

JANUARY 2024

The Warbesulisac



From the Club

After a little winter hiatus the Warbesulisac returns and we are excited to share a whole lot of work that is happening behind the scenes at the club as we settle into Summer.

In this edition, you'll find a flurry of updates, dates to lock in and run downs of some highlights from the start of the New Year including the Current Cruiser. The club would like to thank and acknowledge the incredible work of Paul Minahan who is the driving force behind this growing event. Lock 1 January 2025 into your calendars now!

We are extending the call for volunteers – with a few key volunteers moving on after years of summers at WBSLSC, we are hoping to spread the load and invite everyone to make a voluntary role (big or small) part of their commitment to the club. The response so far has been wonderful and we thank everyone who has put their hand up to help!

Connect with us

Follow WBSLSC on Instagram and Facebook for the latest news and events.

 facebook.com/WBSLSC1963

 [@waratahbeachslsc](https://instagram.com/waratahbeachslsc)

Renew your membership

Have you renewed your membership for the upcoming season yet?
[Renew here!](#)

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT WBSLSC?

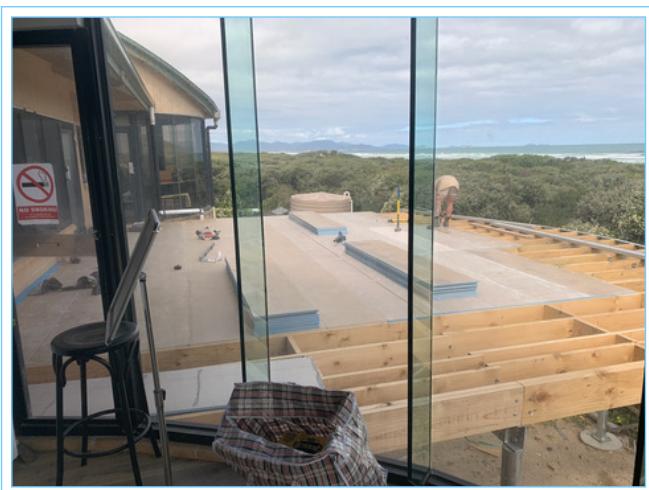
The Club will be looking fresh when you drop in over throughout January, if you haven't already been in! We've had teams of trades working right up until Christmas to finish improvements to the club including a now extended deck, a new toilet block, a much needed facelift to the bunk rooms and a wonderful new kitchen for members which will support both club events and camps, as well as functions. The big plus is that the old toilets and showers are now more in line with the Club's responsibilities for Member Protection.

The first Bronze camp of the season took place, with Bronzies enjoying the newly refurbished members area, bunk room and kitchen. We were so impressed at how well they looked after this new space and are pleased that we have created something that they can be proud to take care of.

Have a look at a sneak-peak of the progress in the photos below. We hope that we get to see all of our members and friends enjoying live music on the expanded deck on a lovely summer evening.

Associate members are welcome to spend time on the deck during the day even when the social room is not open. Please be ready to show your Associate membership card. If you don't have a card yet, please ask at the bar. This offer is not part of Social Membership.

Send us a photo of your group having a coffee under the umbrellas, reading that holiday book you brought down, or playing cards.



Note: Access to the lower toilets and the deck

The lower toilets accessed from the back yard, are available to all full members – Active, Associate and Family members – when the front gates are open. Just a reminder, the general public and those who have purchased a Social Membership which gives them and their guests to access the social room when the bar is open, should be respectfully directed to the public toilets in front of the shops to minimise the cleaning other members have to do!

A CALL TO ACTION

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We have been so fortunate to have an incredibly talented and friendly bunch of new volunteers help us across all areas of the Waratah Beach SLSC this year.

If you are interested in helping and can spare an hour or more in any capacity, please jump on and complete the following expression of interest form and we will be in touch very soon.

<https://forms.office.com/r/uWanKxzRdr>

Waratah Beach SLSC is 100% volunteer-run and led, so please take the time to shoot us a smile and thankyou as you head past the volunteers you see throughout the season!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewals are now open for the 2023/2024 season!

Please go to <https://members.sls.com.au> to renew your membership.

It is a requirement of our Liquor Licence that we require groups attending the Warabar to be accompanied by at least one member, so it's important that you renew your membership before you come and enjoy the view from the deck (and don't forget about the members discount). For any membership questions, please email our new Membership Secretary - Clare Murray.

membership@waratahbeach.com.au

FUNDRAISING

Over the last three years we have made some big investments to the building after 24 years of reasonably trouble free use. Hopefully everyone feels welcome and members are able to go about their patrols and spend time in a relaxed and pleasant environment. The fact that the bar in the social room brings in revenue allows us to better keep up with maintenance of the building, and provide better facilities for members and increasingly for others in the community. A super big thank you to the new and old faces who volunteer so much time.

Although government and other grants are often available for lifesaving equipment that directly relates to patrols, everything else we do is funded by the Club, from maintenance of the building and the public access track from the shops over to the beach, through to cleaning equipment and toilet paper.

Please let us know if there is a person or company we can talk to about sponsorship president@waratahbeach.com.au

To donate, please follow the QR codes:



Building Fund



Bunkroom Mattresses



Track Maintenance



General Donation

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND UPDATES

NEW WARABAR OPENING HOURS!

We will now be open through all of January so all our community can enjoy the incredible new deck and facilities overlooking the stunning Prom and Waratah Bay. Dive into a summer of giving and good vibes at #warabar hosted by Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club!

By coming to the Warabar, you not only get the best views in town but also support our community-driven initiatives. All proceeds go back into our fantastic work to keep our shores safe.

Indulge in hot food, groove to live music, and be part of the ultimate beachfront experience. Whether you're a seasoned beach enthusiast or a first-timer, everyone's welcome to join the fun at our Club.

Your presence makes a difference! Let's make this summer memorable together.

VENUE HIRE

With unparalleled views, Waratah Beach SLSC is a spectacular location for that special occasion. We are taking bookings two years ahead now for functions using combinations of the social room and deck, for shared or exclusive use, with and without bar service and catering.

Please email info@waratahbeach.com.au.



CHILD SAFE REQUIREMENTS

Having a WWC check is a requirement of all members 18 years and older. As long as you have a passport quality photo, you can get the check done online at zero cost if you are a volunteer with the Club.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

If you already have a WWC card from another organisation, please ensure that you have recorded the Club on your details. You can read the club's child safe policy on the website.



6th ANNUAL WIN NETWORK CURRENT CRUISER

CURRENT CRUISER RUN DOWN

We were treated with an amazing window of beautiful weather for the 6th annual WIN Current Cruiser on New Years Day at Shallow Inlet. Over 200 people took part in the water on the day with several hundred onlookers watching from the sand. This year tide times allowed us to run the swim so that it finished at the carpark - it was really nice exiting the swim to cheering and encouraging onlookers. Well done to all place getters, especially overall winners, in the 500m Maggie Spriggs (8:30) and Lewis Sumaru (9:16), and in the 1,500m Andrew Steer (16:48) and Alice Miliani (18:05), congratulations!

Volunteers from the Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club provided water safety for those in the water (and on the land) to make this Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club fundraising event run smoothly and safely. Backup safety was provided by the LSV drone team who travelled to be a part of the event and we even managed to convince the LSV helicopter to come out and do a flyover, always exciting.

This year we introduced a new event, the Driftwood Villas Family Float, where participants of all ages brought a floatation device and jumped into the current and travelled 500m under the watchful eye of WBSLSC water safety team. This event was so popular I am sure it will be incorporated into the agenda as a regular event in the Current Cruiser festival.

The day closed out with a lively musical performance in the sun on the new WBSLSC surf club balcony with popular covers and originals by Melbourne 5 piece rock band Dynasty.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, especially the swimmers, the sponsors, the helpers on the day, water safety, supporters and those patrollers who stayed on the main beach to keep a look out, collectively you all helped the club generate a much appreciated funds that go towards new equipment and training for the volunteer lifesavers as well as the maintenance and operation of the club.



ONE MORE WEEK OF NIPPERS



It's not too late to join the Nippers on the beach. The incredible Nippers team have put together answers to some FAQs. We'd love to see even more Nippers and helpers down on the beach this year - don't forget to register - there is one week left.

How do I sign up?

Returning members can renew their membership and your Nipper is automatically registered for the season. New members need to complete a membership application and nominate their child. Once a child is registered as a member, they are automatically registered for Nippers.

When does Nippers run?

Nippers runs on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:00am (arrive at 9:15am for registration). We started on Wed 27th Dec 2023, and run through to Fri 12th Jan 2024. Club Championships day is Fri 12th Jan 2024. Don't forget your Crazy Caps on Wednesday.

Does my child have to attend every session?

No, but we recommend your child attends as many sessions as possible pick up the skills, meet new friends and have fun.

Do I have to stay on the beach?

Yes. Nippers is not a baby-sitting or drop-off service. You must be on the beach for safety reasons AND we really need parent/guardian assistance for set up and pack up and Nipper Helpers.

Can I just show up?

You need to register your child/family as new member or renew your membership prior to attending a session.

Who do I contact?

Contact the Nippers team: nippers@waratahbeach.com.au

What do I need to bring?

Wet suit, sunscreen, goggles, water bottle.

Do I need to buy uniform before hand?

You can buy the uniform prior to any session. Pink rashie and Club Cap must be worn for each session, otherwise your child cannot participate. \$24 for the pink rash vests and \$10 for the club caps.

What age can they be?

Children must be 5 years old at 30th September 2023.

OTHER UPDATES

SLSA National Leadership College

Congratulations to our very own Chief Instructor and Club Director Sarah Seddon on being selected for Surf Life Saving Australia's National Leadership College in February next year. We have no doubt you will do us proud and bring back some amazing opportunities for our club.

Bluebottle Jellyfish

In the past few days, there have been a number of Bluebottles washing up on the beach at Waratah. Please be mindful and if you are stung, follow the advice of Life Saving Victoria.

- Seek assistance from lifesavers and alert other water users
- Pick off any tentacles (this is not dangerous to the rescuer) and rinse sting area well with seawater to remove invisible nematocysts
- Place the victim's sting area in hot water (no hotter than the patient can comfortably tolerate) for 20 minutes
- If local pain is unrelieved by heat, or if hot water is not available, apply a cold pack or ice in a dry plastic bag
- If pain persists or is generalised, if the sting area is large (half a limb or more), or involved sensitive areas (e.g. the eye) call an ambulance (dial 000)

Helping to save our planet

WBSLSC has been approved as a Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) Vic East donation partner. By returning eligible containers to a drop off point and scanning the bar code below, you can raise money for the club. Learn more here: <https://cdsvic.org.au/donating>



WE'RE LOOKING FOR SUPPORT

We are seeking volunteers to support the smooth running of the 2023/24 season. If you can help in any capacity - please get in touch via the website or by reaching out to a member of the board.

waratahbeach.com.au

facebook.com/WBSLSC1963

instagram.com/waratahbeachslsc/

January

Updated 18th December

Camps & training

Nippers

Major events

Warabar

 Beach Patrolled

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
1  Dynasty WIN Network Current Cruiser	2  Meg Doherty Nippers	3  Nippers	4 	5  Fiona Curram Nippers	6  Can rattle fundraiser Nippers Film Night	7  Meg Doherty Bronze Camp
8  Nippers Bronze Camp	9  Nippers	10  Nippers	11 	12  Fiona Curram Nippers Club Champs and Awards	13 	14  Dev Camp
15 	16 	17 	18 	19 	20 	21 
Bass District Lifesaving Development Camp						
22 	23 	24 	25 	26 	27  Fiona Curram	28 
29 	30 	31 	WARABAR Open: 4PM - 8.30PM , open later if busy Each night December 26 until the end of Jan Saturday nights until Easter			

The Warabar will remain open on Saturdays until Easter.

We are calling for volunteers to assist over the summer, please register your interest here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/uWanKxzRdr>

AN UPDATE FROM WARATAH BEACH MSAR

Sandy Point's Marine Search and Rescue (MSAR) team of volunteers have been training actively over the winter and into the summer to make sure we are ready in case called upon this year. Happily there have been no emergencies this year but it is only early days. With warmer weather forecast we are expecting many boaters in our waters and we ask everyone to be cautious and courteous. In recent months we have operated the service with non-permanent resident members being here when available, and recently we have been joined by a couple of local skippers, both of whom have amazing experience and knowledge and are great people.

We have a 6.5m Gemini RHIB with twin 90hp engines, radar, Furuno GPS, AIS, FLIR camera plus a heap of other gear to operate at day time and night time and can at best be launched on the inlet within 15 minutes from notification (subject to volunteer availability). Launching at Walkerville or Today River takes a bit longer of course. Our area of coverage is from the Prom to Caper Liptrap and within Shallow Inlet. Recently we have established a connection with the Marine Rescue unit at Inverloch and we look forward to growing skills and knowledge through further training with that unit and others.

For those of you new to Sandy Point or who weren't aware, the local MSAR organisational structure changed recently to remove WBSLSC as a link between EMV and LSV and in the change process, and this had flow on impacts for some of the members who at that time chose to step away from the MSAR. Importantly, the rescue service was maintained and we have continued to build the skills and experience of a growing and committed volunteer base, and we look forward to furthering the services' capability with the addition of local skippers. If you are interested in joining and finding out more, please reach out to us.

We encourage all boaters to keep a close eye on local conditions and seek guidance from local experience, particularly when considering crossing the bar. At lower tides the optimal exit channel moves regularly and can get quite tight. Before attempting the bar, assess conditions and always include in your daily boating plan a fall back strategy in case you decide to not exit Shallow Inlet, never go out being committed to crossing the bar.

First and foremost, Waratah MSAR is a rescue service, not a salvage service, and in an emergency our priority is the safety of all people including the crew. If there is an emergency, please contact 000 so all appropriate and available emergency services (including Waratah MSAR) can be coordinated centrally.

Paul Minahan – Waratah Beach MSAR

