

NT Surflife 12 March 2009

NT Surflife is for members, friends and supporters of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory. It provides brief information on the latest news and activities on the national and Territory scene. It is not designed to replace club newsletters - the primary source of news from your local club.

New items in this edition of NT Surflife...

Australia's first Surf Club in an Indigenous Community

Interstate Team flies to Perth

Final Aussie Championships Information Out Today

Bernie, Craig and Charles nominated for national recognition awards

Rachel McLean - Superfish (ranked 2nd in Australia!)

Beachfront Hotel Annual Shave for a Cure

Australia's first Surf Life Saving Club in an Indigenous Community

History was made on Saturday 7th March 2009 when Djawa Burarrwanga and Stuart Kellaway represented the fourth club to be affiliated with Surf Life Saving Northern Territory - the Walnawu Djakamirri Surf Life Saving Club. The affiliation was unanimously supported when the motion was put to affiliate the new club following a presentation about the growth and development of the club over the last 2 years. SLSNT President said the club had emerged from the highly successful Indigenous Water Safety Program for Yirrkala and the surrounding homelands communities.

It is Australia's first Surf Life Saving Club in an indigenous community.

Djawa and Stuart spoke enthusiastically about the Surf Club concept in Yirrkala and thanked the staff and volunteers for their commitment to this innovative project. Recognition was also made of the local community, especially the youth at the Yirrkala Community Education Centre and the Yirrkala Homelands School, who worked so hard to complete the requirements of their accredited lifesaving training. There is still much work to do with a major opening of activities planned for the weekend of 13-14 June at Shady Beach, Yirrkala, including the launch of the Nipper program.

Good Luck to our Interstate Team

The NT Interstate Team flies to Perth over the next few days to contest the SLSA Interstate Championships at Scarborough Beach on Wednesday 18th March. The 13 member team is the first to contest the new expanded format of the interstate contest which is now embedded within the Australian Championships - one of Australia's most awe-inspiring sporting spectacles with around 6,000 competitors entered.

The NT Team is:

Darwin SLSC - Julia Bridle, Rachel Chalada, Kim Clark, Hanna Mitchener and Sherie Tracey;

Broome SLSC - Carrie Selten and David Aristei;

Gove Peninsula SLSC - Alan Cross, Charles Rue, Greer Ashby, Brinkley Dennerley, Keara Blundell and Denise Marrable.

We wish all of these members every success in their events and in their bid to defend our Handicap Shield titles.

Final Aussie Champs Information Out Today

The final carnival circular the 2009 Whereis[®] Australian Surf Life Saving Championships has now been published. This document contains all the vital information clubs and individuals need to know. Go to http://www.slsa.com.au/site/_content/resource/00002775-docsource.pdf or call SLSNT on 8985 6588 for an email or hard copy. The Australian Masters Surf Life Saving Championships are on Tuesday and Wednesday, 17-18 March and the Australian Open Surf Life Saving Championships commence on Thursday 19th March through to Sunday 22nd March.

Bernie, Craig and Charles nominated for National Recognition Awards

Our Lifesaver of the Year, Bernie Whelan and Volunteer of the Year - Craig Croke, will be interviewed next week by an SLSA Selection Panel in Perth as the search for Australia's Lifesaver and Volunteer of the Year concludes. Bernie is also being considered for a Trainer of the Year award, Craig is up for an Official of the Year award and Charles Rue is nominated in the Coach of the Year category for his untiring efforts with the Gove Peninsula Women's Surfboat Crew and their interstate successes during 2008. To be nominated for these national awards is a huge honour and our thoughts will be with them on Friday evening, 20th March, at the SLSA Awards of Excellence, when the national winners are announced.

Rachel McLean - Superfish

Popular Darwin Surf Club member, Rachel Mclean, competed last weekend in the 2009 Australian Open Water Championships in Sydney and recorded the amazing time of 1 hour and 5 seconds for the 5 km event. This awesome performance means she is ranked nationally as 2nd in her age group (girls 17-18yrs) and 7th in the Open Women's category. Congratulations Rachael, your commitment and hard work is really starting to pay off!

Beachfront Hotel Annual Shave for a Cure

Its on again and its on this afternoon!!! (Thurs 12 March) We would like to ask you to drop in with some friends and help raise money for this very worthwhile cause. And there's a bonus - you will also be able to enjoy Thursday \$5 cocktails from 5pm. To support the local team head to www.worldsgreatestshave.com then towards the bottom of the page click on "sponsor a team" then just type in The Beachfront Hotel in the search tool bar as the team name and you will be directed to our team profile page. Feel free to make a donation or leave a message of encouragement.

Gold Medal Patrol from Mindil Beach enters the Aussies

Mindil Beach SLSC has entered its Champion Patrol Team into the Australian Championships. The national patrol competition will be held on Wednesday 18th March at Trigg Island SLSC and on Scarborough Beach in Perth. The team comprises Craig Croke (Capt) , Tony Snelling, Thanh Thanh Thai, Carney Broadbent, Moira and Michael Wigley. It is believed to be the first time a Top End patrol team has entered the national competition and they go with our very best wishes for success.

Gove Peninsula SLSC in Club of the Year Interviews

Representatives of the Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club will be interviewed by SLSA as part of the process of selecting Australia's best Surf Club - the SLSA 2009 Club of the Year. Gove Peninsula SLSC is an active club in all aspects of Surf Life Saving and have the remarkable distinction that around 1 in 5 people in Nhulunbuy are members of the club - recognition of the amazing amount of support from the community for the club. This year it has progressed its ambitious building program, initiated a best practice patrol audit system and conducted numerous youth development activities and much more. Also being interviewed for other awards are Craig Croke (for SLSA Volunteer of the Year) and Bernie Whelan (for SLSA Surf Lifesaver of the Year). The naming of SLSA's recognition awards will be made at the SLSA Awards of Excellence on Friday evening 20th March and we wish all our NT representatives well - they are already winners in our eyes!

Shannon Eckstein and Naomi Flood crowned at KNG Ironman Series Final

Shannon Eckstein and Naomi Flood were crowned Series Winners at the Kellogg's Nutri-Grain Ironman Final in front of a large and enthusiastic crowd at Sydney's Coogee Beach. Eckstein outclassed the field and reclaimed his whereas Naomi Flood struggled in the final but did just enough to secure the series and the overall women's crown. Eckstein now holds every major Ironman title – Australian, World, Nutri-Grain series – apart from the long-distance nib Coolangatta Gold, which he did not contest but was won by his brother, Caine. And there was more to celebrate as the Surf Life Saving fraternity and the crowd paid homage to the amazing Dean Mercer - after 21 years he bowed out of professional Ironman racing.

Chris Putland elected President of Gove Peninsula SLSC

Chris Putland was elected President of the Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club last weekend and Alan Cross has taken on the Club Captain role. Chris was quick to recognise the excellent efforts of outgoing President Greg 'Curly' Whelan who was elected as Vice President and remains on the Committee. Denise Marrable stood down as Captain after a remarkable stint in which she coordinated some of the most active sporting years of the club. Alan Cross takes over from Denise and has excellent credentials. Alan is a former NT Surf Lifesaver of the Year and a former NT Ironman Champion.

BRP to the Rescue

BRP Australia, manufacturer of Sea-Doo® personal watercraft and Evinrude Outboard Motors, and Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) have announced a long-term partnership, which will see a new generation of rescue equipment on Australia's beaches. The BRP partnership involves support for the Whereis® Australian Surf Life Saving Championships in 2009 and a new rescue gear program with BRP products available to surf life saving clubs at highly subsidised prices. This includes the Evinrude E-Tec Outboard motors which are more fuel efficient and produce less emissions than conventional motor designs - a great alignment with our commitment to environmentally friendly practices around the Australian coastline.

New Website for Lifeguards

The new Australian Lifeguard Service website is now live! Go to: www.lifeguards.com.au

. The website presents three different stakeholders (public/local councils etc, ALS employees and potential employees) with the information they require in a simple

manner while maintaining strong brand presence. Check out some great news and information and don't miss the brilliant new promotional video in the multimedia section.

Telstra Offer includes Surf Club Donation

Connect today to an eligible Next G mobile or Bigpond Broadband service (ADSL or Wireless), mention this offer and Telstra will contribute \$30 to the surf life saving club of your choice! To find out how simply visit www.answerthecall.co.au or drop in to the Telstra Shop. This excellent fundraising opportunity is backed by World Life Saving Champions and Surf Life Saving star, Zane Holmes who said, "Our surf lifesavers need support to keep our beaches safe. This an easy way to help with much needed resources". You also get an awesome Surf Life Saving Beach Towel, valued at \$39.95 (while stocks last). The offer ends on 26th April.

Arafura Games 2009

The Arafura Games are in Darwin Saturday 9th May to Sunday 17th May. This premiere international event is held every two years and key features of the International Lifesaving program are:

- A fully revised and exciting program of lifesaving events and coaching.
- An Interclub Competition in Open Water and Beach events. Interclub competitors will compete separately to the Arafura Games events but the same rules apply.
- Invitation events - 2 km beach run, 2 km board paddle, 5 km ski paddle (single and double). Also Masters!

Things that need to be done now...

We urgently need officials and a workforce for setup and packup! All officials and volunteers should register during February. See Arafura Games accreditation information below or call SLSNT on (08) 8985 6588 for advice on how you can help.

NT Academyline...

Academy Courses - Trainers Needed

The Australian Lifesaving Academy NT is under great pressure with lifeguard training and an unprecedented demand from the community for our courses. Our reputation as providers of excellent courses is spreading rapidly and we are struggling to meet the demand. If you are able to be a casual or part-time trainer please contact Julie Snelling on 8985 6588 or email julie.snelling@lifesavingnt.com.au

General Information...

SLSNT Contact details follow...

Phone: (08) 8985 6588. CEO mobile phone is 041717 3287.

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Post: PO Box 96, Nightcliff, NT, 0814

Email addresses follow:

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Finance Manager, Leanne Lane: finance@lifesavingnt.com.au

Schools Coordinator, Amy Rudolph: schools@lifesavingnt.com.au

Lifeguard Supervisor: Cameron Griffin: lgsupervisor@lifesavingnt.com.au

General/Public Enquiries: surf@lifesavingnt.com.au

Key Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 17th March to Sunday 22nd March 2009: Australian Championships, Scarborough Beach, WA.

Wednesday 18th March 2009: Interstate Championships, Scarborough Beach, WA.

Your news is important - This is your Territory newsletter! You are welcome to reply to this email and contribute news for the attention of all NT Surf Lifesavers.

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