



Papamoa

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

PSLSC MEMBER NEWSLETTER

18th October 2024

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

A warm welcome to anyone receiving this newsletter for the first time. We hope you enjoy reading about the awesome club that you have joined! The newsletter is designed to give you an overview of what's happening across the club, from lifeguarding and Junior Surf, to our surf sports programmes which cover everyone from our youngest juniors to our masters. For more specific information on our programmes, visit our website www.papamoalifeguards.co.nz and keep an eye on our Facebook Pages:

[Papamoa Surf Life Saving Club Facebook Page](#)

Facebook Group Pages:

[Papamoa SLSC Lifeguards](#)

[Papamoa SLSC Rookies](#)

[Papamoa SLSC Masters](#)

[Papamoa SLSC Senior Surf Sports](#)

[Papamoa SLSC Ocean Athletes \(Junior Surf Sports\)](#)

[Papamoa SLSC Junior Surf](#)

REMINDER - Beach Blessing This Sunday



2024/2025 Season Beach Blessing Sunday 20th October 2024

11.30am – Beach Blessing with Nga Potiki

12pm – Lunch

2pm – Lifeguard Refresher

5pm – Bar Open

SHAUN SMITH AND JO MILLER HONOURED

Huge congratulations to our valued club members, Shaun Smith and Jo Miller, who were recognised at the 2024 Surf Life Saving New Zealand National Awards of Excellence, held in Christchurch last month.



Our club's long-time member, Shaun Smith, received the highest honour there is in lifesaving of **Life Member**. Since becoming a Surf Lifeguard in 1977 with the Opotiki SLSC, Shaun's journey has been nothing short of remarkable. From his time patrolling in Australia to his 28 years at Pāpāmoa, Shaun has continually shaped the surf lifesaving community. Shaun is an instructor and examiner for SLGA and IRB, and he continues to train Pāpāmoa clubbies and examine all candidates in the Bay Area for their crew and drivers awards throughout each winter season.

"In 2021, Shaun received a Distinguished Service Award. Becoming a Life Member marks another significant milestone in his journey since starting as a lifeguard. He should be incredibly proud," says Pāpāmoa Surf Club's Chairman, Jim Pearson.

Shaun's impressive list of contributions includes roles as a Board/Committee Member, Club Captain, Patrol Captain, and Lifeguard Committee Member. He has been a passionate competitor for 16 years and a SAR Squad Member for 16 years. Shaun has also served as a Competition Official, Event Water Safety/First Aider for over 20 years, and was the National Event Water Safety Manager for three years.

"We are deeply grateful for Shaun's incredible legacy of service, and we thank him for his ongoing dedication and commitment to our club and to Surf Life Saving," Jim continues.



Jo Miller was honoured with the prestigious Surf Official of the Year award and also received a Distinguished Service Award. Jim commends Jo's unwavering dedication to the club, particularly in officiating, and the lasting impact she's made on the surf lifesaving community.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have Jo as a member, and we deeply appreciate her invaluable contributions," he says. "We'd like to extend a massive congratulations to Jo."

Jo has been instrumental in officiating numerous surf competitions, mentoring officials, and continuously supporting the club's operations with a level of dedication that sets her apart.

"Both Shaun and Jo embody the true spirit of surf lifesaving. We are immensely proud of their outstanding achievements and grateful for all they continue to do for our club and the wider community," says Jim.

CONGRATS TO OUR HIGH PERFORMANCE ATHLETES

Youth Squad Pool Rescue Athletes

Grayson Swanepoel - Red Beach

Jonathan Swanepoel - Red Beach

Celia Willoughby - Midway

Amelie Pearson - Papamoa

Isobella Davoren - Papamoa

Trelise Chote - Papamoa

Simiosi Tukia - Waihi

Lily Hill - East End

Charlotte McLaren - Waimarama

Oli Hansen - Omanu

Kayla Alarcon - Mairangi bay

Meila Gwiazdzinski - Fitzroy

Nathan Whitehead - Fitzroy

Dylan Blanchard - Red Beach

Jack Rust - East End

Max Cave - East End

Talen Hickford - East end

Lucy Kinnear - Waimarama



We are incredibly proud of our three amazing club members who have been selected as Youth Squad Pool Rescue Athletes: Amelie Pearson, Trelise Chote and Bella Davoren.

Their dedication, hard work, and passion have truly paid off. They have made Pāpāmoa Surf Club proud, and now have the opportunity to attend a training camp with the squad and coaches from across New Zealand later this

year. We can't wait to see where this exciting journey takes them and we're sure they will inspire more of our young senior team to join them.



Amelie Pearson



Trelise Chote



Bella Davoren



BEHIND THE SCENES

To get more insight into how the Club supports its members, we sat down with Board Member Mat Bowling, who shared his experiences as our finance director.

How long have you been on the Board, and what motivated you to join?

"I joined the Board in December 2021. My family has been involved with the Club for about eight years. When the Club redevelopment happened, I thought, 'How will we cover the costs of this new building?' A conversation with Michael Leach about the finance director position made me realise I could help out."

What are your responsibilities, and how does your background help in this role?

"I manage the Club's finances, from tracking our monthly reports to budgeting and overseeing audits. My 20-year career in banking, including as a management accountant, gives me the skills to ensure our Club stays financially healthy. Thankfully, the Club has great sponsors who help us fund equipment and programmes."

What do you find most rewarding about serving on the Board?

"It's the sense of giving back. Pāpāmoa Surf Club plays such a crucial role in keeping our beach safe. The Board members are all passionate about ensuring the Club thrives, and I enjoy being part of a team that contributes to both water safety and our growing surf sports programmes."

Any recent success stories?

"One success has been managing our finances so we can continue investing in the Club's upkeep and member support. We've also been able to plan for long-term maintenance and repairs, which ensures the Club remains accessible to both members and the community."

What are your goals for this season?

"We've noticed a decline in income from venue functions due to the recession, so we're balancing that by focusing on essential areas like maintaining the Club and equipment while keeping costs manageable for families. It's a continuous effort to secure grants and keep membership fees low."

What's your involvement with the Club beyond the Board?

"For the last two years, I've been part of the Masters Pool Rescue team, and I've also been an age group manager for my son's Oceans group. It's a rewarding experience seeing these kids develop skills that will one day help them patrol our beaches. I have also just signed up to do my lifeguard award which is really exciting, as I will be able to patrol alongside my kids as well as my Masters team mates – needless to say I'm looking forward to the summer ahead!"

We're incredibly grateful for the dedication of our Board members like Mat, who help keep our Club and community thriving.

Mat also shared that he and his brother are raising funds for Motor Neurone Disease NZ in memory of their father, planning to hike Mt Kilimanjaro in March 2025. [CLICK HERE](#) if you'd like more information on Mat's adventure and if you'd like to support him in his fundraising.

CLUB NIGHTS: CONNECTING FOR THE SEASON AHEAD

It was fantastic to see everyone at Club Night last week. It's always a great opportunity to get to know each other before the season kicks off and mingle with those you'll be spending time with on the beach.

A special highlight of the evening was seeing both familiar and new faces from our Masters team, who came together to celebrate their recent win at the Pool Rescue Nationals!

Mark your calendars for the next Club Night on 25th October – and don't forget, you're welcome to bring a friend along too. We look forward to seeing you there.



FRIDAY NIGHT IS CLUB NIGHT
at the Pāpāmoa Surf Club

2024	2025
27th September	10th January
11th October	17th January + Race Night
25th October	7th February + Race Night
22nd November	28th February
29th November + Race Night	7th March + Race Night
6th December + Race Night	
13th December	



RACE NIGHTS
at the Pāpāmoa Surf Club

2024	2025
29th November	17th January
6th December	7th February
	7th March

COMMUNITY DONATIONS FUND NEW DEFIBRILLATOR



We're pleased to announce that thanks to the amazing generosity of our community, a brand-new defibrillator has been installed at the Taylor Reserve boat access ramp.

This initiative was inspired by a serious incident last summer when a long-time local surfer collapsed at the beach. Thanks to the quick thinking of friends, bystanders, and our incredible lifeguards, he was successfully revived with a defibrillator.

In recognition of the importance of this life-saving equipment, the surfer and his friends rallied together to raise funds for the new unit.

 IF YOU NEED TO USE THE DEFIBRILLATOR DIAL 111 TO GET THE ACCESS CODE. The defib is easy to use with step by step instructions that talk you through the process.

LIFEGUARDING

In just over a week's time, our volunteer lifeguards will be back on the beach keeping Pāpāmoa beach goers safe.

The future of lifeguarding at Pāpāmoa is in good hands with our newly qualified lifeguards, many of whom were Rookies last year, passing their tests and ready to hit the beach. A huge congratulations to the ten new lifeguards who had glowing feedback from the examiners. It's exciting that this is the beginning of their lifeguarding journey, and we can't wait to see them on patrol this season!



Our new lifeguards are: Matty Carrington, Lyla Courtney, William Chugg, Brooke Jackson, Tara McBride, Evie Metcalfe, Charlotte Silvester, Lucy McBride, Sienna Ropati and George Blanchard. Special shoutout to Mason Bollee (pictured front), who also qualified as a Lifeguarding Award Instructor.

Patrol Roster Released

[CLICK HERE](#) to view a copy of the patrol roster so you can start to add the dates to your diaries. Keep an eye out for some fun activities and challenges between patrols throughout the season. Perhaps this will be the year to knock Delta off the top spot as best patrol!?



ATV Rules Reminders

Just a reminder that:

1. Only persons with a full licence shall operate PSLSC vehicles (Ute/ATV) when alone.
2. No person on a restricted licence is to drive any PSLSC vehicle without being supervised. *A supervisor must have a full Licence AND must have held that full licence for 2 years minimum.*

The beach can have some tricky holes, ledges and pipe outlets when driving so we encourage our experienced drivers to work with new drivers to help them gain some experience and expertise. Quiet patrols are a good opportunity to teach new guards and patrol support how to safely navigate the beach: perhaps set up some cones on the beach to practice backing with a trailer.

POOL RESCUE



Image: Our Gold winning Masters team.

PĀPĀMOA BREAKS THREE NATIONAL RECORDS AT 2024 POOL RESCUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

That's a wrap for another successful Pool Rescue season. We had an incredible finish at the 2024 National Pool Rescue Championships in Auckland, where Pāpāmoa Surf Life Saving Club broke three New Zealand records and secured the most medals of the competition. Our athletes rose to the challenge with personal bests, podium finishes, and record-breaking performances that made waves on the national stage.

"Breaking three national records is a huge achievement and really shows the talent and determination within our team," said our coach, Jack Bullock. "Our athletes have worked incredibly hard this winter, and it's fantastic to see that hard work pay off."

Our juniors kicked things off with a series of standout performances, earning multiple medals. The U12s showed impressive skills, especially in the clip-up events that caught attention all over the pool deck. Our senior athletes followed suit, with regular podium appearances and personal bests across the board.

Special highlights included Bella Davoren's gold medal in the U17 Female 200m Obstacles, and an amazing U12 win in the 100m Patient Tow with Fins by Ricky Broadley and Cooper Taylor-Jonsson. Both our U19 Male Line Throw team of Ryan Bevin and Triton Dickens, and the U17 team of Lockie Cairns and Oliver Pepers, took home

gold in their events. Not only did Lockie and Oliver win, but they also set a new U17 NZ record with the fastest time of the weekend.

Our Masters team was on a mission to retain their National title, and they delivered with dominant performances, earning more than three times the points of any other club! Many of our Masters athletes also contribute to our club as lifeguards, committee members, and officials, making their success even more special. "The dedication of our Masters squad is something we're all proud of," Jack said. "They already give so much to the club, and to see them perform so well is a testament to their hard work and passion for surf lifesaving."

Among their victories was a new NZ Masters record in the 100m Manikin Tow with Fins by Naomi Davoren, along with the Masters mixed 4x25m Manikin Relay team of Rob Peppers, Jen Roberts-Lochray, Naomi Davoren, and Richard Williams setting a new national record as well.

Overall, we finished 6th, a step up from last year's 7th-place finish. It's been a fantastic season for us, and none of it would have been possible without the support of our coaches, parents, and volunteers. From managing and officiating to cheering us on, it's been a true team effort.

We'd also like to extend our thanks to the [Four Winds Foundation](#), whose grant for lane hire throughout the season helped make all of this possible. Here's to building on our success next year!



Ricky Broadley and Cooper Taylor-Jonsson

Oliver Peppers & Lockie Cairns

Richard Williams, Naomi Davoren, Jen Roberts-Lochray, and Rob Peppers

SURF SPORTS

Our Summer Sports Programmes have officially kicked off, with both Oceans and Senior training sessions now underway, and Masters starting up soon.

Oceans



Our Ocean Athletes group is gearing up for their upcoming camp in just a couple of weeks. With 56 juniors attending, this will be our biggest camp yet, promising a fantastic weekend in Ohope. We currently have more than 65 juniors signed up for either the Ocean Athletes or Oceans Development programmes, which is incredibly exciting. Our Juniors Coach, Jack, along with our resource coaches, are eager to get started and see what this season brings.

Senior Team



The senior team has welcomed a significant influx of new members over the winter, bringing our total close to 30 athletes for the upcoming season. As our older seniors transition into the U19 age group, we are building a stronger team year after year. Seniors Coach Jake is looking forward to what promises to be an amazing calendar of competitions, culminating in Nationals in Gisborne in March next year.

Upcoming Senior Events



The first event on our calendar is the local Spring Series, featuring a downwind paddle from Pāpāmoa to Omanu, taking place this Saturday 19th October. Following this, the second Spring Series event will be held on 9th November, before the team embarks on a road trip to Gisborne for the Gizzy Grinder on 22nd-23rd November.

Masters Training



In an effort to build on the winter success of our Masters, we've organised some initial board sessions to kickstart a Masters training group. The first session will be a Board Fundamentals workshop held at Pilot Bay on 27th October, followed by trial sessions on Mondays from 5:30-6:30pm, starting 4th November. These sessions will run concurrently with our juniors' beach programme. We may also look to add another session during the week or tie in with our Canoe training on Fridays. If you're interested, please contact Radleigh at surfsport@papamoalifeguards.co.nz



Join Us

It's not too late to join any of our summer programmes. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#) to visit our website or reach out to

Jack at oceans@papamoalifeguards.co.nz

Jake at coach@papamoalifeguards.co.nz or

Radleigh at surfsport@papamoalifeguards.co.nz

Junior Surf Uniforms: Time to Gear Up!

As the summer season approaches, it's time to get ready for another exciting year of Junior Surf at Pāpāmoa Surf Club! We're reminding all Junior Surf families to order your kids' JS rash top or singlet online before the season kicks off.

Uniforms can be collected from the club on the following dates between 4-6pm:

Thursday, 24th October

Tuesday, 29th October

Not sure about size? No problem! Just order the size you think fits best, bring your child along, and we'll make sure you get the right one.

To order your uniform, visit our website:

papamoalifeguards.co.nz/merchandise

Calling All Coaches – We Need You!

To run a successful Junior Surf season, we rely on the ongoing support of our amazing parents and caregivers. Junior Surf is run entirely by volunteers, so the more people we have, the better we can share the load and provide a fun, safe experience for the kids. We are still short of coaches in many of our age groups and if we don't have enough by the start of the season, we will have to restrict the numbers of kids in each age group.

Interested in coaching? Or maybe you've thought about it but aren't quite sure?

**Come along to our Pre-season Briefing and Information Evening
Wednesday 23rd October 6pm at the club**

You'll learn everything you need to know about being a Junior Surf coach and hear from experienced coaches like Gillian Johnston and Jenna Waite-Leonard. Both are part of the Pāpāmoa Surf Club community and are ready to share their experiences:



“Coaching gives us the opportunity to watch our kids grow, build their confidence, and enjoy being present with them while they do this. It’s a fantastic way to bond with my own kids and meet other like-minded families. You don’t need to be an expert to be a great coach! With simple drills, fun activities, and plenty of support from the club, you’ll start off helping to encourage the kids and keeping things fun. It’s all about creating a positive space for them to learn. Seeing their smiles and knowing you’re helping them grow is so rewarding. If you’re thinking about it, jump in! I’ve loved every minute of coaching, and I’m sure you will too!”

– **Gillian Johnston**



“Being a Junior Surf Coach at Pāpāmoa is such a rewarding experience. Not only do I get to spend my summer at the beach, but I get the opportunity to teach essential beach safety skills to the next generation - including my own daughters, making it even more special. Growing up by the ocean and now being a lifeguard myself, I know how important it is for our kids to stay safe in the water, and I love sharing that knowledge while having fun. The kids love seeing parents get involved, and with the amazing crew and resources we have, coaching is easier than you think. It’s a great way to give back to the community and help keep our beaches and kids safe.”

– **Jenna Waite-Leonard**



Why You Should Become a Junior Surf Coach:

- ✓ Build lasting memories with your children
- ✓ Stay active and enjoy the beach
- ✓ Make friends with other surf families
- ✓ Help teach important water safety skills to the next generation

Papamoa Junior SLSC

Summer Fun Disco

FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

5.30PM TO 8PM

\$2 entry, BYO friend welcome

Prizes for best dressed and dance off!

**Bring cash for
BBQ, snacks, drinks and glow sticks**

AGES 5 to 13 welcome

Clubroom bar open for parents

JUNIOR SURF DISCO: SUMMER FUN IS HERE!

Kick off the season in style with our Junior Surf Disco, themed "Summer Fun"! This is a fantastic opportunity for the kids to re-connect with their surf club buddies and get the energy pumping before we hit the beach.

Best part? Kids can bring a friend along to join in the fun! There will be prizes for the best dressed and an epic dance-off to get everyone moving. It's going to be a night full of fun, music, and laughter - **don't miss out!**

Thank you to our sponsors below who make all our programmes possible.



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