



2003
2004

Port Melbourne Life Saving Club



Annual
Report

Patrol Season
2003 -2004



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Introduction

Welcome to the second Annual Report of the Port Melbourne (Middle Park) Life Saving Club.

One year after the amalgamation with Middle Park LSC Port Melbourne continues to grow strong. Membership is at an all time high with over 300 members. Financially the club is in a good position for the future. Although the club rooms are still in good condition it is suffering a lack of storage space and adequate shower facilities for the amount of members the club rooms support, the committee is looking at ways to improve this situation with plans to change the clubs operational status to focus more on the needs and wants of it's members.



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Committee 2003-2004

President	Steve Roper
Vice President	Rachel Dawson
Treasurer	Gina McLaverty
Secretary	Darrel Gill
Patrol Captain	David Dawson
IRB Captain	Peter McLaverty
Radio Officer	Kaz Svazas
First Aid Officer	Belinda Gill
Chief Instructor	Darrel Gill
Senior/Junior Coach	Mark Heywood
Nipper Coach	Belinda Gill
LSV Delegate	Brett Armstrong



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From the Presidents Desk

Five years ago when I was starting my second year as President of the old Port Melbourne club we set some goals for the next five years.

These were not necessarily measurable goals but goals I felt were essential for the small struggling club to survive.

These goals included;

- Upgrading much of the inadequate and out of date equipment
- Stabilising our some what precarious finances
- Increasing the membership and the skills of the patrol group,
- Winning the Bearepaire shield
- And to form some strategic alliances with other clubs and groups.

Clearly at the time the writing was on the wall for the small clubs at the top end of Port Phillip Bay including ours.

I am pleased to report that after five years most of these goals have been achieved, some unexpectedly, most as a result of hard work and commitment on behalf the committee and key members.

The amalgamation with Middle Park clearly placed the club in a strong position and despite some doubts we have increased on the former combined membership, won the Bearepaire Shield again and have earned a reputation as one of the leading clubs at the head of the Bay.

This year has been a particular year of growth for the club. Our membership has grown, the range of activities has continued to grow and the depth of skills within the club has grown.

Though we did not win any major awards as a club in many ways we have done better this year than in the previous years under the old RLSSV.

This year we went into the big league at full speed.

Lifesaving Victoria is in many ways much more accepted and integrated at a club level than at an organisational level. The standard is a lot higher, the demands on the clubs is more significant but we



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have moved with it and I think we can be proud that we did very well, in fact better than we had expected.

The club is well regarded in Lifesaving and community circles for its professionalism commitment and quality service.

The next five years however I believe will present some significant challenges for the club. The writing on the walls we recognised five years ago is in bold now and I expect a number of clubs will not survive the next five years without significant change. As such our planning process will need to not only react to, but also to lead some changes that are starting to present themselves.

We have a good basis to take a lead on this.

Our strengths are in our great central location in a vibrant and growing part of Melbourne. We have a sound administration and committee and a core group of experienced and committed members. Our finances are positive. We are well equipped.

Our weaknesses are our relative size. During the councils Lifesaving club review four years ago Nigel Taylor CEO of SLSV said that a club needed a turnover of \$55K pa and a patrolling membership of minimum 55 members to be viable. At the time I challenged him but now I think he was about right if not understating it.

If we cannot meet this standard we risk real issues with burnout, financial instability and the inability to even to trade out of these problems.

Our main opportunities are related to our strengths – great location and a highly skilled core group. I think that our future will be to continue the process that began with the coming together of Port Melbourne and Middle Park. Whether this be a strategic alliance with a larger surf coast club, developing a formal relationship with South Melbourne, Sandridge and other local clubs along the line of the NSW model, negating a amalgamation with South or Sandridge or developing independently with a corporate joint relationship are just some of the options.

Our biggest threat is to do nothing and wait for the direction to be set for us or to simply loss momentum.

Ongoing planning that is more than one year or one season at a time is critical in this as is remaining open to change and the positive possibilities that can come with it.

Much of the cultural of distrust and the parochialism that goes with it needs to be put aside as in my opinion, only through cooperative processes will the positive part of our lifesaving culture survive.

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Finally we need to continue to engage our young people who offer so much to our club and to look around at our community and see who we unintentionally leave out and develop strategies to engage these people.

This is the time of the year when for many of us the last thing we think about or perhaps want to think about is the beach and life saving but in many ways it is a really important time for our club.

Winter is a time for replenishing our personal and club energies and to review, acknowledge and plan for the coming year.

The Annual general meeting is an important part of this process as it should focus the general membership on the achievements of the last year, review our success against our plan and set in place a new committee for the coming year.

The committee has met every month over the year and has been very productive in guiding and planning for our club. I would like to congratulate those people who have been part of the committee.

This group have attended regularly and all offer not only their time but also their opinion, experience and often a strong emotional commitment. I thank them on behalf of the club all for all their time and energy.

A strong committee is essential for a successful club. The role of being a committee member can be challenging but it can also be very rewarding and as I such I invite members who have an interest in the ongoing success of this club of offer some time and some of your invaluable experience and wisdom. New blood is important both to stimulate the planning and decision making processes and also to allow for the natural succession of leadership roles in the club.

A series of planning meeting are being scheduled for the near future and there is continual stream of correspondence, training and information coming from state and national bodies all of which needs to be dealt with. So really the only time out is from the regular demands of patrolling and beach activities.

Finally I would also thank and congratulate everyone who took a part in making this one of our best years, Committee, patrollers, nippers, parents, friends of the club and sponsors - well done.

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Life Saving Victoria

Life Saving Victoria officially came into effect this season with the amalgamation of the Royal Life Saving Society Victoria and Surf Life Saving Victoria. Port Melbourne was affiliated with the Royal Life Saving Society and still is, we are waiting for LSV to be the official body, and currently Surf and Royal are working together.

A new 6 Million LSV head quarters is due to be build at Percy Reserve in Sandridge and hopefully construction will start this year. Partly funded by the state government with funds from Royal Life and Surf Lifesaving Victoria the new facility will double as the state administration centre and training complex.



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Port Nippers

What a year we had at the beach. 120 Nippers were enrolled in the program and on average 65 Nippers were at each Sunday morning session and 30 on Monday evening sessions. The weather was extremely good for us this season with only one day that had to be cancelled. The children have had a great time learning about what it is like to part of a group that has fun and interacts together.

We played our usual beach activity games such as Beach Flags, Beach Relays, Beach Sprints and Beach Corner. The water events were not left out with our Beach Wade, and using our nippers boards to paddle around an obstacle and return safely to shore.

It is great to see the children at the end of the season and see how far they have come. Their agility and speed across the sand was a great improvement and their co-ordination on the boards to paddle out and around an object without assistance. It proves to me that when children are put into a situation that they enjoy and want to do, great results are achieved.

I would like to thank the children and the parents for being involved with the Program that we offer here at Port Melbourne LSC. So many parents have said to me that their children just can't wait for Sunday morning so they can go to Nippers. I get so much pleasure from comments like that and appreciate the ability the parents have in the group of professionals that take and run the Program with so much success.

The Team of people that gives up their Sunday mornings and Monday evenings need to be thanked and know that they are appreciated by all the members of the Port Melbourne Life Saving Club.

On a personal note I would like to thank the Club and the Members for their support in nominating me for "Youth Parent of the Year 2004" which I did win.

As for the coming 2004/2005 season what lies ahead no one knows but you can be assured that what ever we do at Port Melbourne Life Saving Club it is sure to be a success.

Belinda Gill – Nipper Coordinator



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Patrolling

Surname	Given Name	Total Hours	Total Days
Heywood	Mark	253.5	42
Heywood	Teagan	233	38
Gill	Darrel	210	35
Gill	Belinda	166.5	25
Roper	Steve	148	27
McLaverty	Peter	120	19
Udall	Ursula	118.5	23
Morrell	Camille	108.5	21
Hilliar	Sarah	108	23
Svazas	Aleks	96.5	16
Barker	Sophie	79	17
MacKinnon	Ruby	61.5	16
McFadden	Erin	47.5	9
Richards	Josephine	42.5	9
Rowe	Trent	41	8
Dawson	Rachel	37.5	9
Risson	Kim	36	7
Abbey	Kate	26.5	4
Dawson	David	17	3
Svazas	Kaz	12.5	3
Barnier	Martin	3.5	1
Club Patrol Hour Totals		1967	42

A small increase in the number of qualified lifesavers this year but still not enough to spread the load of mounting patrols. Next season we need to concentrate more on getting enough lifesavers so that each person only needs to patrol one day per month the rest being optional. There are about 50 patrolling days per season with a minimum requirement to have 4 lifesavers on duty each day that's 200 patrol person days. If each lifesaver patrols one day per month that's about 4 days per patroller, 4 into 200 goes 50.

This season the club achieved a total of 1967 patrol person hours.



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Table 1 – Beach statistics for 2003 - 2004

Date	Max Temperature	Beach Attendance	LifeSavers on Duty
Saturday, 29 November 2003	33	700	9
Sunday, 30 November 2003	30	200	13
Saturday, 6 December 2003	21	61	14
Sunday, 7 December 2003	27	394	11
Saturday, 13 December 2003	19	33	9
Sunday, 14 December 2003	25	274	15
Saturday, 20 December 2003	21	1	5
Sunday, 21 December 2003	20	142	15
Friday, 26 December 2003		170	4
Saturday, 27 December 2003	21	56	7
Sunday, 28 December 2003	26	350	9
Thursday, 1 January 2004		715	5
Saturday, 3 January 2004	30	400	9
Sunday, 4 January 2004	29	28	14
Saturday, 10 January 2004	28	337	12
Sunday, 11 January 2004	21	192	9
Saturday, 17 January 2004	21	31	7
Sunday, 18 January 2004	20	163	8
Saturday, 24 January 2004	22	66	9
Sunday, 25 January 2004	20	167	10
Monday, 26 January 2004		69	10
Friday, 31 December 2004	23	86	4
Sunday, 1 February 2004	21	150	13
Saturday, 7 February 2004	23	89	4
Sunday, 8 February 2004	40	652	9
Saturday, 14 February 2004	40	1090	9
Sunday, 15 February 2004	31	1298	11
Saturday, 21 February 2004	21	70	4
Sunday, 22 February 2004	23	344	12
Saturday, 28 February 2004	28	158	4
Sunday, 29 February 2004	21	113	12
Saturday, 6 March 2004	26	70	7
Sunday, 7 March 2004	18	20	9
Monday, 8 March 2004	18	25	6
Saturday, 13 March 2004	21		4
Sunday, 14 March 2004		237	6
Saturday, 20 March 2004		28	6
Sunday, 21 March 2004		196	8
Saturday, 27 March 2004		92	6
Sunday, 28 March 2004	33	750	6
Saturday, 3 April 2004	21	14	5
Sunday, 4 April 2004	21	15	4
Average	25	245	8

Membership

Membership increased from last years all time high. Gender wise we have a very balanced membership which reflects the clubs family demographic. Junior numbers are low but as our Nippers move up into junior ranks this will change with several 12 year olds last season moving to juniors. The bulk of our membership comes from the Nipper program as families. The actual active membership is low which is placing a strain on the dozen or so members who run the club, for instance most of the committee is made up of patrolling members who not only put in over 150 hours of patrol duties each but also the equivalent hours in administration and running of the club. Next season we hope to see more of our members step up and volunteer to help run the club.

Category	2002-2003	2003-2004	2002-2003	2003-2004	2002-2003	2003-2004
	Male	Male	Female	Female	Total	Total
Nipper	53	69	57	72	110	141
Junior	3	2	8	8	11	10
Senior	73	80	66	78	139	158
Patroller	14	14	11	13	25	27
					285	336



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Surf sports and Life Saving Competitions

The club only competed in a couple of LSV carnivals this season with varying results but overall we performed well.

Belinda Gill was awarded the **Life Saving Victoria Youth Parent of the Year**, Belinda runs our Nippers Program, and she does an excellent job putting in a lot of hours and dedication which has now been recognized by our state centre.

Results of Lifesaving Initiatives Championships

Mark Heywood – 1st Over 40

Steve Roper - 2nd Over 40

Liam Heywood – 2nd Under 12



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Financial Status

Summary Year ending 30th June 2004

Total Income	\$40,160.93
Total Expenditure	\$34,303.29
Total Profit	\$5,857.64
Bank Balance as of 30/6/2004	\$15,136.10
Term Deposit as of 30/6/2004	\$21,526.68
Assets as reported for insurance	\$110,805.00
Total Cash Funds	\$36,662.78

Refer to attached Transaction report for full details



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Life Members

1993 Perce White
1993 Leo 'Doc' Wood
1994 Leeanne Raeburn
1996 Bill Decis
1996 Marion Phillips
1998 Chris Raeburn
1999 Cole Ward
2000 June Wood
2001 Barry Roddy
2001 Mark Heywood
2002 (Transfer from Middle Park)
George Hale
David O'Dwyer
Jenny Peric
Darrel Gill
Belinda Gill
Brett Armstrong
Peter McLaverty
Kaz Svazas
2003 Steve Roper



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Sponsors

Major Club Sponsors



**Armadale Motors
Stratton Finance**



Club Event Sponsors

Mars Confectionery – Ballarat, Coles Port Melbourne, Belle Zain Restaurant and Bar
Block Buster Video – Port Melbourne, Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre
Naked Grape, Readings Book & Music Store, Sechi Hair, Sweet Port, Vintage Cellar

Sponsors through Life Saving Victoria

