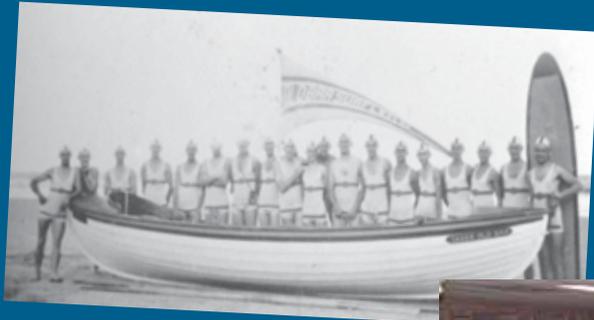




TAREE OLD BAR  
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.  
ESTABLISHED. 1928

# 2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR PAST



OUR PRESENT



OUR FUTURE





Contents	Page	<b>STEPS LEADING TO THE FORMATION OF TAREE OLD BAR SURF CLUB</b>
Presidents Report	3	<p>The popularity of Farquhar Park and Old Bar by Manning residents would have seen the need for a surf club at Old Bar. Not much is known about the swimming ability of the general population at that time but the lack of rescue and resuscitation techniques was evident by the report in the Manning River Times of the drowning of two girls at Farquhar Park, a decade before where it is reported that a horrified crowd watched as the girls clung to each other and drowned out of their depth. A later drowning at Old Bar of a young lady (according to Veteran Lifesaver Ralph Plummer) who was affair swimmer but did not know how to get out of a rip current. People watched not knowing how to rescue her.</p> <p>Mr Ted Badger, caretaker of the pavilion at Old Bar, would have been concerned at happenings such as these and in 1927 he had Harry Diamond, his friend, place an ad in the local paper calling a meeting for the formation of a Surf Lifesaving Club. This meeting was to lapse.</p> <p>This story is told by Jim Badger, son of Ted Badger, who was thirteen years old at the time.</p> <p>Ted Badger and Harry Diamond were talking in the pavilion one Sunday morning after the failure of the first meeting, wondering whom they could get to start a Surf Club at Old Bar. The Badger children were gathered about the two and heard Harry Diamond say “ I think I know a bloke at Blackhead who does a bit of instructing that might be interested.” With that he rode a motorbike to Blackhead returning about lunchtime bursting in on the Badger family and shouting, “Ted, I’ve fixed it. I’ve fixed it. I’ve got him. His name is Rushby.”</p> <p>Vic Rushby met with Ted Badger and Harry Diamond and others the next week and it was arranged to place a further ad in the Manning River times calling another meeting for New Years day at the pavilion at Old Bar</p> <p>From that New Years Day onwards, the energy, enthusiasm and progress from this fledgling club was enormous for within thirteen weeks, two squads had been trained and passed, the first instructor (Vic Rushby) also and the first carnival held (impromptu). A Club House built and opened.</p> <p><i>Information obtained from the Taree Old Bar Surf Lifesaving Club Reunion booklet, Our First 60 Years 1928 – 1988.</i></p>
Vice-Presidents Report	4	
Director of Administration Report	5	
Director of Finance Report	5	
Director of Life-Saving Report	6	
Director of Education Report	6	
Director of Member Services Report	7	
Director of Surf Sports Report	7	
Financial Audit Attached		

***In Memory of Club Members  
who have passed away in 2015-16.***

*Grant Armstrong*

*Bill Brazel*

*Bob Collier*

*Albert Delaney*

*Snow Doust*

*Phillip Duggan*

*John Hassan*

*Nancy Lauder*

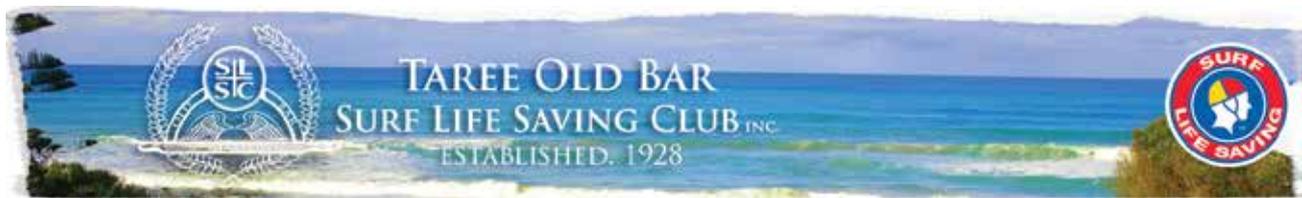
*Cec Maloney*

*Tom Pledger*

*Dallas Polson*

*Bill Richardson*

*Robert Wallace*



## Presidents Report

Thankfully, we have been able to make season 2015-16 a good news story for Taree Old Bar SLSC. The tumultuous period that preceded our term has been well documented, with the serious possibility of the club being permanently shut down after a second season of administration. My concern, coming into the President's role, was whether there was enough support amongst the members and in the local community to rescue the club. It was promising when all eight positions on the executive committee were filled. To my relief we did see this support roll in and have been able to oversee the club growing and achieving again, which has been extremely rewarding.

Before recounting the highlights of the season, I wish to note some of the challenges of the season and unfortunately to also recognise a significant tragedy.

Grant Armstrong was a long term and valued member of Taree Old Bar SLSC and a close friend to so many of our members. He determinedly made things happen around the clubhouse, through either his own hard work or through the work and support he levered out of anyone he could. Early this season Grant sustained major injuries after an accident during an early morning surf swim and he later passed away in hospital surrounded by his family. He is sadly missed by all his club mates-Vale Grant Armstrong.

While determined to keep the club operational, our executive have been faced with numerous challenges through the season. These included significant financial losses over the previous season, a major roof replacement project, draft council plans to close the club's beach access, unprecedented shark alarms and regular beach closures, deteriorating building maintenance, including an unfinished painting project, reported vandalism, theft and anti-social behaviour around the clubhouse not to mention the high number of patrol hours required by individuals due to a relatively small number of volunteer lifesavers in the club.

Our management approach has been to focus on sustainability by making decisions based on what would set the club up for ongoing growth. Such as recognising the need to catch and hold the attention of the public with good news stories. I'll be the first to admit my shameless promotion of the club at every media opportunity - we have been featured in regular TV, newspaper, radio, internal publication and social media campaigns.

There has been some great support for our events this season, the biggest one being a Halloween Night where the members and locals turned out in droves. Additional band and burger nights, multiple weddings and hall hires have also been crucial to gaining some financial stability and goodwill towards our club.

We've had two massive club clean-ups with a working bee at the start and end of the season that has ultimately cleared the facility of years of clutter and defective equipment. Special thanks also to members who renovated the First Aid room by removing and installing walls and new shelving. Further to this we have had ongoing work for the dole programs completing painting and other projects. The clubhouse is now more useable and presentable which should make it more attractive to existing and potential members.

Most importantly, there has been increased participation, such as two new bronze squads, new awards and trainers helping lift the ability of the club to meet its patrol obligations. Many of the new patrolling

members have started as parents involved in the junior activities. It is great to see growth in this part of the club as well.

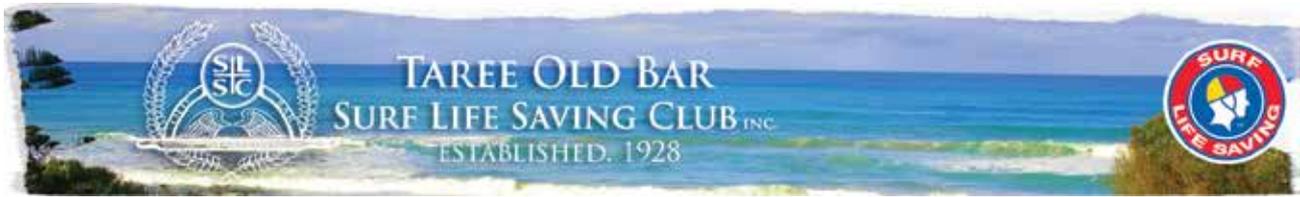
The Branch titles at Old Bar was fantastic, the first in over a decade. As far as a true surf carnival goes, it doesn't get much better than seeing competitors prove their skills by negotiating the break on the way out and then catching waves from the turning cans. Hosting of the beach events was only possible thanks to the sheer determination of a handful of volunteers who prepared the track areas. Accolades go to all the organisers and workers who pooled everything together to happen on the day. I received numerous comments from the VIP's to passers-by saying how great it was to see so much activity on Old Bar Beach again. As this season ends, we look towards the next with more confidence than when we started. There is still a lot more to be done but most measures are improving. Member numbers and participation are increasing, general comments from the community are overwhelmingly positive and finances are now looking sustainable. What I find most rewarding is the enthusiasm and commitment from our members on the ground and hearing how they enjoy being involved.

***"Finally, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you to all that have helped."***

Too many to list, but to just highlight the patrolling members at the core of our club, the supporters offering encouragement and those who have given us a chance to learn our new roles. We have leaned a lot this season. I again say thank you to all those who have worked towards the big picture of keeping Taree Old Bar SLSC going this season and setting it up for success in the future. Go Old Bar!

***Ben Stevenson***  
*President 2015/16*





## Vice Presidents Report

As Vice President, I saw my role as the back up and support person to the President and Treasurer.

The past eighteen months has passed by much faster than I would have ever imagined. Still, it is hard to remember what we did last month let alone eighteen months ago. As I recall my initial agenda items were:

1. Revamp the First Aid / Patrol Room and generally clean up downstairs.
2. Start to replace the ageing Surf Lifesaving and Nippers equipment.
3. Be involved with Nippers and patrol with my family.

Listed below are some of the highlights – both good and not so good

### ROOF REPAIRS

My first role in the club was to liaise with Crossinghams Plumbing in regards to the new roof over the hall and kitchen area. This took far more time than I expected mainly due to me being a new member of the club and not knowing who I could ask for support and help with the various aspects associated with the roof replacement.

First up we started with the new roof and gutters, which then led on to having to remove the solar hot water system, get it refurbished, repaired and reinstalled. The difficult part was obtaining the grant payment for this project, after having so many people previously involved with it.

### THEN CAME THE BAR

Until I joined the surf club I wasn't a very big drinker so becoming the Licensee for the Taree Old Bar SLSC was a pretty big step. I'll be honest ....I didn't really want to take it on. However, it was something that had to be done and I have found the job to be quite pleasant most of the time despite being quite time consuming.

I would like to thank Tracey Stevenson for taking on the computer work like a champion because for the first time the club has all the stock accounted for in the computer system.

We may still have a few teething problems which have been more than likely caused by my genius computer skills and me.

I would also like to thank everyone else who has helped out with the bar work. A special thank you to Ellie Yarroll and Wags (whose real name escapes me just now) because they have taught me so much in such a short time.

### GRANTS

I have so far only been successful with one grant that being from Mid Coast Water, where we purchased three new Bennett Soft Nipper boards. Other donations and funding from Old Bar Quality Meats, Carol and Bevan Weiley and the Nippers BBQ Team contributed to the purchase of an extra three boards.

### PATROL / FIRST AID ROOM.

Being in the surf club I have learnt many things with the stand out being that a dedicated First Aid Room was probably not the highest priority. Should we have had someone seriously injured on the beach, the chances of moving the patient into the first aid room would be a rare occurrence.

So began the revamping of the old first aid room. This is still a work in progress but just getting everything off the floor and onto shelving, new walls, doors and a coat of paint have made all the difference to its

appearance and practicality.

I was impressed with the amazing help from so many volunteers who generously donated their time for this project. I would especially like to thank Tate Muscio for all his help and use of his tools.

### OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

I would like everyone to remember that our first club function was Tracy Stevenson's 40th, which set the mood for the next eighteen months of functions. And yes we did charge her full hall hire fees for the privilege. The difference downstairs from eighteen months ago is amazing. New boards, new motors, new shelving and tidy boxes and a Patrol/ First Aid Room well on its way to completion are things that we can all be proud of.

I would have liked to have helped out more with the Nippers but the Bar and other club projects took more time than I predicted.

### SUMMARY

We had a distinct advantage as a new committee when we started eighteen months ago. After the club being in Administration for two years things could only get better by creating a strong and vibrant club. So many times I've walked away from the Taree Old Bar Surf Club this year thinking

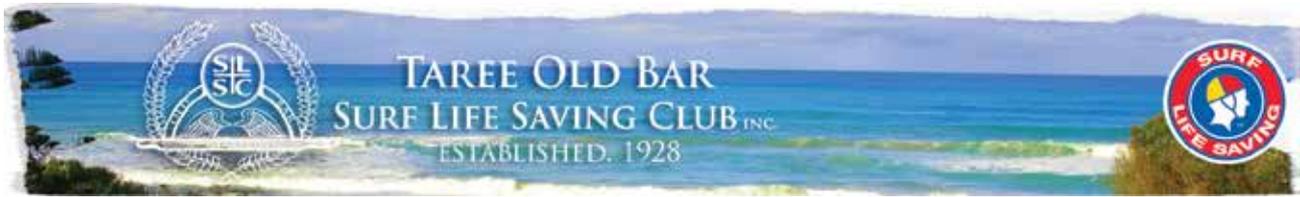
***“ This is what a Surf Club should feel like; Fun, Family and Social.”***

Thank you to all the volunteers, members and executive for your help, especially those who put the paid work aside for the benefit of the club ..... and also to my family for all of their patience.

There is so much more but how can I list everything.

**Brian Kelleher**  
Vice President 2015/16





## Director of Administration Report

On behalf of the Management Committee it gives me great pleasure to present this report for the 2015-2016 lifesaving season.

This season has been an extremely challenging one with our club coming out of Administration and operating under a new and young Executive Committee. I would like to thank the Committee and hardworking volunteers for their invaluable assistance, support and guidance throughout the year.

Teaching the skills of saving lives is and always should be one of the highest priorities of our Club. It is because of our Educators – an undeniable vital part of building our Club and producing future lifesavers, that we thank you for your achievements this year.

The dedication, commitment and vigilance of our Patrol Captains and patrolling members has once again allowed Taree Old Bar SLSC to fulfil its objective to safeguard our beach and continue to patrol to ensure that “No lives were lost between the flags.” Lifesaving is our main business and it takes a tremendous amount of teamwork for everything to run smoothly.

***“I would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers who are always there to assist tirelessly in the various activities.”***

These include those Age Managers who work with the Nippers and run the different activities each Sunday. With that we must mention the men and women who operate the BBQ after the Nipper events to ensure that a hungry appetite is satisfied. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

The highlight of the season was our club hosting the Mid North Coast Branch Surf Lifesaving titles at Old Bar Beach. The carnival ran efficiently and smoothly because of the teamwork of our club members and the volunteer helpers. The Executive Committee was extremely proud of the way everyone worked and made the day a success. The Branch presentation will also be staged at the Old Bar Bowling Club later in the season.

Our club is extremely grateful to Nobbys SLSCC for giving up their time to assist our club with our patrol requirements. The members of both clubs volunteered their time without any hesitation. From those visits friendships were forged and skills were passed on to our club members.

This season we were fortunate enough to gain the services of the Nova Skill Workready team, from Port Macquarie, to carry out maintenance both outside and inside the club. The work that was carried out, under the guidance of Mark Wood and Lance Wayling, certainly improved the aesthetics of our surf club. A letter of thanks was sent to their supervisor, Theresa Jones.

The Directors have individually thanked those who have assisted in the various areas of the club but there are so many who do so much for our Club that we never get to name everyone. The Executive Committee thank each and every person who assisted in the Club on any level.

Taree Old Bar SLSC also acknowledges the support given to us by our sponsors. Their support assists our club to perform our tasks with the necessary equipment.

On reflection of the 2015-2016 season, one can only say that the placement of Taree Old Bar SLSC into administration only made our members all the more determined to prove that we can come back and be a successful club again. I am sure that we have achieved that goal.

In conclusion I ask that as a club, we as members all work and strive together to make Taree Old Bar Surf Lifesaving Club a place where our members can come and enjoy themselves in a family atmosphere and that their enthusiasm, dedication and hard work is rewarded with respect.

**Greg Smith**

*Director of Administration 2015-2016*

## Director of Finance

*(Full Financial Audit Attached seperately.)*

The highlights for me through the season is finishing the season in a reasonable cash position.

***“From a loss of \$32,119 last year to a Profit of \$6,658.”***

We saved thousands of dollars on expenses and put things into place for the future. We now need to be focusing on budgeting and gaining more money into the club. All of the costs to be cut are likely to have been cut in the past year.

The biggest challenges I have faced through the year is realising I was a director of the club not just responsible for the money in and out of the club. The role was a lot larger than expected.

### LESSONS LEARNED

- Reduction of costs.
- We need to spend much more time chasing money into the club.
- Asking for help from within the club to achieve more income.
- As a club we need to be more organised and have dates set as to when things will be done.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

- Budgeting for future.
- I’m learning the role in more detail each week.

### SUMMARY

- Thanks Ben for all of your help. I had very little idea as to how a surf club worked/ran nor enough idea of the accounts. You’ve helped me heaps and is very much appreciated.

**Michael Cameron**

*Director of Finance 2015-2016*



## Director of Life Saving Report

Congratulations to our patrolling members for an exceptional effort for season 2015-2016 which has seen no lives lost or serious injury at Old Bar Beach.

***“Our Patrolling members under took 2107 patrolling hours with 34 members on the roster an average of about 62 hours per person.”***

### Our Top Patrollers were:

1. Jane Lynch	79.0
2. Angela Kelleher	64.5
3. Kim Moses	64.0
4. Anna Skene	59.0
5. Allison Sawyer	58.3
6. Corinne Stevenson	55.0
7. Judy Muscio	50.5
8. Sarah Little	48.0
9. Maggie Collins	41.0
10. Jessica Smithers-Dunn	38.0

1. Benjamin Stevenson	108.0
2. Patrick Moses	103.5
3. Daniel Davis	88.0
4. Andrew Somerville	88.0
5. Graham Moses	83.0
6. Gregory Irving	81.5
7. Tate Muscio	76.0
8. James Manton	74.0
9. Brian Kelleher	71.0
10. Michael Cameron	64.0

### Beach attendance

Times	Swimmers	Craft	On Beach	Total
Sign On	507	448	1196	2151
Mid Patrol	2149	686	2914	5749
Sign Off	825	84	1441	2350
<b>Total</b>	<b>3481</b>	<b>1218</b>	<b>5551</b>	<b>10,250</b>

### Preventative Actions

Type	Total
Lost Children	0
Preventions	786
Searches	0
Shark Alarms (During Patrol)	0
<b>Total Preventative Actions</b>	<b>786</b>

This year we did not have to rely on outside clubs to meet our patrolling obligations which is an excellent result considering the past 2 seasons we were dependent on outside help. With the completion of the last Bronze squad just prior to the end of April, our patrolling member numbers have moved to 38. We currently have quite a few members in training for both IRB drivers and Crew. Hopefully they will be assessed prior to the start of next season giving more depth to the patrols for these awards which are mandatory for all patrols.

Well done to all those members who contributed to a very successful year and I look forward to seeing you all on the beach next season

Yours in Life Saving

**Gregory Irving**

Director of Life Saving 2016/16

## Director of Education Report

We have had a productive season for the Education team consisting of Greg Irving, Jane Lynch, Tate Muscio and myself. The Education season started off for us with the pre-season Trainer/Assessor workshop at Cape Hawke in August 2015. Jane, Tate, Ben and I were in attendance with Greg co-facilitating part of the day in his Branch Education capacity. It was a great opportunity to show the rest of the Clubs in attendance that Taree Old Bar was back and able to contribute to the education goals of the Lower North Coast Branch. The workshop armed us with knowledge of new course requirements, availability of online modules and standard practices for delivery and assessment of SLSA approved courses.

Throughout the 2015-16 season, Greg has mentored Jane and Tate through their probationary period as Trainers and myself through my probationary period as an Assessor. Under Greg's mentorship, we have now been able to apply for endorsement with SLSNSW with approval due prior to commencement of the next season. We ran two Bronze/SRC squads, two IRB Crewmans courses, two Spinal Management courses and one Resuscitation course. Awards achieved by our members this season include:

COURSE NAME	NO. OF AWARDS
Bronze Medallion	12
Surf Rescue Certificate	2
Spinal Management	6
IRB Crewmans	3
Silver Medallion	1

For the 2016-17 season, there needs to be a focus on welcoming new members into the Club to complete their Bronze. In addition, upskilling of our existing patrolling members should be a priority to be able to meet our Lifesaving Agreement easier. IRB Crewmans, IRB Drivers and Advanced Resuscitation courses will be delivered next year for all Bronze members.

***“I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 14 new patrolling members...”***

...who have not only completed their Awards this season but have positively contributed to the Club by helping out on patrols and getting involved in various activities.

**Corinne Stephenson**

Director of Education 2015/16





## Director of Members Services Report

This year was a very promising season for Taree Old Bar SLSC with increased numbers of patrolling members and a significant increase in our Junior Development numbers.

Junior Development:

***“Our Nippers had a rise in numbers of over 100%.”***

New Age Group Managers stepped up to the plate and the season progressed very well despite early teething issues.

Several Nippers participated in carnivals and at the local camps. Information received back from these children was very promising with all Nippers enjoying their experiences and bringing back valuable information to help others in the future.

From the experience this year I believe that having a junior sub-committee, that reports back to the Director of Members Services, would improve the flow of Nippers. There has already been some interest in participating in this group. However, a decision was made to wait until after the AGM to ensure this works with whoever fills the position.

A comprehensive Nipper’s calendar will be required early within the season to ensure all Nippers and their families are aware of upcoming events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all volunteers and club members who assisted with Nippers throughout the year. Your support and education of these children was invaluable. The skills we provide these children will ensure the continued success of our club.

**Brad Sawyer**

*Director of Members Services 2015/16*



## Director of Surf Sports Report

### OVERVIEW

Director of Surf Sports this season had an aim to increase members participation in carnivals for both Juniors and Seniors and also organise and facilitate the Branch carnival which was due to be held at our beach.

### RESULTS, FIGURES, ACHIEVEMENTS

Minimal competitors this season but more than what we have had in the previous 2-3 seasons. We ran a successful and safe Branch carnival with twenty-two Taree Old Bar competitors competing. We took out a large number of medals which included; three silver and six bronze in the Juniors and an outstanding nine gold, fifteen silver and seventeen bronze in the Seniors.

Final results looks like TOB SLSC took out overall first place in the Masters division, which is an unbelievable achievement for our first year back out of Administration. Congratulations to all involved.

### LESSONS LEARNED

There were issues with registration for carnivals with members not knowing or deeper issues with Carnival Manager, which is a Branch issue.

I think getting the knowledge out about carnivals will be easier now that the Facebook page is set up and with better communication with Nippers coordinators / team managers.

***“After the Branch carnival, Nippers and Senior members were very keen on competing again and more next season.”***

With better advertisement and communication of carnivals I believe we could have a successful and strong season in competition.

- I have made the decision to not stand for Director of Surf Sports again next season and to focus more on my growing career as a registered nurse and my passion for surf boats. I am happy to help guide the next volunteer who takes on the role.

### SUMMARY

I would like to congratulate and thank all the Executive members this season that put their hands up and helped propel our club up and out of Administration with a big successful bang!

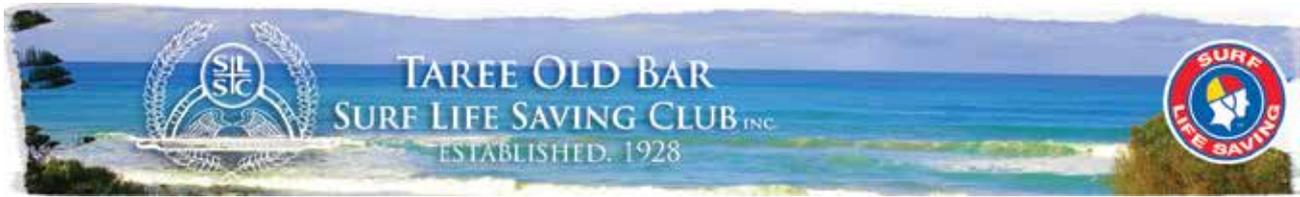
A massive thank you to Ben Stevenson, our President, for putting his hand up, and his head on the chopping block, this season. We couldn’t have done it without you.

And finally, I would like to thank all the amazing volunteers who helped me run a successful Branch carnival. I have received plenty of positive feedback from Branch about what a successful day it was. I would especially like to thank Liz Hillyard and Nigel Roberts for volunteering their time as catering coordinator and first aid officer respectively. Despite not being members these two went above and beyond to help run a smooth and successful carnival. I couldn’t have done it without them.

Thanks again,

**Maggie Collins**

*Director of Surf Sports 2015/16*



## ***SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS***

### ***(Financial and In-kind Support)***

*Lauders Real Estate*

*Old Bar Beach Quality Meats*

*Old Bar Cellars*

*Burns Built Constructions*

*Edsteins Creative Stone*

*Saxbys Pharmacy*

*Collisons Electrical*

*Leo Foster Pest Services*

*Bromhead Legal*

*Surf Life-Saving Foundation*

*Old Bar Lions Club*

*MidCoast Water*

*The Work-for the-dole Program*

*Greater Taree City Council*

*(MidCoast Council)*