

HENLEY LIFE-SAVING CLUB.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

SEASON 1929-1930.

OFFICERS

No. 1 MEMBER.

His Excellency the Governor,
Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven, V.C.

PATRON:

A. W. Jolly, Esq.

VICE-PATRON:

His Worship the Mayor of Henley and Grange
(E. W. Mitton, Esq.).

PRESIDENT:

Cyril Chambers, J.P. (Life-Member).

CAPTAIN:

Cedric Hele

VICE-CAPTAIN:

William A. Howe.

HON. SURGEON:

Dr. Frank Burden.

HON. SOLICITOR:

Cr. C. Crump, LL.B.

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR AND FOUNDER:

Daniel F. Dineen.

HON. SECRETARY:

C. V. Fischer.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

W. Norman.

COMMITTEEMEN:

A. Lucy, M. Clode,

HON. AUDITOR:

Fred Lines, Esq.

REPORT

We have very much pleasure in presenting to you the Fifth Annual Report of the H.L.S.C. When our municipal council decided to erect elaborate foreshore improvements in 1924 it was realized that Henley was going to be a very attractive resort for visitors whose main pastime would be sea bathing. The number of visitors far exceeded the forecast of the most sanguine, consequently the attendant danger of open sea bathing soon made itself apparent. Every heat-wave signified its presence by lucky escapes from drowning by venturesome bathers. From these events sprang the Henley Life Saving Club. Although other organisations were in existence previously, it remained for this small band of youths to be gathered together, equipped and tutored and be the first club to give voluntary service in patrolling the beach for the safety of the public in South Australia. To-day we are extremely pleased indeed to see that we have been followed by other seaside towns.

The first item of interest to all, and our most outstanding feat was at Glenelg last February, when, against all comers in the State we were successful in winning the Register Cup for the best turned out life-saving squad. The two teams that we entered in this most important contest were placed first and third. A magnificent effort indeed. The members were highly elated at their success; it was well worth the many strenuous nights of drill to achieve this object. Our only regret was that Miss L. Russell, our coach from Victoria, was not present to witness our triumph. A large amount of our success was due to the untiring efforts of this accomplished young lady.

The members of our No. 1 Team: No. 1, Cedric Hele; No. 2, F. McLachlan; No. 3, C. V. Fischer; No. 4, H. Tingey; No. 5, R. Presgrave; No. 6, M. Clode.

Another triumph in the field of our activities that went to place the club on a higher plane, was Cedric Hele's successful effort in lowering the Award of Merit record time to fourteen minutes. The previous holder was H. A. Calnan of this district, 14½ minutes. To give the uninitiated some idea of Hele's wonderful performance, when Calnan put up his record he was champion swimmer of South Australia over all distances, while Hele is practically an untried swimmer. This season we hope to see him reduce this record even lower.

PATROL.

The recent season, 1929-1930 has been a very hot one indeed, consequently a larger number of days were spent on patrol. To the passing public this branch of life-saving seems to be very easy. It is far from easy. A person has to be physically fit first, and then a very keen vision is also essential, while on extra hot days (over a century) it becomes extremely irksome. Imagine having to stand on a hot jetty watching others joyfully disporting themselves in the sea, and then we must pay our homage to these wonderful lads for their self-sacrifice and unselfishness.

Patrols were on duty every Saturday and Sunday afternoon and all day long on holidays, making a total of 67 different days and the total number of hours was 916, and the number of persons assisted from the water was 13.

SERVICE RENDERED.

Over a period of five years our members have been on patrol in the vicinity of the jetty ever-ready to assist on 267 days and rendering 6,700 hours. The total number of distressed bathers assisted from the water was 89. We do not claim to have saved the lives of this number of people, but as a large number have had to receive restorative measures, we can only surmise what may have happened in the hands of less skilful persons:

HONOUR.

Every year since our club's inception, Dr. L. G. Muirhead has donated a gold medal for the most meritorious performance. This year's winner was again Malcolm Clode. This makes his number of rescues whilst a member of our club up to eleven. No words or thoughts of ours can adequately express the admiration we feel for Malcolm than the following extract of a leader taken from the Register News Pictorial in February last:

THE GIFT OF LIFE.

There is something almost God-like about ability to restore life to one who is apparently dead. Who would not envy the feelings of Malcolm Clode, the Henley life-saver, who, having rescued a boy from the sea on Sunday, was able, by means of artificial respiration, to bring him back to life? There was no miracle about it, but the effect of what Clode did was just as good as though a miracle had actually been performed. In other words, the boy would almost infallibly have died if there had been no one at hand to apply to him the proper means of resuscitation. In that sense, quite apart from the fact that he had already saved him from certain death in the water, Clode was able almost literally to give the boy back his life. This sort of thing is happening almost every day. It was Clode's eleventh rescue, and a mere incident in the great work of life-saving; but cases like this ought to drive home the lesson that the ability to swim, and to save those who cannot swim, is worth learning. There is nothing else so altogether worth while which it is easier and pleasanter to learn.

A WORTHY CITIZEN.

During the season some youngsters were playing in a dingy in the vicinity of Kirkcaldy Road, Grange. The wind blew the boat out to sea. One young fellow became terrified and jumped over board, the water being deep and being unable to swim he was soon in difficulties. Fortunately a young man was near by and swam out and brought the boy to the beach unconscious. Mrs. J. R. Muirhead hurried to the scene, immediately started artificial respiration and later with the help of Dr. L. G. Muirhead was able to bring the lad back to consciousness.

We all honour the young man who brought the boy ashore, but we give greater honour to Mrs. J. R. Muirhead for her perseverance.

Mrs. Muirhead is the wife of Dr. J. R. Muirhead, a Vice-President of our club since its inception.

RESCUES.

The names and number of rescues are:

Malcolm Clode	2	Alan Lucy	1
Rex Presgrave	2	William Miller	1
Robert Lucy	2	Ronald Drew	1
Wallace Thredgold	1	Alan Morrison	1
Clifford V. Fischer	1		—
William Norman	1	Total	13

1930	13	1927	16
1929	40	1926	11
1928	9		—
		Total	89

TEACHING OF SWIMMING.

The outstanding feature in swimming circles during the recent season was undoubtedly the Register "Learn to Swim Week". The success of this huge undertaking must have been very pleasing to the proprietors of the Register and its organiser, Mr. Bednall, who worked untiringly to make the effort the success it undoubtedly was. Our own members entered into this feature with unbounded enthusiasm, consequently over 2,000 persons received instruction in swimming during that week, and it was four weeks later before our 28 certified instructors finished their tuition.

LEGACY CAMP.

The Junior members of the Legacy Club held a 12 days' camp on the banks of Silver Lake, Mylor, during January. Application was made to us to supply three instructors to supervise members during swimming hours and to give tuition. The captain, C. V. Fischer, Will Norman, and A. E. Banister undertook the job and were highly complimented on the behaviour and the way in which they carried out their duties. They were instrumental in teaching 30 boys to swim during that period, a performance of which other members were very proud.

In previous reports we have been able to claim the honor of being one of the very few sea side resorts which have not suffered from a drowning fatality. Unfortunately we can now no longer make that claim.

On Good Friday of this year the whole town was shocked by the awful tragedy to the late Mr. Stanley Peddy and his three children, Gordon, aged 3; Max, aged 7; the girl, Bernice, aged 5; who were drowned as the result of the capsizing of a dinghy.

This happened about 2 p.m. in the afternoon, nearly half a mile south of the jetty, and about 300 yards out from the beach. The first notification the life-savers received that anything was amiss was when a telephone message was received through a local business place—our club house unfortunately is not equipped with a telephone. Seven of our members rushed to the scene where they found that Mrs. Peddy, who was also in the dinghy had been brought to the beach. This was accomplished by Mr. William Williams, of Gladstone Road, Mile End, who happened to be in the vicinity at the time in bathing costume. He manfully swam out against a rough sea, and was successful in bringing Mrs. Peddy to the shore, where she was placed in the capable hands of Dr. Burden, and quickly revived.

Our strongest administration and praise goes out to Mr. Williams, who, regardless of any danger to himself so heroically effected this lady's rescue. He well deserves the honor conferred on him by the Royal Humane Society, the society's silver medal.

The next victim to receive attention was Mr. Peddy, who was brought in by three of our members. Artificial means of respiration was immediately applied by members of the club under the supervision of Dr. Burden, who after all known means had been applied was forced to pronounce that life was extinct. During this time other members had gone in search of possible victims as no bystander was able to give any information as regards the number of persons in the dinghy when it capsized. As the result of this search the three children were brought to the shore and again artificial respiration was applied. The greatest draw-back to their restoration was the heavy meal that the party had partaken of shortly before the occurrence. After persistent efforts Dr. Burden advised us to cease as it was useless to continue, as life was extinct in all three.

At a meeting of the members of the club, held in Dr. Burden's surgery subsequently, he expressed his pride and satisfaction at the efforts put forth by all concerned. He assured us that nothing more could have possibly been done.

M.T.T. EMPLOYEES' CLUB.

On two days each January the employees of the M.T.T. hold an annual picnic at Henley. Sports on land and in the water are the chief events. It has been customary for any of our members that are available to patrol on those days. On several occasions it was very fortunate indeed that we had several members on holiday at the time who were able to render assistance and avert what otherwise may have been a tragedy. In recognition of our services the members of the picnic committee, through their Hon. Secretary, Mr. Harold Evans, presented our club with a beautiful water-proof carriage rug, a much needed addition to our equipment. We desire to place on record our thanks for this very kind gift.

MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Of the many favours rendered to our club and the most cherished by our members are those received from the members of the medical profession resident in our district. These gentlemen not only give us the benefit of their medical knowledge, but also give us good financial support, and we take this opportunity of tendering our thanks to Dr. F. Burden, Dr. L. G. Muirhead, Dr. G. Hone and Dr. J. R. Muirhead.

DEMONSTRATIONS.

Our members were again in request to give demonstrations at various places outside of our own district, a large number of which we had to reluctantly decline. The safety of our own beach is our first call and the large amount of time spent on patrol and drills through the week does not give the members much time to themselves.

At the Grange Carnival, held on December 29, 1929, besides marching in the procession our members gave two displays on the beach and in the water. Five prizes were awarded to the members for competition and were won by: A. Lucy and W. Miller for marching; M. Clode and R. Presgrave for land drills; C. Hele for water work.

At the Henley and Grange Carnival, January 30, 1930, our members were again conspicuous at the head of the procession. For their carriage and bearing they were applauded all along the route. In

the afternoon we were requested by his Worship the Mayor (Mr. E. W. Mitton) to act as guard of honour for the first visit of his Excellency the Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven, V.C.) who expressed surprise, and said it was his first experience to have officially a squad of life-savers, and requested a demonstration. Your secretary, who had the honor of standing alongside His Excellency on the jetty while the members gave the demonstration on the beach below, was asked by His Excellency to convey his thanks for the demonstration and his admiration for their physical fitness and unselfishness in devoting their spare time to such a laudable work, and said they were a wonderful asset to any sea-side town and worthy of the greatest financial and moral support which the town could provide for them.

A packed house at the Unley baths for the A.E.S. Coy's swimming carnival applauded our members at the end of their demonstration.

ENTHUSIASM.

At our Annual Social and Distribution Evening, held in the Kiosk, in August last, our President (Mr. Chambers) who was ably supported in his remarks by His Worship the Mayor (Mr. E. W. Mitton) said that the foundation of the success of the Henley Life Saving Club was undoubtedly the wonderful enthusiasm of the whole members of the Club. This was a most notable feature from the public point of view. This is not a surprise to your committee. The average attendance of all your members at drills, demonstrations, water practice and patrols for the last two seasons is 93 per cent. Pride of place is held by Rex Thredgold, who has only missed on one occasion since the club's inception. He is closely followed by his two brothers, Wallace and Don, then in order comes: C. V. Fischer, M. Clode, C. Hele, W. Norman, R. Presgrave, A. Leonard, A. and R. Lucy. Many of the last two years' members, have 100 per cent. attendance.

PRIZE LIST.

Member:	Honor and Donor:
C. Hele	Club Championship.
R. Presgrave	Donor: The President (Mr. C. Chambers).
	Best on Patrol.
M. Clode	Donor: The Patron (Mr. E. W. Mitton).
	Most Meritorious.
W. Thredgold	Donor: Dr. L. G. Muirhead.
	Most Consistent
W. Howe	Donor: Mrs. F. Clode.
	Best Instructor.
R. Lucy	Donor: Dr. F. Burden.
	Junior Championship.
W. Norman	Donor: Alderman A. E. Northey.
	Best Services Rendered.
F. McLachlan	Donors: Messrs. Coles and Hughes.
	Most Improved Member.
D. McGarry	Donor: Mr. N. Zimmerman.
	Youngest Award of Merit Holder
D. McGarry	Donors: Mr. and Mrs. H. Hele.
	Second Junior Championship.
A. Lucy	Donor: Mr. E. E. P. Buring.
	Most Gentlemanly Conducted Senior.
	Donors: Messrs. Fiddler and Kenwick.

Owing to insufficient competition the committee were reluctantly compelled to hold over the annual trophies donated by Dr. E. J. Millhouse and Mr. L. S. Thredgold until next season.

APPRECIATION.

One of the most contributory factors towards our club's success has been the absolute loyalty displayed by all the members. Every drill night the business of the club has been placed before the members to deal with and this wise move no doubt has been responsible to a large extent for the club's progress. Splendid assistance and enthusiasm have also been rendered by the parents. On three occasions at the termination of our drill refreshments were kindly supplied by Mrs. Frank Clode and her friends and in returning thanks we can only reiterate the remark of one of our juniors who stated that "it was moments like these when it's Good Oh to be a life-saver." During the winter months the mothers of our members were again to the fore in arranging weekly entertainments in their homes for the benefit of keeping our members together. We highly appreciate and thank the following mothers: Mrs. H. Hele, Mrs. F. Clode, Mrs. S. L. Thredgold, Mrs. D. Dineen.

VISIT OF MISS LUCY RUSSELL.

On February 4 our club was honored by a visit from Miss Lucy Russell, Captain of the North Road, Brighton, Victoria, Life Saving Club, accompanied by her friend, Miss Margaret Edwards. His Worship the Mayor (Mr. E. W. Mitton) was kind enough to extend a civic welcome to our distinguished visitor in the Town Hall and was ably supported by Mr. A. W. Jolly, who very kindly provided supper for our visitors and members. Miss Russell—who incidentally is a niece of Mr. J. Fiddler, one of our oldest Vice-Presidents—very much appreciated the courtesy shown her.

OUR PATRON (MR. A. W. JOLLY).

During the season members accepted two invitations to the residence of our Patron on the Esplanade at Henley South. On each occasion members were met by Mr. and Mrs. Jolly and family, and a large number of friends. After giving demonstrations on the beach and in the water members were entertained at luncheon on the lawn of our host's premises. Thanks and appreciation to our host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Jolly were expressed by all the members for their wonderful kindness.

EMPLOYMENT.

The greatest tribute that could be paid to any club has been the success that has been accomplished by several of our members when applying for vacancies with different employers. Their gentlemanly conduct at all times has evidently been noted. On 14 occasions since the club's inception we have given our members references, and each one has been successful in getting his feet on the first rung of the ladder. This is no mean feat indeed when we consider the large amount of unemployment that unfortunately exists.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

At our Annual Social opportunity was taken to present our President (Mr. C. Chambers) with our club's first Life Membership Certificate. Our founder, in making the presentation on our behalf, eulogised the splendid service rendered to this club by Mr. C. Chambers. Mr. Chambers suitably responded with thanks to our members.

POLICE.

Since the publication of our last Annual Report our old friend, Police Sergeant A. Kroemer has been promoted to officer-in-charge at Glenelg. We congratulate him on his promotion. We are very

pleased to report that the same good feeling exists with his successor, Constable G. Chilman, as it did with Sergeant Kroemer. We take this opportunity of extending our thanks to Constable Chilman and his assistant, Constable R. Fischer, for their many little kindnesses rendered to us.

HENLEY CORPORATION.

To the Mayor, aldermen, councillors and officers of the Corporation we wish to express our appreciation for their efforts on our behalf. These gentlemen realize the wonderful asset our club is to the town, and they do everything possible to foster our club in the way of giving assistance.

NEW BUILDING.

We desire to point out that the club shed we have is totally inadequate, and in the very near future means will have to be adopted to secure more room. We realise that the present depression is no time to start any fund for new buildings, and we sincerely trust that at our next general meeting things will be looking much brighter.

1930 REGATTA.

We very gratefully acknowledge having received the sum of £24 10/- as a donation from the proceeds of 1930 Regatta and Carnival Committee. This money was donated towards our club's equipment and will be used for that purpose. We take this opportunity of tendering our most sincere thanks to that body of public-spirited citizens for their efforts on our behalf.

We wish to acknowledge and express our best thanks to all those ladies and gentlemen who have rendered financial and other assistance to our club. The high standard of efficiency attained by the club to-day is undoubtedly due to the incentive given by our friends: The Mayor, (Mr. Mitton); Messrs. A. W. Jolly, C. Chambers, Hon. W. G. Duncan, Edgar Forwood, E. E. P. Buring, J. Fidler, Dr. E. J. Millhouse, A. Kenwick, F. Bowden, F. Warhurst, Alderman W. W. Barry and Mrs. W. W. Barry; Aldermen A. E. Northey, T. Vivian; Councillors Crump, R. Lloyd, W. Badenoch and A. J. Eyre; Messrs. P. J. Kearne, L. Bowes, Norman Zimmermann, Coles and Hughes, Lionel Ryan, S. L. Thredgold, C. Halliday, A. S. Belcher; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hele, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clode, Mrs. D. F. Dineen, Mr. Liddiard and Glen Ewin Jam Factory.

MOTORISTS.

Again your committee wishes to mention the services rendered by motorists in escorting our patients to their homes, the most outstanding being Mrs. Drummond, who did yeoman service on Good Friday after the Peddy fatality.

ADDENDUM.

On behalf of the committee we desire to express and record our deep appreciation of the services rendered by our chief officers for their unswerving loyalty and the efforts put forth by them in such a humane cause—the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. N. Zimmermann), C. Hele, C. V. Fischer and W. Norman.

On behalf of the Committee.

President: C. Chambers.

Chief Instructor and Founder: D. F. Dineen.