



The Mine

Newsletter of Point Leo SLSC

Point Leo SLSC
PO Box 472, Point Leo VIC 3916
Email: admin@pointleoslsc.com.au

January 2023 Edition

This Month in the Mine

President's Report	1
Thomas Mollenkopf AO	4
Vale Peter "Grumbles" Ford	4
Surf Sports Program Update	4
Willum Warrain Cultural Awareness Tour	5
Junior Club Championships	6
Putting Smiles on Dials	9
Good Clubbies	9

Editor: Ella Swaney

President's Report

Patrols:

It has been a wonderful season so far with considerable numbers of patrollers attending patrols, so thank you to all those club members who diligently continue to show up.

Many thanks to Romy Lipszyc (Club Captain), Bridget Barnes (Vice Captain), and Ella Laussen (Vice President Lifesaving Operations) for their work in managing patrols.

Huge thanks also to our Patrol Captains, Vice-Captains, and their teams in keeping our beach safe and presenting such a welcoming and settled environment. Keeping each other and the public safe at Point

Leo beach is our main purpose, and we continue to fulfill our duties here. I am yet to meet all the patrollers but am doing my best to pop down to say "Hi".

Special mention to Bridget, Romy, and Ella Laussen for organising another successful Pink Patrol. This was held earlier in the season this time on 21st January which resulted in a fabulous turnout and greater exposure to the public.

The Disabled Surfing Association of the Mornington Peninsula also held their surfing event on this day which was a spectacular event! It was a glorious day in terms of weather and just the right amount of wave. It was an incredibly well attended event with over 147 participants and so many volunteers. Huge thanks to those Point Leo Club members that volunteered on the day, particularly Andrew Gibson and Mick Treadwell for their ongoing involvement.

Swim Classic:

We had a spectacular day for our Boxing Day event, The Point Leo Swim Classic. The conditions became increasingly more challenging throughout the day, so thanks to all our Water Safety for keeping competitors safe. We had

an awesome 504 competitors. Huge thanks must go to Chris Oldham and his team for managing the event. It was Chris' first year as organiser and, under the guidance of former organiser Simon Merrigan, Chris did an awesome job. We also greatly appreciate the Balnarring and District Community Bank for continued support of the 2.5km Swim Challenge and other sponsors including Paton's Real Estate, Mornington Prime Cuts, Vantage Fuels, Bowser Bean Cafe, C Fulton Building and Garden Supplies, Bluegum and Bluescope Australia.



Pictured 1 - The Boxing Day Balnarring and District Community Bank 2.5km Swim

Juniors:

What a wonderful Junior Surf Lifesaving Program (JSLP) we had this year. So fabulous to have the return of briefings in front of the club and the nipper of the day was welcomed back with great enthusiasm. You can read all about the Junior Programs below. We all

appreciate the demanding work and many hours put in by Tarena Murray and the JSLP Team including Dean Pullar, Sharyn Clarke and all the Junior Sub-committee. Also special thanks to all those who assisted in the very onerous set up and pack up, particularly Andrew Welsh, Nick Clarke and Chris Oldham.

Organising and managing the JSLP was exhausting for the JSLP Team and particularly Tarena, so let's hope that all have had time to chill and recover!

The Junior Sunday Sessions follow the intensive JSLP, and this program focuses on participation, inclusion, and skill development, and kicked off on Sunday 22nd January. The Sunday Sessions will run through until States, except for when a Junior Carnival is being held on the Sunday. We are in fact holding a Junior Carnival at Point Leo on 5th February, so come down and cheer on our Point Leo Junior Comp Team.



Pictured 2 - Juniors taking part in flags at a Sunday Session

The Junior Surf Sports Program is an extension of the JSLP and Sunday Session; it offers nippers an additional level of training and

continues to strengthen and grow with inclusivity. We thank all the parents involved for their pure dedication, passion, and expertise in giving these Juniors an opportunity to further their skills, build team spirit, respect, and camaraderie.

All the Junior Programs exist only because of the amazing contribution of parents and club member volunteers. You all are incredible in your commitment to your roles. I urge those of you that are not currently involved to step forward next year and volunteer. It is hugely rewarding, and it is great for your nippers to see you become part of their program. There are many ways to be involved so you do not require any specific skills, and everyone has something to offer. You could also choose to challenge yourself and learn a new skill as our nippers do on a regular basis!

Youth:

The Under 15 Youth Program, the Lion's Den, was again hugely successful and culminated in the well-attended "Swim Camp". Thanks to Fiona Romari for organising such a fabulous program and harnessing the energy and enthusiasm of this age group. These youths were remarkable in being involved and assisting in water safety and patrols. We also thank and greatly appreciate the generosity of BlueScope in support of this Youth program within our Club.

Surf Sports:

Competition events are ramping up and we look forward to cheering on our Junior, Senior and Master teams.

The Point Leo Gold event was a fabulous day, which we will continue to build on in the future.

Massive thanks again to Jon, Nick and the Surf Sports Team for organising this spectacular event. It was so awe- inspiring to watch the many Nippers, Seniors and Masters giving it their all, together and in unity.

On Thursday 19th January, I had the privilege of watching Oscar Skehan (U16), Milla Clarke (U14) and Milla Skehan (U14) representing Victoria at the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships at MSAC. These championships are a true test of lifesaving ability and stamina and are an exciting spectacle to watch. All three gave their best with some fabulous results, so well done to the three of you.

Events:

Thank goodness that lockdowns and restrictions are behind us and that we can meet and mingle freely. Only now do I really appreciate the opportunities to socialise and connect with other club members.

The Bar has been open on many occasions, so thank you Jason Romari for continuing to do an excellent job in managing the bar on those days and on event days. Thanks to those who also assist as bartenders so that Jason can also enjoy.



Pictured 3 - Our Gary Tierney Foundation fellows with John Horwood & the Tierneys.

On the evening of January 4th, the 2023 Gary Tierney Foundation (GTF)

Inductee night was held at the club. Gary Tierney Foundation Fellowships are awarded in recognition of major contributions to the Point Leo SLSC and to encourage further leadership from its recipients. This event was open to all and was well attended by Life Members, GTF Members and past recipients, new GTF recipients and their families as well as other committee and club members. It was a fabulous night!

Four amazing young adults were awarded the GTF Fellowship Grant being Bridget Barnes, Myles Irwin, Ella Swaney and Liam Whitehouse. Well done and well deserved all of you, and we look forward to seeing you further develop in your roles and continue with your valuable contributions to our club.

We also had the return of the roast night with Nick Wood and team putting in many hours to deliver two nights of delightful dinners complete with the most delectable desserts provided by Elisa Woods. These are great evenings where members can relax and enjoy each other's company as well as the delicious dinners served up by club members. Massive thanks must go to all who assisted.



Pictured 4 - Nick & Jon Ford performing at Muso Night

Finally, what an incredibly phenomenal night on Friday 13th January, the return of the Muso night. It was heart-warming to see

everyone enjoying themselves: conversing, dancing, and singing! A real connection amongst club members, and what talented musicians and singers we have amongst us, so accomplished. Even I got an opportunity to belt out a tune on stage! I am certainly no Whitney, Beyonce, or Joan Jett, but it was so much fun being up there. Thank you to Jon Ford and team for organising such a legendary evening.

Uniform Shop:

Well, the uniform shop certainly looks fabulous, enticing all our club members to spend big on our great merch. Thank you to all involved in designing, ordering, organising the merchandise including Kim Williams, Mel McPherson, Sandra Williams, and Amber Phillips. And extra thanks to Sandra who has made the space so welcoming.

Willum Warrain:

On 16th January I had the pleasure of attending the Willum Warrain centre. Willum Warrain, in local Boon Wurrung language means "Home By the sea". It is a gathering place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders come together to explore their goals, ideas, and identity. We were given a cultural immersion tour by Peter Aldenhoven, a descendant of the peoples of Quandamooka, specifically the Nughi clan, from Moorgumpin (Moreton Island, Queensland) and current CEO of the Willum Warrain centre.

The centre itself is such a uniquely special, peaceful, and inclusive space and staff were so welcoming. The tour was highly informative, deeply moving and certainly demonstrated that there is much for me to learn for a greater

understanding and respect for Aboriginal cultures, and specifically the culture of our local Bunurong/Boon Wurrung peoples. Thank you to Romy Lipszyc for organising this tour and for the Balnarring and District Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank for sponsoring our attendance.



Pictured 5 - Julia visiting Willum Warrain

Sponsors:

We acknowledge with gratitude all our sponsors including Vantage Fuels and Bowser Bean Café, BlueScope, Paton Real Estate, C Fulton Building and Garden Supplies, O'Connor Beef and Mornington Prime Cuts for support of our club through the active season. Please show your support of our sponsors by supporting these businesses.

Our relationship with the Balnarring and District Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank continues to strengthen. We have developed a strong partnership with the Community Bank and value our enduring relationship and look forward to further collaboration. As a Community Bank, profit is directed to groups like ours. If you are thinking about your banking needs,

please talk to our friends at the Balnarring and District Community Bank about what they can do for you.

Finally:

Thank you, Ella Swaney, for your ongoing commitment to preparing and editing "The Mine" for the last two seasons. Ella does an exceptional job as testified by this issue and Ella, apologies for having to chase me up for these articles!

I also want to thank all the committee for their challenging work and dedication behind the scenes. The Committee is comprised of such a fabulous and valuable bunch of people who are committed to delivering in the best interests of the club. I am sending my gratitude.

And finally, thank you all. Thanks to all our club members for your ongoing dedication to our club and your contributions.

Julia O'Shaughnessy

Thomas Mollenkopf AO

The Point Leo SLSC is proud to acknowledge life member Tom Mollenkopf AO, for his recognition in the Australia Day, Order of Australia Awards.

We all know Tom as the past president of Point Leo and patrolling member of the Wood-Chucks patrol. He also served Life Saving Victoria as President for 6 years including 8 years on the Board of Directors, SLSCA and currently serves the International Water Association as President.



Tom's CV is extensive. The level of recognition in the Order of Australia is testament to his outstanding distinguished service. His contribution is extensive in relationship to the Lifesaving movement and the water industry. His service is of the highest order to the community with local and national participation and leadership, as well as a distinguished humanitarian effort to use science and the environment to improve the quality of life for all citizens around the world with improved access to better and sustainable water supplies.

Congratulations Tom!

Vale Peter "Grumbles" Ford

Word has reached the Club that Past President and Honorary Life Member, Peter 'Grumbles' Ford, passed away in Paynesville on Sunday, 22nd January 2023.

Peter joined the Club and gained his Bronze Medallion V1332 in January 1962. He was a very good pool swimmer with the Richmond Swimming Club and immediately made an impact in the surf under the watchful eye of Eddie Kidd who was Club Captain, and Junior R&R coach at the time. He was selected

in the Victorian State team in 1962 and 1963.

As was the want of young people of the time, Grumbles took off with mate Ross Horwood in about 1970 for an extended trip to the UK and Europe. On their way back to OZ they came via Durban where Peter stayed for a while, joined the Marine SLSC, became involved in surf boat rowing and was awarded with Life Membership of the Club.

Grumbles returned to Australia and was an active member of a several different surf clubs over the years, including Point Leo, Point Lonsdale, Cronulla, Miami, and Surfers Paradise.

At Point Leo, Peter swept a junior boat crew that won a State Title in 1983-84, and went on to finish 4th in the Nationals at Kurrawa. Grumbles continued his involvement with the boat section and in 1997 was awarded Honorary Life Membership in recognition of his outstanding efforts and achievements with Point Leo SLSC. He was Club President in 1997-98, and 1998-99.

About 20 years ago Peter's health began to decline. He moved to the Gippsland area and eventually to Paynesville, where he passed away on his boat.

Everyone involved with Point Leo SLSC send condolences to his two children Morgan and Mazoe. He will be missed by many at the Club.

Surf Sports Program Update

It's been a huge couple of months for Surf Sports at Point Leo SLSC! Our nippers, youth and seniors have been training in a range of running,

board, swim, ski, and iron sessions on most days of the week since October. We've had some great results at recent carnivals, resulting in the selection of Oz Skehan, Charlie Farrell, Milla Clarke and Bella Austin in state teams!

The Junior Surf Sports Program (JSSP) sessions on Tuesday and Sunday provide extra opportunities for fitness and skill development over and above the Junior Surf Lifesaving Program (JSLP), also known as the 3-week summer intensive. Special mention must go to Chris Watt, who has been running the Junior Development sessions for under 8 and up to develop skills, confidence and fitness for Nippers who find the competition skills assessment challenging. These skills sessions have been very well attended. It's also worth getting down to the club on 5th February for the Junior Carnival on our home patch. Should be an awesome sight, where the beach is flooded in orange caps!



Pictured 6 - Some of our Junior and Senior Competitors

Together with the JSSP sessions, youth, and senior members, we've been having 30-70 people on the beach training on Tuesday and Thursday. It's been amazing to see the degree of engagement across the club in Surf Sports. New developments include collaboration with other East Coast clubs on weekend training to enable competitor connection and race training (see Pictured 7). Masters

training has kicked off on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday at 7.30am with members of all competency levels having fun improving skills and fitness. Can the Point Leo Masters make it three state titles in a row on 11th and 12th February at Lorne? Our Open ski section has been strong for several years, but it's been amazing to get the youth (U14-15) involved in development ski on flat water and in the surf. These members will become the next generation of quality ski paddlers.

Nowhere is the Surf Sports club spirit more on show than the Point Leo Gold; a 60-90-minute board/ski/swim/run endurance event won in 2023 by Harry Atkins and Kate Brooks (see Pictured 8). Over 90 members had fun in the surf in challenging conditions. Great to see so many of you completing the individual course!

For all information and updates about Surf Sports, download Team App from your app store, create an account, search for "Point Leo SLSC" and ask for access to junior and senior Surf Sports, making sure you turn on notifications on the chat.



Pictured 7 - Our clubbies training with members from other East Coast clubs

It's worth considering making the trip to Warrnambool (Junior State Championships 10-12th March) and Ocean Grove (Senior State Championships 24-26th February) to see the team in action. Any help from officials, water safety or IRB

would be gratefully accepted. Otherwise, just come down to Leo on a Tuesday or Thursday from 5.30pm to check out Surf Sports in action. Thanks to all the coaches and other helpers to make the surf sports program possible!

Cheers,

Jon Ford, Head Coach

Willum Warrain Cultural Awareness Tour

Willum Warrain is an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation that is encouraging cultural strengthening, promoting social, emotional health and well-being, and providing a safe gathering place for all community members. Since its official foundation nearly 10 years ago, Willum Warrain has become a beautiful hub for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, as well as allies. Many Point Leo SLSC members already have connections with Willum Warrain and/or other organisations on the Mornington Peninsula.



Pictured 8 - Point Leo clubbies, Point Leo Foreshore Committee Members, and Balnarring & District Community Bank Board Members at Willum Warrain

With the support of the Balnarring and District Community Bank, a group of members of the Point Leo SLSC, representatives from the Balnarring and District Community Bank, the Point Leo Foreshore and

wider Point Leo community partook in a Cultural Awareness Tour hosted by Willum Warrain on Monday 16th January. Peter Aldenhoven, CEO of Willum Warrain and our tour guide, took us through nomenclature, history, national and local knowledge and answered all of our questions. Of the group of us, coming from very different backgrounds and having alternate levels of knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture, this tour was a fantastic foundation for the Point Leo community to use as a springboard to further learning. We would love to see our club and community's journey continue, and manifest in robust, long-term actions of reconciliation and celebration. Willum Warrain has a huge number of events and opportunities to engage with, including 'drop-in Fridays' and the Change the Date event on 26th January. The grounds are incredible to walk through, and there is no shortage of someone to show you around. They also have an incredible bush nursery which you can find more information about on their website. I encourage you all to engage with Willum Warrain and other Indigenous Australian peoples and groups not only on the Mornington Peninsula, but wherever you find yourself. Please get in touch if you're eager to be involved in our club and community's next steps.

Romy Lipszyc, Club Captain

Junior Club Championships

Junior Club Championships is a full program designed to challenge Nippers, with the aim of finding the Junior Club Champions in each Age Group. The Junior Club

Championship is all about having fun, fostering positive sportsmanship, and encouraging peers.

The day involves a series of individual events that reflect the skills that Nippers have been learning and practicing throughout the season. All events are conducted in the usual Cubs and Lions Nippers session time allocation.

Congratulations to everyone who participated, and especially anyone trying an event for the first time.

Big congratulations to each age group Club Champion and placegetters, please see results below.

Tarena Murray, Nipper Rep and Junior Team Manager



AGE GROUP	1 st Place (Points)	2 nd Place (Points)	3 rd Place (Points)	AGM award
U7G	Charlie Alexander (18)	Lucy Summer (12)	Lucy Brown (12)	Charlotte Strauss
U7B	Percy Williams (20)	Beau Miratana (18)	Joseph Wilson (17)	Billy O'Brien
U8G	Charlotte Mannock (31)	Maya Franes (28)	Isla Mangini	Darwyn Lundine
U8B	Humphrey Cooper (39)	Max Summers (33)	Charlie O'Brien	Theo Sauboua-Pivan
U9G	Tabitha Cleven(38)	Violet Ahern (27)	Indi McLachlan (24)	Evangaline Sobczynsyn
U9B	Fred Farrell (44)	Fred Hunt (37)	Harry DeFazio (34)	Angus Gooding
U10G	Heidi Mitchell (30)	Kitty Johnson (24)	Petra Van Delft (20) Eva Franes (20)	Charlotte Oldham
U10B	George Cooper (23)	Archie Watt (19)	Rupert Mitchell (18)	Jonah Phillips
U11G	Ava Rogers (41)	Evie Renato (33)	Ahna Spokevicius (30)	Matilda Day
U11B	Freddie Merrison (44)	Toby Tomlinson (32)	Connor Stewart (27)	Jasper Longford
U12G	Milla Skehan (48)	Mimi Pullar (42)	Sophie McNanamey (33)	Jaya Singh (Towler)
U12B	Jack DeFazio (48)	Oscar Laity (34)	Callum Van Delft (32)	Lachlan Heffernan
U13G	Milla Clark (39)	Grace Oldham (29)	Charlie Pound (28)	Betsy Mitchell
U13B	Charlie Pullar (30)	Arki Phillips (28)	Freddie Tomlinson (27)	Sebastian Bardwell
U14G	Sophie Wilkinson (36)	Phoebe Merrison (31)	Matilda Higgins (28)	Sabine Thompson
U14B	Max Alekna (33)	Luca Phillips (28)	Charlie DeFazio (22)	Daniel Singh



Pictured 9 - Club Champs

Putting Smiles on Dials

One hundred and fifty-two disabled surfers enjoyed a fantastic surf on Sunday 21st January.

The sun shone brightly, waves were a steady 2-footer and 230 volunteers took to the water to ensure the surfers had great waves, safe waves and a whole lot of fun doing what many in our Club take for granted.



Pictured 10 - One of our clubbies, Abi Morgan (red rashie) as a team leader at Disabled Surfers Day

Another 80 volunteers kept the show on the road, organising parking, transport, wheelchairs, wetsuits, tents, beach matting and the hundred other things needed to run such a complex event.

DJ Coops was spinning the tunes and The Hoodoo-Men, led by famous local Tim Stout, played a fabulous live set. Surfers were bopping on the beach and vollies were bopping in the waves!

Somerville Rotary Club fueled the hungry hoards with free snags-in-bread, with Tina's Kiosk team taking up the slack.

Ranger Tony and the Foreshore team were also a great support team.

Thanks to the many Leo Clubbies who pulled on the blue or red rashies to help make this a great

event and give the thrill of catching waves to people who could never do it alone.

You put huge smiles on a lot of dials!

Andrew Gibson

Good Clubbies

Point Leo Surf Lifesaving Club is the sum of all the members.

We flourish when all members share the load of maintaining and running the Club.

Here are some things typical of a good Clubbie:

A mess in the Clubhouse? – clean it up.

Garbage full? – take it to the bin.

Something broken? – tell someone.

Used the kitchen? – wash dishes and put them away.

Got some waste? – segregate recycling and landfill.

Last to leave? - check doors are locked.

Used the containers? - make sure they are locked

Opened the carpark gates? -close the small one so the sign is visible.

Sandy feet? – use the amenities back door

Cubicle out of paper? – replace it from under the sink.

Dropped the sauce and onion out of your sausage? – wipe it up.

Chucking cardboard boxes? - flatten them and put in the bale.

Shower won't stop running? – tell someone.

Sand on the floor? – grab a broom.

Able-bodied? – don't use the disabled toilet.

Parking? – angle parking makes more room.

Borrowed a Club board? – wash before you put it away.

Used the hose? – make sure the tap is off.

Used the compressor? – turn off power when finished.

Regards,

The Andrews



Pictured 11 - The Andrews in question, with Michelle Royal-Hebblewhite

As always, many thanks to our wonderful sponsors:

Proudly supported by Balnarring &
District Community Bank Branch



