



SORRENTO
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB
EST. 1998

Annual Report
2025–2026

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Position	Name	Email
President	Jane Wright	Jane.wright@sorrentoslsc.au
Vice President	Marc Clavin Duncan Stirling	marc.clavin@sorrentoslsc.au duncan.stirling@sorrentoslsc.au
Secretary	Rosemary Moore	secretary@sorrentoslsc.au
Treasurer	Marc Clavin/Jav Greaves	treasurer@sorrentoslsc.au

COMMITTEE AND OTHER KEY ROLES

Position	Name	Email
Committee/Club Captain	Erin Doupe	erin.doupe@sorrentoslsc.au
Chief Instructor	Jeff Feldman	jeff.feldman@sorrentoslsc.au
Membership Officer	Duncan Stirling	duncan.stirling@sorrentoslsc.au
First Aid Officer	Rosemary Moore	ro.moore@sorrentoslsc.au
Committee/Facilities Manager	No appointment	
Committee/Nipper Manager	Nigel Smith	nigel.smith@sorrentoslsc.au
Committee/Social Events	Kelly Sharples	kelly.sharples@sorrentoslsc.au
Grants	No appointment	
Committee Members	Andrew Atkinson Thanasinh Boupha Sean Cummins Maesson Harbour Leon Lachal Stewart Smith	andrew.atkinson@sorrentoslsc.au thanasinh.boupha@sorrentoslsc.au sean.cummins@sorrentoslsc.au maesson.harbour@sorrentoslsc.au leon.lachal@sorrentoslsc.au stewart.smith@sorrentoslsc.au

LSV COMMITTEES

LSV Committee	Name
Aquatic Sports Council	Erin Doupe
Council of Life Saving Clubs	Jane Wright
Life Saving Operations Council	Erin Doupe
Membership and Leadership Development	Duncan Stirling



SORRENTO
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

SUBCOMMITTEES

SUB COMMITTEES

Position	Name	Email
Bay Swim Subcommittee	Bruce Grayling Jenny Grayling Cath Stirling Meredith Owens Ray Owens	swim2026@sorrentoslsc.au
Commercial Subcommittee	Leon Lachal Marc Clavin Jav Greaves	leon.lachal@sorrentoslsc.au marc.clavin@sorrentoslsc.au jav.greaves@sorrentoslscs.au
Communications Subcommittee	Kelly Sharples Celeste Robinson Isabelle Sutton	kelly.sharples@sorrentoslsc.au
Fundraising / Donor Subcommittee	Kelly Sharples Thanasinh Bouphe Maesson Harbour	kelly.sharples@sorrentoslsc.au thanashinh.bouphe@sorrentoslsc.au maesson.harbour@sorrentoslsc.au
Nippers Subcommittee	Nigel Smith Andrew Atkinson Thanasinh Bouphe Kelly Sharples Liz Atkinson Jeff Feldman	nippers@sorrentoslsc.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I'm pleased to present the 2025-26 Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club Annual Report.

In what was a huge year for the club as we embarked on the challenge of constructing a new, purpose-built clubhouse, we maintained our presence on the beach, once again providing an outstanding community service.

Despite operating out of shipping containers, the quality and effectiveness of our programs was never in doubt. Our volunteer life savers performed more than 1400 preventative actions along with many other community service acts, 130 nippers attended our nine-week program, our training team delivered 13 courses and more than 400 swimmers entered our annual swim.

Another fantastic initiative this year was the expansion of our youth development program. This program continues to grow and it's lovely to see young members who have been through nippers now stepping up to become coaches and mentor to our newest members.

We started 2026 with membership drive to encourage social membership of the club and with that came the implementation of a new membership system. I'd like to welcome all the new club members and thank them for their support. It has been a leap of faith as we haven't had a facility, and we very much appreciate that.

And of course, this year the focus has been on our 'big build'.



After pulling down the old clubhouse late last year, we've enjoyed watching our new facility rise from out of the sand. It's been great to watch the progress and with the roof now almost complete, it finally feels tangible.

Our patrollers and nippers did a fantastic job operating out of the shipping containers and mobile first aid hut, so much so that we barely missed the old facility. That said, we are very much looking forward to welcoming members to join us in our new premises later this year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONT



I'd like to thank all our sponsors and donors that have supported us over the past years, without whom we wouldn't have been able to take on the construction of the clubrooms.

This past year was the first year of a three-year sponsorship arrangement with TLC Healthcare and I'd like to especially acknowledge and thank Lou Pascuzzi and his team for their support. They have not only provided funding to assist us to deliver our fantastic programs but have been a visible presence at many of our activities – and we've enjoyed spending time with them.

Our 21st annual Bay Swim this year, sponsored by TLC, was again a great success. This swim is delivered by a small team of members who put a great deal of time and effort into ensuring the event runs smoothly and supports the club.

It's an event the whole club gets involved in as members volunteer for a range of activities from water-based safety to registrations and merchandising. This year the event catered for more than 400 entrants across four swimming distances.

Each year we hold an end-of-season function where we recognise the actions of our volunteer members. A number of merit-based awards are given out and, once again this year, it was difficult to choose one member over another. However, after much discussion the following awards were made:

- **Best First Year Patroller:** Harry Atkinson
- **Best Patroller:** Cam Brown
- **Best Patrol:** The Cranks: Howard Draper (C), Bruce Grayling (VC), Stefan Bagg (VC), Duncan Stirling, Marc Clavin, Gerry Lute, Ro Moore, Abby Stirling, Robbie Davies, John McSwiney.
- **Daniel Bradshaw Award:** Keenan Lord
- **Best Club Member:** Andrew Atkinson
- **Most Patrol Hours:** Jeff Feldman
- **President's Award:** Kelly Sharples

In addition to the club-based awards we also had a number of club members who received LSV recognition.

Andrew Atkinson was nominated and selected as a finalist for the LSV Graeme Long Memorial Award.

The Graeme Long Memorial Medal Award (Volunteer of the Year) recognises an individual's volunteer contribution which has significantly benefited their club or has enhanced the development of LSV's purpose and values throughout the past year.

At the time of writing this report, the winner had not yet been announced.

A huge congratulations to **Jeff Feldman** and **Peter McDonell** on receiving the Emergency Management Capability and Response Award under the Valuing Volunteers program.

This award recognises the vital frontline, training, and welfare contributions made by Life Saving Victoria (LSV) volunteers – and it's a powerful reminder of what strong volunteer capability looks like in action.

Congratulations to all nominees and award winners.

Finally, I'd like to thank this year's outgoing committee for the support and work they have generously donated to the club. It's been a challenging year as we prepare for the next phase of the club, but I feel we've put our best foot forward and I'm excited to see what the next year holds for us. It will be a big year as we open the new clubrooms and start to implement an expanded membership offering, but I feel we're ready to meet that challenge head-on.

I'd also like to thank our Admin Officer, Anna Jennings, for the support she has provided to myself and the committee, particularly in the membership space.

Please enjoy this annual report and I look forward to seeing you all on the beach or at the new clubrooms in the near future.



Jane Wright
President, Sorrento SLSC

TREASURER'S REPORT



Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club Inc.

ABN 21 543 847 781

Draft Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 April 2026

Principal Activities

During the financial year, the Club's principal activity continued to be the delivery of Surf Life Saving services.

The Club also continued its extensive clubhouse redevelopment program. All transactions relating to fundraising, building grants and building-related expenditure are identified in the accompanying Balance Sheet as **Committed Funds** under Current Liabilities.

Other than the clubhouse redevelopment program, there were no significant changes in the nature of the Club's activities during the financial year.

Operating Results

The Club reported a deficit of **(\$260,554)** for the financial year. This result includes the write-down of the demolished main clubhouse to reflect its removal as part of the redevelopment project.

Before this non-recurring accounting adjustment, the Club recorded an operating surplus of **\$62,074**. This is a particularly pleasing result given that the Club has continued to operate from temporary shipping container facilities throughout the redevelopment. It also represents the Club's first operating surplus since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, it's worth noting the three-fold increase in membership subs, which is a credit to the Membership team, particularly since the new memberships were signed up under a 50% Demolition Discount initiative for the first year.

Auditor's Declaration

The Club's financial reports have been audited and signed by the Club's Auditor.

Marc Clavin
Treasurer
Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club



Marc Clavin
Treasurer, Sorrento SLSC

**GEOFFREY AMBLER
INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS - AUDITOR**

21 Brimbrim Crescent
Mornington Vic 3931
Phone : 0359 754785
Mobile : 0448 045560
Email : gambler@supernerdd.com.au
ABN 67 650 731 603

Independent Auditor's Report

For the Year Ended 30th April 2026

To The Members of the Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying Financial Report, being a special purpose Financial Report of the Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club, which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 30th April 2026 and the Profit & Loss Statement for the year ended 30th April 2026.

Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The members are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Financial Report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the constitution and meet the needs of the members. The member's responsibility also includes such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the Financial Report based on my audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

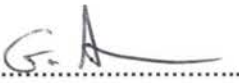
In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Opinion

Due to the fact that it is not possible to ensure that all monies received were banked intact, the audit was conducted from the point of banking of funds and their consequent entry into the books and records of the Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club.

Subject to the foregoing, in my opinion the Financial Report presents fairly the results of the Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club for the year ending 30th April 2026.

Date: 14th August 2026

Signed.....

Geoffrey William Ambler

Mornington

Profit and Loss

Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club For the year ended 30 April 2026

	2026	2025	CHANGE
Trading Income			
Allocations, Grants & Sponsors			
Allocations & Allowances	18,031.00	19,825.39	(1,794.39)
Grants	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Sponsorships	25,000.00	-	25,000.00
Total Allocations, Grants & Sponsors	43,031.00	20,825.39	22,205.61
Apparel Sales	11,320.14	7,745.38	3,574.76
Donations	3,331.00	-	3,331.00
Functions Income	354.55	-	354.55
Interest Income	9,684.51	4,891.16	4,793.35
Lifeguard Service	7,034.71	6,829.82	204.89
Memberships	80,564.12	27,302.70	53,261.42
Nipper BBQ	2,216.05	2,855.13	(639.08)
Nippers Donations	2,565.00	-	2,565.00
Bayswim			
Bay Swim - BBQ & Drinks Sales	2,100.16	866.14	1,234.02
Bay Swim - Entries	26,195.28	20,658.82	5,536.46
Bay Swim - Sponsorship	34,200.00	8,200.00	26,000.00
Bay Swim - Tee Shirt Sponsorship	3,963.64	2,800.00	1,163.64
Total Bayswim	66,459.08	32,524.96	33,934.12
Total Trading Income	226,560.16	102,974.54	123,585.62
Cost of Sales			
Opening Stock	14,702.01	13,359.05	1,342.96
Apparel Purchases	11,955.46	9,756.86	2,198.60
Closing Stock	(14,382.84)	(14,702.01)	319.17
Total Cost of Sales	12,274.63	8,413.90	3,860.73
Gross Profit	214,285.53	94,560.64	119,724.89
Expenses			
Operating Expenses			
Nippers			
BBQ & Functions Expenses	2,345.47	1,891.86	453.61
Depreciation - Nipper Equip	3,768.00	4,393.00	(625.00)
Insurance - Juniors & Volunteers	402.82	-	402.82
Nippers Apparel Purchases	12,752.45	304.35	12,448.10
Nippers Fees & Subs	1,745.73	3,729.82	(1,984.09)
Nippers Functions Expenses	1,449.74	-	1,449.74
Nipper Professional Development	1,391.44	-	1,391.44
Total Nippers	23,855.65	10,319.03	13,536.62

GA 14/8/26

Profit and Loss

	2026	2025	CHANGE
Patrol & Training			
Awards, Manuals & Uniforms	2,116.36	658.17	1,458.19
Depreciation - Patrol Equipment	15,723.00	19,050.00	(3,327.00)
Equipment Purchases	147.46	575.58	(428.12)
Equipment Hire	6,735.39	-	6,735.39
First Aid & Sundry Expenses	750.12	514.42	235.70
Fuel & Parts	367.72	477.57	(109.85)
Insurance - Marine Hull Commercial	1,231.52	1,231.52	-
Insurance - Motor Vehicle	672.80	645.60	27.20
Medical Oxygen	1,130.67	922.80	207.87
Patrol Expenses	175.38	-	175.38
Professional Development PT	129.91	363.64	(233.73)
Vehicles Expenses	745.86	1,528.40	(782.54)
Total Patrol & Training	29,926.19	25,967.70	3,958.49
Business Expenses			
Bank & Govt Charges	1,838.13	2,806.19	(968.06)
Bank Fees - Merchant	4,641.42	330.78	4,310.64
Cleaner	245.00	8,542.73	(8,297.73)
Depreciation - Building	21,996.00	22,531.00	(535.00)
Depreciation - Club Equipment	275.00	275.00	-
Functions	2,663.17	2,091.82	571.35
Insurance - Industrial Special Risks	8,128.87	13,418.62	(5,289.75)
Legal expenses	1,750.00	-	1,750.00
Light, Power, Heating	1,760.88	1,564.28	196.60
Marketing	10,335.20	-	10,335.20
Postage & Freight	203.09	2,050.91	(1,847.82)
Printing & Stationery	127.61	79.79	47.82
Professional Services	10,649.23	4,451.10	6,198.13
Professional Development	709.09	-	709.09
Rates & Taxes	16.70	286.70	(270.00)
Rent	474.00	20.00	454.00
Repairs and Maintenance	816.66	973.37	(156.71)
Rubbish Removal	955.70	1,120.90	(165.20)
Security	460.18	1,296.88	(836.70)
Subscriptions	3,648.72	1,634.77	2,013.95
Telephone & Internet	1,089.36	888.75	200.61
Total Business Expenses	72,784.01	64,363.59	8,420.42
Bay Swim Expenses			
Bay Swim - Expenses	23,992.98	23,048.37	944.61
Bay Swim - Regn Fees	1,433.55	1,093.75	339.80
Depreciation - Bay Swim Equip	219.00	167.00	52.00
Total Bay Swim Expenses	25,645.53	24,309.12	1,336.41
Total Operating Expenses	152,211.38	124,959.44	27,251.94
Other Expenses			

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Profit and Loss

	2026	2025	CHANGE
Loss on Building Demolished	322,627.68	-	322,627.68
Total Other Expenses	322,627.68	-	322,627.68
Total Expenses	474,839.06	124,959.44	349,879.62
Net Profit	(260,553.53)	(30,398.80)	(230,154.73)

G. A 14/8/26

Balance Sheet

Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club As at 30 April 2026

	30 APR 2026	30 APR 2025	CHANGE
Assets			
Bank			
Sorrento Surf Life Saving 0512	169,070.16	140,172.59	28,897.57
Building Acc 6466	1,781,685.39	460,163.75	1,321,521.64
Sorrento SLSC Paypal	330.97	330.97	-
Total Bank	1,951,086.52	600,667.31	1,350,419.21
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable	425,000.00	103,806.21	321,193.79
Prepayments	-	979.24	(979.24)
Stock on Hand	5,423.38	6,171.14	(747.76)
Total Current Assets	430,423.38	110,956.59	319,466.79
Fixed Assets			
Bay Swim Equipment	6,267.94	5,067.94	1,200.00
Bay Swim Equipment Accum depreciation	(4,374.00)	(4,155.00)	(219.00)
Club Equipment	31,077.37	31,077.37	-
Club Equipment accum depreciation	(17,875.00)	(17,600.00)	(275.00)
Clubhouse Depot accum depreciation	(19,969.00)	(401,570.00)	381,601.00
Clubhouse additional works	-	169,314.88	(169,314.88)
Clubhouse Depot	35,931.73	35,931.73	-
Clubhouse Main	-	556,909.80	(556,909.80)
Nippers Equipment accum depreciation	(121,148.90)	(117,380.90)	(3,768.00)
Nippers Equipment	128,697.41	126,672.41	2,025.00
Patrol & Comp Equipment	313,852.22	305,386.67	8,465.55
Patrol & Comp Equipment accum depreciation	(252,856.46)	(237,133.46)	(15,723.00)
Total Fixed Assets	99,603.31	452,521.44	(352,918.13)
Total Assets	2,481,113.21	1,164,145.34	1,316,967.87
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	59,378.59	5,518.03	53,860.56
GST Control Ac	(81,775.26)	(2,480.75)	(79,294.51)
NEW Clubhouse Project			
Committed Funds - Donations			
Committed Funds - Donations Received	675,247.95	568,291.56	106,956.39
Committed Funds - Foundation Members	870,100.00	530,100.00	340,000.00
Total Committed Funds - Donations	1,545,347.95	1,098,391.56	446,956.39
Committed Funds - Grants Received			
Committed Funds - Grants (GST)	700,000.00	-	700,000.00
Committed Funds - Grants (GST Free)	2,200,000.00	-	2,200,000.00
Total Committed Funds - Grants Received	2,900,000.00	-	2,900,000.00

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Balance Sheet

	30 APR 2026	30 APR 2025	CHANGE
Committed Funds - Sponsorship Received	100,000.00	-	100,000.00
Committed Funds - Expenses Paid	(2,384,910.51)	(541,052.99)	(1,843,857.52)
Total NEW Clubhouse Project	2,160,437.44	557,338.57	1,603,098.87
Deposits Held - Keys	-	150.00	(150.00)
Total Current Liabilities	2,138,040.77	560,525.85	1,577,514.92
Total Liabilities	2,138,040.77	560,525.85	1,577,514.92
Net Assets	343,072.44	603,619.49	(260,547.05)
Equity			
Current Year Earnings	(260,553.53)	(30,398.80)	(230,154.73)
Opening Balance Equity	679,851.47	679,851.47	-
Retained Earnings	(76,225.50)	(45,833.18)	(30,392.32)
Total Equity	343,072.44	603,619.49	(260,547.05)

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SECRETARY'S REPORT



The club has continued to meet its administrative requirements over the 2025-2026 year, including maintenance of accurate records according to governance requirements and compliance with the obligations of our constitution, our governing body, Life Saving Victoria and other statutory regulators.

The committee has met regularly to oversee the operation and activities of the club. Secretarial duties include regular monitoring and management of email correspondence, regular postal mail collection and oversight of communication with our increasing membership. Other responsibilities are co-ordination of meetings, preparation and distribution of meeting reports and documents, recording minutes of all meetings and circulating all relevant documents to committee members, in collaboration with the President. With the growth of our club, other duties have evolved to include contributions to administrative aspects of clubhouse rebuild project.

We are delighted to now have a part-time Administrative Assistant, Anna Jennings. We welcome her to our team, and I would particularly like to acknowledge and thank her for her assistance with the preparation of this Annual Report.

We thank all of our volunteer club members who have contributed to the management of our club over the past season, especially our hard-working committee members, and we look forward to the times ahead in our exciting new clubhouse.



Ro Moore
Secretary, Sorrento SLSC

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Another fantastic season has come to an end, and I am incredibly grateful for the people who make Sorrento SLSC such a special club. Whether you have been patrolling, training, coaching Nippers, supporting water safety, helping at events, serving on committee or volunteering behind the scenes, every contribution has helped shape our season.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this year has been seeing our club community continue to thrive, even without a clubhouse. From Thursday night paddles and social events to training programs, patrols and major events such as the Bay Swim, members have continued to support one another and embrace opportunities to get involved. I would also like to thank the Sorrento Lawn Bowls Club for hosting many of our social events and providing a place for members to come together.

Congratulations to all members who achieved their SRC, Bronze Medallion and other qualifications throughout the season. It has been fantastic to see so many members challenge themselves, develop new skills and take on leadership and water safety opportunities.



CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT CONT

I would also like to acknowledge our Patrol Captains and Vice Captains for their leadership throughout the season. Many stepped into these roles for the first time and embraced the challenge with enthusiasm and professionalism. Their commitment to supporting their teams, mentoring newer members and keeping our beaches safe has been instrumental to another successful season.

Another key highlight of the season for our active members was our Club Championships. Cameron Brown, recipient of the SSLSC 2025/26 Best Patroller Award and organiser of the Club Champs, reflected on the day as follows:

"This was a day when both patrollers and parents took to the waves in a variety of key areas, such as surfing, board paddling and swimming, as well as some activities on land, such as flags and runs. The day was constructed through discussion amongst youth members, establishing a high energy event, in which everyone was involved! Next season, we look forward to more youth collaboration for our special events for everyone to enjoy."

We would like to congratulate the following Club Champ winners for their achievements and thank all who participated on the day:

- Under 15 Boys: 1st Harry Atkinson 2nd Oscar Atkinson
- Under 18 Girls: 1st Zoe Smith 2nd Kiara De Nicolo
- Under 18 Boys: 1st Keenan Lord 2nd Dash Richardson



CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT CONT



This season also saw the continued success of our significant patrol days, including Pink Patrol, Green Patrol, Pride Patrol and Blue Patrol, which celebrate the diverse contributions of our members and strengthen connections within both the club and broader community.

Another highlight was continuing to build our relationship with the Nepean Conservation Group and Rye Beach Patrol through Green Patrol and our first Green Nippers Day, alongside Friends of the Hooded Plover and Parks Victoria. I would like to thank Ursula and Eddie De Jong from the Nepean Conservation Group for their ongoing support and commitment to this initiative. Partnerships such as these strengthen our connection to the local environment and remind us that our role extends beyond keeping people safe on the beach to also caring for the coastline we are privileged to protect.

Looking ahead, the return of our clubhouse for the 2026/27 season is an exciting milestone. More than just a building, it will provide a place for members to connect, learn and celebrate, helping strengthen the community that makes Sorrento SLSC so unique.

Thank you to everyone who contributed throughout the season. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together and excited for what lies ahead.



Erin Dupe
Club Captain, Sorrento SLSC



LIFE SAVING OPERATIONAL REPORT

Our Lifesaving Services statistics are summarised in the table below. These data are captured through daily beach reporting which is provided by all clubs at the time of patrols. Data is entered into the LIMSOC (Lifesaving Incident Management System and Operations Console).

With the increasing popularity of the Sorrento Back Beach, we have a growing need for more volunteers for patrols. New members are always welcome.

Categories		2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026
	Beach Attendances	28,942	48,715	30,050
	Preventative Actions	1,331	1,294	1,431
	Minor First Aids	15	22	19
	Major First Aids	0	2	4
	Rescues	3	6	2
	Patrol Hours (Members)	1,1157	1,724	2,271



CHIEF INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT



The 2025–2026 season has been another successful year for training and capability development at Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club. Our focus this season has extended beyond maintaining our strong surf lifesaving competencies to strengthening our interoperability with emergency service partners across the Mornington Peninsula.

Throughout the year, the club delivered and supported a broad range of training programs resulting in 71 member qualifications across 73 course enrolments. In total we delivered 13 courses, supporting our candidates to achieve the following qualifications:

- 14 Surf Rescue Certificates
- 10 Bronze Medallions
- 15 Advanced Resuscitation Techniques and First Aid qualifications
- 8 Inflatable Rescue Boat Crew awards
- 6 Silver Medallion Patrol Captain qualifications

Multiple specialist awards including Pain Management, Gold Medallion, Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue and Side-by-Side Vehicle Operations.

In addition, 46 members successfully completed annual Skills Maintenance requirements (from 17 skills maintenance sessions) across patrol, rescue, communications, IRB, aquatic rescue and advanced resuscitation, ensuring our operational readiness remains at the highest standard.

The club continues to benefit from a dedicated and highly capable Training, Assessment and Facilitation (TAF) team who collectively delivered training across lifesaving, first aid, patrol operations and emergency response disciplines (see table below). Their contribution has been instrumental in developing the next generation of lifesavers and maintaining operational capability within the club. We are very grateful to these volunteers for the many hours that they devote to this.

Instructors and Assistants	
TAF Team	Stefan Bagg, Marc Clavin, Howard Draper, Jeffrey Feldman, Sebastian Hales, Bethany Orme, Duncant Stirling
Training Assistants	Tex Harbour, Gavan Sharples, Olivia Green



Operational Capability Development

During the season, training extended beyond traditional surf lifesaving activities to include a comprehensive multi-agency interoperability program involving the following agencies:

- Ambulance Victoria (AV)
- Victoria Police (including Vic Water Police)
- Victorian State Emergency Service (SES)
- Southern Peninsula Rescue Squad
- Marine Search and Rescue partners (including EMV and MSAR)
- Life Saving Victoria assets and specialist rescue resources (including a few guards)

This collaborative training initiative was developed in preparation for Exercise Warreeny, a large-scale operational exercise hosted at Sorrento Ocean Back Beach or Sorrento Foreshore. The key focus of the program was inter-agency communication and patient care, and including the following scenarios:

- Initial situation interagency reporting, planning and execution
- Spinal immobilisation, anatomical splinting, pelvic support, patient movement and handover
- Patient search and rescue, including boat to boat transfer
- Rock entrapment, rescue and movement coordinating with inter-agency resources

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT CONT



The Exercise Warreeny program was established in response to the growing number of aquatic incidents occurring across the Mornington Peninsula, which has recorded the highest number of drowning fatalities in Victoria over the past decade. The exercise provided a valuable opportunity to strengthen coordinated emergency response arrangements for complex ocean and coastal rescue incidents. Key outcomes included:

- Improved interoperability between lifesaving, ambulance, police, SES and marine rescue agencies.
- Enhanced understanding of patient transfer pathways from water rescue through to definitive medical care.
- Validation of communication and coordination procedures during complex incidents.
- Increased familiarity with unified command structures and multi-agency decision making.
- Identification of future training opportunities to further strengthen regional emergency response capability.

Acknowledgements

- The club extends its sincere thanks to all of our volunteer trainers, assessors, facilitators and operational members who contributed their time and expertise throughout the season.

We would also like to thank Ambulance Victoria, Victoria Police, Victorian State Emergency Service, Southern Peninsula Rescue Squad, Marine Search and Rescue partners, Life Saving Victoria and the Mornington Peninsula Shire for their support and participation in the Exercise Warreeny program.

Through continued collaboration, training and shared learning, Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club remains committed to providing a professional, capable and coordinated emergency response service for the Mornington Peninsula community.



Jeff Feldman

Chief Instructor, Sorrento SLSC

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



The 2025–26 season saw the successful introduction of a new membership platform in December 2025. The new system has streamlined both membership registrations and renewals, providing members with a more user-friendly and efficient experience. As members continue to transition to the new platform, we are already seeing significant benefits in administration and member engagement.

At the time of reporting, the Club has 1,027 social members registered on the new membership platform, with a further 426 members remaining on SurfGuard (the previous platform) awaiting migration or renewal through the new system.

CATEGORIES	2025–2026	2024–2025	CHANGE
Nippers (5–13 Years)	112	92	+20
Cadets (13–15 Years)	11	19	–8
Active Members (15–18 Years)	13	14	–1
Active Members (18+)	72	59	+13
Nipper Parents	218		
Social Membership	1027		

The Club has experienced strong growth in both the Nipper and Adult Active membership categories, with Nipper numbers increasing by over 20% compared with last season. Adult Active membership also continued its positive trend, reflecting the Club’s ongoing success in attracting and retaining volunteer lifesavers.

CATEGORIES	MALE	FEMALE
Nippers/Cadets	67	56
Active Members	49	36

The gender distribution across both Nipper and Active membership categories remains relatively balanced and continues to reflect strong participation from both males and females throughout the Club.

Membership Transfers

During the season, the Club recorded 22 transfers into Sorrento SLSC and an equal number of transfers to other clubs. This balanced movement reflects the usual mobility of members within the Surf Life Saving network.

Membership Administration

The implementation of the new membership platform was overseen by a dedicated membership team led by Maesson Harbour and supported by Membership Administrator Anna Jennings. Their efforts in managing the transition, supporting members through the change process, and maintaining accurate membership records have been instrumental in ensuring a smooth and successful rollout.

The Club extends its sincere thanks to Maesson and Anna for their commitment and hard work throughout the season.



Duncan Stirling
Membership Officer, Sorrento SLSC

FIRST AID REPORT



The club's First Aid service has continued throughout the past year, according to Life Saving Victoria (LSV) requirements, despite vacating our old clubhouse in May 2025. Our First Aid and training equipment have been housed in our outlying building ("The Depot") and we have been operating adequately at the beach from a container which has also doubled as a patrollers' facility. Our equipment has been regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure that it has remained well-stocked, within date, fit for purpose and compliant with LSV regulations. Our annual pre-season LSV Gear Inspection was passed without issue.

I would particularly like to thank Gerry Lute, Duncan Stirling, Marc Clavin and Bruce Grayling for their assistance with setting up our temporary First Aid (and other) facilities, to enable us to continue functioning while our clubhouse project is underway.

We have again had wonderful support for our Nipper program from a highly qualified team of Nipper parents. The Nipper First Aid team has ensured that there was a strong and visible presence on the beach at every session throughout the Nipper season, and that the equipment appropriate to their needs was provided. We would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank the following for their contribution:

- Amy King
- Jav Greaves
- Ben Hallett
- Lia Hallett
- Chris Nickson
- Michelle Monaghan
- Juliana Ramirez Pelaez
- Luke West

Our club facilities and volunteers continue to be called upon and to make themselves available to Victorian Emergency Rescue services outside our patrolling hours and season. We thank the small group of volunteer club members who make themselves available as First Responders all year around, no matter what the weather and conditions, to assist with and support major search and rescue incidents in conjunction with other emergency services.

We are very much looking forward to moving out of our container and into our new First Aid Room and Training areas in November 2026 and are very excited at the prospect of operating from modern, state-of-the-art facilities in the forthcoming season and beyond.

Ro Moore

First Aid Officer, Sorrento SLSC

FACILITIES REPORT

No appointment was made for this position in the 25/26 season. Our operational equipment has been well maintained to ensure that it is fit for purpose and compliant with Life Saving Victoria requirements. This includes our IRBs (Inflatable Rescue Boats) and their motors, SSVs (Side-By-Side Vehicles for use on the sand), the patrollers' Beach Equipment Trailer, rescue boards and other related equipment, and a suitably equipped maintenance shed. The ongoing monitoring, updating, maintenance and repair work of this equipment requires many hours of our volunteers' time, which is frequently called upon due to the challenging conditions our equipment has to endure.

We thank those club volunteers who have continued to assist with all that is required to maintain our rescue equipment and facilities throughout the year, with particular thanks to Gerry Lute.

NIPPERS REPORT

Reflecting on a Successful Season of Skill Building, Community Engagement, and Celebration

Nippers Sub Committee: Nigel Smith, Andrew Atkinson, Thanasinh Boupha, Liz Atkinson, Kelly Sharples, Jeff Feldman

The 2025/26 Nippers Program at Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club has been a fantastic journey, marked by growth, learning, and community spirit. From November to January, our nippers, parents, volunteers, and club members have shown remarkable dedication to surf lifesaving, environmental stewardship, and club culture. This report summarises the highlights and achievements from the season, drawing on feedback and outcomes from our end-of-season events and ongoing program initiatives.

Sorrento SLSC Nippers sincerely thank TLC Healthcare for its generous sponsorship and ongoing support of our program. This funding has helped us deliver a better-resourced Nippers season—supporting volunteer training and helping more children build surf awareness, skills, and confidence at the beach.



Program Overview

With 130 nippers enrolled, the nine-week program from 25 November 2025 through to 24 January 2026 averaged 100 nippers per session, a testament to the club's popularity and the commitment of our families. Despite cooler conditions and a club house under construction, all scheduled sessions ran successfully, including a memorable combined session at the Sorrento Bay Swim event in January 2026, where our nippers showcased their skills with an Aqua Cameron relay to the finish line.



NIPPERS REPORT CONT

New Initiatives and Educational Activities

This season featured new educational initiatives, with visits from other emergency services – SES, Ambulance Victoria, and Life Saving Victoria. These sessions provided invaluable hands-on learning, with nippers undertaking mock rescues and first aid activities. The Under 13 Program was further tailored with Surf Rescue Certificate foundations, aimed at supporting a smoother transition for our older nippers into Surf Rescue Certificate training and encouraging higher participation. This year, we welcomed 14 SRC graduates into the Nippers Program, where they served as water safety volunteers.

We appreciate Jeff Feldman, Chief Training Officer, for offering these opportunities to our nippers.

Acknowledgement of Water Safety, Coaches and Age Managers Volunteers

We are truly grateful to all our water safety team members, coaches, and age managers. The Nippers Program relies on the dedication and hard work of these volunteers. Their commitment to safety, mentorship, and coaching is key to the program's continued success. Thanks to their guidance, nippers benefit from a supportive and safe setting, helping them build skills and confidence as part of the surf lifesaving community.

Thanks to our Water Safety and Coach Team

Coaches:

Cameron Brown, Charlotte Smith, Dash Richardson, Grace Stephens, Harry Atkinson, Grace Stephens, James Allan, Keenan Lord, Luke Daniel, Oscar Atkinson, Thea Harvey, Zahli Wettenhall

Water Safety:

Akalyla Harriss, Archer Hillier, Celeste Robertson, Charlie Hallett, Evie Cook, Freddie Pizzini, James Harriss, Kiara De Nicolo, Lily Harris, Liv Gastin, Luke West, Maebh Deffely, Oscar Nickson, Oskar Boehm, Rowan Sharples, Sophia McKeown, Summer Heggarty, Zoe Smith

Adult Water Safety:

Andrew Allan, Andrew Atkinson, Jeff Feldman, Juilana Ramirez Pelaez, Liz Atkinson



NIPPERS REPORT CONT

Community Engagement and Volunteer Support

Parent volunteer involvement increased, particularly for BBQs and coordination at the Bay Swim. Thank you to all the parents and friends who volunteered for a job each week whether it be for BBQ, breakfast, set up and pack up, age manager, first aid, merchandise, membership stalls and events.

Special thanks to Isadora Van Camp, Jav Greaves, Lauren McNicol and Tom Ingham for assisting the Nippers Subcommittee in the coordination of the program.



Paddle Out Thursday Nights

We appreciate all those who coordinated the weekly 'paddle out' gatherings. These events were a hit with our Nippers, offering them important board training alongside senior members, followed by a shared meal. They fostered a sense of community, and we are eager to see even more next season.



Santa Visit

Santa made a special appearance at the beach, arriving on the Inflatable Rescue Boat. The young participants were enthusiastic and greatly enjoyed the experience.



NIPPERS REPORT CONT

End of Season Carnival and Celebration

The season concluded with a vibrant Nippers Carnival and an End Season Club Event at Sorrento Bowls Club on Saturday the 24th of January 2026. The day included beach cleaning, fun competitions, environmental education, lifesaving demonstrations, and a family snorkelling session. The evening celebration brought families and patrollers together for presentations, awards, pizza, lawn bowls, raffles, and merchandise sales. This event highlighted the achievements of our nippers, coaches, water safety team, and volunteers, fostering a strong sense of community and recognition.

Thanks to our community partner at the Sorrento Bowls club, Jo Hansen and her team for hosting us as we await a new club house.

Thank you, Thanasinh Boupha, for uniting the Nippers community through social events and timely communication.

Awards and Recognition

The club proudly celebrated its Nippers of the Year across age groups, acknowledging outstanding participation and skill development with a trophy.

We especially acknowledge the recipient of the annual Parent of the Year Award, Tim Richardson and thank him for his important contribution to our program.

Age Group	Boys	Girls
Under 8	Otto Buechler	Winter McKay
Under 9	Ned Nash	Mackayla Lucas
Under 10	Huxley Findlay	Claire Feldman
Under 11	Sam Hagenmuller	Indie Buechler
Under 12	Scott Feldman	Elizabeth Switkowski
Under 13	Reef Richardson	Clara Stammers



NIPPERS REPORT CONT

Looking Ahead

With robust systems and processes in place, the club is well positioned for future programs. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and the continued growth in participation and volunteer engagement promises even greater opportunities for our nippers in seasons to come.

Thank you to all nippers, families, volunteers, and committee members for making the 2025/26 season a resounding success. We look forward to seeing everyone back on the beach and at our new club house for another year of surf lifesaving, skill development, and community connection.

Nippers is managed solely by volunteers. Each season, we experience turnover as members complete their commitments. If you are interested in joining the Nippers Subcommittee or providing support in another capacity, please contact us at nippers@sorrentoslsc.au. Volunteers are essential to the successful operation of the program. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to welcoming you to the beach next season.

Nippers Subcommittee Volunteers

The club is very grateful for the dedication of the Nippers Subcommittee - Nigel Smith, Andrew Atkinson, Thanasinh Boupah, Liz Atkinson, Kelly Sharples, and Jeff Feldman.

Their ongoing planning, hard work, and commitment have helped deliver another successful year of youth development and community growth.



Nigel Smith

Nippers Co-Ordinator, Sorrento SLSC



COMMUNICATIONS REPORT



This season, our social media presence continued to grow, playing an important role in strengthening community engagement, promoting club activities, and supporting our core mission of lifesaving and beach safety. With the rebuild gaining momentum, our channels have also helped keep members and the wider community connected to key milestones and progress.

Key metrics (end of season)

- Facebook: 1.2K followers
- Instagram: 1.3K followers

This represents strong year-on-year growth over last season (Facebook: nearly 1,000; Instagram: 850), with steady engagement from members, nipper families, youth members, and the broader Mornington Peninsula community.

Content focus and highlights

Most of our content is centred on the areas that consistently drive the strongest engagement and community connection:

- Nippers: training, Sunday updates, and on-the-beach moments
- Training and youth: including youth content
- Special patrols and club activity updates: timely posts that kept our community informed
- Social events and celebrations: bowls club catch-ups, awards, and club milestones
- On-the-beach fun: the moments that capture the spirit of our club and help build momentum

As the club continues to grow and rebuild, our socials are well placed to amplify that momentum and keep the community engaged.

Newsletter and member communications

In addition to social media, we produced several club newsletters across the season to ensure key updates reached members who don't regularly use social platforms.

These included:

Oct 2025: [October Newsletter](#)

Dec 2025: [December Newsletter](#)

Feb–Mar 2026: [Feb–March Newsletter](#)

A monthly update has also been commenced.

Improvements and operations

We improved efficiency this season, but there is still room to improve consistency and reduce last-minute pressure. To support this, we have reviewed best-practice approaches within Adobe Express, which we plan to implement across committees, including:

- Batch producing content (planning and creating posts ahead of time)
- Using templates to speed up production and improve consistency
- More structured scheduling so key updates are published reliably

These changes will help us maintain a consistent presence while making the workload more sustainable for volunteers.

Committee contribution and thanks

A special thank you to **Celeste Robertson**, who has been a tremendous asset to the committee this season. Celeste dedicated significant time to learning Adobe Express and supporting content creation and production. I truly could not have done it without her.

Thank you also to everyone who contributed photos, updates, and support throughout the season—your input is what makes our socials feel authentic and community-led.



#loveourclub

SORRENTO SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT CONT

Looking ahead

Next season, we aim to:

1. **FOCUS on NEW CLUBHOUSE!!!**
2. Continue leveraging **Nippers, training, and volunteer stories** to build connections and encourage participation.
3. Increase use of **video** (reels/stories) to highlight rebuild milestones, activities, and key moments.
4. Strengthen collaboration with event and patrol groups for **real-time posting** during major events.
5. Support targeted campaigns for **recruitment and fundraising** as opportunities arise.

Resourcing

To keep improving consistency and share the workload, it would be fantastic to have one **additional capable volunteer with experience in Adobe Express** or willing to learn to assist with scheduling and content production.

Closing

Thank you to all members, volunteers, and the wider communications team for your contributions and creativity across our social channels. Your efforts help Sorrento SLSC stay connected, grow, and continue delivering on what matters most: keeping our community safe on the coast.



Kelly Sharples
Communications Co-ordinator, Sorrento SLSC

BAY SWIM REPORT

The 21st Sorrento SLSC's Bay Swim was swum on an overcast Sunday the 11th of January 2026 with a moderate south westerly wind. Ideal conditions for an open water swim on the Sorrento foreshore.

Outcome – Club Benefits

This year's event was a great success with 420 registrations resulting in 382 swimmers finishing their chosen swim. This was a 33% improvement on the average over the previous 2 swims. The swim also attracted hundreds of spectators.

This year's event raised significant funds supporting the club's sustainability and life saving activities. The event also raised the club profile with participants and the wider community via the event's billboards, posters and social media posts. The raised community profile attracted an additional 50 members, all of whom signed up to join the club on the day.

Community Engagement – Community Groups

The event was supported by other community groups that provided infrastructure and support – Dromana Bay LSC, Portsea SLSC, Rosebud RSL, Sorrento CFA and Southern Peninsula Rescue Squad.

BAY SWIM REPORT CONT

Community Engagement – Volunteers

It also takes a lot of volunteers to make the Sorrento Bay Swim safe and enjoyable for all participants. This year we had support from:

Group	Number
Committee	6
Old Hands – Registration	15
Water Safety	30
Nipper Parents	39
Total	90

This year setup and pack down went extremely smoothly. We did have trouble with course marker buoys drifting and the water safety team was kept busy re-locating them to their correct positions. We'll need to upgrade our anchoring system for next year's Bay Swim. Thanks to all contributing volunteers – nipper parents and long time supporters of our Bay Swim event. Finally most of the committee and old hand volunteers had kids that were in nippers or patrolling 15+ years ago, and whilst still enjoying being involved would welcome the next generation to take over. So if any of the newer volunteers are interested in stepping up please let our event manager – Cath Stirling (0414 816 572) know.



Results

A full list of place getters by event and category is available [here](#). Notable results included, for the males: Tharush Perrera who won both the 4km event and the 2km open category, both by significant margins. And for the females both Danielle Tullock and Molly Thwaites, first and second in the 2km masters (40-49) category both had times that bettered the males.

Incidents

We had no in water incidents and the only incident reported to us was 1 swimmer collapsed after completing their swim. They recovered quickly and no medical treatment was needed.

BAY SWIM REPORT CONT



Attendance

Registrants for the Bay Swim came from far and wide as shown in the following table:

Where From	Number	%
Vic < 50km	121	29%
Vic >= 50 & < 100km	268	64%
Vic > 100km	9	2%
SA	2	0%
NSW	4	1%
ACDT	5	1%
QLD	4	1%
NT	3	1%
International	2	0%
Unknown	2	0%
Total	420	

We don't have a count for spectators, but a conservative estimate would be one spectator for each registrant meaning our event attracted maybe 600 non-locals to the Mornington Peninsula.

Sponsors

This year's event was brought to you by TLC Healthcare, a new major sponsor of the Bay Swim and we look forward to their ongoing support. This year's t-shirt design was a huge success, so much so that we had people wanting to buy them. Thanks Justine McNamara. Thanks also to all our logo and name sponsors, some providing funding and some providing services and/or infrastructure. It's all needed to make the Bay Swim a success and is greatly appreciated by the Sorrento SLSC.



Next Year (2027)

The Bay Swim subcommittee (Cath Stirling, Bruce Grayling, Jenny Grayling, Meredith Owens, Ray Owens and Ro Moore) is already preparing for the 2027 event with two meetings held so far.

The main decision coming from these is that the 2027 event will be held on the 3rd Sunday - the 17th January 2027. A 10am start on this date fits with the forecast tides meaning swimmers will be swimming with tide assistance similar to this year's swim and is also expected to be the day following the Portsea Classic, an arrangement that has worked well in the past.

The Sorrento Bay swim is continuing to grow and is recognised as an important event in the club and wider community's summer calendar. Thank you to the many volunteers who contribute to its success.



Bruce Grayling

on behalf of Bay Swim Subcommittee, Sorrento SLSC

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT REPORT

During the 2025/2026 season, an increased number of events have been held by our Youth Development group. These events have focused on developing strong connections between our youth members to foster ongoing connection with our club. They have been well attended, enjoyed by all, and have achieved these aims.

Tree Surfing Event

We had an excellent turnout at the beginning of the season, with approximately 20 youth members attending the Tree Surfing event. It was a fantastic mix of members, including many second and third-year participants as well as older age group members. The event created a great opportunity for the kids to bond and build stronger connections across age groups.

Following the event, we also ran the Coaches Course, which allowed us to slightly expand our coaching numbers heading into the season.



Youth Lunch

During the season, we held a Youth Lunch at All Smiles (Sorrento Back Beach), with around 20 members attending. This event attracted a different mix of participants compared to the Tree Surfing event, including a strong turnout from SRC members and several of our older U17 members.

Erin Doupe, our Club Captain, was invited to speak with the group and did an outstanding job discussing pathways and career opportunities within surf lifesaving. Her presentation was very engaging and well received by the members.

URBNSURF Mid-Year Catch-Up

We held our mid-year catch up at Urbnsurf (near Melbourne Airport) in late June 2026. We had a decent turn out with 13 or 14 kids, including a number of really excited 13 year olds who are keen to start their SRC journey this coming season.



25/26 Program Overview

We have developed a fantastic group of young members who have bonded exceptionally well throughout the season. It has been great to see friendships form across different age groups, creating a positive and inclusive club culture.

The Nippers Coaching Program and Water Safety Program were both very well supported by our youth members, with strong participation numbers and no difficulty achieving the required coaching and water safety ratios.

The Sorrento Bay Swim saw an outstanding youth member turnout for Water Safety duties, with at least 15 youth members volunteering across the event.

The Sorrento Club Championships also had an excellent youth turnout, with approximately 15 participants. This represented a significant increase on previous years, and it was particularly pleasing to see many families stay throughout the event to support and encourage competitors.

Youth participation on patrols was very strong throughout the summer holiday period, with a noticeable increase in young members actively contributing to patrol operations. While participation reduced later in the season as Melbourne-based members returned to school, this could potentially be improved in future seasons, particularly through stronger engagement with local schools.

2026/27 Goals

- **Deliver a full Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) course.** With approximately 19 eligible U13 Nippers transitioning into SRC, the priority is to retain as many of these members as possible. By promoting the SRC program through local schools and sporting clubs, the aim is to fill all remaining course places and maximize participation.
- **Improve communication with members aged 13–18.** Ensure all youth members are aware of the training, leadership, development, competition, patrol, and camp opportunities available throughout the season through consistent and engaging communication.
- **Develop youth leadership.** Encourage youth members to take on leadership roles within the Youth Group, creating a program that is increasingly led by young members, for young members, while developing confidence, responsibility, and lifelong leadership skills.
- **Establish a youth hub within the new clubhouse.** Create a welcoming and inclusive environment where youth members can connect, socialise, and build friendships throughout the summer patrol season, with the long-term vision of the clubhouse becoming a year-round space for young members.
- **Transition Water Safety members into coaching roles.** Support and encourage this season's Water Safety volunteers to become Nipper Coaches, strengthening the club's coaching pathway while retaining their knowledge, experience and enthusiasm within the program.
- **Develop future coaching leaders.** Empower several of the club's most experienced Nipper Coaches to plan and deliver this season's coach induction and development sessions, providing mentorship to both returning and new coaches while building leadership capacity within the coaching team.

We would like to thank Maesson Harbour and Seb Hales for their invaluable assistance with running the Nippers Coaches Course, Erin Doupe for her support and most of all, our Youth Members for their participation and enthusiasm over the past season.



Andrew Atkinson
Youth Development Leader

SOCIAL EVENTS



Season Overview

The 2025–2026 season was a quieter year for SSLSC events, largely because the club was operating without a clubhouse while the rebuild progressed. Despite a more limited event calendar, the club maintained community visibility and momentum during the season through a number of targeted fundraising and awareness activities:

1. Raffle evening

SSLSC ran a very successful raffle event in partnership with Hotel Sorrento to support fundraising and keep the community engaged during the rebuild period.

Acknowledgements

- Thank you to Lino Tarquilino and Amanda Crestani for support with sponsorship procurement and coordination.
- Thank you to Andrew and Liz Atkinson, and to all local businesses for their generous donations of raffle items.

2. Summer membership drive and merchandise kiosks

Over the summer period, SSLSC hosted a series of membership drives and merchandise kiosks on Sorrento Main Street (in front of the Marc Clavin Pharmacy). Their aims were to raise awareness of the clubhouse building project, grow social memberships, increase community visibility and engagement and support fundraising.

Acknowledgements

- Thank you to Marc Clavin and the Marc Clavin Pharmacy staff, especially Susie and Kash, for their help and support.
- Thank you to all the volunteers who contributed their time to staff the stalls, including: Cam Brown, Grace Ghattas, Liz Meyer, Thanasinh Boupha, Rose Michael, John McSweeney, Naomi DeNicolo, Rob DeNicolo, Maesson Harbour, Stewart Smith, Grahame Allen, Catherine Stirling, Erin Lucas, Katie Coutts, Grace Hattas

3. Lifesaver Awards Presentation Evening

Our annual awards evening was held at the Sorrento Bowling Club, organised by our Club Captain, Erin Doupe. This was a very enjoyable and well-attended event, to acknowledge and thank our life saving volunteers.

4. Nippers Awards and End of Season Celebration

The Nippers End of Season Celebration was also held at the Sorrento Bowling Club (See Nippers Report.)

Acknowledgement

A sincere thank you to the Sorrento Bowling Club for hosting SSLSC events throughout the season.

Looking ahead

With the rebuild well underway, SSLSC is looking forward to the season ahead and is excited to introduce a fuller calendar of events as facilities become available. The club's focus will be on:

- Creating more opportunities for active and social members to connect
- Hosting community events that reinforce SSLSC's mission of beach safety, inclusion, and service
- Continuing to build awareness and support for the new clubhouse.

Kelly Sharples

Social Events Co-ordinator

BUILDING PROJECT REPORT



The new clubhouse rebuild project has continued to make strong progress into the winter months, with several important construction milestones now achieved. The building frame and roof trusses have been completed, giving members and supporters a clear sense of the scale, form and future potential of the new facility.

The roof is expected to be completed by the end of August, which will allow the external cladding works to commence and enable the internal services rough-in to progress. This next stage will see the building move rapidly from structural works into the detailed fit-out phase.

Significant progress has also been made with the support and assistance of South East Water in relation to the design of the new pressure sewer system. This collaborative process has resulted in a substantial reduction in the initially forecast costs, delivering an important financial benefit to the overall project.

The project remains on track for handover in time for the coming summer season, which will be a major milestone for the Club, our members, volunteers and the broader Sorrento community.

Fundraising remains ongoing, and continued support is vital to ensuring the Club can complete and activate this important community facility for future generations.



Jav Greaves
Building Project Management



SORRENTO

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB



Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club
250 Ocean Beach Rd
P/O Box 395, Sorrento 3943
secretary@sorrentoslsc.au



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