

Between the Flags

BETWEEN THE FLAGS - 17th December 2012

Yamba Surf Life Saving Club is preparing for a record number of competitors and a big crowd of spectators at the Yamba Ocean Swims on Sunday December 30.

The program includes a 700 metre swim from 11am, 2000 metre swim from 12 noon, a 150 metre dash-for-cash from 1pm and presentations in the clubhouse from 2pm.

The event is sponsored by Yamba Iluka Real Estate, Clarence Valley Review, LJ Hooker Grafton, Fandango Pacific Hotel, Yamba Community Pool, Moby Dick, The Cove, Annie's Bed & Breakfast, Clarence Valley Council, Belinda's Store and Westlawn.

The 700 metre swim starts at Convent Beach and finishes at Main Beach, the 2000 metre swim has a rectangular course with a start and finish at Main Beach while the exciting dash-for-cash starts out to sea with and finishes with a run to the line on Main Beach.

There are eight age groups for males and females from 10-14 years to over 70 years in the 700m and 2000m swims.

Post entries to Yamba SLSC, PO Box 219, Yamba, NSW, 2464, close on Monday December 24, electronic entries through www.oceanswims.com close on Friday December 28 at 5pm and in person entries at the clubhouse will be taken on Saturday December 29 from 11am to 3pm.

Entry fees are 700m \$20, 2000m \$30 (\$40 for both) and dash-for-cash \$10 with an additional \$10 late entry fee for entries taken at the clubhouse on swim day (December 30) from 8am.

The Carl Schaeffer memorial handicap surf swim was won by Jordan Elabassi (off 80 seconds) from Sophie Watson (50 secs) and Brisbane visitor Peter Dawson (100 secs) in a small field of 8 starters who tackled a big swell and tough conditions.

Handicapper Belinda Sanders advises that the swim will be held on every public holiday, except Christmas day, over the festive season holidays.

Senior memberships and renewals are still open online at www.lifesavingonline.com.au at the surf club office on Monday, Tuesday and Friday (closed on December 24 and 25) from 9am till 12 noon or at Elders Real Estate in Coldstream St during business hours.

Main Beach was swarming with nippers on Sunday morning with end-of-year fun day activities - Santa races, apple bobbing, ice cream eating competitions and water fights.

Santa made an appearance with a difference courtesy of the Yamba Fire Brigade with his usual rubber ducky arrival via the ocean cancelled due to the extremely high tide and big surf conditions.

Thanks to the firemen who delivered Santa and stood in the hot sun while all the kids put in their Christmas orders and got a bag of lollies.

There were two nippers awards presented for last Sunday (Dec 9) to Sean Sowell and Gus Gilbert (pictured with his mum Sally) who got a free slushie from the Block Cafe

Nippers returns to the beach on Australia Day January 26 for a family fun day which will include a rip

awareness demonstration, BQQ and plenty of fun & games.

Nippers activities and training to resume on Sunday February 3 and the final 2012/13 season day and club presentation on March 10.

The NSW country nipper championships are at South West Rocks on Friday and Saturday January 11 and 12, nipper branch championships at Fingal Sunday February 3, Yamba junior club championships Sunday February 17 and the NSW state nipper championships at Umina Beach on Sunday March 3.

Yamba SLSC was represented at the Cudgen carnival on Sunday with Paul Cromack 2nd in the 35 years + single ski and board races, Peter Rheinberger 2nd in the 45 years + board race and surf swim.

In the flag races Mitch Imeson was 5th in the open, Tom Dougherty 6th in the open and 5th in the under 19's and Sean Leonard 5th in the under 17's.

In team events Yamba was 4th in the open and 3rd in the under 17 surf teams, 2nd in the open male beach relay and 3rd in the under 17 beach relay.

Hugh Dougherty (Yamba/Tugun) won the open male ironperson at Cudgen.

Club captain Joe Dougherty (0431 710 007) is after patrol members to volunteer for the Xmas Day patrol.

The Yamba SLSC nippers thank their sponsors for their support and encouragement during the 2012/13 season

The 2013/13 nipper sponsors are All Terrain Access Scaffold & Edge Protection, Fairways Restaurant @ Yamba Golf & Country Club, Jim's Mowing, LJ Hooker Yamba, Lower Clarence Funerals, Maclean Motors, Tony McFarlane Builder, Yamba Florist, Yamba Physiotherapy, Signcraft, Maclean Variety Meats and Melay Independent Floors.

Senior memberships and renewals are available online at www.lifesavingonline.com.au, at the surf club office or at Elders Real Estate in Coldstream St during business hours.

All club information, including membership forms and training programs, is available on the web site www.yambaslsc.com.au.

Yamba SLSC senior club sponsors for the 2012/13 season are Gold – Elders Real Estate Yamba, Clarence Valley Council, Yamba Golf & Country Club; Silver - .Westlawn Finance, Yamba Shores Tavern, Freemason/MasoniCare, North Coast Heavy Towing, Nortec; Bronze – All Terrain Access, Clarence Valley Review, Maclean Variety Meats, Belinda's Store, The Daily Examiner, Yamba Lions, Yamba Rotary, Daily Examiner, Pacific Hotel, Radio 2GF and Sanctuary Cove Golf.

Yamba SLSC and Maitland Hospital Foundation are the financial beneficiaries of a River Odyssey three week paddle from the Dorrigo Plateau down the Clarence River to Yamba in March 2013.

The paddlers Alex & Stephen Abrahams, Richard Bennett and Bob Wonders will cover 355kms.

The website for donations is www.mycause.com.au

Hugh Dougherty and Alyce Bennett will compete in their 8th consecutive Kellogs Nutri Grain Ironman & Ironwoman series with 6 rounds starting at Scarborough Beach, Perth, WA on Sunday December 23.

The series, which includes rounds on January 12 & 27, February 9, 17 & 24, will be shown live by the Channel 10 network.

The weekly Yamba SLSC raffles at the Golf Club with 33 terrific meat trays this Saturday December 22 have Ray O'Brien, Rob McDermid, Steve Pettet & Rob Foster selling tickets from 5.30pm with the draw from 6.30pm.

This weekend, Christmas & Boxing Day patrols are:

- Saturday December 22 9am-1pm Patrol 2: Mitch Imeson(c), Luke Patricks (vc), Grant Scheffers, Katie Becker, Jacqui Wright, Cathy Felmingham, Deborah Morfett, Johanna Pettet.
- Saturday December 22 1pm-5pm Patrol 3: Phil Kelly (c), Nicholas Tarrant (vc), Alex Robison, Zac Robison, Daniel Connors, Kris Ryan Clout, Mitchell Bain, Dylan Brown, Rory Brown, Rebecca Clout.
- Sunday December 23 9am-1pm Patrol 4: Ray O'Brien (c), Zac Fraser, Mike Smith, Jo King, Leah Essex, Karen Baird, Colleen Hage, Richelle Forbes.
- Sunday December 23 1pm-5pm Patrol 5: Andrew Cumberland (c), Greg Levey (vc), Chris Bonner, Wayne Ringland, Matthew Saunders, Brendan Watkins, Stephen Morfett.
- Tuesday December 25 9am-1pm Patrol 6: Mark Symons (c), Chris Outteridge (vc), Roger Varcoe, Shauni Forrest, Ashlee Forrest, Tony McFarlane, Teagan McFarlane, Kayla Forrest.
- Tuesday December 25 1pm-5pm Patrol 7: Matteo Cervella (c), Josh Ryan (vc), Ben Plunkett, Andrew Bell, Nick Bell, Julia Hodson, Sally Gilbert, Bella Gilbert, Mark Chiaruttini.
- Wednesday December 26 9am-1pm Patrol 8: Pat Ridgway (c), Jim Wheeler (vc), Linda Horton, Simon Worboys, Jo Worboys, Erin Johns, Caitlin Cooney, Will Brighton, Caleb Watkins, Jaydan Watkins.
- Wednesday December 26 1pm-5pm Patrol 9: Brendan O'Mahony (c), Jake Pitkin, Joe McGrath, Harry Fahey, Jack Morrissey, Kealy Day, Thomas Dougherty, Noah Hodgson, Angus O'Mahony, Thomas Smith.

Captions Photo below: Ice cream eating competition was a huge hit with lots of sticky faces grinning from ear to ear: Gus and Sally Gilbert; Santa handing out lolly bags to all the wonderful nippers once taking their Christmas orders of course!

Mike Harvey

