



Pooh Bear's News

January 2007

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



WELCOME TO THE THIRD EDITION FOR THE SEASON

Pooh has been a bit slow out of the blocks this season but he is slowing down a bit all around, generally speaking. Notwithstanding, we will try to make each edition a relatively entertaining read.

Christmas has come and gone and hopefully we all got what we deserved. Some of us more than others.

The period leading up to Christmas was fairly predictable with nothing particularly eventful happening.

Our boat crews are still in heavy training and our results in the recent Ocean Thunder ASRL finals at Dee Why beach were pretty good despite our gun women's crew being a shock elimination from the semi finals due to the tricky surf conditions on the day.

Despite being eliminated, the women tied for overall second in the series which indicates how dominant they were in the preliminaries.

The men's crew of Rob, Trent, Nathan and Brad were very competitive throughout and were eliminated in the semis due to being taken out by a boat four lanes away. Pooh actually witnessed this event and it reminded him of Roller Ball. The rules were that there were no rules. Just get over the line the best way you can. Nevertheless, the conditions on the day made it very interesting and it will make great television. I refer you to Mal's report for a more accurate description of Ocean Thunder.

Errol, Dickie and Black Jack have been very quiet these past few weeks. In Errol's case, he has sustained a torn hamstring from one of his alleged athletic pursuits. I say alleged because I have heard from an undisclosed source that he tore his hamstring in the process of racing to the breakfast bar at the four star hotel on one of his recent work assignments (jaunts). Word has it that he was seeking his second helping of cheese cake and he put a sprint on to head off a decrepit old lady to the last helping when the hamstring gave way. The music of the shark attack in the 'Jaws' movie comes to mind when I think of Errol circling the breakfast bar at the hotel. Frightening.

On a positive note, I did hear that Errol was on patrol on Boxing Day. As I was not there to supervise his every movement, I will have to accept that Errol did a great job on the day. Unfortunately Errol won't be available for his next patrol because he will be overseas on another one of his work jaunts, probably at a cleaning products convention.

The Club Christmas party went off really well thanks to the organisational abilities of Georgie and Michelle. These girls are champions and you have just got to wonder how come Nathan and Termite got so lucky.

As I said, the Christmas party was great with many of us sticking around longer than we should have judging by the pain and suffering endured on the Sunday after. We all got the wobbly boot on to the extent that large chunks of the night will always remain a mystery. I do recall, however, that Ribs took offence to the shirt I was wearing and he commenced to tear it from my back. It was one of my favourites with designer tears and assorted marks to make it look tatty. Much like jeans with holes strategically placed over the left knee or under the right buttock. All I can say is that, Ribs will not abide by anything less than sartorial perfection and I would counsel those expecting an encounter with Ribs to take a close look at the clothes they are wearing otherwise they may not be wearing them for long.

Australian Towns - funny names

On a recent trip to the south coast, I came across a town called Tilba Tilba and I naturally got to wondering about the meaning of some of the indigenous names of towns in Australia, especially the double barrelled names, to name a few others:-

Walla Walla	Pindi Pindi	Kin Kin
Wagga Wagga	Gin Gin	Bet Bet
Wool Wool	Gumly Gumly	Bindi Bindi
Woy Woy	Gol Gol	Bli Bli
Wangi Wangi	Grong Grong	Boonoo Boonoo
Pura Pura	Kurri Kurri	Buln Buln
Curl Curl	Bulla Bulla	Doon Doon
North Curl Curl	Ki Ki	Elong Elong

I recall that on learning that Woy Woy means 'White Water', Spike Milligan, famous comedian and former resident, wondered which Woy meant White. Another point is that some of the names can be abbreviated, like Wagga, Wangi, Tilba but, curiously, you can't exactly say Woy or Curl in the singular. What am I getting at?

I don't exactly know, I think this is called padding - when your short on something to say, just say a lot of nothing.

Another couple of meanings - Curl Curl means 'brave swimmers' and North Curl Curl means 'timid swimmers'. Bet Bet is aboriginal for TAB and Bindi Bindi means - keep off the grass. Gin Gin means two girls and Kin Kin means - here comes the relatives. Incidentally, Dave Alldis tells me that Tilba Tilba means windy. These meanings are based on my extensive research, however, I am happy to be corrected with authoritative evidence which may contradict the meanings that I have attributed to these names.

South Curl Curl Ocean Swim

After a break of 12 months, the Swim was held on Sunday, 7 January, 2007 in tricky conditions. The water temperature was the lowest in two years, clocking in at 15.8 degrees and a strong north south rip was running so the course was shifted up the beach to North Curl Curl.

Despite the conditions, the event attracted over 100 competitors and no dramas occurred. Taking into account sponsorship from Roche, Macquarie Bank and My Life, the event was a resounding financial success.

Next year, the organisers are thinking of making the event a beach to beach event starting at South Curl Curl and finishing at Freshwater, subject to surf conditions.

Mike Dobrijevitch as event co-ordinator, Dave Alldis - logistics and John McIntosh and his crew - water safety, did great jobs on the day and their efforts were appreciated.

There is a bit of a story, however, concerning the setting of the marker buoys which needed to be towed into place by an IRB. After coming up short on volunteers for a competent crewman, Raz reluctantly settled on Ribs who, to his credit was the only volunteer available who could chew gum and think at the same time.

The only problem with Ribs in an IRB (well there are actually two problems) is that he is so used to standing at the back of the boat that it makes for a fairly interesting journey. The IRB is not designed for two people at the rear end because the bow of the craft tends to flop about uncontrollably which makes it fairly unstable. As you can imagine with Ribs and Raz positioned at the back of the IRB while towing out the oversized marker buoys, it did not take long before disaster struck in the form of Raz falling out of the back of the boat during a particularly nasty vertical manoeuvre. This circumstance quickly showed up the second problem with Ribs in an IRB. He has not got a clue how to drive the thing. With Ribs in charge of the craft, the IRB began to lurch this way and that fairly violently in the ugly conditions and not once during this time was Ribs seen to put his hand on the tiller. Of course, the inevitable happened and the IRB tipped over spilling Ribs into the drink with Raz, who was the unwitting victim in this episode. Luckily, no damage was done to crew or craft but Raz has some pretty firm opinions concerning the attributes of Ribs as an IRB crewman and I believe that not all of them are complementary.

After he had cooled his temper, one of Raz's milder comments concerning Ribs was that 'Ribs would make a good deckhand on a submarine'.

I think Pooh may have found another target for a bit of fun.

DA Progress

There are two current Development Applications in progress with Warringah Council which concern the Club.

One application concerns the proposed new concrete boat ramp which will replace the primitive and dangerous wooden ramp that currently exists. We expect no objections to this DA and, if all goes well, construction on the ramp should commence later this year.

The second application concerns proposed much needed improvements to the Club buildings which include the construction of a boat garage and a members observation room. The improvements have been designed to meld with the existing building alignment, height and profile. Despite the care taken to cause the minimum inconvenience to local residents, the application has attracted thirty complaints. This is unfortunate but it will not deter us even if Council refuses our application. It is submitted that not one of the objectors has a reasonable basis to complain. All of the properties in the area are situated in an elevated position relative to the Club and our proposed boat garage will not diminish the view of any residents directly opposite.

Our proposed building additions are minimalist in their scale, in sympathy with the existing buildings and considerate of the local residents. Yet the proposed additions represent an enormous improvement to the Club house facility. You will be kept informed but be assured that we will not rest until we get the result the members and future members deserve.

Rocks on the Beach

You may recall that in the last edition, I reported that Council were scheduled to sieve the sand in front of the Club to remove the rocks on the sand. I am assured by Clinton Rose that this was done but as anyone can see, there are still lots of rocks littered through the sand in front of the Clubhouse. Maybe Council sieved the sand at another beach because their alleged efforts have made little difference. The rocks are a major inconvenience, especially to our nippers who do much of their events on the beach. The rocks also deter beach goers.

The Club has reported the matter to Council in strong terms and we expect prompt action. I would have thought that the contractor who build the sea wall would have been obliged to remove the rocks from the sand as a condition of his contract. They were not there before construction commenced.

Footy

The footy season gets off to an early start this season with the Super 14 Comp getting underway during the first week of February. Club rugby starts 7 April and NRL starts in March.

The surf season is great but lets face it, its just something to do while waiting for the footy season to kick off. Too much footy is not enough.

Cricket

The Australian Cricket team are the equivalent to the All Blacks in World Rugby. Just about unbeatable. The poor old Poms. With just one significant victory since World War 2, they and their supporters come over expecting to trample over us poor colonials and to show us what for. They have not won one game against Australia and just managed to beat an ordinary New Zealand side. The Barmy Army must be looking for somewhere to hide. In fact, your correspondent discovered three of the Barmy Army on top of Mount Warning on the far North Coast of New South Wales on New Year's Eve. I think they were about to jump off the defunct volcano and it was only my generosity of spirit and warm heart that convinced them that winning isn't everything. What had hurt those fellows was that they had purchased tickets to the fifth day of every test match with the exception of Adelaide. As luck would have it, none of these games lasted more than four days. The vast gap between the two teams has proved to be very expensive to cricket, sponsors and the players because of the early finishes.

Training on the beach for younger members

After the disruption of Christmas holidays, training is set to recommence during the week after 4 pm. Our trainers, Jordi, Peter and Darrin will continue their good work until the end of the season and after some initial teething problems, Anthony Downman will supervise general fitness training two afternoons per week for the rest of the season. The appropriate notification will be made to the members in due course.

Life Guarding Overseas

For those members who may be interested, there are opportunities available to work as a life guard in New Jersey on the East Coast of America. Ship Bottom Beach Patrol are the people to contact and their representative and head of life guards is Keith Stokes, who by all accounts is a decent guy. Keith's contact telephone number is #609 361 7707 or mobile number 808 382 7052. You will, of course, need to use the international prefix and the country code. Dave Alldis, Shaun Stacey and Brad Johnson worked as life guards in New Jersey during the 90's and enjoyed a great experience. New Jersey is the alternative to life guarding in Jersey where John Hogan and Tony Sinclair migrate to during the off season. Concerning New Jersey though, the pay is in US dollars (up to US\$450 per week) and your accommodation and work visas will be arranged by the Council. The season runs from 16 June to 1 October, 2007.

No prior experience as a life guard is necessary although there are minimum swim times to meet. If you wish to find out more, contact David Alldis or, if you can't reach Dave, send me an email with your contact details and I will pass them on to Dave.

Jono to the Max

To Jono Beavons and his bride, Julie, a son was born. His name is Max and he will go on to do great things. Jono has pledged to pass on all of his knowledge to his son which should leave both Jono and Max with plenty of time to spare and Max not much the wiser. A message to the Beavons from Peter Costello - one for mum, one for dad and one for the country. Get it, you can't stop at one, Peter will expect at least another two out of you as your patriotic duty.

Ashman

Matt Ashcroft, that globetrotting budding film impresario and former esteemed Club member is over here at the moment on leave from London where he terrorises the local disco and club scene.

Ash gets married in September and then plans to return to Australia which I am looking forward to. The gene pool is getting stale over here and I badly need someone new to bash up, metaphorically speaking, of course. I look forward to catching up with Ash on Australia Day, probably over a shandy at the Hilton.

The Gene Pool at SCCSLSC

Now you will have to concede that I have gone very easy on the usual suspects in this edition with perhaps the exception of Errol who always deserves close attention. We all know Errol as the Felix Unger of the Club Gym. You get the picture don't you. Polish rags hanging out of his back pocket, Mr. Sheen always at the ready and broom on hand. Well, Errol has taken his gym activities to another level - gym spy. He has hidden listening devices throughout the gym to help him detect any serious breach or potential breach of gym rules.

Happily, no rule breaches have been identified so far but Errol did provide the transcripts of two conversations in the gym concerning Rocket:

Conversation between Joel and Rocket

Joel: "What exercise is that?"

Rocket: "Chin-ups. I just did 50."

Joel: "Chin-ups? Must be a new version. Have you tried one where you hang from the bar and your feet don't touch the ground?"

Rocket: - silence

Conversation between unidentified 'A' crew rower and Rocket

'A' crew rower: "Geez. Still working out Rocket?"

Rocket: "Yeah. No pain, no gain."

'A' crew rower: "You are in good shape mate. I hope that I am as good in my sixties like you."

Rocket: "Hang on mate, I am only 58."

'A' crew rower: - raucous laughter "Yeah mate, of course you are." More laughter.

Rocket: - silence

Errol also provided the following transcript of a conversation between Rocket and his wife Kathy which tells me that maybe Errol has been planting his listening devices further afield than the gym.

Kathy: "It's 4 am Rocket. Why up so early."

Rocket: "I'm due in spin class by 5.45 am and it takes the best part of two hours to lubricate my injured joints caused by years of sport. But as I look into my trophy cabinet, I realise that it has been worth it."

Kathy: "But there is only one trophy there Rocket, for coming second in the Under Seven Tunnel Ball Competition."

Rocket: "I had a lot of hard luck stories over the years. The only thing that kept me out of footy teams was the selectors."

Kathy: "What's that vile smell? It's disgusting."

Rocket: "That's the effect of the goanna oil running into the emu grease and the tiger balm. You gotta be more careful when you rub this stuff on me Kath."

Kathy: "I'm your wife and not an expert at animal husbandry."

Rocket: The squelching sound caused by Rocket's thighs rubbing together as he walked out of the door.

Errol reports that his spies (he has them everywhere) from the spin class told him that the spin class leader sustained serious back strain from lifting Rocket off the floor each time he slipped off his bike seat because of the amount of animal grease Kathy had smeared over his body.

It was also reported that a large pack of dogs had gathered at the entry to the gym, apparently drawn by the animal grease on Rocket's body. There were so many dogs outside the door that Rocket was forced to leave by a side window to avoid being molested by the pack. Apparently the animal grease acted as a powerful aphrodisiac on the dogs and Rocket was in serious danger of being violated by at least twenty highly aroused canines.

Ruth Moloney

Readers of this rag will know that Ruth has been living and working in California, USA these past couple of years. Ruth contributes news and interesting anecdotes from her side of the world and this is her latest offering which, actually is a world scoop:

Exclusive interview with David Hicks.

Ruth has used her powerful contacts in the US to get onto the naval base at Guantanamo Bay on the south eastern coast of Cuba to do what no other civilian has managed to do so far - that is, interview David Hicks.

Ruth: "Hello David how are you bearing up.

David: Just fine Ruth. Those nice Americans are letting me stay here for as long as I want, free of charge.

Ruth: But aren't you being held a prisoner here David?

David: No Ruth, you've got it all wrong. Those nice Americans are letting me stay here for my own protection because my former friend Osama is out to get me.

Ruth: You mean Osama Bin Laden?

David: Shhh Ruth. Don't speak too loud, Osama has spies everywhere.

Ruth: But why are you in manacles and chains?

David: That's just a bit of a joke to throw Osama off the scent.

Ruth: Ooh. And to think that I was under the impression that the Americans had denied you natural justice by keeping you here for these past five years without being charged with any offence. I thought that it offended the rule of habeas corpus.

David: Oh Ruth. That just goes to show how people can get the wrong impression. I am having a great time here. I have lots of mates. There's Abdul, Mohammed, Moses and Zorgo and we get to send each other notes and play naughts and crosses written on the back of the toilet paper we use.

Ruth: You mean you all sit around together?

David: Oh no. We all get to stay in our rooms for our own protection. Osama has spies every where. We communicate by writing notes on the toilet paper we all share. We all use the same paper which the nice guards bring around to all the guests here every couple of days.

Ruth: Sounds like fun. And what else do you do here David?

David: Not much. Although, we often get to speak to the nice Americans who some times let us stay awake for 36 hours straight under a big spot light just to see who falls asleep first.

Ruth: Wow. Sounds great. Anything else?

David: Promise you won't tell anybody?

Ruth: God's honour.

David: Some times they take all my clothes off and attach electric wires to little David. Then someone turns the power on. It is very erotic. I just love it. I don't understand why those nice Americans get cross with me when I get aroused, if you know what I mean?

Ruth: That's fascinating David. Time is getting on and I must be off. Any messages that you would like me to pass on to your friends and relatives outside?

David: Tell them I absolutely love it in here. Free food. Free rent. Free clothes. I've died and gone to heaven. Hey Ruth, do you want to see where they attach the electric wires to little David?

Ruth: Well no David. I don't have the time. Maybe next time."

Wasn't that a fascinating interview?. That Ruth certainly is a killer isn't she?

Charlies' Chuckles

No contribution from Charlie this edition, you will have to get by with some of my jokes.

There is a moral to this story - Nick the Dragon Slayer.

"Nick the Dragon Slayer had a long-standing obsession to nuzzle the beautiful Queen's voluptuous breasts, but he knew the penalty for this would be death.

One day he revealed his secret desire to his colleague, Horatio, the Physician, who was the King's chief doctor.

Horatio the Physician exclaimed the he could arrange for Nick the Dragon Slayer to satisfy his desire, but it would cost him 1,000 gold coins to arrange it.

Without pause, Nick the Dragon Slayer readily agreed to the scheme.

The next day, Horatio the Physician made a batch of itching powder and poured a little bit into the Queen's brassiere while she bathed.

Soon after she dressed, the itching commenced and grew intense.

Upon being summoned to the Royal Chambers to address the incident, Horatio the Physician informed the King and Queen that only a special saliva, if applied for four hours, would cure this type of itch, and that tests had shown that only the saliva of Nick the Dragon Slayer would work as the antidote to cure the itch.

The King quickly summoned Nick the Dragon Slayer,

Horatio the Physician then slipped Nick the Dragon Slayer the antidote for the itching powder, which he quickly put into his mouth, and for the next four hours, Nick worked passionately on the Queen's voluptuous and magnificent breasts.

The Queen's itching was eventually relieved, and Nick the Dragon Slayer left satisfied and was touted as a hero.

Upon returning to his chamber, Nick the Dragon Slayer found Horatio the Physician demanding his payment for 1,000 gold coins.

With his obsession now satisfied, Nick the Dragon Slayer couldn't have cared less and, knowing that Horatio the Physician could never report the matter to the King, shooed him away with no payment made.

The next day, Horatio the Physician slipped a massive dose of the same itching powder into the King's shorts.

The King immediately summoned Nick the Dragon Slayer

MORAL OF THE STORY: Pay your bills."

Another Kerry Packer?

"Sunday school teacher was testing the children in Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to Heaven.

She asked "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?"

Again, the answer was, "NO!"

By now she was starting to smile. Hey, this was fun! "Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into Heaven?" she asked them again.

Again, they all answered, "NO!"

She was just bursting with pride for them. Well, she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE F****ING DEAD". "

The NSW Education Department is doing its best to engage all migrant groups as evidenced by the following example from Bankstown High School.

"Bankstown High School Maths Exam.

Time allowed: 1 hour

1. If Mohamed lowers his WRX2 inches front and back and puts on stolen 18-inch Zepter wheels, how many inches has he originally lost from the stock suspension?
2. If Con needs 3 razors a day to stay clean shaven, how many razors will he need before he goes to the gym at 8.00 pm?

3. If Mustaffa runs 10 km from the Police in Lakemba to Punchbowl, then steals a car and drives another 5 km to Bankstown, how many kilometres has he travelled if he ends up hiding in Wiley Park?
4. Omar has 2 ounces of cocaine. He sells an "8 ball" to Hamil for \$320.00 and 2 grams to Akhmed for \$85.00 per gram. What is the street value of the balance of the cocaine if he doesn't cut it?
5. If Ahmed receives \$200.00 per week disability allowance from Centrelink, also works for his brother as a builder and receives a further \$400.00 per week, and then pays \$10.00 per week for each of his 11 children for school, how much money does he have left to buy a smashed Tarago from the auctions?
6. If the average spray can covers 22 square metres and the average letter is 8 square centimetres, how many letters can a tagger spray with 3 cans of paint?
7. If Soula needs 25 mls of wax per day to get rid of her facial hair, and Soula is only 19 years old, how many mls will her Mother need if she is 47?
8. Mohamed has an AK-47 with 2 x 30 round clips. If he misses 6 out of 10 shots and shoots 13 times at each drive-by shooting, how many drive-by shootings can he attend before he has to reload?
9. If Jim changes the oil in his Fish & Chip shop deep fryer every 18 months and this costs him \$400.00, how often should he change the oil if he wants to spend only \$180.00 per annum on new oil?
10. If Abdo runs a Donor Kebab shop and works as a Taxi driver on weekends and earns \$1,200.00 per week, how much does Centrelink give him for his job search allowance?
11. If Bankstown's ethnic community is increasing at a rate of 3.5% per month, the overall population increasing at 2.1% per month, at What rate are the Aussies leaving?

Inventors Corner

The self saucing surf boat seat is coming along nicely and I am developing a number of theories in the biology area. It's early days yet but it would seem to me from my extensive research that the concept may be more feasible with female rowers than with male rowers, hence the reason for my delving into biology text books. There is an answer there somewhere and I want to be the one to find it.

I have also been playing around with a few ideas to keep boat sweeps firmly planted at the back of the boat for the duration of each race. I have been in a couple of races where the sweep just fell out of the back of the boat. To stop this type of thing happening, I have been thinking about the idea of installing a sweep restraining device on a surf boat. Maybe a cage or a mast to which the sweep is strapped in tightly so that there will be no chance of the involuntary exit during a race. There may be a small problem in the event of the capsize of a surf boat and I was thinking that this could be overcome by strapping a set of aqua lungs onto the sweep in case he was strapped on the restrainer while upside down in the water. This project has a fair way to go but I have settled on a name for the device - "the Cassorestrainer".

Club Sponsors

Our sponsors are greatly appreciated and their support enables the Club to provide the facilities needed for us to function as a Surf Club.

We urge you, wherever possible, to support our sponsors and make yourselves known so that they know where you are from.

Our sponsors are:-

- Harbord Beach Hotel - famous and unique village hotel with great food and atmosphere.
- Bendigo Community Bank Harbord - a local bank which has provided great benefit to the Club during our short association. Go to Bendigo for your banking and credit needs.
- Freshwater Financial Services - Sean Richardson is the principal - a local mortgage broker who will look after your property lending needs.
- Roche Products
- Allan Hall & Partners
- Wong & Mayes
- Macquarie Bank
- Manly Aluminium Windows
- My Life
- All of the members of the South Curl Curl Surf Club

The Club is always in need of a sponsor and you are urged to keep your eyes open for any sponsorship opportunity that may arise for the benefit of the Club. In fact, the Club is looking for a sponsor for our new tent which offers the opportunity for great exposure of the sponsor's name.

Further, when we start our building improvements, we will need all of the financial support we can get.

Surf Award Training

Bryn Russell or Craig are the people to talk to if you want to enrol to get your Bronze Medallion, your Advanced Resuscitation Certificate or your Surf Certificate. If neither Bryn or Craig are around, Kevin Moffat will help you.

If you want to get your IRB licence, see Charlie Kuhn who will put you right.

There are members and ex members of our great little Club all over the place and I am sure that they all retain a great deal of fondness for the place. Once a member you are part of the community forever even if you don't come near the place for years.

I live next door to Nathan Perry who is a member of Mona Vale SLSC these days but he is still drawn to South Curl Curl. A few of our former members including one life member are up at North Curl Curl these days and good luck to them, we wish them well.

Flea and Gaye Michael are members of Merimbula SLSC on the South Coast where they run a popular curry restaurant. Flea is also sweeping a couple of crews.

Jim McInerney is patrolling the beaches of the United Arab Emirates and Ruth Moloney is cruising the West Coast of America. The Ashman spreading the good word in London and Mark Edo has opted for the country life at Mullumbimby. One thing remains constant, it is always good whenever you catch up with them.

Mal's Boat Report

We've had 3 boat carnivals since the last Pooh Bear that need reporting.

Firstly, Gus' A crew did very well at the inter branch championships at Crowdy Head on December 10th, representing the Northern Beaches Branch. After travelling up on Friday for a Saturday start the boys were told that they weren't required till Sunday, meaning they had a day to kill. From all accounts it was a very memorable day and night, all without a drop of alcohol, culminating in an interesting educational video about a girl called Debbie who spent some time in Dallas in the 70's. On Sunday, with small surf and great weather, South Curly went on to come 4th in the boats. Other Northern Beaches competitors who competed in novelty events like Ski & Board paddling etc also did very well, meaning that the Northern Beaches Branch won the overall point score.

There was mixed results during the 4th and final round of the Ocean Thunder, where finally there was a bit of surf to keep the spectators happy. Both the Women's and Men's crew rowed well but unfortunately neither crew made it to the final. The men's crew were rowing well in the semi final, and on approach to the beach were coming equal 2nd along with 3 other boats. However South Curly had a great advantage because Gus was the only sweep that had kept his boat pointing straight at his finishing flag. This meant that our bowman – Nathan "Chocks" Wilson - was in the best position to beat the others crews in the final sprint up the beach. It seemed that Curly would make it through to the final but at the last minute Bungan Beach, which had been leading the race, slewed across the field directly in front of South Curly, ending our quest for finals glory. The overall point score at the end of Round 4 had the Women's Crew finishing 5th and the Men's Crew finishing 6th. This was a huge improvement from last year's results, with South Curly winning a total of over \$5000 prize money.

The first carnival of 2007 was at held at Queenscliff. The best news on the day was that Ribs' Women's crews reaffirmed their dominance after winning the final. They performed well all day and still had enough energy to afterwards row back to Curly Beach - straight into a strong Nor' East breeze.

The season is starting to ramp up towards the Australian Championships at WA in March. Stay tuned for more action.

Mal Johnston
SCC Boat Captain

Drivers Wanted for Nullabor Plains

We are transporting a surfboat to Perth this year for the Australian Surf Titles by car which Ribs and Gus will kindly provide. The Club will meet the petrol and accommodation costs for the return trip.

Ribs and Denzil will drive to Perth and we are looking for volunteers to drive on the return trip from Perth to Sydney. If you are interested please contact Ribs or Charles Longley. It is a great journey that all of us should do at least once in a lifetime. Remember, the Club will pay for your accommodation on the trip.

The Gym

Sometimes the gym is left in an appalling state with sand all over the floor from wet feet, the covers left off the rowers, the doors left wide open and the fans left on overnight. It is a joke really and, in some clubs, the offenders would be disciplined if identified. Spates of this behaviour usually occur on a Tuesday night, probably after boat training. The offenders walk into the gym with wet and sandy bare feet and leave the place an absolute mess. These people have no respect for the gym and probably the Club. It is very disappointing. The Club appeals to all members to do the right thing, which is not particularly hard, and if you see somebody walk into the gym with wet, sandy feet, tell them to get out and return only when properly dressed. There are enough signs on the wall and it is only common courtesy. Come On!.

Archival Photographs Wanted

The Club would like copies of all recent photographs concerning the Club and its members to archive. If you have any interesting recent photos and you are willing to share them with us, please see Charlie Kuhn or Errol Jones. These photos will form an important part of the history of our Club.

Ribs -v- Gus - Intense Rivalry

I just learned, quite by accident, that last weekend a crew (Graham Opie, Mal Johnston, Tim Rodham and Jono Beavon) swept by Gus, came to grief just off the pool near the rocks. Most, if not all of the crew, were tipped into the ocean as a result. Graham, wishing to distance himself from the whole episode, claims that as he was out of the boat when it tipped, technically, he was not part of the crew. I will leave the readers to think about that argument. Back to the point though, it is quite uncanny, actually bordering on the suspicious, that Gus should come to grief in exactly the same spot that Ribs tipped over the IRB recently. This is competition at its best. "Whatever you can do, I can do better."

CHEERS