ANNUAL REPORT 2024 / 2025

Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club

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1.0 PRESIDENTS REPORT

The past twelve months at our club have been incredibly busy, and I extend my sincere gratitude to all the dedicated volunteers who have contributed to making this year a success. As I conclude my second year as President, I feel privileged to have been surrounded by such capable and passionate individuals. Leadership inevitably comes with challenges, and I acknowledge that the past year has presented its share of obstacles. However, these experiences have provided valuable opportunities for growth and learning.

I want to emphasize the unwavering commitment of our Board of Directors, who approach their responsibilities with diligence and a genuine desire to ensure the long-term success of our club.

Under our new strategic plan, we have made substantial progress, achieving most of our firstyear milestones. While there are areas that require further improvement—particularly in training and officiating—these challenges are common among clubs with smaller membership bases.

The need for additional support from parents and community members is evident, and we welcome more volunteers to join us for the upcoming season. Importantly, patrolling opportunities are now available beyond water-based roles, with radio and first aid duties offering new ways for individuals to contribute.

To our outgoing Committee and Board members, I extend my deepest appreciation for your service and dedication. I hope to see many of you remain active within the club in various capacities.

"Together, we will continue to build a strong, inclusive, and successful Surf Club for the future."

The upcoming Annual General Meeting will be a valuable opportunity to welcome new members with fresh perspectives, skills, and experiences, ensuring that our club continues to evolve and thrive. I look forward to the year ahead with optimism and invite everyone to be part of this journey.

Laura Dixon, President

2.0 LIFE SAVING REPORT

As another summer wraps up, it's time to reflect on the highlights, challenges, and achievements of the 2024-25 lifesaving season at Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club (PSSLSC).

This season, over 1700 patrol hours were logged by our dedicated volunteers - an outstanding commitment that reinforces the strong community spirit at our club. A special congratulations to Neil Hargreaves, who led the charge with well over 100 hours on the beach. Neil's commitment to the club and the safety of our community continues to set a high standard for all.

We're also proud to report seven successful rescues and 837 preventative actions carried out by our patrol teams. These figures highlight the critical role our lifesavers play - not only responding to emergencies but also proactively keeping beachgoers safe every day. A highlight this year was welcoming Laura Dixon, Cheree Waddle, Debra Hicks and Tom Murray to their first season as Patrol Captains. Each of them brought fresh energy and leadership to their teams, contributing to smooth and effective patrol operations throughout the season. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed - thank you.



Once again, our patrol model included negotiated hours to ensure we had strong coverage during peak beach use in January while easing back during quieter periods in March. We'll continue to refine this model to suit the unique needs of the Port Sorell beaches and community, in collaboration with Surf Life Saving Tasmania (SLST).

On the equipment front, our assets were kept in top condition thanks to regular maintenance and servicing. This ensures we remain rescue-ready year-round, and with the addition of a new lightweight IRB beach trailer, we will be in good stead to deliver a good quality service next season.

Thank you to every member who gave their time this season - whether on patrol, behind the scenes, or supporting the club in other ways. Your contribution helps save lives, educate the public, and build a safer, more resilient community.

We're already looking forward to next season. If you know someone who might be interested in becoming a Surf Life Saver, bring them along on registration day - we're always keen to welcome new faces to our team. Thank you for another fantastic season at PSSLSC. See you on the beach!

Jesse Beveridge - Director Lifesaving

3.0 NIPPERS

The 2024/25 season has once again been a tremendous success for our Nipper program, with consistent numbers of enthusiastic participants turning up week after week. Our young lifesavers continued to build their skills in surf awareness, water safety, and beach confidence, while enjoying plenty of fun and games along the way. Their energy and excitement created a fantastic atmosphere on the sand every week, and it was wonderful to see families embracing the spirit of the club and community.

This season kicked off with the arrival of newly purchased boards, which were a fantastic and much-appreciated addition to our equipment. These boards have been in high demand throughout the season and played a key role in both training sessions and carnival performances. With approximately 30 Nippers consistently competing across the carnival circuit, the additional boards helped ensure all athletes had the opportunity to perform at their best.



One of the exciting changes implemented this year was the introduction of Live Heats wrist bands, which were used to sign on and off the beach each session. This system improved safety, made session management smoother, and ensured our Nippers were always accounted for on the sand and in the water.

Our carnival season was another highlight. Despite the cancellation of the Carlton Park Carnival due to weather, our Nippers proudly represented Port Sorell at four major carnivals. A particularly proud moment came in January, when we hosted a carnival right here at Port Sorell. It was a privilege to welcome clubs from across Tasmania to our beach, and the event was a great success - thanks to the efforts of many dedicated volunteers and the outstanding participation of our athletes.

A special thank you goes to Ryan Febey who generously volunteered to run additional Monday night beach sessions. These optional extra trainings provided a valuable opportunity for those Nippers seeking to boost their fitness or refine their sand skills, and they were a hit with those who attended.

Our coaching team continues to be the heart of the Nippers program. These incredible young leaders are not only skilled athletes but also inspirational mentors who lead by example. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and positive role-modelling have a lasting impact on our juniors, helping to nurture not just strong surf skills but strong values too.

And finally, to our amazing Nippers - you are the reason we do what we do. Your energy, eagerness to learn, and vibrant spirit bring life to the beach every week. Watching your journey as you grow in confidence, make new friends, and fall in love with surf lifesaving has been an absolute pleasure.

We look forward to another exciting season ahead as we continue to foster a love for the beach, lifesaving, and community. Here's to more waves, more fun, and more memories in 2025/26!

Courtney Hardy, Junior Activities Manager

4.0 CLUB CAPTAINS

Our Club Captains are selected to lead our Nippers in their final year of junior training. They are encouraged to apply, and then applicants are interviewed by a panel of senior club members and are asked questions about their strengths, their commitment to club values and their reasons for wanting to become a Club Captain. It is quite a daunting experience for these kids whom for many, will be their first semi-formal interview. Celia and Liam were chosen this year and represented us beautifully. Below is a little note from Celia.

"This year has been extra special for me because it was my last year of Nippers, and I had the privilege of being one of the Nipper Captains, along with Liam. One of the most memorable parts of being a Club Captain was taking all the kids on a warmup, whether it was just for training or for a carnival. I would like to thank those kids who listened to me during the warmup - now I know what my teachers must put up with!



My biggest regret was never seeing a whale at Nippers. A few years ago, at Senior's training a whale and her baby swam right near them!

I want to say a huge thank you to our coaches, water safety team, volunteers, and parents for all their time and effort. You've kept us safe, taught us so much, and made every session enjoyable."

Celia Hart and Liam Baldock - Club Captains 2024/25

5.0 SURF SPORTS

The Seniors season began early with our chilly winter/autumn training sessions, moving into one of the loveliest summers we have had.

Special thanks to our coaching crew, Brent Armitstead, Ben Hart, Lesa McConnon and Natasha and Jordy Armitstead for helping create a training schedule and sessions. It is wonderful to work with such a supportive group of people willing to set up and help. To our Age Managers and officials, thank you for your support and giving your best to the athletes on the day.

It was pleasing that we maintained a high level of training participation and commitment across the season. With the help of many coaches, we offer a variety of training disciplines to cater to our athletes, and we will continue to look at ways to improve the options for our athletes. The individual results at state carnivals and at other surf sports events demonstrate our athletes' dedication and the quality of the coaching. They are all a pleasure to coach as they support each other and are willing to take advice. With confidence, we can say that every athlete improved in their performances across the season. Many of our senior group not only trained hard but also gave their time to support the Nippers with water safety and coaching.

It was great to see our athletes participating in the Ocean Swim Series, Winter Paddling Series, Iron Ocean Series, Performance Squad, State team, Aussies and of course, all the carnivals. For a small club we have quality competitors achieving top results at a state level.

Port Sorell were very proud to see Jordy Armitstead make the U17/Open State Team and the Super Surf League team, "The Tassie Sea Dragons". Athletes competed over four days at Cronulla NSW in December 2024. Athletes had a full day of competition with Jordy racing in the individual surf race, board and iron. Followed by many team events. The Tasmanian State Championships were held at Penguin Surf Life Saving Club. Competitors were fabulous competing in as many individual and team races as possible.

Oliver Hart, Tess Lodge, Ari Gaffney, Estella Austin, Jordy Armitstead, Kylin Harris, Liv Gaffney, Freja Harris and Celia Hart are super stars! Some team highlights were:

- Individual results: Podium finishes for Oliver, Jordy, Freja, Kylin
- Third placing Board Rescue for Kylin and Jordy
- Oliver and Tess having a go at the Mixed Double Ski
- The six-person Open Team Taplin was a fabulous effort from our six athletes: Kylin, Oliver, Tess, Ari, Jordy and Estella. Challenging themselves against the best open athletes in the state. It's awesome to watch these guys give their best effort every time!

The ultimate event to test our athletes is the Australian Surf Lifesaving Championships (Aussies). This year, Jordy Armitstead, Freja Harris and Kylin Harris represented Port Sorell on the Gold Coast along with 7000 athletes for a week of racing in varied surf events and surf conditions. With around 200 athletes in each age group, it was an intense experience.

Freja was representing the Tasmanian State Team (U15) and particularly enjoyed her surf race being in the mix with some of the best athletes in Australia and experiencing so many athletes in one race.

Jordy competed well making it to the Surf Race semifinal, Board quarter finals and coming 9th in Australia in the 2km Ocean Swim.

Kylin competed in the Board Riding competition held at Burleigh Heads. The competition was strong, showcasing the skills of the riders. They are judged on wave selection, strategy, manoeuvres and overall style. We believe Kylin is the only competitor from Port Sorell to ever compete in Board riding in the Aussies. Coming home in fourth place - what a great effort. We also thank Burnie Surf Life Saving Club for providing transport for their equipment to Queensland.

Our Masters competitor, Ben Hart, continues to lead by example. He is a wonderful role model for our athletes and competed well at the Masters Championship. The new Kracka Mal boards have been a fabulous addition to our competitors, particularly at carnivals. To the parents - I thank you for your contribution to our club and the support you provide our athletes and surf sports program. A club is only successful if the members support it, and everyone plays their part - we are extremely fortunate

Natasha Armitstead on behalf of Lesa McConnon, Director of Surf Sports

6.0 PENGUIN ISLAND SWIM

PSSLSC once again held the Penguin Island Swim on 23rd February 2025 as part of the 2024/25 Tasmanian Ocean Swim Series. The weather was touch and go this year, with thunderstorms and high winds the night before the event. Luckily the weather cleared just in time for the race, which was raced in good conditions. Within an hour of the race finishing, the wind started howling again - so we were very lucky.



Thanks to our major sponsor- Leaping Goat Coffee - who donated the prize money for the event. We also had a punnet of berries for every competitor, which is always a favourite, donated by Costa berries. Our race has the reputation as being one of the best organised events of the series, and again we made ourselves proud. Our patrol members stepped up to provide excellent water safety support in their typical no-fuss way. Our members helping marshal and record also did the usual great job.

Our own club members featured prominently in the race results. In the 2km race, Jordy Armitstead from PSSLSC won, closely followed by Matthew Costello and Bryce Chilcott. Isabella Airey was the first female. In the 500m race, Celia Hart of PSSLSC won the 500m overall with Freja Harris in second place, also of PSSLSC.

A total of 80 swimmers competed on the day. It was great to see many of our club members participating in the event. We look forward to hosting the event again next year.

Ben Hart - Penguin Island Swim Coordinator

7.0 PORT SORELL SALTIES

After procrastinating for several years, we finally launched the club's iteration of Surf Life Saving Australia's (SLSA) Silver Salties. With both Coates' now retired, the timing seemed right to offer a sustainable Silver Salties program to the community.

Silver Salties national programs aim to engage 'senior' members of the community with their local surf club by way of wellness focused activities, physical exercise based around the coastal environment, and education linked to surf lifesaving. It aims to provide volunteering opportunities as part of that connection with the local club.

The launch of Port Sorell Salties in November 2024 commenced with a series of four coastal walks supported by local legend Ranger John Bowden. Since then, the group has grown to 60 registrations with about a third having attended more than three of our different programs. These have included:

- Four Coastal walks
- Two Paddle and Play (board paddling and beach games) sessions
- Four Kayak Paddling sessions
- Four Beach Camp (boot camp on the Beach) sessions
- One informal CPR and Defibrillator session.



Several members registered with Port Sorell Salties have now completed their Responsible Serving of Alcohol Certificate, they have volunteered at the canteen at the Nipper Carnival, and car parking or bar duties at our markets and events.

Kayaking sessions in the estuary were well attended although as organisers we were challenged logistically. Being of a 'certain age' participants were unable to lift their old but once loved kayaks onto their cars or had no way of getting them to the start line. The club had disposed of their small Nipper trailer, so this meant loading five kayaks at a time into a box trailer and doing shuttle pick-ups and drop offs.

"So great to have had you as part of our segment - you're doing wonderful work to connect your community!" COTA (Council on The Ageing) Tasmania

The success and pleasure enjoyed during each of the paddles made the effort worthwhile. The group would like to continue this activity as it is one that they wouldn't normally be able to access on their own. Moving forward we will continue to offer a diverse range of fortnightly (or in some cases weekly) activities.

"So wonderful. Salties is a great group. Thank you." (FB) "I'm new to the area and I look forward to meeting you all" (FB)

Jo and Haydon Coates - Port Sorell Salties Coordinators

8.0 CLUB AWARDS 2024/2025 SEASON

Award	Recipient
Senior Coaches Award	Freja Harris
Senior Competitor of the Year	Jordy Armitstead
Keith Haines Youth Volunteer of the Year	Grace Greenhill
Georgina Crantock Coaches Award	Ryan Febey
Miles Ford Clubman (Volunteer of the Year)	Claudia Baldock
U19 Lifesaver of the Year	Jack Waddle
Greg Hall Break Award	Bev & Martin Sullivan
Todd Rockcliff Memorial Award (Lifesaver of the Year)	Rose McWilliam
President's Award	Greg Preece

Table 1 Club Awards Recipients 2024/25 season.

9.0 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

For club patrolling members, our season starts early with many SLST provided training courses and skill updates taking place in the 'off season'. These training opportunities are advertised through SLST bulletins and SurfLine emails and include First Aid, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Advanced Resuscitation and Silver Medallion Patrol Captain.

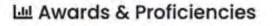
At our club, our education and training program consist of:

- Enabling U14 nippers to gain their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC), and transition cadets to Bronze Medallion (BM)
- Upskilling existing award holders, through both annual skills maintenance and scaffolding off existing skills to gain new awards such as IRB crew to IRB driver
- Introducing and encouraging new members to patrol pathways.

Congratulations go to the following members who gained new awards this season:

Award	Recipient
Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC)	Celia Hart, Liam Baldock, Olivia Gaffney
Advanced Resuscitation Techniques (ART):	Claudia Baldock, Dylan Twine, Jack
	Waddle, Arielle Gaffney, Emma Baldock,
	Kate Frame, Laura Dixon, Lilian Wild, Mia
	Whish-Wilson, Oliver Hart, Tess Lodge
Bronze Medallion (BM)	Mark Austin, Dylan Twine, Freja Harris,
	Estella Austin
Silver Medallion Patrol Captain	Cheree Waddle, Tom Murray, Laura Dixon
Silver Medallion IRB Driver	Teri Rundle
IRB Crew Certificate	Rose McWilliam

Table 2 Surf Life Saving Award Recipients





We had a shortage this year of both IRB Drivers and Crew. Of our existing award holders, only 65% of IRBC and 50% of IRBD underwent their skills maintenance (Table 3) to remain proficient in these awards. Several BM holders have partially completed their IRBC award but are awaiting assessment.

Table 3 Comparison of awards and proficiencies completed.

Deb Hicks, Education & Training Coordinator

10.0 FACILITIES

The annual requirement for testing of all fire safety equipment and testing and tagging of all electrical equipment were completed as planned, however the maintenance and compliance check of the lift failed to happen as planned. Upon further checking, it was discovered that some maintenance and compliance inspections had not happened, and the lift had never been registered with Work Safe Tasmania. This matter has been resolved with the lift now registered, all inspections completed, and a new emergency phone installed.

SLST provided all clubs in Tasmania with the opportunity for a Building Facilities Audit to be undertaken by an independent engineering company. Our audit was completed in November with no major issues identified, other than we need to finalise a Prescribed Building Maintenance Register which is currently being developed, and no upstairs disabled toilet.

Minor works have been undertaken throughout the year including installation of two outdoor security lights, unblocking stormwater drains and regular inspections and repairs to the upstairs wire balustrading fixings. During a regular building check several significant cracks were noticed in the upstairs deck and we are currently working with the builder, Oliver Kelly, to determine the cause of these cracks and what remedial action is required.

Our aging timber picnic tables on the upstairs deck have all been replaced with new maintenance free metal and composite units, with all the old units being eagerly snapped up by members. The Board will soon be offering members and the community the opportunity to sponsor the purchase of new units.

Last year we reported that we had applied to the State Government for a grant of \$30,000 plus GST, for the preliminary design of Stage 3 extension of the Club. We were successful with this grant and have used it to engage the architectural firm S Group, to work with us on the design of the extension.

Since then, concept drawings have been produced and preliminary costs for the three stages of the work produced. The first stage will involve relocating the rescue boats and Can-Am to the main building and boards etc to the old rescue shed. The second stage will be a new toilet block addition, undercover storage, front deck extension plus new compliant balustrading and extended kitchen, while the third will see the main function room extended to the existing deck line.



The club put a funding submission to both parties during the recent federal election with both parties committing to fund the first and second stage of works, to the value of \$545,000 plus GST. Our architect has now submitted a planning application to the Latrobe Council and has commenced detailed construction drawings in preparation for tendering of the works. Further progress will now be dependent on when the funding is available.

Greg Preece, Director of Facilities

11.0 FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

The 2024/25 season has been one in which we have continued to offer a range of events that *bring the community to the beach'*, facilitating connectedness and inclusivity. Such events are important in ensuring the wider community is frequently reminded of who we are and of the important work that we do. The community focused events provide an audience for our sponsors and an opportunity to showcase our commitment to volunteering. The feedback from the wider community about our events, and social activities more broadly, has been exceptionally positive.

Equally, these activities are a critical source of income, without which we would struggle to keep the lights on while also aspiring to ongoing facility improvements. The Treasurer's report will reflect the importance of at least maintaining the number of events we hold and having the membership support them by assisting with organisation and attendance.



The market stalls lining the pathway on Shearwater Park added vibrancy to the event and the 16 food vendors all continue to sell out. These events take many volunteer hours leading up

to and on the day but are critical to the community vibe we help create over the summer. Food-laden events will become even more important as some of our local venues close or have reduced hours due to staff shortages. As the only local 'venue with a view', finding sustainable ways to capitalise on this is something that the membership may want to drive.

Along with U3A hiring our venue for classes three times a week throughout the year, and our local Ambulance Tas First Responders using the space regularly, a summary (Table 4) of what has been happening on the Events and Function calendar during our club's 2024-25 financial year.

At the time of writing, the bookings on the calendar for the period 1 April - 31 December 2025 currently only sit at 19, none of which are weddings or engagements, compared to 30 events for the same period last financial year.

We continue to review our schedule of hire fees, terms and conditions, as well as the club rules that ensure our bar licensing obligations are met. Those assisting at the end of each event have become aware of the challenges patrons face when trying to call for a taxi. This triggered a note on the venue hire document requesting that the hirer ensure taxis are pre booked.

With so much use, and the role that functions have in generating our income, it is important that the whole property is clean, well-presented and fit for purpose. You will note a significant increase in cleaning costs this season, which is reflective of more regular use. A slight increase in venue hire fees as of June 2025 will hopefully offset that.

Please share your ideas for viable social events that will engage our members and the wider community. What events would you like to attend? Let's keep ensuring that our club is everyone's favourite place.

Jo Coates - Function & Events Coordinator

Events April 1 to December 31, 2024	Quantity
Engagement & wedding celebrations	4
Celebration of life	3
Children's birthdays or baby showers	4
Adult birthday parties or large gatherings	9
Food truck and bar nights	3
Local community group functions	5
Community focused events (markets, Jazz, Community Christmas)	4
Members only events (Annual dinner, AGM, Nipper party etc)	4
TOTAL	36
Events January 1 to March 30, 2025	
Nipper carnival, Penguin Island Swim	2
Engagement & Wedding celebrations	1
Community focused events (including Markets, Neighbour Day)	3
Adult birthday parties or large gatherings	4
TOTAL	10

Table 4 Summary of events at PSSLSC

"Thank you so much for this event. It was so good to laugh, and be like a young child, to be reminded of joy and wonder and curiosity. So grateful to the PSSLC.

What a wonderful thing to provide for our community...thankyou to all the people who organised this, you have hearts of gold.

RA: It was a great afternoon! Thanks for another well-organized event

YM: Lovely evening, great food, thank you for your great commitment to our community. AL: Such a fabulous community event. Well done PSSLSC

ML: Thanks so much to all the helpers for such a wonderful day. What amazing food everyone provided, great company and the perfect venue by the beach. I love this community I live in.

CH: It was a wonderful event...we felt immediately welcomed."

12.O SPONSORSHIP

What a year it has been for our sponsors!

We managed to run two successful wine drives with our sponsor, Ghost Rock. The Christmas wine drive was the most successful we have ever run. Shearwater Health and Fitness put together a great deal for memberships at their club, and we had our sponsors attend a number of events over the summer season, including the annual Penguin Island Swim which was sponsored by Leaping Goat Coffee and supported by the ever-popular Costa berries. Costa also sponsored the club with new high vis vests for carnivals and events.

This year, we welcomed four new sponsors: Richey Fishing, Shearwater IGA, Uploans, and Launceston Toyota. This brings our total number of gold sponsors to eleven, with three silver and two bronze sponsors rounding out the year.

Shearwater Storage Sheds and Harcourts Devonport and Shearwater provided us with some excellent new stubby holders which are popular with visitors to our bar during functions. Leaping Goat Coffee sponsored the Penguin Island Ocean Swim. Shearwater IGA kept our patrollers fed and watered on the beach all summer and supplied goodies for our annual volunteer thank you afternoon.

After receiving feedback from some members, we will be launching a new initiative allowing our members to sponsor our tables on the deck. Each table will have a small plaque dedicated to the members who have decided to sponsor it.

It is our sponsors who enable us to do more and more exciting work each year. We would like to take this time to say a big thank you to all our sponsors (Table 5) for their support during the year, and we look forward to working with them again in the future.

Sponsor Category	Sponsor
Gold valued at \$1500	Leaping Goat Coffee
	Launceston Toyota
	Harcourts Devonport & Shearwater
	Mechfield FM
	Shearwater Health & Fitness
	Costa
	Elite Constructions
	Uploans
	Richey Fishing
	Shearwater IGA
	AFI Logistics
Silver valued at \$1000	Ghost Rock Wines
	Kenlyn Group
	Elders
Bronze valued at \$500	Shearwater Mechanical & Tyres
Table 5 Gold, Silver and Bronze Sponsors for 2024/25 season	Clark Metal Fabrication

Table 5 Gold, Silver and Bronze Sponsors for 2024/25 season.

Sarah Merrick - Sponsorship Officer

13.0 PUBLIC RELATIONS

It is without a doubt, the hard work of so many of our members, whether it be surf sports competitions, Nipper carnivals, training opportunities, fundraising and community events, Market by the Beach, our patrolling crews and safety alerts, that provides the content for our communication channels.

We continue to use a mixture of methods to reach our members and the broader community. This includes articles in Latrobe Council's bimonthly newsletter, *Council, Coast and Country,* that is delivered to all homes in the Latrobe municipality. Our own newsletter, published bimonthly on our website and Facebook, serves to highlight our achievements, training and events and promotes our gold, silver and bronze sponsors.

Our social media platforms, Facebook and Instagram, are our main ways of communicating. During Markets by the Beach and other events, our Facebook page is often re-shared or tagged by food vans and stallholders, increasing our reach. Events posted like the Penguin Island Swim, the State Junior Nipper Carnival, Markets by the Beach, Neighbour Day, Solstice Splash see a significant increase in traffic and help to raise awareness about the services our club provides. We have started using stories and reels more frequently, as they tend to be more popular than static posts. Our drone shots over the Penguin Island Swim were hugely popular. Key statistics of our Facebook page:

- 2.6k followers
- From 11 May to 7 June, we had 19,776 views on our posts concentrated mainly on video and reel content
- During this period, we had 2,293 reactions, comments, shares and clicks on our posts.
- Our demographic is 73% women aged between 35 54

Our website provides our foundational platform for communicating our club's purpose, history, surf sports and surf lifesaving services and function hire. We direct our community venue hire enquiries received on Facebook to our website. A report of the activity of our website is included.

Website Activity Report

Last 28 Days: May 11 - June 7, 2025

G Key Metrics Summary

- Total Visitors: 148 (*†6.5%*)
- New Visitors: 138 (93.2% of all visitors)
- Returning Visitors: 17 (†6.3%)

Engagement Metrics

Metric	New Visitors	Returning Visitors
Visits per visitor	1.49	1.5
Pages per visit	1.49	1.64
Session duration	n~1m+	Up to 3m+ on key pages

Q Top Performing Search Keywords

Keyword	Click-Through Rate (CTR)
surf club near me	50%
port sorell surf life saving club	37.5%
port sorell surf club	28.95%

These search terms show strong brand recognition and local relevance.

Top Traffic Sources

Source	Share of Traffic
Direct	50% <i>(†3.2%)</i>
Organic Search	46.6% <i>(↓2.5%)</i>
Organic Social	2%
Referral/Unassigned	<1%

Most Visited Pages

Page	Views	Avg. Duration	Engagement
Homepage (/)	122	1m 2s	53.2%
Contact Us	23	1m 19s	57.9%
News & Events	22	1m 42s	57.9%
Our Committee	14	2m 48s	81.3%
Venue Hire	11	3m 10s	100%

Content like *Our Committee* and *Venue Hire* shows high engagement – important for community transparency and interest in club use.

We understand that not all people use social media, and we are making use of the noticeboard on the club house to highlight events and Port Sorell Salties activities. Our main sign on Dumbleton Street is used regularly to promote activities.

The success of our fundraising events relies on people knowing about them, and while our traditional and social media platforms help promote the events, we are competing with many other posts. Going forward, we need more volunteers to help promote our events by putting posters up around our community and popping mini notices in our cafes. We will also try to use community radio to reach more people.

Gina Harvey, Public Relations Officer

14.0 GRANTS

Grant seeking is a vital part of sustaining our club's operations, allowing us not only to meet day-to-day needs but also to invest in new equipment, infrastructure and programs that enhance the experience for our members and the broader community.

Over the past 12 months, I have been incredibly grateful for the ongoing support and guidance provided by the team at SLSA's Grant Seeking Unit. Their knowledge has been invaluable in helping us navigate the often-complex process of applying for funding. We are fortunate to have access to such a dedicated and experienced team and their assistance has played a key role in the successes we have achieved this year.

As outlined in the 2023/2024 Annual Report, we were successful in our application for the 2023/2024 Active Tasmania Equipment Grants Program. This grant enabled us to purchase new training boards for both our senior and junior members. This represents an important investment that supports skill development, safety, and performance across all levels of participation.

We also received a significant \$30,000 grant from the Tasmanian State Government through the Active Tasmania initiative. This funding has allowed us to engage a professional building designer to develop detailed architectural plans, including floor plans, elevations, cost estimates, and a staged approach to our long-anticipated redevelopment project. The proposed improvements to our upper-level facilities include the construction of new toilet amenities (including a DDA-compliant toilet), expanded undercover storage, and the relocation of the eastern wall to increase usable space and remove trip hazards. These changes will also enable a redesigned kitchen and create additional storage below for our surf boat. Furthermore, the relocation of our rescue vehicles, equipment, and machinery into the main building will streamline operations and enhance overall safety and efficiency.

Thanks to the TasPorts Community Grant Program, we were also able to purchase three large marine marker buoys. These buoys are a key component in the safe and efficient management of our water-based events. They will be used for events, including the Penguin Island Swim, the Solstice Splash, and our Nipper carnivals, helping us ensure a safer and more structured experience for all participants. We are also pleased to share that we have progressed to the second round of consideration for the 2024/2025 Volunteer Grants. If successful, this funding will provide vital First Aid and CPR training for our volunteers, further supporting our commitment to safety and preparedness.

In addition, we have applied for the 2025 Active Clubs Program, requesting funding for two iPads. The iPads will improve the efficiency of our operations by enabling digital management of patrol logs, water safety records as well as Nipper training sign-ins and sign-outs. They will also be used as a coaching tool, allowing for video analysis and feedback to support athlete's development. We are currently awaiting the outcome of this application.

We are sincerely grateful for the opportunities these grants have provided. The support of government programs and community partners has a direct and lasting impact on our club's ability to grow, improve, and serve our members and the wider community.

Nikole Gyles, Grants Officer

15.0 MEMBERSHIP

The 2024/25 season saw a reduction in club membership from 265 to 216 members, with an overall retention rate of 81.5%. While this figure reflects continued engagement across many categories, it does not align with the club's strategic objective to grow membership year-on-year. This shortfall highlights the need for targeted strategies to reverse this trend and build back stronger in 2025/26.

Of particular concern is the decrease in the "Active (15-18 years)" and "Active (18 years and over)" categories, which together saw a net loss of 26 members. As these roles are central to delivering our patrol operations and emergency response services, rebuilding capacity in this space will be a key focus in the coming year.

Administrative changes also saw the merging of "General" and "Non-Member Participants" into a single "Associate" category, simplifying member classifications but also signaling the need to ensure continued relevance and value for non-patrolling members.

Encouragingly, the "Junior Activity Member (5-13 years)" category continues to represent a strong pipeline for the club's future. With 81 members this season and a solid retention rate of 84.4%, this age group is a cornerstone of our club community. However, to maintain and grow this cohort, we must continue to evolve our engagement strategies.

Key Recommendations

Rebuilding Active Membership

- Target re-engagement campaigns for former patrolling members to understand and remove barriers to renewal.
- Promote flexible award-based pathways for adults unable to commit to full patrol rosters.

Supporting Junior Members and Families

- Offer welcome sessions and onboarding packs tailored for new junior families.
- Expand the social and volunteer opportunities available to parents and guardians, including streamlined pathways into Coaching, Officiating or Age Manager roles.
- Celebrate junior milestones and achievements more publicly to enhance engagement and retention.

Reducing Barriers to Volunteer Participation

While administrative support for the Registration to Work with Vulnerable People (RWVP) process was offered last season, anecdotal feedback suggests this requirement remains a deterrent for some. The club should continue to provide clear guidance and hands-on support.

Importantly, the Tasmanian Government's recent announcement of a two-year trial to waive the \$22.44 RWVP application fee for volunteers is a welcome development. Promoting this change widely may help alleviate cost-related reluctance and boost re-engagement.

Maximizing the Value of Associate Membership

Define and communicate the benefits of Associate membership, including access to club events, volunteer opportunities, and a meaningful way to support lifesaving activities.

While the decline in membership this season presents a challenge, the club is well-positioned to respond with a clear understanding of the issues and a commitment to inclusive, practical solutions. Thank you to all members, families, and volunteers who contributed to another safe and successful year at PSSLSC.

Neil Hargreaves, Registrar

16.0 TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurers Report 2024/25 - Financial Year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

This summary report is to be read in conjunction with the detailed audited financial reports for the 2024/25 season attached to this report.

The 2024/25 season provided a solid financial result for Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc.

The financials of the Club for the year 2024/25 have been independently audited by Veratax (Stuart Edwards). The auditor's report is included within the financial statements - there were no particular audit findings or recommendations, and the compiled internal financial statements of the club did not require changing as a result of the audit process.

While the club is registered for GST, please note that all data shown in this report and associated financial statements are exclusive of GST.

Profit and Loss Result

Net profit for the Club was \$58,556 for 2024/25.

It should be noted that the profit result includes significant grant monies. To provide a more comparable result on prior years, the table below outlines the stated profit results each year along with an adjusted profit result (excluding grants and donations).

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total Trading Income	\$192,069	\$179,652	\$127,579	\$153,355	\$438,063
Total Cost of Sales	\$41,719	\$49,025	\$34,043	\$33,826	\$32,139
Gross Profit	\$150,350	\$130,626	\$93,536	\$119,529	\$405,924
Total Operating Expenses	\$91,794	\$92,886	\$75,064	\$60,275	\$54,671
Net Profit	\$58,556	\$37,741	\$18,473	\$59,254	\$351,253
Donations Received	\$1,472	\$3,932	\$200	\$2,600	\$16,974
Grants	\$52,105	\$17,620	\$11,268	\$61,061	\$327,436
Net Profit (ex Donations & Grants)	\$4,979	\$16,189	\$7,005	(\$4,407)	\$6,843

Cashflow and Capital Expenditure

At the end of the financial year the Club has a bank balance of \$156.7k which is an increase from the \$101.2k held at the end of the previous financial year, noting the balance does include \$32k of unacquitted grants funds (\$26k Planning and \$6k BSEF). During 2024/25 we transitioned from Bendigo Bank to the Commonwealth Bank whilst maintaining a small balance in the Bendigo savings account.

Stock on hand (a combination of uniform and bar stock) has increased by \$2k over the season and at the end of the season is represented as \$20.2k, with the movement related to the selling down of uniform supplies. The mix of the stock on hand is uniform/clothing (\$14.5k) bar (\$5.7k).

From a Capital equipment purchases view,

	2023	2024	Grand Total
Facilities	\$8,188	\$8,509	\$16,697
Life Saving	\$26,519	\$0	\$26,519
Surf Equipment	\$13,913	\$12,318	\$26,231
Grand Total	\$48,620	\$20,827	\$69,447

With the majority of the Facilities purchases being the new outdoor tables.

Balance Sheet

The combination of cash assets, stock, floats, buildings and plant and equipment assets sum to provide total reported assets of the Club at 31 March 2025 of \$1.2m (versus 31 March 2024: \$1.1m).

Included within this is the total value of the clubhouse building asset reported on the financial statements of the Club (at cost) which is now \$891k.

I would note that our balance sheet valuation of the Clubhouse as reported above (\$891k) is reported at cost, that is, at direct costs incurred to the Club at various times of capital expenditure in developing the Clubhouse over the years. In reality, the Clubhouse is likely to be valued at significantly higher than that however given that we do not own the land in which it sits, it is considered that a balance sheet valuation at cost is still the appropriate valuation methodology for our books.

Summary

Season 2024/25 represented a solid financial result for the Club.

I would like to thank all our members who have contributed their efforts as volunteers to assist in the financial results of the Club over the course of the season.

Colin Bruhn, Treasurer

Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc.

Financial Reports

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc.

Contents

Profit and Loss Statement Balance Sheet Notes to the Financial Statements Statement by Members of the Committee

Profit and Loss

For the year ended 31 March 2025

For the year ended 31 March 2025 Account	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
	2025	2024	2025	2022	2021
Trading Income	¢64,022	¢67 500	¢52.670	¢46.222	¢ 42.000
Bar Sales	\$61,032	\$67,522		\$46,333	
Clothing Sales	\$5,007	\$9,026		\$4,599	
Donations Received	\$1,472	\$3,932	\$200	\$2,600	
Food Sales	\$13,570			\$7,205	
Function Income	\$1,730		\$1,571	\$97	
Grants	\$52,105	\$17,620		\$61,061	
Income Penguin Island Swim	\$1,932	\$2,144	\$1,321	\$820	
Interest Received	\$1,703	\$1,083	\$404	\$10	
Membership	\$15,487	\$20,256		\$14,189	
Other Revenue	\$12,497	\$13,519		\$573	
Sponsorship	\$16,043	\$16,811	\$10,554	\$9,727	
Venue Hire	\$9,490	\$8,504	\$6,979	\$6,141	
Total Trading Income	\$192,069	\$179,652	\$127,579	\$153,355	\$438,063
Cost of Sales					
Cost of Goods Sold - Bar	\$28,865	\$28,463	\$20,107	\$25,264	\$20,852
Cost of Goods Sold - Clothing	\$7,658	\$14,549	\$7,421	\$4,570	\$5,950
Cost of Goods Sold - Food	\$5,195	\$6,013	\$6,515	\$3,993	\$5,338
Total Cost of Sales	\$41,719	\$49,025	\$34,043	\$33,826	\$32,139
Gross Profit	\$150,350	\$130,626	\$93,536	\$119,529	\$405,924
Operating Expenses					
Advertising & Promotion	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,782	\$0
Audit Fees	\$270		\$270	\$250	
Bank Fees	\$1,328	\$1,637		\$919	
Carnival Entry Fees	\$0 \$0	(\$207)	\$0	\$0	
Cleaning	\$4,718			\$723	
Competitions	\$462	\$421	\$390	\$56	
Depreciation	\$26,533	\$20,401	\$20,209	\$13,373	
First Aid	\$0 \$0	\$0	\$0	\$47	
Functions & Dinners	\$4,213			\$2,066	
General Business Expenses	\$12,906			\$5,443	
Impairments	\$0 \$0	\$0,055 \$0	\$500	\$0 \$0	
Insurance	\$13,182	\$13,754	\$16,767	\$14,692	
Licences & permits	\$1,624	\$2,895	\$980	\$191	\$0
Lifesaving	\$5,147	\$3,061	\$560 \$0	\$0	
Light, Power, Heating	\$5,254	\$5,867		\$4,953	
Market Expenses	\$400	\$900	\$1,459	\$830	
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$563	\$0	\$366	\$1,547	
Office Expenses	\$618		\$458	\$717	
Registrations	\$769	\$825	\$719	\$257	
Repairs & Maintenance - Club House	\$3,309	\$1,217	\$3,964	\$3,546	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,045	\$5,050		\$2,370	
Security	\$520		\$538	\$1,666	
Sponsorship of Members	\$287	\$400	\$600	\$600	
Surf Sports	\$2,178			\$000 \$0	
Telephone & Internet	\$1,069	\$1,005		\$1,073	
Training	\$900			\$1,631	
Trophies, Ribbons & Awards	\$900 \$1,009	\$2,701		\$544	
Water	\$2,129			++رد \$0	
Website	\$1,360			\$0 \$0	
Total Operating Expenses	\$91,300 \$91,794			\$60,275	
Net Profit	\$58,556	\$37,741	\$18,473	\$59,254	\$351,253

Balance Sheet PORT SORELL SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB As at 31 March 2025

Account	31 Mar 2025	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2023	31 Mar 2022	31 Mar 2021
Assets					
Bank					
CBA Debit Card	\$2,112	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
CBA Main Account	\$98,421	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
CBA Term Deposit	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PSSLSC	\$4,101	\$60,868	\$61,335	\$57,006	\$216
PSSLSC Debit Card	\$3,000	\$9,475	\$4,217	\$5,750	\$2,046
Term Deposit Account	\$0	\$30,888	\$30,000	\$5,609	\$11,599
Total Bank	\$157,634	\$101,231	\$95,552	\$68,365	\$13,867
Current Assets					
Accounts Receivable	\$1,620	\$1,838	\$0	\$2,847	\$64,191
Accounts Receivable non system	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0
Accrued Revenue	\$2,382	\$592	\$397	\$0	\$0
Cash - held in floats	\$799	\$799	\$1,800	\$1,500	\$2,300
Prepayments	\$1,135	(\$1,773)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shares in other companies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500
Stock on Hand	\$20,181	\$22,241	\$16,931	\$21,890	\$22,723
Total Current Assets	\$26,117	\$23,698	\$19,128	\$28,238	\$89,714
Fixed Assets					
Equipment	\$354,227	\$328,004	\$279,385	\$265,404	\$236,294
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$272,154)	(\$245,621)	(\$225,220)	(\$205,012)	(\$191,639
Total Fixed Assets	\$82,073	\$82,383	\$54,165	\$60,392	\$44,656
Non-current Assets					
Clubrooms - at cost	\$891,490	\$891,490	5890,951	\$889,935	\$844,574
Total Non-current Assets	\$891,490	\$891,490	\$890,951	\$889,935	\$844,574
Total Assets	\$1,157,313	\$1,098,802	\$1,059,796	\$1,046,930	\$992,805
Contraction of the second s					
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts Payable	\$2,354	\$3,668	\$1,636	\$9,450	\$10,792
GST	\$4,307	\$3,038	\$3,778	(\$366)	\$4,148
Prepaid fees	\$0	\$0	\$227	\$1,764	\$1,436
Rounding	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Suspense	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$400	\$6
Total Current Liabilities	\$6,861	\$6,906	\$5,641	\$11,248	\$16,376
Total Liabilities	\$6,861	\$6,906	\$5,641	\$11,248	\$16,376
Net Assets	\$1,150,452	\$1,091,896	\$1,054,155	\$1,035,682	\$976,428
Equity					
Current Year Earnings	\$58,556	\$37,741	\$18,473	\$59,254	\$351,253
Owner A Share Capital	\$500,903	\$500,903	\$500,903	\$500,903	\$500,903
Retained Earnings	\$590,993	\$553,252	\$534,779	\$475,525	\$124,273
Total Equity	\$1,150,452	\$1,091,896	\$1,054,155	\$1,035,682	\$976,428

PORT SORELL SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March, 2024

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are a special purpose report prepared for use by the committee. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The statements are prepared on an accrual basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non- current assets.

No Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been intentionally applied.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

PORT SORELL SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In accordance with a resolution of the committee of Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc., the members of the committee declare that the financial statements as set out on pages 2 to 5.

- Present a true and fair view of the financial position of Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc. as at 31 March 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012; and
- 2. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is signed for and on behalf of Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club Inc. by:

Treasurer

Coh'Bh

Colin Bruhn

Dated: 19-May-2025



Port Sorell SLSC Annual General Meeting Minutes 16th June 2024

Venue:	Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club House
Date:	Sunday, 16th June 2024
Time:	3.00pm

1. Introduction

Attendance:

Laura Dixon, Dane Hardy, Tom Murray, Colin Bruhn, Greg Preece, Claudia Baldock, Jesse Beveridge, Ross Beveridge, Rose McWilliam, Neil Hargraeves, Amelia Willis, Courtney Hardy, Deb Hicks, Jo Coates, Ben Hart, Amber Rabbetts, Lesa McConnon, Tom Clark

Apologies:

Gina Harvey, Haydon Coates, Tony Denham, Jack Waddle, Cheree Waddle

- Conflict of Interest Nil
- 3. Code of Conduct Nil
- Risk/Hazard Assessment Nil
- Passing of the Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting 17th June 2023 Passed Deb Hicks, Second Jo Coates

6. Presentation and adoption of the Annual Report & Financial Statements

Big thank you to Deb Hicks for putting it all together.

Colin presented the financials. Overall very strong numbers across the board, all the functions are up from the previous year. Financials can be hard to determine due to grants. Our profit after grants and donations was \$16,000. The numbers reflect all the hard work by everyone.

Moved Claudia Baldock, Seconded Ben Hart

7. Election of Officers and Committees

All roles to be declared vacant before presentation of nominations (conducted online). Nominations will only be taken from the floor in the event of no prior nominations being received.

Board of Directors

- President: Laura Dixon, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Greg Preece
- Vice President: Tom Murray, Nominated Greg Preece, Seconded Dane Hardy
- Treasurer: Colin Bruhn, Nominated Colin Bruhn, Seconded Sam Bruhn Hicks
- Secretary: Claudia Baldock, Nominated Simon Baldock, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Director of Facilities: Greg Preece, Nominated Greg Preece, Seconded Laura Dixon
- Director of Life Saving: Jesse Beveridge, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Claudia Baldock

- Director of Surf Sports: Lesa McConnon, Nominated Lesa McConnon, Seconded Dane Hardy
- Director of Youth Development: Amber Rabbets, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Claudia Baldock.

General Committee

- Bar Manager: Penny Burbury, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Boat Captain: vacant
- Building Maintenance Manager: Jacek Pieniak, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Canteen Manager: Bev Sullivan, Nominated Claudia Baldock, Seconded Simon Baldock
- Club Uniform Officer: Claudia Baldock, Nominated Simon Baldock, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- First Aid Officer: Rose McWilliam, Nominated Jesse Beveridge, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Function and Events Coordinator: Jo Coates, Nominated Haydon Coates, Seconded Claudia Baldock
 Fundraising Officer: vacant
- Grants Officer: Nikole Gyles, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- IRB Officer: Ross Beveridge, Nominated Ross Beveridge, Seconded Jo Coates
- Juniors Activities Manager: Courtney Hardy, Nominated Courtney Hardy, Seconded Laura Dixon
- Juniors Activities Assistant: Sally Hargreaves, Nominated Neil Hargreaves, Seconded Courtney Hardy
- Lifesaving Gear officer: Ross Beveridge, Nominated Ross Beveridge, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Lifesaving Uniform Officer: Rose McWilliam, Nominated Rose McWilliam, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Member Protection Information Officer: Neil Hargreaves, Nominated Sally Hargreaves, Seconded Neil Hargreaves
- Public Relations Officer: Gina Harvey, Nominated Laura Dixon, Seconded Claudia Baldock
- Registrar: Neil Hargreaves, Nominated Sally Hargreaves, Seconded Neil Hargreaves
- Senior Development Coordinator: vacant
- Ski Captain: vacant
- Surf Sports Gear Officer: Ben Hart, Nominated Ben Hart, Seconded Laura Dixon
- Sponsorship Officer: Amelia Willis, Nominated Amelia Willis, Seconded Laura Dixon
- Training and Education Coordinator: Deb Hicks, Nominated Deb Hicks, Seconded Colin Bruhn
- Strategic Plan Officer: Neil Hargreaves, Nominated Sally Hargreaves, Seconded Neil Hargreaves
- 8. Appointment of Auditors & Legal Advisers

Veritax Auditors

9. Affiliation to State Council

Motion to continue current affiliation with SLSA and SLST for 20254/25

Moved Deb Hicks, Second Greg Preece

10. Alterations to the Constitution

Motion to change our constitution from 6 for a quorum to 5 for a quorum Moved Greg Preece, Second Colin Bruhin

> CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 18 / 0

For:

Laura Dixon, Dane Hardy, Tom Murray, Colin Bruhn, Greg Preece, Claudia Baldock, Jesse Beveridge, Ross Beveridge, Rose McWilliam, Neil Hargraeves, Amelia Willis, Courtney Hardy, Deb Hicks, Jo Coates, Ben Hart, Amber Rabbetts, Lesa McConnon, Tom Clark

Against: Nil

11. General business applicable to the AGM

First Board meeting date set for Wednesday, 19/6/2024 at 7pm

MEETING CLOSED

3.40pm