

# NEWSLETTER



## Community Meeting

Everyone is invited to attend a community meeting to be held at the surf club on **Thursday 9 April at 7.00 pm.**

The purpose of the meeting is to help us find ways to improve our services and future proof our club.

Our Nipper numbers have been declining and we know the community would love the surf club to be open to the public more frequently.

How do we grow our club to meet community expectations? Share your ideas at the meeting, which will be independently facilitated.

### ● Nipper wrap by Courtney Hardy

The 2025/26 season has been another fantastic year for our Nipper Program. We welcomed many new Nippers and families while continuing to build a strong, connected club environment.

Our volunteer coaches dedicated countless hours throughout the season, supported by parents who stepped up to assist at training, take on age manager roles at carnivals, and help behind the scenes.

Two senior members completed their Bronze Medallion, and three Nippers achieved their SRC, strengthening our water safety/patrol capabilities.

A highlight of the season was a specialised coaching session delivered by Cooper and Jordy Armitstead, with Devonport Surf Club joining us on the beach. This provided our Nippers with valuable development in board, swim and wade techniques and was a great opportunity for club collaboration. Cont.

## Nipper wrap cont.

Our juniors represented the club proudly across multiple carnivals throughout the season, consistently demonstrating enthusiasm, teamwork and a willingness to challenge themselves. Junior State Carnivals at Ulverstone, Bridport and the State Championships in Burnie were key highlights, with strong participation and great performances across all age groups.

Thanks to Club Captains Finn and Raiden for their leadership and positive example throughout the season. We warmly welcome our new Captains, Scarlett and Violet, and look forward to their leadership in the season ahead.

Our hope for the future is to continue growing participation, supporting our volunteers, and providing opportunities for our juniors to develop their skills, confidence and love of surf lifesaving.



**Club Captains 26/27 –  
Violet & Scarlett**

## Seniors wrap by Ben Hart

It was, in some ways, the end of an era this season, as gradually over the summer, the stalwarts of our seniors crew over the past few years departed to start the next phase of their life in various Universities around Australia. Best of luck to Tess, Ari, Oliver and Jordy in their studies and their new homes, and we would love to see you drop in for a few sessions next summer if you are back.

In particular I want to thank Jordy, who continued to train the house down all summer, and was also running some senior training sessions as well. He again made the Tasmanian team for the interstate championships, which is a great effort. Despite a recent injury setback, he plans to continue competing in Queensland alongside his brother Cooper. It will be fascinating to watch them progress.

Speaking of progress, recently Cooper, who was a senior competitor at our club for many years, made an open final in the board, competing against the top paddlers in the country, an awesome effort.

As a result of many seniors moving away, we didn't have big teams at our carnivals this year, but a special shout out to Estella, who still competed at carnivals and represented Portsy so well, as well as Freja and Alex who were regularly out training in the water with us this summer.

In the Masters category, Chook made the trek down to Carlton to compete again this year for Portsy, and brought home a few medals as usual. We hope that a few more will join him in future years!

Special thanks as well to our coaches Brent and Tash for the time and effort you put in.

## Dates for the diary

- **Saturday 4 April, 4.00 pm** - Saya's Food Van and bar open.
- **Thursday 9 April, 7.00 pm** - Community meeting, all welcome, help shape the future of our club.
- **Saturday 11 April**, Provide First Aid - members book online.
- **Sunday 12 April**, Advanced Resuscitation Techniques - members book online.
- **Saturday 2 May, details TBC** - Trivia night - check socials for details.
- **Saturday 23 May, 6.00 pm** - Surf Club Dinner and Awards night.
- **Friday 29 May, details TBC** - Pizzarani's and bar open - check socials
- **Sunday 14 June, 3.00 pm** - Annual General Meeting at the club.
- **Saturday 20 June, 3.30 pm** - Solstice Splash - more details on socials.



### A word from Laura

I'd like to thank our Junior Activity Coordinators led by Courtney and Sally and the wonderful team of coaches, team managers, sausage flippers, uniform attendants etc for creating a happy and welcoming space for our Nippers and their families. It would be great to see a few new faces assisting next season.

The Board are currently reviewing our Child Safe policies and procedures including a new and improved Code of Conduct to support our members and volunteers. A reminder that every member whether social or child facing is required to have a current RWVP card and complete the Child Safety Awareness course on the SLS hub. It only takes 15 mins to complete.

A big thanks to all our patrollers for the countless volunteer hours given on the beach this summer. We and the community at large appreciate your presence.

I welcome Garth Allison as our new Licensee. Thank you to outgoing Licensee Penny Burbury for her time and energy. Garth brings passion, enthusiasm and a commitment to help our Club uphold its legal requirements whilst continuing to be a community event hub.

Please consider attending our AGM and offering your time or expertise to assist the club moving forward. The community meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> April will be an important step in our forward planning, and I urge you to come along and help us shape the future of our club.

## Patrol season wrap

The 2025/26 Patrol Season resulted in five rescues and 50 preventative actions. A culmination of 1400 patrol hours, on weekends and public holidays. The volunteer hours do not include the time spent by members requalifying each year to maintain their proficiency in their respective awards. We appreciate all of our surf life savers and the time they give to keep our beaches safe.

## Gold Sponsors



## Silver Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors

