

LENNOX HEAD  
ALSTONVILLE  
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

# Annual Report

## 2020 / 2021



# Office Bearers: 2020/21 Season

<b><i>President</i></b>	Geoff Harris
<b><i>Vice President</i></b>	Lou Wilson
<b><i>Secretary</i></b>	John Beasley OAM
<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>	Brett van Zuylen
<b><i>Club Captain</i></b>	Justin Ingram
<b><i>Chief Training Officer</i></b>	Amanda Berry
<b><i>Surf Sports Coordinator</i></b>	Samantha Miller
<b><i>Registrar</i></b>	Michelle Mahon
<b><i>Youth Activities Coordinator</i></b>	Brendon Matthews
<b><i>Public Officer</i></b>	Tim Breen

<b><i>Life Members</i></b>	Tony Cole *
	William Onslow
	Don McAteer
	Larry Platt *
	Bryan Lyndon
	Lou Wilson
	Geoff Harris
	Mark Laverty

<b><i>Patrons</i></b>	Honourable Justine Elliot MP	The Federal Member for Richmond
	Tamara Smith MP	The State Member for Ballina
	David Wright	The Mayor - Ballina Shire Council

# President's Report

This season has seen a remarkable growth in membership, with the club recording record numbers of new members. This can be put down to a number of things; firstly the growth in population of the area and secondly our junior activities programme with a dedicated group of age managers and qualified coaches providing our junior members with the skills they need to remain safe in the surf and have fun.



This season, for the first time in a number of years, we were able to fill all positions on our management committee and I thank all those who took on positions. Without you the club could not operate.

Unfortunately this season we lost 2 long-standing and valued members of our club, Life Member Larry Platt and former YAC Maria Kirsten. Our condolences go to their families, they will be sorely missed.

I would specially like to thank the following people who contributed to a successful season:

- Justin Ingram who took on the role of Club Captain this year and organised all our patrols and ensured that we fulfilled our obligations to Surf lifesaving;
- all our patrolling members for your assistance and commitment in ensuring we met our obligations in maintaining our patrols on the beach;
- Amanda Berry, our Chief Training Officer, who with her usual passion and enthusiasm increased our patrol numbers with a number of bronze squads and maintained or upgraded the skills of our members;
- Brendan Mathews and his dedicated team of age managers for ensuring our junior members learn new skills and have fun;
- Kath Murphy, our Functions Manager, who puts in a tremendous amount of time and effort to ensure we get maximum benefit from the hire of our hall;
- Our officials and water safety personnel, without whom we could not compete;
- To all our members who work tirelessly behind the scenes to help keep the club running;

This year for the first time in many years we had small band of senior competitors, ably led by Sam Miller. This group had a very successful season. As did our team of junior competitors ably assisted by our dedicated team of coaches.

Finally thanks to the members of the Management Committee and Advisors for your assistance and support during the year.

Geoff Harris  
*President*

# Secretary's Report

This season has been vastly different from the 2019-2020 season, with the Club growing to record numbers.

The patrol has been strong in numbers with no lives lost on our patrolled beach and our competitors successful at the Branch, State, and National Championships.

The one disappointing matter this season was the volunteer response to the Westpac Helicopter Coastal Walk. With over 100 patrolling members, only three assisted on the day. To Mark Crawford, Tim Breen and Brendon Matthews, my thanks.

For the Management Committee, all 10 positions were filled at last year's Annual General Meeting and hopefully, we will achieve the same result at this year's meeting on Sunday, 27 June.

The Chief Training Officer and Registrar have advised they will not be seeking re-election for the forthcoming season. However, other members have indicated that they will nominate for the respective positions.

My thanks to Amanda Berry, Chief Training Officer, and Michelle Mahon, Registrar, who have contributed to the Club's success.

I would also like to thank Michelle Mahon for the assistance she has given me as Secretary and all members of the Management Committee for your support during this season.

## Management Committee Meetings Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
Geoff Harris	President	5	4
Lou Wilson	Vice President	7	
John Beasley	Secretary	9	
Brett Van Zuylen	Treasurer	8	
Justin Ingram	Club Captain	6	3
Amanda Berry	Chief Training Officer	5	4
Sam Miller	Surf Sports Co-ordinator	7	2
Michelle Mahon	Registrar	9	1
Brendon Matthews	Youth Activities Officer	6	2
Tim Breen	Public Officer	7	2

John Beasley  
*Secretary*

# Treasurer's Report

Prior to depreciation and any audit adjustments to our accounts, the club made a profit for the year of \$54,706. This is a significant turnaround from last year's loss. This profit was unusually high due to a large bequest of \$42,672 received during the year. This bequest has been added to the payment received from the dissolution of the helicopter rescue service some years ago and will be utilised for any major capital items that may be required in future years.

With the abnormal item excluded, this profit is slightly higher than our usual result in previous years. Notable improvements were as follows:

- A 36% increase in membership subscriptions thanks to the significant increase in members this year. Our membership subscription fees were unchanged from last year.
- Clothing sales were up 43% over last year, with a gross income of \$10,190 for the year.
- Grant income of \$26,576, which consisted of the usual Surf Life Saving grant and a special COVID-19 grant to offset any adverse impacts of the pandemic.
- Building repairs were \$4000 less than in 2019/20.
- Total repair costs for rescue equipment was down by 90%.
- BBQ sales of \$12,748. This is a small increase from last year and generated a profit of \$7,246.

These improvements were offset by the following factors:

- A small reduction in sponsorships, down to \$2,856, from the previous year's \$3,395.
- Hall rentals were down by 60% to \$10,190 due to COVID restrictions.
- The rent from the kiosk was down by \$1000 due to rent a reduction granted during the pandemic shutdown.
- Total electricity costs were \$14,992, an increase of \$3,500 over last year due to continuing issues with the solar electricity system.

Lois Bucket Real Estate has continued her major sponsorship of the club and this has greatly assisted our Junior Activities team with the provision of hi-vis tops and equipment. Shell Lennox Head has continued to provide all of our fuel needs and this is a significant benefit with the ongoing need for powered water safety equipment whenever members are training or participating in organised water events.

We continued to invest in our JAC members, with capitation, training camps, team uniforms and carnival entry fee costs of well over \$16,000. Carnival entry fees of \$8,733 were significantly higher this year due to some carnivals resuming and our significant increase in participants.

On the income side, membership fees of \$48,370 and BBQ sales of \$12,748 were significantly higher than the previous year.

Overall, total income for the year was \$181,914.

Brett van Zuylen  
*Treasurer*

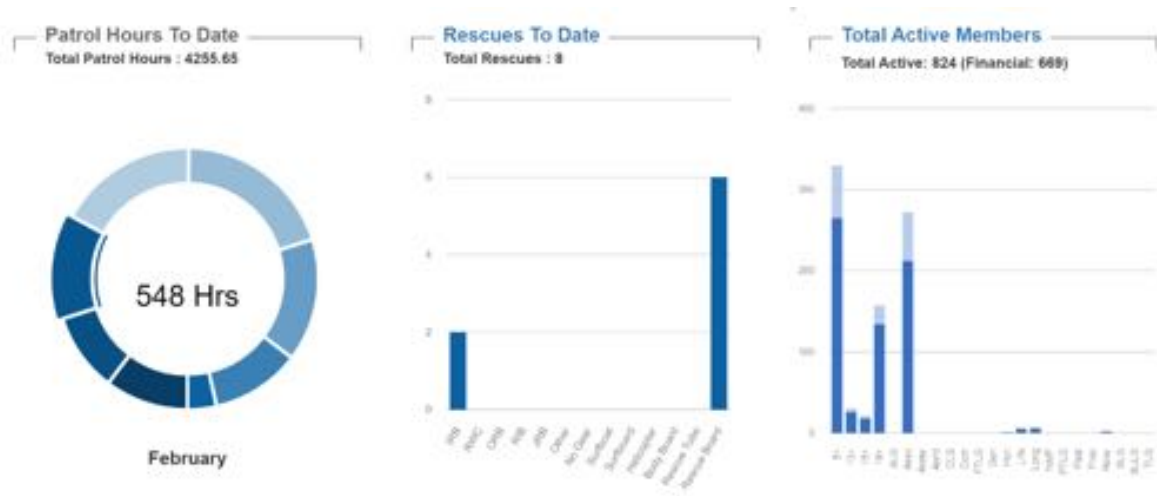
# Club Captain's Report

Another successful season at our club due to the commitment and dedication of all members and our volunteer lifesavers, who throughout the season performed rostered patrols, other patrols and water safety for the protection of our beach goers and young surf life saving members. Total active members for 2020/21 = 152.

Through the support of the UAV Operators and Surf life Saving Association throughout the season our beaches have been monitored and kept safe all season. This was done by performing eight rescues, responding to incidents and first aid treatments, keeping our beach going public and surf club members safe. Please find the below statistics highlighting the outstanding efforts of our patrolling members this season.

First Aid		First Aid Analysis		Marine Stingers		
Type Performed	Total	Type	Total	Marine Stinger	No. Sighted	No. Sting Types
Drowning	1	Advised Medical Attention	2	Physalia (Bluebottle)	6	15
Fractures/Dislocation	1	Beach Injuries	0	Cyanea (Hair Jelly)	1	1
Heart Related	0	Craft Rider Injuries	0	Catostylus (Blubber)	0	0
Major Marine Stings	0	Defibrillator Used	0	Chironex (Box Jelly)	0	0
Major Wounds	0	Incidents Requiring Ambulance	1	Carukia (Irukandji)	0	0
Minor Cuts/Abrasions	7	Methoxyflurane Used	0	Cassiopea (upside-down jellyfish)	0	0
Minor Marine Stings	48	Other	0	Other	0	0
Other	0	Oxy-Viva Used	0			
Shock	0	Patient Deceased	0			
Spinal	0	Police in Attendance	0			
		Released to Helicopter	0			
		Released to Parent/Guardian	0			
		Released to Self	1			
		Resuscitation (CPR)	0			
		Swimmer Injuries	2			
<b>Total First Aid</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>Total First Aid Analysis</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>

All recorded and available patrol hours and data have been entered and members patrolling hours of service updated for the season of 20/21 on Surfguard. Between September – May 2021, our patrolling members collectively patrolled **4255.65 Hours**.

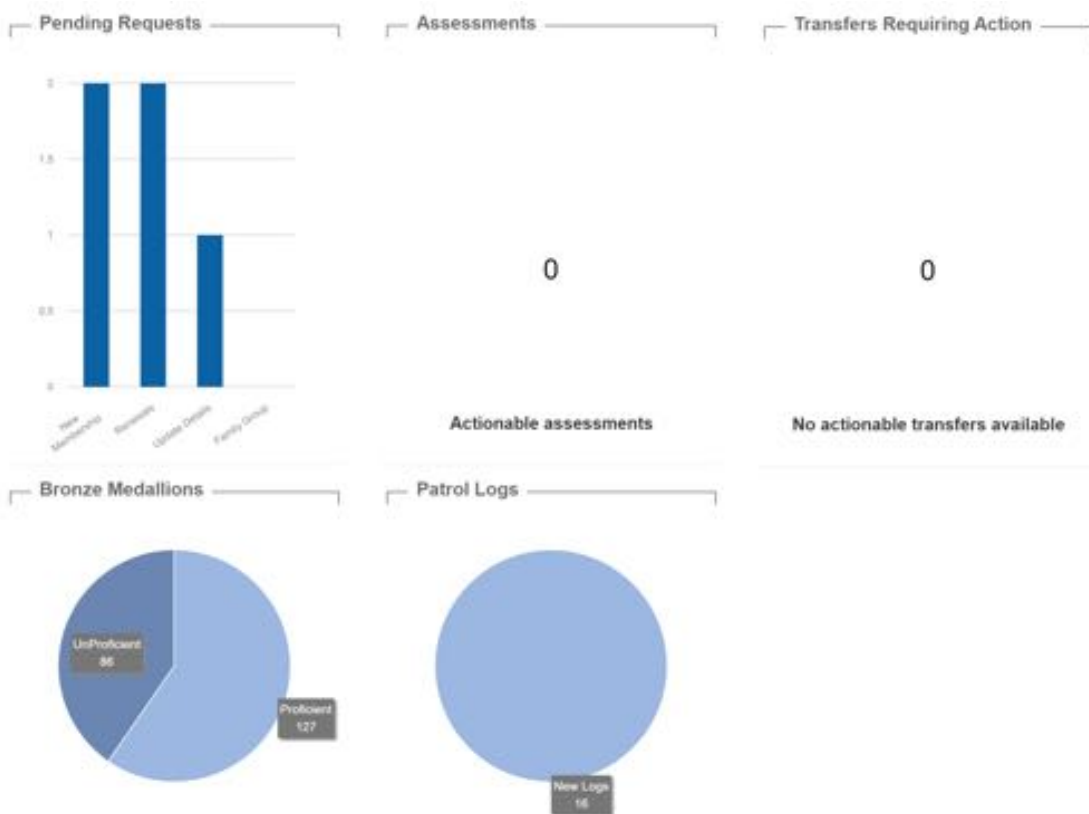


Patrol captains have continued to lead its members through challenging times as covid19 and learning to navigate the surf lifesaving operations app. Also leading our club and members through hardship and loss within our community. Captains pulling together even when patrol numbers are dyer, long standing members of the club putting up their hands and helping out the club, even on unpatrolled rosters.

I would like to thank the patrol members who went above and beyond volunteering for patrolled hours and dedicating their time even during un-rostered hours on our beach, all to keep our beach goers and young lifesavers safe.

Please find below list of members with over 50 patrol hours for the year:

1. Mark Atkins 50.5hrs
2. Brian Paff 50.5hrs
3. Reid Thompson 50.5hrs
4. Lukas Van Zwiete 52.5hrs
5. Brett Van Zwiete 56hrs
6. Brooke Kennedy 56.5hrs
7. Ross Wilson 61hrs
8. Justin Ingram 69hrs



To enhance our season for next year and fulfil our obligations on the beach, building from the 127 out of proficient bronze members in 20/21, we hope to increase patrolling members for next season. Thank you everyone for a fantastic season, I hope to see you all on the sand next season.

Justin Ingram  
*Club Captain*

# Chief Training Officer's Report

So after a rough and uncertain end to the previous season, 2020-2021 was truly a great season all round. We started off getting the remainder of the bronze squad through, who were held back from the end of the last season with COVID. This group were thankful to not have to redo the course and it was fantastic to see them return after all the time off.

Congratulations to those who attended and completed courses this season. It's so wonderful to have Lennox growing, from the new faces joining in for the first time to the experienced members up-skilling their awards.

Lennox Head this season has seen an excellent number our members gain awards:

- 15 Surf Rescue Certificates,
- 26 Bronze Medallions
- 1 Rescue Watercraft
- 1 IRB crew
- 4 Silver Medallion Patrol Captains
- 8 First Aid
- 5 Advanced Resus
- 1 Advanced silver medallion first aid
- 2 training officer's certificate

There are training and assessments to be had over the winter for a few courses at branch level and we wish those in these the best of luck.

Up-skilling and further training is a great way to become more involved in the club and I encourage those who may be looking to do more to consider obtaining a new award or even to become trainers in an award that they hold. Lennox has grown a lot in recent years and we have an ability to support and encourage those wanting to get involved. For those looking to try something new, we want to see our members being the best surf life savers they can be.

As always training and education is an enormous part of our club and our ability to provide a skilled volunteer service to our community. Running our courses, providing our proficiencies and up-skilling our members would not be possible without our trainers and assessors Barry Holland, Brian Farrell, Michael Brown, Bryan Lyndon, Bob Harper, Mark Laverty, Brain Dell, Matthew Benson and new to our club this season Lara Boyle. We are very thankful and appreciative of the support from surrounding clubs and the branch for loaning us assessors throughout the year to help us have everything completed.

To be included in this list of extraordinary people is the late Larry Platt who has given countless hours to training and assessing to our club and the branch over the better part of 30 years. Larry has been a wealth of support to myself (and everyone) over the years and we thank him for all he helped us with again this season. We will be very lost without him and I am forever thankful for the support and guidance he gave myself and to us all.



I am sorry to say that this is my final season as Lennox Head Chief Training Officer. Although I will remain a member of Lennox, I am now living up the coast and will spend a bit more time on the northern end of the branch next season. I will of course always call Lennox home and still will be around to help if need be. Thank you to everyone in Lennox over my 26 years from being a nipper, through my 20 seasons of patrolling and my 3 seasons on the committee.

I would like to finally thank Lara Boyle, Barry Holland and Brain Farrell for offering to take over in my position. Lara who has offered to sit in the chief trainer role and for Brian and Barry volunteering to assist. I will ensure I overlap and support Lara, Barry and Brain for the start of the season until they settle in.

Wishing everyone a wonderful 2021-2022 season

Amanda Berry  
*Chief Training Officer*



# Registrar's Report

The arrival of COVID and the need for social distancing resulted in a major shakeup of our Registration process this season. Not only could we not hold our traditional registration days, we also had to do away with our paper based registration system. While many other clubs insist on online registration only for their members, for us this was a significant change. It necessitated the creation of accounts for some fifty percent of our returning members; a recrafting of our website with clear explanations on how to join as a new or returning member; the creation of family groups to streamline the renewal process; bulk 'tip sheet' emails to our members; and removal of our traditional 'join on the day' practice.

The ugly truth is the online system can be a trap for players new and old, and there was a lot of communication required with members to get them through the system and out the other side. I want to thank all our members for their patience as we implemented these changes and collectively navigated the online system. An upside with this new registration system is the removal of double handling, with Registrars no longer having to manually enter paper registrations into the online system.

Our numbers this season were record breaking. By season end we had 669 members, which is 150 more than the previous season and eight more than our previous membership record in 2010.

Other season highlights include an increase in junior members aged 5-13 of 136 per cent on the previous year; and a 180 per cent increase in our active members aged 15-18 from the 2019-20 season. The breakdown of our membership is as follows:

- Junior Activity Members (aged 5-13 years) - 265
- Cadet Members (aged 13-15 years) - 26
- Active Members (aged 15-18) - 18
- Active (18+ years) - 134
- Reserve Active - 2
- Long Service - 6
- Associate Members - 212
- Life Members - 5
- Honorary Member – 1
- TOTAL 669

The online membership renewal system is here to stay, with or without COVID. My advice to you all as you renew for next season: renew early, don't be in a rush as you do it, and read all the instructions carefully before you begin. You may consider having a large coffee or wine beside you as you work through it.

I will be stepping down as Registrar next season after four years in the role. I want to thank the Management Committee, and all our members, for their support during this time. Our Club continues to grow thanks to the commitment of a hugely talented and dedicated team of volunteers, and it's been a privilege to be on board during this period. Team Lennox!

Michelle Mahon

*Registrar*

# Surf Sports Report

2020/2021 was another year filled with uncertainty due to the COVID pandemic, but I am pleased to say that after we were thinking that no competition was going to be held, the season went on to hold both the State and Aussie Titles.

As one of the coaches I am thrilled to say that our squad is ever growing, and filled with so many varying levels. Some afternoons we have had up to 30 long boarders in attendance and I think that's amazing. This year also saw a growing number of athletes attend ski sessions with close to 10 skis out on the water.

A big shout out must go to our coaches and helpers who have dedicated so many hours over the season, all voluntary, to assist and improve our competitors abilities. Thank you to Lou, Chris, Brendon and Ray, once again another fantastic effort this season.

The athletes themselves are to be congratulated not just for their results but for their attitudes, enthusiasm and their clubmanship. Unlike any other sport, these guys have to do 25 voluntary patrol hours just to qualify to compete. And most of them go above and beyond by helping out at Sunday nippers and carnivals by doing water safety and junior mentoring. Legends!!!! They are a really great bunch and I love spending time with them.

As for our results it was a great season....

To start we had Nathan Mackenzie and Maisie Miller selected in a NSW representative teams challenge. They were chosen as part of the state's best 60 athletes to compete in teams (I think 6 teams) and Maisie's team was the overall winner.

Then Maisie and Nathan competed in the Nutri Grain Next Gen series held in Kingscliffe. It was a three part series with the last one being a drop off to make the final. They both did an awesome job representing Lennox Head with Maisie making the final 8 in the women's final.

We then travelled to oceans 38 and summer of surf, again up the coast, which is so easy for us to do and it's great for them to see how they are going against the Qld competitor's. They all did really well considering our u17 and u19 competitors are in their first year of that age group.



Locally we saw lots of Under 14 come up and compete in the under 15 age groups, which is a great idea as they get a taste of what's to come the following season.

And in the Masters, Chris Bond was joined by some more Masters competitors, which he is hoping will continue into the next season. Our athletes dominated at the local carnivals.

**State Titles at Swansea Belmont best results:**

Maisie Miller 3<sup>rd</sup> Under 19 board race.  
Ollie Sharpe 4<sup>th</sup> Under 17 board race.

**Aussie Titles at Maroochydore best results:**

Now this is something to celebrate! We have a Golden Girl in Niamh Sharpe. Niamh secured first place in the board riding and in the Youth Aussies she came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the board race. Well done Niamh!!!!

**Masters Aussies**

Chris Bond waved the flag for us at Aussies. After dominating the heats and semi's, it didn't go his way in the final. Let's get a good rally to join Chris in the coming seasons. Perth next year, what a great excuse for a holiday.

**Club Results**

- U15 Female Champion: Charlotte Shepherd
- U15 Male Champion: Maalik Moston
- U17 Female Champion: Clancy Miller
- U17 Male Champion: Jackson Bond
- U19 Female Champion: Maisie Miller
- U19 Male Champion: Nathan Mackenzie
- Open Male Champion: Ollie Sharpe.



This year we also introduced a few new awards:

- Coaches Award: Ollie Sharpe
- The Alison Thomas Memorial Award for outstanding all round Athlete: Maisie Miller.

If I have forgotten anything or anyone I do apologise but just know whether you train one time or train a hundred times you are part of the Lennox Team and I couldn't be prouder.

Until Next Season!

Sam Miller  
*Surf Sports Co-ordinator*



## Youth Activities Co-ordinator's Report

Our 2020/21 Nippers Season for Lennox Head Surf Club has come close to a record season with 266 Nippers joining the club. Fortunately, all our amazing, hardworking Age Managers have committed again this season, which has given the club a great level of consistency and experience. A huge thank you goes to Sam Miller, our former JAC of many years, who has taken on the role of Under 6 Age Manager with a record number of eager Under 6s attending each week. Most Sundays, except for two, have been able to go ahead with suitable conditions and an excellent volunteer group ranging from our fantastic Water Safety crew to our hard-working BBQ convenors Una Jack, Aaron Jack, Suzie Slingsby and Gary White, together with our support committee. The summer surf conditions in Lennox Head are not always ideal but our children all participate with 100% enthusiasm in the challenging conditions, which will give them a lot of experience and confidence moving into their future.

The first carnival of our season was hosted by Lennox Head, with U12-Masters competing. The carnival was a great success and was our first branch carnival catering for the required COVID-19 safety plans. With fantastic conditions on our side, all events went ahead, and the carnival ran in an efficient and timely manner thanks to our dedicated volunteers of the club, with the support of Branch. This carnival gave many of our Juniors the opportunity to compete with the Seniors of the club and cheer each other on, which was great for our team morale as we have many Seniors competing for the club currently.

I would also like to name and congratulate our Junior Lifesaver of the year entrants Bronte Mills and Ethan Bayley. Each of these nominees are wonderful role models who are passionate about Surf Lifesaving. Ethan Bayley was chosen as the FNC representative for the State finals on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February, which is a fantastic achievement.

With our large number of Nippers attending the several training sessions on offer – it has been a busy and rewarding season. Firstly, a huge thank you goes to Mark, our Drone Pilot, who has volunteered his time to ensure the safety of our Nippers during our early morning sessions in the surf. We regularly have between 30-40 children attending our board sessions and it has been wonderful to see their skills developing throughout the season. Another big thank you goes to our head coaches Scotty and Jodie Roberts, who turn up every morning with a great attitude. We are so extremely fortunate to have parents like this to help harbour the U9-U10s nippers' skill development in a fun environment. Also thank you to Nathan Ellis who coaches our beach sprint sessions which many of our Nippers from across all age groups enjoy.

Yamba was the second carnival of the season and we thank the Yamba SLSC for organising such a great event for our Juniors. Lennox Head had over 100 Nippers competing on the day producing fantastic results. Although we were unable to get too close to our competitors due to COVID restrictions, it was great to see all our parents and Nippers cheering from the sidelines. Thank you to our Team Manager James (Jock) Walker whose excellent communication throughout the season has been invaluable. Also, a huge thank you to our officials Geoff Harris, Sam Miller, Wayne Shepherd and Brian Lyndon who tirelessly volunteer on behalf of our club, even when some had no children competing at this carnival.

The first carnival of 2021 was Branch, hosted by Cudgen, with Lennox being represented by a strong 84 competitors and finishing second overall behind Cudgen in the Junior/Senior point score. Thank you to our officials Geoff, John, Wayne and Brian. We also had 3 new officials which was great to see. Debbie, Angela and Garry your work was much appreciated.

The final carnival for the FNC calendar was the rescheduling of the Cabarita Teams Carnival on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February. The carnival format was changed to an individual format to give state competitors some valuable race experience before Swansea. Lennox was represented by 64 competitors with many great performances over the day. Unfortunately, due to weather conditions the carnival was cancelled at lunch with some water events remaining. Officials for the carnival were Geoff, Wayne, Brian, Garry, Angela and Debbie.

The last carnival for the nipper's season was NSW State Championships at Swansea on Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> of Feb for U9-U11s and the 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> of Feb for U12-U14's. Competitors representing Lennox SLSC were Billy Stewart, John Ellis, Abi Matthews, Oscar Close, Marli Francis, Archer Close, Jayden Matthews, Ethan Bayley, Luke Bond and Bede Francis. Congratulations to John Ellis placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U9's flag race and Billy Stewart placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the U9/s surf race a state medal is huge achievement.

Thank you to our Sponsors: Lois Buckett Holidays, Scope, Lennox Head Bakery, Lennox Head Butchery and Deli and our local business and community members for the support and contributions given to our Surf Club. Also, I wanted to say a huge thank you to Michelle Mahon who after many years as our registrar is handing over the reigns – your dedication and help within the club has been invaluable and you will be missed.

Last, but not least we thank our Nippers for being incredible children who have fun, work hard, and bring 100% enthusiasm to the beach. This attitude and dedication culminated with the Lennon SLSC receiving FNC junior club of the year. In all it has been a great season with fantastic kids and helpers, and I look forward to next season.

Brendon Matthews  
YAC Co-ordinator



# Vale

This year the club was saddened by the loss of two very much loved members, Larry Platt and Maria Kirsten.

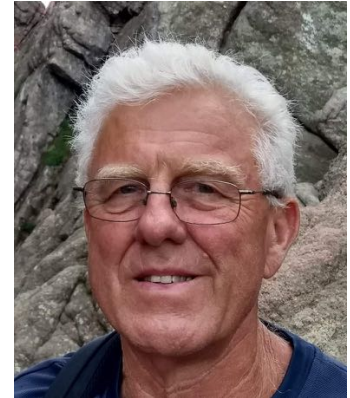
## Larry Platt

*20 May 1952 – 10 March 2021*

Larry was a highly respected and valued life member of our Club for over 30 years. He attained his bronze medallion in 1989 and has maintained his accreditation ever since. He was a patrol volunteer and most recently, patrol captain for Patrol #4.

He trained and assessed other volunteers for not only our club, but also for the FNC branch and at the State level, with his efforts being recognised in 2010 when he was awarded Australia Surf Life Saving's Assessor of the Year award.

Our condolences are with Marian and the family.



## Maria Kirsten

*15 April 1966 – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021*

Maria was a much loved member of our Club for many years. She was a patrolling member, a former JAC, Junior Branch President and more.

She was also a huge part of the local community and taught yoga at the surf club for many years.

Our condolences are with Michael and the family.



# Sponsors

Lennox Head Alstonville Surf Life Saving Club proudly acknowledges our generous sponsors along with those businesses that donate their products and services that help keep our club running:

