# 1934-35...85...2019-20

# **FREE**

## 85 YEARS

# VIGILANCE AND SERVICE

2019--2020..."The challenge to protect and save is our challenge and one we must win everyday we are on patrol. We accept that challenge every day, some days are easy and others are hard; we rise to the challenge, accept and embrace change and go home at the end of the day as winners."







Well done Matilda Buttell as well.."up-and-coming".

Well done Tony and Dave at the Coolangatta Gold...

Published by the: MOLLYMOOK SURF LIFESAVING CLUB (Incorporated 1989)

Volume 36- ISSUE NO: 1..... SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019:

WELCOME BACK to another season and like our other 'warriors of the waves' it is time again to take up our patrolling of the beaches with the same diligence and enthusiasm as our dolphin friends.



As the sun starts to warm the waters, turning winter into spring, the change of season also marks the end of a unique cycle of death and renewal in the waters off the South Coast. (see inside for the full story)...Also inside 'Sammy Z wows on the International scene!'

**Editorial**...In the 'Mag" issue 35.3 at the start of 2019 we pointed out the sad statistic that many of the drowning deaths in the season thus far had been of "good Samaritans trying to save others". It was mentioned that the syndrome of the "rescuer who drowns" is now called <u>rescue altruism</u> by water safety experts.

It is very sad then, that at the start of our new surf season, a fatality has already happened at one of our local beaches when a male holiday-maker went to the rescue of his two children aged 10 and 12' who were inadvertently caught in a rip. He went into the water, got into difficulties himself and drowned in the attempt. This adds to the distressingly lengthy list of similar instances in our area; many of which we have featured in the 'Mag'.

It has also been mentioned before that as development of our section of the coastline is booming, people are swimming in unpatrolled areas at what is an alarming rate. Back in 2012 member Bruce O'Sullivan, surveyed all the beaches from Lake Conjola, south. Including Manyana and Bendalong, Bruce studied closely, 33 beaches south to North Durras. Many of these beaches have already in the past been the scene of drownings, many of them are very popular in the main tourist season with caravan parks and holiday accommodation adding to the local resident population.

Bruce also commented that over the years "I have seen all beaches in a diabolical state, also I have seen them in a tranquil state that wouldn't hurt a fly."

The issue remains how do we protect people increasingly using these 33 beaches, to prevent drowning and the loss of 'good samaritans'.

As Bruce O'Sullivan mentioned in his conclusion..."Where do you start and where do you draw the line? That is the BIG question."

Obviously we cannot patrol every beach; our support services group with the RWC are also limited with services on average of once a day to eight or nine of the 33 beaches. Council are not going to provide lifeguards, so it probably comes down to concerted efforts to educate as many beachgoers as possible as to what to do when they are 'placed on the spot' as a situation develops.

"Of the 5594 people who drowned in Australia between July 1,1992 to June 30, 2010, 103 people drowned while attempting to rescue another. This syndrome (rescue altruism) presents a unique problem because of the paradox of lauding altruism on one hand and yet deploring its fatal outcome on the other." (Prof.John Pearn.) More on this in our next Issue.... The Editor.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT...** Our President is incapacitated undergoing a rotator cuff operation this week, and we all wish him a successful and speedy recovery from this. He did wish for the "mag" to say how pleased he is with the start of the new 2019/20 season. Under Les the annual gear inspection was again marvellously presented, the Nippers are off to a great start and our Education and Training group already are putting through our first BM squad. As the season's progress our job becomes more intense and it is only through you, our patrolling members that we can continue to keep our beaches safe.

Have a great and a safe season. See you around the beach. <u>President Rod Austin OAM</u>

Just a reminder, that keeping the airway open in an unconscious victim is VITAL. The airway take precedence as there is no point treating other injuries if the victim is not breathing normally or show no signs of life due to respiratory or cardiac arrest. Remember the order DRSABCD!

<u>YES, YES, YES.</u> It is that time of the year again, we are getting ready to do our proficiency! The training team is trying to give everyone as much notice as possible as we only have 4 days of proficiency this year! The dates are as follows;

- \*\* 09/11/2019 @ 9:00AM
- \*\* 10/11/2019 @ 9:00AM
- \*\* 07/12/2019 @ 9:00AM
- \*\* 08/12/2019 @ 9:00AM

The way we are working proficiency this year is that all you do is ONE online component called "Skills Maintenance", and turn up on one of the above days with your certificate of completion then do the practical component of all of your proficiency. That's right, ONE day and you can do ALL of your proficiency!

If you need any further help, do not hesitate to contact our Director of Education and Training, Emma Woodward, on either 0414 878 742 OR training@mollymooksurf.com.au

We look forward to seeing you there! Kind regards, Mollymook SLSC Training & Education Team.

A huge effort last season saw our TRAINING TEAM PUT THROUGH 322 MEMBERS. But in the words of Past Director Bruce O'Sullivan the task of maintaining your annual proficiency seems to be too much for quite a number of members. Can I ask you all to take up ownership of the fact that proficiency is a MUST and can you please complete both wet and dry components before the end of the calendar year. You will notice that the team has made available various days and dates to help you complete this task.

Complaining about this; well what about the complaining exactly 30 seasons ago at the start of the 1989/90 season when as a result of the NSW Superintendent's meeting it was decided to bring in, at the start of the season, a requirement that all members had to complete a compulsory swim before being allowed to even reassess. For Seniors and U18 it was a 400 metre pool swim in under 9 minutes; for Cadets U15 it was a 250 metre pool swim in under 5.5 minutes.

This directive created a lot of comment, much of it unfavourable, with some members saying it was 'a step too far' and resigning their membership. Since then of course, this requirement has been dropped, but it is worthwhile repeating this quote from 30 years ago from the Chief Instructor of North Bondi SLSC;

"People who swim at a level which only just allows them to pass their exams and the annual reassessment, often leave the club after a year or so. I feel this is commonly due to a lack of water confidence, which increased with time if that person does not continue to train. Fears of failing the annual reassessment and/or not being able to be effective in a rescue situation, are other factors leading to drop-out..."

The solution to this is fairly simple—get into the water whenever possible and SWIM, SWIM, SWIM!!!! Gain confidence in your own ability to affect a rescue in the surf. By doing this you will have little to fear. When on patrol make it a habit to have a good swim. Also regular exercise of any kind will make it easier. But the best advice is this..... "all you have to do is 'make the effort'."

<u>As</u> mentioned in the previous issue of the 'mag', the new developments taking place around our area are going to change the face of Mollymook, and as we have already noticed, dramatically increase the number of beachgoers. There is little doubt one of the prime reasons for this increasing popularity is the presence in close proximity to safe, patrolled beach areas. <u>It is your commitment to community service which makes it possible for people attracted to such developments, to enjoy their holidays in a safe environment.</u> Let us hope they appreciate what we do for them.

#### THE "ACTUALITIES" OF PATROLLING....

- ### It can be boring,
- ### **There** is a need to be always alert.
- ### Problems can occur without warning.
- ### Continual scanning and observation is a necessity.



- ### **There** is a need to be aware of <u>not only</u> what is taking place between flags, but outside them as well. It is of vital importance when the beach is crowded and busy.
- ### **Keep mobile**. Over the 4 hours of patrol, moving/looking/circulating, is important.
- ### **Know** where the patrol gear is; familiarise yourself with the location of tubes/ boards/ radios/ resuscitation equipment/ first aid etc.
- ### Understand the need for patrol caps, bum bags, sunscreen on your person.
- ### Understand that YOU are part of a TEAM...familiarise yourself with the other team members.

AND...BEWARE THE FOA!!!!! It is often found lurking around the patrol enclosure.

What is it?? The FOA; 'Fallacy of Assumption' is where everyone assumes that 'someone else' is watching the water. Often resulting in periods of time where NO ONE is watching the water. Patrols of 20 can be less effective than patrols of 3 in such cases.

How do you beat it ?? Assign and rotate flag duty, roving patrol, water edge duty,

in water duty. Specific people, given specific surveillance roles for specific periods of time.

JOIN THE CAUSE—FIGHT THE FOA ON YOUR NEXT PATROL!!!!

RESCUE.....RESCUE !!!!!

Spending the school holidays on the beach was the ideal lifestyle according to then 16-year-old Josh Lappin. But he wasn't just hanging out with his mates and catching a wave, he was saving lives as a member of the Mollymook Surf Lifesaving Club.

Early in January 2011, Josh's keen eye and quick thinking prevented a potential double drowning fatality on Narrawallee Beach. He was on patrol at the southern end on January 9 when a man and his grandson got into trouble while swimming about 300 metres north of the flagged area.

Patrol Captain David Johnson said it was 11.30am on an overcast day, the seas were rough and the pair was difficult to see. "If Josh hadn't spotted them, the situation could have become a lot more serious very quickly," he said.

"We were keeping our eye on a couple that were swimming between the flags and didn't realise they were out there."

Josh, and fellow (surf) lifesaver Nigel Milford launched the IRB and drove out to the swimmers, who were struggling to keep afloat about 200 metres offshore. The 12-year-old boy was brought in, while his grandfather insisted on swimming to shore. Mr. Johnson said Josh's actions certainly prevented a possible drowning at Narrawallee. He praised Josh and the surf club training of young (surf) lifesavers.

"I have no doubt that Josh's diligence prevented a disaster," he said. "Observation and prevention is the name of our game and I am sure that given another five or ten minutes the situation would have been a different story. It was the classic scenario in the making—grandfather and grandson not swimming between the flags, 200 metres out to sea, difficulty, panic, front-page news."

"Josh was a credit to the bronze training crew, himself and the Mollymook Surf Club."

Josh said the rescue was all part of the job. "It's a good feeling knowing that it could have been worse." The Ulladulla High School student is no stranger to rescuing people. "I've helped a few swimmers out while body boarding," he said. "But most of the time when I'm on patrol I'm talking to people about beach safety and beach conditions and advising them to swim between the flags."

(The above article appeared in the Times Newspaper 26/1/2011 and was written by Katrina Condie).

## If our Bronze medallion could talk it could tell us about

some interesting dates in the timeline of Women in Surf Lifesaving

to help Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of females as active members.

1907....Formation of the Surf Bathing Association of NSW. (SBANSW).

1907....Women's auxiliaries were started in most surf clubs. The purpose of these groups was to support the club in fundraising, catering and other activities.

1920....It was decided that all competitors must be holders of the bronze medallion.

1922....SLSANSW becomes the Surf Life saving Association of Australia (SLSAA).

1923.... Miss Edie Kieft qualified for the Bronze through Tweed Heads & Coolangatta, <u>but the medallion</u> was not issued due to her femaleness.

1991....Edie Rowe (nee Kieft) was issued with her bronze medallion, 68 years after completing the examination requirements.

1929....Bert Chequer (Collaroy) trains 5 women for the proficiency certificate (involving land based aspects of a surf rescue). Officials refused to examine them.

1937....Pacific Club established by Palm Beach SLSC; to provide facilities for women and to enhance fundraising for the surf club.

1942/43....Resuscitation certificate introduced and Females are eligible for this award.

1949....Torquay SLSC moved to allow members of their women's auxiliary to enter their club rooms.

1950's....Surfers Paradise SLSC allowed women into their clubhouse on a Sunday night to cook the evening meal.



1960's....Nippers activities commenced in surf lifesaving attracting mothers to the beach as well as female nippers (nipperettes).

1974....South Australian premier Don Dunstan, provided Surf Life Saving SA with an Ultimatum-'integrate women into surf life saving or you will lose your state government funding.'

1975....Survey conducted throughout clubs in NSW as to their attitude to women in surf lifesaving.

1978....SLSA's active membership dropped by 18%.

1980....Females became eligible to become full members of SLSAA, including the training and testing for the bronze medallion.

1980....SLSA's active membership increased by 15%.

1986....All surf life saving clubs now welcome female active members.

2005....Women make up 35% of active members and 41% of the total membership.

So on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of active female membership it is congratulations, with female membership now around the 50% mark. This timeline also represents a lifeline as well, as the boost to membership has been in many cases the probable salvation of a number of surf life saving clubs throughout the SLSA of A.



Some of our valued Mollymook female clubbies celebrating 40 years

As Andrew May, past manager of the NSW State Centre, put it.....

..." if we had not introduced women members in 1980 we would have been in very bad shape. Some clubs would not have been able to effectively patrol beaches."

Others such as Gus Staunton, the executive director of SLSA, understood only too well that the association could not continue to deny women full membership in the prevailing moral and political climate. In 1980, SLSA allowed clubs to admit women as active members, although the debate continued on in some clubs.(P;100 "Between the Flags.")



Les O'S has again ensured that our club has the best gear and equipment on hand. Our new ATV—please treat it with care and abide by the rules etc, most of which you will find a few pages over.

### DOLPHINS FROLIC AS A SEASONAL TRAGEDY UNFOLDS BENEATH...



As the sun starts to warm the waters, turning winter into spring the change of season also marks the end of a unique cycle of death and renewal off the South Coast (of NSW).

In the last of the big winter swells, the bottle-nosed dolphins of Mollymook beach go surfing. Above them, riding the thermals for one last time before heading off once again on their great nomadic voyages across the seas, circle the huge wandering albatrosses.

Below them, in the shallow coastal waters, every suitable cave, crevice and crack is filled with thousands of strange, leathery, bulbous white sacks and the last of the giant Australian cuttlefish are about to live their final day.

These three equally captivating, but very different animals, for a few cold months, become intimately linked. It is a relationship that is renewed around June and July each year, when the giant cuttlefish emerge from the depths and enter the shallows to dance their elaborate mating dances and lay their strange eggs among the rocks.

The world has about 100 cuttlefish species, but the giant Australian- *Sepia apama*- dwarfs them all. Often the length of a small man, this relation of the octopus and the squid is also the chameleon king of the deep. Equipped with an amazing nervous system, *Sepia apama* has the ability to mimic not only the colour of its surroundings, but even the texture.

At the peak of their breeding frenzy, they even take to the friendly manhandling of divers and their equipment. But their frenzy to renew life is also their downfall.

Usually protected by their chameleon cunning and rocky crags in the deep, they throw caution to the wind in their desperate search for a partner in the shallows. Then the dolphins of Mollymook Beach swoop. The cuttlefish present them with a feast, but they are picky eaters, taking only the heads. The long tentacles float to the surface, and it is these that temporarily stop the odd wandering albatross-a ferocious scavenger with the world's widest wing span- from wandering.

Although scientists know little about cuttlefish, they believe that after hatching in the shallows, they spend about four years in the deep before returning to mate and lay. Exhausted by the process, those that survive the dolphins are believed to die anyway

The only evidence that remains of the winter cycle eventually washes up on the beaches and finds its way into many homes – the cuttlefish "bones" which end their life in bird cages making sure budgies can trim their beaks.

(This interesting article originally occurred in the Sydney Morning Herald of September 14; 1996. Written by Daniel Lewis. Photos in the original article by Tony Karacsonyi; those in our 'Mag' by Ken Banks, with thanks.

#### NEWS FROM NEAR & FAR, HERE & THERE, & PARS ABOUT PEOPLE...

\*\*\*\*\* Breakfast on the Beach... This traditional start to our new season has been declining in popularity over past years and it was again only a few members who accepted the open invitation to socialise with fellow club members, old and new. This seems to be the norm of late with the recent 'Blue Moon' social and the table to watch the 'Entertainers' (and accept the cheque they hand out to us), saw very few members make the effort to support the social activities of the club. And yet one of the main complaints members bring up is the 'lack of social activities'. The obvious answer to these complaints is that if you want social life to improve within our club then members have to support these activities when they are organised. Nuff said!!!

\*

\*\*\*\*\* What a start to Nippers... Here was one activity that was well supported. The morning was crowded with close to 140 nippers plus parents, including many from our keen Canberra contingent, coming out on a beautiful morning. A stirring speech from the Director of Social Activities, Tony Ireland and away they went for their first competition morning. The keen atmosphere bodes well for another successful season ahead. Water safety was 'light on', but with a number of Canberra parents already training with our first bronze squad, this problem is almost rectified. Also this keen approach saw 35 nippers attending the early morning training sessions at Mollymook on Wednesday looking to improve their skills for the competition season ahead.

\*

\*\*\*\*\* The Boaties also off to a good start.. At the same time the surf boat crews had a barbeque on the upper deck to get the rowers together and foster camaraderie between the crews. At present a large number of crews are in training, both male and female, and our Club looks like being represented in most other divisions.

\*\*\*\*\* Training squads also off to good start.. Around 20 starters have signed up for the first training squad of the season. They have not wasted any time and are well and truly into it. Again, like the Nippers, there was air of keenness and purpose about them when the 'mag' looked in at their CPR training last Sunday morning. The squad also has some Canberra parents training in it as well. Welcome to all.

**SKILLS AND LIMITATIONS** .. It is important for a first aider to recognise the limitations of their skills. First aid is simply the initial care of the sick and injured until more qualified help arrives. Never attempt any procedures for which you have not been trained.

\*\*\*\*\* <u>Hopefully a good start and best wishes...</u> Yes, to our HSC members who have been hard at it with the HSC examinations now in full swing and all the members of our club wish you every success both in this examination and the next phase in your life....."Yes, there is life after the HSC and regardless, enjoy it!!!

\*\*\*\*\* And what a start for our 'Boy Wonder', Sam Z... Congratulations to our State, Australian and World Champion Sammy Zustovich on his performance at the International Surf Rescue Challenge in Durban, South Africa. Competing in the Youth category, Sam won all three flags events and almost did the clean sweep in the sprints too, as well as helping his teammates claim two wins in the beach relay.

(This was) an exceptional debut in the green and gold by our boy and a wonderful start to the season.



***** News from the South Coast Branch It was with a deal of well-deserved satisfaction that Branch President Steve Jones released the news that a grant of 1.5 million dollars has been passed to allow the construction of the South Coast Branch building to proceed. The president has worked hard on this project and deserves congratulations. As well, other good news is that a further grant has been received that will allow the employment of a paid employee for 2.5 days a week to assist in the administration in Branch and the nine South Coast clubs.
**************************************
***** Those Fee increases Most members have accepted the recent increase in our fees. Further justification for the increase was the recent account from SLSNSW for Capitation Fees for the season. This totalled nearly \$12000 which the Club has paid. It is based on the number of members in the previous season which in our case totalled 590 and covers the insurance premiums/ administration costs etc to run the organisation. It is a lot and is barely covered by your fees. More so the reason, why we ask all members to participate in our fundraising, especially the annual Door-Knock in early January.
**************************************
***** Our Coolangatta Warriors face the Test Tony Ireland and David Tudor-Jones had a great day of endurance racing at the Coolangatta Gold, finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> respectively in the hotly contested masters division. Both men had strong races.
"I was pleased to come out of the ski leg 3 <sup>rd</sup> , and even more pleased to still be in 3 <sup>rd</sup> after the ski leg", said Tudor-Jones who was competing in the Gold for the third time. "At that stage I thought I could hold Tony off, but not long after we started the board leg, he paddled up to me with a big grin on his face, had a quick chat, and then paddled away. At that stage I had some cramp and was having trouble keeping warm. I struggled home, but was happy to have my best finish, and 5 hours 19 minutes was a much faster time than last year."
"The ski leg was mostly great", said Ireland, "at least until we turned back into the wind for the last 4km. I was careful not to push too hard and tire out—there was still three hours of racing once the ski finished. I had hoped to catch Dave in the swim, but felt great when I paddled alongside him in the board. My energy was good, so I just pushed hard on the board, and was pleased to find out I had the second fastest board leg of all the masters,"
" The final 7.1 km run was a slog, but I held my form and was really surprised and proud to find out I finished $3^{\rm rd}$ ."
Also representing Mollymook in the Youth Challenge was Matilda Buttell, She finished an amazing 8th out of 45 competitors in her age group. It should be a great season of racing for Matilda given such a strong start.
Congratulations to all three, you have done the Club proud and importantly you have done yourselves even more so.  Milton-Ulladulla Times newspaper 23/10/2019.
**************************************
Deer oh Deer: (Missed last Edition)
Life member Tim Jennett had a pivotal role in the recent well publicised <b>deer rescue</b> episode at North Beach.
Tim & his NSW Fire & Rescue wing man celebrated returning two deer to shore with a vain display of success.

The duo were last seen doing a victory lap of North, throwing rooster tails from the WCC jet ski & punching out a loud rendition of that classic 1960's cowboy song by Frankie Lane (move 'em on - head 'em up - cut 'em out - ride 'em in , RAWHIDE) while twirling a rope lasso above their heads to cries of Yee Ha. Only joking Tim.

Hope Wollongong City Council rewards your initiative& positive action in going to sea on the jet ski.

Yes they were called to rescue two deer swimming out to sea off North Beach. This adds to the kangaroos, wallabies, brown snakes, dogs etc which have been rescued by our lifesavers.

<u>"ON THE SPOT"...</u> At Avoca beach on the 6<sup>th</sup> April (1932) last, Mr. H. G. Harding, while assisting with a fishing net, was capsized from a small canoe and swept to sea by a strong current.

As there was nobody on the beach at the time capable of rescuing, his case seemed hopeless. Fortunately, the trouble was witnessed by Mr. J. D. Miller from the verandah of his home near the beach. Mr. Miller (was) a probationary member of the Avoca (SLS) Club (and he was now placed "ON THE SPOT!!").

Though incapacitated with a bad leg which had confined him to hospital for some time, he hurried to the scene as fast as he could with the aid of his crutches.

He stripped at the water's edge and donned a belt attached to a box line. Eye witnesses state that Mr. Harper was now out about 400 yards and apparently helpless. Mr. Miller swam until he exhausted the full length of the line, which was said to be over 400 yards, when another line from a reel was joined on. Mr. Harper was unconscious when Mr. Miller reached him. Both were then hauled ashore by helpers on the beach, and being the only one who understood anything of resuscitation, Mr. Miller despite his tiredness, proceeded with resuscitation until Mr. Harper regained consciousness.

The other men on the beach were all elderly. All paid tribute to the great work of Miller, who had only novices to assist on the line; who had difficulty getting across the (fishing) net on his way out; and who despite the trouble his leg must have been causing him, bore the greater part of the work in getting the unconscious body of Mr. Harper to the beach after being bought into shallower water.

An outstanding rescue, saving Mr. Harper's life, by Mr. Miller who happened to be **"On the Spot"**. For the rescue he received an SLSA Award for the Meritorious Rescue.

History of Avoca SLSC..E.A.Poole ..page 63.

<u>ANNUAL GEAR INSPECTION</u>... Once again Les presented an immaculate line up of gear and equipment and members will have seen already the new FWD, the revamped patrol trailers etc, etc, etc; and including the new ATV. Once again Les asks that members be aware of the rules, regulations and responsibilities involved in its use.

Remember.... Roads & Maritime rules apply to the ATV; an infringement/accident could lead to Police action.

- .... If you have a provisional licence you must display P plates front & rear of the vehicle.
- .... Make sure the ATV carries radio, rescue board, rescue tube, flippers, whistle, bum bag + mask/gloves/wipes/notebook/pencil., resuscitation and defib equipment.
- .... Drive at walking speed only near people, maximum 20kph elsewhere unless in emergency mode .
- .... Be particularly aware of children, dogs, holes, inclines, drift-wood, people lying on beach.
- .... At the end of patrol de-sand, clean, check, gear on board, report any damage or maintenance required. This will extend the life of the unit if thorough attention is paid to this <u>AND A FINAL REMINDER...</u> We are under increasing scrutiny from the public, so don't give them cause to report speeding/dangerous driving/unlicenced driving/driving with illegal blood alcohol levels/or drugs in your system; that could result in sanctions from SLSI or worse, the Police/RMS. Treat it always as another vital piece of Lifesaving equipment; and help keep Les's blood pressure at a normal level!

<u>THE LAST PAGE...</u> Page 12 already for our 'Mollymook Mag', again with a variety of articles to read when you get the time. Sometime ago it was decided to keep the format as a magazine rather than a Newsletter. This was because the Times Newspaper, our Facebook pages and website, and the Local ExServo's Express are all available to get the message(s) across to members and our Publicity Officer, David Johnson makes sure of this. So enjoy the reading.





<u>Remember these photos</u> from a previous issue of our 'mag,. Taken three seasons ago after an East Coast Low dumped many mms of rain on our area.

• Blackwater Ck became an incredible torrent which gouged out a channel right along our beach, down to link up with the stormwater drain south of our clubhouse. It was a sight that long-time members of our club had never seen before. Since that time Blackwater creek has tended to use the same passage south, but not to the same extent. Over the past 12 months however a very worrying situation has developed with the wholesale clearing and subsequent development of three large areas of land which naturally drain into Blackwater Creek. When completed these areas will all be tarred, kerbed and guttered, with hard roofed housing; and the fear is that in times of moderate to heavy rain, the amount of run-off will be substantially increased and situations as shown in the above photographs will be both more regular and more severe. This would have a ruinous affect on our beautiful and almost iconic part of our coastline.

#### So as a group likely to be the most affected -- What can we do about it ???

- \* At present we have two members who we send our best wishes to. Rodney Austin our President who is now home after his rotator cuff operation. He is, naturally, a bit 'sore and sorry' for himself, but the operation has been successful and he now needs lots of caring and love from Wendy.
- \*Also in need of our best wishes is Bob McDonald one of our long term radio officers. Out of the blue Bob had a 'turn' while doing his last patrol in the radio tower. This necessitated ambulance attention and a subsequent trip to Wollongong hospital where he is in a serious condition. We wish him a speedy recovery.
- \* Also a hullo and a speedy recovery to Terri Beckley who has had a very serious back operation and is back at Mollymook recovering. Terri is the wife of Jim, our benefactor from Texas, and it is always good to see them back in Mollymook. All the best to both of you.
- \*Finally our condolences to Maurice Bunt whose wife Beverley passed away recently. Beverley was a member of the Ladies March Past team in the last half of the 1950's and was always interested in the activities of our club. She was always willing to help out when we needed information about this era. She will be remembered in a number of photos of the March Past Team, of an important era now passed. VALE Bev'.