

# Mountaineering In Boats. 64 years of Surf boats in Warriewood S.L.S.C. 1

1 The Wreck . An old boat and oars given by of Bilgola S.L.S.C. in 1952.

2 Tomanjerry . 11.1.1953. Carvel built by 'George Towns' in 1952. A fun boat for all members. The vast majority of club member had a row and caught a wave in this boat. Good in a big surf. Donated by and , .

3 'Pontiac Chieftain' {1} 28.3.1956. Carvel built by . Sponsored by ' a Sydney car company who sold 'Pontiac' cars Won in open competition against all clubs from in the South to Palm Beach in the North. Christened on the 5<sup>th</sup>. April 1956. Winning this boat was the biggest event that had an bearing on the clubs future. The following year joined and Warriewood and won the Branch, State, and Australian Junior Boat Championship. Sold to Floriet S.L.S.C. in Western Australia.

4 'Pontiac Chieftain' {2} 14.09.1958. A moulded ply boat. Built by 'Barnett Boats' of Meadowbank, the builder of Gretel, for Packer, the first 'Americas Cup' Australian contender. Broke in two in big seas at Newport carnival. The bow is mounted on the wall in the clubhouse. Sold to City of Perth in W.A.

' Pontiac C chieftain {3} 1959. \_ Moulded Ply boat built by .{4. 1960, 5. 22.03.1961, 6. 27.03.1966} 6 boats 'Pontiac Chieftain' swept by between 1956/57 and 1963/64. Number 3 was sold to City of Perth in W.A.

The 'Pontiac Chieftain' {Z.} Was built in 1978 by Tuck was high out of the water. Not a good boat. Swept by Barry Page.

8 21.03.1961 Warringah Council donated a boat built by someone who had never built a surf boat. Called the , it had a full bow and a narrow stern It was so badly rigged that even a short stroke oarsmans oar caught under the quarter bar. The sweep oar was rigged too short inboard. The boat was soon given to a needy club. The councils mistake was to put the boats out to tender, it was like reinventing the wheel.

9 13.02.1966 Warringah Council donated a second boat. Again the council called for tenders and we got another surf boat built by someone who had not built any surf boats. A ply double ender boat. 6.6 m. long [Tuck stern boats now 7.1m. long] Was very full and round, like a banana boat from stern to bow, was also too light so too buoyant. The sweep oar inboard too short. The boat rolled over on any size wave, was uncontrollable being to light it floated to high in the water. It was given to 'Abbotsford Sea Scouts' to be used on still water. Given before someone was injured.

10 The club exchanged the nearly new double ender given by the Council and swapped it for a 'Phillips' built ex. North Cronulla older surf boat from Abbotsford Sea Scouts.

11 In 1971 rejoined the club, [having been a junior rower with in the 1960s.] and swept a small lightweight Junior Crew for 2<sup>nd</sup> in the branch, 4<sup>th</sup> in the State and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Australian Championships. Ross then got involved in the senior boat crews that led to success in many races Junior, Reserve, Seniors. In 1972 an ex club member agreed to sponsor a new boat being one of the group that had bought the timber company. He ordered in name cedar from a company who sold cedar to boat builders. The order was for enough timber to build two surf boats the cost of cedar and labour for a surf boat being equal. was the boat builder and the boat was to be called the 'G.H.' {Note NOT .} After the boat was finished and handed over to the

surf club, started to receive invoices for the timber. He replied that the invoices had to go to who had ordered the cedar. The problem was by this time was in receivership – gone broke.

12 In 1974 'Swiftshure' Hot Water Systems' sponsored a new boat built by and swept by won the Australian non Championship Boat race at D.Y.

13 In 1978 Warriewood won the Silver Medal in the Australian Titles in a new boat donated by 'Roche Aquasun' again a built boat.

14 In 1979 of 'Maranz hi-fi' donated a boat built by It was the best looking boat the club ever had. The boat was unique being the plug for future foam sandwich boats and was constructed from strips of cedar 30mm. by 10mm. glued together length ways.

15 In 1988 ' ' sponsored a surf boat and named after his business '. This was one of the last Moulded Ply boats built before the 'Foam Sandwich' boats were built. Warriewood crews having won Junior, B crew and Senior Australian boat titles. A composite crew swept by took one of the above boats to Hawaii for the World Surfing Championships in 1983. A timber cradle was made to facilitate the transporting the boat which had been renamed for the World Titles 'Ben Ean' named after the popular 'Lindeman's Moselle Wine' this company sponsored the boat and crew to the World Titles. The crew won the World Senior Boat Championship. When the boat was returned to Australia and to the surf club it was found to be badly damaged. Someone had moved the boat and cradle by driving a FORK LIFT through the boat from one side to the other. Four large holes in the boat hull. These were repaired by paid for by the Insurance company. The boat was never the same after being abused like this.

16 A competition for a surf boat was won by our A crew. Sponsored by the boat was built by For some reason the two Clymer boats were not liked by our crews and were quickly sold. A new boat and oars were ordered from . He delivered a set of oars, the first oars made with fibreglass blades. The crews hated the oars, they fluttered in the water. They were returned to the boat builder. After a lot of argument the boat was cancelled. Our \$1,000.00 boat and oars deposit was never given back by .

17 The third local surf boat builder in the local area was . The boat mould that had was not popular and he changed his mould for a new boat for Warriewood using a boat to make a mould for a new boat for Warriewood. This was being sponsored by a merchant bank 'Security Pacific'. [Sep Pac.] a life Member was working for this bank and had arranged the sponsorship. On the day of the boat christening, the banks directors were late for the arranged time for christening the boat. The naming went ahead champers all round, when the officials of the bank arrived they were told the boat was christened – too late – we lost that sponsor there and then!!!

18 Two timber surf boat were needed for shooting a T.V. advert for 'Rexona.' This was filmed at North Palm Beach. The payment to the club paid for the clubs first 'Foam Sandwich' boat the 'Rexona' It was built by 'South Coast Boats' in Ulladulla. was the club sweep at this time.

19 'Woven Image' a Warriewood material company, sponsored this boat built by of Brookvale.

20 'Pittwater R.S.L' Sponsored a new surf boat for the clubs 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the year 2000. Again built by .

21 and several members kicked in \$500.00 to buy an old boat from Collaroy S.L.S.C. The boat was converted from the older style seats across the boat to having bulkheads as boats are now rigged. The boat was still in use in carnivals in 2015.

22 In the 2002/03 season the surf club had a member who worked at the sewage farm in the Warriewood Valley. He was able to get the 'Sydney Water Board' to sponsor a surf boat christened on the 10/11/2002 the 'Sydney Water,' built by ' ' and was swept by ' '.

23 The club bought a boat and trailer and two sets of oars from D.Y. S.L.S.C. The boat to be resold to the owner of the 'Bondi Surf Shops' this was the third boat he purchased from Warriewood to be cut up and used in his shops. The 'Sep Pac' is still in use for displaying goods in his shop in the 'Toaster' at 'Circular Quay.' A second boat is in the shop at Bondi Beach in Campbell Parade. Sliced at the water line it was fixed to the ceiling and under the awning outside. The third boat was cut up to make an 'entry' in to the dressing room for the 'Bondi Surf' shop in the 'Darling Harbour' shopping complex.

24 The sponsorship did not last long. This boat the was damaged in big seas at Warriewood Boat Carnival in 2016. This boat was built by of Brookvale.

25 in 2014 the boat sweep was recognised for his service to Warriewood Surf Club during seasons 1956/57 to 1963/1964, by having a boat christened with his name on the splashback. This was shortly before he died in 2014. Again a boat.

26 and 27 rejoined Warriewood Surf Club and brought with him his two surf boats, trailers and oars. The boats were used in Surf Carnivals for a few years by Senior, Ladies and Junior crews.

28 After I had written all the above the club had a new boat built by . and I as Life Members were invited to the Christening and launching of the boat. To our pleasure and surprise we were called to the Front of the boat to find on the splashback The and . Even after 66 years in the club and the many honours June and I have received it was very much appreciated. The only disappointment for me was that I was too old and frail to take the boat to sea for the Christening. Rest assured I will sweep it even if only in still water and not the surf.