



**SURF LIFE SAVING®**  
NORTHERN REGION



SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023

# CONTENTS

CEO's Report .....	4	<b>COMMUNITY EDUCATION</b>	<b>62</b>
President's Report .....	5	Annual Report 2022-2023 Community Education .....	64
Chair's Report .....	6	Community Education Instructor Profile .....	67
Minister's Report .....	7	Community Education At A Glance .....	71
Life Members .....	8		
2023 Season Key Statistics .....	10	<b>MEMBER SERVICES</b>	<b>72</b>
2023 Season At A Glance .....	11	2022-2023 Member Services Season Overview .....	74
How The Media Responded .....	12	Junior Pool Rescue Royale .....	75
Auckland Anniversary Flooding .....	14	Northern Regional Junior Championships .....	76
Cyclone Gabrielle Response .....	15	Northern Regional Championships .....	77
Who We Are .....	16	Northern Regional IRB Championships .....	78
2023 Priorities .....	18	Junior Surf Recap .....	79
Patrol Assets By Location .....	20	Ocean Club .....	80
Club Reports .....	22	Piha Innovation Of The Year .....	81
Facility Redevelopments .....	40	Piha Piranhas: Bring The Golds Home .....	82
		2022-2023 Event Attendance Numbers .....	84
<b>LIFESAVING SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>42</b>	Club Development .....	86
2022/2023 Operational Season Overview .....	44	Youth Development .....	88
Rescue Water Craft (RWC) .....	45		
Paid Lifeguard Of The Year .....	46	<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>	<b>96</b>
Paid Lifeguard Outstanding First Season 2022/2023 .....	47	Directory .....	92
Paid Lifeguard Service .....	48	Independent Auditor's Report .....	94
Search and Rescue Services .....	50	Statements .....	96
Search and Rescue Services Notable Callouts .....	52		
Rescue Of The Year .....	54	Life Memberships and Distinguished Service Awards .....	116
Search and Rescue Services Awards .....	56	Service Awards .....	117
		Our People .....	118
<b>LIFEGUARD TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>58</b>	Awards of Excellence Winners List .....	119
2022/2023 Training (Lifesaving) .....	60	Our Sponsors .....	120
Training and Development .....	61		

# CEO'S REPORT



As I pen my final report as CEO of Surf Life Saving Northern Region, I'm compelled to acknowledge that this past year has been an extraordinary chapter in our organization's storied history. Beset by challenges from multiple fronts—ranging from unprecedented weather events to broader societal shifts—our collective resilience has been tested like never before. Yet, the unyielding dedication demonstrated by our skilled volunteers in ensuring the safety of beachgoers in the Northern Region serves as a vivid testament to our core values and the community's reliance on our services.

Our volunteers are not just ordinary people; they are the backbone of our community's resilience. In a year where several of our clubs have faced literal ruin due to extreme weather conditions, these volunteers have not just been lifesavers in the water but have also played a critical role in community recovery efforts. It is imperative at this juncture to leverage public conversation to secure the support required for these invaluable services. We have stood by our communities for the past century; it is now time for our communities, and indeed New Zealand at large, to stand by us.

Our ongoing operational effectiveness in the past six months is perhaps not only the most vivid display of the strength of our volunteers but also our strategies. These were formulated to ensure adequate regional coverage, fortify volunteer numbers, and establish support systems that serve as the linchpin of our operations. The importance of these strategic pillars has been illuminated more than ever in the context of this challenging year.

While the currents have been rough, they have not deterred our journey forward. The impending summer will witness a significant expansion of our lifesaving services, buoyed by growth in both membership and participation that have been achieved in the current year. These are not mere numbers; they are indicators of our ever-growing sphere of influence and the public's growing trust in our capabilities.

While I have a certain sadness at stepping in to a new year with more challenges than the previous one, I am buoyed by the unification with Surf Life Saving New Zealand, set for October 2023. It marks a pivotal moment for SLSNR. This consolidation is not just administrative; it represents a harmonization of visions, a streamlining of objectives, and a confluence of strengths. It is a move forged out of the courage and conviction of many dedicated individuals, to whom I owe a deep debt of gratitude. The consolidation promises to usher in a new era characterized by greater agility, broader capabilities, a single clear voice advocating for our movement, and a unified strategic direction.

As we transition into this restructured organizational model, my role as CEO will come to a close. It's a bittersweet moment, filled with fond memories of working alongside some of the most dedicated and capable individuals I have ever known. Over the past eight years, I have been privileged to witness first-hand the indomitable spirit that fuels SLSNR—its people. Whether it's the tireless volunteers who brave the elements, the support staff who keep the operations running, or the community leaders who lend their voices to our cause, you have made this journey all the more worthwhile.

I have absolute confidence in the future of this exceptional organization. The recent trials we have endured have not weakened us; instead, they have laid the groundwork for new heights of greatness to which I know SLSNR will soar. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your CEO; it's been an honour I will forever cherish.

**Matt Williams**  
Chief Executive Officer



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The defining moment for me this season, without diminishing the impact of the two devastating weather events that occurred at the beginning of 2023, is Surf Life Saving Northern Region's (SLSNR) impending amalgamation with Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ).

This process began in April 2021 and a tremendous amount of work has been done by all involved to get us to the final step, to clearly set out and agree expectations under the new structure.

In the middle of the 2023 calendar year, the Statement of Expectation from the Northern Region clubs, and SLSNZ's response, was finalised and our clubs unanimously agreed to consolidate SLSNR within SLSNZ. Both our clubs and SLSNZ will need to continue to work through and meet the expectations set out. It is about all being in one waka, working together to make it faster.

At a day-to-day level, the service provided by our SLSNR staff won't change and we will continue to see the responsiveness and efficiency we have come to expect from the team there. We look forward to a culture of openness, transparency, and honesty between SLSNZ and our Northern Region clubs.

This year, particularly in the wake of the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, funding issues have become urgent and consequential for several clubs within our borders. Funding issues for those directly impacted by these events will see the clubs pushing for further support from central government and other bodies. We are hopeful these will be resolved swiftly in order to ensure we can continue to effectively deliver our service in coming seasons.

Funding deficits have also impacted clubs seeking funding for rebuilds or other capital projects.

Funding in this space has become increasingly difficult to access as funding agencies reprioritise to help those most acutely and urgently impacted. The belt has been tightened, the funding available has reduced dramatically, and funding for capital projects will now need to be closely examined.

This season has not been great from a patrolling perspective. The weather since Christmas has been poor, and this was made even worse by the devastating floods and cyclone. Our Northland and Auckland west coast clubs responded to these two events in an awe-inspiring way, reminding us all just how important we are as a community service.

I would like to thank all Northern Region's clubs and their dedicated volunteers for their tremendous efforts during the season. There were many setbacks, and yet we kept fronting up to provide patrols on the beach and keep people safe.

I also acknowledge the staff at SLSNR for continuing to supply the exceptional service our clubs are looking for. Matt Williams, our CEO, has led from the front in that respect. His leadership over the last 8 years has been outstanding, and he will be missed when he leaves at the start of October.

Finally, I acknowledge the members of the SLSNR board for their tireless efforts over the last 5-6 years. Together we have successfully navigated the global Covid-19 pandemic, extreme weather events, and the amalgamation of two organisations. I thank Chair Denise Bovaird in particular for her ongoing demonstration of great leadership.

As the outgoing President, I am pleased that my title of "immediate past president" will hold forever and a day.

**Jim Coe**  
President





# CHAIR'S REPORT



As we approached the 2022-23 season, the ghost of Covid-19 behind us, expectations were for an outstanding season: Surf Life Saving Northern Region's calendar of competitive lifesaving activities was back to full capacity, clubs planned to prioritise training and qualifying new lifeguards, and school bookings for beach education programmes were rolling in.

Then, on 27 January – Auckland's Anniversary weekend – Mother Nature dealt Northern Region with a significant blow – a "tropical atmospheric river" saw the region record over 280% of its January normal rainfall in under six hours. The flooding was destructive, but there was more to come. Two weeks later, Cyclone Gabrielle hit.

The weather throughout the early part of the season saw some disruption to planned events and now many sports events and community and school education programmes were cancelled due to water quality issues and adverse weather. Despite this, we still managed to educate nearly 8,000 students about beach safety, and our junior surf programmes saw a massive 22% increase in participation. Competitions ran where possible, with 2,500 members participating in competitions across the region.

The two extreme weather events have been devastating: our clubs at Mangawhai Heads and Bethells Beach have been severely affected, with one building useable. The road ahead has significant challenges as these clubs grapple to secure funding to rebuild and find new locations. Other clubs have sustained significant damage or continue to have restricted access.

Despite this, the clubs of Surf Life Saving Northern Region continued to serve the community. All 18 of our Search and Rescue squads assisted with inland rescues in the wake of the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle. SLSNR lifeguards performed 145 major rescues and 427 assists during the extreme weather events alone – saving lives is what we do. Some of our clubs served as emergency community and Civil Defence centres for devastated communities, especially in Karekare, Muriwai, and Piha – where entire communities were cut off.

Our region still managed to celebrate a great many achievements over the 2022-23 season. Lifeguards across the region saved a total of 269 lives during patrol hours, with an additional 312 assisted to safety, and hundreds more attended to with first aid. Our lifeguards took part in 60 searches, and our call-out squads were involved in more than 125 rescues outside of regular patrol hours.

We couldn't be prouder to report our lifeguards chalked up over 80,000 hours of volunteer service. We qualified 275 new lifeguards and refreshed another 1,550. I thank our members for giving their time to the community so generously.

In June the Northern Region Clubs voted unanimously to consolidate with SLSNZ. Whilst this means the autonomous governance of the Region will cease, under the Statement of Expectations which sets out how the region will consolidate into SLSNZ it is anticipated that little will change operationally in the immediate future. The region is looking forward to being part of a unified movement but maintaining its regional character and strength.

**Denise Bovaird**  
Chair



# MINISTER'S REPORT



As the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, it is a privilege to be able to acknowledge the outstanding work and commitment of the 18 surf lifesaving clubs in the Northern Region.

Keeping people safe at our beaches requires expertise and dedication from many, and I am proud of the mahi of Surf Lifesaving NZ towards this goal.

The Northern Region is geographically the largest surf lifesaving area, covering areas from Waikato to Auckland and on to Te Tai Tokerau. I understand that just this year lifeguards performed over 140 major rescues and more than 400 assists during the natural disaster events in Auckland and Northland. This is phenomenal.

Surf Lifesaving clubs are also vital hubs for local communities. They provide settings for social connections, training for young people and are partners across water safety networks. Many surf lifesaving clubs also have long and storied histories, which makes them cornerstones for many of our coastal communities.

One of my key Ministerial priorities this term has been valuing volunteers and lifting the profile of volunteering. During National Volunteer Week in June, volunteer recognition events were held across Aotearoa. I was so proud that many of New Zealand's 4500 volunteer surf lifeguards were amongst those who were

acknowledged. I am also deeply grateful that in the Northern Region, more than 260 lives were saved by volunteer surf lifesavers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff and volunteers who make it possible for surf lifesaving clubs to operate. As we move into summer, your commitment to ensuring the safety of both our local communities, and also the many national and international visitors at our beaches will be essential and I thank you in advance for your service.

To the more than 270 newly qualified lifeguards in the Northern Region, thank you for making the decision to help and protect New Zealanders, and I wish you all the success and passion in this endeavour.

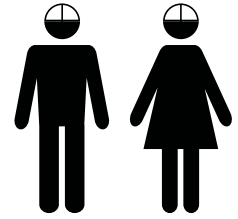
I wish you all the very best in the coming year, and acknowledge your dedication and mana.

Ngā mihi

**Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan**  
Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector



# LIFE MEMBERS



Muriel Brown*	1957	Ian Hill	2003	Pat Olsen	2016
A. Pearce*	1961	Graeme Danks	2004	John Chapman	2016
Albie Veart*	1962	Neil Falloon*	2004	Grant Morrison*	2017
John Chapman*	1976	Denis Cooksley	2006	Jonathon Webber	2019
Abbie Day*	1977	Robert Ferguson	2008	Joanne Hobson	2020
Eddie Millar*	1978	Murray Bray	2008	Faron Turner	2020
Bob Rogers*	1978	Timothy Jago	2010	Henry Backhouse-Smith	2020
Bert McCarthy*	1979	Bob Mercer	2010	Michelle Newton	2021
Jim Ferguson*	1980	Dick (Richard) Pocock	2010	David Godfrey	2022
Denis Black	1981	Gareth Neilson	2011	Mason Dray-Hogg	2022
Malcolm Beattie	1986	Wayne Franich	2012	Ian Godfrey	2022
E. Wright*	1987	Stephen Pye	2012	Lindsay Hill	2022
Roger Curtice	1989	Patricia Reid	2012	Nicola Howes	2022
Bob Harvey	1990	Warwick Bell	2013	Rob Howes	2022
Buddy Lucas*	1991	Christopher Parsons	2013	Dave Comp	2023
Valerie Walton	1991	Jim Coe	2013	Damian Molloy	2023
Ross Malyon	1992	Johnny Clough	2013	Kevin Moran	2023
John Thomas	1993	Mark McCarthy	2014	Benny Larsen	2023
Ian Maclaine*	1994	Stephen Smith	2014	Mark Johnston	2023
Neil Reid	1995	Alan Franich*	2015	Shane Edwards	2023
Noel Kay	2000	Stephen Butler	2015		

*\*Deceased*





# 2023 SEASON KEY STATISTICS



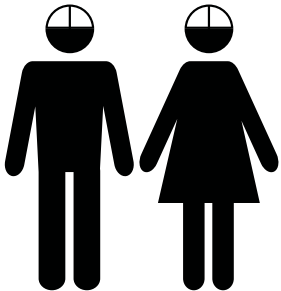
**2491**  
**EVENT**  
PARTICIPATION



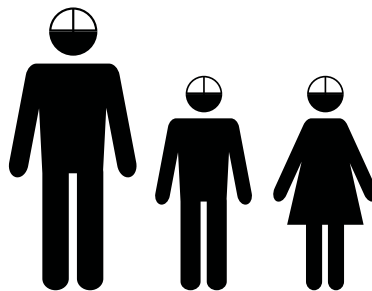
**22**  
PATROLLED  
LOCATIONS



**132**  
NEW  
FIRST AID  
AWARDS GAINED



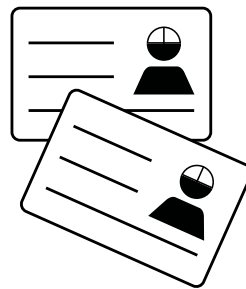
**296**  
**NEW**  
LIFEGUARDS  
PATROL SUPPORT



**2731**  
U14 MEMBERS  
PARTAKING IN  
JUNIOR SURF



**1790**  
**ACTIVE**  
LIFEGUARDS  
PATROL SUPPORT



**6218**  
ACTIVE  
MEMBERSHIPS



**9426**  
TOTAL NUMBER  
EDUCATED  
**IN 2023**

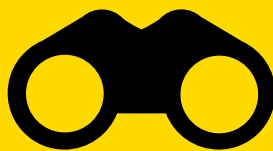
# 2023 SEASON AT A GLANCE



**83214**

TOTAL HOURS

**92**



SEARCHES

**447**



RESCUES

LEADERSHIP  
DEVELOPMENT

**122**



**138**  
CALLOUTS



**503**

FIRST  
AIDS



**14631**

PREVENTATIVE  
ACTIONS



INVOLVING  
**118038**  
PEOPLE

ASSISTS

**794**





## AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY FLOODS AND CYCLONE GABRIELLE:

# HOW THE MEDIA RESPONDED

In early 2023, the Northern Region was rocked by two separate extreme weather events within the space of two weeks, the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle.

The intensity of these weather events was unprecedented: their impact will be long-lasting. Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) has seen several of its clubs severely impacted: collectively, eight of our clubs across Northland, Auckland and Waikato need \$16m in funding for repairs, rebuilds and relocations.

During the immediate response, lifeguards from Search and Rescue squads across our region worked unrelentingly to provide tactical support, conducting rescues, welfare checks, and assisting people to safety. The involvement of our clubs went even deeper, with numerous clubs acting as civil defence and evacuation centres, and in the aftermath of the two events as community centres and even emergency accommodation providers.

During the Auckland Anniversary floods, emergency services in Auckland responded to 719 weather incidents, answered 2,242 emergency calls, and made 126 rescues on Friday and Saturday morning (27-28 January). Seventy-nine of those rescues were performed by our surf lifeguards.

During Cyclone Gabrielle, parts of Northland and Auckland were cut off entirely, lacking power, mobile networks or road access. NIWA reported massive waves – up to 12m high – around the upper North Island. About 1,400 people in our region were displaced by the flooding and destruction left in the cyclone's wake.

Media were reporting to-the-minute coverage as it became clear how dire the situation was. The world's gaze was turned in our direction as a National State of Emergency was invoked during Cyclone Gabrielle. Surf lifesaving's response was a central focus of the media's coverage.

More than 70 individual news items mentioned Surf Life Saving Northern Region directly across the period between the two events, and hundreds more media articles across television, radio, and newspapers mentioned our surf lifesaving clubs, our surf lifeguards, our Search and Rescue squads, and our national organisation – Surf Life Saving New Zealand and their national response.

As the events unfolded, SLSNR's safety messages were reported widely across the region, urging people to stay away from the coast with extremely large swells expected as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle.

So too was the message that Surf Life Saving Northern Region would have Search and Rescue squads on standby in the event of flooding, and that anyone in trouble should phone 111 and ask for police.

Headlines were carried across the country remarking on the dedication and heroism displayed by lifeguards across the country, such as "79 rescued by lifeguards overnight" and "Dargaville's plight recalled by Northland surf lifeguards".

Safety messages from SLSNR CEO Matt Williams and Lifesaving Operations Manager James Lea were repeated across radio and television: "We want people to stay away from our beaches and coastlines if possible. The conditions are going to be extremely dangerous on both the east and west coasts of Auckland and Northland."

Auckland Mayor Wayne Brown described our surf lifeguards as "a wonderful bunch of heroes", while media reported on some of the individual rescues performed by our lifeguards.

Finance Minister Grant Robertson acknowledged the role of surf lifesaving clubs as critical social infrastructure: "Surf lifesaving clubs play a really important role in these regions," he said.

The New York Times interviewed Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service's Glenn Gowthorpe, who detailed the situation in Hellensville: "It actually looked like a disaster movie set. There were power lines hanging down almost in the water, trees everywhere. What was once a tiny little creek was quite a big river."

Some of our clubs – Bethells Beach Surf Life Saving Patrol, Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service, and Sunset Beach Surf Lifesaving Club – made the news for other reasons. Dramatic footage of the damage sustained by these clubs captured the nation's attention. The financial impact on these clubs, and on our region's ability to conduct patrols, has been an ongoing source of importance as we recollect ourselves before another patrol season.

The media coverage of surf lifesaving during these events has served a vital purpose. It has highlighted the professionalism and expertise of our volunteers. It has highlighted our integral position within New Zealand's social fabric. It has built the public trust in surf lifesaving, articulated our crisis preparedness, strengthened our community bonds, and amplified the positive perception of the surf lifesaving movement.

Our response has been characterised to the public as one of heroism and humanitarianism.





# AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY FLOODING



Beginning on Friday, 27 January 2023, Auckland experienced widespread catastrophic floods caused by unexpected heavy rainfall. Severe flash flooding occurred across the city from around 5:00 pm, after heavy rain in the afternoon. Flooding was widespread across the city, with West Auckland and North Shore being the worst affected areas. The event is considered to be the worst floods in Auckland's modern history.

With all emergency lines overwhelmed and communication networks down, lifeguards were one of the only agencies able to respond to flooding with the use of their IRBs. The below accounts summarise the actions of the various club SAR responses:

## **Muriwai SAR Squad**

Muriwai were stationed at West Harbour Fire station along with Bethells and were tasked to Ararimu Valley Road for the rescue of 5x persons from house. Lifeguards responded with 2x IRB and were unable to access the house from chest deep water – instead accessed house via window and rescued all persons from house. Transported to Ambulance and Police on scene.

Tasking two came from across the road, the rescue of an 80yo female from 2nd story of their house. Two IRB's rafted up on first story roof and assisted a female from the house and transported to Ambulance and Police on scene.

## **Mairangi Bay SAR Squad**

Police requested Mairangi Bay to respond to Wairau Road as waters were rising. Two IRB's responded with three lifeguards on each to rescue a group of people stuck in waist deep water. Mairangi Bay SAR squad rescued 69 people from workplaces along Target Road, Wairau Valley between 8:30pm and 10pm. Using IRBs, the lifeguards ferried groups of five to safety from a number of shops in the area. After finishing up with the shopping area, a member of public reported to lifeguards that his friend was kayaking and the kayak has been located near the Sunnynook bus station, but he had not seen his friend in over an hour. After searching for around an hour the missing person had not been found and the lifeguards were stood down for the evening.



## **Off Duty Lifeguard responses**

Assists on Tram Valley Road. Six assists of ten people where cars were unable to access safe passage through the flood waters. Using an SLS Hilux, the off duty lifeguard assisted the families to make safe passage. One car was flooded and blocked safe passage, lifeguard assisted from water and to safety.

Another off duty lifeguard was returning home (circa midnight) and was flagged down by a group trapped by floodwaters on a high-point on Factory Road, Waimauku. A man was screaming for help in his vehicle, which had started to float in the floodwater. The man escaped the vehicle, and the lifeguard responded with a rescue tube and assisted him back to a point of safety.

The same lifeguard then responded to a separate vehicle which hit the flooding at speed and became stuck in neck-deep water. A man and two dogs were rescued from the vehicle. Another vehicle then followed, and the sole occupant was rescued from that vehicle as well. After a few hours, the water had reduced, and the lifeguard assisted a further ten people to safety off the high point.



# CYCLONE GABRIELLE RESPONSE



On the 13th of February 2023, Cyclone Gabrielle's collided with New Zealand. While this event was forecast well in advance, the reality of Cyclone Gabrielle surpassed any expectations and the damage was extensive. Coastal communities in West Auckland in particular were devastated by the cyclone, with repairs still ongoing months later. Northland required an extended response from emergency services. The response of lifeguards during this period was a show of bravery and endurance, with teams working around the clock to rescue and assist those around them. Duty Officers and SurfCom Operators were on 24 hour shifts through this period to coordinate and assist in the response around the region.

## **Northland SAR Squads**

Northland was the first area hit on the 13th of February, with bad weather and flooding lasting many days after. Baylys Beach, Whangarei Heads, Ruakaka and Waipu Cove SAR squads came together over this time to form a Northland SAR Response. Working closely with Dargaville Fire and Police, lifeguards assisted with welfare checks and evacuations in and around Dargaville. The next day lifeguards in two IRBSs were requested to assist with evacuating a medical patient and delivering supplies to residents. This tasking was changed once lifeguards arrived, and they were then dispatched to search for the missing farmer. Last seen two-three hours previously, possibly with a tractor, in Tangowahine. Both fully equipped IRB teams commenced a search in the flood water on a farm - too deep for any other emergency services to respond. The outcome being four persons found 3km down the farmland. All safe, with no cell coverage to contact anyone. During this time Local Duty Officers were stationed with the Northland Incident Management Team, relaying information to SurfCom and organising taskings and interagency communication.

## **Piha Paid Lifeguard Service and SAR Squad**

The Piha area was hit hard by the heavy rain and winds on the afternoon of the 13th of February. This was a weekday, and the Paid Lifeguard Service was residing at the surf club. As the rain came down, the Piha Road was closed by slips and the guards were asked to check the area for anyone in danger. A woman was found in her house perilously close to being demolished by a landslide, where she was evacuated. Two more people were rescued on their way back to the surf club as the river began to rise and flood the road. The SAR members who were already in Piha later joined the Paid Lifeguards, who worked with the local FENZ team to perform welfare checks throughout the following days and provided shelter and resources to locals in the area at the Surf Club.

## **Muriwai Paid Lifeguard Service and SAR Squad**

The Muriwai community was shattered in the early hours of the 14th of February by numerous landslides, including one particularly large slip that blocked off the main road. Two houses had slipped down the hill and landed on a fire truck. The entire community was evacuated to the Surf Club, where they were met by the local SAR members and Paid Lifeguards who ferried them across the flooded car park and provided assistance to anyone who needed it. Over 200 people were sheltered overnight in the Surf Club, before being evacuated by emergency response teams the next day.

## **Bethells SAR Squad**

Bethells was another community that was cut off very quickly by flooding. The SAR squad looked after the locals in the area by performing welfare checks and providing medical assistance, as well as supporting the emergency services in the area with evacuations and supply drops. This was ongoing throughout the week following.

## **Karekare Community**

Karekare had multiple slips blocking both access roads, and many houses were destabilised or ruined entirely. The whole community came together to survive and help each other and were isolated for many days with the slips still not repaired to this day. Lifeguards were integral to this response and were the sole point of communication to the community through the first hours of this event.

## **Further flooding response**

More wet weather continued to plague the country through the rest of summer, and in late February the Mangawhai and Ōrewa SAR squads were tasked to further flooding events. Fifteen people were rescued and more searched for, majority of patients were stuck in cars while trying to evacuate.

The above events and subsequent responses from various Surf Lifesaving assets clearly demonstrates our movements ability to be on hand, and rescue ready whenever, and wherever, required.

# WHO WE ARE

Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) is the organisation tasked with preventing beach and coastal drowning for the millions of people living in the upper North Island of New Zealand. Our iconic lifeguards are a treasured symbol of beach safety, and a time-honoured sight along New Zealand's coastlines.

SLSNR consists of 18 clubs, after the addition of Baylys Beach Surf Life Saving at Ripiro Beach in the west coast of Northland at the start of this year. These clubs fly the flag for safe coastal use and beach recreation from Raglan north to Cape Reinga on the west coast, and back down the east coast to Auckland. Our single, simple purpose is to protect the region's communities in the water, on our beaches and at our coastline.

The surf lifesaving movement in New Zealand has evolved in recent years as the movement's role and impact continue to grow. Today's lifesavers provide support to the public through a vast array of valuable services, many of which are recent developments.

Our lifeguards are primarily found "between the flags", where they have a long, proud history of providing formal supervision to beachgoers at 24 patrol locations throughout Northern Region. Their presence on patrol has traditionally been from Labour Weekend in late October through to April the following year, but the patrol season continues to expand as the way we use our coasts in our ever-growing region evolves.

On patrol, lifeguards work closely with the public to help them avoid the many dangers present on our beaches, but they are still regularly required to respond to a wide array of emergencies at, or near the beach, and to rescue people in difficulty in the water all year around. Their emergency training and resources mean lifeguards are frequently asked to assist in responding to on-beach or near-beach first-aid incidents, ranging from jellyfish stings and sprained ankles, through to more serious incidents like cardiac arrests or vehicle accidents.

Our lifeguards also contribute a critical element to New Zealand's Search and Rescue (SAR) efforts, being called out for on-water or near-beach SAR duties around our coastlines and flooding response throughout the year, ensuring a rapid response to coastal- and water-related emergencies at all times.

Outside of our patrolled beaches, SLSNR also provides formal event-safety services to commercial entities and the community, ensuring those events and other forms of organised coastal recreation have access to lifesaving skills and services.

Community Education continues to be a huge part of our purpose and is an important building block in New Zealand's Drowning Prevention Strategy. You will find lifeguards in classrooms, marae, tertiary institutions and public events, on beaches, and more recently online – educating people of all ages on critical water-safety competencies throughout the year.

Surf lifesaving also offers more than 15 surf sport disciplines for its members to take part and compete in, through formal and informal sport-and-recreation pathways and frequent large-scale sporting events. These pathways allow thousands of athletes from six to 60-plus to play, learn, and compete on the water and beach, right up to an international level.

Overarching all of this is our role in supporting clubs and shaping strategies to ensure our organisation and our member clubs are relevant to their communities and continue to offer attractive volunteering opportunities.

In the changeable landscape of volunteering, SLSNR works closely with its members to ensure they are well-placed to deliver to their future aspirations alongside our continuing role of providing governance, leadership and advocacy for our member organisations.





# 2023 PRIORITIES - SLSNR FOCUSES AND DELIVERABLES 2021-2023

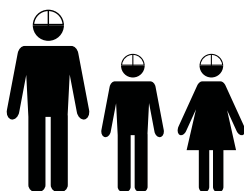
## WHY WE EXIST



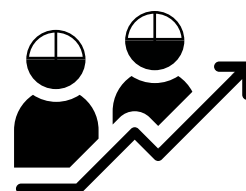
### MISSION:

Providing the resource and capability to ensure our clubs have the flags go up on their beach.

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Attract members to Junior Surf Pathways as a means to building future lifeguards.

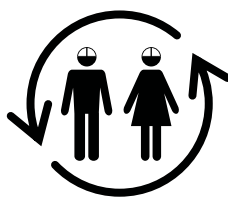


Grow the capability of SLSNR to deliver quality programmes across all areas of the organisation.

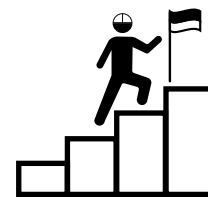


### VISION:

Supporting our clubs to keep their community safe on the coastline.



Retain senior members through the development of a culture and experiences that engages members.



Enhance delivery of Lifeguard, Surf Sport, Junior Surf, and Diversity & Inclusion programmes to ensure clubs are supported to build necessary capability with minimal barriers.



AREAS OF FOCUS		ACTIONS	MEASURE OF SUCCESS
<b>A</b>	<b>Rejuvenation of Junior Surf and Rookies</b>	A1 Provide an improved Junior Surf Delivery model and framework to better support clubs in this space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced support for clubs to engage in formal JS coach development programmes in off season and during peak season</li> </ul>
		A2 Provide targeted Coach Development programme(s) for Junior Surf coaching pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Targeted workshops to assist problem areas or areas needing development at club or local level</li> </ul>
		A3 Stronger focus on the delivery of the Rookie Programme within Surf Life Saving clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All clubs to received direct engagement on rookie programme as part of club health discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>B</b>	<b>Support and Development of Lifeguards 14&gt;x&gt;18</b>	B1 Develop an Academy Training model to support consistent access to training and qualifications for all pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training and Development Officer to review current programmes and identify strong candidates for initial delivery</li> </ul>
		B2 Create an engaging culture that motivates participation from 14-18y.o members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support SLSNZ to progress development of online learning modules</li> </ul>
		B3 Improve Instructor and Examiner capability and experience to support the delivery of key awards and qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued creation of opportunities for engagement and betterment of 14-18y.o members.</li> <li>Direct engagement between management volunteers and clubs to set necessary values</li> </ul>
<b>C</b>	<b>Retaining Senior Members</b>	C1 Provide further resource to the development of Surf Officials, Coaches and Event Lifeguards and reduce burnout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review current Surf Official engagement</li> <li>Additional resource (seasonal staff) for Event Lifeguard Co-ordination</li> </ul>
		C2 Ensure Advanced Learning Opportunities continue to be developed in relevant areas (adv. IRB training etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve quality of RWC programme delivery</li> <li>Continued delivery of advanced SAR programmes (night ops etc.)</li> </ul>
		C3 Continue the development of technologies that reduce the administrative burden of involvement (Surf Patrol App etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LAG and TAG to address advanced IRB training needs</li> </ul>
<b>D</b>	<b>Organisational Communication and Messaging</b>	D1 Develop an effective communications platform to ensure organisational communications are received by membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review effectiveness of Microsoft teams as enterprise solution</li> </ul>
		D2 Better align policies, regulation and communication with SLSNZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CEO and Operations Manager working with SLSNZ to align policies and best practice prior to season launch (work underway)</li> </ul>
		D3 Develop a youth forum for direct communication with youth members and fostering leadership development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Key issue currently in the Health and Safety space – directly engaging with SLSNZ CEO to address</li> <li>Development Officers to shape and lead youth forum to seek feedback</li> </ul>
<b>E</b>	<b>Improve delivery of BAU Programmes and Services</b>	E1 Improve Contingency planning for events in the ongoing COVID-19 impacted environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contingency dates to incorporated into planning 2022FY</li> </ul>
		E2 Continue ongoing ECOS and SAR programme development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifesaving Needs analysis tool to be completed with all clubs</li> </ul>
		E3 Implement Lifesaving Capability Matrix and Club Health tool assessments tailored to each club	
		E4 Continue development of Surf Patrol App ensuring it is delivering necessary value to volunteer patrol operations	

# PATROL ASSETS BY LOCATION

LOCATION	SAR SQUAD	IRB	RWC	ATV	FIRST AID	RESCUE BOARD
Far North						
Baylys						
Whangārei Heads						
Ruakākā						
Waipū Cove						
Mangawhai Heads						
Pākiri						
Ōmaha						
Wenderholm						
Ōrewa						
Red Beach						
Long Bay						
Mairangi Bay						
Takapuna						
Muriwai						
Bethells						
United						
Piha						
Karekare						
Kariaotahi						
Sunset						
Raglan						



↑ Baylys

↑ Far North

↑ Whangārea Heads

↑ Ruakākā

↑ Waipū

↑ Mangawahi Heads

Pākiri

Ōmaha

Wenderholm

Ōrewa

Red Beach

Long Bay

Mairangi Bay

Takapuna

Muriwai

Bethells

United

Piha

Karekare

Kariaotahi

Sunset

Raglan ↓





## CLUB REPORT

# FAR NORTH

Far North Surf Rescue had a busy start to the season, refreshing the club's volunteer lifeguards as well as working to refresh and prepare its Search and Rescue (SAR) squad, a decision that would prove useful down the line, says President Victoria Rehu.

"We started our volunteer patrol season by running our amazing junior surf programme, with about 60 junior surf participants coming from all over the Far North, some from as far away as Te Kao and Taipa. This was a great outcome for our club, and it was great to see not only tamariki but also parents supporting this programme," she says.

Far North Surf Rescue ran the programme over an eight-week period, making it affordable for whānau to participate. A group of seven rookies went through the programme, some returning for the third time, and in the coming season the club hopes to put them through their Bronze Award.

Like many other parts of Northern Region, and across the country, Far North was prepared and ready to respond when Cyclone Gabrielle struck. During the emergency response, Far North's SAR squad was on call 24/7 to provide support to other emergency services. Thankfully, the squad and the club escaped with minimal impact, but Victoria Rehu says the club's heart goes out to those who were.

Community relationships continued to develop and blossom throughout the season: Far North surf lifeguards visited Ahipara's Sandhoppers Early Childcare Centre to talk about water safety and show of some of the club's rescue equipment, while club volunteers joined forces with the New Zealand Police to participate in a volunteer Experiencing Marine Reserves event in Rangiputa.

"We wanted to help bring the community together to understand the importance of marine life in a reserved area. Far North has been doing this for several years now, and the day continues to be both popular and successful."

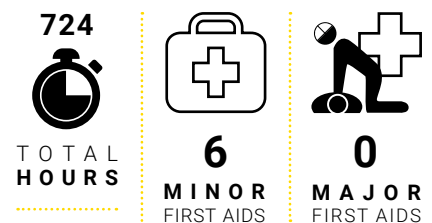
Far North will once again run the 90 Mile IRB Classic Race, which has now been running for 28 years and is a highlight of both the Surf Life Saving Northern Region and the national event calendar. The race brings over 250 competitors and support people from across the country to the Far North to race their IRBs from the top of Ninety Mile beach to the finish line in Ahipara (Pariipari).

Far North is looking forward to the 2023-2024 season, and is due to run its next surf lifeguard refresher at the end of October ahead of the commencement of the patrol season in December.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT

# BAYLYS BEACH

This season saw great success for Surf Life Saving Baylys Beach. Although the poor weather meant lower numbers on the beach, the club invested this time into other areas such as its Junior Surf program and IRB racing. The Junior Surf Program returned after a hiatus through the peak of Covid, says Baylys club captain Kyran Gillespie.

"It was awesome to see the next generation learn to enjoy the water safely, the huge smiles on the kids and parents' faces were a great display of the success of this program," he says.

"It was also the first season Baylys Beach has entered in IRB competitions. Our U19 Male crews certainly made themselves known, with some great and some not-so-great races. Our lanes were always buzzing with supporters and cheering team mates, which was awesome to see. We are extremely proud of this group and are excited to see where the next season will take them."

The club pushes to recruit and train new lifeguards, as well as upskilling its current lifeguards. Every active lifeguard within the club now has their IRB Crewperson Module, a testament to the commitment of the Baylys Beach instructor team and lifeguards.

The club's Search and Rescue (SAR) Squad has also grown its capabilities, with two lifeguards completing their Swift Water Course during the season. Countless hours have been invested in area familiarisation of the huge coastline our squad covers (over 130km, plus the inner Northern Wairoa River).

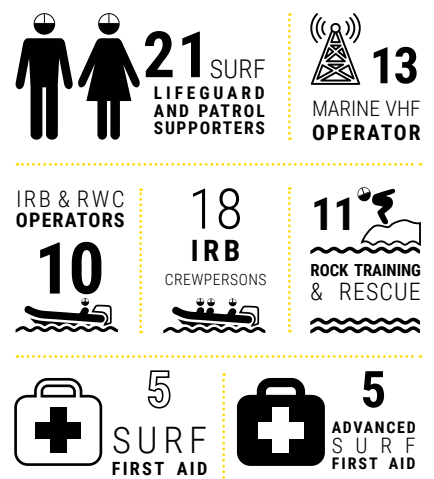
"We supported the community with our SAR Squad alongside our fellow Northland squads in the flooding around the region, in particular the major flooding of the Dargaville area. We also provided water safety for the local sporting events, and continued to educate the community through our junior surf program," says Kyran.

Countless more hours have been spent getting the club ship-shape, with Baylys Beach volunteers putting in hard mahi behind the scenes. Lifeguards and community members have been coming in after school or work to help with the finishing touches of the club's gear shed.

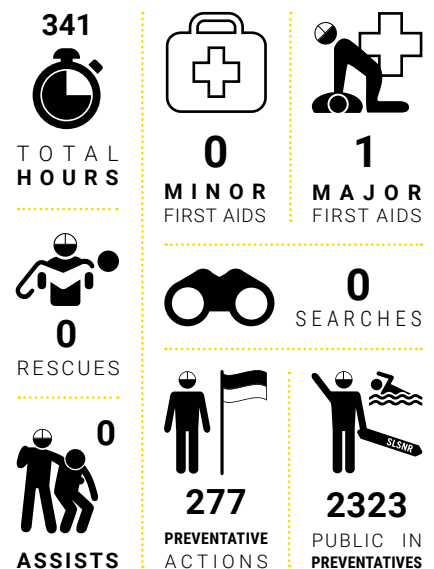
Kyran Gillespie says the club simply wouldn't be able to have the facilities it does without the generous donation of time and skills to fit-out the club's operational area, not to mention the donation of materials from local suppliers.

"It all helps the club tick away," he says.

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# WHANGĀREI HEADS

At a time when many volunteer organisations are struggling to retain membership and member commitment, Whangārei Heads Surf Life Saving Patrol has been fortunate to have a number of key members, across all age ranges, willing to dedicate more and more of their personal time to club activities.

Despite being a small club with a relatively small number of volunteers, this commitment has enabled the club to continue to put on effective patrols and develop a robust club committee. Whangārei Heads surf lifeguards regularly patrolling in excess of 100 hours per season, with some lifeguards even exceeding 200 hours. Some of the club's non-patrolling members, including those on its committee, are likely dedicating at least that many hours of their time, according to the club's Chair, Lindsay Hill.

Without the commitment and dedication of these members, he says, the club wouldn't be able to offer a surf lifesaving service at Ocean Beach.

"We remain eternally grateful that in a society that is increasingly demanding on our members time, our members still find time to fulfil and exceed their volunteer duties."

The club was fortunate to not have any major damage from Cyclone Gabrielle, and even had a particularly busy season

that saw a number of patrols performing rescues.

"Our lifeguards performed admirably throughout the season, and we continue to see strong leadership from our more experienced lifeguards. This leadership flows through to our newer guards, ensuring that we are passing on our knowledge and have a strong line of skilled leaders for future generations," says Lindsay.

Whangārei Heads managed to refresh and qualify almost its entire memberships first aid qualifications and gained a number of new Bronze Award instructors. It also sent some of its keenest Junior Surf participants to attend the Youth Leadership Development Camp.

The high level of quality surf lifeguards at Whangārei Heads was acknowledged at the Surf Life Saving Northern Region 2023 Toyota Financial Services Awards of Excellence, where Hannah Lugtigheid was named Under 19 Lifeguard of the Year, and Gillian McLean was a finalist for Peer Supporter of the Year. At the same event, Whangārei Heads' Evan Oxborrow was awarded his Distinguished Service Award.

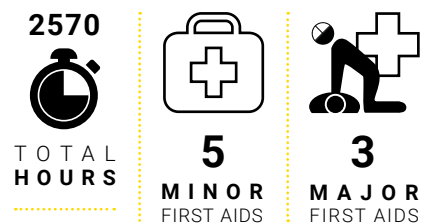
Lindsay Hill says the volunteers at Whangārei Heads are proud vanguards of the surf lifesaving movement.

"Whangārei Heads will continue to maximise the positive impact we can have on our wider community here in Northland, developing our rangatahi into future leaders with a strong community spirit and encouraging them to be the best they can possibly be."

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT **RUAKĀKĀ**

This last year has been yet another challenging season for Ruakākā Surf Lifesaving Patrol, says President Tania Ahrens, not because of the long tail of Covid, but because of Northland’s awful, wet summer.

While the club managed to patrol the regularly busy Ruakākā beach and have a generally successful Junior Surf Programme, the extreme weather events that rocked the region certainly made it tough for the club.

This year, Ruakākā ran a ‘Rookie Training Camp’ weekend, with many young guards coming from neighbouring clubs. Organised by Ayla Wilson and her team, it was extremely successful and a highlight for all.

Tania Ahrens expresses her thanks to the club’s our Junior Surf management team, and all the wonderful coaches and parents who persevered to make something out of the difficult summer.

“I appreciate the commitment and dedication they all made as volunteers – from coaches, team managers to lifeguards and SAR squad members. Without them all we wouldn’t have a club,” she says.

The Ruakākā SAR squad had an extremely busy season because of the weather, with over 20 callouts. Tania Ahrens believes the Ruakākā SAR Squad has been critical to both their local Bream Bay community, as

well as throughout Northland. They were a key participant in multiple responses over the season, from cyclone Gabrielle to low-light/night searches, showcasing their skill and professionalism.

As a result of their commitment and heroic actions, the Ruakākā SAR Squad was named Search and Rescue Squad of the Year at Surf Life Saving Northern Region’s annual Toyota Financial Services Awards of Excellence, on top of that, Ruakākā was also nominated for Rescue of the Year.

Tania Ahrens gave a special nod to Ben McKernan for his tireless efforts as SAR squad co-ordinator, while he, Adam McKernan, Phillipa Taylor, and Andrew Forsythe all received Service Awards at the Awards of Excellence. She stressed how very proud the club is of their service.

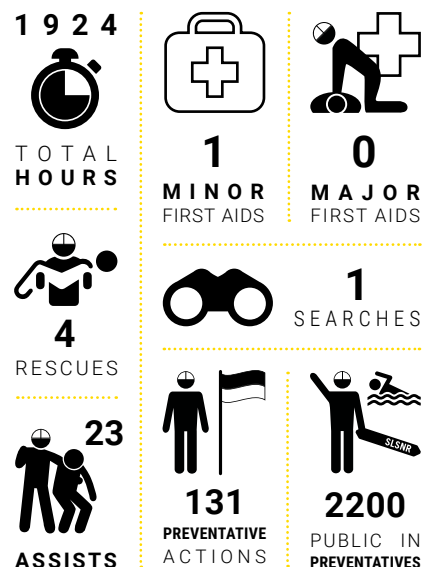
The club remains thankful for the continued support of Central Government Funding through Surf Life Saving New Zealand. This keeps the club thriving, but it also benefits from other funding sources, for example Marsden and Mangakahia Lions. This extra funding has enabled the club to purchase six new boards for Junior Surf, a new cooktop, ovens and fridge for the clubrooms, as well as a new tractor for towing the Ruakākā RWC.

“Jason Toovey has been great in helping us to secure new funding. He organised a new sponsors board, and he worked hard to rally new sponsors for the club,” says Tania Ahrens.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT WAIPŪ COVE

The poor weather during the 2022-2023 season saw rough conditions for the East Coast, resulting in a noticeable increase in rescues & assists for Waipū Cove Surf Life Saving Club. A strong response by the club to keep beachgoers safe was attributable to the skilled and committed patrolling lifeguards and the model leadership of the club's patrol captains.

Club Captain Kath Manning says that Waipū Cove prioritises looking after its people. She stresses that the club is immensely proud of its people, their vigilance, commitment and enthusiasm for surf lifesaving.

"We are a tight knit community at Waipū. This year, we have worked hard on developing relationships with neighbouring clubs and strengthening Northland's camaraderie. We are working together to develop better outcomes in Northland's Search & Rescue services, along with backing up our neighbouring clubs with resources when needed," she says.

During the season, Waipū Cove demonstrated its commitment to educating the local community on water safety, looking at innovative ways to prevent drownings. The club was closely involved in the Operation Flotation Device pilot at Langs Beach and Waipū Cove, supporting Drowning Prevention Auckland to hold a crab fishing education day at Uretiti for the community.

"The clubbies enjoy getting involved and supporting community events such as running a Mid Winter Swim, putting teams into Christmas Parade, ice curling, lawn bowls community competitions, manning the gates at the Caledonian Games, and of course providing a safe flagged area for our community and beachgoers to enjoy," says Kath Manning.

"Team morale also gets a boost from our annual North South lifeguard exchange with Rarangi SLSC, fundraising events such as Quiz night, and attending the Nationals in Christchurch, where our Masters canoe team won a Silver medal. Next season, we will be looking to re-build our IRB racing teams."

Waipū Cove's Junior Surf program continues to thrive and grow thanks to the commitment of the club's outstanding coaches. On top of this, many of the parents involved with Junior Surf, are stepping up to train as surf lifeguards & patrol supporters, bolstering the club's patrol numbers.

Other club members have taken opportunities to upskill, this commitment to upskilling has helped build Waipū Cove's capability as a cohesive team. The club has been working to increase female participation in surf lifesaving, hosting Wāhine on Water events, which the club has found hugely beneficial. Notably, Wendy Hunter qualified as a First Aid Course Instructor during the season, and while Kath Manning qualified as a Facilitator, enabling more courses to be run in the North.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# MANGAWHAI HEADS

While every season is demanding in its own right, the 2022/2023 season saw Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service face a number of challenges.

The persistent storms and cyclones of La Nina tested the strength and training of lifeguards in massive swells and changing beach conditions. Despite this, the lifeguards surpassed and kept the public safe, including after-hours rescues.

Leadership and cohesiveness of the Committee, Patrol Captains, and Instructors leading the club through the slip damage, change in patrol operations, and training has kept everyone informed and steady. This support has meant that club spirit has not wavered and made every lifeguard more determined, including new bronze award lifeguards.

Club Chairperson Jess Costello says despite challenges, the biggest accomplishment of the season has been the response of the Committee and lifeguards in the face of adversity.

"Our team has been so strong this summer," she says. "After the hill behind our beloved club made itself home in the bottom floor in a huge landslip in February, we only lost 6 patrolling hours. Despite the catastrophe we were still able to provide fully functioning Regional and Volunteer patrols to the public, a massive feat."

Mangawhai Search and Rescue Squads coordinated with Mangawhai Fire Rescue

to provide relief to families during the floods of Cyclone Hale and Gabrielle, and subsequent floods during storms over the summer period.

The club has still managed to grow and nurture new talent throughout the season. 23 new lifeguards qualified, a welcome addition to patrols, including six attending Wahine on Water in July.

170 Junior Surf Kids came through with the support of 40 dedicated coaches. Vanessa Fulton was also named a finalist at the annual Awards of Excellence for her Outstanding Contribution to Junior Surf.

Pulling a team together to travel down and compete at Oceans 23' NZ Junior Champs after 5 of years was a highlight, particularly as the team came away with a decent placing.

Despite the challenges of the season, Mangawhai Heads' community has much to be proud of, says Jess.

"With all of the disruptions that have occurred, seeing the club members (past and present) come together to provide help and professional aid has reinforced community in and around the club."

Jess Costello  
Chairperson, Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT ŌMAHA BEACH

Ōmaha Beach Surf Lifesaving Club takes great pride in its commitment to being a family-friendly club, prioritising inclusivity & family values. Lifeguard training at the club encompasses individuals from all age brackets, including those in their seventies.

We have witnessed a rise in parents pursuing lifeguard training, and it's heartening to observe the strong support & encouragement extended by our existing club members. Club President Linda Crisford says "Ōmaha has continued to invest in growing connections between club members, irrespective of age and gender."

"This season has seen us running events and activities that interest all members of all skills, supporting the motivation and retention of our lifeguards," she says. "Our club has become an important place for sharing experiences, tackling new challenges, and growing friendships. Highlights this season have included a hugely popular Adventure Camp weekend, regular all-ages & abilities paddles, and paddling up the Mahurangi River."

The area's nearness to Auckland, and the new motorway, will bring new challenges which will be met by training, retaining and upskilling members to fulfil lifeguarding obligations and enable us to manage the requirements of a demanding season.

In reflecting on the club's recent achievements and its vibrant community, Linda says the club's burgeoning junior membership makes her optimistic for the future.

"We now have over 350 juniors on the beach, an awesome sight to behold," she says. "The future is bright! I know this wouldn't be possible without the incredible team of junior parents, coaches, managers & committee members who organise these fantastic mornings."

Linda also highlights the club's unwavering commitment to water safety and its dedicated team members.

"We also have a highly motivated team of members, lifeguards and committee who work tirelessly to ensure we maintain the SLSNZ goal of "nobody drowns on our beaches," she says.

Ōmaha continues to develop its strong Surf Sports group which has gone from strength to strength both in numbers, skills and participation. The development of Surf Sports would not be possible without Dan Grant, Tracy Blair and Rohan Whittaker.

Looking to the future, Linda says there is plenty of exciting work in the pipeline for the club. "Our goals and priorities are on planning for a major rebuild of the club, focussing on training and retaining lifeguards."

Linda Crisford  
President, Ōmaha Surf Life Saving Club

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT ŌREWA

‘Ki te kotahi te kākaho, ka whati: ki te kāpuia, e kore e whati’ when we stand alone we are vulnerable, but together we are unbreakable.

While beach usage & incidents are increasing, lifeguards & patrol support members continue to provide a high-quality service to the public during extended patrolling hours at Ōrewa Surf Life Saving Club, contracting for event safety, and in response to Search & Rescue emergencies 24/7, 365 days.

Ōrewa Surf Life Saving Club Board Chair, Faron Turner, says the club is especially proud of its members for their dedication to keeping New Zealanders safe this season. “Well done to all our members, instructors and examiners for delivering a quality service in our primary function to ‘protect our community in and around the water’,” he says. “This was especially true as we faced multiple flooding events across Auckland and supported emergency services.”

“As a Board, we know how important it is to ensure all our members are supported to receive the necessary training, development and education on offer.”

Junior and senior members at the club have performed with excellence in Surf Sports this year and their achievements have been recognised at Club, Regional and National levels. Congratulations to everyone who has competed in sport events, and thanks to all those who have

coached or managed teams at club and regional levels this season.

In the past 12 months, patrolling members have completed 4,897 patrol hours. They have also performed 9 lifesaving rescues, 12 assists supporting people safely back to shore, rendered first aid to 47 people with 7 critical in nature, conducted 18 searches for missing people and completed 792 actions which prevented harm from occurring to beach users

“There are so many people helping to run the club in a variety of ways, please accept our thanks for your input,” Turner continues. “I want to mention the Board, operational Committees and wider management teams, who put in a huge amount of work off the beach to ensure the smooth running of the various activities of our club.

“Also to acknowledge the services provided by our key contractors and staff throughout the season, Lana, Stephen, Zac, James, Gwenda and of course farewell to Heather after 15 years of distinguished service who left us this season,” he says.

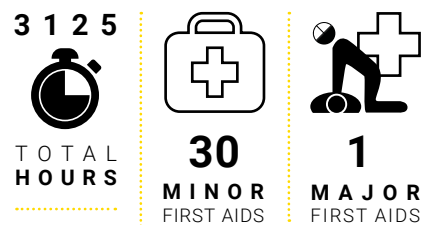
The past season was another productive one, as the club enters its 73rd year providing a high-quality lifesaving service at Ōrewa Beach and across the Hibiscus Coast.

Faron Turner,  
Board Chairman, Ōrewa Surf Life Saving Club

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT

# RED BEACH

2022-23 was Red Beach Surf Club's Platinum year, capping off 70 years of rich history since its founding in 1953. A 70th Jubilee celebration was held in June, which saw the walls of the clubrooms embellished with memorabilia.

This milestone coincided with the 50th year of the formation of the Junior division in 1973, when the club enrolled 20 youngsters aged 9-13 years. The division ended the 2022-23 season with a record membership of over 460 youngsters.

The competition season kicked off with major successes for Red Beach in Pool Rescue events. After 10 years, the club regained the Cosgrove Trophy for most overall points at the SLSNR Pool Championships, then followed this up with a third overall spot at the SLSNZ Pool Championships.

Red Beach Surf Life Saving Club Executive Officer, Ross Malyon says the team is especially proud of its award haul this year. "20 Surf Lifeguard Awards were achieved this year" he says. "Additionally, there were two Surf Lifeguard Instructor Awards, a Surf Lifeguard Examiner Award, the U14 and U17 Sportsman of the Year Awards, and Outstanding Contribution to Event Lifeguarding.

"We wrapped up the competition season by taking out the awards for both the Senior and Junior Competition Club of the Year, and the Masters Competition Club of the

Year."

Red Beach lifeguards spent a 14th consecutive summer patrolling at Pakiri this season, in addition to patrols at home base. "From a lifeguarding perspective, we achieved our mission of keeping the community safe at both beaches. It was another successful season with no drownings or serious injuries," Malyon says.

"Our lifeguards are to be thanked for the time they spent on patrols and working through the challenges they were faced with," he says.

The club takes pride in its healthy culture, and its ability to retain strong membership number with some members enhancing their skills by completing First Aid certificates, qualifying as IRB crew and/or drivers, attending the Youth Development Camps and being accepted into various SLS programs.

At the conclusion of the Nationals, four Red Beach athletes were selected for the SLSNZ High-Performance Squad. They were Lucy Makaea, Jasper Cornish, Zoe Pedersen, and Kaiha Gilbertson. Jasper was selected to the Junior Black Fins which represented New Zealand at the Battle of the Tasman in August 2023.

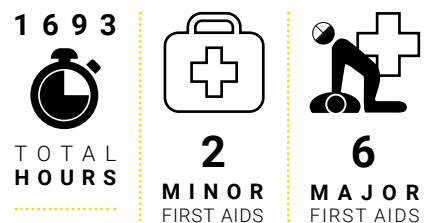
There is a common resolve within the club to remain progressive and strong and to keep moving ahead to meet the best interests of both the club and its members.

Ross Malyon  
Executive Officer, Red Beach SLSC

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# MAIRANGI BAY

Despite two seasons of unrest and uncertainty, Mairangi Bay Surf Life Saving Club has finally banked a season with a huge amount of activity for all, no matter which aspects of the surf movement members and volunteers have been involved in.

Club Chair Mike Brown says it would be fair to say the club has faced all kinds of extremes. "We've gone from one extreme to another these past few years," he says. "We all had to navigate an impressive amount of Surf Life Saving activity – across all areas. Huge congratulations to everyone for making it through."

The club has seen a massive increase in the number of available Competitive Lifesaving events across the country, an average of 6 events every weekend.

The Junior Surf season was extended to offset the missed club days due to weather or water quality, and the club played host to other club's member for training and junior club champs - due in-part to the damage and lack of accessibility to the club's West Coast cousin's clubs and equipment.

Mike says it was a season of unlimited but conflicting choices, and the club has had to prioritise the limited time available.

"We saw an increase in the type, size and number of SAR activities that our club and all regions have been called upon to assist with," he says.

"As they do every year, our awesome team of instructors and examiners have continued to qualify new lifeguards and our current lifeguards are refreshing and upskilling wherever possible; helped with the recent addition of our recently funded and acquired Rescue Watercraft. A huge thank you to Trillion Trust.

"An enormous congratulations also to club members for their success at this year's Awards of Excellence, with Tom Lowe taking out Coach of the Year, Brooke Pocock winning U15 Sportswoman of the Year, Michaela Pocock winning U17 Sportswoman of the Year, Danielle McKenzie and Steve Kent respectively winning Open Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year. Jackie Grant also won Examiner of the Year."

"To the Northern Region Chair, board members, CEO, management and staff who have assisted Mairangi Bay SLSC for over a decade, we have greatly appreciated and certainly benefitted from your guidance, knowledge and professionalism, all of which was gratefully received.

"On behalf of the club I would like to thank you all," Mike continues.

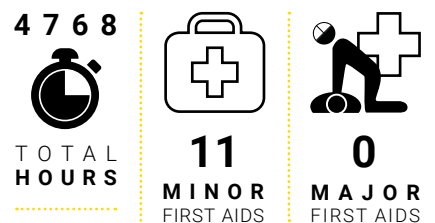
"Stay safe, enjoy your whānau and friends and we look forward to seeing everyone on, in or around the beach this coming season."

Mike Brown  
Committee Chairman, Mairangi Bay Surf Life Saving Club

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT

# MURIWAI

Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service has a proud history of service to its community, going back more than 60 years, and during the 2022-2023 season it has shown once again its mettle and united spirit when facing unprecedented challenges.

The incredible strength and unwavering resilience of both the club and the Muriwai community were evident as they collectively came together to help their friends, family and whānau facing extreme challenges and uncertainties following the flooding and cyclone events of early 2023. The impact on the community has been profound: Cyclone Gabrielle resulted in significant damage to the community, with massive landslides leaving more than 130 red-stickered homes – more than anywhere else in the country.

The club's formidable effort in supporting its community during the emergency response was recognised internationally, with Muriwai Search and Rescue squad leader Glenn Gowthorpe interviewed by the New York Times.

Club President Jo Cooper says the dedication and commitment of the club's members continues to make the Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service proud.

"Each one of us played a vital role supporting each other during this critical time of need. Our Search and Rescue Squad once again demonstrated unwavering

commitment to our community's safety," she says.

"During the emergency evacuations, our Search and Rescue squad showcased their professionalism and commitment. Collaboration with regional emergency services highlighted the effectiveness of our lifeguards' training and coordination, further solidifying the trust placed in us by the community."

"A big thank you to our Patrol Captains, who through leadership and mentorship fostered a positive atmosphere during an extremely challenging time. The club gives it sincere recognition and respect also to those who supported the patrol captains on the beach and surrounding spaces."

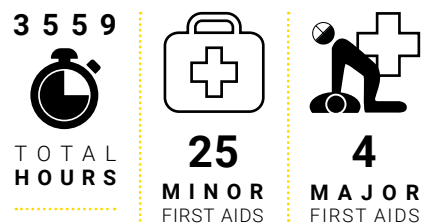
The club's commitment to surf lifesaving was recognised at a regional level at Surf Life Saving Northern Region's 2023 Toyota Financial Services Awards of Excellence. There, Bryce Pearce and Danny Tenhevel each received Distinguished Service awards, while Damian Molloy and Kevin Moran were named as Life Membership Award recipients.

Despite the impacts of the weather events, the club also celebrated some great results across its junior and senior surf sport squads, both in the pool and the arenas. This included the Muriwai Junior surf squad coming second in the medal tally at the Junior Northern Region Championships.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# BTHELLS BEACH

Resilience and unity best express the theme of the 2022-2023 season for Bethells Beach Surf Life Saving Patrol, in particular the club's resilience and unity during the extreme weather events of early 2023, which saw Bethells Beach lose half its clubhouse.

"This season, our club showed our steadfast commitment during adversity, with all our volunteers remaining dedicated to our purpose and doing what they could to help," says Bethells Beach Surf Life Saving Patrol President Sue Brewster.

For Sue, it is about "rising back up" – when Cyclone Gabrielle hit in February 2023, it caused significant destruction in the Te Henga area. The club was forced to demolish the back-end of the clubhouse and seal off the front half to keep a functional first aid room, bathrooms and storage space.

This required an urgent fundraising effort, with the Te Henga and greater West Auckland community pulling together to fundraise the \$35,000 needed to temporary reinstate half the clubhouse so that it could remain (mostly) operational.

"The support of the local community, local board, individuals and organisations has been incredible and has enabled us to continue as a club, even strengthening some of the local relationships – we were united through helping each other and the community. There were so many offers of

help along with goods and services for the reinstatement on top of the \$35,000 raised," she says.

Early 2023 saw Bethells Beach pushing ahead with collaborations with Auckland's west coast surfers, through initiatives like Surfers Rescue 24/7, which the club ran in conjunction with Surfing New Zealand, as well as working alongside other community groups to strengthen water safety in the coastal settlement.

Members of the club's emergency call-out team were pivotal in rescuing local residents, as well as undertaking regular welfare checks. On the day of the cyclone, four local Bethells Beach lifeguards worked to support the community response, conducting several rescues. In the first, they entered a property that was already waist deep under water (and rising), helping three adults, a child, and their pets escape to safety from the home's second-story balcony.

The four lifeguards also conducted a second dramatic rescue at a property with an elderly mother with dementia, who required urgent medical assistance. She was carried from the house and down the drive to a waiting surf vehicle, then transported 3km down the road to a waiting ambulance.

Across the highly disrupted season, the club conducted 92 assists, which resulted in no drownings and fewer rescues being required.

The season was a matter of surviving and maintaining what it could after the cyclone, says Sue.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT

# UNITED NORTH PIHA

If we thought last season was the most disjointed and challenging of our club history, boy did we get another shock this year.

Mother nature did her best to derail our patrols, we had a double drowning, stolen rescue equipment, lost the use of our camping ground and based our patrols out of portacombs, not fun.

As our new building rises from the sand hills the continued support of our local community is never ending. This year, we were able to run our "meet the locals" night to thank them for this support albeit under some marques in the pouring rain. Kiddies day was as someone commented ..the best ever, as it is every year

While there was again a lack of continuity, our lifeguard award training and Junior surf group all groups found "some" way on getting it done, nothing can beat face to face contact. The focus for the early part of the new season is to regather those guards who have drifted away from the club for various reasons and reintroduce them to Club life.

I would mostly like to thank our volunteer lifeguards for their dedication to keeping our North Piha community and beach goers safe, themselves at a level of fitness that allows them to perform these

duties and their willingness to continue to attend training courses that allow them to constantly improve their skills.

The completion of our patrol tower has proven the adage that form follows function. It has been a pleasure to patrol out of and really proven itself as Te Pae, the Herons perch. The tower has gone on to win several architectural awards regionally, nationally and has been nominated for international awards, we are very proud of it.

The Clubhouse building program continues under the steady stewardship of Gareth and the Clubs Trust members. Our tower has become a beacon for the community to focus on and

continue to assist us with the rebuild of our Clubhouse.

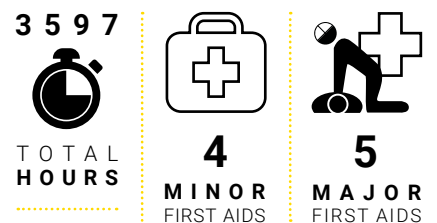
We look forward to the challenge of the new season. When you swim at North Piha you become part of our family, and we want to protect you.

Robert Ferguson  
President  
United North Piha Lifeguard Service

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# PIHA

The Auckland Anniversary floods, and Cyclone Gabrielle were devastating for the Piha community, with multiple landslips causing serious damage to homes and roads, which left the community cut off for several days.

Piha SLSC Chair Nicky Lloyd says that, despite the huge community impact, there have been a significant number of successes for the club in the past season, most notably winning several awards at the annual Toyota Financial Services Awards of Excellence and sporting successes at home and abroad.

“This season we have had our lifeguards putting hands up post Cyclone to support on and off the beach. Our young people are giving back like never before, all the while putting in time to extend their lifeguarding knowledge,” she says.

The season saw the introduction of Piha Ngā Wāhine o te Wai. The brainchild of Piha SLSC Board Member Vicki Tyler, it was devised to tackle issues and create opportunities for wāhine and rangatahi involved with the club, reconnecting them to the water and creating connections within the club.

The successful programme led to the development of Piha Ngā Tāne o te Wai. The programme won the Innovation of the Year award at the Surf Life Saving Northern Region Awards of Excellence.

That wasn't the only award the club picked up on the night, with the Piha Piranhas surfboat team winning Team of the Year, then the Supreme Sports Award. The Piranhas have been a force to be reckoned with both nationally and internationally.

On 12 February when the cyclone Gabrielle hit, the members of Piha Search & Rescue squad and regional guards working in Piha jumped into action. They responded to numerous call outs to assist Piha locals, and completed welfare checks well into the night throughout the flooded areas. During the cyclone, Piha guards conducted three rescues, one major first aid, and 10 assists for 163 people. Over the following days and weeks, the Piha clubrooms became an integral part of the emergency response as a temporary welfare centre. During the eight days the club served more than 1,700 meals to the local community.

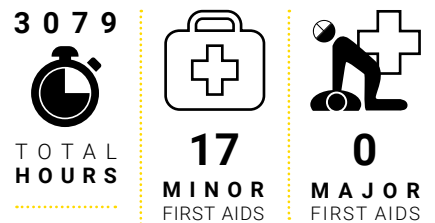
“Local residents seeing Piha SLSC as a home away from home, as a place that can provide what they need in the good times as well as the bad. It was a real honour for Piha to host the wider community within our walls,” says Katie Arden, Piha SLSC GM.

Moving forward, the club plans to further develop the positive impact of the cyclone response on its relationship with the wider Piha community, while building the surf lifesaving capabilities and community facilities of the club.

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT

# KAREKARE

The 2022-2023 season was a year of both triumphs and challenges for Karekare Surf Life Saving Club, particularly the difficulties faced following Cyclone Gabrielle, which led to the temporary closure of the club for the first time since World War II.

Teresa Harvey, Administrator of Karekare Surf Life Saving Club, reflected on the season. "2022-23 season was a mix of highs and lows for Karekare. We officially opened our new clubhouse on 22 September 2022 in collaboration with iwi, life members, and Rt Hon Phil Goff.

"The resilience of our members despite the challenges presented by Cyclone Gabrielle was inspiring," she says.

"We trained six new lifeguards and patrol support members even though the beach was closed. Additionally, we welcomed six new RWC drivers to Karekare and successfully obtained a Code of Compliance for our new clubhouse."

Karekare Surf Life Saving Club extended its support to the community during the challenging post-cyclone recovery period. The club arranged for a generator to be flown in by helicopter to provide power to the community and worked closely with officials to facilitate support for the affected residents. Furthermore, the club lent its emergency equipment to assist with the recovery efforts.

The clubhouse was made readily available for meetings, mental health workshops, and as a safe place for the community to congregate.

Damaged roads forced the closure of the beach and restricted access for members. However, Karekare's clubbies showed their innovation by creating a new track on the opposite side to maintain access.

Despite the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle, Karekare Surf Life Saving Club continued training its rookies off-site, with experienced members providing support throughout the process.

One of the most inspiring aspects of the 2022-23 season was the remarkable resilience demonstrated by the club members. Despite facing the loss of homes and the destruction of their community, they remained strong and committed to rebuilding.

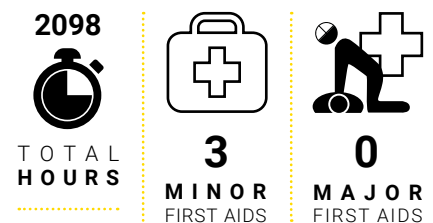
Looking ahead, Karekare Surf Life Saving Club's goals and priorities for the upcoming season remain clear. The club aims to maintain a strong presence on the beach, providing an excellent lifesaving service to the community and visitors to Karekare.

Additionally, the club is dedicated to supporting their young lifeguards in developing and extending their skills, supporting the club's long-standing lifeguards to serve the community, and facilitating the qualification of those interested in RWC training.

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



## SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# KARIAOTAHU

Kariaotahi Surf Life Saving Club had a relatively quiet season this year, in terms of rescue operations, however, the season was met with an increase in preventative actions carried out by the proactive patrol teams. These teams took the initiative to ensure the safety of their community, which was highlighted during extreme weather-related incidents where the Search and Rescue (SAR) squad supported other emergency agencies on standby for the wider Auckland community.

As there has never been cell phone reception at Kariaotahi Beach, the Kariaotahi crew worked with One NZ this year to install a cell phone repeater on the side of the surf club, giving cell phone reception to the immediate area around the club. The lack of reception posed great danger when attempting to raise alarms during after-hours incidents, and this installation has already led to shorter response times for after-hours incidents.

The club has continued to build strong relationships with other emergency service groups in the area over the season including Fire and Emergency New Zealand, Police, ambulance, and Coastguard New Zealand. This included joint training exercises and familiarising the

club with emergency service capabilities. These efforts paid off throughout the season, enabling support during incidents and increasing overall efficiency.

Throughout the 2022-23 season, Kariaotahi Surf Life Saving Club continued to prioritise internal training, which has seen the club qualify four additional Rescue Water Craft (RWC) operators.

Kariaotahi Vice President Bradley Walters says a concern for Kariaotahi has been the deteriorating state of the current club rooms.

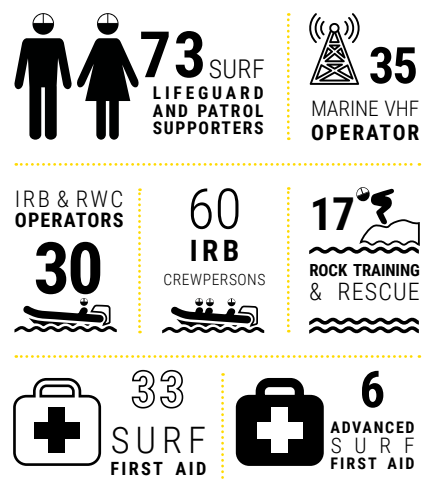
"Before long, our club rooms will become uninhabitable. We are currently working to overcome these issues by continuing to apply to charities, internal fundraiser campaigns, and working with local businesses," he says.

"Having such poor club facilities is definitely taking its toll on the social side of the club and making it difficult to keep members engaged. We're hopeful that construction will commence on a new clubhouse next year."

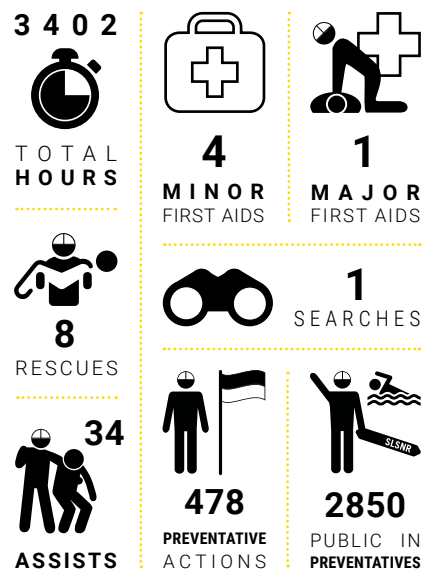
Bradley Walters says the recognition of the club's achievements at this year's SLSNR Awards of Excellence is particularly rewarding.

"We were absolutely thrilled to take home Rescue of the Year award this year, with three guards saving the lives of three swimmers in a matter of minutes," he says. "Our SAR squads are an essential part of our club, always poised to respond swiftly and act fast under pressure. We're incredibly proud of their efforts this season."

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE







## CLUB REPORT

# SUNSET BEACH

The 2022-23 season has been a demanding one for the Sunset Beach Surf Lifeguard Service. Faced with challenges brought on by the severe weather experienced over the summer, club President Malcolm Beattie says in the 60-year history of Sunset Beach, the club has never experienced such adversity and weather conditions that tested them time and time again.

"Cyclone Gabrielle destroyed our access to the beach overnight, and we were forced to take short-term action to maintain safety and get our equipment to the beach," he says.

"The Club members' resolve during this period was well above a 'duty call' basis. They endured hardship and stress during this period, but their commitment to the community was outstanding."

One of the club's biggest accomplishments during these trying times has been the success of the IRB team. Despite unusual and stressful conditions, Malcolm says they have consistently risen to the occasion. Additionally, the support provided by Sunset Beach during Cyclone Gabrielle has been "nothing short of exceptional". The club provided assistance to the vulnerable and elderly, and facilities were open to those in dire need, showcasing the commitment to the community.

The establishment of the club's community

hub has proven instrumental, as it has become the central gathering point for all Port Waikato community groups during these troubled times. Malcolm proudly notes, "witnessing the community hub utilised by all Port Waikato community groups is a testament to our club's commitment to fostering a sense of togetherness."

While the past season has been demanding, the volunteer lifeguards and their families have demonstrated persistence and determination. In the recent history of Sunset Beach, the club has never faced such relentless weather conditions, including floods, property damage, and continuous rainfall during patrol weekends.

Looking ahead, the key challenges for the club remain beach access and gaining support at a local government level. As Malcolm emphasises, beach access will continue to be the club's greatest challenge this coming season, and gaining support at a local government level will continue to test its resolve.

"Our primary goal is to ensure the maintenance of beach access, a vital lifeline for our community," he says.

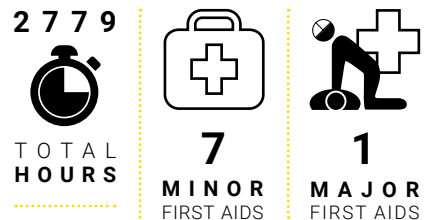
"We also aspire to expand our membership base to reach 150 active volunteer lifeguards and maintain our dominance in IRB competition leading up to the 2024 World Championships, aiming to retain our world title."

In the face of adversity, Sunset Beach Surf Lifesaving Club remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguarding the community and facing challenges head-on.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE





## CLUB REPORT

# RAGLAN

The Raglan Surf Life Saving Club had another successful year thanks to all those involved with the club from lifeguards through to sponsors, supporters, and the board. President of the Raglan Surf Life Saving Club, Daniel Wilson has reflected on the season, which he says has been a successful one as the club worked to keep the public safe.

"Our members have worked tirelessly to ensure another successful season with no fatalities on our beach," says Daniel.

"I thank everybody for their commitment to the operation of the club and hours spent on the beach or in the background."

Following on from two years of Covid restrictions, the club looked forward to welcoming visitors back to the area, however, reduced beach attendance was seen over a traditionally busy period due to a state highway slip and poor water quality. Despite facing these challenges, alongside operating without a tower, the club persevered, acquiring a new mobile tower to enhance gear transport and continuing to provide opportunities for its members through winter training and participation in surf sports, which saw them place at various competitions throughout the season.

This season also saw the Raglan Surf Life Saving Club reach some major milestones. Chairperson Sarah Amooore says their

proudest accomplishment has been the substantial growth in membership, with the club qualifying twenty-four new lifeguards and patrol supporters during the season.

"For a smaller club like ours, this is a huge number," she says.

"This significant growth in lifeguards has allowed us to grow as a club and upskill our members through first aid courses and other training".

The club successfully navigated the management of a predominantly U18 lifeguard team while still ensuring the club's volunteers received the right support and respect.

In addition to membership growth, the influx of new, young guards has seen the club prioritise the implementation of new policies and measures in areas such as fuel compliance, to maintain its commitment to safety and best practice.

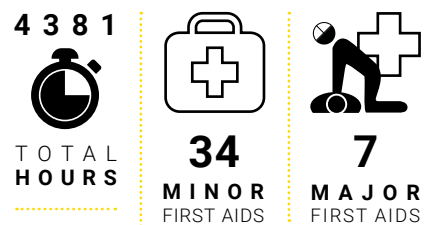
Looking ahead to the coming season, the club's focus is to retain its patrolling lifeguards, foster team unity, and achieve financial stability, while continuing to strengthen ties with the local community and other community rescue services like Police Search and Rescue and Coastguard New Zealand.

This coming season will also see the celebration of the Raglan Surf Life Saving Club's 50-year reunion. The rebuild of the club's tower remains a top priority, with hopes of earthworks starting at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 season.

### ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



### SEASON AT A GLANCE



# SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION FACILITY REDEVELOPMENTS

## UNITED NORTH PIHA PROJECT UPDATE

The 2023 Fiscal Year has been instrumental for the United North Piha Community Trust, navigating through a labyrinth of challenges to make significant strides in facility development. Despite cost overruns, extreme weather conditions, and increasingly complex funding landscapes, unwavering community and club support has been pivotal.

## TE PAE: THE LIFESAVING TOWER

Initiated in 2019, the project's first phase focused on constructing the lifeguard tower—Te Pae—at North Piha, one of New Zealand's most stunning yet perilous surf beaches. The objective was to replace the existing structure with a functional, durable facility designed to endure the harsh coastal elements.

Te Kawerau ā Maki, the local Māori iwi, bestowed the tower with the name Te Pae, which signifies 'a place to perch'—an apt reflection of its function. This cultural incorporation added a layer of depth to the tower's identity.

In line with sustainable architecture, prefabricated concrete sections were employed to minimize environmental impact. The design captures the essence of North Piha, from the black oxidized concrete echoing the beach's unique black sand to its form which blends with the dunes yet stands distinctly against the backdrop.

The tower's sustainable features include operable windows, high insulation levels, sun protection, thermal mass, and natural light optimization. It ensures both visibility and protection for the lifeguards, fulfilling not just operational needs but also fostering a connection back to the clubhouse.

### Achievements:

- 2022 World Architecture Festival, Lisbon: Finalist
- 2023 Concrete NZ Nauhria Awards: Winner of the Monte Craven Award for Excellence in Architectural Concrete
- 2023 Architizer A+ Awards: Finalist in Architecture + Small Projects
- 2023 NZIA Local Awards: Winner in Small Project Architecture

## LIFESAVING FACILITY CLUBHOUSE: STAGE TWO

The next step is all about the lifesaving clubhouse, nestled just behind Te Pae further back from the coastline. Unfortunately, construction kicked off right when the weather decided not to cooperate, causing unexpected challenges and driving up costs. But the club is not letting that slow them down; and are still well on track to wrapping things up in the coming fiscal year.

The work to date highlights not just the achievements and awards the already completed facility Te Pae facility has garnered, but also the trials faced and the strong values that guide the United North Piha project.







**LIFESAVING  
SERVICE DELIVERY**







# 2022-23 OPERATIONAL SEASON OVERVIEW

Finally free of the Covid-19 restrictions that had disrupted previous years, Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) lifeguards had every reason to believe the 2023-23 surf lifesaving season would bring a return to the way it was pre-pandemic, with sun, surf, and lots of in-water fun. Unfortunately, Mother Nature intervened and brought something completely unexpected, with several significant weather events, most notably the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, hitting the region hard.

These were some of the most severe weather events we have had to endure in recent memory. The incredible actions of our lifeguards, both during and in the wake of these weather events, show commitment, capability, and determination of which we can all be extremely proud. The resulting flooding, Search and Rescue callouts, damaged buildings, slips, and fatalities has left ongoing disruption, visible geographical scars, and significant psychological reverberations for many of our communities. Several of our surf clubs set themselves up to operate as community and civil defence hubs for storm-affected residents, and the heroic and public-spirited actions of our lifeguards and clubs have been widely reported in the media.



# RESCUE WATER CRAFT (RWC)

The SLSNR RWC program is in a constant state of progression and growth. In addition to expanding our fleet of RWCs, new and improved equipment has been added to support and advance the service. There is significant enthusiasm from many surf clubs that do not currently operate RWCs to introduce these into their rescue craft arsenal. RWCs are proving to be a highly-valued asset to patrols, and provide a faster, more effective service for both rescues and preventative actions. Feedback from Northern Region clubs and RWC operators has reinforced that the RWC is becoming a useful tool in patrolling member retention, as well as an attractive promotional tool to members who may be looking at alternative ways of upskilling their watercraft knowledge.

With centralised government funding assistance, several new beach dollies were distributed to RWC equipped clubs. These beach dollies are designed to make launching and retrieval of the heavy craft faster and easier.

As with last season, the RWC programme is continuing to expand, with more and more clubs interested in becoming RWC operational. SLSNR operate the largest fleet of RWCs nationally: at the end of the 2022-23 season, there were nine club locations with RWCs available for operational use. In addition, SLSNR now has a 'spare' RWC that can be utilised for training, exams and Paid Lifeguard Service (City Ski) use.

In the past 12 months, with the support of Yamaha Motor New Zealand and centralised government funding, all clubs running Yamaha RWCs (under the existing lease program) had brand-new craft delivered.

Looking ahead to the 2023-24 season it is expected that another three Northern Region clubs – Karekare, Piha, and Mairangi Bay – will also become RWC operational.



# PAID LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR SAM REINEN



Sam is an all-round legend. A great person and leader, Sam consistently upholds the values of SLSNR and is always happy to pass on knowledge and advice.

He has a great balance of fun and professionalism, has fast decision-making skills and loves being out on the water. He is a great teacher, and lets junior lifeguards have a say in decisions and beach management, which has helped his guards to build their confidence. Sam has been a consistently reliable lifeguard through his whole career. He is an asset to our service and is well deserving of this award.





# PAID LIFEGUARD OUTSTANDING FIRST SEASON 2022/2023 TORRIN LINKHORN



Torrin is only in his first year as a paid lifeguard, and already his future is looking bright. A real “frother” for all things lifesaving, Torrin is always keen to learn and develop skills, while also willing to share his knowledge and upskill others.

Torrin enjoys even the most miserable days on patrol, keeping his spirits high and lifting those around him. He has the potential to be an excellent Patrol Captain, and we look forward to seeing his future in the service.



# PAID LIFEGUARD SERVICE

## Paid Lifeguard Service







The SLSNR Paid Lifeguard Service (PLS) commenced on 28th of November 2022, and ran for 14 weeks through to 3rd of March 2023. Paid lifeguard services were delivered at all 18 SLSNR clubs, as well as at four accompanying "satellite" patrols, resulting in a total of 22 patrol locations.

This season, SLSNR employed 113 lifeguards from a list of 135 applicants. We were also lucky enough to have a pool of 21 casual employees that were available to fill gaps in the roster as needed.

It was great to welcome the return of international lifeguards to the PLS for the first time in two seasons – we fielded enquiries from as

far away as Germany and the USA. During the 2022-23 season, our main pool of international guards came from the UK's Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). Out of 35 applications received, we employed 19 applicants from the UK and Ireland.

As with many other surf lifesaving activities – from competitive lifesaving to community education – PLS patrols were similarly disrupted by extreme weather events. Our lifeguards were involved in many of the storm-related incident responses, and had to endure flooding, road closures, and slips, including one that left the Mangawhai Heads clubhouse uninhabitable. Thanks to the huge efforts from Mangawhai Heads club members, PLS patrols were back in operation the next morning.

Areas of Work	Q2 Oct-Dec	Q3 Jan-March	YE2022	YE2023
 <b>Number of people rescued</b>	53	37	71	<b>90</b>
 <b>Number of people assisted</b>	97	46	173	<b>143</b>
 <b>Number of First Aids</b>	115	88	243	<b>203</b>
 <b>Number of searches</b>	20	17	66	<b>37</b>
 <b>Number of preventatives</b>	5502	4387	14840	<b>9889</b>
 <b>Number of hours worked</b>	12282	18484	30600	<b>30765</b>





S BETWEEN THE FLA

DHL  
SURF LIFEGUARD

DHL  
SURF LIFEGUARD

DHL  
SURF LIFEGUARD

ponsored by  
NATIONAL  
SPORA



# SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES

It will come as no surprise that Surf Life Saving Northern Region's (SLSNR) Search and Rescue (SAR) Squads have had yet another busy season. This year, our SAR squads have been forced to increase their capability and capacity to respond to a greater variety of incidents than ever before – every SAR squad within the Northern Region was activated at least once during the season, with an average of **7** activations per squad. Raglan was activated most frequently, with **14** separate SAR call-outs. There were **35** SAR callouts in February alone, **28** of these relating to flood-responses in Northland and Auckland during and after Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland anniversary floods.

In the months since Cyclone Gabrielle, SLSNR's SAR Squads have shown remarkable resilience in both their ongoing SAR responses, and their commitment to maintaining and developing their skills through training, including participating in joint training exercises with other squads, and in conjunction with other first response agencies, including Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) and New Zealand Police.

## Challenges during the season:

Ongoing training and skills development of SAR squads, including planned multi-agency training exercises, was hampered by extreme weather events and subsequent restrictions around some areas.

## Future developments and recommendations:

SAR squad training and development will be a core focus of the newly established Lifesaving Support Officer role within SLSNR. It is anticipated the establishment of this new role will help to enhance the quality of training available to, and increase the capabilities of SLSNR SAR squads.

In YE2024, SLSNR and Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ) will review the scope of both regional and national SAR response capabilities as their assistance is increasingly sought to support rescue and response efforts for natural disasters and extreme weather events. This review will consider levels of training for SAR squad members, and specific requirements identified for, or advances in personal protective equipment (PPE) and equipment.

## Duty Officers and Peer Supporters

This season we have 20 National Duty Officers, seven regional Duty Officers and 17 Local Duty Officers, the most SLSNR has ever had. During the extreme weather events, our Duty Officers were on a 24/7 roster, manning the operations room, the Incident Management Teams (IMTs) and response centres in Northland and Auckland, and ensuring we had much clearer communications with local Police,

FENZ and emergency management organisations.

Duty Officers responded to the scene of at least 35 different incidents this season, including both After Hours and Patrol incidents.

SLSNR has a strong team of **61** active Peer Supporters, with every club having at least one. A small group were sent to Hawke's Bay in February to assist in ongoing rescue efforts during Cyclone Gabrielle. This space continues to be a vital support system to our volunteers.

## Flood Response Training:

The number of flood response-trained SAR squad members is steadily increasing within SLSNR, with more Swift Water Technicians' courses scheduled this year. Flood Boat courses are also planned, however date are yet to be confirmed.

SLSNZ is working to secure funding and a line of procurement for flood response PPE.

## Looking Forward to YE2024:

From next season, SLSNR's SAR and SurfCom capabilities will be divided into two parts, with a portion handed over to SLSNZ. SurfCom, the Radio Network and National Duty Officers will move under the helm of SLSNZ, while the new Lifesaving Support Officer role will take on the responsibility of the SLSNR SAR Squads and Local Duty Officers.

This transition is currently underway, and SLSNZ will appoint a National SurfCom Manager and National Radio Network Manager. SLSNZ has appointed a part-time SurfCom operator in the interim as the transition takes place, with the full transition to be complete by 1 July 2023.





# SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES

## NOTABLE CALLOUTS



### **RESCUE @ Raglan Harbour. 02/07/22. 1318.**

Male has fallen off a jetski and is in the water, wearing a lifejacket. Raglan SAR Squad responded and commenced a search around the bar and harbour entrance. Patient was confirmed safe and well on shore at Manu Bay before all assets were stood down.



### **RESCUE @ Manu Bay. 06/10/22. 1240.**

Surfers being sucked out in rip in huge swells, 500m offshore. SAR lifeguard responded and rescued three surfers, returning all safely to shore.



### **RESCUE @ Raglan. 08/10/22. 1351.**

15yo male body boarder and 12yo female swimming towards shore not making an progress directly in front of surf club. IRB returned two patients safely to shore.



### **RESCUE @ Kai Iwi Lakes. 16/10/22. 1305.**

Off duty lifeguard located male patient face down in water. Commenced CPR, after 3-4 rounds the patient started coughing. Helicopter responded to the scene.



### **RESCUE @ Karekare. 27/10/22. 1718.**

5 x people swept out at Karekare Beach. Karekare SAR tasked. All people made it back to shore. One required further medical assistance.



### **SEARCH @ Karekare. 12/11/22. 1453.**

Police requested Karekare to assist in a land search at low tide from Karekare to Whatipu to look for a missing 10yo from Clarks Beach. 2x ATVs taken for 1 hour. Nothing was found.



### **MEDICAL @ Waipū. 14/11/22. 1856.**

On beach, 100m from car park. 49yo female rescued from water, conscious, fast and shallow breathing. SAR Squad responded and treated the patient with oxygen until the ambulance arrived. Patient transported from scene by ambulance.



### **SEARCH @ Peach Cove. 16/11/22. 1716.**

Missing diver in the Smugglers/Peach Cove area. Police request IRBs to search towards the area in both directions. 1xIRB and 1 x RWC from Ruakākā and 2 x IRBs from Whangarei launched to commence an in-water search alongside Coastguard and Northland SAR. Diver was located safe and well.



### **ASSIST @ SH1, Kaitaia. 18/08/22. 1234.**

Police request assistance with land rescues and evacuation of persons from flood water. Lifeguards responded with 2 x IRBs from Ahipara. 1 female patient was rescued from her home, safe and well and did not require any further assistance.



### **MEDICAL @ Mairangi Bay. 27/08/22. 1337.**

85yo female patient in cardiac arrest. Lifeguards at the beach doing IRB training responded with one surf first aid kit and a defib.



### **MEDICAL @ Kariaotahi Beach. 17/09/22. 1420.**

Motorbike crash, 1x male patient conscious and breathing but with back pain lying in the wet sand below the high tide mark. Lifeguards were on scene and saw the incident happen, so they provided first aid care until Westpac arrived on scene and departed with patient to hospital.



### **RESCUE @ Mangawhai Bar. 18/09/22. 1622.**

Vessel capsized. 2 patients on rocks nearby. Lifeguards collected both patients from rocks with 1x IRB and delivered them to the ATV and then to the surf club. The vessel was then pulled onto the beach by lifeguards.



### **ASSIST @ Kaipara Harbour. 24/09/22. 1430.**

1 x female kayaker without lifejacket tipped out of kayak due to strong current. Unable to re-enter. Outgoing tide swept her 100m down the beach where she beached in the mudflats. Off-duty lifeguard responded and assisted patient to safety. Patient had sustained cuts to hands, wrists, and feet - some quite deep. Cuts were cared for, and patient was recommended to see a doctor.



**SEARCH @ Peach Cove. 16/11/22. 1811.**

Missing tramper. IRBs already responding to a successful search to perform slow, shoreline search from current location towards Peach Cove to meet police. 3 x IRBs and 1 x RWC were involved in a shoreline search for the missing tramper. Person was located at the top of a waterfall; lifeguards were used for transport of Police Ropes Rescue Unit and eventually the patient was okay once rescued.

**RESCUE @ Mangawhai. 29/11/22. 1532.**

Lifeguards doing Beach Education were alerted to a patient on a boat requiring assistance by two kayakers. Back up from SAR Squad was requested. Lifeguards launched 1xIRB, and towed vessel to safety as the patient refused help until boat was safe. Patient had head injuries, blood nose, slurred speech, in shock. Transported to safety and met by ambulance at the club. Escorted home by police.

**RECOVERY @ Urqharts Bay. 02/12/22. 1108.**

Northland SAR requested Surf assistance with water extraction of a missing fisherman that has been located status 0. Police wanted 1x IRB to meet them just below the gun emplacement on the south head of the bay. Lifeguards met police on the beach to plan, recovery was completed and everyone was brought back to shore. Lifeguards returned to club for debrief.

**RESCUE @ Manu Bay. 11/12/22. 0651.**

Report of a capsized vessel with 3 persons in the water approximately 20m from shore. All patients returned to shore. Some given first aid. Ambulance responded to surf club to assess.

**MEDICAL @ Raglan. 19/01/23. 1958.**

19yo female dumped by a wave, suspected spinal and ingested water. Lost consciousness while with lifeguards, ambulance on scene. Helicopter responded and departed with patient.

**RESUSCITATION @ United. 21/01/23. 1800.**

Lifeguards responded with 1 x IRB and pulled first patient from water, returned to shore and began CPR mid-way down beach. A second patient was still missing last seen in the water. Eagle helicopter landed in shallow water and were first to be on scene with the second patient. CPR continued on both patients; the outcome was unsuccessful.

**SEARCH @ Waipū Estuary. 23/01/23. 1032.**

60yo male, suspected to have jumped off the bridge by the boat club into the Waipū Estuary. IRB responded with 2x members from Waipū SAR. HeliMed, FENZ and Police were already on scene when they arrived. HeliMed directed the IRB to the patient, where he was recovered and brought back to the shore.

**RECOVERY @ Ruakākā River. 05/02/23. 0944.**

Patient found by member of public in the Ruakākā River, Police requested lifeguard assistance for the recovery. Lifeguards returned the patient to the surf club, where ambulance were waiting.

**RESCUE @ Ōmaha. 09/02/23. 1255.**

2 x kayaks at the north end of Ōmaha, one capsized, people in water needing help. Lifeguards responded with 1 x rescue board and 1 x IRB. Both patients and their kayaks safely returned to shore and required no further assistance.

**SEARCH @ Doubtless Bay. 17/02/23. 0917.**

Police requested Far North SAR Squad to help search for a missing kayaker. Last seen the previous night. 3x lifeguards and 1x IRB responded from Far North out to Aurere Beach to search along with Coastguard Air Patrol. Patient located tangled in rope, however patient came free and sunk. Assisted with the search until Police Dive Squad arrived. Stood down for the day by Police and returned to surf club for an operations and wellbeing debrief. Search continued two days later alongside police and Navy. 2 x IRBs, 3 lifeguards from Ruakākā and Far North. Nothing found.

**MEDICAL @ Muriwai. 04/03/23. 0807.**

50yo female stood off her board wrong and broke her leg and was assisted up higher on shore to avoid sweeping waves. Called 111, requesting an ambulance and helicopter. Muriwai SAR member arrived on scene just before the ambulance did. Assisted paramedics with first aid. Transported up to the ambulance before being taken back down to the helicopter on the beach.

**MEDICAL @ Ahipara. 13/03/23. 1954.**

Patient fell off horse, St John requested lifeguard assistance with transport. Far North SAR Squad were activated and responded. Lifeguards assisted the patient with a possible broken arm to the ambulance who transported the patient to hospital.

**MEDICAL @ Bream Head Track. 07/04/23. 1614.**

1 x patient with badly broken arm. Lifeguards responded and assisted in transporting patient back to the surf club. Assessed, administered paracetamol and then transported to their car at the Peach Cove carpark.

# RESCUE OF THE YEAR

## KARIAOTAHU SAR



On Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 1535 the Surf Lifesaving Kariaotahi (SLSC) search and rescue (SAR) squad were advised of a 13 year old struggling in water at Kariaotahi Beach.

Police were on scene and were going to provide additional details. This page fired the squad into action and members began heading out to the beach. Shannon and Taylor arrived first, opened the club and began setting up a boat. They were closely followed by Bradley who had liaised with Police on his way through the carpark who had told him that the incident was 200m North of the club. Bradley and Taylor despatched from the club with the IRB and Shannon took comms.

They heading North along the beach with the Viking and launched the IRB where family and members of the public were gathering.

It was at this point they were told there were 3 people in trouble in the water as 2 bystanders had head in to help the original patient. Bradley and Taylor swiftly launched the IRB and headed out to the 2 bystanders, 1 of whom was not far of going under. They pulled them both back into the boat and spotted the third patient. However due to the position of the patient being on a shallow bar with big waves they decided to drop the first 2 patients back to shore and then headed out for the third. They negotiated over the waves secured the third patient and got him safely back to the beach.

All 3 patients were stable however due to the amount of salt water swallowed and the exhaustion they were all advised to head to the local medical centre for a check over.

The time from original page to having 3 patients on the beach was approximately 15 minutes. If it was not for the swift response from the SAR squad and the ability to act fast under pressure then loss of life would have been certain this afternoon.









# SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES AWARDS



## KATH MANNING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES

Kath has really stepped up her involvement in SAR this year and by her own account is absolutely loving it. Because she lives close to the beach, she is able to respond to almost all incidents, and is committed to having the best trained squad possible.

Kath has been exemplary this season in the SAR space, with her shining moment being part of the Northland Incident Management Team as a local Duty Officer. She has coordinated the Waipū Cove SAR squad, organising trainings and encouraging new members to join. She was involved in the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Forum SAREX in October 2022, responding as a duty officer along with Police, FENZ, St John Ambulance, Coastguard New Zealand, the New Zealand Customs Service and New Zealand Land Search and Rescue.

She has responded to seven emergencies this season alone and was a key operator in SLSNR's response to the cyclone and flooding in Northland. She has become the SLSNR contact for Northland emergency services, and attended the SAR Summit as well as many national SAR briefings. She has also worked with other Northland SAR squads to create a cohesive group, especially in the flooding responses, helping SLSNR clubs to develop closer relationships with emergency services, building their trust in our response capabilities.

Kath even represented SLSNR in a meeting with the NZ Prime Minister to discuss the SAR response.

Her dedication to the region and willingness to say yes to every opportunity has made her one of the most involved local duty officers this season, shown as she joined the 24/7 roster over the cyclone to be stationed at the Northland IMT.

Kath is a great inspiration to the lifeguards around her and is always supporting others and helping them through even the toughest times.



## RUAKAKA SURF LIFE SAVING PATROL **SEARCH AND RESCUE SQUAD OF THE YEAR**

The Ruakākā Surf Life Saving Patrol SAR Squad has been an incredible asset this year, not just to their local Bream Bay community but also further afield. They responded to 14 incidents across Northland this year alone, performing a key role during multiple responses over the season, showcasing the skill and professionalism of surf life saving's SAR response.

This season first saw the Ruakākā team's skills admired and praised by many other agencies, including like Police Search and Rescue, the New Zealand Customs Service and Coastguard New Zealand during the October SAREX, when a no-duff was called due to the weather packing in while multiple patients were still in need of rescue.

This involved the Ruakākā team (alongside Whangārei Heads and Waipū Cove) crewing an RWC and IRB in gale-force winds and huge swells, performing rock rescues and transferring patients in the moving seas onto the Coastguard and Customs boats. All of this was coordinated by the Ruakākā RWC.

This was followed soon after by two separate Search and Rescue incidents in low-light conditions along the Bream Head Coastline. Ruakākā coordinated multiple assets from both Whangārei Heads and Ruakākā – and then showcased their advanced skills when night fell and they were able to continue the response with their night kit for both the IRB and RWC.

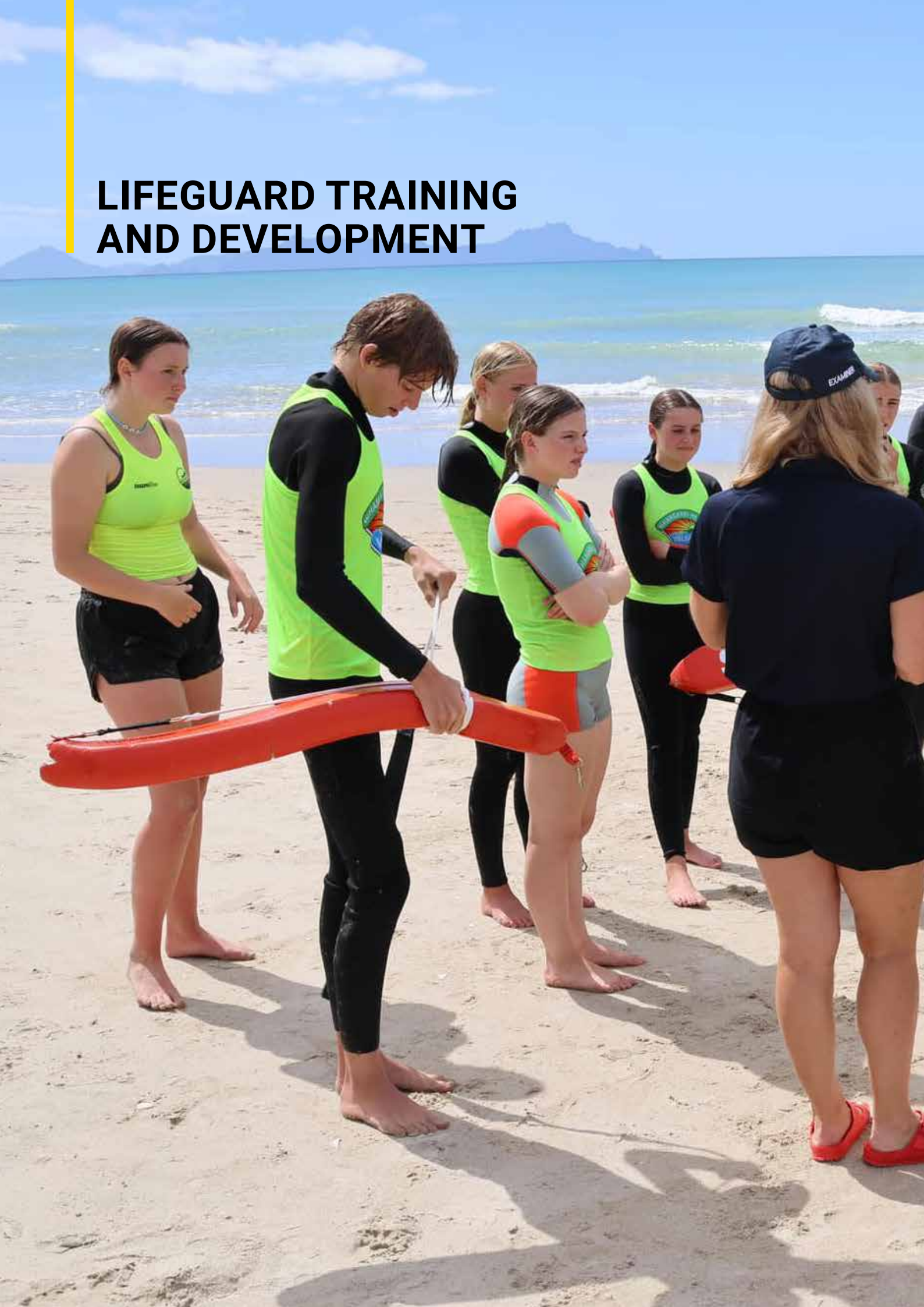
Ruakākā's role as the key on-the-ground squad in terms of coordination during multi-agency responses continued during flooding caused by Cyclone Gabrielle. Ruakākā provided the majority of the gear and man-power on the ground for days following the event, and worked alongside SAR squads from Bayllys Beach, Whangārei Heads and Waipū Cove to assist. Ruakākā were also recognised on a national level by New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZ SAR) for their assistance with the search for an elderly man who went missing in Whangārei, with the team searching the town basin and outlets along the Hātea River.

The work Ruakākā SAR has done to improve and develop not only their own squad, but also other Northland squads is outstanding. They supported Far North, travelling to Doubtless Bay to assist with a search for a missing kayaker over the summer. This included deploying gear and personnel to a remote area and liaising with multiple other agencies.

They are a prime example of a high-performing SAR squad, and a deserving recipient of SAR Squad of the Year.



# LIFEGUARD TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

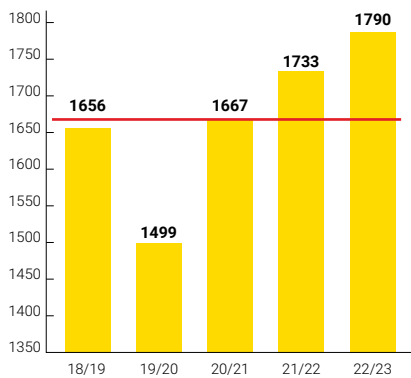




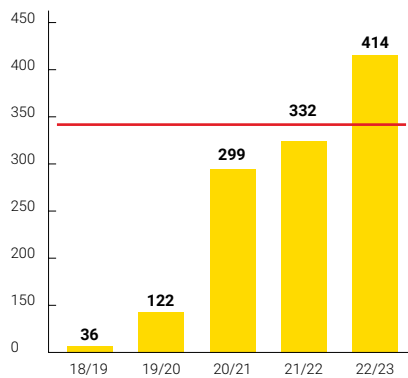


# 2022/2023 TRAINING (LIFESAVING)

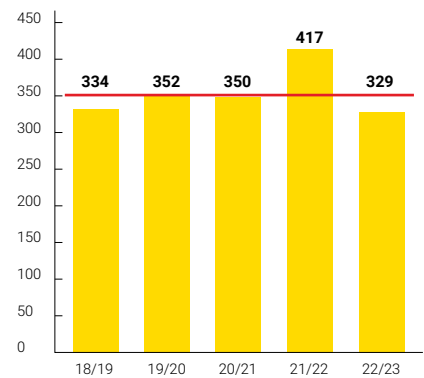
**ACTIVE SURF LIFEGUARD /  
PATROL SUPPORTERS**



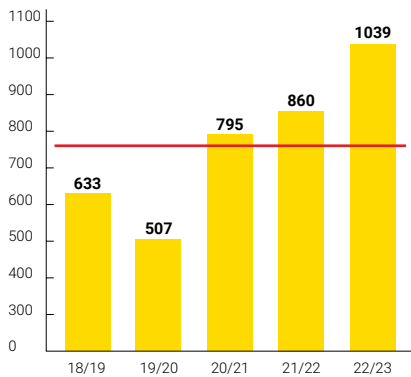
**ACTIVE ROCK READY  
LIFEGUARDS**



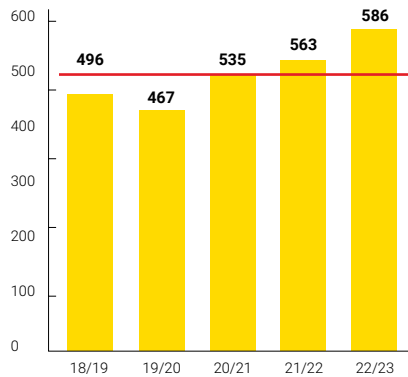
**ACTIVE SENIOR LIFEGUARD  
AWARD - IRB DRIVERS**



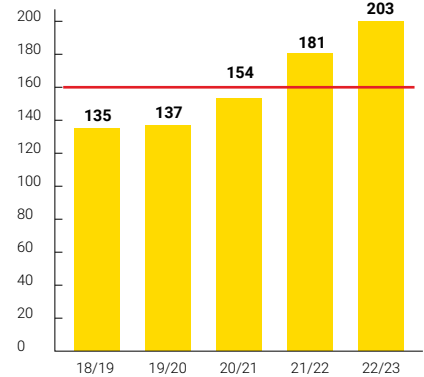
**ACTIVE IRB  
CREWPERSONS**



**ACTIVE MARINE VHF  
OPERATORS**



**ACTIVE PATROL  
CAPTAINS**



\*horizontal red bar is 5-year average



# TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

## Overview

Training has progressed well during season YE2023 and while COVID has not had an impact, weather events in early 2023 did create a situation where scheduled courses were postponed which resulted in a very busy March/April period.

The change to the new e-trainu platform meant many club administrators were left with the task of getting up to speed at the start of the season and figuring out how to get refreshers loaded. As the season progressed noted issues appeared to reduce and refresher rates, while off to a slow start, improved to be on a par with previous seasons.

## Qualifications and Training – Exams YE2023

Instructors and examiners were kept busy over the YE2023 season with 20 Surf Lifeguard Award/Patrol Support beach exams being held at locations around the region. Given the disruption from weather events early in 2023, this is a fantastic result and reflects the hard work of the many volunteer instructors and examiners around the region.

## Surf Lifeguard and Patrol Support Awards

YE2023 season continued a consistent level of new newly qualified Lifeguards and Patrol Support members.

Of note is that while there is justifiable concern regarding the level of refresher rates in NR, in the data we see a consistency in refresher rates over the past 4 years. With good management, we should be able to improve this in YE2024.

## IRB Awards

IRB Crew module completion has increased in YE2023 season. Crew training is seen by SLSNZ as a vital component to reducing IRB crewperson injuries.

Driver training has been hampered by lack of access to west coast beaches, but access exemptions were sought, and IRB training and exams have continued. With additional protection of wetsuits, it is anticipated that IRB training and exams will continue through the cooler winter months.

## RWC (Rescue Water Craft) Training & Development

In addition to NR support for the SLSNZ RWC program in other regions, 4 RWC exams were held in NR over the season. This resulted in an additional **25** local RWC operators. With **56** existing RWC operators having refreshed, we have **81** active RWC operators at the end of the 2022/23 season. This presents a significant improvement in RWC operational capability within NR.

## First Aid Training

It is of some concern that the number of lifeguards attaining or refreshing Surf First Aid qualifications has trended down over the past 2 seasons.

We do not yet have a conclusive understanding on the reduction in First Aid training, but clubs have indicated there was some difficulty in booking dates for courses with service providers.

**Risk:** Lowered capability at patrolled locations due to insufficient frontline lifeguards with current first aid qualifications.

**Possible solution:** Regionally run First Aid training, with appropriate promotion.

## Instructors/Examiners

Clubs continued to develop new instructors and examiners over the season. Continuing to increase the numbers of instructors and examiners is essential to reduce reliance on a small group of volunteers.

Of note is the significant increase in refresher rates for instructors and examiners. This is likely due to a revised, simplified refresher process.

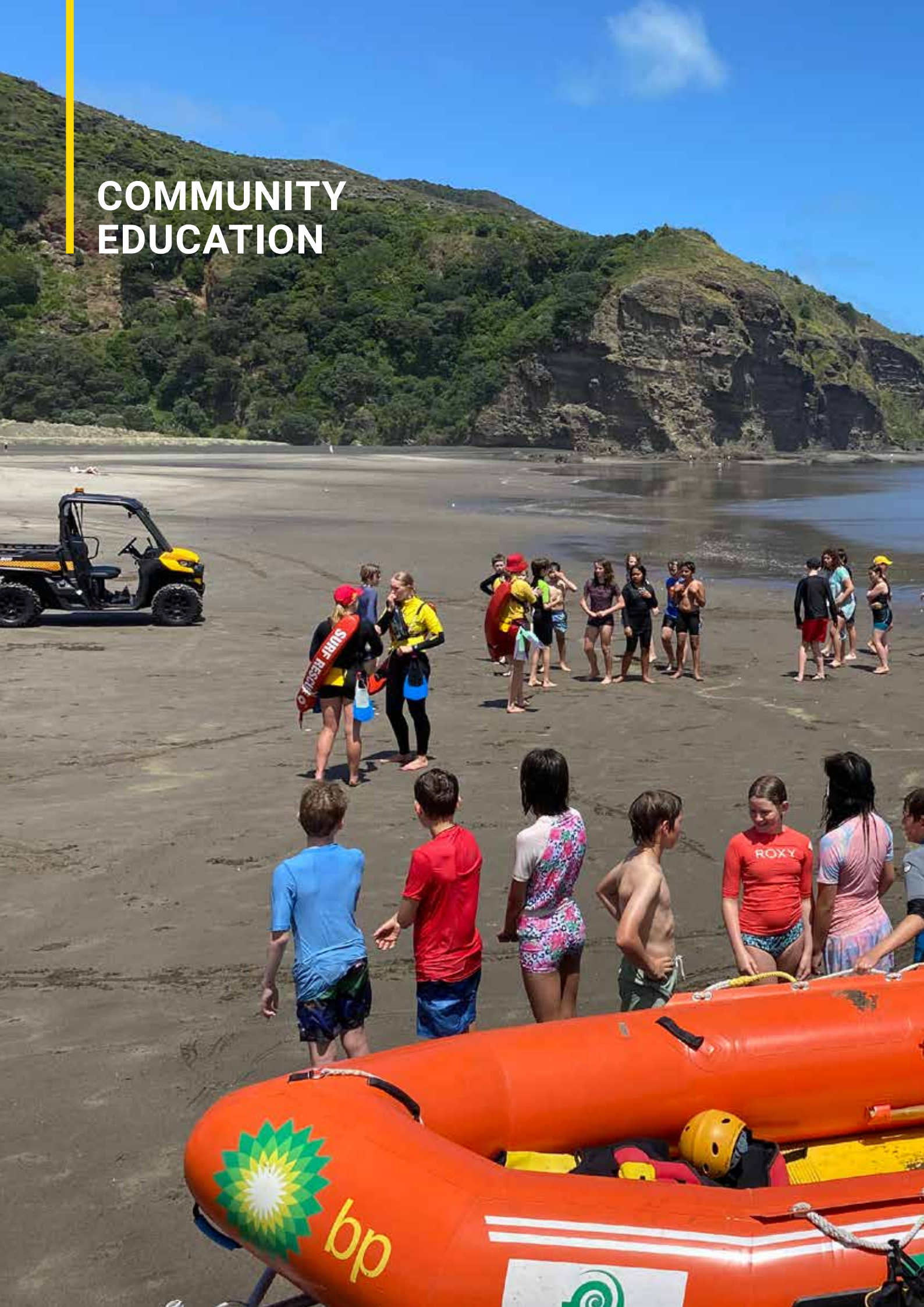
## Lifesaving Capability Model

Clubs are now more actively utilising the Lifesaving Capability Model. Lifesaving Support Officers were regularly distributing monthly results to clubs in their regions to keep club leadership informed on how they were tracking against their targets. Most clubs are achieving, or exceeding, their self-set KPI targets.

## Plans for YE2024

- Patrol Captain / Instructor Training courses over winter 2023
- Continue to develop RWC training calendar for all regions.
- Additional focus for IRB meaningful training and IRB exams.
- New Lifesaving Training and Development Manager inducted and ready for the season ahead.

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION







# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 23

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

### Introduction

YE2023 season has been challenging for the Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) Community Education team. Impacts of weather events, water quality, staff shortages and the unpredictability of schools meant that there was much learning and problem-solving as the season progressed. Despite these challenges, **7,790** students were educated across our three core community education programmes – Beach Education, City Nippers, and Surf 2 School – and a further **1,500** were engaged through community events. In total, **30** Community Education Instructors were employed over the season and delivered programmes at **12** clubs and **7** beaches in the Northern Region. See Dashboard Summary, Appendix 2.

The Community Safety Engagement Manager prioritised supporting the Community Education Supervisor in the delivery and management of the core programmes, while SLSNR collaborated with a number of sector partners. This collaboration saw positive growth in some of our external facing safety initiatives, such as the Surfers Rescue 24/7 course, workplace water safety training and safety signage. The Rock Fishing Project had a challenging season due to the weather events and staff availability, and has since been marked for review for YE2024.

### Where were they educated?

Location	2022-2023
Northland	1440
East Auckland	2802
West Auckland	2053
South Auckland/Waikato	1495



Whangaumu Bay ↑



○ Ruakākā

○ Waipū

○ Mangawhai Heads

○ Ōmaha Beach

○ Red Beach

○ Mairangi Bay

Muriwai ○  
Bethells Beach ○

Piha ○

○ Devonport

○ Onetangi (Waiheke)

○ St Heliers/Kohimarama

Kariaotahi ○

Sunset Beach ○

○ Raglan



## Community Education Programmes

Term 4 of 2022 delivered to just below half of what was booked for the season. A few schools with large student numbers cancelled short notice due to lack of parent help and transport availability. Club unavailability also restricted the locations where this delivery could take place.

A total of **5,263** students were educated through Beach Education at **12** different surf clubs and at two other beaches. **11,420** students were booked into this programme with the main reason for this difference been attributed to the weather events in January and February. **26** schools were impacted by cancellations with **65%** of these happening in Term 1.

The weather events were the main contributor to these with the cancellation of **14** schools and impacted the education of **3,463**. The reasons for these cancellations were due to road access, club access, and the ability for schools to get the parent supervision needed. Damage to club buildings will continue to impact Beach Education for the next 1-2 seasons depending on rebuild timeframes.

The other big contributor to this difference was the number of students booked compared to the comparison that turned up on the day. This accounted for **1,008** students with the average difference between students booked vs attended was **-12%**. Other SLSNR factors that contributed to this was staffing capacity, programme administration, delivery viability and club factors (rebuilt or booking clash). School factors that contributed to this were lack of people resource, cost of transport or staff leaving.







## city NIPPERS

Eight City Nippers programmes ran at four different locations with **191** participants attend. Attendance was **93%** of those registered but not all programme completed the entire five sessions due to weather impacting the water quality. Lack of suitable shelter also meant dry activities were not always possible.

Staffing resource was another limiting factor in the number of programmes that could be delivered. The unavailability of staff in weekends, in January and with programme dates running concurrently with Beach Education caused the reduction in the number of programmes that could be offered.

Two of the programmes were delivered with the financial assistance of private individuals. These were at St Heliers and Waiheke Island. These individuals were able to champion the programmes at a community level with some success. Unfortunately, the weather limited the overall impacts in different ways.

St Heliers was impacted through water quality where Waiheke was impact by ocean conditions. During the week of delivery at Waiheke an easterly storm came through creating an unsafe ocean environment. Instructors also travelled back and forth to Waiheke each day, making it hard to assess local conditions and having to deal with ferry travel warnings.





*city*  
**WIPPERS**

www.lifesaving.org.nz





Surf 2 School was the most successful educational programme. However, most Term 4 bookings were moved to Term 1 to allow focus on Beach Education only one school had to be cancelled due to the weather.

**1,441** students and **10** schools took part in this programme. Two of these schools were booked at late notice as Beach Education cancellations freed up instructors. **3** schools with **735** students were able to be converted from weather cancelled Beach Education days to Surf 2 Schools.

Surf 2 School is a less resource intensive programme which allows it to respond to demand quickly. School feedback is positive especially those who participate in the pool components.

### Community Events

Community events were not included in the YE2023 budget, therefore cannot accurately be reported against the output of previous years. However, there was a demand for SLSNR representation at several events which the CSEM and CES have attended along with support from Community Education Instructors.

- A total of five events have been attended across the season.
- Given the large outreach and low impact education at these events, further thought should be given on how to best measure this engagement.
- At an estimate, these events have exposed **1,500 – 1,800** public to our key safety messaging.



# COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT

This season has been the first with two full time roles in the Community Education space. As both staff members were new to the roles, the Community Safety Engagement Manager (CSEM) focussed on supporting the Community Education Supervisor (CES) with the delivery, development, and review of the BAU programmes throughout the majority of Q1 and Q2. The increase of additional resource in this area resulted in several steps forward to improve the education service provided to the community, albeit with the challenges and barriers to delivery mentioned within this report.

During Q3 the CSEM built on and created external relationships with SLSNZ, councils and communities within the region. A collaborative approach to a number of safety initiatives have been developed which include:




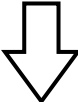




- Public safety signage and public rescue equipment between SLSNZ and landowners
- Surfers Rescue 24/7 course with Surfing NZ and SLSNZ
- Rock Fishing Project, a collaboration between SLSNR, DPA and Auckland Council
- Coastal Awareness course – External water safety training in collaboration with DPA.

The Community Safety and Engagement Strategy draft is currently under management review. The strategy looks to address the drowning issue in the Northern Region by using researched based evidence to identify high risk groups and locations. The process of engaging with all stakeholders will explore communities driven outcomes to establish fit for purpose safety initiatives and risk mitigations strategies.

Drowning happens outside the flags. The success of further funding in this space will increase Northern Region's capacity to serve communities outside our current patrol locations.



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION AT A GLANCE

	2022 - 23		2021 -2022	REASON
	<b>5 2 6 3</b> STUDENTS FROM 62 SCHOOLS		<b>2 3 7 0</b> STUDENTS FROM 34 SCHOOLS	NO COVID RESTRICTIONS.  WEATHER EVENTS CANCELED 3,463 STUDENTS
	<b>191</b> PARICIPANTS		<b>384</b> PARICIPANTS	FOCUS ON REBUILDING BEACH EDUCATION AFTER COVID CANCELLATIONS.
	<b>1 4 4 1</b> STUDENTS FROM 13 SCHOOLS		<b>149</b> STUDENTS FROM 2 SCHOOLS	CONVERTED WEATHER IMPACTED BEACH ED
	<b>1 5 0 0</b> EVENTS		<b>60</b> EVENTS	ATTENDED MORE EVENTS

A high-angle photograph of three swimmers in the ocean. The swimmers are wearing swim caps and goggles. The water is a deep green color, and there is a large splash of white water around the swimmers. The text 'MEMBER SERVICES' is overlaid in the top left corner in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A vertical yellow bar is positioned to the left of the text.

**MEMBER  
SERVICES**





# 2022-23 MEMBER SERVICES SEASON OVERVIEW

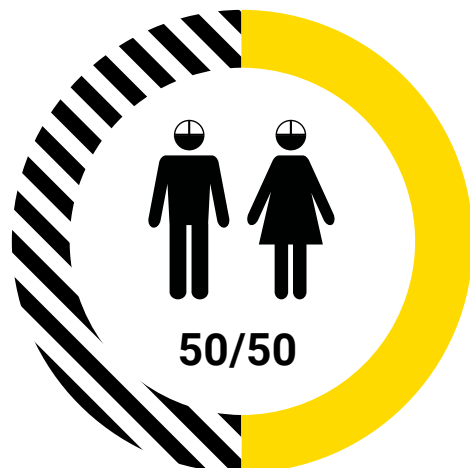
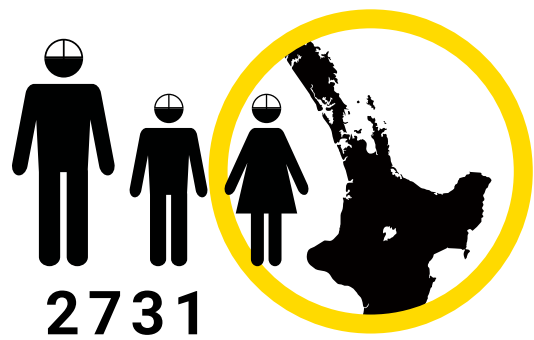
Operationally, the first season post-COVID was forecast to have its challenges, particularly within the membership engagement space. Despite this forecast, the season presented a number of successes both in business-as-usual operations and new initiatives.

Bumper enrolments at clubs and at regionally delivered events and programs buoyed the recovery year post COVID, with 2731 Junior Surf subscriptions recorded. This increase was a staggering 22% growth on the year prior, with an equal gender split. This is a critical statistic, showing the bedrock of the organisation is stable.

New initiatives in the delivery of Youth Forums, the Senior Leadership Experience and the Club Wellbeing Index were also successful implementations, ensuring SLSNR clubs have a comprehensive Member & Club Development framework supporting their operations.

The post-Christmas weather events of Cyclones Hale & Gabrielle and the Auckland Anniversary Floods did impact member engagement in the event space. These events highlighted SLSNR's ability to be agile when required to deliver contingencies, but also highlighted environmental challenges which are now the norm – included events postponed due to water-quality.

Despite these challenges, the SLSNR Member Services department demonstrated the ability to innovate and deliver in an incredibly challenging environment that saw 2491 participants engaging in SLSNR delivered events capture th – ensuring the stage is set for the season to follow.







### 2022 SLSNR Pool Rescue Championships: "First Pool Rescue Championships Since COVID"

The first regional Pool Rescue Championship event to be delivered in the post-COVID era, with the two-day event occurring across the 3rd-4th September. The 2022 event drew an attendance of 216 Junior (U14), Senior (15+) and Masters (30+) members within the surf lifesaving movement. Pool Rescue events provide a key member retention and engagement tool over the winter months, with events providing rescue-simulation with competitors having to negotiate obstacles, and pick up manikins to complete their events.

At the end of racing, with over 80 events completed across 12 disciplines, Red Beach came away as Top Club with 241 overall points, followed by Ōrewa (188 points) and Muriwai (116 points) in 2nd and 3rd respectively.



Scan the QR code to catch Day 1 Results: Juniors.



Scan the QR code to catch Day 2 Results: Seniors & Masters.



# NORTHERN REGIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

## 2023 SLSNR Junior Championships: “Delivered For The Next Generation – Despite Weather Events”

Despite COVID no longer being a factor, the 2023 SLSNR Junior Championship event was still impacted back external factors.

Occurring just after the Auckland Anniversary Weekend weather events, the event was initially postponed due to poor water quality at original location (Ōrewa). The contingency date of the 11th-12th of February at Red beach was confirmed. Despite the new date, this event only saw the first day of competition completed due to the impending arrival of Cyclone Gabrielle, which saw the second day cancelled.

Despite this interruption, the event still delivered to over 260 Junior members between the ages of 11-14 years. Due to the second day facing cancellation, no overall points were awarded. The event however, provided a critical engagement piece for the next generation of members, with members who attend such events being 3x more likely to be retained within the movement.



Scan the QR code  
for the results  
from the day.





# NORTHERN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

## 2023 SLSNR Senior Championships: “Innovation Sees Successful Delivery”

Another of the SLSNR events severely impacted by the 2022/23 summer weather events. Originally scheduled for delivery at Whangamata Beach, Cyclone Gabrielle forced many road closures on both SH2 and SH25, along with considerable damage to the beach and township, making event delivery unfeasible.

The contingency saw the event location move back to Auckland, and delivered across three-twilight sessions across the weeknights from the 28th February-2nd March. Despite the out-of-region clubs from Taranaki, Bay of Plenty and Gisborne no longer able to attend due to the mid-week delivery, over 200 lifeguards attended the event with all major disciplines raced. The event also allowed for a final competition ahead of the SLSNZ National Championships, scheduled for mid-March. With many events facing cancellation over the past seasons, SLSNR felt compelled to investigate alternative delivery models which, thanks to our volunteers, ensured a successful event delivery.



Scan the QR code for the results from the day.



# NORTHERN REGIONAL IRB CHAMPIONSHIPS

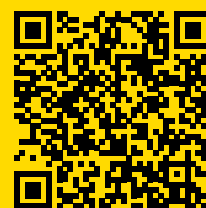
## 2023 SLSNR IRB Championships: “Perfect Conditions Saw Full-Noise Racing”

Third time proved a charm for the Championship events SLSNR delivers over summer, with the SLSNR IRB Racing Championships delivered as planned to perfect conditions at Ruakākā Beach in early March.

The two-day event attract over 40 IRB Racing crews from 9 clubs in events that closest simulate rescue circumstances. Many of those participating within the crews are current members within their clubs Search and Reascue (SAR) squads, with the skills learned through practice and repetition under pressure in a competiton context best equipping them to be rescue ready.

Events raced included the IRB Single Rescue, Tube Rescue, Mass Rescue and the IRB Assembly Race; this event sees teams having to assemble their boat (within 10 seconds) before proceeding out to see to pick up their ‘patient’ (another team member), before retuning to shore to complete the event.

At the conclusion of racing however, it was perennial IRB Racing powerhouse Sunset Beach, taking out top honors on 176 points, closely followed by Bethells Beach (152 points). Kariaotahi rounded out the podium for Top Club on 107 points.



Scan the QR code  
for the results  
from the day.





# JUNIOR SURF RECAP: “BUMPER YEAR POST COVID”

Junior Surf programs are the backbone of our organisation, and the most likely space our clubs can experience sustainable growth. This is a club delivered program, catering to members as young as under-5 up to 14 years of age. Junior Surf programs allow members to become familiar with the beach environment, develop skills to recognise and negotiate dangerous conditions, learn how to operate in teams and maintain fitness, in order to qualify for their Surf lifeguard Award once they have turned 14 years of age.

The long term health of this program within Northern Region clubs sits at a healthy 15% over the past 6 years. Urban sprawl and population increases see more of the regions populace located closer to our beaches, with significant growth in northland beaches (notably Ōmaha & Mangawhai Heads).

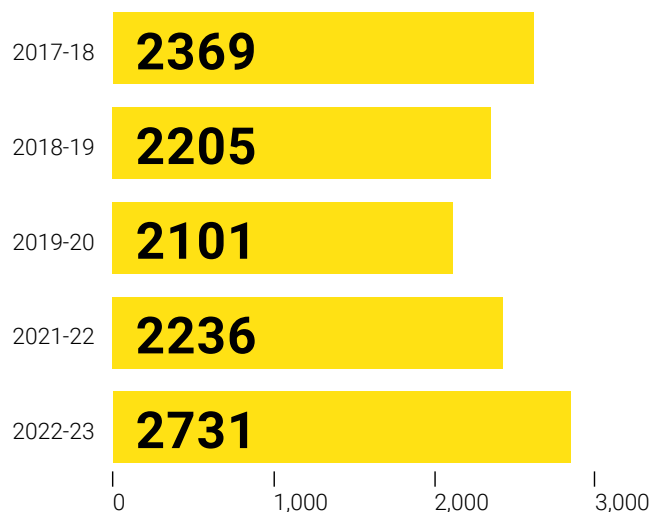
The post-COVID era was highlighted by SLSNR staff as a potential decline in the programs delivered at local clubs. Thankfully, the 2022/23 season saw the opposite, with bumper subscriptions and a 22% overall increase in membership across the region. This increase maintaining an even-gender split, ensuring equality in opportunities for our junior members.

The health of the Junior Surf program is critical to the regions Lifeguard stocks, contributing upwards of 100 newly qualified lifeguards each year. SLSNR staff will be working with clubs heading into the 2023-24 season to ensure the growth observed this season is sustained.

## SLSNR Junior Surf Metrics:



## Junior Surf Membership Trends:



# OCEAN CLUB



## Overview:

A centralised coaching resource is not a new concept, but one which was last investigated close to two-decades ago by the governing body in Auckland.

This program was funded by Sport Waitakere through the Tu Manawa fund, with Muriwai VLS covering the remaining \$5,000 as were the main benefactor.

59 sessions (training and competition) were delivered in total to 54 participants across 3 clubs: Muriwai VLS, Bethells Beach & United North Piha.

## Outcomes:

We know the more engaged a member is, the more likely they will be retained. Members who participate in events per season, are 3x likely to return than those who do not participate.

The Ocean Club program looked to have achieved the above remit through:

- High overall satisfaction
- Increased confidence at the conclusion of the program
- Increased belongingness & connectedness to their group and movement
- 87% of members attending 2 or more events within NR

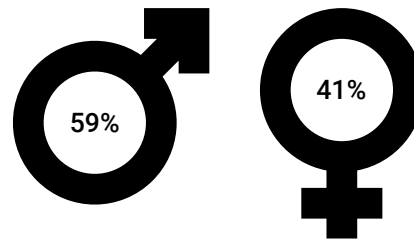
## Learnings:

Allocating provisions for the lead coach to be present at competition proved to be the right move. Competitions are rich environments, but can also be over-aweing where a calming, supportive presence is required. This claim is supported through the feedback with 93% of respondents finding competition feedback "Very Useful".

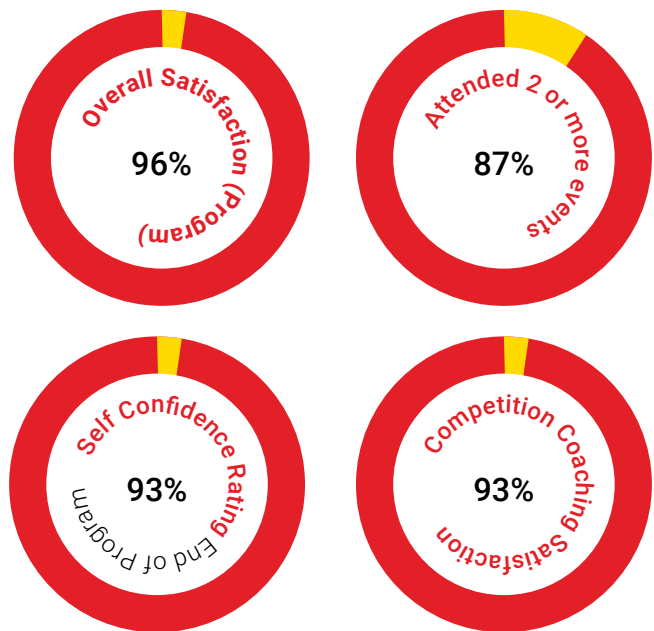
## Next Steps:

Now the need for such programs has been established, work will be done to secure a similar resource in Auckland ahead of next season. There has already been interest from Northland based clubs, which will also be investigated through the same fund via Sport Northland.

## 54 Total Participants



## Participant Feedback





# PIHA INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

Piha Ngā Wāhine o te Wai is an innovative programme devised to tackle a number of issues but primarily focusses on bringing women and rangitahi back into the water. Piha's goal is to create a fun, supportive, inclusive environment for all wahine, so they can grow confidence, swim ability, fitness level, and connect and engage with wahine in the club that are not currently engaged in water activities.

The programme was devised initially as an 8-week programme where 30 ladies paid \$60 each to take part in the programme and the club were able to allocate pool lanes specifically to this group. The participants are all connected to the Club but not directly involved as a lifeguard, water help, patrol support or as a team manager, and these wahine embraced the opportunity to explore their skill levels and step outside of their comfort zone in a safe and inclusive environment.

The success was clear to see with 99% of participants signing up to be part of a secondary 10-week programme that is focussing further on the capabilities of our participants with an aim to take their learnings into the outdoors, onto the beaches and into the moana in order that they enjoy nature, and understand the power of it. Short term benefits include engagement in the outdoor environment, development of water skills, improvement in fitness levels and capability whilst long term: should help to address the drowning statistics, and increase the take of female lifeguards .

The rangitahi currently involved in the indoor programme are Piha SLSC lifeguards and are thriving in the leadership roles they are performing as swim coaches. This is enabling future leaders to step into positions of responsibility and to create connections with our members on a wider scale.

Over the season engagement levels went up. As mentioned previously, there was desire to hold another programme and this has seen 99% of participants return. Additionally, Piha are noticing increased attendance and engagement at Club events.

Piha believe in the future this programme will increase the number of patrol support, water support, sport officials and hopefully female lifeguards we have.

The driving force behind the project is Vicki Tyler, a Piha clubbie who grew up as a Nipper on the west coast's black sands. As an adult she moved overseas and only recently returned to NZ where she got straight back in touch and involved at Piha SLSC, accepting a Board position in July 2021. Since joining the Board of Director's, she has been instrumental in championing inclusion for all and her appetite to take on all manner of tasks is to be commended. She is motivated to improve the experience of our current lifeguards (designing a new Lifeguard kitchen and lounge) and is always looking for ways to celebrate them whilst finding ways to bring more people into the industry. She held the position of Junior Surf Coordinator for a year so saw first hand that mums were holding back from water help and that's where the idea came from. It is her work on the Piha Ngā Wāhine o te Wai programme that the club hopes will be her legacy and may have a positive impact not only at Piha SLSC but across the regions, and the country.





## PIHA PIRANHAS: BRING THE GOLDS HOME



The 2022-23 season saw the Piha Piranhas dominate in surf boats. The team have been rowing together for 4 years, starting in U19, and currently in the U23 female division, during this time they have been finalists as Northern Region Team of the year for the last two years, showing just how consistent their performance has been.

This year the girls competed in 4 of the 5 surf boat series competitions and came away with gold at all four competitions, these were the Capital Coast Classic, Whangamata Classic, Eastern Region Champs and North Island Champs.

The Girls were also selected as the Open Female Oar Blacks. This is an Under 23 crew, who began trialling for the development team, but came away winning the open women's trial, with the teams average age of 21, this is a huge achievement to win this selection in a division above their regular entry.

The girls had an incredibly close competition with the Australian's during the Trans Tasman series on NZ soil, losing the series by incredibly close margins. However, due to their NZ selection they had an automatic entry into the final for the U23 North Island Champs, This Final also included the NZ U23 development team from Titahi Bay, and the Australian U23 development team from Glenelg. The

girls won this event competing and beating both U23 development teams.

The Piha Piranhas travelled to Australia in February 2023 to compete in the Australian Surf Rowers League Open, held at Bulli, Sydney. The U23 female division had 35 crews competing. After a 3 round robin competition the girls were seeded first, racing well through quarters, semis and then the Final in which they came 2nd overall.

From the first event to the last event of the season these girls have been on the top of the podium, their consistency is one to admire, and the determination and commitment they put into this season has shown nothing less than an almost perfect season. These girls won the surf boat series, were selected as the NZ rep team, and walked away with a gold and silver for long and short course at Nationals. They were the most decorated surf boat team of any age division this season.

They have shown their mettle at a club, national, and international level and topped it all off when Niamh Brittenden, Tyler Lovett, Tobi Oldham, Natalya Mackenzie, Molly Brittenden and sweep Tom Jacka - the Piha Piranhas - were named as the Northern Region Team of the Year and Northern Region Supreme Sport Award winners.





# 2022-23 EVENT ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

Event	Location	Attendance
Pool Run-Through, Short Course	National Aquatic Centre, Albany	133
Pool Run-Through, Long Course	National Aquatic Centre, Albany	179
SLSNR Pool Rescue Championships	National Aquatic Centre, Albany	216
Auckland All-In (Seniors)	Orewa	247
Whangamatā Classic	Whangamatā	452
The Invitational	Whangamatā	96
Northland Head to Head (IRBs)	Ruakākā	Cancelled (Cyclone Gale)
U17 Regional Challenge	Piha	Cancelled (Cyclone Gabrielle)
NRC's	Ōrewa	208
IRB Champs	Ruakākā	117

Event	Location	Attendance
Junior Pool Rescue Royale	National Aquatic Centre, Albany	75
Auckland All-In (Junior)	Ōrewa	427
Northland Head to Head	Ruakākā	Cancelled (Cyclone Gale)
SLSNR U10 Royale	Ōrewa	Cancelled (Cyclone Gabrielle)
SLSNR Junior Championships	Red Beach	266

Event	Location	Attendance
Senior Leadership Experience	Woodhill Forrest	12
Youth Development Camp	Motutapu Island	54
Youth Development Camp	Motutapu Island	54
California Exchange	California, USA	2



California ↗



Ruakākā

Ōrewa

Red Beach

AUT Millennium

Woodhill Forrest

Takapuna Beach

Motutapu Island

Whangamatā

# CLUB DEVELOPMENT

## Buddy Lucas Leadership Program:

The Buddy Lucas Leadership Program is named after Piha stalwart and Surf Life Saving Northern Region lifeguarding legend Buddy Lucas. Lucas saw the importance in providing opportunities for the membership's future leaders to learn, hone their skills, and ultimately share their knowledge back to their fellow club members. Lucas' legacy lives on thanks to the generous support of the Denis Black Foundation, which funds delivery of the three pillars of the Buddy Lucas Leadership Program.



## Pillar One – California Lifeguard Exchange:

This season saw the California Lifeguard Exchange back in full swing, after three years of disruption caused by Covid-19. Dominic Rodarti of San Clemente and Aidan Goodman of Del Mar landing on the shores of Tāmaki Makaurau in December 2022 and spent six weeks travelling around the beaches of the Northern Region, looking at the way we patrol in New Zealand. The exchange also saw us send our own representatives to California in reciprocation, with Theo Commissaris of Piha and Eleanor Mulrennan of United North Piha travelling to the United States six weeks. You can read more about their experience below.



## Pillar Two – World Conference on Drowning Prevention:

The World Conference on Drowning Prevention is the second pillar of the Buddy Lucas Leadership Program. This is the newest pillar in the programme, and this year it will see a SLSNR representative travel to Perth, Western Australia to attend the World Conference on Drowning Prevention (WCDP) run by the International Life Saving Federation.

WCDP 2023 will gather experts in drowning prevention, lifesaving and water safety with the goal of Shaping Global Strategy and Mobilising for Action.

## Pillar Three – Senior Leadership Experience:

The purpose of the Senior Leadership Experience (SLE) is to challenge and develop members' thinking and

preparing the future leaders of SLSNR. This season was the first time the SLE had run in seven years. SLE was held at Muriwai and took the participants through several challenging outdoor activities.

The SLE focuses on personal development and leadership development, rather than developing specific surf lifesaving skills.

The three day, two night course is designed to surprise and challenge the participants, build comradery, and develop personal attributes and leadership for senior lifeguards to use throughout their lives and lifeguarding careers.







### California Lifeguard Exchange 2023:

This year, lifeguards Eleanor Mulrennan (United North Piha) and Theo Commissaris (Piha) travelled to southern California as part of the Surf Life Saving Northern Region California Lifeguard Exchange. They spent six weeks working with lifeguards from ten different departments, starting in LA County with the “Baywatch” lifeguards, and worked their way south. Eleanor and Theo spent 3-5 days with each department, ending their tour near the border of Mexico, with the San Diego City lifeguards.

#### Theo Commissaris:

It was really easy to make friends. Despite being from the other side of the Pacific Ocean, it was obvious from the start that our shared passion for lifeguarding meant we had a lot in common. As lifeguards, it is important to stay fit and this meant that often my first interaction with lifeguards at a new beach would be at an early morning workout: whether it be a run, swim, or gym session. Californian lifeguards are required to work out daily, and the fitness standard is high. This is reflected in the way they conduct their lifeguard operations: swimming or board paddling is their default method for making a rescue.

We arrived in California on a Tuesday, and I quote “nothing says America like Mexican food”. However, Taco Tuesday lost its meaning when we also ate tacos on Wednesday, Thursday and every other day of the week. I absolutely loved the Mexican food, whether it be a breakfast burrito, a Californian lunch burrito or nachos for

dinner. Despite countless lifeguards telling me that Mexican food is better in California than in Mexico, I had to see for myself. A trip to Tijuana Waterpark was one of the trip’s highlights – and the verdict is that Mexican food is better in Mexico – but only just!

Throughout my time with the lifeguards in California, I took a particular interest in the Search and Rescue aspect of lifeguarding. Many departments have lifeguards on duty 24 hours a day, with extra lifeguards on call at night who respond from home. Pier jumpers are a frequent call-out the night crew respond to. Many lifeguard departments have a dive team, and the on-duty night lifeguards use Rapid Dive Units to conduct a quick search, while backup assembles with longer-duration dive gear. I was lucky enough to test one of these units with the San Diego Lifeguards, they give about 10-15 minutes of dive time and are fast and easy to deploy.

Further to Search and Rescue Operations – general lifeguarding is very different in California to New Zealand. This seems to be driven by necessity rather than preference. The number of beachgoers on any given day means that setting up designated swimming areas such as we do in New Zealand with our flags would not be viable. They patrol the whole beach, with lifeguards staged approximately every 50-100 meters in small portable towers. They are the first to hit the water and back-up comes from the sea in the form of a rescue boat. These boats back up into the surf line and provide a platform for lifeguards to get people onto.

# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Youth Development Camp:

Two Youth Development Camps were run during the 2022-2023 season, with 112 candidates aged 15-17 from across the country coming together on Motutapu Island to develop their leadership skills, build connections with other clubbies, and explore the pathways available to them within surf lifesaving.

This is the 20th year Youth Development Camp has been run in the Northern Region, and it is exciting to see it continue to evolve and grow as well as seeing former candidates return as camp instructors. Thank you to Jacob Groom, Dan Short, Caylee Cooke, Mary Duff, Luke Stockman, Kyran Gillespie, Shannon Swann, Conor McDermott, Eleanor Mulrennan, Imogen Moore, Eva Williams, Olivia Kayes, Victoria Mulrennan, and Valentina Rocca for instructing this season.

## Youth Forum:

During Youth Development Camp, the inaugural Youth Forum was held. The Youth Forum was an opportunity to hear from a sample of SLSNR's youth membership on their thoughts on the organisation. Forum participants were asked four questions, which they then took away to workshop in smaller groups: what are the positives in Surf Life Saving, what are some barriers in Surf Life Saving, what are some solutions to these barriers, and what does your perfect Surf Life Saving world look like?

These responses were presented back to the Board, and Form delegates are helping to shape future initiatives and strategic considerations.

Some of the positive aspects of surf lifesaving identified during the Forum:







### Club Wellbeing Index:

The Club Wellbeing Index (CWI) was developed as a tool for clubs and the region to use to identify areas of club strengths and opportunities. By identifying these areas, the regional staff can work with the clubs to set key goals for the season to improve in some of these areas.

The CWI is based on an online platform and includes six questionnaires (governance and strategy, finance, facilities, membership, senior sport, junior surf and rookies) and are divided into essential and advanced practices.

Once the questionnaires have been completed the regional staff went through the results and completed reports for each club. The final part of the online platform is a space for resources including guides and templates to assist clubs in some of the areas they may need to develop.

All 18 clubs engaged with this tool and provided excellent feedback going forward.

Some key items that were identified through the results include:

- There are only five Northern Region clubs that do not have a current strategic plan, however 10 clubs do not yet have a strategic action plan to support their strategic plan.
- There are just six Northern Region clubs that do not have induction processes for new board/committee members, while seven clubs have established formal handover processes at a board level.
- Only three clubs do not yet have documented roles or job descriptions for their board/committee roles, while and only four or five clubs do not have documented role/job descriptions for other roles within the club.
- Health & Safety processes remain a standing agenda item at board meetings for 16 out of the 18 clubs within Northern Region.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following pages contain the exact reprint of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023, page numbered 1 to 23.









**Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated**  
**Financial Statements**  
**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

**Contents**

Directory	2
Independent Auditor's Report	3 - 4
Statement of Service Performance	5 - 6
Statements of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses	7
Statements of Changes in Equity	8
Statements of Financial Position	9
Statements of Cash Flows	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 23





**Directory**  
**As at 30 June 2023**

---

<b>Purpose of the Group:</b>	To be the lead provider of water safety services, working to prevent drowning and injury in our community.	
<b>Nature of activities:</b>	The provision and administration of life guarding activities, community education and sporting programmes within the northern region of the North Island in New Zealand.	
<b>Address:</b>	3 Solent Street, Mechanics Bay, Auckland	
<b>Independent Auditor:</b>	BDO Auckland	
<b>Bankers:</b>	ASB Bank Limited	
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Bell Gully	
<b>Charities Commission:</b>	CC21256	
<b>Board Members:</b>	Denise Bovaird (elected September 2017, appointed chairperson September 2018) Anthony Drake (elected September 2018) Stephan Deschamps (elected September 2019) Joanne Hobson (co-opted February 2021) Matthew Williams (appointed December 2015)	
<b>CEO:</b>	Matthew Williams (appointed December 2015)	
<b>Controlled Entities:</b>	Surf Life Saving Baylys Beach Incorporated Bethells Beach Surf Life Saving Patrol Incorporated Far North Surf Rescue Society Incorporated Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club Incorporated Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi Incorporated Mairangi Bay Surf Lifesaving Club Incorporated Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service Incorporated Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service Incorporated Omaha Surf Lifesaving Club Incorporated Orewa Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated Piha Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated The Piha Surf Life Saving Club Trust Fund Raglan Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated Red Beach Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated Ruakaka Surf Life Saving Patrol Incorporated Sunset Beach Lifeguard Service Incorporated Sunset Beach Surf Lifesaving Charitable Trust Incorporated United North Piha Lifeguard Service Incorporated United North Piha Surf Lifesaving Charitable Trust Waipu Cove Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated Whangarei Heads Volunteer Surf Life Saving Patrol Incorporated	CC60893 CC32842 CC41115 CC26933 CC41763 CC42492 CC36716 CC38103 CC43892 CC26779 CC30080 CC10116 CC38988 CC34379 CC23400 CC25294 CC25258 CC39240 CC52480 CC33308 CC22304

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF  
SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION INCORPORATED**

### **Opinions**

We have audited the financial statements of Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated (“the Parent”) and its controlled entities (together, “the Group”), which comprise the separate and consolidated financial statements of the Parent and Group on pages 7 to 23 and the statement of service performance of the Parent and Group on pages 5 to 6. The complete set of financial statements comprise the statements of financial position as at 30 June 2023, and the statements of comprehensive revenue and expense, statements of changes in equity and statements of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

#### *Opinion on the Statement of Service Performance*

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements presents fairly, in all material respects, the service performance for the year ended 30 June 2023, in accordance with the Parent and Group’s service performance criteria, in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

#### *Qualified Opinion on the Parent and Group Financial Statements*

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial positions of the Parent and Group as at 30 June 2023, and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

#### **Basis for Qualified Opinion on the Financial Statements**

Control over club rental and bar income, product sales, certain membership user pays, fees and subscriptions, fundraising and donations cash income streams amounting to \$37,535 for the Parent and amounting to \$2,638,658 for the Group, prior to being recorded is limited, and there are no practical audit procedures we could perform to determine the effect of this limited control. Accordingly, the completeness of revenue and related cash flows are unable to be determined.

We conducted our audit of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (“ISAs (NZ)”) and the audit of the statement of service performance in accordance with the ISAs and New Zealand Auditing Standard (NZ AS) 1 *The Audit of Service Performance Information (NZ)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Parent and Group in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In addition to providing assurance services to the Parent, we provide business advisory services to the Parent and audit assurance services to three of the controlled entities. We have no other relationship with, or interests in, the Parent or any of its controlled entities.

#### **Other Matter**

The comparative information in the statement of service performance for the year ended 30 June 2022 is unaudited.



### **Directors' Responsibilities for the Financial statements**

Those charged with governance are responsible on behalf of the Parent and Group for:

- (a) the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and statement of service performance in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime;
- (b) service performance criteria that are suitable in order to prepare service performance information in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime; and
- (c) for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements and consolidated service performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board is responsible on behalf of the Parent and Group for assessing their ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intends to liquidate the Parent or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole, and the statement of service performance are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the External Reporting Board's website at:

<https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-13/>

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Who we Report to**

This report is made solely to the Parent's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Parent's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

*BDO Auckland*

BDO Auckland  
Auckland  
New Zealand  
26 September 2023



**Statement of Service Performance  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

---

**Our purpose**

Surf Life Saving Northern Region's (SLSNR) primary purpose is to ensure safe beach experiences for our communities through the provision of lifesaving services, beach education, and coastal aquatic rescue. The SLSNR Group consists of 18 clubs, operating from Raglan north to Cape Reinga on the west coast, and back down the east coast to Auckland. Whilst the majority of our services can be found within these club locations, increasingly our services are being called on to assist in new and emerging locations and environments, including disaster response and Search and Rescue (SAR).

SLSNR plays a central role in leading, coordinating, and supporting our member volunteer surf lifesaving organisations. Our services encompass beach safety, patrolling, patrol management, search and rescue, emergency response, public education, and sport and recreation activities. We also offer professional shared services to member clubs and collaborate with external stakeholders to negotiate current and future service delivery in consultation with clubs. One Statement of Service Performance has been presented covering the Parent and Group on the basis the primary aims and objectives of both are aligned.

Our services are all directed towards outcomes that reduce drowning and injuries on Auckland's beaches:

- 1 We provide dedicated support and best practice guidelines to member clubs, ensuring sustainable growth, volunteer management, and necessary resources for a safe lifeguard service
- 2 A full-time coastal lifesaving delivery framework covers patrolling services at fourteen locations, event safety, and emergency response and management
- 3 Community education programs that focus on reaching at risk audiences including: school-age children (focus on low decile schools), recent migrants, coastal communities, aquatic users (surfers, rock-fishers); offering water safety skills both at patrolled and unpatrolled locations, as well as urban environments.
- 4 We offer volunteer-run sport and recreation programs, from Competitive Lifesaving to junior surf carnivals and high-performance events, promoting member attraction, retention, and youth development
- 5 We engage in long-term planning for future service delivery and stakeholder relations, focusing on local government, mana whenua land trusts, and pre-Surf Life Saving entities with a demand for surf lifesaving services.

**Our outcome**

During the year we provided the following services:

- Paid lifeguard services to Northland, Auckland, and Waikato regions.

	Audited	Unaudited
	2023	2022
Number of Paid Lifeguard hours to the 3 regions	30,765	30,600

The above represented actual paid hours to lifeguards rostered at the 3 main regions that have been processed by our payroll system. The Group recorded total lifeguard hours which included paid lifeguard services, voluntary patrols, call-outs, SAR and beach events and activities and members' safety as 83,563 hours (last year: 86,876 hours). These lifeguard hours were recorded using the SLSNZ Lifesaving App by our lifeguards.

**Statement of Service Performance  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

---

- Community education

	Audited	Unaudited
	2023	2022
Beach education, number of participants	5,263	1,265
Surf to School, number of participants	1,441	0

Our 3 main community education comprised beach education, surf to school and City Nippers. Total participants to all 3 categories were 9,426 (last year: 2,963). Both beach Education and Surf to School courses and programmes were managed by SLSNZ and the attendance statistics are available via its CRM. The City Nippers' attendances were managed by an external company called EnrolMy. The enrolment information for City Nippers although is available to us, it is compiled in a format that we have been unable to submit to external audit without incurring cost and time that can be prohibitive.

- Membership

	Audited	Unaudited
	2023	2022
Number of active membership	6,218	5,671

Total number of active membership reported has been extracted from SLSNZ CRMS and it includes primary, secondary and life membership.



**Statements of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

	Note	PARENT		GROUP	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
Revenue from Exchange Transactions	7	406,625	114,021	1,754,648	1,033,404
Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions	7	3,993,615	3,616,796	9,422,358	8,175,163
Other Income	8	-	1,304	235,101	255,567
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>4,400,240</b>	<b>3,732,122</b>	<b>11,412,107</b>	<b>9,464,134</b>
Cost of Delivery - Exchange Transactions	9	(2,279,454)	(1,919,974)	(3,533,745)	(2,977,358)
<b>Gross Surplus</b>		<b>2,120,786</b>	<b>1,812,148</b>	<b>7,878,362</b>	<b>6,486,776</b>
Club Distributions and Activities		-	(3,735)	-	(3,735)
Administrative Expenses		(2,168,122)	(1,986,559)	(5,595,701)	(5,000,269)
Asset Impairment	27	-	-	(484,330)	-
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>10, 11</b>	<b>(47,336)</b>	<b>(178,146)</b>	<b>1,798,331</b>	<b>1,482,772</b>
Finance Income	12	53,716	12,373	106,263	59,301
<b>Net Finance Income</b>		<b>53,716</b>	<b>12,373</b>	<b>106,263</b>	<b>59,301</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>6,380</b>	<b>(165,774)</b>	<b>1,904,594</b>	<b>1,542,073</b>
(Loss) / Gain on revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets		-	-	22,269	(154,898)
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,269</b>	<b>(154,898)</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year attributable to equity</b>		<b>6,380</b>	<b>(165,774)</b>	<b>1,926,863</b>	<b>1,387,175</b>



Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity - GROUP  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2023		PARENT	
	Retained Earnings	Total Equity	
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>1,766,422</b>	<b>1,766,422</b>	
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year</b>			
Surplus	(165,774)	(165,774)	
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>	<b>1,600,648</b>	<b>1,600,648</b>	
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year</b>			
Surplus	6,380	6,380	
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>1,607,028</b>	<b>1,607,028</b>	

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2023			GROUP
	Available-for-sale asset fair value reserve	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>533,204</b>	<b>22,075,443</b>	<b>22,608,647</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year</b>			
Surplus		1,542,073	1,542,073
Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	(154,898)	-	(154,898)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>	<b>378,306</b>	<b>23,617,516</b>	<b>23,995,822</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year</b>			
Surplus		1,904,594	1,904,594
Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	22,269	-	22,269
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>400,575</b>	<b>25,522,110</b>	<b>25,922,685</b>



Statements of Financial Position  
As at 30 June 2023

	Note	PARENT		GROUP	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	13	631,219	676,536	4,050,751	3,782,388
Financial Assets	14	1,017,392	1,000,000	4,297,448	2,975,246
Inventory		0	0	57,810	66,372
Trade and Other Exchange Receivables	15	245,067	54,707	952,294	350,701
<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>1,893,678</b>	<b>1,731,243</b>	<b>9,358,303</b>	<b>7,174,707</b>
Available for-sale Financial Assets - Piha Surf Life Saving Trust	14	0	0	942,426	1,001,705
Loan - Lifesavers Foundation	16	0	0	0	0
Property, Plant and Equipment	26,27	292,015	240,336	15,543,210	15,129,478
Capital Work in Progress	25	0	0	2,767,999	1,817,919
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>292,015</b>	<b>240,336</b>	<b>19,253,635</b>	<b>17,949,102</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>2,185,693</b>	<b>1,971,579</b>	<b>28,611,938</b>	<b>25,123,809</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Trade and Other Payables	17	350,839	271,631	1,060,149	901,255
Loans and Borrowings	19	0	0	45,791	45,791
Deferred Income	18	227,826	99,300	1,583,313	180,941
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>578,665</b>	<b>370,931</b>	<b>2,689,253</b>	<b>1,127,987</b>
Loans and Borrowings	19	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>578,665</b>	<b>370,931</b>	<b>2,689,253</b>	<b>1,127,987</b>
<b>Equity</b>					
Retained Earnings		1,607,028	1,600,648	25,522,110	23,617,516
Available-for-sale assets fair value reserve		0	0	400,575	378,306
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>1,607,028</b>	<b>1,600,648</b>	<b>25,922,685</b>	<b>23,995,822</b>
<b>Total Equity and Liabilities</b>		<b>2,185,693</b>	<b>1,971,579</b>	<b>28,611,938</b>	<b>25,123,809</b>

Approved and on behalf of the Board on this date:

26 September 2023

Board Member

Board Member

The information contained in this page must be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements on Pages 9 - 23



**Statements of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

	Note	PARENT		GROUP	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>					
Cash receipts from grants, sponsorships, donations, fees		4,361,168	3,684,476	12,212,116	9,186,934
Payments to suppliers and grant recipients		(4,296,656)	(3,843,158)	(7,624,677)	(6,322,126)
Interest received		53,716	12,577	106,263	59,301
Interest paid		-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cash from/(used in) Operating Activities</b>		<b>118,228</b>	<b>(146,105)</b>	<b>4,693,702</b>	<b>2,924,109</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>					
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	1,304	9,333	28,822
Acquisition of property, plant & equipment and capital work-in-progress		(146,154)	(115,572)	(3,194,018)	(2,756,619)
Proceeds from / (investment in) term deposit and available for sale investments		(17,392)	-	(1,240,654)	(347,441)
Provision for Lifesaver's Foundation loan		-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cash from/(used in) Investing Activities</b>		<b>(163,545)</b>	<b>(114,268)</b>	<b>(4,425,339)</b>	<b>(3,075,237)</b>
<b>Cash flows from Financing Activities</b>					
Repayment of borrowings		-	-	-	(19,032)
<b>Cash Flows used in Financing Activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,032)</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(45,317)	(260,373)	268,363	(170,160)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		676,536	936,908	3,782,388	3,952,548
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at 30 June</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>631,219</b>	<b>676,536</b>	<b>4,050,751</b>	<b>3,782,388</b>



## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

---

### 1. Reporting entity

Surf Life Saving Northern Region Inc. (the 'Parent') is a public benefit entity for the purposes of financial reporting in accordance with the Financial Reporting Act (2013).

The entity is a society incorporated and domiciled in New Zealand established under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and registered under the Charities Act 2005. The registered office is at 3 Solent Street, Mechanics Bay, Auckland. These consolidated financial statements comprise the consolidated results and position of the entity and its controlled entities (together referred to as the 'Group'), and the separate results and position of the Parent.

SLSNR and its controlled entities were established to provide life guarding activities, community education and sporting programmes within the northern region.

### 2. Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP). They comply with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (PBE Standards RDR), as appropriate for Tier 2 not-for-profit public benefit entities. For this purpose the Group has designated itself a public benefit entity.

The Group and Parent qualify as Tier 2 reporting entities as for the current and period it has had between \$2 million and \$30 million operating expenditure, and are not publicly accountable.

The financial statements comply with all relevant PBE standards RDR.

### 3. Measurement basis

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for available for sale financial assets.

### 4. Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (\$), rounded to the nearest dollar which is the Parent and Group's functional currency.

### 5. Use of judgements and estimates

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

#### *Judgements*

Information about judgements made in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effects on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are included in the following notes:

Note 6 : Useful lives and depreciation rates of property, plant and equipment assets

Note 7 : Revenue Recognition non-exchange revenue (conditions vs. restrictions)

Note 23 : Related party transactions and controlled entities

Note 25 : Capital Work in Progress

Capital work-in-progress includes work performed pre-redevelopment of various clubhouses. As the redevelopment can take significant time to complete, judgement needs to be applied when considering whether pre-development expenditure still meets the definition of an asset at each reporting date.

### 6. Significant accounting policies

Set out below is an index of the significant accounting policies, the details of which are available on the pages that follow. The accounting policies have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

A	Revenue Recognition
B	Employee Benefits
C	Grant Expenditure
D	Finance Income and Finance Costs
E	Cash and Cash Equivalents
F	Property, Plant and Equipment
G	Leases

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

---

H	Taxes
I	Related Parties
J	Financial Instruments
K	Basis of Consolidation
L	Impairment
M	Inventory

**A. Revenue Recognition**

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the group, and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The following specific recognition criteria in relation to the entities revenue streams must also be met before revenue is recognised.

*(i) Sale of goods*

Revenue is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownerships have been transferred to the customer, recovery of the consideration is probable, the associated costs and possible return of goods can be estimated reliably, there is no continuing management involvement with the goods, and the amount of revenue can be measured reliably. Revenue is measured net of returns and discounts.

The timing of the transfer of risks and rewards varies depending on the individual terms of the sales agreement.

*(ii) User pays*

Revenue received from users where members or non members purchase specific services (for example attendance of a lifesaving event) is initially recorded as revenue in advance, and then recognised proportionally on the basis of the value of each session relative to the total value of the purchased services.

Event income including entrance fees are recorded as revenue when the function or event takes place.

*(iii) Rendering of services*

The Group and Parent recognises revenue from rendering of services in proportion to the stage of completion of the transactions at the reporting date. The stage of completion is assessed based on surveys of work performed.

*(iv) Interest Income*

Interest income is accrued using the effective interest rate method. The effective interest rate exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial assets to that asset's net carrying amount. The method applies this rate to the principal outstanding to determine interest revenue each period.

**Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions**

Non-exchange transactions are those where the Group and Parent receives value from another entity (e.g. cash or other assets) without giving approximately equal value in exchange.

Inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions, other than services in-kind, that meet the definition of an asset are recognised as an asset only when:

- It is probable that the Group and Parent will receive an inflow of economic benefit or service potential; and
- The fair value can be measured reliably.

Inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions that are recognised as assets are recognised as non-exchange revenue, to the extent that a liability is not recognised in respect of the same inflow.

Liabilities are recognised in relation to inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions when there is a resulting present obligation as a result of the non-exchange transactions, where both:

- It is probable that an outflow of resources embodying future economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation, and
- The amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

The following are the specific recognition criteria in relation to the entities non-exchange transactions.

*(i) Donations, Legacies and Bequests*



## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

---

Donations, legacies and bequests are recognised as non-exchange revenue upon receipt and include donations from the general public, donations received for specific programmes or services or donations in-kind. Donations in-kind include donations received for services and these are recognised in the statements of comprehensive income and expenses when the service or good is received. Donations in-kind are measured at their fair value as at the date of acquisition, ascertained by reference to the expected cost that would be otherwise incurred by the Group or Parent.

### *(ii) Sponsorship income*

Sponsorship income includes sponsorship given by businesses. Revenue is recognised over the term of the sponsorship contract.

### *(iii) Grant income*

Grant revenue includes grants given by other charitable organisations, philanthropic organisations and businesses (predominately class 4 gaming and community trusts). The recognition of non-exchange revenue from grants depends on whether the grant comes with any stipulations imposed on the use of a transferred asset.

Stipulations that are 'conditions' specifically require the Group and Parent to return the inflow of resources received if they are not utilised in the way stipulated, resulting in the recognition of a non-exchange liability that is subsequently recognised as non-exchange revenue as and when the 'conditions' are satisfied.

Stipulations that are 'restrictions' do not specifically require the Group and Parent to return the inflow of resources received if they are not utilised in the way stipulated, and therefore do not result in the recognition of a non-exchange liability, which results in the immediate recognition of non-exchange revenue.

The value of in-kind sponsorship comprising various products and services received from sponsors is recorded as revenue and expenditure within the year that the benefit is received.

### *(iv) Government and Council Grants*

Grants received from Government or Councils are non exchange revenue and are therefore recorded during the year they are received. The Auckland Regional Amenities Funding (ARAFA) Grant is applied to fund operational expenditure. The Group and Parent confirms that all conditions associated with the government grant have been met.

## **B. Employee Benefits**

Short term employee benefits are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the Group and Parent has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

## **C. Grant Expenditure**

Grant expenditure is recognised once the grant is approved and committed to by both parties. When the Board approves the grants and the approval is communicated to the recipient, who returns a written acceptance, the expenditure is recognised.

## **D. Finance Income and Finance Costs**

Finance income and finance cost include:

- interest income
- interest expense
- dividend income

Interest income or expense is recognised using the effective interest method.

Dividends are recognised when the Group and Parent's right to receive payment is established, and the amount can be reliably measured.

## **E. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and cash at bank, deposits on call and highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

Cash investments with original maturity of greater than three months are classified as financial assets.

## **F. Property, Plant and Equipment**

### *(i) Recognition and measurement*

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Where an asset is acquired in a non-exchange transaction for nil or nominal consideration the asset is initially measured at its fair value.

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Where material parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property, plant and equipment. Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Subsequent costs are added to the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment when that cost is incurred if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied with the item will flow to the Group and Parent, and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance costs are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Capital work in progress is not depreciated until commissioned. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment less their residual value using the straight-line method or diminishing value method over their useful lives, and is recognised in surplus or deficit.

### (ii) Depreciation

Depreciation has been calculated to allocate the cost or valuation of assets over their estimated useful lives, at the following rates:

	Straight line	Diminishing Value
Furniture & Fittings	: 13.5% - 69%	4% - 100%
Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	: 0% - 80.4%	0% - 100%
Radio Equipment	: 4% - 50%	40%
Motor Vehicles and Trailers	: 7.5% - 50%	10% - 69%
Buildings	: 2% - 4%	2% - 3%

Depreciation methods, residual value of assets and useful lives are reassessed annually.

### G. Leases

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases.

Payments made under operating leases are recognised in the statements of comprehensive income and expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised as an integral part of the total lease expense over the term of the lease.

### H. Taxes

The entity and its controlled entities all have charitable status and are exempt from income tax.

### I. Related Parties

The Group and Parent regards a related party as a person or an entity with the ability to exert control individually or jointly, or to exercise significant influence over the entity, or vice versa. Members of key management are regarded as related parties and comprise the management and directors of the Group and Parent.

### J. Financial Instruments

The Group and Parent initially recognises financial instruments when the Group and Parent becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Group and Parent derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred. Any interest in transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the Group and Parent is recognised as a separate asset or liability.

The Group and Parent derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire.

The Group and Parent also derecognises financial assets and financial liabilities when there has been significant changes to the terms and/or the amount of contractual payments to be received/paid.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Group and Parent has a legal right to offset the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

The Group and Parent classifies financial assets into the following categories: *loans and receivables*, and *available-for-sale*.

The Group and Parent classifies financial liabilities into the following category: *Amortised cost*.

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value, plus and directly attributable transaction costs.

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

---

Subsequent measurement is dependent on the classification of the financial instrument, and is specifically detailed in the accounting policies below.

### (i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Loans and receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses. Loans and receivables comprise cash and cash equivalents, cash investments and receivables. Cash and cash equivalents represent highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into a known amount of cash with an insignificant risk of changes in value, with maturities of three months or less.

Any difference between fair value and transaction price of the concessionary loan at initial recognition is recognised as a finance cost in surplus or deficit.

### (ii) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivative financial assets that are designated as available-for-sale or are not classified in any other category of financial assets.

Available-for-sale financial assets are subsequently measured at fair value with gains or losses being recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense and presented in the available-for-sale fair value reserve within net assets/equity, less impairment. Available-for-sale financial assets comprise shares in listed NZ entities.

The fair value of financial instruments that are traded in active markets at each reporting date is determined by reference to quoted market prices, without any deduction for transaction costs.

### (iii) Amortised cost financial liabilities

Financial liabilities classified as amortised cost are non-derivative financial liabilities that are not classified as fair value through surplus or deficit financial liabilities. Financial Liabilities classified as amortised cost are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Financial liabilities classified as amortised cost comprise trade and other payables, and Loans and Borrowings.

## K. Basis of Consolidation

### (i) Controlled entities

The Parent controls an entity when it is exposed, or has rights, to variable benefits from its involvement with the other entity and has the ability to affect the nature of amount of those benefits through its power over the entity. In assessing control, the Parent takes into consideration potential voting rights that are currently exercisable.

The financial statements of the Parent's controlled entities are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases.

Subsequent changes in a controlled entity that do not result in a loss of control are accounted for as transactions with owners of the controlling entity in their capacity as owners, within equity.

The financial statements of the controlled entities are prepared for the reporting period as stated in note 23, using consistent accounting policies.

### (ii) Transactions eliminated on consolidation

Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

## L. Impairment of non-derivative financial assets

A financial asset not subsequently measured at fair value through surplus or deficit is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event(s) had an impact on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

Objective evidence that financial assets are impaired includes default or delinquency by a counterparty, restructuring of an amount due to the Group and Parent on terms that the Group and Parent would not consider otherwise, indications that a counterparty or issuer will enter bankruptcy, adverse changes in the payment status of borrowers or issuers in the Group and Parent, economic conditions that correlate with defaults or the disappearance of an active market for a security. In addition, for an equity security classified as an *available-for-sale* financial asset, a significant or prolonged decline in its fair value below its cost is objective evidence of impairment.

### (i) Financial assets classified as loans and receivables



## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

---

The Group and Parent considers evidence of impairment for financial assets measured at amortised cost (*loans and receivables*) at both a specific asset and collective level.

All individually significant assets are assessed for specific impairment. Those found not to be specifically impaired are then collectively assessed for any impairment that has been incurred but not yet identified.

Assets that are not individually significant are collectively assessed for impairment by grouping together assets with similar risk characteristics.

In assessing collective impairment the Group and Parent uses historical trends of the probability of default, the timing of recoveries and the amount of loss incurred, adjusted for management's judgement as to whether current economic and credit conditions are such that the actual losses are likely to be greater or less than suggested by historical trends.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Losses are recognised in surplus or deficit and reflected in an allowance account against *loans and receivables* financial assets. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised.

When an event occurring after the impairment was recognised causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through surplus or deficit.

Individual trade receivables that are known to be uncollectible are written off when identified, along with associated allowances. Loans, together with associated allowances are written off when there is no realistic prospect of future recovery and all collateral has been realised or has been transferred to the Group and Parent.

### *(ii) Financial assets classified as available-for-sale*

Impairment losses on available-for-sale financial assets are recognised by reclassifying the losses accumulated in the fair value reserve in net assets/equity to surplus or deficit.

In the case of equity investments classified as available-for-sale, objective evidence would include a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the investment below its cost. 'Significant' is evaluated against the original cost of the investment and 'prolonged' against the period in which the fair value has been below its original cost.

In the case of debt instruments classified as available-for-sale, the impairment is assessed based on the same criteria as financial assets at amortised cost. However, the amount recorded for impairment is the cumulative loss measured as the difference between the amortised cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that investment previously recognised in surplus or deficit.

The cumulative loss that is reclassified from the fair value reserve in net assets/equity to surplus or deficit is the difference between the acquisition cost, net of any principal repayment and amortisation, and the current fair value, less any impairment loss recognised previously in surplus or deficit.

Changes in impairment provisions attributable to application of the effective interest method are reflected as a component of interest income. If, in a subsequent period, the fair value of an impaired *available-for-sale* debt security increases and the increase can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, then the impairment loss is reversed, with the amount of the reversal recognised in surplus or deficit. However, any subsequent recovery in the fair value of an impaired *available-for-sale* equity security is recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense.

## **M. Inventory**

Inventory is initially measured at cost, except items acquired through non-exchange transactions which are instead measured at fair value as their deemed cost at initial recognition.

Inventories are subsequently measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is based on the first-in first-out principle and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the inventories, production or conversion costs and other costs incurred in bringing them to their existing location and condition.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion and selling expenses.



Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	PARENT		GROUP	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
<b>7. Revenue</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Revenue from Exchange Transactions</b>					
Club Rental and Bar Income		-	-	597,081	390,373
Membership User Pays		251,977	93,087	947,413	584,232
Product Sales		-	-	46,767	33,309
Auckland Council Contracts		18,648	20,934	18,648	20,934
Other Revenue from Exchange Transactions		136,000	-	144,739	4,556
<b>Total Revenue from Exchange Transactions</b>		<b>406,625</b>	<b>114,021</b>	<b>1,754,648</b>	<b>1,033,404</b>
<b>Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions</b>					
Auckland Regional Amenities Funding		1,390,000	1,366,000	1,390,000	1,366,000
Waikato Regional Council		104,600	104,600	104,600	104,600
Northland Regional Council		224,000	228,000	224,000	228,000
Grants from Gaming Machine Trusts		-	-	1,109,985	355,000
NLS Trust Distributions	23	-	857,259	-	857,259
Operating Grants		762,753	-	1,790,373	709,358
Capital Grants		-	436,014	54,863	552,329
Foundation North Grants		-	-	204,581	128,109
The Lifesavers Foundation Grants		-	-	63,379	243,663
Sponsorship		113,727	100,304	522,337	350,546
SLSNZ - Fundraising and Sponsorship	23	183,392	70,517	396,587	422,373
NZLGB Funding through SLSNZ	23	1,177,607	415,740	2,262,278	1,643,279
Fundraising, Donations and Legacies		37,535	38,362	1,299,375	1,214,647
<b>Total Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions</b>		<b>3,993,615</b>	<b>3,616,796</b>	<b>9,422,358</b>	<b>8,175,163</b>
<b>8. Other Income</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Gain on sale of property, plant and Equipment		-	1,304	9,333	28,822
Other Income		-	-	225,768	226,745
		-	1,304	235,101	255,567
<b>9. Cost of Delivery</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Lifesaving		545,450	476,825	1,515,665	1,442,339
Cost of Product Sales		463,276	428,646	71,140	339,233
Paid Lifeguard Services		920,132	927,542	1,200,800	927,543
Sports and Recreation		205,268	27,859	586,414	184,459
Community Education		145,328	59,103	159,726	83,784
		<b>2,279,454</b>	<b>1,919,974</b>	<b>3,533,745</b>	<b>2,977,358</b>
<b>10. Employee benefit expense</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Wages and Salaries		2,574,639	2,217,275	3,097,314	2,698,838
Contributions to Kiwisaver		49,668	46,434	57,476	46,434
		<b>2,624,308</b>	<b>2,263,709</b>	<b>3,154,790</b>	<b>2,745,272</b>
<b>11. Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	Note	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Operating surplus is stated after charging:					
Operating Rental	20	138,711	134,936	155,797	139,218
Club Distributions	23	-	3,735	-	-
Donations made		-	-	-	1,200
Depreciation Expense	26	94,474	101,599	1,332,096	1,192,397
Loss on disposal of property		-	-	13,779	104,342

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

<b>12. Net Finance Income</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Interest Income received on bank deposits	53,716	12,373	106,263	59,301
Dividend Income on available-for-sale financial assets	-	-	-	-
	<b>53,716</b>	<b>12,373</b>	<b>106,263</b>	<b>59,301</b>
Finance Expenses	-	-	0	0
	-	-	0	0
<b>Net Finance Income</b>	<b>53,716</b>	<b>12,373</b>	<b>106,263</b>	<b>59,301</b>

<b>13. Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Bank Balances	631,219	676,521	4,045,583	3,780,935
Petty Cash	-	15	5,168	1,453
<b>Cash and cash equivalents in the</b>	<b>631,219</b>	<b>676,536</b>	<b>4,050,751</b>	<b>3,782,388</b>

<b>14. Financial Assets</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Current Financial Assets</b>				
Term Deposit held by Surf Life Saving Northern Region	1,017,392	1,000,000	1,017,392	1,000,000
Term Deposits held by Surf Life Saving Clubs	-	-	3,280,056	1,975,246
<b>Total Current Financial Assets</b>	<b>1,017,392</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>4,297,448</b>	<b>2,975,246</b>
<b>Non Current Financial Assets</b>				
Term Deposits held by Surf Life Saving Clubs	-	-	-	-
Available for-sale Financial Assets - Piha Surf Life Saving Trust	-	-	942,426	1,001,705
<b>Total Non Current Financial Assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>942,426</b>	<b>1,001,705</b>
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>1,017,392</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>5,239,874</b>	<b>3,976,951</b>

Term deposits are held with various banks and financial institutions. Current term deposits mature within 12 months. Non Current investments are publicly listed entities and term deposits which mature after 12 months.

<b>15. Trade and Other Exchange Receivables</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Trade Receivables	175,312	7,713	852,626	259,300
Prepayments and Other Receivables	69,756	46,994	99,668	91,401
	<b>245,067</b>	<b>54,707</b>	<b>952,294</b>	<b>350,701</b>
Non-current	-	-	-	-
Current	245,067	54,707	952,294	350,701
	<b>245,067</b>	<b>54,707</b>	<b>952,294</b>	<b>350,701</b>

<b>16. Loan Receivable</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Loan due from The Lifesavers Foundation	-	158,272	158,272	158,272
Provision against loan due from The Lifesavers Foundation	-	(158,272)	(158,272)	(158,272)
	-	-	-	-

<b>17. Trade and Other Payables</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Trade Payables		64,066	44,811	648,493	649,139
Employee Benefit liability		145,107	131,245	175,271	146,221
Trade Payables due to Related Parties	<b>23</b>	5,542	4,993	5,542	4,993
Inland Revenue Payables / (Receivable)		47,894	45,050	48,620	9,243
Accrued Expenses		88,230	45,532	182,223	91,659
<b>Trade and other payables</b>		<b>350,839</b>	<b>271,631</b>	<b>1,060,149</b>	<b>901,255</b>
Non Current		-	-	-	-
Current		350,839	271,631	1,060,149	901,255
		<b>350,839</b>	<b>271,631</b>	<b>1,060,149</b>	<b>901,255</b>

The fair value of trade and other payables are equivalent to the carrying value.

<b>18. Deferred Income</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Grants - Current	227,826	99,300	1,583,313	180,941



**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

	<b>227,826</b>	<b>99,300</b>	<b>1,583,313</b>	<b>180,941</b>
--	----------------	---------------	------------------	----------------

Funding held in deferred income relates to grants which meet the definition of non-exchange transactions per IPSAS 23. At balance date the purpose of these grants has not been fulfilled and where an appropriate condition is attached to the grant in line with IPSAS 23 the unutilised grant is held as income in advance. All grants are expected to be used within 6 months of balance date and are current in nature. The fair value of the grants are equivalent to the carrying value.

<b>19. Loans and Borrowings</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Loan to Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service Club			791	791
Kitchen / Bar Loan to Red Beach Surf Lifesaving Club	-	-	45,000	45,000
	-	-	<b>45,791</b>	<b>45,791</b>
Non Current	-	-	-	-
Current	-	-	45,791	45,791
	-	-	<b>45,791</b>	<b>45,791</b>

The Kitchen/Bar Loan to Red Beach is a loan by two members that have no contractual commitment. The loan is interest free, there were no repayments made during the year (2022: \$15,000).

<b>20. Operating lease commitments</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
(i) Future minimum lease payments			<b>[restated]</b>		<b>[restated]</b>
Less than one year		216,406	184,423	216,406	184,423
Between one and five years		431,708	733,481	431,708	733,481
More than five years		402,547	486,259	402,547	486,259
		<b>1,050,661</b>	<b>1,404,163</b>	<b>1,050,661</b>	<b>1,404,163</b>
(ii) Amounts recognised in surplus or deficit					
Lease expense	11	138,711	134,936	155,797	139,218
		<b>138,711</b>	<b>134,936</b>	<b>155,797</b>	<b>139,218</b>

The Group leases vehicles and photocopiers and the premises for its Parent from a related party (Note 23). The comparatives are restated as the premises' lease commitments were omitted.

### **21. Commitments and Contingencies**

There are no commitments and contingent liabilities as at year end (2022 : nil).

### **22. Subsequent Events**

#### **Consolidation into Surf Life Saving New Zealand (Inc)**

On 21 June 2023 the Group's 18 Clubs passed a vote to consolidate Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated into Surf Life Saving New Zealand Incorporated under the terms of a Statement of Expectations ('SOE') agreed between SLSNZ and SLSNR Clubs. The consolidation will take effect as of 1st October 2023, and under the Statement of Expectations SLSNR will continue to operate as a separate legal and accounting entity for a foreseeable future.

### **23. Related Parties**

#### **Parent and ultimate controlling party**

Surf Life Saving Northern Region Inc. (the Parent) was set up as an incorporated Society to be the lead provider of water safety services, working to prevent drowning and injury in the Northern Region.

Directors of the governing body do not receive any fees for meeting attendance and are only reimbursed for direct costs.

Remuneration of key management personal was \$246,410 (2022: \$242,494)

The Society is currently affiliated to Surf Life Saving New Zealand Inc. ('SLSNZ'), and from 1 October 2023 will be consolidated into SLSNZ (Note 22)

#### **Controlled entities**

The Society has 18 Surf Life Saving Clubs and 3 Trusts which are controlled by SLSNR. Bayliss Beach Surf Club joined as a controlled entity in 2022. The Raglan Surf Life Saving Amenities Trust was dissolved in June 2021. Most clubs have balance date 30th June as the Group, Whangarei Heads changed its balance date this year to 31st March (previously 31st May)

#### **Other related entities**

The NLS Trust was set up by affiliated clubs to SLSNR, with SLSNR having the power to appoint two trustees out of a governing body of up to 7 Trustees. All other NLS Trust trustees are appointed by the trustees themselves. The control of the NLS Trust is with the NLS Trustees only and control does not sit with SLSNR. Any trustee may be removed by Special Resolution of all other trustees.

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

Muriwai Lifeguard Services Amenities Trust (MLSAT) is the owner of the Surf Club Building at Muriwai and as such, the club's landlord. The club pays MLSAT for rent of the buildings and utilities and MLSAT pays the club for bar services provided to hirers of the venue. The annual sum for the year was \$36,000 (2022: \$36,000). The club Chairman and one other member serve as trustees on the Board of Muriwai Lifeguard Services Amenities Trust, other Board members are independent from the Surf Club. MLSAT has been set up for the benefit of 11 community groups who have access to the use of the building facilities and therefore it is excluded from the consolidation.

The Lifesavers Foundation was established in 2017 with the purpose to be beneficial to the community by providing monetary grants, equipment and other resources to recognised surf life saving organisations for their charitable purposes. A memorandum of understanding was entered into between SLSNR and The Lifesavers Foundation which included the advance of a loan of \$158,272 to be used by the Foundation to fund its operations. The loan is interest free. This loan has been written off in accordance with SLSNR Directors' resolution (Refer to Note 16).

SLSNR is entitled to appoint 3 out of the 6 trustees of the Auckland Marine Rescue Centre Trust (AMRC). The AMRC is a charitable trust established to hold the AMRC building in which SLSNR is a tenant.

List of Controlled Entities	Balance Date 2023	Balance Date 2022	Controlling
Baylys Beach	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Bethells Beach	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Far North	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Karekare	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Kariaotahi	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Mairangi Bay	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Mangawhai Heads	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Muriwai	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Omaha	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Orewa	31-Mar	31-Mar	100%
Piha	30-Apr	30-Apr	100%
Piha Trust	30-Apr	30-Apr	100%
Raglan	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Raglan Trust	31-Mar	31-Mar	100%
Red Beach	30-Apr	30-Apr	100%
Ruakaka	30-Apr	30-Apr	100%
Sunset Beach	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Sunset Trust	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
United North Piha	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
United North Trust	30-Jun	30-Jun	100%
Waipu Cove	30-Apr	30-Apr	100%
Whangarei Heads	31-Mar	31-May	100%

GROUP Group Transactions with Related Parties during the year	2023		2022	
	Recharges Paid	Distributions Received	Recharges Paid	Distributions Received
SLSNZ	114,059	2,658,865	73,189	2,065,652
NLS Trust	-	-	-	857,259
<b>Total</b>	<b>114,059</b>	<b>2,658,865</b>	<b>73,189</b>	<b>2,922,911</b>

Group Year-End Balances arising from Sales to and Purchases from Related Parties	2023		2022	
	Receivable	Payable	Receivable	Payable
SLSNZ	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

PARENT Parent Transactions with Related Parties during the year to 30 June 2023	Revenue / Recharges	Purchases / Distributions	Receivable	Payable
	Baylys Beach	1,315	3,870	-
Bethells Beach	3,432	10,450	-	-
Far North	1,268	3,950	-	-
Karekare	1,826	8,445	-	-
Kariaotahi	2,963	12,240	-	-
Mairangi Bay	9,797	6,400	-	-
Mangawhai Heads	4,452	7,300	-	-
Muriwai	10,973	325	2,298	-
Omaha	5,377	12,840	-	-
Orewa	8,632	11,533	-	-
Piha	5,968	21,880	315	-
Raglan	4,015	14,245	2,318	-
Red Beach	12,093	8,419	-	-
Ruakaka	2,969	11,062	-	-
Sunset Beach	1,791	7,470	-	-

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

United North Piha	(2,409)	7,700	-	-
Waipu Cove	3,342	6,610	-	-
Whangarei Heads	2,001	5,520	-	-
<b>Total Clubs</b>	<b>79,803</b>	<b>160,259</b>	<b>4,930</b>	-

<b>2023</b>				
<b>Other affiliated parties</b>	<b>Revenue / Recharges</b>	<b>Purchases / Distributions</b>	<b>Receivable</b>	<b>Payable</b>
AMRC Trust	-	136,841	-	5,376
NLS Trust	-	-	-	-
SLSNZ	1,665,983	114,059	169,403	166
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,665,983</b>	<b>250,900</b>	<b>169,403</b>	<b>5,542</b>

<b>2022</b>				
<b>Other affiliated parties</b>	<b>Revenue / Recharges</b>	<b>Purchases / Distributions</b>	<b>Receivable</b>	<b>Payable</b>
AMRC Trust	-	19,189	-	4,993
NLS Trust	-	-	-	-
SLSNZ	1,312,670	36,373	3,342	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,312,670</b>	<b>55,562</b>	<b>3,342</b>	<b>4,993</b>

#### 24. Financial Instrument Classifications

<b>PARENT</b>	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
<b>Financial Assets - Parent</b>	Loans and Receivables	Available for sale	Loans and Receivables	Available for sale
Cash and cash equivalents	631,219	-	676,536	-
Investments - term deposits	1,017,392	-	1,000,000	-
Receivables	245,067	-	54,707	-
	<b>1,893,678</b>	-	<b>1,731,243</b>	-
<b>Financial Liabilities - Parent</b>		<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
		Amortised Cost		Amortised Cost
Trade and Other Payables		350,839		271,631
Loans and borrowings		-		-
		<b>350,839</b>		<b>271,631</b>

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
<b>Financial Assets - Group</b>	Loans and Receivables	Available for sale	Loans and Receivables	Available for sale
Cash and cash equivalents	4,050,751	-	3,782,388	-
Investments - term deposits	4,297,448	-	2,975,246	-
Investments - securities	-	942,426	-	1,001,705
Receivables	952,294	-	350,701	-
	<b>9,300,493</b>	<b>942,426</b>	<b>7,108,335</b>	<b>1,001,705</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities - Group</b>		<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
		Amortised Cost		Amortised Cost
Trade and Other Payables		1,060,149		901,255
Loans and borrowings		45,791		45,791
		<b>1,105,940</b>		<b>947,046</b>





Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

25. Capital Work In Progress

United North Piha, Karekare and Sunset Beach are only noted for as work in progress.

26. Property, Plant and Equipment

PARENT						
Reconciliation of carrying amount for the year ended 30 June 2023	Furniture & Fittings	Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	Radio Equipment	Motor Vehicles & Trailers	Buildings	Total
Cost	203,188	400,908	576,422	175,978	-	1,356,496
Accumulated Depreciation	187,049	327,010	431,369	119,052	-	1,064,481
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 23</b>	<b>16,139</b>	<b>73,898</b>	<b>145,053</b>	<b>56,926</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>292,015</b>
Closing carrying amount 30 June 22	13,943	46,454	131,658	48,281	-	240,336
Additions during the year	14,643	46,834	66,313	18,364	-	146,152
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation Expense	12,447	19,390	52,918	9,718	-	94,473
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 23</b>	<b>16,139</b>	<b>73,898</b>	<b>145,053</b>	<b>56,926</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>292,015</b>

Reconciliation of carrying amount for the year ended 30 June 2022	Furniture & Fittings	Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	Radio Equipment	Motor Vehicles & Trailers	Buildings	Total
Cost	188,545	354,074	510,110	157,614	-	1,210,343
Accumulated Depreciation	174,602	307,620	378,451	109,334	-	970,007
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 22</b>	<b>13,943</b>	<b>46,454</b>	<b>131,660</b>	<b>48,280</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>240,336</b>
Closing carrying amount 30 June 21	28,569	46,405	126,760	24,629	-	226,363
Additions during the year	-	18,885	64,613	32,073	-	115,572
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation Expense	14,626	18,837	59,715	8,422	-	101,599
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 22</b>	<b>13,943</b>	<b>46,454</b>	<b>131,658</b>	<b>48,281</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>240,336</b>

GROUP						
Reconciliation of carrying amount for the year ended 30 June 2023	Furniture & Fittings	Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	Radio Equipment	Motor Vehicles & Trailers	Buildings	Total
Cost	1,264,916	10,512,942	667,948	1,699,097	17,391,972	31,536,875
Accumulated Depreciation	851,260	8,545,898	508,242	1,347,370	4,256,566	15,509,335
Asset Impairment (Note 27)	-	-	-	-	484,330	484,330
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 23</b>	<b>413,655</b>	<b>1,967,045</b>	<b>159,706</b>	<b>351,727</b>	<b>12,651,076</b>	<b>15,543,210</b>
Closing carrying amount 30 June 22	340,388	1,795,193	154,146	329,263	12,510,487	15,129,478
Additions during the year	204,612	885,459	66,312	184,475	1,095,892	2,436,750
Disposals during the year	(35,526)	(88,744)	-	(71,746)	(10,575)	(206,592)
Depreciation Expense	(95,819)	(624,863)	(60,751)	(90,266)	(460,398)	(1,332,096)
Asset Impairment (Note 27)	-	-	-	-	(484,330)	(484,330)
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 23</b>	<b>413,655</b>	<b>1,967,045</b>	<b>159,707</b>	<b>351,727</b>	<b>12,651,076</b>	<b>15,543,210</b>

Reconciliation of carrying amount for the year ended 30 June 2022	Furniture & Fittings	Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	Radio Equipment	Motor Vehicles & Trailers	Buildings	Total
Cost	1,095,830	9,716,228	601,636	1,586,368	16,306,655	29,306,716
Accumulated Depreciation	755,442	7,921,035	447,491	1,257,104	3,796,166	14,177,238
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 22</b>	<b>340,388</b>	<b>1,795,193</b>	<b>154,146</b>	<b>329,263</b>	<b>12,510,489</b>	<b>15,129,478</b>
Closing carrying amount 30 June 21	196,778	1,841,724	148,212	408,713	6,668,168	9,263,595
Additions during the year	212,327	640,996	75,152	122,185	6,188,370	7,239,031
Disposals during the year	(607)	(47,911)	(689)	(40,564)	(90,979)	(180,751)
Depreciation Expense	(68,110)	(639,615)	(68,529)	(161,070)	(255,073)	(1,192,397)
<b>Closing carrying amount 30 June 22</b>	<b>340,388</b>	<b>1,795,193</b>	<b>154,146</b>	<b>329,263</b>	<b>12,510,487</b>	<b>15,129,478</b>

---

## 27. Asset Impairment

---

### Extreme weather events

The extreme weather events that took place this year in January (Cyclone Hale) and February (Cyclone Gabrielle) had inflicted structural damages to SLSNR clubs particularly ones that were located near coastlines and exposed to weather extremities. The Group has identified 3 clubs that have been affected by the events and subsequent inclement weather of varying degrees. One club has been severely impacted due to its inability to operate out of its current location rather the condition of its building structure. Although the building remains intact the surrounding area has been exposed to soil movement from the weather events. The area's council has issued a red sticker preventing access into the building until remedial work can be undertaken to stabilise the ground. Given the uncertainty associated with the ability to carry out the remedial work, our assessment has been to fully impair the building.

The other 2 club buildings have been impacted to a lesser degree. The buildings can be used for life saving operations however some parts have been affected, and we have assessed the level of impairment according to the extent of the damages to the buildings.

The Group has assessed the impairment value to be \$484,330 for the affected clubs, and has posted the sum into the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense as an asset impairment expense, and the corresponding amount into the balance sheet to reduce the carrying value of the affected assets.

All clubs affected by the events are insured either by the Group or Auckland Council's Community Asset insurance, and insurance is expected to respond but had not done so by the balance date. As such the probable inflow from insurance proceeds is considered a contingent asset and will be recognised in the financial statements only when it has been confirmed.





# LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS



Dave Comp



Damian Molloy



Kevin Moran



Benny Larsen



Mark Johnston



Shane Edwards

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS



Bryce Pearce



Dan Short



Danny Tenhevuel



Evan Oxborrow



James Kendrick



Nick Devcich



Ollie Irwin



Pia Harpour



Tasha Harvey

# SERVICE AWARDS

## SERVICE AWARDS

Member	Club
Shane Dwyer	Bethells Beach SLSP
Caleb Starrenburg	Bethells Beach SLSP
Chase Cahalane	Bethells Beach SLSP
Dylan Thorpe	Bethells Beach SLSP
James Lea	Bethells Beach SLSP
Michael Barker	Bethells Beach SLSP
Terry Thorpe	Bethells Beach SLSP
Bobbie Shatwell	Bethells Beach SLSP
Fredrick Teaukura	Mairangi Bay SLSC
Rod Salt	Mairangi Bay SLSC
Deb Franich	Ōrewa SLSC
Brenda Larsen	Ōrewa SLSC
Andrea May	Ōrewa SLSC
Tim Rogers	Ōrewa SLSC
Zane Taylor	Ōrewa SLSC
Debbie Walker	Ōrewa SLSC
Conan Willis	Ōrewa SLSC
Rhys Lloyd	Piha SLSC
Michael Lockie	Piha SLSC
Dennis Amooore	Raglan SLSC
Emma Ferry-Parker	Raglan SLSC
Isaac van der Vossen	Raglan SLSC
Sarah Amooore	Raglan SLSC
Harry Mellor	Red Beach SLSC
Kelly O'Dea	Red Beach SLSC

Member	Club
Kirsty Rutledge-Malyon	Red Beach SLSC
Sidah Russell	Red Beach SLSC
Adam McKernan	Ruakākā SLSP
Andrew Forsythe	Ruakākā SLSP
Phillipa Taylor	Ruakākā SLSP
Ben McKernan	Ruakākā SLSP
Tania Ahrens	Ruakākā SLSP
Hogan Shrimpton	Sunset SLSC
Emma Baker	Waipū Cove SLSC
Gordon French	Waipū Cove SLSC
Jaine Curran	Waipū Cove SLSC
Jake McClure	Waipū Cove SLSC
Lauren Williams	Waipū Cove SLSC

# OUR PEOPLE



Name	Title
Matt Williams	Chief Executive Officer
Kat Frankcom-Burgess	Executive Assistant to the CEO *appointed Jan 2023
James Lea	Operations Manager
Zac Franich	Member Services Manager
Tom Kearney	Community Safety & Engagement Manager
Barbara Leyland	Grants Manager
Linda Freeman	Payroll & Accounts coordinator
Daniel Grant	Community Education Supervisor
Ollie Irwin	Lifesaving Support Officer
Lauren Williams	Lifesaving Support Officer
Bryce Pearce	Lifesaving Support Officer
Donal Dray-Hogg	Participation & Event Development Officer
Talia Comp	Club Capability Development Officer
Georgia Parker	Chief SurfCom Operator *April 2023
Nilesh Bhikha	Finance Manager *Feb 2023
John-Michael Swannix	Search & Rescue Supervisor *Feb 2023
Joel Ibbs	Training & Development Officer *Feb 2023
Debra Kemp	Executive Assistant *Nov 2022

SLSNR Board	Position
Denise Bovaird	Chair
Anthony Drake	Director
Joanne Hobson	Director
Stephan Deschamps	Director

Jim Coe	President
Denis Black	Patron

Lifesaving Advisory Group	Position
Victoria Mulrennan	Chair
Kath Manning	Member
Georgia Parker	Member
Leonnard Mead	Member
Shannon Benterman	Member

Competitive Lifesaving Operations Committee	Position
Jason Pocock	Chair
Wayne Franich	Member
Belinda Langman	Member
Dave Shanks	Member
Gracey Monteith	Member
Shane Edwards	Member
Michelle Newton	Member
Samantha Rogers	Member
Simone Spencer	Member

Junior Surf Operational Committee	Position
Tim Rogers	Chair
Jillian Walker	Member
Rob Mihaljevich	Member
Rod Salt	Member
Russell White	Member

Member Development Committee	Position
Jacob Groom	Chair
Daniel Short	Member
Samantha Larson	Member
Caylee Cooke	Member
Alicia McKenzie	Member
Paige Atkins *Co-opted November	Member

Training Advisory Group	Position
Benny Larsen	Chair
Jackie Grant	Member
Wayne Sutton	Member
Trevor Keinzley	Member
Grace Campbell	Member
Evan Oxborrow	Member
James (Jimmy) Kendrick	Member

Honours & Awards Committee	Position
Joanne Hobson	Chair
Dave Comp	Member
Ian Godfrey	Member
Malcolm Beattie	Member
Michelle Newton	Member



# AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS LIST

Award	Member
Junior Coach of the Year	Travis Browne, Raglan SLSC
Outstanding Contribution to Junior Surf	Tim Rogers, Ōrewa SLSC
Rookie of the Year	Anton Edmunds, Bethells Beach SLSP
Developing Surf Official of the Year	Claudine Taniwha, Bethells Beach SLSP
Surf Official of the Year	Johnny Clough, United North Piha SLSC
Quicksilver Outstanding Contribution to Event Lifeguarding	Caleb Archer, Red Beach SLSC
Coach of the Year	Tom Lowe, Mairangi Bay SLSC
U14 Sportsman of the year -	Dylan Blanchard, Red Beach SLSC
U14 Sportswoman of the year	Erika Orbell, Ōrewa SLSC
U15 Sportswoman of the Year	Brooke Pocock, Mairangi Bay SLSC
U15 Sportsman of the Year	Jack Handford, Ōrewa SLSC
U17 Sportswoman of the Year	Michaela Pocock, Mairangi Bay SLSC
U17 Sportsman of the Year	Jasper Cornish, Red Beach SLSC
U19 Sportswoman of the Year	Zoe Crawford, Mairangi Bay SLSC
U19 Sportsman of the Year	George Wenman, Ōrewa SLSC
Open Sportswoman of the Year	Danielle McKenzie, Mairangi Bay SLSC
Open Sportsman of the Year	Steve Kent, Mairangi Bay SLSC
Team of the Year	Piha Piranhas U23 Female, Piha SLSC
Supreme Sport Award	Piha Piranhas U23 Female, Piha SLSC
Peer Supporter of the Year	Victoria Mulrennan, United North Piha SLSC
Duty Officer of the Year	Tara Coe, SLS Kariaotahi
Contribution to Search and Rescue Services	Kath Manning, Waipū Cove SLSC
Outstanding Contribution to Powercraft	Natalie Wilson, United North Piha SLSC
Instructor of the Year	Carwyn Thomas, United North Piha SLSC
Examiner of the Year	Jackie Grant, Mairangi Bay SLSC
Search and Rescue Squad of the Year	Ruakākā SLSP
Quicksilver Patrol Support of the Year	Tamsyn Siggery, Waipū Cove SLSC
Quicksilver U19 Lifeguard of the Year	Hannah Lugtigheid, Whangārei Heads VSLSP
Quicksilver Lifeguard of the Year	Samantha Larson, SLS Kariaotahi
Innovation of the Year	Piha SLSC
Volunteer of the Year	Victoria Mulrennan, United North Piha SLSC
Rescue of the Year	SLS Kariaotahi - 4 May 22

## PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



## SUPPORTING PARTNERS



## COUNCIL PARTNERS



## FUNDING PARTNERS



SERIOUS ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY





**SURF LIFE SAVING**<sup>®</sup>  
NORTHERN REGION



09 303 0663

3 Solent Street, Mechanics Bay, Auckland 1010