

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



**PERRANPORTH**  
  
**SURF LIFESAVING CLUB**

Photo: Kelly Jeffs



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SURF LIFESAVING CLUB

COMMITTEE

- PRESIDENT  
PETER GAISFORD
- CHAIR  
DOREEN LAWRENCE
- SECRETARY  
NIGEL BOWDEN
- TREASURER  
ANDY DAVIES
- FUNDRAISING  
HANNAH PILE
- MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
LYN BOWDEN
- CAPTAIN  
MATT SANWELL
- VICE-CAPTAIN  
JASON WHEELER
- LADIES CAPTAIN  
ANITA FLEET
- SURFBOAT CAPTAIN  
AARON JONES
- IRB CAPTAIN  
ROB FARR
- LIFESAVING MANAGERS  
SAM CHAMBERLIN & ROB NUNN
- NIPPER MANAGER & SAFEGUARDING  
EMMA ‘SPIKE’ GAISFORD
- YOUTH MANAGER  
SARAH WHITE
- RNLI CORRESPONDENT  
BEN GARDINER

GEAR STEWARD  
TOM MCRITCHIE

SIMON BOYLE  
PAULA BRIGHT  
ESME ROGERS  
CHRIS ROGERS  
MAXINE WHITBREAD-ABRUTAT  
SIMON JEFFERY

TRUSTEES

- ROBERT PLIMLEY  
ALAN HOMES  
CHRIS HARDING  
THOMAS TREMEWAN

THE IMPOSSIBLE WE DO NOW MIRACLES TAKE A LITTLE LONGER



With restricted foreign travel, we had a lot of visitors

PRESIDENT  
Pete Gaisford

**This has been a year like no other. The Corona Virus pandemic has had an impact in every sphere of life and the Surf Life Saving Club has not been immune. All aspects of the club membership have been affected except for one, that of the saving of lives from the sea.**

The foundation of Perranporth Surf Life Saving Club are built upon the motto Vigilance and Service. The voluntary surf life saving movement in Cornwall rose to the occasion on the May Bank Holiday weekend and through the following week of the half term school break.

To everyone’s dismay upon the lifting of the Government Covid lockdown the restrictions in mid May, it became quickly apparent that the public would travel to Cornwall. Allied to this, it was also made known that the RNLI Lifeguard service would not be in place. The weather prediction for the weekend was for warm sunshine and a big surf.

All the ingredients for a “Perfect Storm” which could result in drownings on Perranporth Beach. The Perranporth SLSC membership rose to the call to provide walking patrols for Perranporth beach and for Perran Sands. Surf Life Saving Club members made 154 interactions with members of the general public advising them not to bathe, particularly at low tide. The club members actions definitely prevented possible drownings. Sadly there were several rescues and two drownings along the

North Cornwall coast on the May Bank Holiday weekend. Everyone has had to adapt to new social measures. The club management committee responded to the new requirements in order to keep the club membership training and practicing their skills.

Sadly this year the club could not take on new members and this meant the intake for the new 7yr old age group could not transpire. Hopefully in 2021 the membership doors will be re-opened and normality can return.

Club finances have also been impacted upon, with no opportunity to initiate club fund raising activities. The 2020 Triathlon and Aquathon had to be cancelled and club sponsorship by local businesses was not pursued.

This year we have lost a great supporter of the surf life saving club in Viv Hill a long standing Parish Councillor and owner of the Holiday Shop. We have also lost another member of the Perranporth Miners family, Muriel Miners. Recently I learned that Henry Heath died at home in Australia. Henry was a very valuable and reliable club member and part of the first victorious R&R team in 1966.

We wish all their families our sincere condolences at this difficult time.





# CHAIR

Doreen Lawrence

I was asked the other day “what is your claim to fame” as he had seen me giving out medals at the aquathon last year! Well I said have you 3 hours!!

A week after this year’s Annual Report is being read Jim (my husband of 53 years!) and I will be flying out to Adelaide, Australia to the World Surf Life Saving Championships and I will be on the beach as a Technical Officer, an Official in the

UK. I went to the first one under ISL in 1994 and this was held just up the Coast at Fistril, Newquay and have been to at least 8 since then, this is the third time in Oz. The first time at Lorne, a little way from Melbourne, I got 2 Gold Medals and a Bronze, that was my year I only got Bronze in later years!

As a Club we have had a very good year, no major mishaps and the beginning of patrolling after the Life Guards have left for the evening worked very well.



# CAPTAIN

Matt Sanwell

Initially it seemed unnecessary to produce an annual report this year, as so much had been cancelled or postponed. However the Perranporth Surf Lifesaving Club turned out to be more important to the community of Perranporth than ever before.

Not only did the club keep an eye on the beach whilst the higher powers of the RNLI tried to decide what their role was, but also for our members, both young and old, who were craving some semblance of social interaction after a long period of isolation during lock-down.

Personally I found Lock-down quite hard and was chomping at the bit to get training again. After admittedly being apprehensive about the guidance provided by SLSGB on social distancing etc, it actually created more inclusive and manageable training sessions across the board. The bubbles of 6 meant that the burden of safety and coaching was spread across more people. Whilst every effort was made to abide by the social distancing rules and the cleaning down of kit, we kept the more immediate risks and dangers front and centre.

What this year has proved is how adaptable the club is and how, as a team, we can make things happen very quickly and safely. This was apparent when the club committee decided that we had to provide some form of safety cover during the times when the RNLI weren’t present. As with many other clubs up and down the country, we got back to our club roots and saved countless lives. I think the founding members of the club will have been very proud of what they started and what you all have achieved!

Although there were no competitions this year, training has been very strong. We have big numbers of youth getting into ski paddling and quite a few new faces at our Wednesday Senior sessions. Thanks to the hard work of Spike, our winter pool sessions have been going well too. Due to limited space and huge fee increases, we have had to move to the pool at Newquay View, which is only 20 meters, but has meant that we were able to provide the club members with some great training and coaching.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their help and positivity this year.

## 2019 AWARDS

Presented at the Dinner and Dance in February

**‘CLUBBIE’ OF THE YEAR**  
**Michelle Sanwell**

**MINERS MEMORIAL CUP**  
*Long service and commitment to the club brand new award in honour of the miners family*  
**Spike Gaisford**

**THE WESTCOTT CUP**  
*An individual that has done lots to help out the club.*  
**Tom McRitchie**

**THE ADAMS AWARD**  
*Committed Lady of the year*  
**Biz Illiffe**

**BOARD PADDLER OF THE YEAR**  
**Milky Byatt**

**YOUTH SKI PADDLER OF THE YEAR**  
**Tiffany Postle**

**TOWNLEY CUP - YOUTH OF THE YEAR**  
**Sam Hillery**

**THE LAWRENCE CUP**  
*Dedicated and supportive Youth member, not always the fastest or most competitive!*  
**Morgan Stephens**

**MOST IMPROVED BOARD PADDLER OF THE YEAR**  
**Helen Kirkman**

**THE LES STOPHER SHEILD**  
**Khalile Siddiqui**

**THE BUSTER HARRIS SHIELD**  
**Morgan Stephens & Reece Thomas**

**DUNCAN NEWBY CUP**  
*Most Improved Swimmer of the Year*  
**Morgan Stephens**

**LIFE SAVERS SAVER**  
**Michelle Sanwell**

**THE PITMAN CUP**  
**Hannah Pile**





- 14 members took extra training to become Surf Life Saving GB Beach Wardens.
- 36 Patrol members.
- 41 hours of patrolling which came to 640 man-hours on the water's edge.
- 154 interactions with the public.
- Even with all the surveillance we still had to launch the IRB for a life-threatening situation.

## SECRETARY

Nigel Bowden

**In the 18 years I have been Secretary at the club I have not seen so many challenges to keep the club moving forward. COVID-19 has altered the way in which we have had to look at the ways in which we have operated all year, but these challenges have brought out the best in the club and its members.**

After weeks of lockdown and a Whitsun holiday week the Government said it was safe to travel and everyone knew that they would be heading for the coast which had no Lifeguard service in place. Good weather, large swell and spring tide forecast for the first weekend of freedom was the making of the perfect storm to put people's lives in danger. Our Club Presented (Peter Gaisford) was one of the first people to notice the approach of this perfect storm and started to lobby the RNLI and local government the need of a Lifeguard service but this fell on deaf ears. The club decided that patrols were needed for the Bank holiday weekend and luckily SLSGB came up with the guidance to do this safely. These Patrols were organised and lead by our Patrol Captains and working with the new SLSGB Beach Wardens and were able to run surveillance patrols due to the current situation regarding COVID-19. The club covered the whole of the bank holiday weekend between 9 – 5 with an extra hour on the Bank

Holiday Monday, we then moved to covering the 2 hours before and after the low tide.

With the ongoing lobbying from Peter and other forces the RNLI started back on Perranporth beach on Saturday 30th May with a reduced service, this service was then rolled out to other beaches for the summer.

A big thank you must also go out to all the session leads, Coaches, and water safety cover for all the hard work and commitment they have put in this year. The word bubble has now become a part of life and all the training has been arranged in bubbles of six and have not been able to be mixed. With the use of Messenger and WhatsApp all the sessions have been arranged and sorted days before the activity.

So, the club has been buzzy throughout the year but has worked in a very different way, but we have still been able to keep our beach safe and our members training.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and hopefully 2021 will look a little different.

## LIFESAVING

Sam Chamberlin and Rob Nunn

To Follow





# RNLI

Ben Gardiner *RNLI Seasonal Supervisor Perranporth and Perran Sands/PPSLSC committee member*

A year on, half term, the beach is red flagged and it is the final week of lifeguarding in 2020. When I wrote last years report we had no idea what was coming. We began preparing for the season as usual. The lead supervisor and full-time supervisor were dealing with recruitment prior to the return of the two seasonal supervisors. I returned to work looking forward to the season and we set to getting the lifeguards induction planned for Easter. Just over half way through when we had already set up the beaches with basic COVID measures and an idea of working in bubbles we were placed in the most difficult situation and ordered to cease all operations.

Just a few weeks later after a colossal effort from local clubs and the communities we had volunteer patrols on beaches. The RNLI had by this time approved a return to up to 70% of beaches in some capacity, of our seven from Portreath

to Holywell Bay we were allotted to open initially one, we quickly had three open having completed the Easter Lifeguards induction in water craft and then commencing with limited training permitted for returning lifeguards.

In the end I understand only two areas nationally opened all their area beaches, we in Perranporth Support Centre were the first



2019 QUALIFICATIONS

FIRST RESPONDER

FLOOD RESCUE MODULE 2

LEVEL 2 SWIM SURF

LEVEL 2 BOARD SURF

LEVEL 2 SKI SURF

SURF LIFE SAVER

SURF LIFEGUARD

SURF LIFEGUARD RE-QUAL





'Shillary': 2019 volunteer and RNLI Lifeguard 2020 practicing 999 calls and Radio Ops, very soon put into action for the real thing

and this was down to determination in recognition of the very real need for lifeguards on our dangerous stretch of coast. That was proven with the tragic drownings on May 25th in other locations and the near miss and successful interventions by many volunteers around the coast.

But volunteering daily would not be a long-term solution for a whole season. Mercifully, due to the hard work of the Perranporth Surf Lifesaving Club, its ethos and the commitment of the clubbies, many had volunteered in 2019 and therefore were thankfully eligible for us to take on in 2020, as there was a ban on recruiting completely new lifeguards. The 2019 volunteers were a saving grace allowing us to reach the numbers required to mount the full service.

At Perranporth and Perran Sands we had the following 15 club members working this year: Sam Hillary, Ben Evans, Will McRitchie, Tom McRitchie, Rob Nunn, Sam Chamberlain, Aaron Martyn, George Hudson, Max Lawrence, Rory Tellam, Samson Tellam, Jack Farr, Sam Stephens, Tom Cutmore, Ben Gardiner. Doreen was unfortunately not allowed to volunteer but will hopefully be back in 2021.

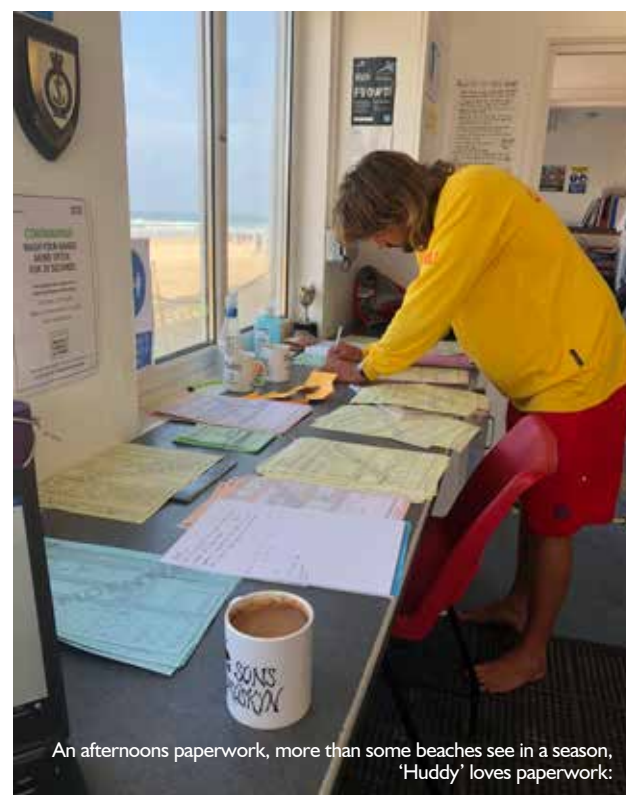
Only a few lifeguards from neighbouring clubs and one non clubbie from Australia (but really a Yorkshireman) were working at Perranporth. This must be the most clubbies working Perranporth in a single season ever.

The amazing thing was that without the normal inductions the lifeguards doing their first season of paid work had to hit the ground running on what would see us looking after as many as 14,000 people on the beach at one time. There were many 'Bank Holiday crowd' level days that we just don't see usually as people were 'staycationing' and holidaying in Cornwall that would previously have been swimming in the much calmer waters abroad.

We were in for it and the team did really well, really well, juggling new working practices (Pot Noodle sales have soared

after microwaves were banned, other instant noodles are available), restrictions on our normal operations and managing large crowds in tough ocean conditions while doing their best to protect themselves and others. The big change requiring tremendous effort was to separate the bathing and surfing areas onto completely different banks, allowing for maximum space to ease the crowds on a single bank.

We had just crept into September when we had our first



An afternoons paperwork, more than some beaches see in a season, 'Huddy' loves paperwork:

confirmation of a lifeguard with COVID which saw us have to put over a dozen of the team into self-isolation. Testament to the lifeguard's adherence to basic practices we had no further cases and were able to get fully back on the beach around 10 days later after some lifeguards from out of area were brought in and other casual lifeguards were able to step in.

The dedication shown by lifeguards is not for the money, any particular organisation, but to lifeguarding and the community itself. Young people doing things that many think they are incapable of. Sure enough we had one guy ding a truck and break a trailer on his first day, a bogging or two, but these lads had very limited inductions and stepped up when needed. Some of the notable incidents this year are summarised below from the 2,200+ we have had in area:

Unconscious male, Fallers at Chapel Rock, Cut offs at Flat Rocks, Dog over cliffs, lived and recovered by IRB, Dog over cliffs, not so lucky, Kyacker washed in front of high cliffs and a dramatic



'Cutters' and 'Rozza' after rescuing a canine that went over the cliffs at 'Highcliffs' just after returning to work

rescue in high seas by Will McRitchie before getting casualty to safety up the cliffs Goat Track, Mass rescues, Mental Health issue, male throwing stones at public, Marijuana washed up on beach, handed to police, Drunk escorted from beach by police, Mass rescue of 6 at Perran Sands, Assault with glass bottle to member of public, Lost and found kids including a two year old and help from Police, Suspicious photographer, Knee injury chapel rock, Hazardous material washed up at Perran Sands and fire brigade attended, washed up seals, Fin cuts, Buzzard rescue, Hypothermia, Bits of a wreck at Perran Sands, Anaphylaxis, dispondent male, dislocations, Mass rescue and suspected spinal as two SUPs washed in after being escorted by lifeboat from St Agnes, Unknown illness, Search for overdue surfer in storms,

tasked by Coastguard, Pregnant lady fitting, two dislocated knees on the same day, Broken ribs, lady fell off chapel rock, Bomb Disposal for Phosphorous ordnance, Kite surfer rescues.

There are 350 walkers on the beach today, its windy and raining with a red flag flying, but they are here and weather can change and people grab their boards and jump back in the water. It is late October and we have patrolled daily through October for the first time thanks to the extra funding provided by Perranzabuloe Parish Council that was arranged prior to the season starting.

Unsure as to what next year will hold, I would encourage all the youth to look at the RNLI recruitment website and think about joining the team that keep one of the most dangerous beaches in the UK safer for our visitors and community.

Simply get an application submitted in the New Year. Follow the advertisement for applications (volunteer and paid) on the RNLI website that will be announced on the Perranporth Community Lifesaving Page on Facebook or speak to Ben.

Fitness requirements are a Beach Lifeguard qualification, 400m swim in under seven and a half minutes, a 200m run in under 40 seconds and an underwater pool swim. Full details are on the website <https://summerjobs.rnli.org/lifeguards> and be part of the wider team.

If we are able to recruit volunteers and new lifeguards in 2021, we want you.



# NIPPER MANAGER

Spike Gaisford

**What an unusual and challenging year!**

Nippers started 2020 in excellent spirit. An autumn term in the pool completed with full attendance before Christmas 2019 had all the children making excellent progress. We held a great Awards night party and families attended our Boxing Day Dip during our well-earned seasonal break for everyone. We were back to the pool in earnest after the New Year celebrations with Coaches planning teams and training ramped up for the February Frostbite Champs at Penzance. Several parents went on a pool officiating course to help at the event and off we went with a big team of 48 enthusiastic children. Hard work paid off and we had medals from Sam Lee, Molly Kerry and Will Davies. The whole team were awesome with lots of placings in the top 10 and many in the top 20. Bear in mind there are often 60 -80 children in each age category from across the county! The 8s deserve a special mention for facing their first pool event with determination. All our Nippers were beautifully behaved through-out, a credit to their parents. Thank you to Jayne, Andy and Annie who managed the teams and to our willing parents who helped poolside with marshalling and timekeeping.

With half-term in the bag, enthusiasm running high for the Easter SLS GB Pool Nationals at Cardiff we were set for Spring and then.....a global pandemic put the handbrake on everything for us. Nippers stopped. Normal stopped. Just like that. No pool, no back on the beach BBQ, no competitions to aim for. No being with friends with a common interest. Not a dot. Nothing.

**However.**

How lucky are we to live in this beautiful place with wide open space and our amazing beach? It was heart warming to see so many of our Nippers and their families out in the water or around and about Perranzabuloe taking their exercise. It kept us all on track at that time, made us all re-evaluate what made us tick, what was important. Thank goodness the weather was unusually glorious, and the waves were perfect. What a privilege. Holding our breath and itching to get going again, those behind the scenes at the Club and our Nipper coaches were plotting and planning how to make Nipper sessions “virus safe” and comply with the multitude of requirements to adhere to the new normal. Special thanks must go to Jayne who “podded” the children into the smaller groups and to our fantastic parent

coaches who led each pod every week from mid-July. Biz, Karen, Ruth and Sue were superb with the sign in/out each week and the equipment cleaning. Once we had a system it worked like clockwork. The children were adaptable, resilient and brilliant every week.

Unfortunately to facilitate the beach sessions to happen this summer we had to halt our 2020 new 7s from starting with us. We just did not have the manpower, equipment, and the available time to do this without impacting on our current Nippers during this strange year. The Club as a whole, needed to concentrate its efforts on the current membership and get it safe and right. We achieved this by freezing new membership. All our Club groups managed to hold their sessions from July to September. I am hoping to start our 2020 new Nippers in

STAR AWARDS 2019	
Perseverance	Summer Sutton & Isobel Davies
Dedication	Rosie Norton & Nathaniel Balingier
Respectfulness	Ethan Fleet
Sportsmanship	Sam Lee, Matthew Wilson, Vince Marney
Fundraiser Star	Essie Eggleton
Fearlessness	Neve Wordley
Resolution	Ruby Graham
Loyalty	Finley Robinson & Barnaby Brook
Tenacity	Molly Viles
Enthusiasm	Gida Wilson
Motivation	Lily Mae Moody
Commitment	Nonnie Adams
Endeavour	Paulo Clifton
Fortitude	Alfie Boyle
Determination	Jack Dingle
Parent Stars	Vicky Thornton, Harry Milsom, Khalile Siddiqui

January 2021 in the pool as ‘new 8s’ if lockdown stays lifted, but we will have reduced capacity due to pod restrictions. Then in May we will start our 2021 new 7’s if controls permit. I really do hope so.

Which brings us back to swimming again. We managed to access a new swimming facility as Waterworld’s management company, using the pandemic crisis as a reset button had sadly given away our historic 30 year Thursday 2 hour slot to a local swim club and massively increasing the hire as a final insult. Never look back. Both our children, our coaches & session admin and the staff at Newquay Bay resort pool have worked hard to make the new Saturday swim sessions successful and safe. Thank you very much to Annie for writing the pandemic swim risk assessment and to our parents who have given up their time each week to coach. The children have been a real credit at training, and I know the coaches have seen some genuine improvements in technique and stamina. I am gutted we are again unable to swim during November due to another lockdown, fingers crossed we can keep swimming over the remaining winter months if it is lifted and thank goodness we got in the pool in September.

Whatever happens in 2021 I know that our Nippers are developing into great young people, they have shown immense resilience, determination, and willingness to adjust to everything that has been thrown at them this year. I am incredibly proud of them all and want to say a massive thank you to the children, and to their parents who have supported Nippers and the Club this year without question whether it be coaching, water cover or just being there with us doing it, but doing it with perseverance.

See you on the other side of 2020, Team Perranporth SLSC Nippers!



2018 NIPPER AWARDS		
Nipper Age Group	MOST IMPROVED NIPPER 2019	AGE GROUP NIPPER OF THE YEAR 2019
7	Connie Dodgson	Jenson Bettle
8	Cory Hawkins-Walsh	Natalia Parker
9	Ava Sutton	Molly Kerry
10	Ciaran Julyan	Jack McNair
11	Cecilie Morris	Amelia Parker
12	Jake Walker	Elodie McNair
13	Byron Postle	Anna Dingle
CLUB MOST IMPROVED BEACHNIPPER 2019 Taylor Jeffs		CLUB NIPPER OF THE YEAR 2019 Jowan Kerry
TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR 2019 Emelia Hardwick		MOST IMPROVED NIPPER OF THE YEAR 2019 Meg Lee
MOST IMPROVED BOARD PADDLER 2019 Aaron Linney		MOST IMPROVED SWIMMER 2019 Charlie Osbourn
AGE MANAGER OF THE YEAR 2019 Biz Illiffe		COACH OF THE YEAR 2019 Shelley Hardwick
PRESIDENT’S CUP FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT Will Davies		





## YOUTH MANAGER

Sarah White

**What a rollercoaster of a year! I would like to thank everyone across the club who has made this year happen for the Youth.**

Our amazing parents who in January gave up a whole weekend to undertake their Level 2 coaching, we now have 7 new fully qualified coaches to go alongside our original 3. This was so fortuitous with the way that the year rolled out.

Getting back onto the beach in the middle of July meant a great deal too many. The new pod structure worked extremely well and was fantastic to see groups of 6 doing their thing in pods. We have seen confidence build amongst many of our younger youth this year with them achieving what seemed unsurmountable objectives at the beginning of the year,

sea swimming, getting out through surf, tube rescues, we go into 2021 with an awesome group prepared for whatever the year ahead throws at us and we look forward to welcoming the 12's and 13's in the new year.

Swimming has continued at a pace, at the beginning of the year we were holding the two sessions, 1 at Redruth Pool with George and the other at Newquay Waterworld with Russell, thank you for all the swim training that put us in good stead for getting back in the sea. We are now fortunate to be swimming at Newquay Bay Resort under the watchful eye of Russell and hopefully in the near future we will be back at Redruth with George, offering 2 sessions a week again. Ski Paddling took off at a pace again in July we have had some great sessions

### 2020 YOUTH AWARDS

**YOUTH OF THE YEAR**  
**Sam Hillery**

**THE LAWRENCE CUP**  
**Morgan Stephens**

**YOUTH SKI PADDLER OF THE YEAR**  
**Tiffany Postal**

**THE BUSTER HARRIS SHIELD**  
**Morgan Stephens & Reece Thomas**

CURRENT NUMBER OF  
YOUTH MEMBERS

# 58

on the water both at Malpas and on our very own beach. A big thanks to Simon Lawrence for sharing his expertise and it has been awesome having Peter Gaisford getting back in the water and showing us all how it is done.

Congratulations to our older Youth who after qualifying last year as Lifeguards through the Clubs training programme were employed by the RNLI to provide cover on all our local beaches, it was a great accolade to the club that they all represented the club and held up the tradition of 'Vigilance and Service' joining many of our previous Youth who are still Lifeguarding today.

Thank you to Sam Chamberlin and Rob Nunn who resurrected the Lifesaver and Lifeguard Award, we had a fully compliment of Youth attending and look forward to them all passing their awards next year, adding to our current Lifeguards here at Perranporth and the local area.

Thank you again to everyone who has helped out from ferrying the Youth to various training locations, coaching on the beach, registering and keeping everyone in line (Doreen we couldn't do it without you x) making the hot chocolate, BBQing, cleaning down, it has been a weird one but a great one.







## LADIES CAPTAIN

Anita Fleet

**2020 has obviously been an extremely different season for the club due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The club house went into lock down and general club activities were temporary forced to halt. Despite these difficulties we have been faced with, we still have much to be proud of.**

The winter swimming training started brilliantly. We had so many strong, fit committed ladies regularly training and we had a large team raring to go ready to take on the Cornish Frost Bite competition. Sadly this competition coincided with the start of the first national lockdown and had to be cancelled!

During these difficult times, it soon became apparent that many were using the sea for their dedicated daily exercise. Initially the RNLI made the decision to pause lifeguard patrols on beaches and this is where the club stepped in and immediately organised surveillance patrols to keep the public safe. Thank you to many of our wonderful ladies who volunteered to help with this.

As soon as club activities could resume safely, the instructors and ladies were eager to go. We quickly got used to our 'new normal' way of training in pods and it was a delight to see everyone back in the water. The new structure of pod training was received positively and it enabled more instructors to step up and confidently plan and deliver brilliant training sessions. All the instructors have been amazing; without them, ladies night simply would not be able to run. They all offer something unique and help to support, encourage, inspire and keep us all safe in the water. I cannot thank you all enough for your precious time, valuable knowledge and on-going support.

### Competitions

Sadly no competitions were able to take place this year but hopefully our awesome ladies will soon be able to demonstrate their amazing fitness, strength, speed and lifesaving skills in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your patience and continued support during these unprecedented times. The club have worked hard to continue to offer safe training opportunities for our members. Thank you once again to Spike Gaisford who gives endless hours of her valuable time to the club. Her encouragement and constant motivation is admirable. I couldn't write this report without mentioning the one and only legend...Doreen Lawrence. She too has learnt new skills this year and is now a dab hand on Google Meet! Doreen continued to give up her time to keep members safe in the water and manages the weekly winter swim sessions for the seniors. Doreen, you are such a star and an inspiration to others.

Overall, 2020 has been a strange year; a year where we have had to adapt our lives and get used to our new normal. Roll on next season.







## IRB CAPTAIN

Rob Farr

**I start my report this year recounting just how uneasy the late spring was amongst local experienced water users. They could all see a storm brewing with their being no paid lifeguard service on the beaches. The increasing crowds and the complete lack of lifeguard service galvanized surf life saving clubs back into the role they were first created for. Saving people from drowning on our local beaches.**

Whilst executive lifeguard management failed to see the danger, grass roots life guarding emerged on each beach, which was a phenomenal common independent response from each coastal

community. At Perranporth, surveillance patrols were setup and carried out, and the IRB was quietly put on standby in the club garages ready to go out the door if needed.

May Bank holiday Monday proved to be the club's big test. With good weather, low tide, offshore winds, conveyor belt rips and big swell, large crowds were going to the beach regardless of any warnings. The club put out surveillance patrols to advise people as they walked like lemmings to the waters edge. Most people listened and were thankful to be given life saving advice, but there was no stopping the man with the inflatable swan and two very young children – he knew best.

The water's edge was a tense place to be with our hands tied by protocol of only carrying out surveillance for the emergency services, but not hands on rescue. As we stood at the mouth



of a conveyor belt rip, intercepting people, I became aware of one lifeboat after another being deployed to incidents along the north coast. Then the CG rescue helicopter came screaming over our heads at full speed on their way to Porthowan. I can remember standing at the water's edge with my son thinking, there's nothing more to send to rescue people.

It was at this point that we saw that people had got stuck in the rip and were heading out to sea at a rate. Having spent a life-time being involved in beach safety, it didn't take long to decide to step beyond surveillance mode and launch the irb.

I'm glad to say that shortly after the incidents over that weekend, the RNLI executive management were forced to change tack, and started to roll out the lifeguard service to as many beaches as quickly as possible. Many of our clubs members stepped in to fill those lifeguarding roles. 12 of our club members also signed up to club IRB training, in order to get themselves qualified for that work.

A late start in the season due to restrictions, and working in bubbles of 6, proved to be a challenge, but they all took it in their stride and worked hard to achieve a qualification. 4 drivers, and 2 crew qualified in the short time we had available, with the remaining 6 primed to be assessed at the start of next season. Thanks to Jason, Shane and Ben for helping to make it all happen this year.

The situation this year has seen the club return to its life saving roots, and I have felt proud of the way our club and its members have responded. Without the club's immediate actions, the death toll would have been much higher on our beaches earlier this year.







**SURFBOAT CAPTAIN**  
Aaron Jones

To Follow



# MEMBERSHIP

Lyn Bowden

Well done to all our Clubbies this year for several reasons and these are just a few

- All club members that joined and paid their membership (this may have been a struggle) this helped to keep the club afloat.
- The awesome people that ran and joined in the extra special Covid patrols keeping our beach safe for all, you did a great job helping your community.
- Clubbies who did and are still looking after the Club, cleaning, and keeping it safe for all.
- Club members that not only did the above but also helped with the Perranzabuloe Community Support Group they gave their time freely to help their community.
- The committee for ploughing through the difficult decisions that had to be made during the lock down.

Membership prices 2020	
Nipper	£48
Youth	£48
Senior	£88
Associate	£30
Family	£192 (2 adults 2 children + £30 per extra child)

Membership Breakdown			
	2018	2019	2020
Senior	140	157	147
Youth	64	67	58
Nipper	114	114	92
Associate	75	77	53
Life	22	21	21
Total	415	436	436

Life Members: **Richard Abram, Christopher Ballinger, Nick Beringer, Anthony Blackman, Peter Foxwell, Peter Gaisford, David Hancock, Chris Harding, Alan Holmes, Robin Howell, Simon Lawrence, Doreen Lawrence, Gilly Lloyd, James Marsh, Robert Plimley, Chris Strickland, Stuart Thorn, Tom Tremewan, Raymond Turvey, Spike Gaisford and Nigel Bowden**

# TREASURER

Andy Davies

**It has been an interesting first year acting as the club Treasurer and it has certainly not been business as usual. Like all organisations the club has been heavily impacted by the pandemic. There has been and continues to be an increased level of uncertainty both in terms of club activity and also financial resources. Through prudent financial management the club began the financial year with a healthy level of reserves.**

The club is not alone in the charities sector in reporting that the biggest impact has been a large reduction in fund raising activity. Whilst some fundraising has been able to take place the cancellation of the annual triathlon had a significant impact on the level of income. The club has also had to respond to the pandemic operationally, with a return to patrolling and increased cleaning. These have all had an impact on the level of expenditure in the year and despite the club being closed for a short period the costs associated with running the club continue. During this period of uncertainty, we have, and will continue to minimise nonessential spend to ensure that the club remains resilient to any future shocks.

Looking forward we are exploring various funding streams to facilitate the purchase of new club kit to ensure that members from our nippers to our masters are able to continue participating in the activities they love. Fundraising and continued member support is crucial going into 2021 as the uncertainty around the pandemic and the impact it will have upon the club remains.

# FUNDRAISING

Hannah Pile

**2019 ended with our usual Christmas market fundraiser and moving into 2020 we started the year keen with the first fundraising committee meeting. Great plans were being born but by February Covid 19 was rumbling and by March it had pushed the country into lockdown, snatching lives, time and opportunity. Personally, I had no choice but to remove my focus from the fundraising officer role as my working life as a nurse became busy and exhausting.**

Throughout lockdown and as we came out the other side the club did what it does best and focussed on protecting lives. Sticking with the ethos of protecting lives we have not proceeded with our usual summer or Christmas fundraisers this year as these are clear situations that would provide potential risk of transmission of Covid 19.

2020 is a challenge and it is looking like this will continue some way into 2021 and we are going to desperately need the support, commitment and innovative ideas from our club members to make up for some of our financial losses this year. Hopefully we will reinstate the fundraising committee meeting in the new year and be able to develop plans for the year ahead.

Despite the gloom there is some light at the end of this tunnel. I have recently been discussing with the My Mission App to look at setting up a year long Virtual Fundraising mission from one end of the country to the other, hopefully with a surf lifesaving club theme, this should hopefully commence in the new year. Finally, we have successfully been selected again to be a Co-op local cause so I would ask all clubbies to go to your Co-op membership page and select Perranporth Surf Lifesaving Club as your local cause and encourage those you know to do the same – even those far away can select us! If you don't have a Co-op members account then this can easily be created by going to [www.coop.co.uk/membership](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership).





# OUR SUPPORTERS

The staff and customers of Co-Op Perranporth. June Donnery and Haven Perran Sands. Everyone at the RNLI, Bob & Tommy Job at The Watering Hole, the community of Perranporth.

Steve and Shane Coram at Cycle Logic/GIANT Helston, Malcolm Ball of Snugg Wetsuits Newquay, Joe Healey and Healey's Cyder Farm, Thüle, Pete at GAP Ltd Plymouth Branch, Mike Bartlett of KIER Group, Chris & Bev Law Massage, Loz Braiden, The Filling Station Café, Photographers Remy Whiting, Jamie Turnbull and Jon Mallett. Mr and Mrs Anderson, Chris and staff at Millstone Sound, Ben Parker and family of Callestick Farm. St Piran's Perranzabuloe Parish Church and Perranporth Methodist Church. First Kernow Buses.

Mark and Lucy Thorn of Iglu Wetsuits/Piran Surf. Lizzie and Surfers Against Sewage, lovely Hannah Pile, New Wave Church Community, David Cromie at SeaDog IT, The Waterfront Restaurant, Bathsheba Surf.

Gaisford Surf Equipment, Simon Lawrence Builders, Paul 'Sparks' Halstead, Ben the Plumber, Peter Retallack Inspira Engraving, Lisa and everyone at The Seiners Perranporth, the one and only Dor 2 Dor Taxis, Nick Barsch, Mike and Jenny Callan at Perranporth Post Office, Davina Foster at Perranporth Plastic Free Market, Mr J Tredinnick of Nansmellyn Farm.

Perranzabuloe Parish Council, Perranporth Garden Trustees, Surf Life Saving GB, Diane Green and Surf Life Saving Cornwall Region, Cornwall Council, UK Government Department of Transport, Perranzabuloe Rotary Club, South West Water, HM Coastguard and Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service.

And to the many of family and friends that support our club year upon year

THANK YOU!



## ANNUAL REPORT 2020

[www.perranporthslsc.org.uk](http://www.perranporthslsc.org.uk)

Perranporth Surf Lifesaving Club Registered Chairty No. 1041075