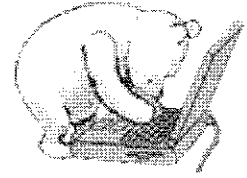


Pooh Bear's News

December 2007

*South Curl Curl SLSC Inc
PO Box 18, Harbord NSW 2096
Website: www.southcurlcurlslsc.org
Email: mail@southcurlcurlslsc.org*



WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS EDITION

The last couple of months have proven to be relatively uneventful and have gone somewhat to plan.

Soundwaves was a resounding success. The weather, always an essential ingredient to success, was kind and the hard work and planning undertaken by Lyndall and her very competent planning committee, was rewarded by the most successful Soundwaves event ever.

Club membership, including Nippers, now exceeds 500 and we have 123 active patrolling members plus a large number of active reserves to call upon if required. This is a great improvement on just a few years ago when we were scratching to get 50 patrolling members in the Club and full day patrols were standard fare. We now have no trouble assembling sufficient patrols on a half day/once per month cycle. Better late than never.

Nathan and Georgina have just released the patrol roster for the second half of the season and some of us have been shuffled off the patrol list on to the active reserve list. No complaints from me.

I had heard that Charles had attempted to retire Chicka Kuhn from the patrol roster. Chicka was having none of this and despite his septuagenarian status, promptly got himself reinstated onto Ann Taylor's patrol. Hang on Chicka, Ann does four patrols each weekend. Chicka may need to rethink.

Errol Jones has also expressed his enthusiasm to join a patrol. We have been down this path before and Errol's presence on a patrol is like the Loch Ness Monster. You know he is there, but he is never seen.

NEW SURFBOAT CHRISTENING

The new surf boat, constructed by Nathan Perry was christened on Sunday 25th November 2007. It has been named after Mark Brown in recognition of his sterling efforts during his time rowing surf boats for the Club and his tireless efforts as an administrator over many years.

Mark and Sue are in the process of purchasing 25 acres of land around Wallace Lakes which may explain why they have not been sighted around the Club for a little while.

THE BEACH KIOSK

The advent of the Beach Kiosk under the administration of Angus Crane's Landmark Catering has added a great new facility to the suburb since it opened on 2nd June 2003. It is now very much part and parcel of our surf club and when the weather is fine, it is very well patronised.

It is no small coincidence that the commencement of improvements to the Club building and facilities coincide with the advent of the Beach Kiosk.

The success of the Kiosk has not gone unnoticed by Warringah Council. After four years of operation without any contact from Council, we have recently been advised that Council now want 50% of the rental received by the Club from the Kiosk as a contribution towards the maintenance of the Reserve. This news has come as quite a shock and your Committee is in the process of attempting to negotiate a more reasonable contribution to Council.

As you are aware your Committee has plans for improvements to the Club buildings and facilities which will be financed from our own resources plus any grants that we are able to obtain. The income generated from the Kiosk is a vital source of income required to service any loan obtained to finance the improvements and Council's demands are a definite threat to our plans.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

As stated in the last edition, after the submission of our report to Council that addressed the concerns of local residents and Council, the DA was renotified to the local residents for 30 days.

We have been advised that following a tender process, an independent consultant has now been selected to make recommendations to Council concerning our DA. There is more. We have also been advised that the DA will also be review by an independent assessment panel which will provide opportunity for the local residents to air their concerns. The Club will also have an opportunity to respond. The panel will not meet until the end of January 2008 and their decision will not be known until early February 2008. The Great Pyramid of Egypt did not take this long to build.

In relation to the DA that has been approved, construction of the new concrete ramp from the carpark to the beach, is due to commence in May 2008 and completed by spring. This was confirmed to us the other day by Clinton Rose who is the Warringah Beach Services Team Leader so it must be true.

As you may know, there is currently no ramp from the carpark to the beach and due to OH&S requirements we have been unable to get our IRB's onto the beach.

To overcome the OH&S issues, Council are installing a gantry which will allow the IRB's and trailers to be lowered onto the beach without risking life and limb. However, the installation has been bogged down in red tape because of the need for approvals every step of the way. Talk about the Great Pyramid. If Council was responsible for its construction, it still wouldn't be finished.

OCEAN SWIM

Our Ocean Swim will be held on Sunday, 6th January 2008 and depending upon surf and weather conditions, the course will be a swim from South Curl Curl around the headland to Freshwater Beach.

We have already attracted sufficient sponsorship to cover costs and if the weather is kind, the event will attract record numbers of participants. Interested participants should visit our website-

www.southcurlcurlslsc.org or the Ocean Swims website (you may need to consult Google) for more details and entry forms.

BIG 60th BIRTHDAY BASH FOR THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

The perfect warm up for the Ocean Swim is the Big 60th birthday bash for Kevin, Darren and Dicky which will be held at the Club on Saturday evening 5th January 2008. I will leave the reader to decide who is the good, the bad & the ugly. Personally, I can't see any faults in any one of these great guys. Actually, a couple more of us are due to turn 60 in 2008, namely Black Jack and your correspondent. I would have gladly celebrated my 60th year with these guys but my wife has other plans for a joint birthday with her and being a long sufferer of hen pecking abuse, I quickly saw her point of view.

It should be a great night and definitely the place to be seen this side of the Spit Bridge if you want to see your Photo in the social pages of the Sunday papers. Try to get yourself an invitation.

NIPPERS

Our Nippers are becoming increasingly competitive each season. The training provided by Brad, Jordi and the Yeats brothers are now reaping rewards. Our Nippers finished a creditable 8th out of 40 Clubs that competed in the recent Queenscliff carnival. Having regard to this success, Nippers are now looking to engage a professional coach for the water events. This sounds like professional thinking. Keep it up.

90th ANNIVERSARY BALL

The 90th Anniversary Ball is scheduled for Saturday 10th May 2008. Michelle and Georgie are the co-ordinators and indicative entry costs will be \$85 for members and \$65 for Juniors and pensioners.

LIFE MEMBERS DINNER

To commemorate 100 years of life saving at South Curly, a Life Members dinner will be held at the Club on Thursday 21st February 2008. Invitations will be sent out at the appropriate time.

SURF BOATS

Ribs and Gus as ever are doing plenty with the large number of crews under their tutelage. It is far too difficult to get reliable and timely information concerning the progress of our boats and you just have to make do with what I can glean from my rounds of the Club. Ribs' women's crew is currently sitting in second place in the Ocean Thunder series and Gus' men's crew have been competitive in a tough field. Not much else has come to my attention apart from the Freshwater Masters carnival where two of our crews participated. Neither won.

ATTENTION DEFICIT SYNDROME

It has been brought to my attention that some of our members struggle with the length of this magazine. It seems that their concentration levels are strained at anything greater than two paragraphs comprising single syllable words. These people are obviously uneducated retards who do not appreciate the culture that this magazine tries to impart on them. You know the type, they have difficulty thinking and chewing gum at the same time. Well, I have got news for them. This magazine is not about them. They don't have to read past the first paragraph. I actually have fun doing it when I can find the time. Notwithstanding, I am prepared to listen to the critics and keep this edition relatively brief although I will not apologise for reporting the news to those members who live in remote regions.

BOOKS

One of my passions is reading biographies. A year ago, one of my daughters gave me Jones Town-The Power and the Myth of Alan Jones by Chris Masters. It is a pretty good read about a complex and interesting character. The chapter dealing with his much publicised encounter with the police in a London public toilet was fascinating. Apparently, he was charged with handling swollen evidence.

THE FEDERAL ELECTION

Who would have thought it possible that a comparative blow-in, who, six months or so ago, very few of us had ever heard of, would now be our Prime Minister? Also who would have thought that our second longest serving Prime Minister would lose his seat to a news presenter? I have long thought that Governments lose office rather than the other way around and I think that it occurred again this time. Enough people were disillusioned with the Howard Government to force a change. I remember that happening in 1972 when Gough got up over Billy McMahon on the back of the slogan-"It's Time."

I just hope that Kevin 07 does not become Kevin 17. If he does, he won't last long and the people who voted for change for change sake will have learned a painful lesson just as I did with Gough all those years ago.

SOME OF MY GOOD FRIENDS

This magazine would be incomplete if it did not include a story about Errol, Dicky or Rocket. Black Jack has been so busy on holidays the last year or so, that he has almost dropped off the radar and I have almost forgotten what he looks like.

I won't disappoint you. I have a true story about Rocket that I heard first hand from one of his old doctors that I happened to bump into recently. This medico, long since retired from practice, told me the story about the time Rocket came to him with the concern that he may be infertile. The doctor gave Rocket a screw top jar and told him to return in a week with a specimen of his semen which would be sent to pathology for analysis. Well, Rocket came back in a week and handed the doctor the screw top jar, which the doctor noticed was empty. When asked to explain, Rocket told the doctor: "I tried with my right hand and I tried with my left hand, my wife tried with her right hand and her left hand, my mother-in-law tried with her right hand and her left hand, she tried with her teeth in and her teeth out, and... we still couldn't get the lid off the jar" I believe the doctor retired not long after this episode.

You will be glad to learn that Rocket's fears were unfounded and he went on to father three beautiful children.

Now Errol has escaped this edition because he has been out of the country for so long. Although on his recent trip to Vietnam, he sent me at least 10 text messages to ask whether I had closed the roller shutter door to the craft room and the gym. I think that he has developed an obsessive/compulsive disorder.

Not much news on Dicky although Noela did complain to me that he was eating them out of house and home. Apparently Dicky has become very impressed with Sumo wrestling and judging by his increasing girth he has taken on the diet of a Sumo devotee.

CHARLIES CHUCKLES

One of Charlies best:

An Italian boy and a Jewish boy came of age at the same time. The Italian boy's father presented him with a brand new pistol. On the other side of town, at his Bar Mitzvah, the Jewish boy receives a beautiful gold watch. The next day when the two boys see each other at school they show each other what they received.. It turns out that each boy likes the other's present better so the trade.

That night when the Italian boy is at home, his father sees him looking at the watch. "whir you getta thatta watch?" asks the father. The boy explains that he and his Jewish friend had traded. The father blows his top. "whata you? Stupida boy. Whatsamatta you? Somma day, you may be gonna get married. Then maybe, soma day you gonna come home and finda your wife inna bed with another man. Whatta you gonna do then? Look at your watch and say-" how longa you gonna be?" "

A Short Scottish Joke

A bloke walks into a Glasgow library and says to the prim librarian,
"Excuse me miss, dey ye hive any books on suicide?"

To which she stops doing her tasks, looks at him over the top of her glasses and says,
"Fook off, ye'll no bring it back."

Marriage for the elderly-

Jacob, 92, and Rebecca 89, are excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding and on the way they pass a Chemist. Jacob suggests they go in.

Jacob addresses the man behind the counter: "Are you the owner?" the pharmacist answers "Yes"

Jacob: "we're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?"

Pharmacist: "Of course we do."

Jacob: "how about medicine for the circulation?"

Pharmacist: "All kinds."

Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism, scoliosis?"

Pharmacist: "Definitely"

Jacob: "How about Viagra"

Pharmacist: "Of course"

Jacob: "Medicine for memory problems, arthritis, jaundice?"

Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety....the works"

Jacob: "What about vitamins, sleeping pills, antidotes for Parkinson's Disease?"

Pharmacist: "Absolutely"

Jacob: "You sell wheelchairs and walkers?"

Pharmacist: "All speeds and sizes. Why do you ask? Is there something I can help you with?"

Jacob: "We'd like to nominate your store as our Bridal Gift Shop"

What about a Christmas joke?

Three men died on Christmas eve and were met by Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates.

"In honour of this holy season" Saint Peter said, "You must each possess something that symbolises Christmas to get into heaven"

The first man fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. "It represents a candle" he said.

"You may pass through the Pearly Gates" Saint Peter said.

The second man reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. He shook them and said, "They are bells"

Saint Peter said, "You may pass through the Pearly Gates"

The third man started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's panties.

Saint Peter looked at the man and asked. "And just what do these symbolise?"

The man replied, "These are Carol's "

And so the Christmas season begins...

CHRISTMAS WISHES

From the staff of Pooh Bear we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Drive safely and if you drink, catch a cab, it will be a lot cheaper than being caught over the limit by the RBT.

We also express our thanks and appreciation to our sponsors and supporters, especially John, Trish and Sean at the Harbord Beach Hotel and Andrew and the Management of the Harbord Diggers Club.

Cheers and see you at the beach.