from Woolgoolga High School were the first to gain the Bronze Medallion on 2 November 1980. Lynette Welsh and Stephanie Crossley were the next females to gain their Bronze Medallions shortly after.

Our female members have acquitted themselves as patrol members, competitors and administrators ever since that date.

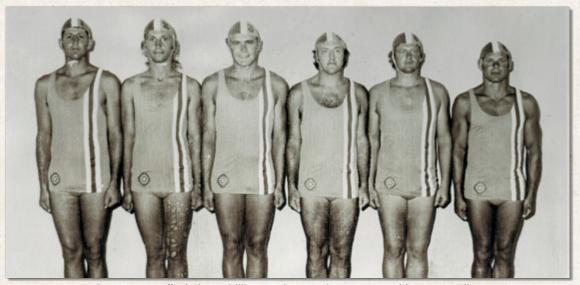
An interesting side note: the first exam was held when Woolgoolga Central School was in its final days. Lyn Furbank was a teacher and Bronwyn Smith a student when the new High School opened in 1981. The first Bronze Medallion candidates from the High School were trained during school



March Past Team - 1937 with long gone Woolgoolga Jetty in background.



Neil 'Ebor' Welsh, Don Lenard, Carl Pitt, Peter Niland and Alan Cameron.



Bob Meyer, Geoff. Simkus, Phillip Wood, Ken Priest, Steve Smith, Don Tomlinson North Coast Branch Championships 1975-1976



Neville Collins, Gary McSkimming and Peter Finn were honoured with Life Membership at the 55th AGM. Neville had held many offices including secretary and treasurer over 21 years, Gary had served six terms as Club Captain and was the newly elected president taking over from Peter who had been President for (at the time) a record of ten terms.

sport so that Surfing as a Wednesday afternoon activity could take place at local beaches. The students, for a few years Statewide, had to belong to a Surf Club and complete patrols in order to participate in this approved sport. This wasn't really well received by NSW students who just wanted to ride their boards and eventually government policy was changed to allow for a less restrictive qualification.

The Woolgoolga Surf Club has always been well managed over the years and a lot of 'behind the scenes work' in keeping the smooth running of its operations was carried on by a dedicated few such as Paul Gadd and Ron O'Connor, who held the positions of Secretary and Treasurer for many, many years.

Of course, such dedication and years of service had not gone by unnoticed. In those first 50+ years, the following men were presented with Life Membership:-

C.O.R Newman

A. Johnson

J. Davies

G.N. Newman

J.C. Lane

J (Peter) Newman

L. Burke

W. Meyer

W. Miller

G. Hallwood

R. O'Connor

N. Welsh

P. Gadd

P. Gada

F. Baker

G. Toovey

P. Finn

N. Collins

G. McSkimming.

The 1980s to now



NSW Country Championships, January 1976 - Standard bearer Graham Toovey



North Coast Branch Champions and Silver NSW Country Champions 1975-1976 Reserve Boat Crew Gary McSkimming, Geoff Slmkus. Dick Browne, Gary Benn, Graham Toovey (sweep)

That takes us to the 50 year mark of our surf club, so now we would like to share with you the next 38. The aforementioned Bob Wright has supplied us with these memories.

Neville Collins wrote in the 1980/1981 Annual Report "A New Clubhouse - Can We Build One??????" Ron O'Connor wrote in the following Annual Report, in detail for the necessity to build a new clubhouse.

In 2020 there is finally a new building after approximately 470 monthly meetings where mention of a new clubhouse was made or intensely discussed. Finally!

Throughout this period the Club has successfully provided a safely patrolled beach and promoted itself at various levels of competition.

Through the 1980s the club executive and committee changed from an all Grafton membership to a combination of Grafton and Woolgoolga members.

At the Annual General Meeting on 26th June 1988 the club became Woolgoolga-Grafton Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated. By 1990/1991 the Club's name had reverted back to Woolgoolga SLSC.

This decade saw Saturday afternoon patrols commence, with Sundays being a 9 to 5. Each season senior membership totalled over 100 and the then 'cadet' category around 30 to 40.

Awards gained were always a healthy number, between 60 and 100. By the mid 80s, parents of the Junior Club had become active and qualified members, fulfilling their patrol obligations each Sunday morning. This saw senior membership rise to 175 in 1988/89. The club's membership in this year was the largest in Country NSW and "about the fifth largest in NSW" according to Pedro McHenry's Secretary Report. Junior Surf Club membership totalled 100 in the same year. The next year the Board of Junior Activities Superintendent, Rod Wilbers reported the 1989/90

membership as more than 200. Local interest in this part of Surf Life Saving had risen remarkably.

Fundraising was a constant necessity, with considerable activity in Grafton and increasingly in Woolgoolga. The club's income was over \$49,000 in the year ended April 1986, much of it coming from fundraising. Four years later it was nearly \$61,000. It was always constant work to keep the Club operating. Expenditure was fortunately always less than income with a small reserve at hand.

The 1990s saw the Junior Club increase numbers and competition success, winning the North Coast Branch points score for the first time at Nambucca Heads in 1991. In January 1992 at Bateman's Bay a small group of just 29 young members won the Junior Club its first Country Championship. With a total of 35 medals including 14 Gold, 14 Silver and 7 Bronze they won over clubs such as Coffs Harbour, Shell Harbour and other strong clubs.

There were 288 members the next year, with the Juniors finishing a close second in the Country Championships. The title was won again in January 1994 at South West Rocks. Success followed again the next year at Forster. In 1996 the Club came second by one point at Shell Harbour. A second place was gained at Tathra in 1999. These initial years of success at Country level have led to members competing at every Country Championship to this day. Success at State level should be in another section. of this issue. Many of these youngsters moved on to become patrolling and competition members of the Senior Club.

Membership in 2020 was 160 youngsters, with the 2021 season about to begin.

Members' involvement with North Coast Branch activities continued throughout the 1990s: attending Branch meetings, acting as carnival officials and conducting examinations for awards across all spectrums of surf lifesaving. One member to be particularly rewarded was Keith Tonkies who received the Blue Diamond Award for Excellence from the North Coast Branch for the 1991/92 season. The following year Keith won the NSW Surf Lifesaver of the Year Award for contributions to Surf Lifesaving.



Les Madden, Keith Tonkies, Bob Wright, Mal Wicks, Ken Priest (State President), Arrabella Hay, Paul Hay - Silver Medalists - Patrol Competition, NSW Championships, Thirroul 1992

Wayne Bailey saw a need in 1997 to prevent patrol attendance problems. He simply organised patrols with competitors grouped together and placed them on the season roster on

non carnival dates. Previously patrols simply rotated through the season on a numerical basis eg One to Ten repeated until season end. This successful idea is still used today.

The 2000s commenced with membership remaining around the 120 to 130 total.

The 2000/01 season was extra long due to the Sydney Olympics. Fund raising continued with the Annual Black and White Bowls Day and regular weekly raffles at the RSL Club and Seaview Tavern. Christmas caravan park raffles continued from the 1990s. By 2001 revenue needed to run the Club had reached \$67,220. Funds were also raised through many Club sponsors, whose generosity has always been appreciated. Coffs Harbour City Council has for many years helped by refunding rate payments.

Membership dropped during this period, with Senior members totalling 60 to 70 members. Patrols dropped to fewer than ten, so more days had to be done each season by members. By 2005 revenue to run the Club had reached \$77,892.17.

In December 2000 a severe storm tore the roof off the Club. Much of it ended up in a tree in Wharf Street. Alick











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The 1980s to now

Pickford, a keen member, looked out of his mobile home near the clubhouse and moved just before a timber beam speared through his home.

The building was repaired and painted before the hosting of the NSW Country Championships.

Patrol hours for 2007/08 totalled 5391.75. Unseen work every season has all hours completed entered into SLS data bases.

In June 2009 our beach saw in action the NSW State IRB (Inflatable Rescue Boat) Championships with dozens of craft competing and waiting their turn on our beach. Members on patrol by 2010 were now over 130 which was pleasing. Total revenue by now was \$121,629.37. Over \$2300 a week needed to run the Club!

At this point in time a consistency in the Executive had been achieved and continues to the present day.

President Les Pepper first accepted the position for the 1998/99 year. Treasurer-



Jarred Twigg, Ryan Twigg, Scott McCartney - Gold Medal Under 10s Board Relay 1997 NSW Championships in Kingscliff

now Director of Finance - John Eyles has been in office since the 1995/96 years. Paul McCormack was elected Education Officer - previously called Chief Instructor - in 1999 and served for seven years. Ted McCartney assumed the position in 2006 and has served

for 15 years. Les Pepper doubled up as Club Captain for 6 years until Brian Sedivy assumed the position in 2012 and continues to this day. Sue Neil became Secretary - now Director of Administration - in 1998/99 and served for 14 years.



ENATIONALS for Regional Australia

Kevin **HOGAN MP**

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR PAGE

Supporting our volunteers:

\$3.9 million Woolgoolga SLSC now open!

My contact details:

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In the last ten years statistics and information have become a feature of online access to Surf Life Saving NSW and Surf Life Saving Australia. The Education Officer now simply downloads membership details for the annual report. All members have a personal access code to log in to member information on rostered patrols, completed patrols, organised patrol swaps and hours completed.

Every training course is online with video instruction and tasks to complete. These are produced on examination day and reduces the theory time on the day.

Patrols are now logged on through an iPad supplied by Surf Life Saving NSW. All aspects and details of the day's patrol are sent in this way.

Current membership of the club as of August 2020 is 405, which includes both Junior and Senior sections.

Finalising of plans for the building were taking place as reported by the President in the 2014/15 Annual Report. Hard work over the last five years by an advisory group consisting of lan Preston, Eddie Broomfield, Rod McKelvey, Rob Burgess, and Gordon Abbott and voluntary construction supervision by builder Jim Philippidis has resulted in the completed new Clubhouse.

A kiosk in the new Clubhouse and an upstairs function area should provide the community with two new assets that will hopefully be appreciated.

- Bob Wright

But of course it wouldn't be a club with out the young ones coming through the ranks. Long-time member Rob Wilbers was able put this together for us to cover the juniors.

The Junior Surf Club, which these days operates under the umbrella of the Senior Club, caters for children aged between 5 and 13 years of age. Children in the 5 and 6 year age groups participate in informal, funtype activities which are designed to develop water confidence and general fitness. Members in the older age groups participate in a range of activities associated with the senior movement, including beach sprints, beach flags, surf swims, board paddling races, ironperson events, and a variety of team events, such as board rescues and relay races. The Junior Surf Club also has a vital educational function, to teach surf awareness and surf survival skills, as well as basic rescue and resuscitation procedures.

Woolgoolga Junior Surf Club, (Nippers) 1978-1998

Woolgoolga Junior Surf Club had its beginnings in 1978, when a group of local parents, including Paul Canakis, David Guinness and Fay Unwin, took it upon themselves to organise surf club related activities for children at Woolgoolga Beach on Sunday mornings. In those early days the junior surf club operated on a relatively



Adam Wood Gold Medalist - Under 9s - Surf Race NSW Championships Mollymook 1995

informal basis and activities were conducted more or less independently of the direct involvement of the Senior Club. In the 1980s the Junior Surf Club evolved into a more highly structured organisation. It was formally integrated into the senior club and became affiliated with branch and state organisational bodies.

The Junior Surf Club grew rapidly through the 1980s and 1990s, with the Club gaining prominence in 1987 when it hosted the NSW Country Junior Surf Lifesaving Championships at Woolgoolga Beach. An event which drew thousands of competitors and supporters to the town. This proved to be a springboard for the emergence of Woolgoolga Junior Surf Club as one of the State's leading clubs in junior surf lifesaving competitions. In the period between 1992 and 1997, Woolgoolga was the champion club at the NSW Country Championships on three occasions - at Batemans Bay in 1992, South West Rocks in 1994 and Forster in 1995. They were a close runner-up at the Country Championships on two other occasions - Coffs Harbour in 1993 and Shellharbour in 1996.

During this period many members went on to gain success at the highest level of junior surf lifesaving competition, including State and National Championships.



Junior Surf Club March Past Team, competing at a Branch Carnival in the 1990s. Members (left to right) - Joanne Weston, Nicole Moffatt, Tammy Newman, Katherine Brannock, Emma Burke, Melissa McKeough, Amy Wilbers, Julie Tonkies, Katrina Morris, 2 others (obscured)

- The 1980s to now



Junior Surf Club (1988) members practicing March Past drill. Left to right: Emma Broomfield, Justin Holland, Alex Wilbers, Denise Watson, Emma Byrnes, Angela Joass, Katie Ashford, Kim Quigley, Darren Quigley, Natalie Clarke.

Members who won gold medals at State Championship level included Beth Moffatt, Stephen Madden, Luke McConnell, Jared Twigg, Ryan Twigg, Josh Lawson, Scott McCartney, Adam Wood, Tim Wright, Nicole Moffatt, Shane O'Hara, Emma Byrnes, Brod McDonald, Clint Bailey, Dylan Snowball, Michael Hay and JJ King.

Those who achieved success at National Championships included Scott McCartney (9 Australian medals), Adam Wood (7 Australian medals), Jared Twigg and Ryan Twigg (1 medal each).

Many Junior Surf Club members have progressed to the senior ranks of the club, where they performed patrol duties and participated in surf lifesaving competitions. In the late 1980s, two former members of the junior surf club, Alex Wilbers and Kelly McConnell, successfully petitioned the Mid-North Coast Branch to include female only

events at senior branch carnivals, thus paving the way for girls to compete on a more equitable basis in surf competitions. Some former members achieved success at a very high level in the senior ranks. Most notably, Nicole Moffatt and Alee Sharp, who competed in the interstate Meadow Lea Women's Surf series.

Some former members went on to serve in an administrative capacity, for instance Scott McCartney, who is the current Lifeguard Coordinator for Northern NSW.

Two of Woolgoolga's most reknowned athletes, Emma Moffatt and Harley Ingleby, were members of the Junior Surf Club during this period. Emma Moffatt became a triple Olympian in the sport of Triathlon, while Harley Ingleby is a multiple winner of the World Longboard title.

Woolgoolga Junior Surf Club, (Nippers) 1990 - 2002

The "golden" years of Woolgoolga Junior (Nippers) Surf Club were the period from 1990 to 2004. There was a large interest in the Surf Club for the children of the area, as there were a dedicated number of parents who gave up their time to organise club events, training in water safety for the children, and extra board training sessions for whoever wanted to attend.

At the club's peak in the late 1990s the Nipper membership peaked at over 300 participants on most Sundays. Activities were held every week and the children were encouraged to try every discipline, to gain confidence in the surf and improve their skills to know what to do, if they got into trouble in the surf.



Nicole Moffatt Gold Medalist 11 years Surf Race State Championship Wanda 1992

Woolgoolga club coaches were Gary McConnell and Rod Wilbers (Juniors) and Bob Williams (Seniors). Board training sessions were held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon and Saturday mornings.

It was very apparent that with the dedication of the coaches at Woolgoolga there would be great success for the club at all levels of competition.

Woolgoolga participated in all levels of SLS competition, Branch, Country State and National titles. Many members travelled all over the state to participate against their peers.

Woolgoolga's Club results in the Country Surf Life Saving Titles.

1992 Woolgoolga Country Champions with a squad of 29 children at **Batemans Bay**

1994 Woolgoolga Country Champions at South West Rocks.

1996 Woolgoolga finished 2nd in Country Championships at



Nathan Meyer Bronze Medalist Under 18 IronMan NSW Championships Thirroul 1992

Shellharbour by one point.

1998 Woolgoolga finished 2nd in Country Championships.

1999 Woolgoolga finished 2nd in Country Championships.

There are too many members of the Junior Club to name who achieved success and medals at the Country Championships, but overall everyone gave his or her best to add to the overall point score, and the hope to bring the title back to Woopi.

NSW State Titles

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Board Races were Beth Moffatt (U9, U10, U11 Board) Stephen Madden (U9 Board) Luke McConnell (U12 Board) Jarred Twigg (U9, U13 Board) Josh Lawson (U14 Board) Scott McCartney (U12 Board) Adam Wood (U10, U11, U16 Board) Tim Wright (Open Board) Woolgoolga competitors who won



Alee Sharpe Bronze Medalist 10 years Diamond, Lady State Championships Tacking Point 1993

State Titles in Surf Races were Nicole Moffatt (U12 Surf) Adam Wood (U9 Surf)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Ironman or Diamond Lady Races were

Beth Moffatt (U11 Diamond Lady) Adam Wood (U13, U16 Ironman)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Wade Races were

Shane O'Hara (U8 Wade)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Beach Sprint Races were

Emma Byrnes (U9 Beach Sprint)

Jason Amor (Cadet Beach Sprint)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Beach Relay Races were Clint Bailey, Dylan Snowball, Michael

Hay, JJ King (U9 Beach Relay)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Beach Flag Races were

Beth Moffatt (U11 Flags)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Board Relay Races were

The 1980s to now

Adam Wood, Josh Lawson, Brod McDonald (U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14).

Jarred Twigg, Ryan Twigg, Scott McCartney (U10, U11, U14)

Adam Wood, Jarred Twigg, Scott McCartney (U16)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Board Rescue Races were

Adam Wood, Scott McCartney (Senior Board Rescue)

Adam Wood, Scott McCartney (U16 Board Rescue)

Ryan Twigg, Scott McCartney (U16 Board Rescue)

Tjade Groot, Jeb Freeman (U16 Board Rescue)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Surf Team Races were

Adam Wood, Josh Lawson, Jarred Twigg, Ryan Twigg (Junior Swim Teams)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Tube Races were

Tjade Groot (U16 Tube Race)

Woolgoolga competitors who won State Titles in Taplin Relays were

Tim Wright (Open Taplin Relay)

Junior Club Highlights

The Woolgoolga Club during this period had many outstanding results, both individually and in team events. Special mention goes to

The Woolgoolga Board Relay Team of Brod McDonald, Josh Lawson and Adam Wood completed their 6th consecutive Board Relay State title (1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000). This has never been achieved by any Board Relay team in NSW Junior SLSC history, and probably won't be again, especially with the same members of the team at all times.

The Woolgoolga Board Relay Team of Jarred Twigg, Ryan Twigg and Scott McCartney won three Board Relay State titles (1997, 1998, 2001 and two Silver medals in 1999,2000). A great effort.

Adam Wood was selected to represent the NSW Surf Team for the National Surf League four years in a row (1999, 2000, 2001, 2002)

Adam Wood was the winner of NSW Junior SLS Athlete of the Year in 2001. Adam Wood was the winner of NSW



Dylan Snowball, JJ King, Clint Bailey, Michael Hay Gold Medalists 8 years Beach Relay State Championship Tacking Point 1993

Country SLS Athlete of the Year in 2002.

Beth Moffatt was Junior Club Champion for Woolgoolga JSLSC three years in a row.

Adam Wood was Junior Club Champion for Woolgoolga JSLSC four years in a row.

Outstanding members results

There were outstanding members of the Woolgoolga Nippers at this time whose results may never be bettered in the club.

Adam Wood won 25 State Medals and 7 Australian Medals

Jarred Twigg won 15 State Medals and 1 Australian Medal

Scott McCartney won 14 State Medals and 9 Australian Medals

Ryan Twigg won 12 State Medals and 1 Australian Medal

Beth Moffatt won 12 State Medals
Josh Lawson won 10 State Medals
Brod McDonald won 9 State Medals
Nathan Meyer won a State Medal
for Woolgoolga and went on to win
a World Ironman Championship and
competed successfully in the Uncle
Toby's Surf Series.

Emma Moffatt was a member of Woolgoolga JSLSC and she continued on in sport to represent Australia in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games and won a Bronze Medal. Emma was also the ITU World Champion for 2008 and 2009. A fantastic achievement.

Nicole Moffatt left Woolgoolga club and went to QLD to race in the Meadow Lea Surf Series competing successfully. Alee Sharp left Woolgoolga club and went to QLD to race in the Meadow Lea Women's Surf Series competing successfully and competed in the International Triathlon Union (ITU) Series. Won gold medal in Open Surf Teams at Aussies.

Woolgoolga Juniors tried to stay ahead of the competition in their training, competitor welfare and also technology. Woolgoolga was the first Junior Surf club in the state to implement a website in 1998, for the members and families to keep abreast of what was happening at the club. Overall, the camaraderie between the club members and the parents was probably the key to the success at the time. There were like-minded people who were willing to go the extra mile in the club, to enable their children to enjoy and remember the Woolgoolga Nippers as one of the happiest times in their life.

Many of the Junior members, who have now children of their own, still reminisce and say that the years at the Woolgoolga Nippers were some of the best years of their life.

Our club has a long history of Surf Boat Rowing. Trevor Clark or Clutchy as many of you may know him, has put together this recollection of the past 40 years of Surf Boat Racing within the club.

I joined the surf club in 1980 after being chased up by Alby Maxwell to convert from Rugby League to surf boat rowing. After some convincing we decided to do both League and rowing. Denis Crossley, Wayne Bailey, Rick King and I formed an Open Boat Crew, we gained our bronze medallions and trained hard to compete. At that stage the club also had an open boat crew training out of Grafton. The club has always been a super strong surf boat club and we were an addition. Others soon followed and we had a lot of crews training out of Woopi as well as Grafton. In the mid 80s I became boat captain and board member and still hold those positions today. Three of the crew I started with are still rowing to this day. We have since Woopi-based crews started. The club purchased eleven surf boats between then and now. The Seaview Tayern has contributed to every boat we have purchased and raced. Our latest boat is sponsored by the Seaview Tavern, Harvey Excavations and Mullaway Preschool. This was purchased in 2018 before the world championships.

We have had great success since the 80s with so many country championships. During the 2019 season we took six crews for six gold - an example of our success in that arena.



Anzac Cove, Gallipoli 100 year anniversary - 25th April, 2015

Since 1985 we have won 14 bronze, 16 silver and nine gold medals at State Championships, nine bronze, 12 silver and 4 gold at Australian Championships and two bronze at World Championships. We competed in the Ocean Thunder in both Open Women and Men, have been a major force in he NCBS with six Club Championships and many division winners. We have travelled all over the nation, with trips every four years to Perth and two trips to Adelaide for World Championships. All of these have been paid for out of competitors pockets, such is the love of the sport and the camaraderie of being involved. Our medals have been won across a large range including U18s, Reserve Men, Open Men and Women and Masters Men and Women, and we have competed at all State, ASRL and Australian Championships held during this time. A couple of special memories come to mind, with the Year 2000 being special. The crew I rowed in with Wayne Bailey, Tony Benfield, Craig Schweikert, and sweep Paul Hay won every event all season, including Australian and State Championships, only to finish with a Bronze at the World Championships. Great times! Also in that year our U18s

crew, with Sweep Wayne Bailey, Jon Pepper, Sam Broomfield, Clint Bailey and Zac Wright finished second at State and Australian titles as well as the ASRL champion point score title. Along with success in most other events they attended, we had seven crews that season with three junior crews. A very special season.

Our recent success includes our
Open Men's boat crew winning the
Queensland Open Boat and being very
competitive at Ocean Thunder and
Our Open Women winning Bronze at
the World Championships and also
competing at Ocean Thunder and being
right there to the final.

In 2015 we took a boat and crew to Gallipoli for the 100 year Anzac anniversary. Denis Crossly, Warren Whitten Robert Burgess and I joined members from North Steyne and Bungan Beach clubs. We rowed from Canakkale to Anzac Cove over two days. An amazing event, some went to the official function Anzac morning and others went on a row out to sea at sunrise. It was an amazing, emotional and physical event but a lifetime experience. Our wives attended as well and we all attended the gala ball in Istanbul.

The strengths we have gained from our history and older members and ex members has helped us to the heights we are now. An example of this:

"Rob Burgess was an early rower with the club gaining his Bronze at Woolgoolga in 1960 and winning the Country Junior Surf Boat Title in 1964. He later moved to Sydney and together with Warren Molloy (ex Woolgoolga) and Dave Baldwin (ex Yamba) won the Australian Open Boat Title with Queenscliff in 1971. Later he swept the clubs Junior crew to an Australian Title Win in 1984 and a Reserve Title in 1986.



Boat Captain Trevor Clarke is always grateful for generous sponsors, such as Lee and Kristie Harvey from Harvey Excavators

- The Boaties

In 1990 he won Gold again sweeping the North Steyne Crew to an Open Boat Victory.

Rob, or 'Burgo' as he is known, is the only surf boat competitor in 110 years competition to win Open Boat Titles as a rower and sweep and was admitted into the 'Australian Surf Boat Hall Of Fame in 2013.'

He continues to maintain an active interest in our Club and has coached our Open Boat crews for the past ten years."

A good example of how much we love our surf boats and our dedication to our club and town and ongoing commitment to excel and represent our club.

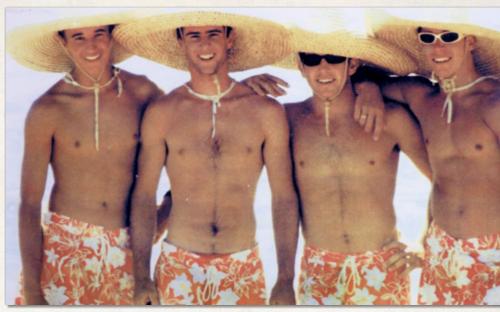
The many great sweeps I have been involved with has been amazing, with Ebor Welsh, Gary McSkimming, Alby Maxwell, Paul Hay, Wayne Bailey, Rick King, Tony Benfield, Neil Baker, Damien McSkimming, Dean Slater and Craig Schwiekert just to name a few. There are so many more who have contributed.

We will continue to be a big part of this club for many years, as I have no thoughts of retiring and am looking forward to the new era in the new clubhouse.

Trevor Clark, Boat Captain

Mullaway Early Years Learning Centre is another sponsor of Woolgoolga Surf Boats. Owners Kathryn and Tim are active members of the club and row boats themselves, as does their Team Leader Amy. They share the love of the ocean and water safety with their students with the help of Water Safety Teacher Di Holt.

Pictured below is Kathryn White, Amy Duffy, Charlie Mitchell, Di Holt, Roxton Sullivan, Chelsea White, Cove Sullivan, Emma White and Tim White



Zac Wright, Jon Pepper, Sam Broomfield, Clint Bailey, 1999-2000 Under 18s



Wayne Bailey, Rick King Alby Maxwell (Sweep), Trevor Clark, Denis Crossley





Kathryn Neil, Jon Pepper and Karley Pepper at the Australian titles, 2000 Kawana Waters



Spectacular photo of Karley Pepper and Kathryn Neil at the Australian titles, 2000 Kawana Waters

Woolgoolga Surf Club formed an Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) team in the 1989/1990 season.

In its first season, the team of seven competed at Soldiers Beach on the Central Coast and won Most Improved Club of the NSW IRB competition and qualified for the Australian Championships at Tugan Beach In Queensland.

The team then tripled its numbers to 21. Then for the next 14 years qualified for every Australian Championship up until 2001.

During the first few years of competition equipment was limited to what was used on patrol. Once the club started showing some good results they looked for sponsors to assist in purchasing the latest and best equipment, enabling them to be more competitive. This is when Geoff King Motors started a sponsorship relationship with our club and to this day he is still a major supporter of the club.

They then started running IRB carnivals at Woolgoolga Beach, attracting clubs from Queensland and all over NSW. In conjunction with the Woolgoolga Lions Club, horse racing on the beach was introduced which was very successful for many years, raising funds for the Woolgoolga Community.

The IRB team competed in the NSW AMP Rescue Challenge, which was a competition which involved all disciplines of surf life saving, being board, surf skis, swim, surf boat and IRB, in a team format. Woolgoolga represented the North Coast Branch at State level for ten years in that competition.

They also competed with the North Coast Branch interbranch team at Swansea Belmont in NSW. When Women's events were added to the calendar they formed two competitive teams. Regularly competing in carnivals at Noosa Heads, Stradbroke Island, Kirra and Palm Beach in Queensland and throughout NSW to Warilla Beach on the far south coast of NSW with good success.

The IRB team won the North Coast Branch Championships for eleven consecutive years, with some hard-fought events, winning one championship by the narrowest of margins of just one point. The team won the NSW Country IRB Championships in the 1992/1993 season. Only three other clubs have ever won that competition. They were also placed third in this competition another two times.

Over the next thirteen years they won many medals, too many to list.

Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB)

That season they also came equal third in the NSW State Championships, only to be placed fourth on a point count back. The B Grade team won Gold, Silver & Bronze. A Grade Bronze, not bad for a small country club with 32 other clubs and 60 plus teams competing.

They backed that up a few years later at Brunswick Heads State IRB Championships where they won Silver and Bronze medals in the Teams Rescue and Assembly events. They continued in every State and Australian IRB Championships up until competition was cancelled in 2001/2002.

Many medals were won in these State competitions and the team made it to many Australian finals but unfortunately could not achieve a winning position.

The World Surf Life Saving Championships at Manly Beach in 2000 was another challenge, which saw them progress to the semi finals.

During the 2011/2012 season Woolgoolga Beach hosted the NSW State IRB Championships, bringing great crowds to our town.

The club still has a keen IRB team and welcomes new members to join up in this essential part of modern day Surf Life Saving. No experience necessary, though you will need to have your Bronze Medallion, participate in Surf Patrol, be 15 over and sit the Inflatable Rescue Boat Crew Certificate. Please call Les on 0410 542 320.



IRB Country Champions 1989-1990



Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club hosted the NSW State IRB championships in 2011/12



In the early 1990s Horse Racing was reintroduced to Woolgoolga Beach as one of the many fundraisers to help buy much needed new equipment for the club

A History of the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club

Woopi Nippers is an amazing junior activities program that introduces children, aged 5 to 14, to Surf Life Saving.

Woopi Nippers encourages all children to do their best and develop to their full potential. Nippers learn new skills, teamwork and sportsmanship, while making life-long friends and having lots of fun. At Woolgoolga it has always been a great way for children to make friends, be active and learn how to enjoy the beach safely. Nippers first learn about surf awareness and safety, while having loads of fun as a part of 'mighty Greenhats'.

The Mighty Woolgoolga Greenhats

As they progress through the various age groups, nippers will learn surf life saving skills such as wading, running, ocean swimming, board paddling, as well as learning resuscitation and first aid.

In the 2013/2014 season Liam Bartlett was selected in the North Coast Interbranch team. 2014/2015 saw 121 nippers being registered. A team of 12 nippers travelled to Mollymook for the Country Championships. Liam Bartlett and Tim Della won gold in the U14 Board rescue. They then went on to successfully win a Bronze medal each in Individual events. Five nippers competed at State at Umina with Will Gromadzki winning gold in U11 Beach Sprint.

Kiahni Huthnance represented the North Coast Branch at the Junior Life Saver of the Year State camp in Sydney. Liam Bartlett, Tim Della and Sam Hodgson were selected for the North Coast Interbranch team.

In the 2015/2016 season the nippers once again strove for excellence.
A team of 37 Nippers attended the Country Championships at South West Rocks. Sam Hodgson was named Junior Club Champion and joined Sarah Goodman in the Interbranch team for the North Coast.

In 2016/2017 Titan Hudson, Toby Alford, Noah Fluechter and Harry Mitchell won a Silver medal in the U9 Swim Teams event at the Country Championships at South West Rocks. 2017/2018 saw 132 Nippers registered for the season, with 36 nippers representing the club at the Country Championships at South West Rocks. Toby Fluechter and Ella Wilson represented Woopi at the Branch Interviews for Junior Life Saver of the Year. Toby was successful and went on to represent the North Coast Branch in Sydney at the SLSNSW development camp.

Jak Snowling, Kobie Fox and Nick Alford were selected to represent the North Coast at the Interbranch Carnival during the season.

The 2018/2019 season for the Woopi Nippers saw 126 nippers registered. In January 2019 40 nippers and four U15s competed at the Country Championships at Cudgen with some great results. Hudson Barry won gold in the U14 2km run and Olivia Kelly won silver in the U8 beach flags and also secured a Bronze in the U8 Beach Sprint. Two nippers that year went on to represent the Club at State. Hudson Barry coming 6th in the U14 2km run and Titan Barry coming 8th in U11 1km run. Elly Hill and Ainsley Dalton represented the club at the Branch interviews for Junior Life Saver of the Year. Ainsley was successful in being selected as the male North Coast Junior male lifesaver of the vear. He then attended the SLSNSW development camp in Sydney where he was named NSW male junior lifesaver of the year - a fantastic achievement.

160 Nippers registered for the 2019/2020 season, including 42 Greenhats in the U5/U6 age group, an increase from 126 in the previous season. A large team of 37 attended the Country Championships at Cudgen, representing the club in true Woopi spirit and achieving some great results, with plenty of Nippers competing in finals and achieving placings in the top six. Five medals were won at the Championships. Emily Bell and Nick Alford represented the club at the Branch interviews for Junior Life Saver of the Year. Nick was successful in being selected as the male representative for the North Coast Branch at the State interviews.

Ted McCartney tirelessly coaches the nippers at board training three days a week. What a commitment.



Titan Barry, Toby Alford, Noah Fluechter and Harry Mitchell

Green Hats - Nippers - Juniors

Each season our U14s complete the Surf Rescue Certificate, their final piece of Nipper's surf education that then enables them to become patrolling members for the club. Thanks to Jackson Della and Patrick Mullan for facilitating this course over the years.

The success of the Woopi Nippers can be attributed to the many volunteers over the years - the committee members, age managers, water safety, officials and parent helpers. The success of the nippers BBQ can be attributed to the efforts for many years by Carl and Lillian Mower. The tongs were then handed over to Lorrae and Ben who continued the tradition.

For many years the Woolgoolga Nippers was led by Nigel Della. A truly generous man who gave many hours to the younger members.

Now many former Woopi nippers are bringing their children to nippers. It has come a full circle.

Four of our nippers have gone on to the Senior Club and are representing Woopi at our Major Carnivals. Toby Fluechter, Mitchell Della, Harrison Mower and Damon Leigh-Striegher have made their mark on the sand. The last two years they have won gold, silver and bronze medals in the U17s, U19s and Opens, both as a team and individuals at NSW Country SLS Championships held at Kingscliff.



Ainsley Dalton - New South Wales Male Life Saver of the Year.

They won gold in 2019 in the U15 Sprint and then in 2020 won gold in U17 and U19 Male Sprint. They then went on to State and won two silver medals at the NSW State Championships.

So, as you can see, Nippers is a great introduction for children, five years and up, to enjoy the wonderful world of Life Saving, learning surf and safety skills, building fitness and making great friendships. To join The Woolgoolga Nippers please phone the junior club captain Patrick Mullan on 0404 490 925.



For many years the Woolgoolga Nippers was led by Nigel Della



Champions Toby Fluechter, Mitchell Della, Harrison Mower and Damon Leigh-Striegher



Board training is Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday with Ted McCartney club coach

Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club

Where do I start when describing the new club house to you?

Maybe I will start with the view. I knew it was going to be amazing and I wasn't disappointed. It is spectacular.

It's also hard to decide which is the front, the stunning yellow front, featuring oars from the past, or the beach front where all the action will be, the gateway to the crafts of the lifesaving trade. Or is it the big wide verandahs looking out over the ocean with public seating and a café underneath?

Architect Frank Scahill has designed this stunning building to meet the requirements of the club and the community. The bright happy yellow signifies the sun and the sand and generally just makes you feel good.

I guess the main reason for the Surf Club is to save lives, so I'll start at the beach side where all the life saving action will be.

The plan is to have a covered wooden deck built near to the old location for

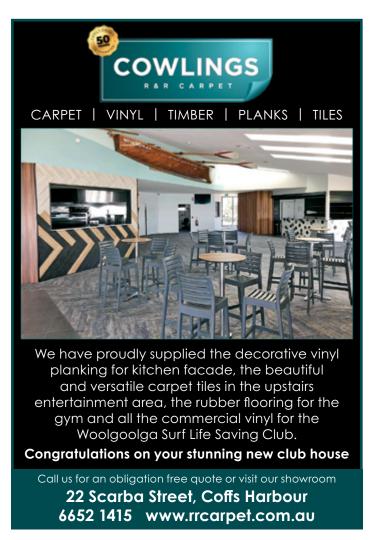
patrols, and of course, the flags will be placed at the safest position on the beach, free of rips and other activities that might be happening such as surfing, row boats, IRB training, nippers etc.

The gear room is amazing. If you have seen the old club you will know the floor is a mishmash of wood and holes and everything is jammed in wherever it fits, and if it doesn't fit it lives outside. The new clubhouse has room for four row boats, four IRBs, a jet ski, two buses and a four wheel drive. Aluminium racks, that can hold up to 150 rescue and race boards, glide across the polished concrete floors. One person will be able to push out 14 boards at a time. There are hoists and tanks to make the cleaning of the IRB engines a lot easier than previously. The First Aid room is four times bigger than the last one and designed for paramedics and ambulance officers to work cohesively when required. The patrol room is also pretty swish. Everything is modern and sleek with lots of storage, all designed to do exactly what it's supposed to do

as a surf life saving club house. There is even a gym for the members to keep up their fitness. Lets face it, we don't want them running out of breath when they are rescuing us.

Upstairs is a function room, perfect for weddings, parties, anything. It can hold up to 220 people and has a state-of-the-art kitchen and bar area with abundant fridges and cool rooms, ultra modern ovens and cooking equipment, plus a servery window. The bar is dry. It will be up to the hirer to supply the alcohol and it looks fabulous with row boat oars as shelves and another stunning fit out. There are eight TV screens plus a large screen and projector, which means wherever you are sitting you will be able to see what is screening. Perfect for conferences.

As we mentioned earlier, Jim Philippidis from Solitary Designer Homes, has generously taken on the project manager role and has employed the best local contractors and suppliers as part of his team. Woolgoolga local Gary Moore painted the club house inside





Phone 6652 5366 email: info@alliedac.net

CONDITIONING

- The New Club House

and out. The yellow paint took him three coats, after he had primed it. Gary said it was fun working on this project. He said he didn't know whether it was the location or what, but everyone had a great time working together. "You build a real camaraderie working on a place like this."

Another Woolgoolga local Steve Rendell provided his rendering and painting skills in various areas including the big columns that support the deck. He did a beautiful job on staining the interior timber of the front entry and around the bar, plus for something completely different to his normal job he painted the oars behind the bar and in the boat that is mounted on the function room wall.

Everywhere you look is beautiful shiny stainless steel. Most of the benching is supplied by Allied Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, who also organised the air conditioning and coldrooms, the commercial cooking and bar equipment for the kitchen bar and kiosk.

Carpet tiles, vinyl planking and the super cool kitchen facade was supplied by Cowling R&R Carpet who also fitted out the gym with the rubber flooring.

All the beautiful ultra modern cabinetry throughout was supplied by East Coast Cabinets.

Local plumbers, electricians, brickies, etc. were all used to bring together this totally amazing building.

The security for the club house is next level amazing. Any Entertainment, which I now know are more than just



for the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club.

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Congratulations to Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club on your new clubhouse

We proudly supplied the new Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club House with CCTV, keyless electronic door lock system, audio system, in house TV station, screens, laser projector and speakers.



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The New Club House

entertainment, installed complete coverage of the club with CCTV and electronic door lock systems, so no keys are required. Just a fob that give access to the members facilities. If the fob gets lost, its access can easily be cancelled. There is video footage of each user at each door. They also installed the audio system for the function space, an 120" laser projector with speakers for the training space as well as an in house TV station to use to broadcast from a laptop onto all the screens. One of the screens has a scrolling honour board with life

members and current office holders, and another two scroll through the sponsors. One of them screening to the outside from 6.30am till 6.30pm everyday.

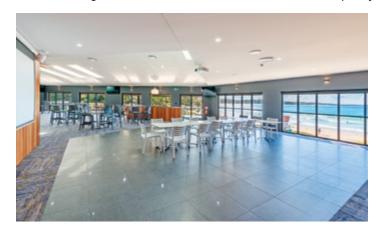
The kiosk or cafe will be available seven days per week. The entire undercover area outside and onto the grass will be available Monday to Friday with a smaller seating area on Saturday and Sunday to make way for the life saver activities. The cafe is due to be open some time in October.

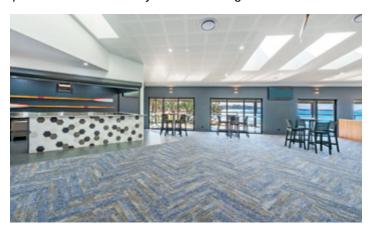
All in all it's a pretty impressive club

and our volunteer lifesavers certainly deserve this upgrade.

A lot of people have put a lot of time and effort into this but no more than President Les Pepper and builder, project manager Jim Philippidis.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions a low key opening will be held on Saturday September 26 with lots of guest dignitaries, the club hopes to hold a much larger grander one for the public in the new year. Maybe even an old boys reunion. Congratulations to all.





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Showroom & Factory

Life Saving Club



Silver Salties - Walk and Talk

Silver Salties at the new Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club

Although surf clubs patrol our beaches and attend competitions to refine their skills, they also form an integral part of community life, particularly in regional areas like Woolgoolga.

Surf Life Saving Australia identified a need for its clubs to engage older members of the community in physical activities and to assist in encouraging social connections. Thus the "Silver Salties" program for over 65s was born.

Silver Salties is an opportunity for clubs to: • broaden their service and 'sport' offerings to older Australians • capitalise on older Australians' life experiences • educate older Australians about water safety to reduce the risk of drownings - attract new members to the club community.

Each club decides to adopt one or more of the activities and offer them to the local community where participants enrol in each, usually for free or at minimal cost and are covered for accident insurance by SLSA while attending the activities.

Initially at Woolgoolga we will be running a landbased activity "Walk and Talk" that will be run from the clubhouse along our main beach starting on 26/10/2020 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8-9am for six weeks. Simple stretching and warm-up at the start are dependent on capability of the individual and at the completion of each session we can share experiences over a coffee.

Participants will bring their own sunscreen, hats, appropriate footwear for beach walking and water bottle. All activities will be conducted in line with COVID safe protocols current at the time.

Once we have gauged community interest, we will look at offering water-based programs such as "Catching Waves" and "Surf Swimming". These would be run during normal club patrols. Patrol members would assist with water safety and provide advice to participants about water safety and beach conditions.



Colin Morley sharing a Silver Salties flyer with Judy Jackson, the first candidate to sign up for the Walk and Talk program running from the new surf club

Water programs would be conducted at 9-10am on Saturdays where they do not clash with other club activities most likely starting after Christmas 2020. Maybe an earlier start during daylight saving.

The Department of Health designed five Physical **Activity Recommendations** for older Australians to help older Australians achieve enough physical activity for good health as they age. They are mainly for people who are not currently building 30 minutes of physical activity into their daily lives and are looking for ways they can do so.

How much activity? This is a useful link

www1.health.gov.au/internet/ publications/publishing. nsf/Content/phd-physicalchoose-health-l

Enquiries welcome, enrolment forms now available, contact Colin Morley Silver Salties Co-ordinator, colingeoffreym@gmail.com or mobile 0419 715 730.

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Lions Club of Woolgoolga



Lions District Governor (DG) Kevin Thornton paid the Lions Club of Woolgoolga a visit on 3rd September, accompanied by his wife Lion Julie Thornton.

DG Kevin is the District Governor for the Lions District 201N1 which encompasses Collarenebri, Moree, Ashford and Iluka to the North, then down the east coast to twin towns of Forster and Tuncurry, then across to Murrurundi and as far as Collarenebri and Premer in the West. District 201N1 has 65 Lions Clubs, 3 Lioness Clubs and 3 Leo Clubs.

A part of the DG's responsibilities during his 12 month tenure

is to visit all the clubs in his district, where he conducts a club performance appraisal where deficiencies can be detected and corrective measures discussed and put into place. With such a large area and number of clubs, this is no mean feat.

During the visit, DG Kevin has the opportunity to talk to the clubs on the activities of not only the district, but the entire organisation in Australia. Lions Club internationally has 1.5 million members in 48,000 clubs. Australia has over 1200 clubs where men and women join together to serve their community. Thus the Lions Motto, "We Serve".

Lion Julie accompanies Kevin on his travels and she talks to the clubs on her "Pet Project" being Australian Lions Hearing Dogs (ALHD) which is based in Adelaide. Similar to Guide dogs for the Blind, hearing dogs go through a lengthy and expensive training regime before being allocated to someone who is hearing-impaired. The cost to train one dog alone is \$37,000.

The Lions Club of Woolgoolga was very quick to support Lion Julie's cause and donated \$6,000 to ALHD, which allows the club to sponsor two puppies at \$3000 each.

Lions are always looking for men and women to join up and give some time to the community but at the same time have fun along the way. If anyone is interested in learning more or joining up, contact the Lions Club of Woolgoolga, email Woolgoolga@lionsdistrict201n1.org.au.

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Woolgoolga Performing Arts Studio

Survive the Night

This month our performance in spotlight is Survive the Night! A series conceptualised and created by Woolgoolga Performing Arts Studio student, Teo Ross.

We recently caught up with Teo to ask him a few questions about his incredible creation.

Teo, where did the idea to create, Survive the Night come from?

Ever since I saw an episode of 'Miss Marple' with my Nan I fell in love with murder mysteries and knew I had to create one of my own. Later down the track, I was home alone with my sister and we heard a noise. Being young children, our minds went wild thinking something bad was going to happen. It didn't, but to ease our minds I turned on the TV and the first thing that popped up on YouTube was a reality, murder mystery, post-modern show called 'Escape the Night: I don't know if that was technology stalking me or just fate giving me inspiration. But soon enough I fell in love and ever since then, two years ago, I have been writing, planning, and organising my own version with my close friends.

Can you tell us a little bit about the concept of the series?

The show runs for nine episodes and over that time we see seven friends immersed into a wicked game that twists and alters the shape of your soul. Things begin to change when a guest is poisoned and they must find a cure in less than 15 minutes. Come and join these seven teenagers as they go on a journey where only three will survive ... Who will it be?

Where and how can the public view the episodes?

It will premiere late November-early December on YouTube @ Teo Ross.

How can people stay updated and find out more about Survive the Night?

If you would like to stay updated with this unique series and many more that will be coming soon, please follow me on Instagram and Facebook @ Teo Ross Productions.



The super talented Teo Ross



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Mind your Mind



Mindful Leadership

I was speaking to a yoga student this week about how she turned her whole day around just by making up her mind that she was NOT going to have another bad day.

I was really inspired listening to her tell me about her mindset shift.

Lisa has a management role in her workplace and her work delivery has been dramatically impacted by COVID, leading to a stressful work environment. Lisa observed herself becoming increasingly negative towards her work and also noticed that her colleagues were constantly complaining about their new work arrangements.

For many business owners and people in positions of management this probably rings true. The cumulative stress of the past five months may be starting to cloud how you are thinking

and feeling about your work, your employment future and your work relationships. With so much change and adaptation in such a short period of time there has been an increased mental and emotional load in the workplace.

This particular morning Lisa woke up with a feeling of dread, "Another day at work, ugh!". She was driving to work ruminating over current work issues and reflecting on how negative her workplace had become, when she decided that she was no longer going to be a part of the problem. Right then and there she decided to adopt a positive mindset and meet each challenge with a solution-based attitude rather than complaining. Each time a colleague made a negative remark, Lisa tactfully brought a positive slant to the conversation. She made effort to draw attention to successes of her team and particularly made the effort to give out lots of kind smiles to her colleagues.

Lisa recounted to me how much of a difference this made to her mental health, as well as lifting the general mood of her team. Lisa had demonstrated Mindful Leadership. Through self-reflection, and making a decision to shift her own mindset, Lisa was able to model a more productive and healthy mindset for her colleagues. Becoming conscious of how our attitude and approach is impacting on others is key in Leadership. Whether you are leading in your family or in your workplace, Mindfulness creates an opportunity to rise above habitual negative thinking patterns. By becoming aware of our own thought patterns we can make a clear decision to shift our thoughts. A positive mindset does not discount or ignore difficult emotions or stress. A positive mindset is about making decisions about how we relate to our thoughts and emotions for a better outcome.

Mindful Leadership does require effort and practice. The effort is rewarded ten-fold with improved mental wellbeing for yourself and those around you, along with improved productivity. Good leadership requires you to pause in the face of a challenge and make a really good response.

Be like Lisa and CHOSE to have a good day.

If you would like some more information or support for your workplace please reach out.

Author: Local, Anna Miley, Exercise Physiologist, Certified Yoga Teacher, Integrated Health Coach.

Disclaimer: Mindfulness techniques are useful in supporting wellbeing. Nothing in this article should be considered medical advice.



Car Maintenance Tips 🐣

How Green Are Your Tyres?

Have you ever wondered where your worn out tyres end up? Australia has tight regulations so you would expect that they are recycled into something useful.

It is possible for tyres to be transformed into soft fall surfaces, road surfaces and other rubber products, however, the reality is that the most common process is for tyres to be shredded and then exported for use as fuel overseas - burned in cement kilns and heavy industry furnaces in place of coal. Surprisingly, it's also still legal for tyres to go into landfill.

The good news is that there is an Australian company processing tyres in Australia and converting 100% of the disposed tyres into valuable products.

The steel is extracted clean and rubber free and sold to steel industries. The entire remainder of the tyre is converted to Oils and Carbon Char which are in demand for paint and bitumen production.

The tyres collected from our workshop in Woolgoolga are processed in Brisbane. If you want to have the greenest tyres possible we recommend the following.

Look after your tyres. Check your pressures regularly, rotate them as recommended and get a wheel alignment as soon as uneven wear is detected. This way you won't be needing to dispose of your tyres for a long time.

Drive less, working from home will do wonders for extending

the life of your tyres. Consider the fate of your old tyres, not just the cost of the new ones, when choosing your tyre dealer.

Bryson Kelly, Mechanic

... or you could build the kids one of these 🔼





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Law Learnings

Are you a volunteer, independent contractor or employee?



Some people place a lot of importance on labels and other people just don't care but when it comes to your job classification, it is important to know exactly what your status is so that you know what entitlements you may have if something goes wrong.

Generally speaking, volunteers offer their time to an organisation without payment, independent contractors are commissioned by an organisation to perform a specific job for a fee and employees are paid to work for an organisation under an ongoing contract of employment.

The important thing to know from the outset is that whatever your organisation has decided to label you, it is just a label and can be disputed. It is the overall nature of your position and your relationship with the organisation in question that

determines whether you are in fact a volunteer, contractor or an employee.

So why is your classification so important? Your status could become very important if you are injured while performing your role. Organisations are required to have workers compensation insurance to cover employees but not necessarily for independent contractors or volunteers. It could also affect your ability to claim leave entitlements, superannuation benefits, social security benefits and may determine whether you or your organisation are responsible for paying tax.

The court will look at a range of factors in order to determine whether someone is a volunteer, contractor or employee including things such as the degree of control the organisation has over the individual, if there is an obligation to attend at certain times/days, whether work is able to be delegated to others by the individual, whether the individual has to provide their own equipment or tools, whether the individual is required to wear a uniform identifying themselves as part of an organisation and whether an individual is to be paid for work undertaken. While it might be attractive

to some employers to take on an intern, or contract out some of their work to a so-called independent contractor, recent decisions in the Fair Work Commission make it clear that employers need to be careful to not unintentionally create an employment relationship as award rates, superannuation and leave entitlements may need to be paid. Likewise, recent decisions in the Workers Compensation Commission make it clear that so called volunteers or independent contractors are often considered employees for the purposes of workers compensation determinations. Who would have guessed that a bull rider at a rodeo, who might receive prize money if he gained one of the top scores, would be considered a deemed worker for the purposes of claiming

workers compensation?
So even if you are not one to engage in labels, when it comes to volunteers, independent contractors or employees you need to know what your classification is to appreciate what entitlements you may have as a result of your role. If you have any problems with your employer or would like to discuss your potential entitlements, contact KC at WNB Legal on 0419 464 946.

I would like to give a big thank you to all of our dedicated community volunteers, and particularly the local Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving club members, for all the hard work that you do for little or no reward. Congratulations on the opening of the new surf club and best wishes for a safe summer patrol season.



KC with her husband, Club Captain, Brian Sedivy





Nick's Nerdy News



Here we are again, another NBN related article.

However, due to the imminent disconnection of traditional phone and internet services in parts of Woolgoolga, I find it important to address some of the concerns when making the transition to the NBN platform. This relates to both Business

and Residential applications of this technology and aims to outline some of the services people may have in place that can be missed when ordering an NBN service.

Security Monitoring Systems - Unfortunately systems like 'back to base' alarms will not be compatible with the NBN as it functions by utilising a traditional phone line to deliver/ receive information. You will need to find out and contact your security company and discuss an NBN alternative (as they will have some remedy for this).

EFTPOS terminals - This is again a matter of contacting your terminal supplier and discussing whether your system is NBN ready.

Medical Alarms - This is probably the most common and arguably the most important aspect to take care of, if this applies to you or a family member. It is imperative that you or a family member contacts the company that provides this service to discuss options they have available for the NBN transition. A lot of the time these systems are replaced with a mobile network solution. However, especially in some parts of Woolgoolga and surrounds, this may not be reliable. Make sure if you are in a poor mobile coverage area that you explain this to the company so there is no communication breakdown. You can also register your medical alert information with the NBNco by visiting their website: www. nbnco.com.au In theory they should help guide you through the transition process.

I realise this can be confusing, and a bit of a hassle considering we do not have a choice with the NBN changeover but taking initiative early will potentially save a lot of frustration when the change occurs.



Local legal firm providing advice and assistance in relation to Wills & Estate Planning, Probate Applications, Workers Compensation, Personal Injury and Insurance Claims, and General Legal Matters

Contact KC Hilton on 0419 464 946 or khilton@wnblegal.com.au for further information.

Audio File



News from 87.6 FRESH FM (Woolgoolga's Own)

G'day Woopi! Spring is here and so is the NBN! We have had loads of issues, but now we're finally connected, our broadcast online is zooming.



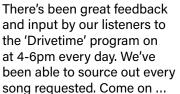
We know our air transmission isn't great (please complain to Kevin Hogan's office) but now you have us online so you, the community, can listen to your favourite program wherever you are. Put this link into your device (phone, tablet or computer) and you'll be connected.

https://s3.radio.co/sc2c861965/listen



Our next progression is an app for your mobile. There will be more news on that very soon so keep an eye on our Facebook page and website.

The feature program in the coming weeks will be our 'ALL AUSTRALIAN' slots coming to you on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 8-10pm and Thursdays 1 -4pm. We have some great new releases from local and national artists, the locals being Sara McCafferty, the bands Unison and Dolphin Dog.





challenge us! Contact us for a request and we will pull out all stops to find that rare little gem.

The 'East meets West' program 6-8pm with a sublime mix of Indian and smooth dinner music continues and is perfect for the early evening.

Again we hold some great give-away CDs and cassettes? To be in the running just drop us an email or call the station on 6654 2422.

Any businesses out there that would like to have a promo played over the air please let us know. We are always seeking sponsors. Of course, being community-orientated, if you wish to contribute or have anything you would like us to announce, all you have to do is contact us.

Check out our Facebook page or webpage to know when we have programs running and for special announcements.

Please don't hesitate to contact us on 6654 2422 or by email at fresh.fm.87.6.radio@gmail.com

Don't forget ... get us online and Happy Listening 🎝

Boomerang Bags

Boomerang Bags is about making bags, diverting waste, starting conversations, connecting with each other, fostering sustainable behaviour, and having fun! https://boomerangbags.org

Boomerang Bags Woolgoolga (BBW) is part of this grassroots communitydriven movement tackling plastic pollution at its source.



Since March 2017, volunteers have been making re-usable 'boomerang bags' from recycled (donated) fabrics as sustainable alternatives to single-use plastic bags.

BBW is one of more than 1100 Boomerang Bags

communities world-wide.
Workshops usually run on
the third Sunday of each
month at the Mud Brick
Hall in Boundary Street,
Woolgoolga. Workshops
are for making and
distributing bags and bag
kits, making friends and
starting conversations about
sustainability. Everyone

Bags are made for a whole host of community events, local shops, cafes and meals on wheels.

is welcome - no sewing experience is needed (there's

also cutting/stamping/

ironing/sorting).



Back row: Shana, Helen, Margie, Doll, Eileen, Julie W, Sam, Ali. Front row: Daneet, Christine, Julie P, Karen, Joy and Pat who was visiting from Perth,

Funds raised from selling bags are used to provide community support, often alongside the Rotary Club of Woolgoolga who sponsor us as a club activity.

You can buy BBW shopping bags and veggie bags from the Bluebottles shop, Sprout

a precious gift.

n' Grow, Woopi Fresh Fruit and Veg, Village Farmers Market, the Red Rock Shop and Banana Benda, the fruit and vegie shop behind the United Servo. Or send them a message via the Facebook group @ boomerangbagswoolgoolga



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- Pact med photo dynamic laser therapy for fungal nails
- Home visits from
 Coffs Harbour to Red Rock
- Theragun Percussive Therapy

In next month's edition of Woopi News we will be celebrating all things food, so if you're a local food supplier, please let us know.

We will also be launching the 2020 Christmas Shop Local - Shop Woopi Campaign.

Please contact <u>woopinews@gmail.com</u> or 0410 052 601 if you would like to be part of it.



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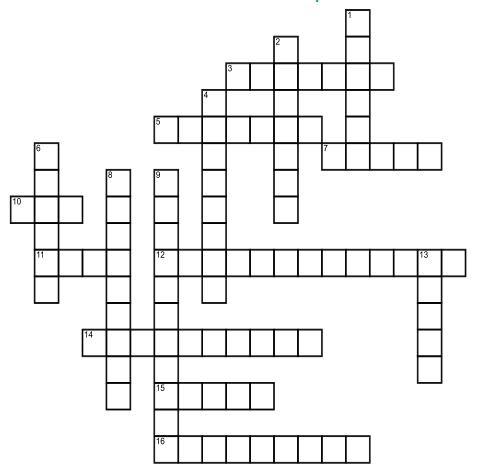
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6654 8860

Woopi puzzle time

Woopi Trivia Crossword



Across

- 3 Nominated for Australian Event Award
- 5 Surname of young man standing on deck In iconic photo of the old surfclub
- **7** Historic relic that can you see in background of old surf club photos
- 10 Photographer of the month
- 11 Local Acupuncturist
- 12 Something special that is new to Woolgoolga
- 14 Where can you learn to Tie Dye these holidays
- 15 Street that Secret Valley Plants is in
- 16 President of Woolgoolga Surf Club for 22 years

Down

- 1 Who saw Migaloo on her school walk
- 2 Woolgoolga's own radio station
- 4 Name of new Vodka Distillery in Woolgoolga
- 6 Day that Village farmers Market is held
- **8** A kind of bags that helps cut out single use plastics
- 9 Specialist Fencing Company

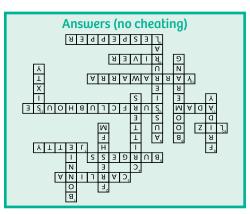
BEACH

13 How many years has Bob Melton been coming to Woolgoolga



BILLMILLER SAND **CARLY** SAVING **CLUBHOUSE SEAHORSE HISTORY SEARCH INFLATABLE SURF JUNIORS SURFBOAT** LIFE **SWIM MEMBERS THOORAMUNGA NIPPERS VOLUNTEERS OARS WOOLGOOLGA REEL WOOPI** RESCUE

RITA



People who make Woopi Woopi



OK we know this is not a people ... but how cute is little Ruby having breakfast at Beachouse, Puppichino anyone? (photo: Christine Taylor)



MORETO SAY
RUGK?

• Emerald Beach's Glenn Coleman giving the R U OK? message the thumbs up

 Safety Beach Sirens
 Libby Permezel, Tracy Gray and Leonie Aafjes

Liz Purton from Woopi's Laundromat sharing there's more to say after R U OK? •





Woolgoolga's Steve Rendell with a big smile
 Thank you to Robert Watkins for supplying these fabulous photos

People who make Woopi Woopi



Sandy Long on pitch fork patrol down at Woopi Gardens



1 This one of Freddy Byrne is way too cute not to include • As was this one of Emerald Beach's Rodney Twaits fresh out of the surf





1 The most well-behaved dogs in Woolgoolga

Local Trades and Services Guide













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Woopi Sport - Surfing

Woolgoolga Boardriders Club

Sunday August 30 saw Woolgoolga Boardriders descend on Middle Mullawarra for our monthly comp. Clear skies and nice 2-3ft clean waves were on offer, although it was a challenge to find enough room to fit some turns in.

It was a particularly tough day for the junior divisions. The groms were faced with big straight close-outs. The 12s girls did their best to find some open-face waves to work with, but there wasn't much on offer. Well done to a couple of the younger girls for stepping up to make up the numbers - particularly Frankie and Lyla Freudenstein and Georgia Vrouwenvelder who took the win with some inside runners.

The 10 boys came down to a man-onman contest with Vann Geerligs taking the win over Tyler Walsh.

The mixed 10s, as always, was a battle to the end, with all finalists ripping and showing no fear in the big stuff. Congratulations to Freya Stewart on the win finding some long rides all the way to the sand.

In the senior divisions, as with the juniors, finding a wave that would allow more than one turn was a challenge. However, there were a few diamonds in the rough. One wave in particular, in the 18s heat, was taken by Marty Peel. It was a meaty right hand section and Marty took a nice drop before doing a deep bottom turn to stall combo and found himself engulfed. The crew on the beach watched with bated-breath and just when everyone had basically given up hope, he emerged to the roar of everyone on the beach. Cracking wave Marty.

Not to be outdone, Charlie Kyburz got his own gem in the 2nd 18s heat. This one was a left-hander and Charlie slotted nicely into a backhand barrel before coming out and finishing off with a nice close-out reo.

In the final Marty couldn't reproduce the heroics of his heat and finished 4th behind Charlie who continued his good form to take the win, with James Hill (2nd) and Kai Nudd (3rd) splitting the

Here's hoping for some good waves for our next comp. Take note - the date has been pushed back to the 4th of October to avoid clashing with other comps in the area.



Levi Woods in full flight



Noah Pilon driving hard off the bottom



Johnny Mitchell setting it up

10 Mixed

1st: Freya Stewart 2nd: Lyla Freudenstein 3rd: Koa Messer-Quandt

10 Boys

1st: Vann Geerligs 2nd: Tyler Walsh

12 Boys

1st: Fletcher O'Sullivan 2nd: Cooper Grayson 3rd: Hamish White

12 Girls

1st: Georgia Vrouwenvelder 2nd: Kalani Grayson 3rd: Gracie Kennedy

14 Boys

1st: Fletcher O'Sullivan 2nd: Hamish White 3rd: Nav Connor

16 Boys

1st: Levi Woods 2nd: Arley Thorp 3rd: Jack Burrows

18 Boys

1st: Charlie Hubbard 2nd: James Hill 3rd: Kai Nudd

Opens

1st: James Hill 2nd: Mansa 3rd: Tom Geyson

Womens

1st: Kristie Drough 2nd: Aisha Anderson 3rd:

Alexis Grayson Over 35s

1st: Mellow

2nd: Travis Mackay 3rd: Luke Connor

You can follow Woopi Boardriders via www. facebook.com/ woopiboardriders or call Luke Connor on 0408 667 834.

Photos taken by Robert Watkin

Woopi Sport - Golf

Every Monday morning some older guys and girls play their weekly Veterans competition (holidays excepted). It is open to anyone (male and female) over 50 years of age. A competition handicap is maintained for regular competitors or you can use half your valid Golf Link handicap. Once you have played a few rounds your handicap is maintained by the group and eventually you can become competitive with the other members.

It's a 9 hole competition which is ideal for older players who want to compete or just get exercise. Players currently tee off after 7, and the last group has teed off by 7.40, finishing around 10.15.

Some players form their own regular group. Another large number of players heads to the starting tee just before 7.30, where playing partners are drawn for the day's play. For variety, the group plays the front nine one week and the back nine the next. This is a mixed group with both men and women competing. Special local rules apply to help some of the older players be competitive. There is a

presentation of prizes after the event and the whole thing is finished by 10.30 or 10.45. Non-members are welcome.

This month's results include the annual Club Championship. This event was played over two consecutive weekends. Four rounds of golf were played.

For amateurs, this is quite a strenuous exercise. Good results are quite an achievement. Logan Toms added this trophy to his Woolgoolga Open victory last month. Aaron Hart was a close second.

13 September

Individual Stroke
4th Round of Club Championship
Sponsored by Geoff King Motors
60 Starters - A Grade Winner S. Jones, A
Grade R/Up S. Ewart B Grade Winner G.
Mallett, B Grade R/up G. Jurotte C Grade
Winner P Francis, C Grade R/up T. Clark
Individual Stroke 4 Rounds
Winner L. Toms 304 R/up A. Hart 307

3rd S. Ewart 322 Other Winners: A Res B. Smith 333 B Grade S. Jones 341, C Grade G. Mallett 382 D Grade R. Weeks 412 Net Winners A Grade S. Ewart A Res T. Hines B. Grade S. Jones C. Grade G. Mallett D. Grade R. Weeks

9 September Single Stableford Competition 90 Starters - Winner L. Smith, R/Up S. Venner, 3rd D. Morrison

12 September Individual Stroke 3rd Round of Club Championship 118 Starters -

A Grade Winner L. Toms(-1) 71
A Grade R/Up T. Hines(8) 74
A Grade 3rd B. Smith(8) 75 cb
B Grade Winner T. MacRae(14) 69
B Grade R/Up P. Davies(18) 71
B Grade 3rd P. Sexton(17) 74 cb
C Grade Winner A. Dibb(22) 73
C Grade R/Up A. Walters(22) 74

C Grade 3rd D. Peppernell(21) 76 cb

6 September Woolgoolga VETS 9 Hole Stroke - 18 Starters Winner Bill McAllister 30 R/up John Finlay 32

6 September to 11 September 9 Hole Stableford Sponsored by Pizza Place J. McFarlane 11 Starters - Winner T. Bettison(6) 20pts. R/Up J. Lloyd(7) 18 31 August Woolgoolga Vets 9 Hole



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Woopi Sport - Golf

Stroke Winner B. Lloyd R/up J. Finlay

3 September Single Stableford Competition, 98 Starters Winner G. Scott, R/up R Whitcombe, 3rd T. Smith

5 September Monthly Medal Stroke 1st Round of Club Championship Sponsored by Geoff King Motors 126 Starters - A Grade Winner I. Thorncroft(7) 72, B Grade Winner M. Moase(17) 67 cb, C Grade Winner R. Weeks(27) 61, Medal Winner R. Weeks

25 to 29 August 9 Hole Stableford Sponsored by Pizza Place J. McFarlane, 28 Starters - Winner S. Povey, R/Up M. MiHai, 3rd R. Willin

26 August Single Stableford Competition - 97 Starters Winner J. Haydon, R/up J. Mitchell, 3rd G. Walker Stingray Challenge Winner J. Haydon

29 August 2 person Ambrose - 116 Starters

Winners S. Thorn and A. Singh, Runners/ Up L. Toms and L. Smith, 3rd S. Dunn and T. Trefz

17 to 21 August 9 Hole Stableford Sponsored by Pizza Place J. McFarlane,



Di Richards, Trevor Kempnich, Geoff Thompson, Sue Kempnich

31 Starters Winner G Harris, R/Up R. Spencer, 3rd G. Scott

19 August Single Stableford Competition, 61 Starters Winner Z. Mikulski, R/up R. Fairclough, 3rd P. Whitton

22 August Single Stableford - 110

Starters A Grade Winner T. Hines, R/up M. Hutchinson B Grade Winner R. Hinds, R/up G. Pattison C Grade Winner T. Newman, R/up G. Ellem

For More information please call Ron Strauch 0438 492 020 or 6649 2324.



Woopi Sport - Bowls

WOOLGOOLGA LADIES BOWLING CLUB

Tuesday 25/8/2020

A mixture of three bowl pairs and three bowl triples both were 21 ends. It was a great morning, all players had to play against good old mother nature's wind which made some shots very difficult. J Hamstead. J Hinchley, J Barratt (D) V Valentine, M Campos, M Short, S Bracher, D Porta (D) C Boyden, H Dunbar. J Lynn, S Goodsir (D) B Hart, E Nielsen. S Sweeney, W Bracher, D Washfold (D) H Pallister, P Greenwood, A Dorman. J Gibbins, M Brooks (D) F Streeter, N Haines. Resting touchers all get a \$1 scratchy, these went to W Bracher, S Sweeney, D Porta. The winners was decided by the number of ends won 1st prize went to S Bracher and D Porta, 2nd prize was won by S Sweeney, W Bracher and Di Washfold.

Thursday 27/8/2002

A game of pairs and triples. All players but the skip had three bowls, the skips only had 2, and we played 18 ends, it was a fun game had by all. S Sweeney, S Goodsir, J Hampstead (D) S Bracher, VO'Brien D Washfold. C Boyden, W Bracher, M Short (D) (J Womersley and N Haines played half a game each), H Dunbar, D Porta. The winners were decided by the team with the most threes scored in the game, they were S Sweeney, S Goodsir, J Hampstead.

Scratchy going to Wendy Bracher for a resting toucher.

Tuesday 1/9/2020

Four games of three bowl triples. With this game, after the eighth game the winning team moved to its left and played the team remaining on that rink. The teams consisted in the first set were Rink 10: S Sweeney, C Boyden, S Lund against J Gibbins, Y Cunick, D Porta Rink 11: Val O'Brien, A Dorman, N Haines against B Hart, J Hinchley, V Valentine. Rink 12: H Pallister, P Greenwood, M Short against J Lynn S Goodsir, W Bracher. Rink 13: E Streeter, M Brookes, H Dunbar against S Bracher, M Campos D Washfold.

After the eighth end winning teams moved one rink to the left, so the next eight ends were Rink 10: S Bracher, M Campos, D Washfold against J Gibbons, Y Cunich D Porta Rink 11 S Sweeney, C Boyden, S Lund against Val O'Brien, A Dorman, N Haines. Rink 12: H Pallister, P Greenwood, M Short, against B Hart, J Hinchley, V Valentine. Rink 13: J Lynn, S Goodsir, W Bracher against F Streeter, M Brookes, H Dunbar.

A great game wind was a challenge for all, the overall winner was B Hart, J Hinchley, V Valentine with runners up being S Bracher, M Campos, D Washfold.

Thursday 3/9/2020

Two games of Turn Around
Triples, winner for the day
determined by how many
ends they won. L Fairhall,
M Short, E Nielsen against
J Womersley/R Flick, S
Bracher, H Dunbar. N Haines,
J Hampstead, D Porta against
D Washfold, S Goodsir, W
Bracher. The winning team
for the day was L Fairhall, M
Short, E Neilsen.

This week we only managed to play on the Tuesday as Thursday was washed out due to rain.

Tuesday 8/9/20

Woolgoolga ladies showed its support for R U OK? Day by playing in yellow.

The game was a fun designed game to sharpen up our skills with the Jack placed in different positions. Ends 1 to 5 Jack is on centre line, ends 6 to 10 place Jack to the left of centre line, ends 7 to 15 place Jack right of center line, ends 16 to 20 place Jack in ditch and place jack marker on the bank. Rink 10: A Dorman, J Hampstead, E Nielsen (D) Y Cunick, R Gurber, M Short. Rink 11: S Sweeney, J Lynn, J Barratt, Di Washfold (D) S Sweeney, V'Obrien, S Bracher, V Valentine. Rink 12: J Gibbins, P Greenwood, N Haines (D) F Streeter J Hinchley, W Bracher. Rink 13: M Campos, S Goodsir, S Lund (D) B Hart, C Boyden H Dunbar.

Scratchy for a resting touchers for the day went to Di Washfold

We wish to all say goodbye and a safe journey to Di as a regular visitor each year, and we hope you return to play with us next year.

If you would like further information about the game please contact Meryl Brookes on 0411 278 298.



Woopi Sport - Bowls



Woolgoolga Ladies Bowlers supporting R U OK? Day



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