

A Brief History of Killcare Surf Club

It is assumed by many that Killcare Surf Club was formed in 1931 with the first bronze squad, but in reality the concept of a surf club was formed in November 1929. That was when a minor rescue occurred on the beach.

Meetings took place in an area under the beach shop with B Hardaway acting as unofficial secretary. Among those present were; J Nock, T Melville, W Guilfoyle, F Annand, A Beattie, A Annand and Dr. E A Martin, the dentist from Woy Woy.

The first recorded meeting (minutes attached) on Sunday, 26th January 1931, in the then declared clubroom which was beneath the beach shop.

The first election for club Officials took place. The final results of the election were as follows:

Club Captain	J Brooker
Vice Captain	F Annand
Gear Steward	A Martin & J Smith
S.L.S.A Delegate	W Guilfoyle

A social committee was also formed and club colors, of maroon and gold, were registered. It was not until March of that year that a club president, Dr. E A Martin, was elected.

The first eleven members obtained their Bronze Medallions on Sunday, 5th April, 1931, a feat made possible with the help of one of the oldest surf clubs in Australia, Bronte, which lent one of their instructors to train the squad.

Mr. J Brooker, the instructor, remained a member and instructor for Killcare for many years. It was at Killcare that he found the companionship and healthy rivalry that exists even today.

Dr. Eric Martin our first president and first Life Member was also the first Branch President in 1938. The Branch previously known as District 8 extended from Catherine Hill Bay in the north to the Hawksbury River in the south and comprised of only 5 clubs. The good Doc. had been affiliated with surf life saving since 1910, he was also to become the first branch Life Member, another first in the history of Killcare.

Club House

The first clubhouse was built in 1934, by the Gosford Shire Council, for the grand sum of, 150 pounds. Late additions to this very basic building included a boat shed, gear room, roofing and new floor, plus repairs and maintenance cost an additional 1200 pounds. A cost that was not met by the Council but by the Club itself.

At the opening in December 1931, a gala day was held and in attendance were Ocean Beach, Palm Beach and Avoca Beach Surf Clubs.

The clubhouse was officially opened by Mr. R Doyle, Deputy President of the S.L.S.A of Australia.

A newly acquired surf rescue boat, 'THE ROSE M', was also christened on the day. This boat was formally a ships boat, which was converted for surf rescue purposes.

At the Annual General Meeting in September 1949 two Gosford Council Members were invited to inspect the surf clubhouse, at the time they agreed that something had to be done, as the general condition was appalling.

After much discussion, and possibly a few ambers, it was suggested that a new clubhouse was the go.

The hypothetical was put that if Council supplied sand and concrete the club members would construct the building blocks from which the council would commence construction.

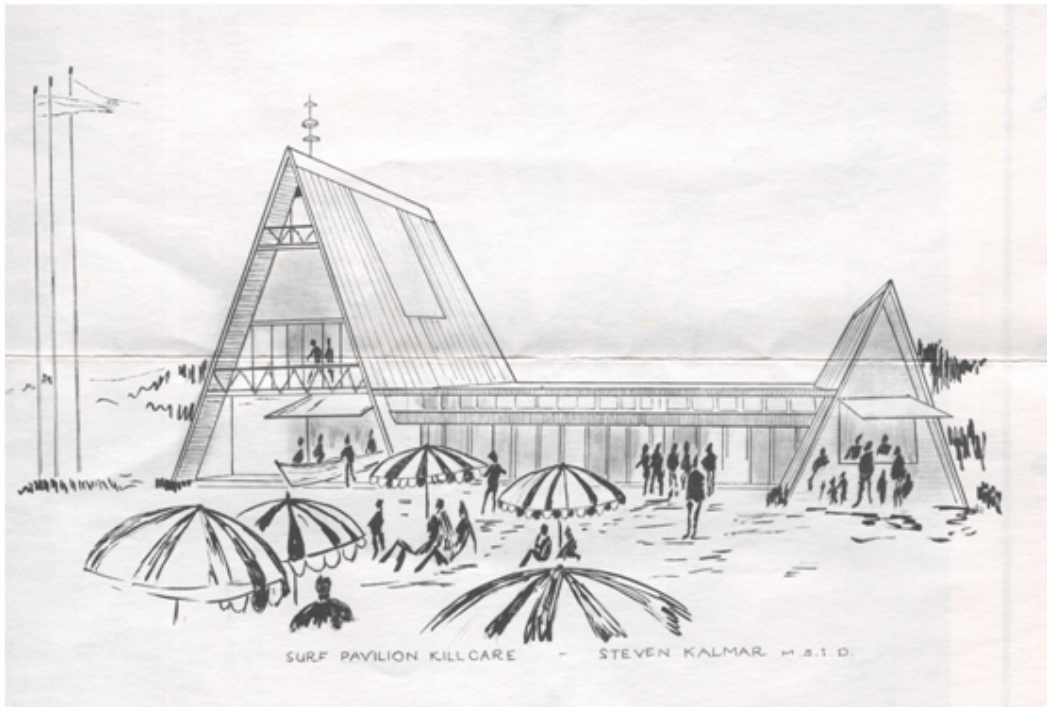
In an act of optimistic faith the club purchased building molds and proceeded to construct a number of blocks, which were stored adjacent to Darky Nathaniels home on Beach Drive.

After much correspondence, and repeated requests for further advice and plans for the clubhouse, secretary Alan Buck, took the time to personally approach Gosford Council, the obvious answer was quickly forthcoming.

NO FIRM COMMITMENT HAD BEEN GIVEN.... Council did not have the funds.... Assumption was for suckers.

The modest outlay had to be recouped, Council was not interested, and it was left to one of our associate members Mr. Joe Board to purchase these blocks to build a retaining wall for his home in Araluen Drive.

In 1966, due to the dilapidated condition of the clubhouse, club officials, J Macfadyen, J Tubby and N Hazard, were requested to inquire into the cost of a new building. One of Sydney's outstanding architects, Mr. Steven Kalmar, designed a modernistic 'A' frame building.



The plans were approved by Gosford Shire Council, funds were raised, mainly at the Erskineville Hotel, owned then by surf club patron, Max Gornik.

First stage foundations were laid in 1968, but due to a change in council, and the green Bouddi Trust influence it was decided that this building was not in harmony with the surroundings and permission was rescinded by the council. The cost of foundations and Brian Green's gumboots was in excess of \$3000. An amount never compensated by the council.

In 1970, under the leadership of Life Member and President Mr. Bob Brading, the first section of the current clubhouse was commenced.



The wife of our first President officially opened it on 27th March 1971, Mrs. Rose Martin. At the opening were three of the original members. The second section was opened ten years later.

This building is a true product of club effort. The Jarrah wood floor was destined for a dance hall at Terrigal but was exchanged by a Council Works Officer. The electric fittings never reached their work site in Sydney. The hot water system arrived from Rheem, shop damaged and at less than cost. The kitchen equipment was won in a card game at "City Tattisals", and other items personally supplied by members at their own cost.

NATURE VERSES BUILDING.

Since the first clubhouse was erected in 1931 the elements have sort to move us from our current site.

In 1948 two weeks of torrential rain soaked the surrounding hills causing a slip of the mountain behind the clubhouse. This landslide moved the clubhouse off its foundations pushing it bodily fifteen feet foreword to overhang the front verge by three feet. The club stayed in this position, propped-up for two weeks till the slide was cleared and sufficient manpower could be found to right the situation. Little could be done to restore the ladies change room and the summer shed.

In 1958 a fierce storm with high northeast winds whipped up a huge sea, which devastated the south end of our beach, with heavy rains the creek run-off, which passed the front off the clubhouse, was three feet deep. The combination of runoff and wave action eroded the gentle grass slope to an eight-foot drop immediately in front of the club exposing rocks never previously seen.

By 1962 nature seemed to have settled and a boat shed was built behind the clubhouse, however in 1963 a rain soaked hill decided to drop in and destroy the back wall. Thoughts now turned to a new clubhouse adjacent to what is now the public carpark, the foundations, 70 cubic metres of concrete were laid before the council changed its mind. So back to the old site.

In 1972 the new clubhouse was finished and firmly established, nature again intervened. A storm of similar magnitude to 1958 threatened the very doors; it was the work of Ian McCall and our local members who poured tons of rock fill and old car bodies into the enroaching ocean, which stopped the erosion.

It was later claimed that the falling tide was the saving factor, but we prefer to think it was the hard work of our volunteers that saved the day.

Rescues

True to the motto of the Association, 'Vigilance and Service', Killcare is justifiably proud of its patrol record, which states that NO lives have been lost whilst the area was under the surveillance of a patrol. As with most clubs, Killcare has had its epic rescues.

On a Saturday morning in 1941, two members, on leave from the Army, were awoken by cries of distress from the surf. Minus their costumes they rescued three early morning swimmers who had been swept two hundred yards out to sea in a rip. Their lack of apparel caused quite a controversy at the time.

Another early December morning in 1958, the surfboat crew, after two hours of hard rowing, towed to safety a valuable yatch, which was in danger of being

pounded to pieces in heavy surf. The promised reward was never to eventuate. Contrey to the boat crews wishes the yacht was never sunk at a later date.

Boxing Day 1976 saw a young lady paddling outside the flags swept past the 'Bogy Hole' by a strong rip and heavy surf. Patrolman Noel Annand attempted a board rescue, but on reaching the victim was dislodged from the board, although being swept further out Noel secured his patient.

Terry Westwood donned the belt, by the time he reached Noel and patient they were past the point, the retrieve signal was given but the line was caught in the rocks. Pulling the pin saw the three disappearing round the point in the general direction of Tallow, trying to calm and support a slightly hysterical and partially inebriated patient and not think about yesterdays shark sighting was not the way to spend a Christmas morning.

The jet rescue boat at Ocean Beach had been alerted; by arrival time the three had spent over 45 minutes in the sea, an event not soon forgotten.

In October 1982, it was reported that a boat had overturned in huge sea aprox. 1.5 kilometres off the beach, just two hundred metres off the bombora. Due to the treacherous seas the I.R.B crew of Phillip and Colin Tubby, were unable to get close enough to the boat to rescue the two shocked victims. Colin had to swim both men over to the I.R.B. Water Police and Central Coast Power Rescue highly commended both members.

Not all rescues are grim affairs some have their lighter moments as seen in 1957, when our champion beltman, Brian Green, was called upon to save a boat drifting onto the rocks at Maitland Bay. After a perilous trip in Roy Frost's truck and a hazardous trek down 1.5 miles of bushtrack, Brian donned the belt, swum to and secured the boat. On going below, the scene was four comatose drunks surrounded by bottles and cards. When awoken they assumed they were still in the Hawksbury River and proceeded to abuse Brian for waking them. Brian still thinks of the sharks in Maitland Bay.

These are but a few of the hundreds of rescues carried out by members of our club, which have been forgotten by the public.

Competition

Killcare has always been a very competitive club with notable swimmers. In the early years were the Dodd Brothers, George an Australian Belt Finalist and brother Ken representing in State Titles.

Later came swimmers Colin Gow and Don Hollwell both of whom were outstanding belt men, and were to become Branch champions for the club.

During the 1950's Killcare came to the fore with what can only be described as our most competitive R. & R. team. The team of Jim Saunders, Ken Nowland, cousins Adrian and Bill Murphy, Brian Green and Alex Cameron, competed successfully at Branch and State carnivals for a number of years.

Brian Green during this period of strong belt-men on the coast became another of Killcare's renowned belt swimmers.

The young Lex Cameron continued to be a competitive force for the club over a period of possibly 20 yrs and can only be described as a swimming icon, he was

still swimming with our Winter Swimmers in 2002 his brothers Jack and Alan were keen boatmen, Alan a sweep for a number of years

Killcare boat crews over the years have been hampered by old and heavy boats, but were renown for their big sea challenges.

Boats, possibly our best years were in the late 40's when a Junior and Senior branch title was won. 1953 with Ron Walters sweeping saw us make the semi-final at Manly, only to crack a big one and land at the next beach.

Beach Teams since the Steward Brothers, 1934-39, have always been in the Branch and State top ten, with Ken Steward our first state sprint Champion. Later came top runners, Hanscombe, Ginns, Beck and Vaux. From the 60's on Mison, Gregory and Neal, with a special mention of the Annand Brothers, John and Noel, who's Australian Titles, lifted the club to new highs.

John, after two years as Branch sprint and flags Champion left the club to successfully compete for Tamarama S.C. he returned in 1967 to form a beach relay team which gave us our first Australian title this was followed up by a barely recognised International title.

Killcare entered the doldrums as a competitive force from 1970 enjoying only mediocre success at Branch level.

The year of 2000 saw the great resurgence of Killcare as a beach force with both an Australian and WORLD title in the beach relay, this has since been followed by two consecutive State and Australian relay wins by an outstanding team lead by Steven Munnery who also took out two State and Aust. Beach sprint titles.

Our Chariot team was unbeatable over five years, with Branch, State and Australian Titles.

Few clubs on prorata membership can claim, as we do, to be one of the "Most competitive clubs in Australia", with most members setting their vision on the winner's dais.

March Past Costumes



Who among the 'OLDIES' will ever forget those hot, red, itchy, woolen costumes?

It was Dave and Sarah McIlwraith, who lived on the bay side at Killcare, who conducted cake stalls and ran raffles to purchase these, our first march past costumes. Bright red, gold lightening and a black 'K'. Without the support of many of these old people in the 40's our club would have seen harder times.

The second M.P. cosy was a full black nylon 'Speedo' which doubled for R. & R. and competition wear. With a few more dollars in the bank, and a lot of help from the Ladies Auxiliary, our current gold (yellow) costumes were purchased in 1974 and are well past their use by date..... but then so is the March Past.

CARNIVALS.

The surf carnivals from the 40,s to the late 60,s were always irrepressible, boisterous affairs where every member took part in at least three events as well as duty boat. Branch President, John (BLUBBER) Rosewell and carnival referee Bryce Norman always seemed to hold back events so that the KILLY. Boat crew could become R. & R., help on the line for belt races or become sand crabs, and vice-a-versa.

Events never went smooth due to this overlap and the duty boat always with a sugarbag of amber refreshment over the side didn't help. Till the mid 50,s we had our own band for the March Past, the pipe band of 'Arncliffe Scotts' who enjoyed the Killcare atmosphere and the after carny refreshments, as did most of the competing clubs who stayed well into the evening. The Scotts, two of whom were Killcare members stayed with us for about eight years...Who could ever forget the March Past ? The white-hot sand, the red itchy costumes, the sounds of 'Colonel Bogy' possibly the only thing that stopped rebellion was club pride and that first coldy. It must be remembered this was before the dreaded breath-a-Lisa. Our swimmers were good; our sand crabs great, and the chariot team unbeatable

Away carnivals were similar with transport always a problem, local identity Roy Frost towed the boat and gear with most of the crew all over the coast, the outward trip was great, but on return the ute seemed to get a wobble up, possibly Roys payment was not appropriate for a driver.

ON CARNIVAL SAFARI.

Torquay 56 saw eight intrepid heroes set out, six in a battered ford and two on motorcycle and sidecar combo. The carnival was a washout, high seas, rain and sleet, however the return trip got worse. Four flat tires, run out of petrol twice and big Ted Harrington described the sidecar as trying to get a size 14 shoe into a size 6 box. Arriving at Hornsby for the last refuel the crew could only raise two quid between them...thank heavens petrol was only 3/- a gallon.

Stanwell Park 57. Was a comfortable bus affair, the carnival was a mixed success but no placing. On the return we stopped at Engadine for liquid refreshments, ten miles down the highway a head count revealed a missing body, on return he was found still holding up the bar, oblivious of our departure...Outside the Sylvania Hotel three buses had broken down so we stopped to render assistance. The hotel pool saw reruns of every surf race of the day and one rather distraught publican was happy to wave goodbye.

Tathra 60 (boaty's revenge) our boat crew finished their carnival early on Friday, nothing new, and were still commiserating at 11p.m. John Bourne ordered them to bed, he soon found himself clad only in a costume and tied to a tree outside the tent, with swarms of mosquito's for company he had plenty of time to ponder his mistake.

Newport 66. "Elitist", our Patron Ron Walters put on a B.B.Q. at his Newport home for the club executive and the relay team, for some reason he ignored our club captain "Capt. Rats". John took umbrage at this action so he invited all at the Newport Arms hotel to Ron's party. Ron and Pat soon ran out of food and amber gold, empty freezer, empty bar, but a full head of steam for John...revenge one day would be sweet.

Nth Cronulla (Wanda) 68. There was a mass exitus from Killcare to watch our beach relay team win the Australian Tittle. The celebration in the car park took place with the 2nd. And 3rd team, Ocean Bch. and Tamarama, one of note also to join us was Sir Roden Cutler, the Governor General and his chauffeur. Sir Roden likened the official tent to the "SAHARA" and stayed for the odd couple.

Evans Hd. 80. One of our first mixed away trips, three parents of the young departed the previous day to erect the tents and prepare the site. Leaving late at night due to an Irish foul-up, thanks Steve, drivers Jim Tubby and Noel Stalling drove all night to arrive early in the morning, Jim parked in the Bowling Club carpark to seek directions, our club Capt. Steven Woulfe decided to repark the minibus, straight in an underground water tank. It took a lot of grunt and 14 healthy backs to rite the situation. Meals were left to Noel who was soon relegated to washing up. President Mac. Described this the best trip ever with our young taking part in every possible event.

Wanda 81. (6th placed relay)

Mollymook 82 Was one of our largest away groups; here was a carnival to be enjoyed, no competition success, but "wow" what a hoot!!!!



Surf Boats / Rescue Craft

The first "BLUEBOTTLE" as previously stated came from North Steyne Surf Club. At the end of its surfing career it was given to the Woy Woy Sea Scouts.

"BLUEBOTTLE II" was a local product. A 'two-ender' plank boat that was built by local boat builder Jack Chivers, of Wagstaffe. After many years of service this very heavy beast was donated to Port Morsby Sea Scouts, with cost of renovation met by Monavale Surf Club and freight by Bondi Surf Club.

"BLUEBOTTLE III" was purchased for the princely sum of 200 pounds from Dee Why Surf Club.

It is remarkable that only five boats have been in service since the inception of the club. Today our boat is a mystery vessel, which resides in an area in the gear room waiting to die of dry rot.

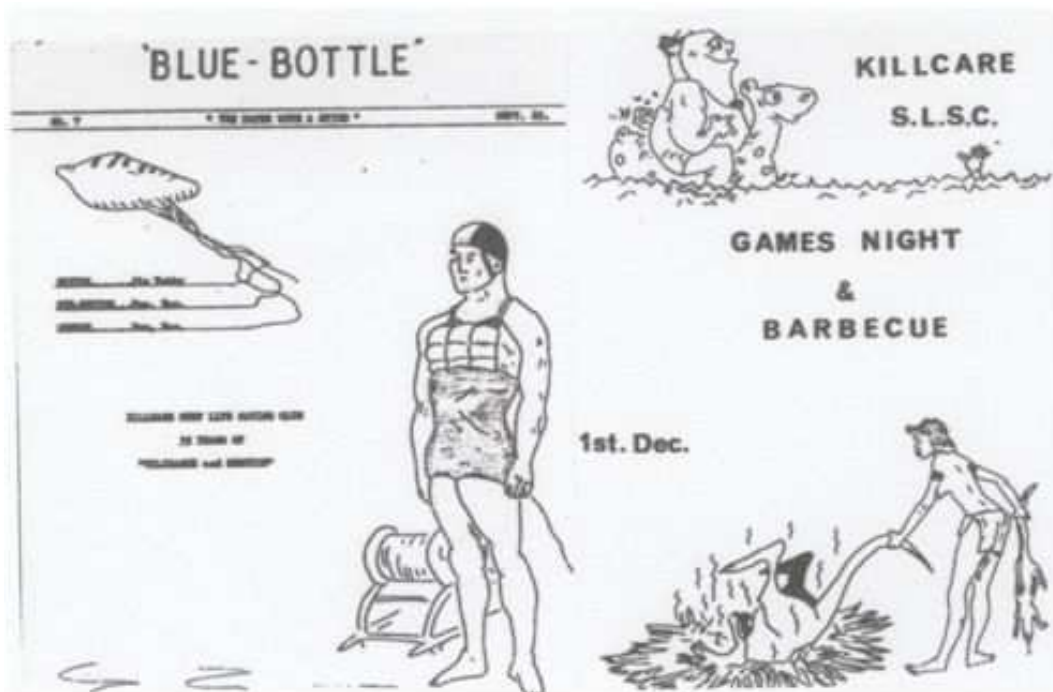
Compared to today's aerodynamically designed and super light weight, kevlar type fibreglass craft, our first ski and board built by 'Chivers' of Wagstaffe, were heavy wide monsters. These in their day were first class, a design taken straight from the Lifesavers Bible, the blue book.

Today with the advent of the I.R.B. (rubber ducky) swim, ski, or board carry out very few rescues. Our first I.R.B. was purchased in 1978, with instructor Jim Tubby learning the hard way at Nth. Cronulla one of the first Aust. clubs to introduce the duck. I.R.B. crews have carried out numerous fine rescues with this craft, but again modern technology may even pass the DUCK into obsolescence with the new jet rescue ski coming into its own, with a one man crew, blistering speed and maneuverability, this could be the future.

CLUB PAPER.

1962 saw the birth of a very contentious and sort after club newspaper 'THE BLUEBOTTLE' the paper with a sting. It was put together and printed on a donated gestetner at the home of sectreary Jim Tubby, the paper lasted a rocky six years during which time one member complained of the sometimes too straightforward and suggestive articles the paper was banned by the then puritan committee.

Next month saw the circulation of a new paper 'THE STINGRAY' born out of censorship by bigotry, Bluebottle soon returned. Articles were contributed by, Branch Pres. John Rosewell, local marine operator Ken Johnson and also Alan Whelpton who was to become the Pres. of the S.L.S.A. of Aust. Perhaps one day the sting will return.



OUTSTANDING COMPETITOR

ALEXANDER (LEX) CAMERON...1954/2003.

Listing the outstanding swimmers of our club from 1931 to 2000 brings to mind the DODD brothers, George and Abby, Don Holwell, and Brian Green, but without a doubt our most consistent and enduring competitor would be the evergreen Lex Cameron. Certainly not of the Thorpepedo class his consistency and longevity as a competitor on the Central Coast is without parallel.

Joining in 1954 as a junior the young Lex obtained his Bronze Medallion in 1956, competition was immediate, junior and open surf, in 1958 he was part of the very successful R.& R. team.

As a young surveyor his position took him to Nowra for three years, here he joined Nowra-Cullburra surf club and was responsible for forming a lasting friendship between his two clubs. Our older members have indelibly etched memories of those very boisterous weekend visits,

On returning to Killcare, Lex again threw himself into competition, on a number of occasions he followed the lead of his older brothers and took to the boat, but only for a brief stint, the open surf and R.& R. were his forte. As Chief Instructor of the club Lex organised and took part in many of our successful teams, the 1967 R.&R. thru to the 4 person rescue team of 1984. At carnivals no sea was ever a deterrent, under the tri-colours of Killcare he competed for over twenty five years, a mark yet to be achieved by any member.

No speedster on the sand, his club championship wins in the water will never be equalled, an unblemished patrol record has led to five or six Patrol Championships. In 1965 and 1984 Lex received the club award for "OUTSTANDING MEMBERSHIP" an award to win once, but twice shows the regard his fellow members have. As a lifesaver he has obtained just about every certificate required, and the knowledge gained has been passed to his fellow members as a club instructor.

From Club Captain in 1968, Lex has held many of the senior positions of the club and it was in 1992 that the most prodigious of awards was given, that of "LIFE MEMBERSHIP"

At Killcare this award is not given lightly and only fifteen members in 72 years have been recipients. To a man who has dedicated his life to Surf Life Saving and Killcare, Lex, a just reward.

'BRANCH LIFE MEMBERS'

A meaningful phrase that conjures up thoughts of dedication, of continuous service, of unselfishness. As seen in the opening page a hard earned award in this club, but of those 15, two have gone on to win Branch "LIFE" awards.

Our founding president the revered Dr. Eric Martin was also the first Branch President.

Alan George Duell, Killcare secretary and instructor, also a long serving Branch officer.

Surely these two men have shown the calibre of our achievers.

THE LEGEND....JOHN ANNAND.

Somewhere in the annals of every club, in its past, is that someone who made the difference. The stories grew with each telling, but at Killcare we have that true to fact member who made the moment that enthralled all.

Lesley John Annand, eldest son of a founding member Albert (Bertie) Annand, joined in 1952, a rangy skinny kid who enjoyed the sand more than the surf. Gaining his Bronze in 1953 he soon showed his talents as a beach sprinter. From 54 to 56 his contestations with both Wally Murphy and Peter Hume of Ocean Bch were carnival highlights, Beach Flags were not for the faint hearted and definitely more a gladiatorial contest in which this Killy kid shone.

After winning a couple of Branch titles, in 1956 John was enticed to compete for Tamarama, but not before winning the International and Australian Beach Flags for his family club Killcare. At Tamarama John won three Aust. Beach Sprint Championships and at one period put together an incredible sequence of 32 beach sprint wins to bypass the effort of the great Australian sprinter Johnny Bliss.

Returning to Killcare in the early 60's John put his heart into making our club more competitive, his form of training was set on the lines of famous Olympic coach Percy Cerrity. Those of us that started out keen as mustard soon found that soft sand running and attacking sand hills in reverse was not for the unfit. John whose name now had a certain mystical allure, attracted to the club the likes of the Cooper brothers from Newcastle, pro runner Terry Goovan of Gosford, and Garry Torrens rugby league winger from Eastern Suburbs. All eager to attach to the tail of this Killcare Comet. Branch titles in sprint, relay, flags and chariot were consistent, but the illusive Aussie Gold was not yet in sight.

In 1967 John scoured the coast and put together the now legendary relay team, on paper it looked good, John, Brian Gregory, Stafford Mison and Bob Neale, together this dynamic foursome in 1968 won Branch, State and Australian gold, 1969 they won the National relay. But fame also has its downside, members of the team were poached by other clubs, but never again showed the class they attained under the leadership and guidance of the great J.A.

Over the years John continued to coach and inspire his club and the young Killcare potentials, as a coach he branched out and took under his wing the likes of Australian champions Warren Peters, Paul Singleton and Darren Peters.

John with a new young family migrated to the sunny state of Queensland where every year at Kurrawa for the Australian Titles , John is always cheering on the Killcare team, which has a big part of a big heart.

The Annand legend will forever live on in Killcare Surf Club, John his brother Noel, another Australian champion have perpetuated a dream which now lives on in our current WORLD CHAMPIONS.

JOHN ANNAND....A man, a champion, a coach..above all a friend to many.

A TRUE KILLCARE INSPIRATION.



AUSTRALIAN AND WORLD CHAMPIONS.

1999 Saw the return to Killcare of John Bourne , former club captain, John due to business reasons had been residing in Queensland for a number of years and returned to the Central Coast from Sydney in the early 90's.

Joining Toowoong Bay S.C. John started training a beach team, which due to excessive running cost and mediocre success terminated their stay at the Bay. Looking around for a club was not easy, Killcare was in the competition doldrums and needed new blood, so began a new era.

1999/2000 began in a not too spectacular fashion, success was always just around the corner, that was till the World Championships at Manly Beach, here our beach team of men and women showed their true metal. The men's team consisted of Steven Munnery, Bryce Johnson, Andrew Hopper and Brett Westwood, with blistering speed they won the beach relay, ours girls, Christy Munnery, Heidi Freyer, Sam Summit, and Sonia Healy came a creditable third in their event.

2000/2001 A 17 year old arrived at Killy, Clayton Mathews, he swept all before him at Kurrawa in April to become our first under 19 Australian beach flags Champion. Steven Munnery won gold in the Australian beach sprint with a convincing two metre margin. Our relay team of Nathan McKay, Andrew Hopper, Bryce Johnson and Steven Munnery blitzed the field by three metres to win their first Australian. If we thought this was good, great was to follow.

2001/2002 the young Clayton took the double, State and Australian under 19 flags. The Mercurial Munnery could not be caught on the beach, Branch, Metropolitan, State and Australian wins were effortless, here had emerged one of Australia's greatest Beach sprinters, a fact overlooked when selectors picked the World team, politics in the association were merciless.

The relay team had a new member Marcus Kain, from the south coast, with Andrew, Bryce and Steven this formidable foursome could not be headed. Convincing wins at Branch, Metropolitan and State paved the way for an unstoppable Australian win at Kurrawa, the announcer called first and daylight second, true.

With the World Titles being held in Daytona U.S.A. the club and team were finding it hard to find finance, our sponsors The Ettalong R.S.L. put on a sporting night to help raise money, the touring team effort was outstanding.

The relay team with Clayton and Kirsty Munnery under the management of Graham Johnson took off for the U.S.A. coach John Bourne due to family commitments remained behind.

What can be said of a second World Relay win, well done, magnificent, outstanding, thank you to a team of Champions, a team lead by Steven Munnery, moulded and nurtured by John Bourne.

Our Masters team "THE KROCS" with Phillip and Colin Tubby, Greg White and Chris McCormick in the 170yr relay won Branch, State and Australian gold. Chris in the 45/49 yr sprint also took Aussie Gold. Phillip and Colin in their age bracket both won Silver at Kawarra.

"KILLCARE TWICE WORLD CHAMPIONS"

(Ow what a feeling)

2002 a Vintage year, one to be treasured, bottled and sipped on in future years, from a crop that found its home at Killcare, the club of the Coast.

Characters

As with all clubs we too have had our share of eccentrics.

In the early days it was Geoff McCoy. Then came John Mason, whose antics were totally unpredictable. Our first aide officer, Stan Frame, whose total medical knowledge was how to apply zinc cream to burnt female bodies. Bob Peters, boat captain extremist, and Rolly Rushbrook, who penned the 'Ode to Killcare'.

As with the 'Why Worry' crew of the 40's, the late 50's early 60's gave us the boys from Campsie, all heart but repeatedly failed the Bronze swim.

Peter Thomlinson who at 17 yrs was the youngest Australian soldier to be wounded in Korea, he tried for 3 years to gain his bronze before agreeing water was for washing or drinking only.

Taxi Tindall whose recital of Rugby poems at smokos was without parallel we all remember "Eskimo Nell" and the "Good Ship Venus".

Spider Short, his pursuit of the ladies was like his beach sprint; he never won either, but never stopped trying. Forget bronze he deserved gold.

Unfortunately with today's strict regimentation and dedication to duty we appear to have lost this fun side of the club.

SOCIAL LIFE.

As with most voluntary organizations, Killcare raised a lot of money at weekend socials. In the early days it was strictly a chauvinistic affair with hot dogs and kegs of beer, although women were invited to the Annual Presentation Ball at Hardys Bay R.S.L. hall. These SMOKOS were usually very boisterous affairs often lasting into the early morning, ribald tales, offkey singing and yesterdays acts of heroism embellished and retold many times. The Sunday morning club swim often saw that well earned hangover turn to absolute nausea, with a disastrous result for the following swimmer.

The 50's was a period of fancy dress cabarets, some held at the Wagstaffe Hall. One of lasting note was when a member with little imagination turned up in the guise of a SANIMAN, fully equipped with a half filled can. He was ofcause ejected, but the ensuring nickname of "CHOCO" was long lasting.

With the coming of wives and children (no wisdom) a new era evolved, family bar-b-ques after the Saturday patrol were a very civilized affair, certainly here the President, Secretary and Treasurer could not be bundled into a council dog cage and rolled down the beach, or singers doused with jugs of beer as in the past. With the new clubhouse in 71. Our club became a center of community activity, arts and craft, weddings, family functions, presentation nights, New Years Eve parties, and reunions have been held.

Once more we appear to be going through a period of social decline and can only hope for the future.



FUND RAISING.

The Doorknock Appeal took a new form in the 70's; pamphlets were letterboxed the week before with the new format proving a winner and ensured a healthy donation.

Raising money has taken many forms in our club but one of the most successful was the roadside appeal. Shaking the bucket at the intersection of Parramatta and Silverwater Rds, the lights at the Woy Woy turnoff, Pennant Hills Rd. and the bottom of Wards hill. With the charm of Kim Wolfe, Vanessa Hogan, Helen Tubby and Kim Macfadyen what motorist could refuse these smiling faces, nubile bodies and charming smiles.yes the boys were there too. While the young bloods played matador with the cars Preso. Jim Mac, and secretary, Jim Tubby sat in the shade and counted the loot....very thirsty work!

Gambling nights were always a risk, depending who we knew on the force. The home of Heather and Jim Tubby at Padstow were great nights for the Sydney members. The clubhouse saw many male only nights especially when a certain social secretary 'Constable Clot' organized young 'ladies of the night' to serve tea down stairs, or , when club captain John Bourne one Saturday night was to bring the gambling gear from Sydney. John being early stopped at Central for a drink, he awoke at Newcastle. Thank heavens for two-up, 21 and a couple of kegs.

Chicken raffles at the Erskineville Hotel over the years raised much towards the building of the clubhouse, our patron at the time, Max Gornik, considered his hotel as the Killcare clubhouse, and his money raiser. Our big raffle of 59 with first prize of a trip to Surfers Paradise with four nights at the Cheveron was the go, extra tickets had to be printed. One year was a 'Row for Cash' a mere dash from Gosford to the beach, yes surfboats do get wet. A special mention must be given of the generosity of the local community, most of whom are pensioners, their help has been the financial saving of our club many times.

THE WEEKENDERS.

Until more recent years it is an undeniable fact that Killcare S.C. relied on a 90% weekend membership, mostly these were Sydney members who needed somewhere to stay. In the early days it was the dreaded shack the "Why Worry", later the home of Darky Nathaniels, a staunch associate member, this "The Oasis" halfway to the beach was always a spot to quench the thirst. Our V.P. Billy Steedman whose home at Wagstaffe offered little apart from a bed, breakfast at the "Yum Char" if any was always a mystery.

"Wandene" the house on Killcare hill was the holiday cottage of the Westwood family for over 65 years, for 20 of those years it was the weekend domicile of many of yesterday and today's older members. The tent of Heather and Jim Tubby provided breakfast for many and their B.B.Qs were real family affairs, often lasting till breakfast.

The overflow from "Wandene" found a delightful little place on the hill at Pretty Bch. This the "Hepatitis Hole" saw many mixed weekends, one can only wonder at the name.

A hundred members could tell many different tales of these homes, some stories have been retold many times, others somewhat more risqué are perhaps better forgotten, but all are part of a life that become the grounding for many of our young lifesavers, a starting that made for a better man.

FITNESS' FREAKS.

1958/9 was the year that saw Killcare lifesavers declared fitter than their American counterparts. Brian Green who at this time was attending Sydney University was approached by an American fitness professor, Dr. Gene Barry to nominate a group of average Australian young men for fitness comparison with American youth.

Typical youth, where else would you find this fine body of men, Killcare S.C. had them all.

Dr. Barry conducted two days of intensive tests, jumping, running, hopping, testing blood pressure, lung capacity, flesh fatness content, different body measures only to prove that we were better and fitter than Yanks.

With this conclusion he offered to improve (even more, if possible) our fitness and health, this involved the taking of Wheat Germ capsules, eating Provita Weet Harts (super Vita-Brits) and a strict exercise program for the next six months. Brian forgot to tell him of the winter layoff, the beer, the footy everything that was Killcare.

On his return in six months the good Professor was disappointed to find little or no improvement in this fine body of men, thank you sir for breakfast, but the exercise was too much.

OPPORTUNITY LOST.

It can be said that not all young men in their teens are at their brightest. Killcare has always a lot to offer, the Friday night card games at "Wandene" saw our V.P. Jack Stewart, local real estate agent at Pretty Bch, repeatedly offer land at the heights for 20 pounds (\$40.). For a lousy ten bob (\$1.) down and ten bob a week we could own a piece of this windblown scrub that was only good for a fire and the supposedly streets were only bush tracks. Of the

many offered only three members were silly enough to be conned, their stupidity in later years has been repaid in thousands of dollars.

Another offer came from Ron Walters when he sub-divided Patricia Place an area of land near the clubhouse. Only one member, Garry Torrens had the loose change to buy, when Gary left us to go to Perth the sale of his land nearly paid for a new home in W.A.

Who knows !!! But for the sake of a couple of bottles of beer and a game of cards many of us could now own that "house on the hill" and a Killy. Heritage for our kids.

Our Beach

Killcare Surf Club is and has always been a community body and strives to maintain strong public ties.

It was here the club entered into a long-term legal battle against 'Cresant Rutile Co.' from 1960 to 1967, when that company tried to mine the entire beach for minerals. Killcare won the battle but NOT THE MONEY! Cresant took out millions of dollars before declaring bankruptcy and insolvency.

During the years 1967 to 1974 Killcare took a stance against the 'Bouddi National Park Trust' who had already declared a National Park from McMasters beach to the northern end of Putty, and now wanted the whole beach.

President Macfadyen and secretary J Tubby proved to be one of the biggest hurdles that the National Park and Wildlife Trust had met in three decades.

With continuous newspaper articles, public meetings and representation to government Ministers, Killcare now retains the last four hundred yards as public domain.

THE BUSH FIRE BRIGADE.

From 1945 till 1980 the fire brigade and the surf club had a lasting affinity. Christmas was the known bush fire season and frequently during this period, the beach was left with a token patrol while our members performed their community duty. The old red Blitz Wagon would be seen with scantily clad lifesavers hurriedly donning overalls and backpacks to do battle of another kind. A number of our member, Billy Sanders, Nev Hazzard and Jim Saunders rose through the ranks to become FIRE CHIEFS, Jim went on to become the Central Coast Superintendent, and later C.I.C. OF Southern N.S.W. Harry Kinson V.P. and co-founder of the Nippers was the proprietor of the local bottle shop, at one busy

Christmas he closed the shop for three days to run soft drinks, ice and sandwiches to his weekend warriors in the hills fighting the "red devil". At times the youthful exuberance of our young members could be very trying but then on these occasions the locals loved them.

EMPIRE BAY.

When it comes to devotion to duty the Empire Bay, you know over the hill and far away, members could not be beaten. The trek over unmade roads, up Wards Hill and down to the beach took 1 1/2 hours of walking, no could afford a car in those days and to do this every Saturday and Sunday was true devotion. The Nowland bros., the Deromes, the Dunlops and ladies of our Auxiliary not only walked but also carried a heavy surf ski. With the advent of the automobile and tarred roads no one thinks twice at this trip, who of the today youngsters would be willing walk this far. THANKS GANG.

FRIGID DIGITS.

Killcare in winter can be a very dismal place with no fish and little to do, local members and associates in 1972 decided to live things up with a winter swimming club. Barney and Freddie Reeves, Lex Cameron, Charles Wilmot and Alan Duell kicked things off, the run, swim and the sprint back to the clubhouse for Inner Circle rum was a good way to start a day. This little movement soon expanded and in 1978 the 'FRIGID DIGETS' hosted the Northern District Championship at Woy Woy, the presentation was held at Woy Woy League's Club.

With progress and larger membership came time trials and handicap swims, the days of rum and frank's are now in the past with the club now based in the local R.S.L. ...Comfort can do wonders.

HERALD GEAR FUND

In 1953 the Sydney Morning Herald donated a substantial sum of money to the association. This money was to be made available to approved clubs on a no interest basis to purchase or improve club premises. Killcare made application in 1957 for a loan of four hundred pounds, our repayments were prompt and another loan was obtained in 1963. These loans enabled us to erect a boat shed on the rear of the club and cover other club needs. As in all loans a guarantor, one or more, was required, with members having faith in the club and their own ability to repay, this was no problem.

With all good things there is always something to go wrong, with the repayment of the loan and the conclusion of the fund a landslide wiped out the boat shed. This was perhaps the push needed for the building of a new clubhouse.

GOLDEN BRICK CERTIFICATE.



In 1967 Secretary Jim Tubby wrote to over two hundred local business people, requesting help to raise funds for the purposed building. The idea being that each donor would become a brickholder in the club and be issued a certificate of appreciation. Although the response was not overwhelming we raised one thousand and seventy pounds, a considerable amount in those days. The first certificate was issued to Mrs. Lucy Westwood, for a ten-pound donation. Once again many of our local retirees when hearing of the "Golden Brick Certificate" were very supportive.

PATRONS.

PATRON: A supporter or protector of an institute or enterprise, we have indeed been fortunate to have had among our PATRONS.

Harry Jenson... the Lord Mayor of Sydney, his name alone opened many doors.

Max Gornick....former heavy weight Champion of Aust. And owner of the Erskineville Hotel, his help with running raffles was unparalleled.

Ron Westwood... of Regal Upholstery, his generous donations and sponsorship of patrol championships was a great moral booster.

Harry Kinson....proprietor of the local bottle shop, his generosity and time were given on many occasions. He was also CO-founder of the Nippers.

Of those who were never patrons but gave of their time, knowledge and advice were...

Brian Booth...Minister of Sport and Recreation, who made sure that we were included in the "Dollar for Dollar" scheme.

Eric Bedford...Minister for Lands, who in our fight for the beach against the National Parks and Wildlife Service gave valuable advice and time on many occasions.

Brian McGowen....Local state member, who to legitimize his help became an associate member.

For a small club the BIG GUNS have looked favorably upon us, and without the help of these people things may have not turned out as rosy.

LADIES AUXILIARY.

Yes MEN ARE MEN!! But that shadow in the background is the women we cannot do without. It was the like s of shopkeepers wives, Mrs Moore, Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Eason also dear old Mrs. Mac, of costume fame, they cooked their scones, baked a cake, crocheted doilies and sold penny raffle tickets to help purchase the many items that keep a club running. Much, much later the younger women formed an active body, we loved those active bodies, with bronze training a March Past team and their own reel they took on patrols and became an integrated part of the club.

It was during the early 50's that the local girls really shone as a march past team, at the head as standard-bearer was the very statuesque Rose (Lloyd) Nowland, local girls, sorry ladies, Bev Annand, Pam McCarthy, sisters Shirley and Jan Bourke, Heather Tubby, Dot Martin and a bevy of local beauties were the pride of our club. We can't forget the girls of Empty Bay, Ruth Garrett-Dunlop, Shirley O'Leary, May Jones, Helen (Blackall) Sheargold, and the ladies secretary, the delectable Delores Raymond.

These young women also took part in patrols and performed a number of rescues. The summer of 52 saw a mass rescue on our beach of an entire family,

one of whom was tragically lost at sea; another owes his life to the resuscitation prowess of ladies member Rose Nowland.

As before mentioned Killcare had it all, the sand and sea, and yes those Sydney lads tried with much success to marry these local beauties.

THE SUPPORTERS

It was during the years of the Second World War 1939-45 and immediately after, till the late 40's that our club was held together by a group of people, many of whom never gained a Bronze Medallion.

Local families, the Myers, Corfields, Battlshalls, Humes and the Annands, were among our staunchest supporters.

A group of young men from Sydney, the " Why Worry" crowd, whose name signified an attitude to life, were always there to give that helping hand. Jimmy Bright, Lionel Lindfield, Darky Nathaniel, were but a few remembered names.

Also Cyril Haydon who looked after the clubs inflatable rafts, which were hired-out to the public. Cyril was also our local S P Bookmaker.

Killcare storekeepers, Jim & Ethel Moore, and on the opposite corner the Easons, behind their store, later called the "ORANGE SPOT" many fund raising dances were held. Few among the older generation will ever forget the rendition of "SWAN LAKE" performed on one occasion by club members in fancy dress.

The local ferries, our lifeline to Woy Woy and Gosford and later run by the Murphy family gave great support. Saturday night cruises, sing-a-longs accompanied by a piano and moonlight were an inspiration to many a young lifesaver.

Our early shop-owners plus the Johnson's, Barnes, and the Hubberts gave continual support, later the Bottle Shop came to the fore, but here the support was reciprocal.

Today great support is received from the Hardy's Bay R.S.L. to which the surf club was a "Brickholder" for the amount of twenty pounds in the original club.

Membership

Membership of the club varies from season to season but it was in 1959 that it reached its lowest, a mere 11 members. With an influx of members from the Sydney suburb of Erskineville the club again flourished.

Many of these members remained in the district marrying local girls, which shows that Killcare had more to offer than just sand and sea.

Today Killcare Surf Club enjoys a healthy membership with a junior club and a virile senior club. Many older members have returned to form a Masters competition section.

For the first time in years Killcare enjoys a healthy bank balance, free from encumbrance thanks to the hard work and dedication of its members and supporters.

K.R.O.C.S.

(LATE STARTERS ONLY GET A FOOTNOTE)

At the instigation of John Bourne in September 2000 it was left to Greg White to round up 4 of our senior citizens, all over 35yrs, to compete in the Masters competition. Greg gave birth to the K.R.O.C.S. (Killcare Relics On Carnival Safari) the valiant 5 competed in 7 Masters carnivals, taking a total of 34 gold, 12 silver and 4 bronze.

At the State Titles, we had in their age bracket, Phillip Tubby 2 gold, Colin Tubby 1 gold 1 silver, Chris McCormick 1 gold 1 silver, the relay was beaten for the first time but a silver at that level was great.

Come the Australian titles in QLD, Chris won 1 silver sprint 1 bronze flags, Colin 1 silver sprint, the Tubby bros. lined up for open events and the B relay, but age did weary them, making only the relay semis. It is hoped that in the future some of our old water babies may decide to get wet.

If 2000/1 was a good season then 2001/2 was truly a vintage drop (year), Greg, Phil, Colin and Chris adopted a new KROC Jason Chapman. After a clean sweep at the Branch, Greg announced his retirement, after a team discussion Jason stepped down to give Greg a shot at a state medal in the 170yr relay. The rest is now history counting only the major carnivals, Branch, State and Australian the medal count for these 5 seniors was 9 Gold, 6 silver and 3 Bronze. With two of each colour at the Aussie, the 170yr relay and 45/49yr sprint to Chris, these wins etc took Killcare to its greatest ever medal haul at national level..

1906 / 2002

Surf Life Saving since 1906 at Bronte has and will always be a part of Aussie life. Since its inception changes have been inevitable, resuscitation has gone through many, possibly seven stages, the Eve's Rocker, Sylvester Bosch, Schafer and Neilson among the early methods, changes all for the better, each in its turn more efficient.

The belt gave way to the tube and fins, these in turn were supplemented by the I.R.B. or rubber ducky which we thought was the ultimate, now there is the Jet-rescue ski, a faster and more efficient method again.

In years past the Bronze Medallion was the criteria for every lifesaver, then came the Resuscitation Cert. And Advanced Cert, now there is a certificate for every phase of life saving and with each a requalification is required every season.

What we enjoyed in the past has now become a chore, with much stricter regimentation, the possibility of increases in insurance cost, brought about by increases in litigation, and each club becoming a controlled business body, the fun side has become an unaffordable commodity.

Young people these days don't want to become tied down, their lifestyle and cars give them an unlimited scope to go and do as they wish, few want to accept the responsibility of lifesaving to ensure the safety and enjoyment of others.

At Killcare we are lucky to have a competitive team of young and not so young, who can still install interest in surf life saving, many clubs are struggling.

Our State, National and World titles would give momentum to any club, but, and a big "BUT" it must be remembered, as in the beginning, lifesaving starts and finishes between the flags with a good patrol.

JT 5/02.

“Ode To Killcare”

In the heart of Killcare,
where hotels are rare.
And kegs are served out by the cluster.
There’s a place never missed,
by most blokes who get pissed,
The Surf Club’s the place where they muster.
It’s a good solid brew with a loveable crew
in surroundings that breed hepatitis.
For most blokes will sit midst the grit and shit,
so they to can catch piss-pot-itus.
Our brands are the best,
they have passed every test,
and although you can get it elsewhere.
It just isn’t the same,
if you’ve not played the game,
with the pisspots who drink at Killcare.

Un-financial member, 1969
ROLAND T RUSHBROOK

KILLCARE NIPPERS 1969-75.

**IAN McCALL.
FIRST PATRON,**

Around the years of 1969-70 it became evident to quite a few young parents that, need existed, for a group to be formed to help mould the character of their children. An organization from which these young people, the adults of the future, could be trained and in time become part of the Senior Surf Life Saving Club.

A start was made late in 69, and the venue for the first official meeting of the Killcare Nippers was held in the boat house of the unfinished surf club building on the 18th October 1970. This meeting was comprised of;

**Harry and Dawn Kinson
Ron and Barbara Jubb
Ian and Pat McCall
Daphne Leo
Matt Whyte
Gina Casey
Bob Lees
Stan and Jenny Madden
Alan Duell (Representing the Senior Surf Club)**

The enrolment each year was in the vicinity of 45-50 boys and girls and this made up the start of our Nippers and Nipperettes. Young children could now be trained by local parents, senior lifesavers and interested citizens.

Each intake of these future lifesavers received a sound training in the basic skills of rescue and resuscitation, boat drill and most importantly self discipline, all this while enjoying the surf.

The training of the Nippers and Nipperettes was done by , or under the supervision of highly experienced senior club members. It must be remembered that all work and time spent was undertaken in a voluntary capacity.

An active fund raising committee worked hard to raise money, in order that these young boys and girls could be outfitted with caps, costumes and T-shirts.

In due course a Junior Surf Reel and March Past Flag were purchased, in 1971 or 1972. Later on in 1972 all of the members received their March Past Costumes. This achievement now made it possible for them to participate in the March Past at Branch Carnivals.

The Nippers and Nipperettes had the old Senior Surf Boat to use and it received much use, after it had been restored by Ian McCall and the young members of the day. Training for surfboat knowledge and prowess took place on Hardys Bay on Saturday mornings.

Success of the Killcare Junior Surf Club was due to the hard work of the dedicated elected committees together with the interest of our young people, also the support of parents and residents of Killcare.

Though Jim Tubby, a senior committee member, a strong and lasting relationship with the South Maroubra nippers was formed in later years, this provided many home and away mini-carnivals. Ian Rutherford, president of Maroubra donated an inter-club trophy which was competed for on a yearly basis

From the ranks of the nippers to the main body came some of our strongest competitors, Colin Tubby went on to win International, World and Australian championships, his brother Phillip also won State and Australian titles, other names well recognised, Woulfe, McCall and Ford, eventually became senior officers, some have recorded outstanding rescues. Steven Woulfe as club captain and chief instructor showed remarkable leadership, and is now back helping guide the Nippers

During the 80's a conflict of interest led to a falloff in the nipper administration, however the call of the kids has again put the adults into parental perspective and once again we have a wonderful foundation for the future.

The term Nippers faded in 1980 to be replaced by Junior Surf Life Savers, a more dignified calling.

IAN MAC.

KILLCARE JUNIOR SURF CLUB 1981-.

The Killcare Junior Surf Club was formed on the 18th January 1981, with the following aims.

- To involve children in Junior Surf Club activities such as – Beach Sprints, Beach Relays, Beach Flags and Surf and Wade Races.
- To teach children water safety and basic surf life saving skills.
- To prepare each age group for their Achievement Certificates.

The first executive of the club was Kevin Moore .. President, Jim French.. Secretary and John Jordan as Treasurer. Jim remained in this position for a short time until a work transfer took him to Goulburn and Keith Videan then became Secretary. The Club Patrons were Jim Tubby and Ian McCall.

Our Junior Surf Club was the only organised sport within the Killcare/Wagstaffe area for school aged children. The first year of operation there were ninety three children registered. At the time it was about the same number of children that were attending the Pretty Beach

School, so the response from the community supported the concept. Parents became involved as team managers, coach's, trainers and fund raisers. Killcare was the only club on the Central Coast that had regular weekly training sessions for the children. Parents used this resource as a medium of communication and to become involved within the community, as most of the parents involved in the establishing of the club were new to the area.

Initially assistance came from the senior body, outstanding assistance from club captain Steven Woulfe and President Jim Macfadyen providing advise and expertise with the Tubby family assisting the children with training.

The club decided to not have the children specialise in individual events but encourage them to be proficient in all aspects of Junior Surf Life Saving. The executive was aware that this action might have effected some of the children who were outstanding in beach events but all were encouraged to take part in other events including water activities. It was the idea behind the reformation of the club.

The camaraderie within the club and in particular the young participants was excellent. When the club competed at carnivals those not competing in an event at the time were encouraged to attend any event a fellow team member was participating in and to support that fellow competitor in his or her endeavour. Killcare was the first club on the coast to encourage this type of activity for its competitors and developed the esprit de corps within the children.

The social activities of the club became somewhat different. You saw people from within the community supporting the club at various social events organised and run by the club. These functions included Walkathons, Fashion Parades, Arts and Craft events over the Easter period ,Change of Sex nights, Bad Taste disco's and similar functions. These activities involved sane people doing things that were not ordinary or sane in relation to their dress sense, enjoying themselves and having a good time. It not only fostered good relationships within the community but raised much needed funds for the purchase of equipment for the club.

SUPPORTERS from the business community came from McCall's Store, Hazard's Real Estate, Killcare Cellars, Green Point Tank works, Peter Dale Excavation, Sharpes Asphalt, Killcare Marina and the members parents. People within the local community that had a vision for the area although not having children in the club gave their whole hearted support for the concept, even to the point of making surf caps and assisting with training.

From early 1982 the club commenced to compete at local interclub carnivals on the Central Coast and at State Titles. Success came to our entrants in water events as well as beach events including Board Rescue, Beach Flags, Sprints and Relays. The Two Person R & R Team looked

splendid, as did the March Past Team who always represented the club with pride.

With the outstanding talent that had developed within the club, it was not long before we saw in our first year of competition, two of the girls selected in the Girls Team to represent on the Branch Team. The two girls, Kellie Hughes and Genevieve Murphy became finalist at the intra branch carnival conducted at Fingal Beach on the 14th March 1982.

On the 11th November 84 the club held its first carnival on our local beach. It was obvious from the onset that the esprit de corps within the club was excellent and the competitive spirit also alive and well. It was a great day for our Junior body and a show piece to demonstrate that Killcare was here and competing.

In 1984 at the Junior Surf Championships conducted at Wollongong, success came to Killcare with Alicia Sharpe winning the 8 years sprint, Kate Jordan the 7 years flags and Genevieve Murphy third in the 10 year sprint.

In December 1985, Killcare, the smallest Junior body on the Central Coast in relation to membership, achieved a first, based on a handicap point score. In December of that year Copacabana was the venue for the second carnival of the season. In what can only be described as miserable conditions our club was active in all events. The surf was suited for "A" grade swimmers only. Media reports at the time indicated that the Central Coast fared well against stiff opposition from visiting Sydney and Newcastle clubs.....Killcare again won the handicap point score trophy at the carnival from a strong Lakes team with McMasters third.

At all times our youngsters have maintained 100% success with their age awards, which commence at age 7, with a Basic Achievement Certificate. At age 10 applicants have to undergo a 50 metre run, 160 metre swim and 50 metre run and qualify for the Resuscitation Certificate. At age 13 the run-swim-run and Qualifying Certificate is in line with Senior Club standards and is the final stepping stone to play with the big kids.

The boys and girls involved in this period of the club have gained life and surf skills and we hope will continue to be involved with the Surf Life Saving Movement. Most have in their own way have gone on to bigger and better things with careers, life style and families.

We hope that in some way our guidance, training and care will reflect in their children becoming "NIPPERS" at Killcare.

KEVIN MOORE 2003.

“PRIDE”

The Macquarie Dictionary defines “Pride” as;

- 1 . That of which a person or body of persons is proud.
2. Pleasure or satisfaction taken in something done by or belonging to.
3. The best or most admired part of anything.

To those of us who have taken part in and enjoyed our years in Killcare Surf Club that pride is now installed deep within. The experience has turned many a boy into a man, friends for life have been made and memories , some never to be forgotten, are indelibly etched in our hearts.

In compiling these memories now “KEEPERS OF THE SURF” our story, I have heard this pride expressed over and over again. Photographs freely given, stories told (some embellished a little), but all adding to the story of a great character building body that we proudly call Killcare Surf Club.

Members come, members go, some are misplaced in the fog of the past, but in the main all remain part of the rich heritage of achievement of being, and becoming a part of the history of our Club.

Many families have made this club a major part of their lives and are richer for it.

To say that I am proud of being a part of this illustrious body is an understatement. All I can say is “THANK YOU” to all who have helped compile this collection.

**Jim Tubby,
March 2005**