

Our member profile this fortnight is Richard Dowling. Richard joined South Narrabeen SLSC in the 2008/2009 season and our Director of Junior Activities, a position he has held since 2013. He gained his Bronze Medallion in 2011 and has recently taken on the added responsibility of being a Patrol Captain of a new patrol group.

Richard holds other Surf Life Saving awards including IRB Crewperson, Apply Senior First Aid, Advanced Resuscitation Techniques and Basic Beach Management.

He was recognised for his contribution towards our Club during the 2015/2016 season, receiving the Paul Jackman Most Outstanding Club Member.



Richard is pictured at the Nippers Presentation Day

When did you join South Narrabeen SLSC and why?

As a family we joined South Narrabeen SLSC in 2008-09. We had a number of friends at Southie and wanted our son and daughter to have the Nippers' experience. Having grown up in the Riverina along the banks of the Murray River, I wanted my kids to gain surf / ocean experience and awareness. Something a river kid could never teach.

What are the key lessons that you've learnt from your time in South Narrabeen SLSC?

The surf lifesaving movement is a strong and passionate community.

What's it like being on the Club Committee?

South Narrabeen SLSC has given me the opportunity to give back to the community in multiple ways - Surf lifesaving, helping develop our future lifesavers and as a committee member.

With the on-going development of the 5year strategic plan, I'm excited about the future of the club, and pound to pay my part in this phase of the club's life.

You've been a member at South Narrabeen SLSC for over 8 years, how have things changed?

I have been a member at South Narrabeen for 7-8 years. In my time at South Narrabeen I guess I have seen numerous changes to the club, including the major renovations to the club house, and how quickly our Nippers start out as excited 5-6 year olds, and the next minute they are preparing for their SRC.

Interesting enough the one constant at South Narrabeen are its people -our community.

How is the 2016-2017 season going?

During the off season the committee has been busy putting in place a framework (a strategic plan) for not just this season, but to assist in setting the Surf Club up for the years to come. The 2016-17 season has not been without its challenges, that said, I am confident that as a club there is a focus to rebuild the club around a core set of objective and goals.

What are your goals within Surf Life Saving?

For those that know me, know that my goals are pretty simple and straight forward, I look to serve the club to the best of my abilities. I didn't grow-up around the beach, so would suggest that my surf skills are not my greatest strength. Thus I draw on my administrative side.

What has been your best memory as a surf lifesaver?

No one memory in particular -I just enjoy the opportunity to get to the beach.

Anything else you would like to add...