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Freshwater Community Bank® Branch awards the 2017 Ken Ward Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to Olivia Flower from Northern Beaches Secondary College – Mackellar College on receiving the prestigious Freshwater Student of the Year / Ken Ward Memorial Scholarship.



Named in honour of the late Branch Manager, the tertiary scholarship is awarded to northern beaches students from nine local high schools within the Manly and Warringah local government area. Olivia, who is the fifth student to receive the scholarship, will receive \$5,000 towards her first year of university and then a further \$10,000 towards her second and third years of undergraduate study.

Students are nominated by their school principal and need to meet the following three requirements as part of the scholarship criteria: reside and attend a school within the designated area, likely to achieve academic results greater than 90% in five 2-Unit HSC Board Courses and be actively involved in their community, either within their school, locally, state wide or internationally.

Olivia will be completing a five year double degree in engineering research and development with honours in science at the Australian National University in Canberra. The former dux and school captain impressed the adjudication panel with her commitment to academic studies, leadership and sporting, cultural representation and community and charitable contributions.

Olivia was also awarded the NSW Ministers Award of Excellence in Student Achievement 2016 – one of only 13 students from across NSW to achieve this award. This is the highest award a student in NSW public schools can achieve.

The 2017 students have certainly done well with five other students listed as the NSW Board of Studies All Rounders: Aaron Skilton from NBSC Freshwater Senior Campus; Robert Cantwell from NBSC Manly Selective Campus; Grace Joseph from Stella Maris College and Angus Gilbert from St Augustine's College. Each will receive a scholarship to the value of \$5,000 for their first year of university tertiary study.

Photo caption: 2017 recipient Olivia Flower with the 2014 FCB Tertiary Scholar recipient Liam Yeates and Daniel Ward who presented the award.

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It's over \$2.6 MILLION back into the local area to support local schools, surf clubs, sporting organisations & community groups.

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The 2017 Scholarship recipients are:

Back row:

Aaron Skilton; Robert Cantwell; Ivica Covic; Angus Gilbert

Front row:

Hiranya Patel; Sofie Rejto; Monty Taylor; Olivia Flower; Grace Joseph

Monty Taylor from NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus; Hiranya Patel from NBSC Cromer Campus; Ivica Covic from St Pauls Catholic College and Sofie Rejto

from St Luke’s Grammar School will receive a scholarship to the value of \$1,000. Freshwater **Community Bank®** Branch is very proud of this Tertiary Scholarship program, which has provided support to 43 students since starting it back in 2013.

2014 FCB Tertiary Scholar Violet Warner, who always attends the awards ceremony, with FCB Director of Scholarships Peter Harley.



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Golf Croquet Tournament: players brave heavy rain to compete in the Mayor’s Trophy Handicap Singles

Congratulations to Paul Camphuis and Don Dunkley for achieving first and second place, respectively, in the 2017 Mayor’s Trophy handicap singles competition.

Thirteen players braved atrocious conditions on day one of the annual event in late February with heavy rain and warm and humid conditions. The weather more than dampened the croquet lawns but did not dampen the spirits of the competitors and despite the uncomfortable conditions, players put on performances of a high standard in most games. Day two produced some better weather but the rain returned for the last of the preliminary matches.



Paul Camphuis and Natalia Dunkley came first and second in the Block A and Don Dunkley and Blake Thompson came first and second in Block B of the round robin preliminary matches.

Paul defeated Don in the final play-off match and the weather cleared in time for former Mayor Jean Hay, and her husband David, to congratulate the finalists and present the trophy to the winner, Paul.

The Club thanks everyone who assisted with the smooth running of the tournament: referees, timekeepers, handicapper, personal assistants, most of whom were soaked on the first Saturday while the tournament organiser stayed dry within the Clubhouse.



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South Curl Curl Ocean Swim to be held on Sunday 30 April



South Curl Curl SLSC will once again hold its annual Ocean Swim, one of the club's major fundraisers for the year, on Sunday 30 April at 9am.

Not only is Freshwater **Community Bank**® Branch of Bendigo Bank a major sponsor of the SCC SLSC, with many of our staff and customers involved in the organisation of this swim, but we have another very special connection with this event...

Since the sudden death of our much-loved Bank Manager Ken Ward in 2011, SCC SLSC has asked Ken's family for the past five years to present the winners of both the overall male and female categories with a medal in honour of the late Ken Ward. And the tradition continues in 2017, with the Ken Ward medals yet again being awarded to the winners of this swim.

To register for the swim online, visit:

<http://www.oceanswims.com.au/swims/calendar/eventdetail/120/54/south-curl-curl-nsw-e.html>

Or simply turn up and register on the day. We look forward to seeing you there.

Harbord Frigid Frogs update

Although many of the Frogs hibernate in winter and escape the warmer waters by regular visits to the well, some of our more adventurous members indulge in many activities in the surf and the pool.

Ocean Swims

Palm Beach to Whale Beach Swim and the Cole Classic at Manly

Good to see the following Frogs feature in the top results of these two Ocean Swims:

Pete Thiel, Rob Webb, Elliot Long, Katie Davis, Grant Peters, John de Mestre, Dave Bredeson, Andrew de Vries, Graeme Brewer, Stu Meares and Tim La Forest.

Season Kick-Off

As is the tradition, the 2017 season starts on Sunday, 23 April at South Curl Curl rock-pool. This year the Winter Swimming Titles are set down for 10 September at Southport pool on the Gold Coast. The Frogs are looking forward to the challenge of defending the overall club points score win achieved last season at Charlestown pool at the annual championships and plan on taking a strong team to Queensland.

In Memoriam

In early February the club lost two of its members from the early days.....

Richard "Dick" Higgins passed away at the grand age of 94! Dick last swam for the Frogs in 2010 at the Botany Pool in the Over 85 Individual sprint where he finished 3rd! However, the official results of the carnival show the swimmers name as David Higgins – his son, who still swims for the club and competed in last year's titles at the Charlestown pool!

Keith "Pottsy" Blackett was an active member of the Frogs in the late 1970's and 80'S when the club was based at the Freshwater Pool. He also played first grade rugby for Manly, and was in the top grade for the Sea Eagles in the early 1970's. He spent much of his working life as a policeman stationed at Darlinghurst before returning to the Northern Beaches to work. Pottsy was a regular of the Fat City group at the Harbord Hilton hotel and is fondly remembered for his trick of throwing crackers under the toilet door when they were occupied by Frogs seeking some solitude!

Vale Dick & Pottsy.

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North Curl Curl SLSC - Christening of the “Geoff Dyer” Inflatable Rescue Boat

North Curl Curl Surf Life Saving Club recently received delivery of a new inflatable rescue boat (IRB), funded through the Community Support Sponsorship program, which is hosted by the Freshwater **Community Bank**® Branch of Bendigo Bank.

The bank has been a significant supporter of the club for a number of years, starting with the sponsorship of its annual aquathon race, the 3 Points Challenge and Ocean Swim, held every December.

Freshwater Community bank has also provided much needed funding used for surf rescue and training equipment. This is the second IRB in the past couple of years that the Bank has funded, helping the club to renew its aging fleet of power craft, including motors.



The official christening of the new boat saw long time club member Geoff Dyer honoured, with the IRB bearing his name. Geoff was one of the first IRB crew members at the club, going back to the early 1980's when they were first introduced as a vital part of surf rescue equipment.

In subsequent years, Geoff has been better recognized on the beach helping out as an age manager for the club's U6 Nippers, a role he has undertaken for the past 26 years.

Geoff has finally decided to hang up his clip board and whistle, after kicking off the surf lifesaving lives of many a youngster at the club.

At the IRB Christening were Sandra Kleiner FCB Branch Manager, Stuart Wye NCCSLSC President, Bryn Russell FCB Ambassador, Geoff and his wife Lorraine, and FCB Director Tony Bevan.



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Freshwater Amateur Swim Club is bouncing for #Bounce4Batten



Throughout March, the Murchison family of Freshwater and all families affected by Batten disease invited the local community to have some fun and jump up and down to celebrate National Batten Disease Awareness Day.

Mia Murchison suffers from Batten Disease - a rare neuro-degenerative genetic condition that has caused Mia, a once healthy 3 year old who could sing, jump and swim, to lose all her ability to walk, talk, eat and see by the age of 7. There is still no known cure.

This year, the Batten community are attempting a Guinness World Record for the largest number of people bouncing in an online album, needing more than 50,000 photos of people jumping in the air. With the support of more than 100 members of Freshwater Amateur Swim Club bouncing on 25 March, they are on their way to achieving the record but still need more photos. To show your support, visit: www.bounce4batten.com

Donations from this awareness were directed to the national registered charity Batten Disease Support and Research Association (BDSRA). One day soon, we hope to play a part in finding a cure through supporting research. *Photo curtsy of www.julieadamsphotographer.com*

Warringah Cricket Club defeat Georges River in the Grand Final

Warringah Cricket Club’s Third Grade side triumphantly defeated Georges River in the grand final with the green men starting well, posting steady partnerships including player of the final Jesse Moffat and young star Aidan Bennett who put the green men in front, posting a key 59 run stand late in the day to take the green men to 5/191.



The lads applied some pressure with the ball, bowling 5 overs late in the day and having Georges River on the ropes at 2/6 overnight. The boys returned the following day and completed a clinical win thanks to a solid effort from the bowling group. Bennett and Moffat were once again the stars, claiming 4 wickets each as the lads rolled Georges River for 147 to comfortably take first innings points. Georges River sent the green men back in to bat, in a desperate attempt to salvage a win however after 9 overs the game was called and the green men claimed the premiership.

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Government grant boosts upgrade of Soldiers Avenue of Honour

A determined group of Freshwater organisations including the Harbord RSL Sub Branch; Freshwater Surf Club; the Harbord Literary Institute and the Friends of Freshwater, has been steadily refurbishing the Soldiers Avenue of Honour Living Memorial to its former grandeur.

A century ago, some of these organisations were at the heart of its establishment. In the process, the group is identifying the history of those who served in international conflicts, and their families.

Along the way, the Soldiers Avenue of Honour Stakeholders Group has garnered support from the three tiers of government and even the energy utility Ausgrid, which last year undergrounded all high voltage cabling in the Avenue, in part to protect the 66 heritage listed trees.

For its part, Northern Beaches Council has also provided new footpaths, street signage and permission to install public verging.



Recently the NSW Minister for Veterans Affairs, David Elliott, in person, provided another cash boost with a small grant from the Community War Memorials Fund. This will be put towards the installation of footpath memorial plaques beside heritage-listed trees.

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