

COLLARROY SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

The COLLARROY CRAB

May 2026 Edition 21

www.collarroysurfclub.com.au



Thank You to Our Patrolling Members

As we wrap up the 2025/26 patrol season, we extend our heartfelt thanks to every patrolling member who dedicated their time, skills, and energy to keeping our beach safe. Your commitment is the backbone of our club and the reason our community can enjoy the surf with confidence.

This season our members logged **over 5,800 patrol hours** — an impressive increase of **600 hours (12%)** from last year. Across our **11 Patrols**, we were proudly supported by **18 qualified Patrol Captains**, **220 proficient Bronze Medallion holders**, **16 SRC-qualified members**, **40 Silver Medallion IRB Drivers**, and **54 IRB Crew Certificate holders**. These numbers reflect not just capability, but a culture of service and professionalism that defines Collaroy.

A special acknowledgement goes to the **114 members who completed between 10 and 50 hours**, and the **33 members who went above and beyond with more than 50 hours** on the beach. Your dedication sets the standard for all of us.

Thank you to every patrolling member for another outstanding season. Your efforts keep our community safe and uphold the proud traditions of Collaroy SLSC.

Mark Anderson
President



COLLAROYSLSC

You're Invited

A Night of Recognition

**SATURDAY
MAY 30, 2026**

6PM-11PM



**LONG REEF
GOLF CLUB**

**ANZAC AVENUE,
COLLARROY, NSW 2097**

**JOIN US FOR THE 2025-26 PRESENTATION NIGHT
AS WE CELEBRATE OUR MEMBERS'
ACHIEVEMENTS.**

RSVP TO EVENTS@COLLAROYSURFCLUB.COM.AU

**ENJOY A TWO-COURSE DINNER, DRINKS, LIVE
MUSIC AND DANCING!**

**DRESS CODE: COCKTAIL
THEME: A SPLASH OF GOLD**

ANZAC DAY SUNSET SERVICE



Once again, the Surf Club was a part of the Sunset Service at the Beach Club. Many members attended and patrolling members assisted the veterans onto the beach.





Each year, the boat crew that had the most successful season has the honour of laying the wreath at sea. This year it was the Giants who represented Sydney Northern Beaches Branch as well as Surf Life Saving Australia and were the recipients of the Australian Gold Medal in the Open Female Surfboat.







ABOUT THE WAR MEMORIAL AT COLLAROY BEACH

This above statue was commissioned by Warringah Council in 2015 and sits in the park between the Beach Club and the Surf Club, facing the out to sea. It depicts a little girl knitting socks for soldiers whilst sitting on a care package destined for the WWI battle fields.

In WWI, local women’s groups in Australia began working together to provide care packages containing items to supplement Australian soldiers’ army rations. Among the items sourced were tobacco, cakes, condensed milk, sugar and biscuits but one of the most urgently needed items were socks. Soldiers were unable to wash or dry their socks in the mud and cold of the trenches and Australian women and children knitted tens of thousands of socks. Many of these socks contained brief heartfelt messages from home.



THE KNITTING GIRL AND CARE PACKAGE

As hundreds of locals went to serve in WWI, those that remained rallied to support them.

Mrs Lilian Antill (widow) established and ran the "Citizens War Chest Fund", raising money to compile and send care packages to the troops.

As frontline soldiers trampled through cold and wet trenches, foot rot was as much a threat as the enemy. So, Mrs Antill coordinated volunteer efforts around Australia to sew clothes and knit desperately needed socks.

By the conclusion of the war she had arranged the delivery of more than 500,000 pairs of socks.

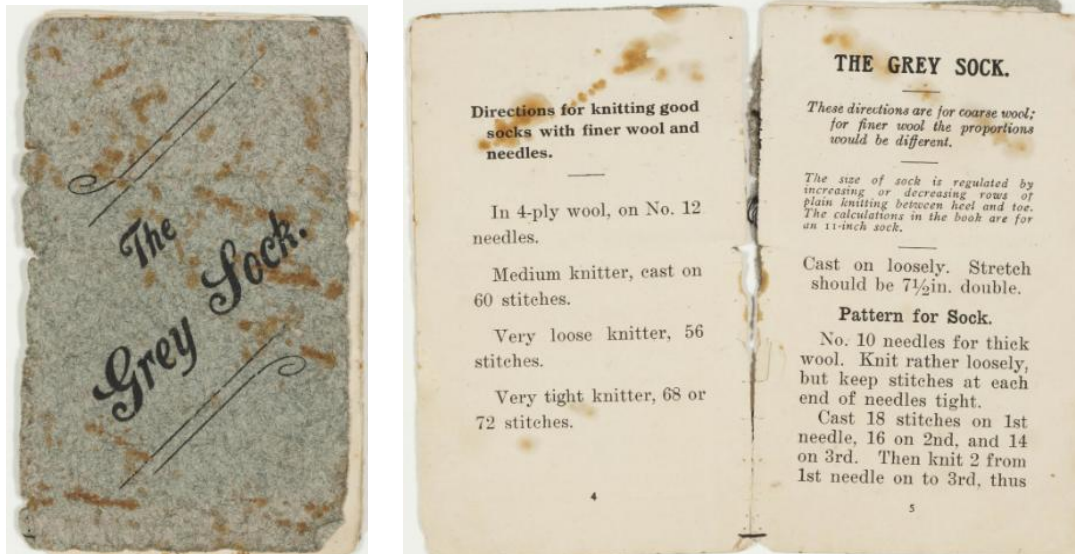
Overwhelmed with admiration for her efforts, Mr Frederick Sargood donated his beach house on the Collaroy Beach front to the "War Chest Fund". As fate would have it, the two were married at the end of the war in 1919.

For her efforts, Mrs Antill was awarded Commander of the British Empire (CBE) the highest imperial honour below a knighthood and the first won by a woman from New South Wales.

History from Families, Houses, War and Love by Rodney Cavalier

Above is a transcript of the plaque





'The Grey Sock' - small instruction book for knitting WWI Australian soldiers' socks (Courtesy: Grey Sock Fund)

FROM THE BAR.....



Reminder that the Club Bar is open every Sunday afternoon during winter. Come down and support the Club whilst watching the football. Happy Hour every Sunday !! Children welcome !!



We're excited to share that a number of our club members are now qualified Youth Mental Health First Aiders.

This means we have trained adults around the club who know how to spot when a young person might be struggling, how to start a supportive conversation, and how to guide them toward the right help.

They're not counsellors — they're caring, approachable people who are here to listen, reassure, and support our youth when things feel tough. Whether it's stress, anxiety, friendship issues, or something bigger, our YMHFAiders are ready to help.

If you, your child or anyone you know ever wants to talk to someone, just reach out to one of our trained members or ask a committee member to connect you. We're here for our young people, always.

To find out more visit <https://collarroysurfclub.com.au/youth-wellbeing>

Meet Our Youth Mental Health First Aiders

We're proud to introduce the club members who have completed accredited Youth Mental Health First Aid training:

Barry Muncke
Bella Dunkin
Ben Crabbe

Richard Trim
David Macintosh
Christian Loone

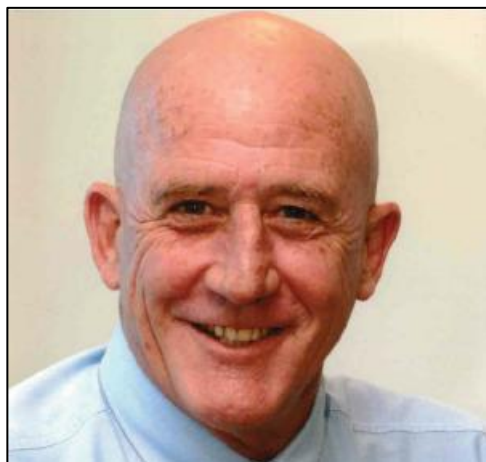
Janine Fahey
Ken Gittoes
Greg MacMahon

Sharon Bosward
Fiona Hall

These members are available for confidential, supportive conversations with any young person in our club. If you'd like to speak with one of them, feel free to approach them directly or contact the club to arrange a private chat.

SCATTERING OF CHRIS BRADFORD'S ASHES – SUNDAY 10 MAY 2026

Last Sunday, the ashes of former member, Chris Bradford were scattered off Collaroy. Chris passed away on 28 May 2025 at the age of 76.



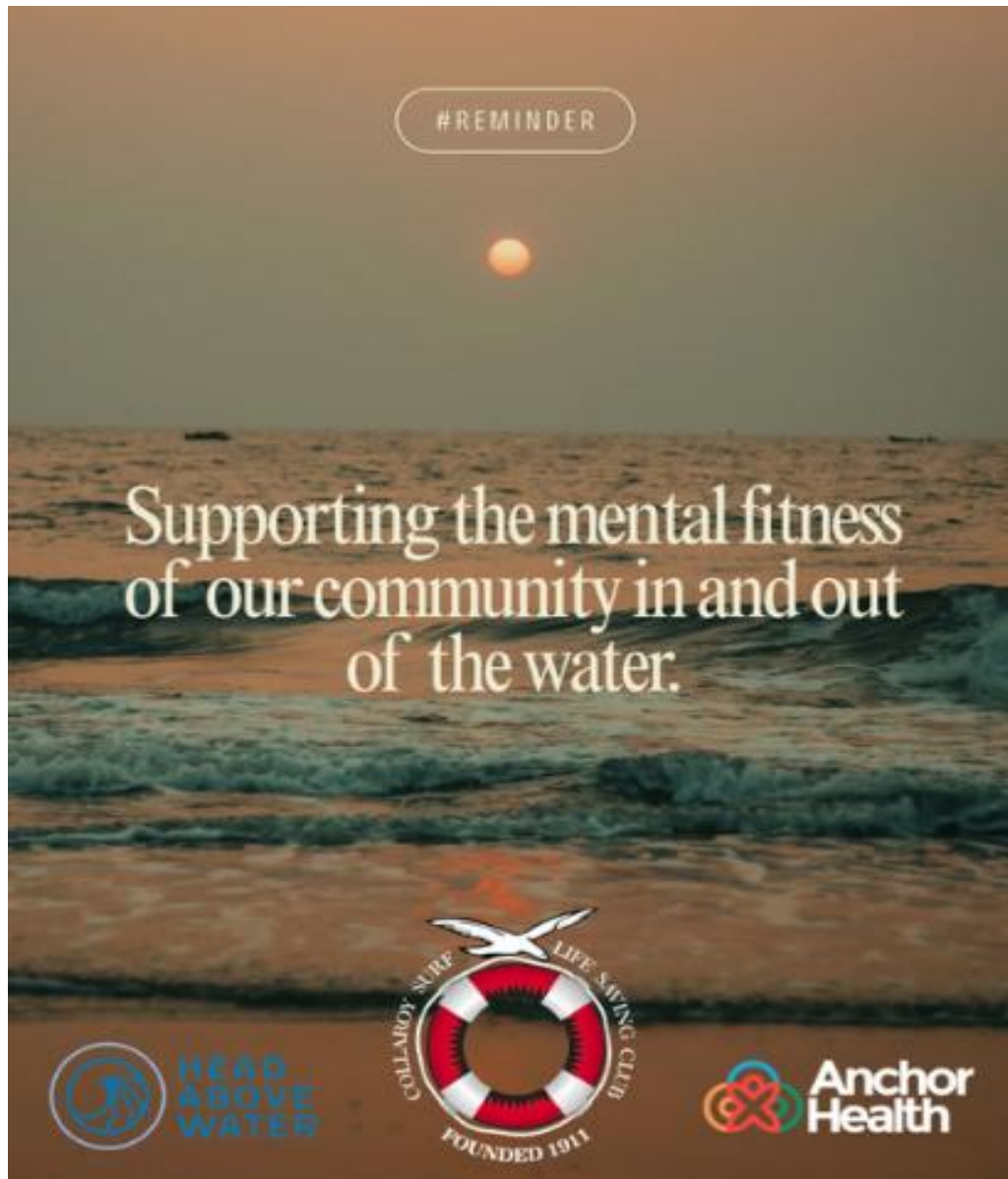
Chris joined the Club in 1965 as a 16 year old and obtained his bronze medallion. He was a talented swimmer and in 1967 and 1969, was selected to represent Australia; the only member of the Club to be selected in two representative teams. In 1967, Chris won the Australian Junior Surf Title and the following year, won the Australian Open Surf Race.

At the State Titles in 1966 at North Wollongong, the prize for the club with the most points was a new surf boat, fully equipped and sponsored by Viscount Cigarettes. The last event of the Championships was the Junior Surf Race and Collaroy were half a point in front of North Bondi, who had a champion swimmer. Collaroy had two qualifiers in the final, Chris Bradford and Brook Worthington. Both boys swam brilliantly and finished 2nd and 4th and the Club won the pointscore and took home the surf boat.

During his career, Chris won three Australian golds, three State golds and four Branch gold medals. The full obituary can be read in last year's Annual Report.







CLUB DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30 May 2026	Club Ball /Presentation Night – Long Reef Golf Club - details to follow
Date tbc	Presentation of Lifesaving Awards
2 August 2026	Club AGM 11am

BEACH CLUB RAFFLES

Reminder that on the 4th Saturday of every month, our Surf Club members sell raffle tickets at the Beach Club. Prizes are seafood and Beach Club vouchers and all monies raised from these ticket sales goes directly to support the Surf Club. Come along and support our members and the raffle. Drawn at 5.30pm.

FROM THE HISTORY BOOKS.....

Some fun facts about the Aussies (Source SLSA Website – March 2015)

Fact #1

In 1915 there were only two championship events, the Rescue and Resuscitation (R and R) and the Surf Race Championships. Today there are over 380 events held at The Aussie titles.

Fact #2

Did you know that The Aussies have been attended by members of the royal family on at least three occasions?

Fact #3

Did you know that in 1989 Craig Riddington was the only swimmer to finish the surf race course due to cyclonic conditions at Burleigh?

Fact #4

The first ever Australian Ironman championship was won by Hayden Kenny at Coolangatta beach in 1966. There has always been a bit of controversy over this one as some claim it was only a trial event however an official program confirms its championship status.

Fact #5

1947 a huge crowd and cyclonic conditions marked the first year that The Aussies were held in Queensland in Southpoint-Greenmount.

Fact #6

Samantha O'Brien was the first ever winner of the Ironwoman in 1992 in Collaroy which was then known as the Ella Bache Ironman Championship of Australia.

Fact #7

Did you know that from 1937 until 1979 The Aussies hosted a Pillow Fight Event?

Fact #8

In 1956 The Aussies were held in Torquay, Victoria to coincide with the Olympic Games. To celebrate the Olympics there was a secondary carnival held the weekend before The Aussies involving teams from New Zealand, Ceylon, South Africa, Great Britain, Hawaii, England and the USA. One of the special guests for this event was the Duke Kahanamoku, of Hawaii, who had introduced surfboard riding to Sydney in 1915.

Fact #9

In 1975 there was a demonstration rescue race between a helicopter, jet boat, rescue board, belt swimmer and IRB. The rest of the rescue techniques were blown out of the water by the IRB.

Fact #10

In 2013 the number of lunches provided to Officials and contractors on the Saturday of the Championships broke the 700 mark for the first time ever.

Fact #11

The first official Australian SLSA team to compete overseas was in 1939 when they competed in Honolulu

Fact #12

Beach Flags were introduced into The Aussies in the 1947 Southport-Greenmount carnival. The first ever winner of the Open Men's Flags was R. Kille from Surfers Paradise. This much loved event is now arguably one of the competitions most iconic events.

Fact #13

After snapping his board in two on the paddle out to sea in the 1981 Ironman Greg Allum paddled half a board to qualify for the final. He subsequently finished second to Grant Kenny.

Fact #14

In the 1980 Aussies held in Maroochydore Grant Kenny won both the junior and senior Ironman titles at age 16.

Fact #15

1962 was the first time ever that The Aussies went to compete in the Antarctic cold waters of Tasmania. That year the carnival was split between Carlton-Hobart and West Beach Burnie

Fact #16

The Malibu event was started in 1966. The association had been growing concerned about the number of men it was losing to the then recent board riding craze. The association believed that the event would provide a high degree of skill for a rescue craft, a spectacle for onlookers and attract more malibu riders back to Surf Life Saving.

Fact #17

Did you know that the only time the Aussies haven't been held since 1915 was between 1941 and 1945 when the Second World War was occurring.

Fact #18

Wanda SLSC had the R&R team to beat back in the 80's winning 4 successive Open 6 Man R&R's with the same team from 1985 to 1988. The team consisted of G. Allum, G. Dyson, I. McGuinness, N. McGuinness, C. Wetherall, C. Ricketts and their instructor R. Sandstrom.

Fact #19

Did you know that in 1982 Sharon Muddle was the first female since 1920 to win a Gold Medal at The Aussies. That year she was swimming for in the Elouera Cadet Surf Team.

Fact #20**Hero Profile:**

Ken Vidler is without a doubt one of The Aussies all time greats.

Ken boasts 20 Aussie Gold Medals.

Ironman 73, 75, 76.

Junior Ironman 71, 72.

Junior Ski, 72

Ski Relay, 74, 75,76,80, 81.

Ski, 75, 76, 80, 84.

Double Ski 78,79, 81,84.

Taplin relay, 71.

Ken also represented Australia three times in canoeing at the World Championships and was part of the 1980 Olympic team.

Fact #21

The Aussies have seen some brotherly love with the Mercer brothers Dean and Darren taking an equal share of Gold medals in the Open Ironman. Dean winning twice in 1989 and 1995 and Darren getting his share in 1996 and 1997. In 1989 they even came in first and third in the same event sharing the podium with Trevor Hendy who came in second.

Fact #22

Have you ever wondered where the Reel originated? It was at Bondi that the first surf reel originated. This is a 1906 photo from Bondi of one of Bondi and the world's first reels – unfortunately with its old fashioned, cumbersome and dangerous cork-filled belts this classic would certainly not pass current safety standards.

Fact #23

The one thing that Merewether will long be remembered for is the huge and violent sea. During the preparation and set up, the Merewether duty boat came down the front of a giant wave and landed bow first on the shallow sand bank. The result was a written off surf boat. Such was the damage that the club members could pass the pieces through the window of the clubhouse.

Fact #24

In the 2005 Aussies at Kurrawa the Open Iron Man and Open Iron Woman were taken out by the Smith family with Nathan Smith and Krystal Smith taking out Gold in their respective events.

Fact #25

Part 1 The Army meets The Aussies, North Collaroy 1992:

Did you know that the Army provided support for the championships, with field kitchens, landing barges, Larks and their own radio communications team, with a member alongside The Aussies radiocom team which had taken over the Narrabeen SLSC clubhouse for Radiocom HQ.

The comms between the two groups were first class and contributed to the smooth running of the championships. The highlight for the Radio team was taking a trip out in a LARK.

Fact #26

Part 2 The Army meets The Aussies, North Collaroy 1992:

The duty boat this year was a landing barge and it was serviced from the beach by two LARKS (army ducks) and several IRBs. The big landing barges were used for the Judge in Boat role in the Boat Area. The IRB crew thought it was great until they went out there. Plenty of room on board to move around but the barges rolled with the swell and most of them ended up seasick.

Fact #27

We would like to take this opportunity to remember the Late Harry Windmill who kept all competitors, coaches, officials and spectators enthralled with his trivial pursuit questions and prizes during a number of years as R & R commentator.

Fact #28

Did you know that Peter Lacey won a medal at every Aussie's for 21 years between 1963 and 1983. In that time he won 13 Gold, 13 Silver and 9 Bronze medals at the Australian Championships and another 4 Gold, 6 Silver and 1 Bronze in the Interstate and Associated events. In 1982 at the 75th Anniversary dinner Lacey was recognised as one of the most successful Australian Championship competitors ever along with Ken Vidler and Steve Warren.

Fact #29

Did you know that the Open Ironman Championship was only introduced to the championship in 1966 Coolangatta after the Aussies competed in the American equivalent of swim, board and dory paddles.

Fact #30

Legend has it that in 1961 Keith 'Spas' Hurst and his Mollymook crew arrived at Burnie without any accommodation booked and so Spas raced up to the local radio station and appealed for help. He was inundated with offers and the hospitality must have been too good as they let Wanda slip through and beat them in the Championship.

Fact #31

Jodi Larsen from Cronulla SLSC was the winner for the first ever Open Women's Surf Race in 1985. She was also the first female to be selected in an Australian representative surf team in 1985.

Fact #32

In the 50's, 60's and 70's there was only one microphone between the 3-4 announcers. Jim Switzer, Maurie Webb, Ron Bennett and Raymond Brown all had to wait for a call of nature to have a chance at announcing. Rumour has it that there was a lot of competition between the four around who could hold on the longest.

Fact #33

The interstate seas did not stop a comparative new-comer from WA, Don Morrison, who won four Senior Belt Championships and placed in another six between 1948 and 1959. Eventually stamping himself as one of if not the best ever Open Belt Champion

Fact #34

In 1970 at Ocean Grove, gale force winds, rain, freezing cold (some said sleet), John Holt won the first ever Junior Ironman Championship

Fact #35

Did you know that Dennis Heussner won five longboard championships between 1962 and 1971?

Fact #36

There has also been some more father/son love in the Allum family with Greg and Chris both having been winners of Ironman Championships (Open/U16) as well as little brother Hayden coming in second in the U19s. (Editor's Note: The Allum name continues with Greg's grandchildren now competing at the Aussies).

Fact #37

In the early days of competition The Aussies were almost solely held around the Sydney area. In the post WWII years, the carnival finally moved interstate with it's first out of NSW competition being held in the Gold Coast in 1947. This was an enormous opportunity for SLS members and was significant to the development and modernisation of the sport.

Fact #38

Did you know that in 2014 the Eckstein brothers came in first and second in the Ironman. Shannon coming in first with his younger brother Caine coming in second. This was the first time a brother duo have taken out the 1st and 2nd place in The Aussies Open Ironman!

Fact #39

Did you know that the legend Australian Olympic swimmer Andrew (Boy) Charlton was also a Gold medallist at The Aussies. In 1935 his team which included Noel Ryan, Phil Smith and Eric Clift took out Gold in the Open Surf Team event.

Fact #40

Surf Lifesaving has seen a number of champions. Dennis Green is definitely one of them. The Double Ski master of Surf Sports not only holds a hoard of Golds from The Aussies Double Ski event but he was also the first Australian athlete to represent their country at five Olympic games. Dennis Green is now a member of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

Fact #41

In 1988 at Sutherland Shire the Aussies celebrated the bicentenary of Australia. As part of this championship the Royal Australian Navy destroyer sat in Bate Bay behind the cans and our Rescue Helicopter flew the biggest Australian flag outside of parliament house. It should be noted that it took 8 hours to get the ship into position and another 6 hours to say good bye.

Fact #42

Did you know that Zane Holmes has won every individual water event at The Aussies except for the Surf Ski.

Fact # 43

Did you know that one of Australia's Surfing Greats, Geoffrey Emerson, who was one of the people to revolutionise the short board and one of the first people to tackle Bells Beach on a big day, was also the first Victorian to medal at The Aussies. He won a Bronze medal for the Junior Belt Race in Manly 1948 in what they say was 20ft swell. This was a big deal for the Victorian Surf Life Saving movement as competition played a major role in the retention and recruitment of membership.

Fact #44

A family history of Gold. In 2014 Kurt Hanson joined both of his grandfathers on the champions board when he won the Open Male Surf Belt. The late Fred Hanson, won the Australian single ski title in 1948 and John Mills won four Australian Open R & R gold medals in 1953, 54, 59 and 60.

Fact #45

The surf was so massive in Bancoora, Victoria 1977 that the swimming events were transferred to a bay named Cowards Corner. Legend has it that Bill Sharry exclaimed to Jack Dearlove, "well you've done a great job there, you've sent all the swimmers around to Cowards Corner and you've left us here...if I could swim I wouldn't be rowing boats"

Fact #46

Did you know that Pt Lonsdale (VIC) not only won the invitation/demonstration Women's Boat Race at The Aussies 1995 but they also won the first ever official Open Women's Boat race at The Aussies at Kurrawa, 1997.

Fact #47

In 1981 at Wanda they had to finish the beach flags with a number of the workforce vehicles all parked along the side of the flags pit with their lights on to ensure they could finish as the sun was setting.

Fact #48

Did you know that prior to three women's events being added to The Aussies carnival women used to compete with the men in the Surf Ski, Ironman, Boat Races and IRB races?

Fact #49

Did you know that the Club Cap Colour Guide was first published in the 1998 Aussies program and every year since. The order of the caps is based on colour and the Herbert Voigt Club Cap Recognition Scheme. The guide is a great way of helping people recognise athletes clubs when they are out in the surf, as well as highlighting just how confusing it is to identify a club as so many clubs share the same cap colours.

Fact #50

The concept of the First Aid competition at the Aussies was put forward by Paul King of Port Fairy SLSC in Victoria who then went on to win the first two gold medals in 1982 & 1983 with his partner. Paul won again in 1985.

Fact #51

The March Past event started in 1920, and was first won by Cook's Hill. But did you know that in 1966 at Coolangatta, there was a triple dead-heat between Bundaberg, Merewether and South Curl Curl?

Fact #52

Did you know that 1975 was the first time IRBs were used in an Australian Championship to set out buoys. Legend has it that the buoys were first taken out to sea in a surf boat but were dropped a bit too far so Harry Brown asked Cliff Spong and John Fallon from Soldiers Beach SLSC if they could pick up and lay the cans in the correct position. Which they did without hesitation meaning that Cliff went out crewing an IRB with a broken leg.

Fact #53

The Aussies haven't been held in a regional location since 1963 when they were held in Warrnambool Victoria. Although most agreed the beach was great, there was definitely a lack of accommodation which caused many to find alternative sleeping arrangements. Many would argue that sleeping in a UTE is probably not the best option pre-race day.

Fact #54

Barry Rodgers is undoubtedly one of The Aussies all time greats. His career began in 1958 when he won the Junior Belt and continued all the way into Veterans. Some experts have claimed that no one has ever equalled his surf sense. There has been another important claim made about Barry too, apparently he used to take 24 sandwiches with him to work every day and would finish them off by morning tea time.

Fact #55

Did you know that at the 1980 Aussies in Maroochydore, the US TV Giant, HBO brought 13 camera teams to shoot an episode of their US distributed Television show. The result was, 'USA Box Office Australian Championships 1980' and Grant Kenny was one of its stars.

Fact #56

In true Victorian fashion the 1970 carnival at Ocean Grove saw beautiful weather and sporting surf on the Friday for interstates and the total opposite on Saturday (the first day of The Aussies) with huge swells, wet and cold weather and heavy winds. The duty power boat found itself swamped some 500 yards off the beach and had to be rescued and most of the surf events were shifted to a protected beach West of Ocean Grove, which coined the nickname Cowards Cove.

Fact #57

In 1967 Graham Lawson beat his identical twin brother Greg to win the Open Beach Sprint. Greg had beaten him all year but Graham pipped him at the post in the Championship. This was the brothers first season in Surf Lifesaving and the first time ever identical twins finished first and second at The Aussies. The Lawsons had been following a training program from the great Johnny Bliss to the letter. 1967 was also the first time since the race's inception in 1920 that someone from outside NSW had won the title.

Fact #58

In many minds NSW was the genesis for beach events. Nth Narrabeen's Johnny Bliss is the doyen of sprints and relays. Bliss won 4 Aussie titles in the sprints despite there being no titles during the peak of his career during WWII. He also won four beach relays and placed eight times. Unfortunately a dog ruined his last ever event as a relay runner in 1968 at the NSW titles at Kingscliff where Nth Narrabeen originally finished 1st only to be beaten in a re-run because a competitor tripped over a dog.

Fact #59

As many of you might know Natalie Hood was not only a medallist at The Aussies but she was and Olympic Kayak competitor. However one thing most people wouldn't know about Natalie Hood was that she was also the first female to be awarded The Lifesaver of the Year award in 1990.

Fact #60

At the 1932 Bondi Championship the Lake Macquarie Boats team was the first country club ever to take home a Gold coming in ahead of Cronulla and Palm Beach. The quote of the day was "the redoubtable men from Lake Macquarie, the Swansea SLSC came down to snatch the championship of 1932 from the metropolitan contenders, the first country club to contrive to do that."

Fact #61

Q: What is unique about the presentations for the March Past and the R&R events?

A: The coaches are also awarded a medal.

Fact #62

Does anyone remember competing in the Chariot Race? This was another one of the more 'novelty' competitions that the titles held as a way for lifesavers to demonstrate their skills.

Fact #63

Here's some Aussies trivia for everyone.

Q: In which event can you cross the line first, but not win the event?

A: Surf Team

Fact #64

Did you know that Simon Harris has won more Golds in beach flags than any other competitor, currently sitting on 10 wins (in 2015). Depending on the number of entries in a particular year he could have had to line up between 32 and 40 times to win one Gold, times that by ten years and that's a lot of sprinting.

Fact # 65

Did you know that there have been three teams to win four March pasts in a row and Bundaberg is the only club to do so twice. Newcastle 1921 – 24;
Bundaberg 1959 – 1962 and 1982 – 1985;
Collaroy 1974 – 1977.

Fact #66

The 1991 Championships in Scarborough, WA were the first to have a FM Broadcast Transmission of the carnivals public address system on SLSA FM 90.5. The convenience of listening to the program from 'Observation City Hotel' was popular with the competitors staying there, who could relax in their rooms between their events whilst staying up to date with the events happenings.

Fact #67

Beach flags used to be called Musical flags as they played music and the signal to go was when it stopped.

Fact #68

Q: Theoretically in which event can you win the event without completing the course?

A: Beach flags...if every other competitor breaks!

Fact #69

Barry Rogers from Maroubra had won the Ironman for the two years before Clifton Beach in 1969. The surf was big the day of the 69 competition at Clifton Beach and Barry was in line for a close third in the last leg of the race until a huge wave popped up and smothered the first three competitors (Barry included). Then all of a sudden out of the froth of the wave came two giant arms and a Maroubra cap. Barry was the only one of the three who managed to surf it into the beach. The crowd went crazy, apparently It was a magnificent performance.

Fact #70

Did you know that there have been a number of Rugby Greats who have competed in beach events at The Aussies? One that stands out to us is Ken Wright. He competed at The Aussies between 1970 and 1976 for Coogee and then again in the 80's for Bondi. During his time he won Gold medals in the Beach Flags and Beach Relay events in the juniors and cadets. He then went on to play Rugby Union for the Wallabies between 1975-1978 before switching codes and playing for the Roosters from 1979-1981 and the Rabbitohs from 1982-1983. (Editor's Note: Also Damien Cook)

Fact #71

Did you know that the Dirty Dozen date back to 1973 where the original group of 7 scored themselves an invite to an official SLSA function at which everyone else was wearing their white pants, white shoes and blue blazers and the then coined 'dirty dozen' were still in their dirty and sweaty work gear after moving and fixing equipment all day. Their motto 'say yes and keep walking' began at the 1980 titles and has stuck ever since.

Fact #72

Did you know that a number of The Aussies legends appeared in an episode of Baywatch? In the episode Trevor Hendy even beat the Hoff in the sprint finish! Some of the stars of this episode include Trevor Hendy (Surfers Paradise), Phil Clayton (Kurrawa), Dwayne Thuys (Surfers Paradise), Matt Rees (Swansea-Belmont), Brett Tyack (South Curl Curl), Michael King (Mooloolaba) and Scott Thompson (North Bondi).

Fact #73

Did you know that in 1962 Tasmania put on a 'Dance to Welcome visitors' at the Hobart City Hall to welcome the crowd of 20,000 people who turned up for The Aussies.

Fact #74

Did you know that two Aussies athletes competed together at The Olympics? They were Barry Kelly and Grant Kenny and they won a Bronze medal in the K2 1000m at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984.

Fact #75

Before retiring from the sport in 1998 Trevor Hendy won six Australian Ironman Championships, 24 Aussie Gold Medals and was captain of the Australian Surf Team. Trevor has since made two come backs, one in 2001 when he won his 25th gold medal and another in 2012 amazingly competing in ten Open events ten years after his second retirement from the sport.

Fact #76

Did you know that the winning Open Surf Team in 1950 at The Aussies in Greenmount, was the first team ever to win with their team members crossing the line in 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place. The team members were Tassie Barnett, Max Stringer, Neil Stringer and John Vaughan from North Wollongong.

Fact #77

Did you know that Tugun have the record for the most Open Taplin relay wins in a row winning five between 2002 and 2006?

Fact #78

Question: In which event do you win without finishing on the water's edge or the sand?

Answer: The Belt Race

Fact #79

Ordinarily it takes one anchor to hold a buoy down for the R&R, however due to the fast flowing channel in 1989 at Burleigh it took 5 anchors on one side and 3 anchors on the other to hold the buoys down.

Fact #80

Did you know that Gordon Jeffery was the first Queenslander to win a ski title at The Aussies in 1960. He then went on to win the single ski in 1966 and make the Olympic Kayak team in 1964, 1968 and 1972. He has also won 35 Gold, 10 silver and 3 bronze medals in The Aussies Masters. Gordon was also one of Clint Robinson's trainers. Gordon won his last Gold medal at age 73 in the 2009 World Masters Games in Sydney.

Fact #81

The star of The Aussies either side of WWII was undoubtedly Bobby Newbiggin, whose dominance in the Open surf race was stopped only by his military service flying planes over Germany.

Fact #82

At the 1989 Championships at Burleigh Heads Dean Mercer won the open Ironman Championship after swimming what appeared to be way off course. However as he approached the level of the buoys the swell had moved him up to the swimming cans setting up a huge lead for him to take out first place while the other competitors were being washed to the north and struggling to get around the cans.

Fact #83

So many of the athletes from The Aussies have gone onto compete at the Olympics, but did you know that we even have at least one athlete who has gone on to compete at the Winter Olympics? Cam Bolton from Portsea and Half Moon Bay SLSCs in Victoria did, competing in Snowboarding at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

TEAM COLLAROY



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Team Collaroy

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Signup and search for "Team Collaroy".

3

REQUEST ACCESS

Request access to the Team/s you belong to or for all club messages join "General Members".

