

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



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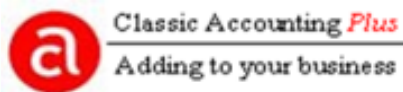


GSLSC – REGISTER OF OFFICE BEARERS 2022-2023

Patron	Lara Dalton MLA Geraldton
Vice Patron	Shane Van Styne Mayor CGG
Hon. Medical Officer	Dr Mick Gibberd
Hon. Solicitor	George Giudice
Auditor	Classic Accounting
President	
Director of Finance	Sally McKenzie
	Kate O’Sullivan/Deb Andrews
<u>Beach Operations</u>	
Club Captain	Callum Ilich
Director of Life Saving	Jeremy Henderson
Director of Surf Sports	Talia Jakubans
Director of Member Development	Denver Rowcroft
<u>Club Operations</u>	
Vice President	Lisa Mardon
Director of Administration	Caroline Rowcroft
Director of Marketing	
Director of Club Development	Willow Williamson
<u>APPOINTED POSITIONS - Club Operations</u>	
CGG Council Liaison Officers	Jeremy Henderson
Fundraising Co-Ordinator	Vacant
Grants Co-Ordinator	Sally McKenzie/Callum Ilich
Gym Officer	Lisa Mardon/Liz & Peter Newman
IT Officer	Claire MacPherson/Russell Jones
Life Membership Committee	Judy Heylen/Peter Murphy/ Willow Williamson
Member Protection Officer	Caroline Rowcroft
Merchandise Co-Ordinator	Sally McKenzie
Merchandise Officer	Bella Hainan
OSHE Officer	Michael May
Registrar	Caroline Rowcroft
Social Media Manager	Caroline Rowcroft
Sponsorship Co-Ordinators	Sally McKenzie/Callum Ilich

Venue Committee	Lisa Mardon/Judy Heylen/Caroline Rowcroft
<u>APPOINTED POSITIONS - Beach Operations</u>	
Chief Training Officer	Denver Rowcroft
Coaching Co-Ordinator	Callum Ilich/Talia Jakubans
Competition Co-Ordinator	Talia Jakubans
Discipline Captain – Surfboats	Willow Williamson
Discipline Captain –Jet Ski	Russell Jones
First Aid Officer	Dr Mick Gibberd
Junior Officer	Caroline Rowcroft
Life Saving Gear Officers	Jeremy Henderson/Peter Murphy
Patrol Captains	1.Claire MacPherson/Jim Plunkett 2.Paul McKenzie/Damon Angelatos 3.George Giudice/Rodney Allen 4.Kathryn Braysich/Jeremy Henderson 5.Talia Jakubans/ Russell Jones
Powered Watercraft Officer	Denver Rowcroft
Radio Officer	Robert Saunders
Surf Sports Gear Officer	Callum Ilich
Volunteer Co-Ordinator	Jill Gamble
Youth Development Officer	Sally McKenzie
<u>Sponsors 2022- 2023</u>	
<u>GOLD</u>	<u>MAJOR</u>
Classic Accounting	AGL
Dongara Marine	Lottery's West
	Surf Life Saving WA/SLSA
<u>SILVER</u>	Woodside
Sun City Plumbing	
Lara Dalton	Able Kids Therapy
	Cleanaway
<u>BRONZE</u>	DLGSC
Axis Autos	Geraldton Transport
Refuel Australia	Geraldton Tyre power
Rigters Supermarkets	Kick Solutions
Zumba with Lisa	Midwest Port Authority
	Sweet Orange Productions
	Waves Building Services

GSLSC Sponsors 2022 – 2023



PRESIDENTS REPORT 2022/ 2023

GSLSC core business is Saving Lives. It has been the backbone of what we do and how we operate for the last 93 years and is the reason that every one of us should feel extremely proud.

Whether we are 5 years old or 95 years old like Millie Read our oldest living GSLSC member, Surf Lifesaving holds a unique place in the hearts of all Australians.

I would like to thank all our volunteers for the countless hours patrolling the beach in weather good and bad! Together with age managers and water safety, our nippers were kept safe and had the wonderful opportunity to test their skills in some of the most challenging surf conditions on the WA coast. To see this increase over the season is always a highlight. I would also like to thank Russ and Kathy together with Jeremy, Denver, Mike, and Pete for all your training and requalification's you do. In recognition of the truly immense contribution Pete Saunders has given not only to GSLSC but to all clubs in the Midwest, Pete was nominated and awarded Assessor of the year for WA. This is a huge achievement and one that every member of GSLSC is happy and proud.

SLSWA Assessor of the Year awarded - Peter Saunders

Peter joined Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club in 1968 and became an Assessor in 2001. He is currently an Assessor for the Surf Rescue Certificate, Bronze Medallion and IRB, and a Facilitator for Advanced Resuscitation.

As an Assessor in the Midwest, Peter assists several other regional clubs with achieving their volunteer awards and Skills Maintenance requirements, particularly for IRB assessments.

He also uses his time to mentor other assessors as well as trainers, patrol members, junior members and everyone involved in the Surf Club. This is instrumental in contributing to the high standing the Geraldton Surf Club has in local communities.

In addition to assessing for awards, Peter assists as an Assessor for competition events, including Champion Lifesaver at the Local, State and National level. Congratulations Peter!

This season it was proposed that due to reduced numbers of active patrol members that we only patrol on Sunday mornings and public holidays. This was greeted with enthusiasm and positive feedback. As always it will be under review and the Saturday patrols can always be re-instated. It was hoped that Saturday mornings would be used for training, and we look forward to working on this in the season to come as Geraldton SLSC is hosting the 2024 Sun Smart Country Carnival on the January Australia Day weekend. We encourage you all to keep the weekend free and to participate in events and patrols. WA SLS members are eagerly looking forward to the event being held in Geraldton with our surf and fantastic beach conditions. With over 700 competitors in 2018 we could expect well over 1000 in 2024.

GSLSC was awarded the inaugural Midwest Ports Authority three-year community partnership award which sees us into the second year. This partnership provides practical administration assistance, building works, monetary funding and has provided us with the fabulous partition in the function centre, fixing up of the external concrete cracks and will be used this year for water leak repairs and promotional material for the Country Carnival. Thanks to the City of Greater Geraldton for the community grant for \$12K for the Waterproofing of the Clark training room and gym. These works have been completed with external and internal work completed in June.

Starfish Nippers is in its second year, with GSLSC offering a wonderful program where kids with autism and disabilities can access inclusive nippers. We would like to thank Addie and Sarah from Able Kids Therapy together with Prue Matthews for sponsoring the program as well as all our Starfish Volunteers. We look forward to expanding the program.

A goal for the season was to review our current strategic plan which has just expired. There have been many meetings and surveys to engage and assess what our members want and what they are looking for in their club. Thanks to Michael May and the Strategic Planning subcommittee, a new plan has been developed and is attached.

The focus for the Strategic Plan 2023-24 is Member Engagement, with some goals for the next season to include -

- Continued development of strategies to attract new and retain existing members and youth. Promotion and marketing.
- Increased Surf Sport / Competition
- Increased visibility of GSLSC within the community.
- Continued sustainability of the GSLSC precinct.

On the last point of sustainability, the re-development of the Surf Club 'Sets' Gym has provided GSLSC with a reliable and sustainable income stream with a gross profit of approximately \$70k per annum. While this funding has been used this year to upgrade the current gym equipment it is expected that a certain percentage will be kept for selective upgrading of equipment and the rest can be utilized for repairs and maintenance of the club. Thanks to Pete and Lizi Newman our Best Club Members 2023 for your enthusiasm, time, and community spirit.

To streamline gym memberships GSLSC has engaged Glofox Gym Management Software so there is less double handling and ease of operation for our volunteers. It also provides a transparent platform for communication, auditing, and succession purposes.

Thank you to Kate O'Sullivan our outgoing treasurer and Deb Andrews who has recently taken over the helm. It is a role that underpins everything we do at GSLSC and one we cannot do without.

Long Service awards – Congratulations to the following members –

20 Year Long Service awards - Scott Dethlefsen, Damon Angelatos, Geoff Innes, and Sally McKenzie!

10 Years Russell Jones, Claire MacPherson!



Russell Jones



Geoff Innes, Damon Angelatos, Scott Dethlefsen, Sally McKenzie

To all our sponsors old and new, “Thank YOU”.

Classic Accounting, Dongara Marine and the Warr family, Suncity Plumbing - Sojan Family, Lara Dalton MLA, Midwest Port Authority, Axis Autos, Refuel Australia, Kick Solutions and the Freeman Family, Able Kids Therapy, Rigters Supermarkets, Waves Building Services - Willow, Zumba with Lisa, Cleanaway, Geraldton Tyre power, Geraldton Transport, DLGSC, Sweet Orange Productions, Tyson and Jayme Overstone and your amazing furniture and lights. Your assistance enables GSLSC to continue to provide our vital community service of Saving Lives in the Midwest. Please support our local sponsors together with our state and National sponsors – Woodside, AGL, Lotterywest and SLWA/SLSA.

Sally McKenzie



Sally and Stick McKenzie



Kate O'Sullivan, Sally and Deb Andrews



Peter and Lizi Newman

Life Member Awards 2022/23 – Denver and Caroline Rowcroft

Presented by Judy Heylen and Willow Williamson

The Rowcroft family; Denver, Caroline and their daughters initially joined the Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club in 2001 when oldest daughter Coby was 7 years old. At that time, they did not have the U6/7 groups so younger daughter Tiahni, 5 years old, could not join in and Zoe was only 3 years old.

After taking a break from the club the Rowcroft family re-joined in 2006 when all four of their daughters (Kya included) could be part of the age groups. Since then, Denver and Caroline's commitment and dedication has grown every season.

Never ones to sit back and watch they immersed themselves in Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club culture. They went from being there every Sunday morning to nearly every day down at the club. It all started with being a parent helper with the girls' groups. As the girls grew older, Denver would join in every session when they were going through their SRC and Bronze medallion courses. During the 2008/09 season Denver and Caroline decided to complete their bronze medallion course so they could help with water safety and feel more confident in the water. They started participating in patrols, water safety at competition events and Sunday mornings at the club. Their strong willingness to help with whatever is needed meant that they put their hand up for many volunteer roles.

In the following years Denver and Caroline completed multiple courses, were involved in numerous committee roles, and spent countless hours volunteering their time and enthusiastic energy around the club. If something needed to be done, they would step in. Caroline and Denver have taken every opportunity to engage in education and learn more lifesaving skills.

Denver has completed his Bronze Medallion Course, Advanced resuscitation training certificate, Age Managers Course, IRB crew, Silver Medallion, IRB Driver, and WA Silver Medallion Beach Management. He has been on the committee with the titles of Junior Director, Youth director, Director of Member Development, and Life Membership Committee. Other roles included: Age Manager Mentor, and IRB Trainer and Assessor (in training). Denver was awarded the 'Best Club Member' in the 2011/12 season. Unofficial roles include retic fixer, plumber, builder, earth mover and amazing handy man. No job too big or too small.

Caroline has completed her Age Managers Course, ARTC, and Bronze Medallion Course. She has been on the committee in the titles of Youth Director, Director of Administration, Member Protection Officer, and Life Membership Committee. Caroline was awarded the Mid-west Sports federation Administrator of the year in 2017 for her commitment to Surf lifesaving, Waterpolo and Hockey. Other roles included: U6 Age Manager, Age Manager Mentor, State and Country Manager, bar manager, competition scorer, coordinated sausage sizzle fundraisers, and maker of the most delicious Lemon meringue slice. The catch cry "ask Caroline - she will know" pretty much sums up how important Caroline is to GSLSC.

Even though Caroline and Denver's volunteering started with wanting to be involved with their daughters' sports, their contribution and love for the Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club and all the club members has grown to be so much more than they could have imagined. Geraldton Surf Life Saving club are so very lucky to have the Rowcroft's in the club and we thank you both for your tireless contributions.



VICE PRESIDENT REPORT 2022/23

We have had another busy year with changes to the gym and many functions booked in.

Lizi and Pete Newman have taken on the huge job of managing the gym, which is now called, Sets Gym. We have our regular Silver Sets group that meet every Tuesday and Friday morning to do a closed-circuit session which they run and brings revenue into the club. We have updated most equipment that needed updating due to wear and tear and have added numerous items as requested by the gym users. We currently sit at about 120 public members, 25 silver sets members and 5 associate members; this brings in approx. \$77,000 in revenue to the club. Pete and Lizi have been busy organising all the new equipment, moving equipment so painting can be done and sorting a new security system that is more cost effective, long term, to the club. We have also purchased a Glofox system which takes away the messiness of payment runs, which the public member uses to sign up and make their payments. This has been a massive undertaking and I thank Lizi and Pete for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

The function centre has had another busy year for both me and Judy. Under the Geraldton Port Authority Grant, we have had a permanent wall put in place to cover the toilet entries. This has gone down well with those that have hired the space. Willow also installed wire so that festival lights are now easily strung. Our name is getting out there again and we have had many bookings for birthdays, wakes, weddings, and baby showers. The training room has been utilized for bookings with a new smart TV being installed that connects to training implements. The old clubrooms have also received quite a few bookings and the space has also been hired out for small clubs when they have come down from Exmouth for sporting events, in which they are very grateful to get this at a good price so their club can stay together. We have also had hires for Not-for-Profit clubs at a cheaper price and they are also extremely grateful to us.

Lisa Mardon



Deb Andrews, Lisa Mardon, Nicole Benham



Silver Sets Gym Members

CLUB CAPTAIN REPORT 2022/23

Thank you for all the incredible effort you have shown this season. Special mentions go to our Age Managers, who have been outstanding in their leadership and mentorship of our younger members, and our Patrol Captains and Patrolling Members who have been diligent and attentive, ensuring the safety of our beachgoers and saving lives. The Board members have also been instrumental in our club's growth and prosperity this season, providing ongoing strategic vision and guidance. And finally, to all our volunteers, you have been amazing, giving your time and energy to our club, and contributing to its success in countless ways.

Due to my ongoing FIFO work commitments, I will not be taking on the Club Captain role again next season. Each season I have many goals that I would like to achieve, yet each season I am less available to achieve them. I want to take this opportunity to encourage you amazing volunteers to consider a board role or assisting in a sub-committee. Both are an incredibly rewarding experience that will allow you to make a real difference in the direction of our club. You will have the opportunity to shape the policies and programs that will guide our club's future and have an invaluable impact.

I encourage you to consider your skills and interests and reach out to the current board members to discuss the opportunities available. We need enthusiastic and committed volunteers to ensure the ongoing success of our club, and I have no doubt that many of you have what it takes to fill that role.

Once again, thank you for your efforts and dedication to our club. You have truly made a difference, and we are incredibly proud to have you as members of our community.

Callum Ilich



Callum Ilich



Erin and Callum Ilich

Starfish Nippers 2022/23



The Starfish Nippers Program was fortunate enough to run for its second consecutive year in the 2022-23 season.

Starfish Nippers is a program designed for neurodiverse and additional needs children, where they can be supported by wonderful volunteers alongside their parents to learn essential water-safety skills and beach awareness. Safety and water skills were taught through sand and water-based games, with a well-deserved paddle board session and free swim at the end! It was great to see some Nippers from last season returning, as well as some new faces.

I would like to thank our fantastic and dedicated volunteers who took time out of their own busy lives to help and support the Starfish Nippers Program and ensure its success week to week. Thank you for bringing your skills and expertise to make each session run successfully and smoothly, with joy, laughter, smiles and lots and lots of fun!

Addie Robertson

2022 Geraldton Guardian Midwest Sports Awards – 26 November 2022

Congratulations to the GSLSC Starfish Nipper Program who won the Kick solutions Atlas Inclusion Awards. Well done to all involved in making this program so much fun for our neuro divergent community 😊 Thanks [AbleKids Occupational Therapy](#) for sponsoring the program!



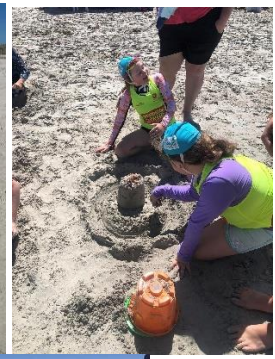
Addie Robertson, Sarah Anns, Sally McKenzie, Lisa Mardon

Starfish Nippers 2022/23



Starfish Nippers need helpers

WHAT: Starfish Nippers is a modified Nippers program for kids with disability or autism.
WHEN: Sunday Morning 9-10:30 am, Starts 13th November - school term only at Back Beach.
HOW: Helpers work one on one with water based activities.
WHY: Have fun going back to kids who can't normally access the beach or Nippers.
Helpers get free use of our great new gym with GSLSC membership
 Contact surfclub@geraldtonslsc.com.au or PM



JUNIOR AGE MANAGERS REPORT 2022/23

Under 6 – Michael May

As a parent that is new to surf lifesaving having joined last season, and taking on the role as a junior co-ordinator has been a huge learning experience for me. The confidence that the children show at the end of the season as they take on the waves is a testament to the success of our junior program. Not only do the children learn but the parents/guardians as well. I look forward to next season.



Michael May and Under 6's

Under 7 – Rohan Norris

Thank you to the families that helped throughout the season. As a new age manager this season I have enjoyed guiding the children through this nipper program and seeing their confidence improve as the season progressed. See you all next season!



Rohan Norris



Under 7's

Under 8 – Jim and Chris Plunkett and Levi Horsham

The U/8's had another great season this year with plenty of energy and enthusiasm on show. The progress that each of you has made across the season has been very rewarding to see both for you and for your parents and you should be proud, as age managers, we certainly are proud. It is wonderful to see you tackle the challenges of the waves down at the beach and to continue to learn about reading the conditions of the water and surfing with confidence. A big thank you to all the parents for diving in and helping across the season for our group to progress and most importantly to enjoy themselves doing so in a safe environment.

We hope to see you all back this season.



Under 8's



Chris, Jim & Darcy Plunkett



Levi Horsham

Under 9 – Rodney Allen

The Under 9's had a great season; we are a small but committed group of kids and parents who regularly attend.

The kids made great progress and skill development in early training for first and tackling strong surf conditions with confidence.

Looking forward to seeing all the kids back next season to progress further and discover a lifelong passion as clubbies for Back Beach.



Rodney Allen



Under 9's

Under 10 – Ben Ebsary

U/10's were really charging ahead with their surf craft this year. Many are now pushing 'out the back' even on the big days. This age group provides something for all members with a great mix of fun, challenge, and competition to suit all levels. Due to other sporting commitments, age manager duties were shared by many parents this year so thanks to all who stepped up to run the U/10's.



Ben Ebsary



Under 10's



Under 10's

Under 11 – Jill Gamble and Kurt Warhurst

Under 11's remained a big group with variable competencies, so it worked well to have two Age Managers again this season with the Kurt/Jill duo. We were backed up at every session by Cathy and Chris McQueeney, who very obligingly took on any helper role asked of them.

It was pleasing to see some of the less strong members taking on some pretty challenging conditions - taking some of the biggest, latest drops of the season with massive grins on their faces (or were they grimaces??).

A few of us had a lot of fun at the Country Carnival in Perth late in the season, so we are hoping to inspire a bigger group of Nippers to give it a go in 2024. Bring on season 23/24!



Jill and Kurt



Under 11's



McQueeney family



Under 11's

Under 12 – Glen Andrews

Congratulations to all the U12's for their efforts, energy, great attitude, and bravery in the big surf, it's been an epic season.

You have all improved and become stronger, particularly in the ocean.

I hope that you have all had a fun and have learned more about surf lifesaving.

It would be awesome to have a strong team for Country & State champs next year and we look forward to seeing you back and giving that a good go; but also remember that surf club is about teamwork, camaraderie, having a go, and having fun, as well as a bit of healthy competition and you have all demonstrated that this summer.

A great big thank you goes out to all our families for your assistance and support this season.

It was also great to see some parents going through the surf club training – Great stuff.

We are looking forward to seeing you all back next season.



Glen Andrews Under 12's

Under 13 – Dan Plunkett

Once again, a great group of Nippers joined in for the years activities.

Everyone's skills and efforts in the water and on the beach went up another notch.

Everybody can read the conditions on the beach before we enter the water.

Everybody watches out for their team-mates in rough conditions.

Everybody can paddle & swim out the back in real surf.

Everybody completed every race they entered.

We can all ride waves on boards.

We can all explain the dangers of the ocean.

We know the signals and what to do to help when a fellow swimmer or fellow paddler is in trouble.

I can confirm that every member of the U13 team is a future Surf Life Saver and will be able to save lives.

Above all everyone is beach fit. Whether they were first or last in a race they tried their best and did a little better every day.

Bring on summer 2023-24 and graduation from Nippers to Youth.

Great work everybody and hope to see you next year.

Very proud of everyone's efforts.

Under 13/14's

Patterson Andrews, Sahara Coyle, Zoe Dumont, Ella Ebsary, George Giudice, Ben Hainan, Indiana Howell, Oliver Jeffrey, Eli Lavon, Riley Penney, Spencer Sojan, Clayton Symonds, Lucas Symonds, Acacia Wood. Grace Clarke, Issac Gamble, Spencer Green, Brodi Lamond, Angus McDonald, Ruby Monaghan, Alexander Plunkett, Sophie Quinn.



Dan Plunkett



Under 13's

Under 14 – Mick Gibberd

This season saw some of our members attending State events in Perth. It was a great learning experience for our group as well as parents as we learnt to navigate competition protocol. Our aim next season is to enter more competitions with a larger group especially as we will be hosting the WA Sunsmart Country Carnival.

Sadly we said goodbye to Mick and the Dumont family just before Christmas 2022 as they headed off to the Perth to start their next family adventure. Thanks Mick for all that you and your family have done for the club.



Mick Gibberd and Sally McKenzie



L-R Sally, Mick, Michael, Carter and Rohan

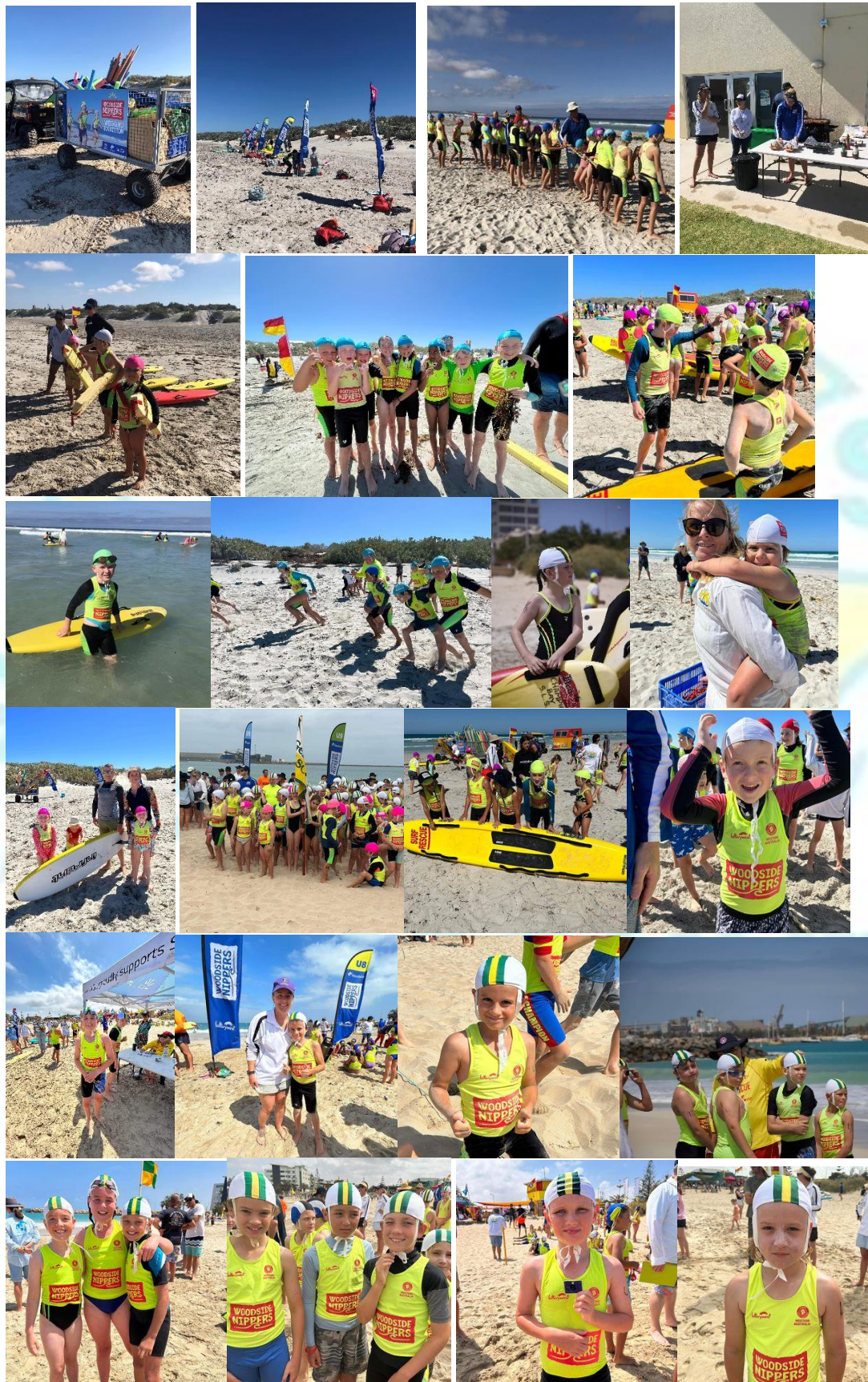
GSLSC 2022/23 NIPPER AWARDS

	<u>U8</u>	<u>U9</u>
Champion Boy	Hunter Lamond	Mason Kennedy
Runner up champion boy	George Munro/James Clarke	Zac Campbell
Iron Man	Hunter Lamond	Mason Kennedy
Champion Girl	Sienna Plunkett	Eloise Norris
Runner up champion girl	Ahrora Richardson	Emilee Lazarou
Iron Woman	Sienna Plunkett	Eloise Norris
Coaches award	Argo Proposch	Reg Allen
Age Manager	Jim and Chris Plunkett/Levi Horsham	Rodney Allen

	<u>U10</u>	<u>U11</u>
Champion Boy	Samuel Ebsary	Cooper McQueeney
Runner up champion boy	Rory McDonald	Jaxon Monaghan
Iron Man	Rory McDonald	Joshua Lazarou
Champion Girl	Amity Howell	Hallie Gamble
Runner up champion girl	Amira Coyle	Molly Griffiths
Iron Woman	Amira Coyle	Hallie Gamble
Coaches award	McKenzie Gillard	Liam Warhurst
Age Manager	Ben Ebsary	Jill Gamble/Kurt Warhurst

	<u>U12</u>	<u>U13/14</u>
Champion Boy	Patterson Andrews	Brodi Lamond
Runner up champion boy	Spencer Sojan	Alexander Plunkett
Iron Man	Spencer Sojan	Brodi Lamond
Champion Girl	Sahara Coyle	Grace Clarke
Runner up champion girl	Indiana Howell	Sophie Quinn
Iron Woman	Sahara Coyle	Grace Clarke
Coaches award	Penelope Griffiths	Ruby Monaghan
Age Manager	Glen Andrews	Dan Plunkett

Woodside Nippers 2022/23



SLSWA Nipper Club Achievement Award – Grace Clarke

Achievement of individual safety outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
Fully achieving individual safety outcomes per the program.

Has been in the Nippers program for 5 years now and an outstanding contributor both in knowledge and demonstrated skills and behaviours. Grace is both an exceptional athlete and exceptional school student academically as well as being popular. This is demonstrated in the way she lives Surf Life Saving values.

Achievement of surf awareness outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
Outstanding knowledge of beach conditions. Observes beach conditions as part of every Nipper session and identifies rips, gutters etc in conjunction with wind and swell conditions and understands why flags are positioned accordingly. Comfortable in water in solid swell which Geraldton Back Beach is renowned for and understands how to use and exit rips & sweep. Best body surfer in the U13 group in 2023 (male or female)

Achievement of the lifesaving outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
Answers all lifesaving questions accurately including flags DRSABCD, FLAGS and demonstrates rescue techniques on boards. Works well with team members to care for each other and negotiate prevailing conditions.

Achievement of the surf sports skills outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
Wins pretty much all the beach events in the regional carnivals and all beach events at club level for female. Placed first in Country Carnival sprint and 5th in State Carnival sprint.

Attitude displayed by member e.g., positive, tries their best, team orientated, respectful, role model.

Grace is bright spark for the team and very empathetic with all teammates. She is popular. Grace competes in flags against the boys regularly beating them and pushing them to higher performance.

Level of participation of member - attendance on Sundays, at training, at carnivals 100% attendance for 2023 both at training on Sundays and at carnivals. Grace will be the Champion girl nipper for 2023.

Contribution to club –

In combination with parents Lisa and Anthony, Grace always comes to set up and pull down when rostered. The family always attends social events and Grace has a younger brother now coming up through the ranks (Jimmy).



YOUTH AWARDS

Thank you to all our youth for your contributions this season. Each of you is unique individuals who bring their skills and talents to GSLSC. We are very grateful for everything that you have contributed and like all your parents, we are very proud of all your achievements this year whether it is training, patrolling, crewing in IRB, senior first aid, providing water safety or being a Youth Age Manager. We hope you have had some fun this season.

Our Youth awards are -

Youth Age Manager – This award goes to Levi Horsham a young person who is committed to age managing, building from his experience in the last 2 season, developing leadership skills. Congratulations Levi!

Youth Lifesaver – as well as our Youth Club achiever this year goes to a person who has spent countless hours patrolling this season, a person who is reliable, dependable and who has been keen to jump into any task required especially with IRB training – you will make an amazing IRB driver by the way. You are a great role model for younger nippers. Congratulations Lailah Bellottie!

SLSWA Youth Club Achievement Award - Lailah Bellottie

Achievement in **lifesaving** area – hours on patrol to date this season, awards gained this season.

Patrol hours as at 07/03/2023 36 hours

Achievement in **training** area – assistance provided to training area, training award gained.

Regular attendee at training sessions.

Commenced IRB crew training.

Achievement in **leadership** area – leadership activities undertaken, registered for YLP.

Does extra patrols and water safety on Sundays for Woodside nippers and Starfish nippers.

Helps with fundraising and functions.

Achievement in **surf sports** area – club, interclub, coaching, officiating.

Assists with training sessions and training younger members in boards and swims.

Attitude displayed by member e.g., positive, tries their best, team orientated, respectful, role model.

Lailah is a respectful member of the club. Her willingness to help others whether it be in the water, on the beach or at the clubrooms shows her maturity as a wonderful role model to others.

Level of participation of member – attendance on Sundays, at training, at carnivals.

Lailah is a regular attender. She competes in local carnivals and participates positively in interclub training sessions.

Contribution to club.

Lailah is a valued member of our club. Her family were regular participants in contributing to helping the club whether through being active members, helping fundraise or pitching in where needed. Lailah has remained as an active member of the club despite her brothers leaving to pursue other sports and her mum and dad having heavy work commitments. Lailah has a lovely demeanour and her willingness to help others is a true indication of part of what a Life Saver does.



Lailah Bellottie



Levi Horsham



Lailah Bellottie and Levi Horsham



SURF SPORTS REPORT – To be finalised



Talia Jakubans

GSLSC SENIOR AWARDS 2022/23

EVENT	MALE	FEMALE
Ironman/woman		
Swim		
Board		
Ski		
Tube Race		
Board Rescue		
Beach Sprint		
Flags		
4km Run		
1km Swim		



Grace Clarke



Brodi Lamond



Patterson Andrews



Hallie Gamble



Patterson Andrews



L-R Brodi, Alexander, Patterson, Grace, Hallie



Brodi & Alexander



Brodi Lamond



Scott Dethlefsen & Talia Jakubans

MEDIA AND MARKETING REPORT

This role was shared by the board who all helped to promote the club.

Thanks, to Caroline Rowcroft for her social media posts as well as many parents who contributed.

The strategic planning meetings have highlighted that currently marketing and promotion, is a big and necessary role in any club or business. GSLSC thanks Callum Ilich for nominating for the role for next year. He has already started planning for the country carnival and start of the next season.

GSLSC thanks all our sponsors. Please support them.

Sally McKenzie



Acknowledging the Mid-West Ports for their grant and enabling the club to complete much needed works on the clubrooms!

LIFE SAVING REPORT

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and effort to Patrol Back Beach throughout the 2022 – 2023 season.

To reduce the load on our volunteers and hopefully retain a few more patrol members, patrol days were reduced to Sundays only this season.

There were 5 patrol teams rostered to patrol our stretch of beach on Sundays and Public Holidays from November through to the end of March.

A big thank you to our five Patrol Captains in Patrol Order –



Claire MacPherson



Stick McKenzie



George Giudice



Kathy Braysich



Talia Jakubans

A note of appreciation to both Russell Jones for helping with everything from Patrols, Event Water Safety and Training and Robert Saunders for inputting the Patrol hours and keeping the radios working.



Patrol 4



Russell Jones



Robert Saunders

Despite the reduction in patrols, members of the Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club performed 1231 hrs of patrol service during the 2022-2023 season.

During the season our members, whilst on patrol, performed 23 Rescues, 54 First Aid Treatments and 214 Preventative Actions.

The members who contributed the most time patrolling our beach were:

Denver Rowcroft	82.5	Kathryn Braysich	41
Carter Pardoe	75	Lailah Bellottie	40
Jeremy Henderson	74	Caroline Rowcroft	33.5
Peter Saunders	66	Jill Gamble	28.5
Ricky Wei	60	Mikaelah Rickards	31

Jeremy Henderson

Patrol Team: Patrol 1

Name	Position
MacPherson, Claire	Patrol Captain
Plunkett, James	Vice-Captain
Rowcroft, Denver	IRB Driver
Plunkett, Chris	ARTC Operator
Rowcroft, Caroline	ARTC Operator
Chamberlain, Matthew	Bronze Medallion
Chamberlain, Nicole	Surf Rescue Certificate
Macpherson, Emily	Bronze Medallion
Macpherson, Sophie	Surf Rescue Certificate
Rowcroft, Kya	Bronze Medallion
Rowcroft, Tiahni	Bronze Medallion
Saunders, Robert	Bronze Medallion

Patrol Team: Patrol 2

Name	Position
McKenzie, Paul	Patrol Captain
Angelatos, Damon	Vice-Captain
Bulley, Jo-Anne (Jo)	IRB Driver
Angelatos, Fiona	Bronze Medallion
Angelatos, Sabine	Bronze Medallion
Carlyon, Drew	Bronze Medallion
Dethlefsen, Eike (Elke)	Bronze Medallion
Dethlefsen, Finn	Bronze Medallion
Dethlefsen, Scott	Bronze Medallion
Elliott, Kara	Bronze Medallion
McKenzie, Alexander	Bronze Medallion
McKenzie, Kate	Surf Rescue Certificate
McKenzie, Sally	Bronze Medallion
Plunkett, Daniel	Rescue Watercraft Operator

Patrol Team: Patrol 3

Name	Position
Giudice, Peter (George)	Patrol Captain
Allen, Rodney	Vice-Captain
Gibberd, Michael	IRB Driver
Warhurst, Kurt	IRB Crew
Bellottie, Chontarle	Bronze Medallion
Bellottie, Lailah	Surf Rescue Certificate
Mardon, Lisa	Bronze Medallion
Newman, India	Surf Rescue Certificate
Newman, Peter	Bronze Medallion

Newman, Saskia	Surf Rescue Certificate
Rickards, Mikaelah	Bronze Medallion
Surtees, Georgia	Bronze Medallion
Surtees, Melinda	Bronze Medallion
Burns, Evan	Rescue Watercraft Operator
<u>Patrol Team: Patrol 4</u>	
Name	Position
Braysich, Kathryn	Patrol Captain
Henderson, Jeremy	Vice-Captain
McLay, Cameron	IRB Driver
Innes, Geoffrey	ARTC Operator
Dethlefsen, Fina	Bronze Medallion
Greenaway, Wade	Bronze Medallion
Ilich, Callum	Bronze Medallion
Lin, Ivan	Bronze Medallion
Rothwell, Bjorn	Surf Rescue Certificate
Waller, Joanne	Bronze Medallion
Wei, Alan	Bronze Medallion
Wei, Ricky	Bronze Medallion
<u>Patrol Team: Patrol 5</u>	
Name	Position
Jakubans, Talia	Patrol Captain
Jones, Russell	Vice-Captain
Annen, Ross	Bronze Medallion
Coaker, Leigh	Bronze Medallion
Ebsary, Benjamin (Ben)	Bronze Medallion
Gamble, Jillian	Bronze Medallion
Horsham, Levi	Bronze Medallion
Kane, Chris	Bronze Medallion
Pardoe, Carter (CJ)	Bronze Medallion
Rowcroft, Zoe	Bronze Medallion
Sojan, Hamish	Surf Rescue Certificate
Sojan, Melissa	Bronze Medallion

THANKS GSLSC 2022/23 MEMBERS

.....
23 RESCUES



214

Preventative actions

51



Fantastic

Patrol Members



54

First Aids

1231



Patrol Hours

.....
93 Years

.....
Back Beach
The Real Thing

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The 2022/23 season was another success for the Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club. **Peter Saunders** had a stand-out year starting with organising the requalification of Patrol members. This is a lot of work with copious amounts of paperwork, but without this process we could not do patrols.

In May 2023, Peter, along with his brother Robert was awarded the **Surf Life Saving Australia 15-year National service medal**.

About the National Medal - Surf Life Saving Australia volunteers with a minimum of 30 patrolling hours over a minimum period of 15 seasons, since September 18, 1986, are eligible for the National Medal.

First established in 1975 as a military recognition award, the National Medal has since branched out into government and voluntary organisations and is now Australia's most awarded civil medal. The National Medal is awarded to individuals on behalf of the Governor-General of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd).

FB post - [Surf Life Saving WA](#) NATIONAL MEDAL // Congratulations to Robert Saunders & Peter Saunders from [Geraldton Surf Life Saving Club](#) receiving their National Medal for 15 years of service 🍷🍷



Peter Saunders was also nominated for the **SLSWA Assessor of the Year Award** and attended the Surf Life Saving WA Awards of Excellence night where it was announced that he had won the award. Congratulations Pete! This award made Peter the WA nomination for the National awards to be held in Sydney in November 2023.

Peter had done assessing for our club, Dongara/Dennison, and Busselton Clubs. At Busselton he worked with **Shelley Rourke**. Shelley won WA Trainer of the Year also at the SLSWA Awards of Excellence.



Geraldton Contingent



Saunders Family

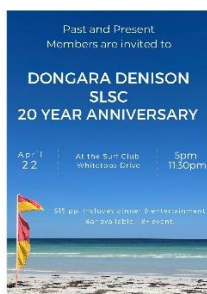


Pete & Leanne Coverley-Brandis



Shelly and Pete

In April **Dongara/Dennison SLSC** had a function to celebrate the **20 Year anniversary** of their club. Geraldton Club members invited included Sally and Paul McKenzie, **Eddy and Ann Saunders**, Robert and Linda Saunders, Steve, and Lauren Saunders (Steve is now a Smiths Beach member), Peter and Linda Saunders, Mike and Toni Francis, Denver, and Caroline Rowcroft. At the ceremony Geraldton Club members were thanked by President Rod Owen for the assistance given to the club over many years. **Eddy and Peter Saunders** were presented with a special award for their 20 years' service to the club.



L-R Rod, Dana, Eddy, Pete, Stacey, Tracey

Eddy and Ann Saunders

Mick Gibberd was Age manager again up until Christmas 2022 when he relocated his family to Perth. Mick has been a long-term member and we will certainly miss his involvement.



Mick Gibberd and Rodney Allen



Catherine Dumont and Mick Gibberd

Michael May took on the role of Junior co-ordinator and did a commendable job considering his short involvement with the club. Thank you, Michael. Big thank you to all the Age Managers for all the work they have done.

Trainers and Assessors – thank you to all trainers and assessors. Peter Saunders, Mike Francis, Kathryn Braysich, Jeremy Henderson, Russell Jones, Jim Plunkett, Talia Jakubans, David Quimby and Denver Rowcroft.



Peter Saunders



Mike Francis



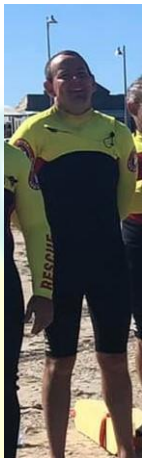
Kathryn Braysich



Jeremy Henderson



Russell Jones



Jim Plunkett



Talia Jakubans



David Quimby



Denver Rowcroft

Surf Boat Pro - Over the Queen's Birthday long weekend in September 2022 Willow organised the Inaugural Geraldton Surf Boat Pro which is now an official event on the SLSWA calendar.



Geraldton Guardian



Willow Williamson

David Somers (SLSWA Member Development Coordinator) **Dominic Cowdell** (Club Lifesaving and Education Officer)

Thank you to Dave Somers and Dominic Cowdell for travelling to Geraldton, providing In-Service sessions for Geraldton members and the other Midwest clubs. Also thank you to SLSWA for their continued support throughout the year and for responding to numerous requests from Geraldton.

Chris Plunkett – Big thank again to Chris Plunkett as this was her last season as Canteen Manager. Her work running the club canteen resulted in high praise from the City of Greater Geraldton Health Inspectors earning top star ratings. Chris completed numerous online courses, keeping the canteen going at optimum efficiency resulting in great service to members.

Kate O’Sullivan – Kate stayed on as the treasurer until new treasurer Deb Andrews was confident to take over this position. After years of service as treasurer the club would like to thank Kate for her dedication and generous amount of her time including setting up the MYOB accounting system which has made running the club accounts easier.

Naming of IRB’s – In honour and recognition of running IRB courses over many years our two IRB’s were named the “Franny” (Mike Francis) and the “Saundo” (Eddy Saunders). Thank you to ex clubbie Mick Haines for taking the time to complete the sign writing on the IRB’s and honour boards.



Franny – Mike Francis



Saundo – Eddy Saunders



L-R Ray Sojan, Mick Haines, Willow

Bronze/Surf Rescue Course -Congratulations to Geraldton’s newest Bronze Medallion and Surf Rescue Certificate recipients! We’ll done on staying the course and getting through the assessment. Big thanks go to Russell Jones and Kathy Braysich for all the training hours that they put into the dry and wet sessions over the season. Thanks also to Peter Saunders and Jeremy Henderson for giving up their time to assess. Well done all and looking forward to seeing you down on patrol!



This August 2023 **Russell Jones** performed an amazing Jet-ski rescue in difficult conditions and saved the lives of two teenagers. Russell was assisted by members **Peter Saunders**, **Denver Rowcroft** and **Judy Heylen**. This rescue was reported in the local Geraldton Guardian Newspaper and the City of Greater Geraldton FB page acknowledging the great work of surf life savers in the community.



L-R Denver Rowcroft, Peter Saunders, Russell Jones Judy Heylen



Russell Jones



Geraldton Guardian

We look forward to hosting the WA SunSmart Country Carnival that will be held at Back Beach Geraldton on the 26 January 2024. It will be a great honour and enormous opportunity to show case Surf Life Saving and Geraldton to all the WA Surf Life Saving Clubs and Visitors.

Denver Rowcroft

Annual Dinner 1st April 2023 –



Attended by our Vice Patron, Mayor for The Greater City of Geraldton Shane Van Styn and fiancée Jazzlyn Lennard



