

Between the Flags

BETWEEN THE FLAGS - 20 JANUARY 2014

A team of 16 Yamba Surf Life Saving Club nippers won 6 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals at the NSW Country Championships at Mollymook on the south coast on the weekend.

Individual gold medals went to the "pocket rocket" Kalani Ives in the under 9 female surf, board race and beach flags and Ben Morris under 8 boy beach flags.

Team golds went to Malik Elabbasi, Yasmin Elabbasi, Kalani Ives and Ricky Cleary under 9 surf team and Ben Morris, Harry Whitehouse, Sam Earle and Charlie Imeson in the under 8 beach relay team.

Silver medals were won by Ben Morris under 8 boys wade and Malik Elabbasi under 9 boys surf race.

Bronze medals went to Malik Elabbasi under 9 boys board race, Brianna McFarlane under 13 girls beach flags, Kalani Ives, Malik Elabbasi, Yasmin Elabbasi under 9 board relay team and Kalani Ives, Malik Elabbasi, Yasmin Elabbasi and Ricky Cleary under 9 beach relay team.

The individual and team medal haul was a tribute to the depth of talent and the nipper training program at the club.

Club captain Joe Dougherty (off 190 seconds) caught the wave of the day and rode it all the way to the beach to take out the Carl Schaffer handicap surf race at Main Beach on Sunday.

Handicapper Belinda Sanders, who noted it was a perfect example of how to body surf, will be looking at a handicap extension to 200 seconds plus for husband Joe.

There were 20 starters with Kelsey Wilkes (130 secs) 2nd and Brendan Wall (also 190 secs) 3rd in what was a back markers day in the tricky conditions.

Belinda gave a shout out for Jake Beaumont and his sister Elise who have been an absolute delight around the club for the past five weeks and we look forward to seeing them again soon.

The next surf race will be on Australia Day this Sunday January 26 with registrations at the clubhouse steps from 11am for an 11.30pm start.

There was a nippers Saturday twilight activity session on Main Beach with nipper-of-the-week going to Alex Salvestro (pictured) from the under 8's.

Age manager Kerrie Wunderlich gave Alex the award for his great sportsmanship and enthusiasm and permanent smile – "he loves his nippers so much he even writes it in the sand", Kerrie says.

Other coming events are the senior branch titles at Cudgen on Sunday February 9, the NSW open titles at Umina Friday-Sunday March 7-9, the NSW masters titles at Umina Saturday and Sunday March 15-16 and the Australian titles in Perth on Monday March 31 to Sunday April 6.

A team of 12 Yamba club surf boat rowers and supporters will be involved in a 2 day/53km race as part of the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing in Turkey in 2015.

The Yamba team of Mick Smith, Tim George, Ray Wiblen, Josh Ryan, Andrew Bell, Alan Schofield, Zac Robison, Caleb Ellem, Jo King, Leah Essex, Hannah Smith and Angela Eke will be in Turkey for 8 nights and 9 days.

All club information, including newsletters, membership details, training courses and coming events, is available on the website yambaslsc.com.au.

As well the club office is open on Monday 9am-12 noon, Tuesday 2.30pm- 5.30pm and Friday 10am - 2pm and there is a post box on the outside if the office is unattended.

The 2013/14 Yamba nipper sponsors are All Terrain Access Scaffold & Edge Protection, Fairway Restaurant @ Yamba Golf & Country Club, Jim's Mowing, Lower Clarence Funerals, Tony McFarlane Builder, Yamba Florist, Yamba Physiotherapy, Signcraft, Maclean Variety Meats, Back Homes Bakery, Yamba Flooring Xtra and Waves Fitness & Squash.

Yamba SLSC senior club sponsors for the 2013/14 season are Gold – Elders Real Estate Yamba, Clarence Valley Council, Yamba Golf & Country Club; Silver - .Westlawn Finance, Yamba Shores Tavern, Freemason/MasoniCare,, Nortec; Bronze – All Terrain Access, Clarence Valley Review, Maclean Variety Meats, Belinda's Store, The Daily Examiner, Yamba Lions, Yamba Rotary, Pacific Hotel, Radio 2GF and Sanctuary Cove Golf.

The Yamba SLSC weekly raffles at the Yamba Golf Club will have 33 meat trays this Saturday January 25 with Jim & Jan Saunders, Mick & Sue Smith selling tickets from 5.30pm with the draw from 6.30pm

Main Beach patrols for this Australia Day long weekend are:

Saturday January 25 9am-1pm Patrol 10: Andrew Morris (c), Tony McFarlane, Joe Fahey, Darby Fahey, Kelsey Wilkes, Clayton Marshall, Jesse-Clare Beresford, Teagan McFarlane.

Saturday January 25 1pm-5pm Patrol 1: James Ryan (c), Sean Leonard, Nick Plummer, Kerry Lee, Reilly Pickering, Noah Hodgson, Marty Rose, Thomas Dougherty, Ethan Durrington, Jack Leonard.

Sunday January 26 9am-1pm Patrol 2: Mitch Imeson(c), Luke Patricks (vc), Katie Becker, Jacqui Wright, Cathy Felmingham, Deborah Morfett, Pierre de Billot, Molly Sanders, Ellie Felmingham, Xahlia Pashen

Sunday January 26 1pm-5pm Patrol 3: Marty Dougherty, Matthew Saunders, Brett Kresevic, Daniel Connors, Dylan Brown, Rory Brown, Rebecca Clout, Cody Cameron, Kris Ryan-Clout, Max Norman

Monday January 27 9am-1pm Patrol 4: Maddy O'Mahony (c), Ray O'Brien (vc), Mike Smith, Jo King, Leah Essex, Colleen Hage, Emmalee Jesser, Helen Clare

Monday January 27 1pm-5pm Patrol 5: Andrew Cumberland (c), Chris Bonner, Wayne Ringland, Brendan Watkins, Stephen Morfett, Caleb Watkins, Jaydan Watkins, Tristan Watkins, Alicia Cumberland.

Mike Harvey