



ANNUAL REPORT 2020 - 2021



24/7 VIGILANCE



Marine Rescue Sydney Deputy Unit Commander Sandy Howard surveys the video array on the first shift at the new, high-tech MRNSW State Communications Centre on June 18.
Photo: Brad Whittaker.



Faces of MRNSW ... MR Broken Bay Training Systems Officer Julie Derry and Training Officer Andrew Palma.

Report Design and Layout

Nicole Brown

Photos

Cover: Marine Rescue Sussex Inlet has this year deployed rapid response Rescue Water Craft on its local waters. Eight members took part in a gruelling four-day training course in the winter chill. *Photo:* Brad Whittaker.

Thank you to all the MRNSW personnel who supplied photos.

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ON THE SCENE

Help when you need it most





Our volunteers launched 4,251 rescue missions to return almost 10,000 boaters safely to their families. MR Woolgoolga crew member Aaron McMillan throws a line to boater requiring assistance.
Photo: Mitch Harvey

OUR YEAR



3,210 VOLUNTEERS
GIVING THEIR ALL



4,251 RESCUE
MISSIONS



9,922 BOATERS SAFELY
BACK TO SHORE



77,921 BOATS
LOGGED ON



256,286 RADIO CALLS



6 NEW RESCUE
VESSELS



\$2.3 MILLION RAISED



703 AWARDS & MEDALS



100% COMMITMENT
TO SERVING OUR
COMMUNITY

CHAIR'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2020-2021. While the first year of our second decade has proven to be one of unprecedented challenges, we have met these with typical professionalism and resolve.

Throughout the year, the pandemic was a constant background to all our activities, both on and off the water. Our members quickly adapted to the health protocols that protected them and the community, with previously unfamiliar requirements such as mask wearing, social distancing and sanitising becoming a routine part of training and operations.

As outbreaks occurred, we were faced with restrictions on our training and the conduct of our operations. It is a tribute to our members' professionalism and commitment that despite these encumbrances they continued to provide emergency assistance to boaters in need. It was, however, a particularly difficult year for our dedicated fundraisers, with many of the events used to support our vital activities cancelled or severely affected, and community engagement activities similarly curtailed.

After the unprecedented 'Black Summer' fires of the previous year, in March we were confronted by yet another natural disaster, as the most significant floods in a generation devastated parts of our east coast. Yet again our members rose to the challenge, with vessels from Marine Rescue joining those from NSW SES and other agencies on our flooded waterways, performing rescues, undertaking evacuations and ferrying supplies and personnel. A number of members worked in the Public Information Inquiry Centre, with several staff undertaking shifts in the NSW SES State Operations Centre. Our own membership was not immune from the effects of the floods, with several bases inundated and some damage to property and equipment.

We are now in the second year of our four-year State Government funding supplementation, with further strides having been taken in the modernisation of our fleet and bases. Of particular importance has been a major project to transform our radio, internet & telephony systems, which when completed will bolster our ability to support our mission of saving lives on the water.

I was privileged to join our Minister David Elliott, the NSW Police Commissioner, and Commissioner Tannos at the opening of our newest and forty fifth unit on Lord Howe Island, and the commissioning of our largest rescue vessel Lord Howe 40 'Fearless'. Coupled with new vessels for five other units, new premises for MR Sydney, and a major refurbishment of MR Batemans Bay - and with several other major projects and vessels on the drawing board, our service has never been in a better position to serve the boating community of New South Wales.

In the 2020 Board elections, only the General Board Director position went to a vote, with all incumbent Directors re-elected. This confidence in the current Board is especially gratifying, and I wish to thank all Board members for their hard work and commitment over the past year.

While the pandemic precluded the Board joining together in person, the activities of the Board continued, with members meeting via Zoom to work through a range of important issues. The most significant of these has been the development of our new Strategic Plan 2022-2025, with the Board working closely with the Marine Rescue executive to draft a new and better course for our service.

Underpinned by our values, the plan acknowledges the critical importance



JAMES GLISSAN AM, ESM, QC

Chair of MRNSW Board
General Director

of our volunteer base, placing a strong emphasis on improving our processes, governance and interactions with members to shape a safer environment in, on and around the water for all.

Commissioner Stacey Tannos, our new Deputy Commissioner Alex Barrell, and all our staff have worked tirelessly to provide our members with the vessels, equipment and processes they need to undertake their vital work, and the Board thanks them all.

Marine Rescue is built on the skills, dedication and commitment of our membership, and to them I give special thanks. In a year unlike any other, their professionalism and community spirit have shone through despite the most trying of circumstances. The Board is justifiably proud of their efforts and we thank each and every one of them for their service and their individual contribution in helping achieve our mission of saving lives on the water.

Chair
James Glissan AM, ESM, QC

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

In a year like no other, yet again our membership showed their mettle, responding with energy and enthusiasm to a record number of rescues despite the effects wrought by a global pandemic and significant coastal flooding.

As they have so often before, our members demonstrated the depth of their resilience, training and community spirit in stepping up to help their local communities and support their emergency services colleagues, and I am immensely proud of their ability to have risen to the challenges the past year has set for them.

Boating activity on our waterways fluctuated significantly, ranging from periods of low activity during lockdowns to packed waterways during eased restrictions. A record 4,251 rescues were performed, with 8,973 adults, 949 children and 120 pets returned to safety of which 41% were in response to a life-endangering emergency. While the number of radio calls of 256,286 was only marginally higher than the previous year, there was a gratifying increase of 15% in boaters logging on to 77,921, a third of whom utilised the Marine Rescue app.

Given the significant variations in boaters on the water due to lockdowns and adverse weather, the ability of our membership to respond to sudden surges in demand is particularly pleasing, showing them to be both adaptable and flexible.

Sadly, lives were again lost on our waterways, with 17 deaths recorded, many of which saw our members in active support. Thank you to our crews for their compassionate response in difficult circumstances, and my condolences to the families and friends of those lost.

This year has seen the appointment of new Deputy Commissioner Alex Barrell, who has brought a wealth of experience from his senior roles within NSW Police Force Marine Area Command and NSW Maritime. Alex has wasted no time in further strengthening our systems and processes and bolstering our relationships with our partner agencies and Government.

We are grateful to the New South Wales Government for their ongoing support in helping us achieve better outcomes for the state's boating community, with the additional \$9.4M million in annual funding enabling the modernisation of our fleet and facilities to continue apace. The past twelve months have seen new vessels for our Botany Hacking, Tuross, Evans Head, Port Jackson and Port Kembla units, and the refurbishment of NSW Police vessel 'Fearless' delivering our largest rescue vessel and the first located offshore, at Lord Howe Island.

This year has also seen the move of MR Sydney to purpose-built new headquarters in Belrose, and the roll out of the New Network & Frequentis console, with the State Communications Centre at Belrose becoming an entirely Frequentis systems site with the decommissioning of the outdated Omnitronics Alto system. This significant transformation of Marine Rescue's radio, internet & telephony system, along with upgrades to our incident management and volunteer management systems and the refreshing of our highly successful app, have further enhanced our ability to communicate and save lives on the water - cementing our position as the nation's most innovative and technologically advanced volunteer marine rescue service.

Marine Rescue NSW are grateful to the boating community for their financial contribution through the levy on recreational boating licences, their



STACEY TANNOS ESM

Commissioner
Chief Executive Officer
Chair, State Rescue Board

membership of our units' Radio Clubs, and for the increasing numbers who Log On and Off with us whenever they are out on the water.

We have continued to work closely with our emergency service and maritime partners, particularly the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, NSW Maritime, Surf Lifesaving, NSW State Emergency Service, NSW Ambulance and Resilience NSW. Together, we are stronger, and better able to provide the community with the assistance and advice they need to stay safe on our waterways.

Our Board is committed to the best possible outcomes for the boating community and to realise the potential of our members in best serving the boaters of New South Wales. I thank the Directors for their constructive, collaborative approach and for their steadfast leadership during these difficult times, in particular for their work in supporting the ongoing transformation of our organisation with the development of our new 2022-2025 Strategic Plan.

The Plan rightly places our volunteers as the focus of our transformation, and I thank each and every one of our members for their courage, resilience and dedication in working for the best possible outcomes for the state's boating community. In acknowledging our volunteers, I would also like to thank their families and employers for their ongoing support of our members and their mission. It would be remiss of me not to also thank our staff – their hard work in supporting our members is sincerely appreciated.

This past year our members have shown their ability to rise to and meet the many challenges placed in their way. We can face the coming year with confidence that whatever fresh challenges arise, our people will continue their vital work with professionalism, skill and fortitude.

Commissioner
Stacey Tannos ESM

OPERATIONS



Rapid response ... emergency services, including a vessel from Marine Rescue Botany Port Hacking, were quickly on the scene when this boat smashed on to rocks at Bundeena in May. An elderly man lost his life.
Photo: Brad Whittaker.

SAVING LIVES ON THE WATER

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, skyrocketing rates of boating activity and a severe flood crisis, Marine Rescue NSW volunteers exceeded expectations to achieve their mission to save lives on the water throughout 2020-21.

Ongoing COVID-19 restrictions on operations and community movements and a severe flood crisis, accompanied by unprecedented growth in boating activity, continued to test Marine Rescue NSW volunteers throughout 2020-21. Our members again proved versatile and resilient, adapting to changing risk management protocols, building a stronger skills base and maintaining their commitment to their mission.

The expansion in the organisation's capability and increasing improvements in resourcing and facilities was supported by the second instalment of the State Government's four-year \$37.6 million investment in MRNSW.

The benefits of a committed investment in a program of continuous improvement in technology, infrastructure, training and responsiveness over recent years are clear in the organisation's operational performance across 2020-21.

This program, extending across all sectors of the organisation, was delivered in concert with our volunteers, with the ultimate aim of ensuring we could always deliver when called upon. All-encompassing, the program included the introduction of a new crew call-out system to improve response times; greater fleet flexibility with the delivery of large superboats purpose-built for extended offshore operations in all conditions and smaller agile vessels and Rescue Water Craft for more confined inshore environments; the new Incident Management System; new radio dispatch technology; upgraded marine radio infrastructure; an abiding focus on risk management and safety; reliable communications; enhanced engagement with the boating community through a range of media and initiatives; targeted training to ensure units have the essential capabilities for their conditions and equipment; enhanced volunteer management, support and cultural change; and upgraded facilities.

In 2020-21, our volunteers have delivered on the promise of this ongoing change and enhancement. The introduction of escalating COVID-19 risk management protocols in line with government health requirements saw units operating on an on-call basis and with minimum numbers of personnel, radio bases taken offline to ensure the preservation of a healthy volunteer workforce as a crucial part of business continuity and training migrate to online platforms, impacting not only units' operations but also individual and team morale.

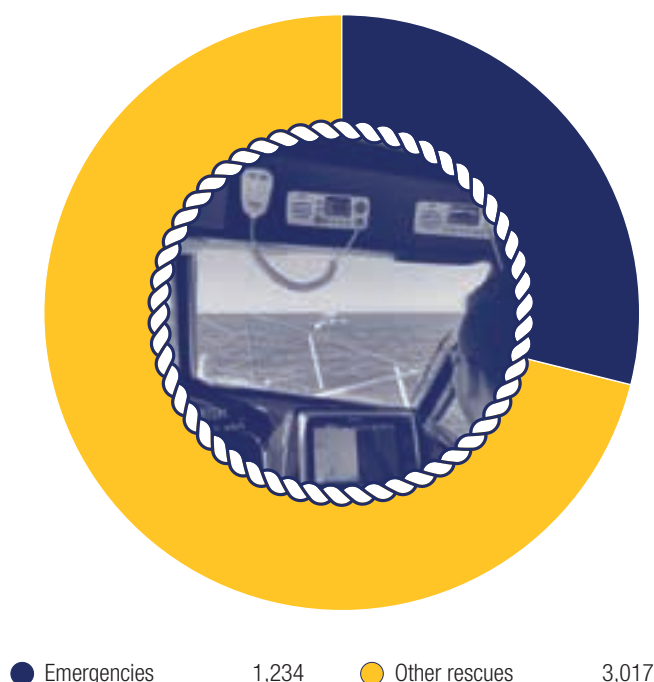
Our people responded above any expectations. Not one call for help was missed during Covid restrictions, response times did not suffer and as new and experienced boaters alike flocked to the water to escape Covid strictures on land, our volunteers met the heaviest demand on their services.

When called upon to respond to a new challenge, we expanded our capability to provide our first coordinated organisational flood support operation, with our volunteers again stepping up to assist their emergency services colleagues and communities in need. This sustained effort could not have been achieved without a concerted effort and the goodwill and commitment of our people.

OPERATIONS 2020-21

Life-endangering emergencies	1,234
Other rescues	3,017
Total Rescues	4,251
Persons On Board - emergencies	2,745
Persons On Board - other rescues	7,177
Total Persons On Board Rescued	9,922
Local Log Ons	45,328
Offshore Log Ons	6,093
<i>MarineRescue App Log Ons</i>	26,500
Total Vessels Logged On	77,921
Persons On Board Logged On vessels	277,049
Radio Transmissions Logged	256,286

RESCUE MISSIONS 2020-21





MR Sydney Commander Matt King demonstrates the State Communications Centre video array to Deputy Commissioner Alex Barrell.
Photo: Brad Whittaker.

OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

The booming popularity of recreational boating in NSW that accompanied the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 showed no signs of abating this year. The increasing uptake of boating licences and registrations has continued to drive accelerating levels of activity on the State's waterways, with a subsequent increase in the number of emergencies and other incidents. NSW Maritime reported there were 682 more general boating licence holders at the start of the 2020-21 summer than at the same time the previous year and an additional 1,282 boats registered. Naturally, the peak of activity was over summer, when foreign and interstate travel restrictions resulted in a bumper season on the water, despite the Northern Beaches Covid lockdown, cancelled and scaled-back public events and unfavourable weather conditions in Sydney.

The most severe floods seen in NSW in decades and the lingering navigational hazards and safety risks on the water reduced boating traffic in affected areas from the Mid North Coast to Sydney in March and early April but boaters were soon taking to the water again with gusto.

This increased tempo contributed to a dramatic increase in rescue activity this year. MRNSW volunteers launched 4,251 rescue missions throughout 2020-21 - a dramatic jump of 67.3 per cent from 2019-20 and 47.5 per cent above the five-year average (3,117). Despite this overall increase, the proportion of deployments in response to life-endangering emergencies remained steady at 29 per cent across the year.

The jump in this year's statistics also is influenced by the superior data collection enabled by the introduction of the new MRNSW Incident Management System in September 2020. Even without a full 12 months of operation, the improved accuracy of the information being recorded in the IMS is providing vital information on which to base operational resourcing decisions for the allocation of people and assets.

Unfortunately, many operations across the year were again in response to

fatalities on the water. Our members were tasked to join extended joint-agency searches for missing individuals, including boaters, rock fishers and swimmers. Transport for NSW reports there were 17 boating related fatalities in NSW in 2020-21. This is eight fewer than last year.

MRNSW crews responded with great professionalism and compassion in traumatic situations, particularly when entrusted with the grim but important responsibility of returning those lost to their families.

Almost 10,000 people, however, were returned safely to shore due to the rapid response, professional training and resourcing and remarkable skill and dedication of our volunteers. These lives saved not only prevented enormous grief for those directly impacted but also substantial opportunity and financial cost to our society, health system and economy.

RECORD SUMMER SEASON

The Covid-driven rush to holiday in NSW, resulting in vigorous summer boating activity and a subsequent surge in rescue demand, led to a five-year seasonal peak in MRNSW operations. In reality, the desire to escape Covid restrictions by getting out on the water, especially among new boaters, saw the traditional summer peak extend from October through to April this year. In an unseasonably high level of rescue activity over seven months, resources and volunteer time and energy were strained by the response to 2,853 incidents.

MRNSW crews launched 1,587 rescue missions from the start of December to the end of February - up 67.6 per cent from 947 last year and 27 per cent higher than the five-year peak over the 2016-17 summer. Twenty-six per cent of these operations - 403 - were in response to life-threatening emergencies, in line with the five-year trend, which hit 28 per cent in 2017-18. These included responses to 34 Maydays, 90 boats that were grounded and 60 that capsized. A total of 3,900 people, including 504 children, along with 38 pets, were returned safely to shore. Tragically,



Coffs 30 searches around the Coffs Harbour southern breakwall after a 20-year-old man was washed into the sea on January 21. Photo: Frank Redward Photo Video.

emergency services, including MRNSW crews, responded to nine fatalities on coastal waterways over summer, including a string of emergencies in which people were washed into the ocean. A 20-year-old man was swept from the southern seawall at Coffs Harbour, a spearfisherman was torn from rocks at South West Rocks and five fishermen were washed from the same rock platform in two separate incidents at Port Kembla. A snorkeller failed to return from the water north of Batemans Bay and a man died when he fell overboard from his yacht on Lake Macquarie. At least another 30 people were thrown into the water in a range of incidents, including a kayaker south of Ulladulla, four men left clinging to eskies off Broughton Island near Port Stephens and boats that overturned crossing bars at Narooma, Evans Head and Nambucca. MR Tuggerah Lakes reported an alarming increase in the number of people in the water, with 12 overboard in six incidents.

This rescue rush was despite a combination of unfavourable weather and renewed pandemic restrictions leading to the biggest weeks on the Sydney summer boating calendar being uncharacteristically subdued. A Coronavirus outbreak on the Northern Beaches saw the major Sydney Harbour events - traditionally supported by MRNSW - scuttled or trimmed and MRNSW crews in the Greater Sydney, Hunter/Central Coast and Illawarra regions resuming restricted operations. The Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race was cancelled for the first time in its history. The New Year's Eve fireworks on Sydney Harbour were scaled back to a single, shorter show at midnight and Australia Day festivities on the harbour also were curtailed. Crews from MR Port Jackson, Middle Harbour, Broken Bay, Cottage Point and Botany Port Hacking maintained a safety watch and maintained exclusion zones on the Harbour on New Year's Eve but reported few boats out and just a handful of incidents.

LOGGING ON

A record 77,921 boaters Logged On with MRNSW radio bases over the year, a four per cent increase over the five year peak of 74,930 in 2018-19.

Our volunteers kept watch over more than quarter of a million individuals throughout their voyages until their safe return, with a total of 277,049 people on board Logged On vessels. Returning to the trend of year-on-year increases in the number of boaters taking advantage of this valuable free service, this result confirms indications that the 2019-20 reduction in boaters Logging On was a one-off anomaly driven largely by environmental factors, predominantly the extended bushfire crisis and floods, rather than poorer boating safety.

The *MarineRescue* App continues to prove a popular tool for the boating community. The proportion of boaters Logging On via the App this year was a record 34 per cent. At 26,500, this represents a 36 per cent leap over the previous high water mark of 19,402 last year. The next generation of the App is due for release in 2021-22.

RADIO OPERATIONS

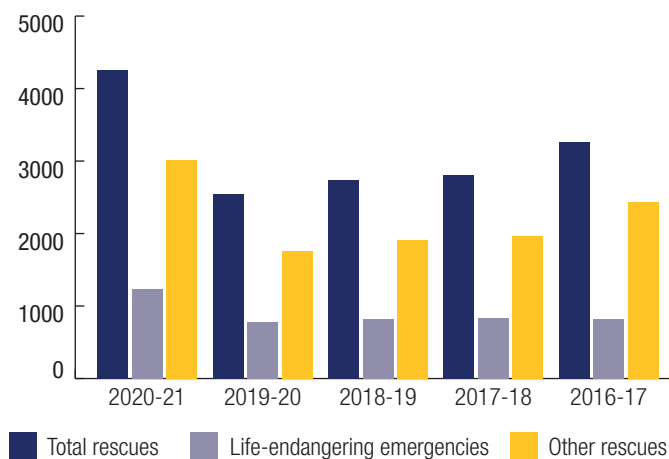
The major investment in marine radio operations in 2020-21 was the development of the \$1.3 million State Communications Centre on Sydney's Northern Beaches. This centralised hub, operated by members of MR Sydney, provides the backbone of overnight radio communications for boaters along the majority of the NSW coastline. The unit also stepped up this year to extend their safety watch on behalf of units taken offline as part of Covid risk management procedures and those impacted by severe flooding.

Major infrastructure improvements were carried out at Coolongolook on the Mid North Coast to eliminate blackspots in reception and new VHF installations established to support operations on Lord Howe Island.

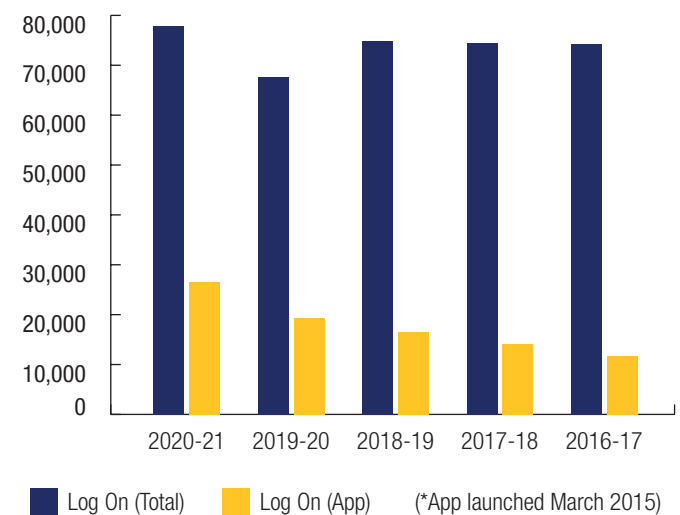
The number of radio transmissions grew by nine per cent this year, with MRNSW radio operators managing 256,286 calls, reflecting the increased activity on the water and the improvements in the number of boaters Logging On. Despite operating in a Covid-safe manner with minimum numbers of personnel to maintain physical distancing, our radio operators continued their duties around the clock to ensure boaters in distress received help fast.

OPERATIONS 2020-21													
	Total	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Life-threatening emergencies	1,234	59	80	60	97	100	109	177	117	107	152	79	97
Other rescues	3,017	109	162	155	296	280	323	633	228	252	292	160	127
Total rescues	4,251	168	242	215	393	380	432	810	345	359	444	239	224
Log Ons – local	45,328	3,639	3,763	3,518	4,107	3,275	3,611	5,521	3,362	2,882	5,402	2,871	3,377
Log Ons – offshore	6,093	390	363	351	445	505	609	691	413	397	841	549	539
Log Ons - <i>MarineRescue</i> App	26,500	1,853	1,945	1,805	2,209	1,752	2,149	3,641	1,959	1,714	3,505	1,633	2,335
Total Log Ons	77,921	5,882	6,071	5,674	6,761	5,532	6,369	9,853	5,734	4,993	9,748	5,053	6,251
Radio calls	256,286	19,247	20,478	19,377	22,216	19,434	21,119	29,794	19,013	18,048	28,829	18,522	20,209

1. RESCUE MISSIONS: FIVE-YEAR TREND



2. VESSELS LOGGING ON: FIVE-YEAR TREND

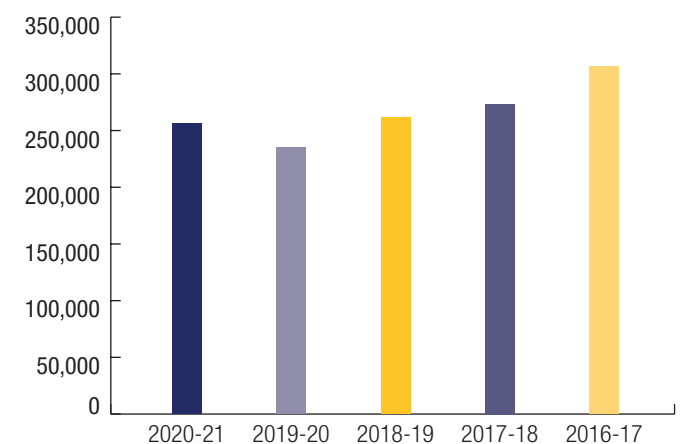


1. A decline in the number of operations over the past three years has been reversed with crews launching a record 4,251 missions in 2020-21. This is a combination of increased boating activity and subsequent rescue demand and improved data from the new MRNSW Incident Management System. *Source: Seahawk.*

2. A record number of vessels Logged On in 2020-21. This return to the upwards trend suggests last year's decrease was an anomaly driven by environmental factors, predominantly the extended bushfire crisis. The rate of boaters Logging On via the *MarineRescue* App has continued to grow, this year reaching a record 34 per cent - up from 28.6 per cent. *Source: Seahawk.*

3. The increase in the number of radio transmissions handled by MRNSW this year reflects the increased traffic on the waterways, as well as improved Incident Management System reporting. *Source: Seahawk.*

3. RADIO TRANSMISSIONS: FIVE-YEAR TREND



SKILL & SERVICE



Marine Rescue Evans Head Coxswain Ian Murray was one of 200 volunteers who took part in three Regional Search and Rescue Exercises in 2021.

Photo: Kate Woods

WHO DID WE RESCUE?

Common risk factors again contributed to boating incidents and demand on our rescue services.

The increased popularity of boating as a Covid-permitted family activity this year saw a dramatic increase in the number of children rescued by MRNSW crews. A total of 949 children were rescued - 9.5 per cent of the 9,922 people returned to shore and an 821 per cent leap from the 103 young people recorded in 2019-20. While this result is influenced by improved data recording as part of the new MRNSW Incident Management System, it is also strongly consistent with anecdotal reports from MRNSW crews noting more family activity on the water. This has also extended to family pets, with 123 animals also rescued - more than two a week. The extreme vulnerability of babies and small children requires heightened safety awareness on board and an accelerated rescue response.

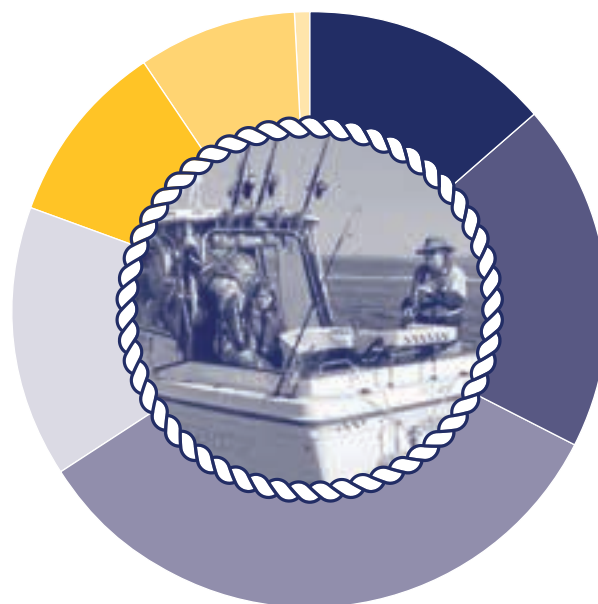
Again, rescue missions launched this year highlighted common risk factors impacting safe boating and demand on our services. More than half the operations (52.2 per cent) were again in response to vessels with one or two people on board. Almost 800 boaters who were out on the water alone needed rescue. Boating alone carries heightened risk, particularly for older boaters who may be in poorer health, making the need for these individuals to ensure they wear a lifejacket and carry the essential safety equipment all the more prescient. Fourteen per cent of operations involved retrieving unoccupied boats and other craft, including many dragged off moorings and jetties during the March floods. MRNSW consistently advises boaters to check the security of their moorings ahead of forecast adverse weather in order to avoid their boats becoming navigation hazards and washing ashore or colliding with nearby vessels.

Again, small boats up to eight metres in length were likeliest to need assistance back to shore, accounting for 56 per cent of all operations, down from 63.7 per cent last year. The most common types of boats helped back to shore were the runabout (1,559), followed by various sailing vessels (456) and motor cruisers (344). Other vessels included 157 jet skis, 40 canoes and kayaks, 22 work boats, 15 houseboats, eight rowboats, two paddleboats and one tug. Small runabouts and tinnies can be unstable and susceptible to capsize, particularly on coastal bars, with a spike over summer in the number of people ending up in the water after boats capsized or rolled.

Across the year, 44.3 per cent of missions were sparked by engine failure, flat batteries or fuel issues (including boaters running out of fuel far offshore), although this peaked at almost two-thirds of the incidents to which our crews responded at the start of the boating season on the October long weekend. Grounded and capsized boats accounted for another 8.6 per cent.

In order to meet COVID-19 requirements, crews operated as required on an on-call basis over various periods this year, deploying from home, rather than on standby at their units' bases. This maintained core services and safeguarded the health and wellbeing of our frontline volunteers and members of the public. The majority of rescue missions again were mounted on weekends (54 per cent), with incidents concentrated during daylight hours from 7am to 7pm, with the highest numbers between noon and 3pm, likely times for a boater wanting to head home from an early morning fishing trip but finding the boat has broken down and they need to be rescued.

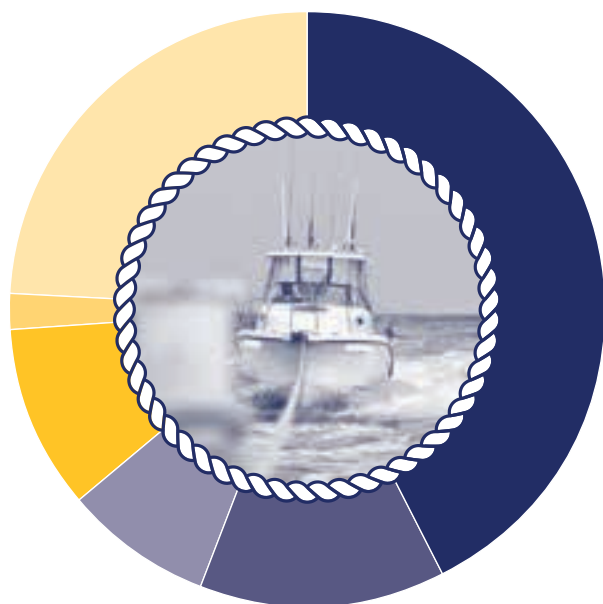
NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON BOARD RESCUED



CAUSE OF INCIDENT

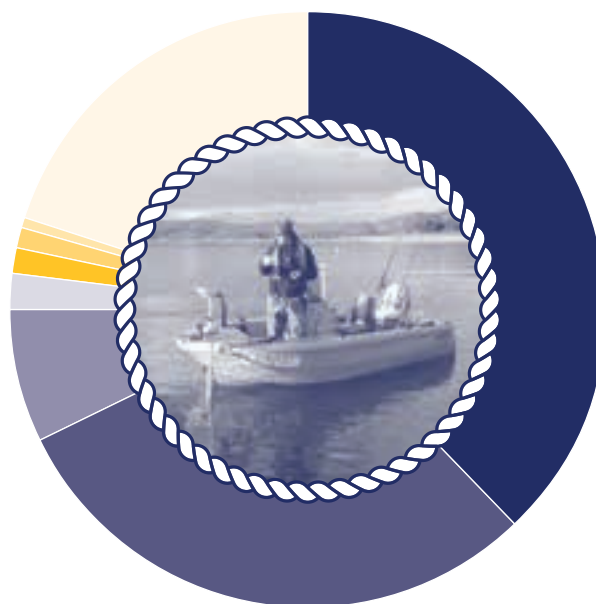
CAUSE OF INCIDENT	
Engine	1,493
Flat Battery	494
Disabled	447
Overdue	357
Fuel	320
Grounded	216
Medical/other emergencies	188
Capsize	150
Missing person	84
Lost propulsion	59
Rescues	49
Flare sighting	20
Other/unspecified	644
Total	4521

SIZE OF BOATS RESCUED



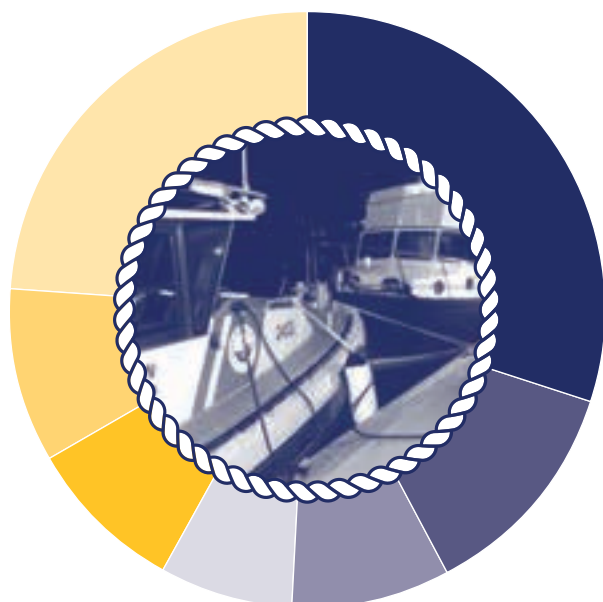
Up to 6 metres	42.6%	10.1-15 metres	10.1%
6.1-8 metres	13.5%	15+ metres	1.9%
8.1-10 metres	7.8%	Unspecified/not known	24.1%

RECORDED ACTIVITY WHEN RESCUED



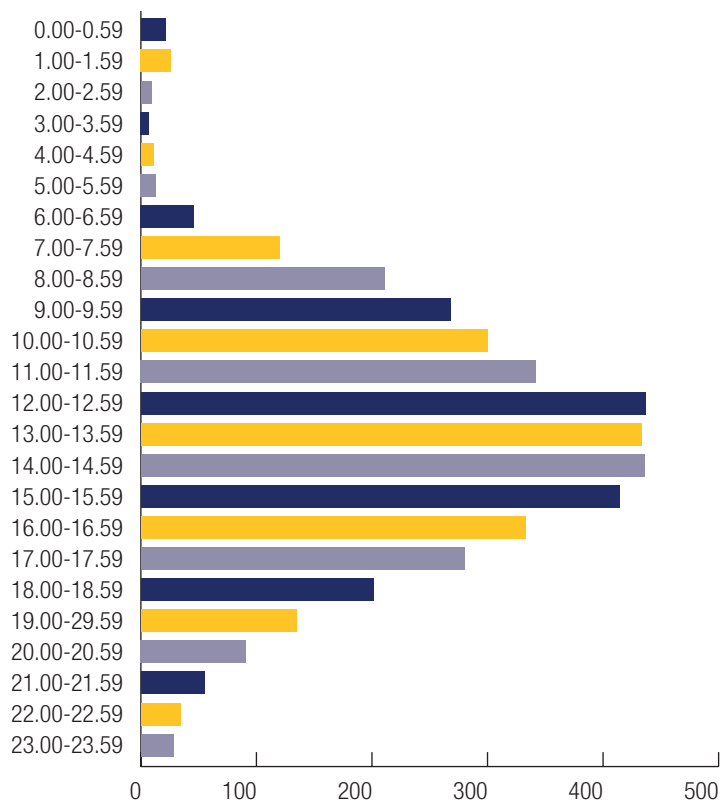
Fishing	38%	Water skiing	1.4%
Cruising	30%	Crossing bar	1%
Sailing	7.1%	Commercial	0.5%
Paddling/kayaking	2%	Other/unspecified	20%

DAYS BOATERS ARE RESCUED



Sunday	1,277	Thursday	362
Monday	520	Friday	404
Tuesday	372	Saturday	1,013
Wednesday	303		

TIMES RESCUE MISSIONS ARE LAUNCHED



FLOOD CRISIS RESPONSE

Marine Rescue NSW volunteers swapped blue water operations for the muddy frontline of the NSW flood crisis in March. Working alongside their emergency services colleagues, they were at the heart of the response to the worst flooding to strike the state in decades.

After their efforts to support firefighting operations during the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfire crisis, Marine Rescue NSW members again demonstrated the service's expanding capability and versatility this year, helping communities from the Mid North Coast to Western Sydney swamped by severe flooding in March. In all, volunteers from 19 units took part in the organisation's first large-scaled coordinated flood support operation to provide on-water, logistical and incident management personnel and resources to the multi-agency response led by the NSW State Emergency Service.

Members stepped into a new environment to support their emergency services colleagues and people in need, navigating down muddy flooded streets, over parks and fields and across swollen, debris-filled waterways along the coastline and hinterland from Port Macquarie to Colo, west of Sydney.

Director of Operations Andrew Cribb was based at the SES State Headquarters to coordinate the MRNSW response, including out-of-area teams who travelled to Western Sydney and further to Taree.

MRNSW assets and trained personnel deployed to evacuate people from floodwaters, isolated houses, caravan parks and in one case, half-way up a tree. They also carried out welfare checks and resupply missions, filled sandbags and transported local government staff to inspect and repair public infrastructure needed to maintain community health and transport.

“Our volunteers' communications expertise is highly prized by combat agencies.”

The flood crisis started on the Mid North Coast, with volunteers from MR Port Macquarie, Camden Haven and Crowdy Harrington joining evacuation operations from March 19. Up to 60 MR Port Macquarie volunteers worked around the clock for six days straight, performing 32 rescues and relocating 100 people in wet, cold and windy conditions between March 19 and 25. The members also patrolled the Hastings River, saving yachts in trouble on their moorings, securing a seaplane dislodged from its berth, relocating vessels to deeper water and transporting council engineers to repair the snapped cable on the Settlement Point ferry. A crew from MR Crowdy Harrington evacuated two elderly women, aged 83 and 94, from their isolated farms to their families.

An out-of-area team from MR Ulladulla, Tuggerah Lakes and Broken Bay travelled north to join the response on the flooded Manning River in Taree. With three small boats, the team evacuated residents including a pregnant woman and veteran Australian Olympic swimmer Lorraine Crapp, carried out



Members of MR Broken Bay provided out-of-area support for flood operations at Taree. Photo: Jimmy Arteaga.

welfare checks and supported council staff over four days.

By March 22, as flooding hit the capital city, a regional taskforce of more than 30 volunteers, seven vessels and a fuel trailer from MR Norah Head, Central Coast, Port Kembla, Shoalhaven, Sussex Inlet, Tuross, Merimbula, Batemans Bay and Alpine Lakes joined MR Botany Port Hacking in a deployment to Western Sydney. The Hawkesbury, Cottage Point and Broken Bay units were already on standby.

Along with other MRNSW vessels, *Alpine Lakes 21* was taking part in a multi-agency operation in difficult conditions to support the SES in evacuating residents from Colo when the boat appeared to have been caught on a low-hanging cable over the turbulent and fast-rising Colo River and capsized. Two MRNSW volunteers, an SES volunteer and four members of the public were on board at the time. All escaped and were returned to waiting NSW Ambulance paramedics at the operation's staging point at Sackville. Commissioner Stacey Tannos said he was deeply grateful everyone on board was quickly accounted for and appeared to have suffered only minor abrasions, bruising and shock.

MRNSW units were not spared the floods' ferocity, with unit facilities at MR Port Macquarie, Nambucca, Camden Haven and Tuggerah Lakes inundated. A metre and a half of water swept through the riverside Camden Haven base, ruining wall linings, amenities and equipment, including a launch winch for vessel *Camden Haven 30*, lifejackets, wharf and slip rails.

Flood debris washing down waterways and out to sea created a hazard for boaters weeks after the floodwaters had receded. Marine Rescue NSW issued warnings in the wake of the floods, advising boaters to keep a careful watch for dangerous submerged and floating debris, including garden sheds, 44 gallon drums, fridges, furniture and other household items. Chemicals, deceased livestock and wildlife and other pollutants washed into the water meant boaters also needed to exercise extra caution to avoid the risk of falling or being thrown overboard. The risks were exacerbated by lost or displaced navigation aids and channel markers, as well as floodwaters surging down rivers and across coastal bars.

HELP FLOODS IN



The crew of *Tuross 20* navigates past the top of a road sign on flooded roads in Western Sydney. Nineteen units took part in flood support operations in March.
Photo: Brad Whittaker.

Accredited Marine Rescue Units

Search & Rescue Coordination Centres (with vessels)

Point Danger <i>PD 30</i> , 11.5m Naiad <i>PD 20</i> , 7.5m Naiad	Ballina <i>BA 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>BA 20</i> , 6.25m Cobia	Iluka Yamba <i>IY 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>IY 20</i> , 5.5m Naiad	Coffs Harbour <i>CO 30</i> , 9.5m Naiad	Port Macquarie <i>PM 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>PM 20</i> , 6.25m Cobia <i>PM 10 & PM 11</i> , RWC
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Forster-Tuncurry <i>FO 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>FO 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad	Port Stephens <i>PS 31</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>PS 30</i> , 8.5m Gemini	Lake Macquarie <i>LM 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>LM 20</i> , 7.8m Sailfish <i>LM 13</i> , RWC	Botany Port Hacking <i>BH 30</i> , 12m Naiad <i>BH 31</i> , 8.5m Kevlacat	Port Kembla <i>PK 30</i> , 8.5m Kevlacat <i>PK 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad
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Shoalhaven <i>SA 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>SA 20</i> , 7.5m Ocean Cylinder	Ulladulla <i>UL 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>UL 20</i> , 7.5m Ocean Cylinder <i>UL 10</i> , 4.2m Milpro	Batemans Bay <i>BM 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>BM 20</i> , 7.5m Ocean Cylinder <i>BM 21</i> , 6.2m Cobia	Narooma <i>NA 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>NA 20</i> , 6.3m Naiad
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Search & Rescue Coordination Centres (radio only)

Sydney	Eden
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Marine Rescue Radio Bases (with vessels)

Brunswick <i>BR 30</i> , 9.5m Naiad	Evans Head <i>EH 31</i> , 10m Naiad	Wooli <i>WI 30</i> , 9.5m Naiad	Woolgoolga <i>WO 30</i> , 10.85m Ellis Jet	Trial Bay <i>TB 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>TB 11 & TB 12</i> , RWC
Lord Howe Island <i>LH 40</i> , 16m Austal	Camden Haven <i>CH 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>CH 10</i> , 4.2m Milpro	Crowdy Harrington <i>CB 30</i> , 9.5m Naiad <i>CB 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad	Central Coast <i>CC 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>CC 21</i> , 7.5m Naiad <i>CC 22</i> , 6.8m Ocean Cylinder <i>CC 11</i> , RWC	Lemon Tree Passage <i>LT 30</i> , 8.5m Naiad
Newcastle <i>NC 30</i> , 10m Naiad	Norah Head <i>NR 20</i> , 6.8m Ocean Cylinder	Tuggerah Lakes <i>TL 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad <i>TL 21</i> , 6.25m Cobia	Hawkesbury <i>HW 21</i> , 8m Broadbill Cat <i>HW 22</i> , 7.5m Ocean Cylinder	Jervis Bay <i>JB 41</i> , 13.5m Harwood <i>JB 20</i> , 7.5m Ocean Cylinder
Kioloa <i>KL 20</i> , 6.2m Cobia	Sussex Inlet <i>SI 20</i> , 7.5m Ocean Cylinder <i>SI 11 & SI 12</i> , RWC	Bermagui <i>BG 30</i> , 11.5m Steber	Merimbula <i>MB 30</i> , 9.6m Naiad	

Marine Rescue Units (vessel only)

Nambucca <i>NH 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad <i>NH 11 & X 10</i> , RWC	Broken Bay <i>BB 30</i> , 10m Naiad <i>BB 20</i> , 6.5m Gemini	Cottage Point <i>CP 30</i> , 11.5m Sailfish <i>CP 31</i> , 9m Sailfish	Middle Harbour <i>MH 30</i> , 11.5m Steber <i>MH 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad	Port Jackson <i>PJ 31</i> , 10.5m Kevlacat <i>PJ 20</i> , 7.5m Naiad
Shellharbour <i>SH 30</i> , 10m Naiad	Tuross <i>TU 20</i> , 6.8m Naiad <i>TU 12</i> , 4.8m Cobia <i>TU 13</i> , RWC	Alpine Lakes <i>AL 21</i> , 6.8m Ocean Cylinder <i>AL 20</i> , 7m Sailfish	Moama <i>MO 20</i> , 6.8m Ocean Cylinder <i>MO 10</i> , 4.6m Ocean Cylinder	

Marine Rescue Radio Base (radio only)

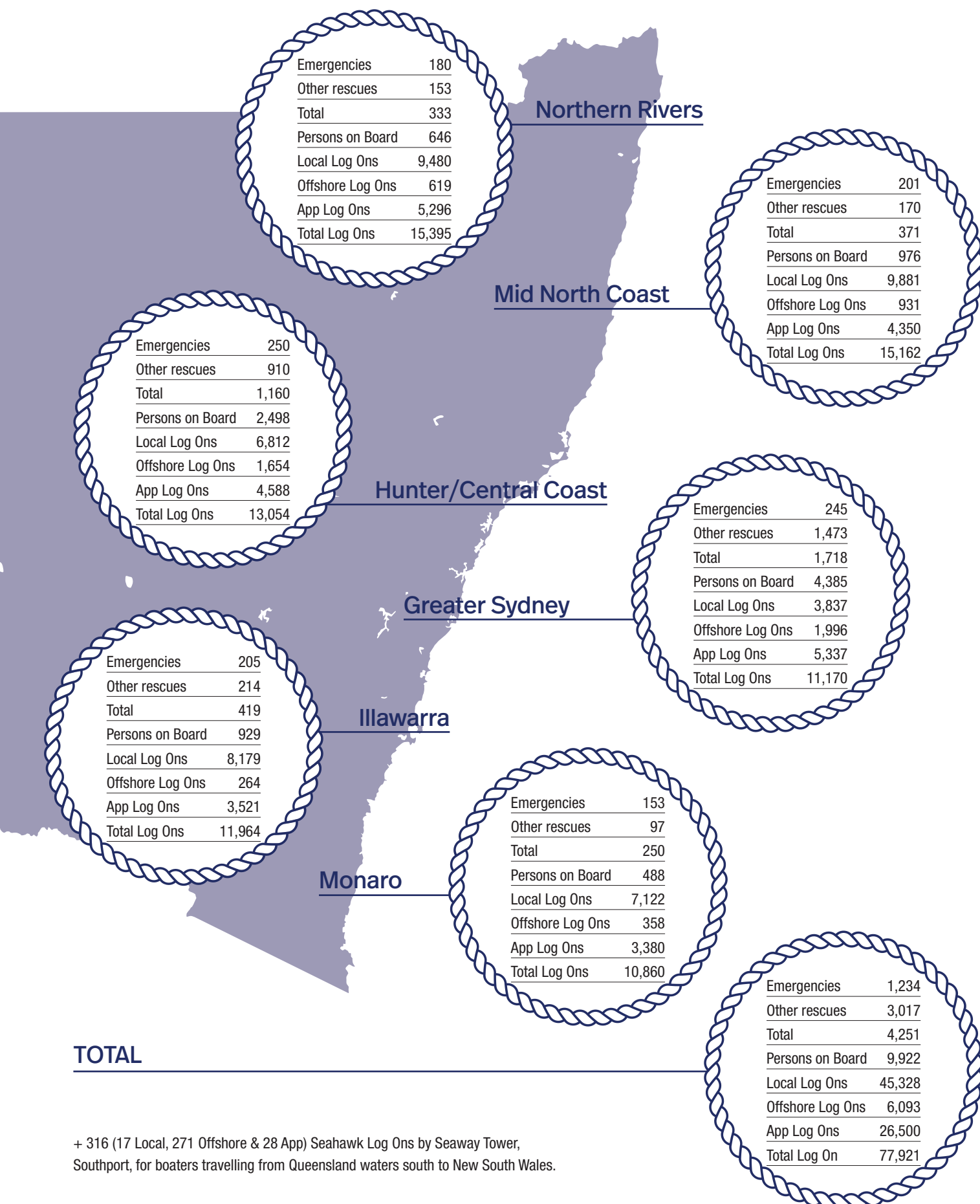
Cape Byron

**OUR PEOPLE
OUR REGIONS
SERVING OUR
COMMUNITY**

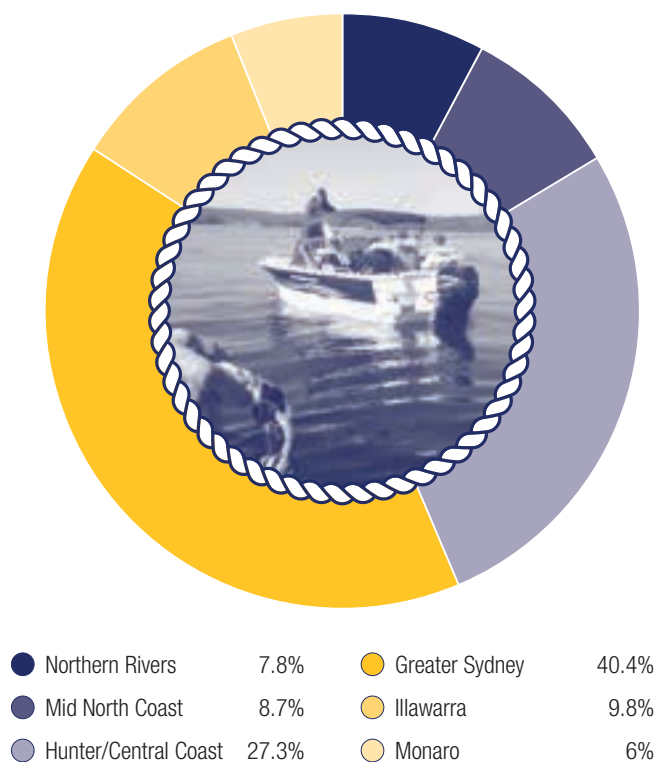


Marine Rescue Sussex Inlet Rescue Water Craft Operator Jessie Sapsed joined the unit with her dad Paul after the pair was rescued on St Georges Basin. Photo: Brad Whittaker.

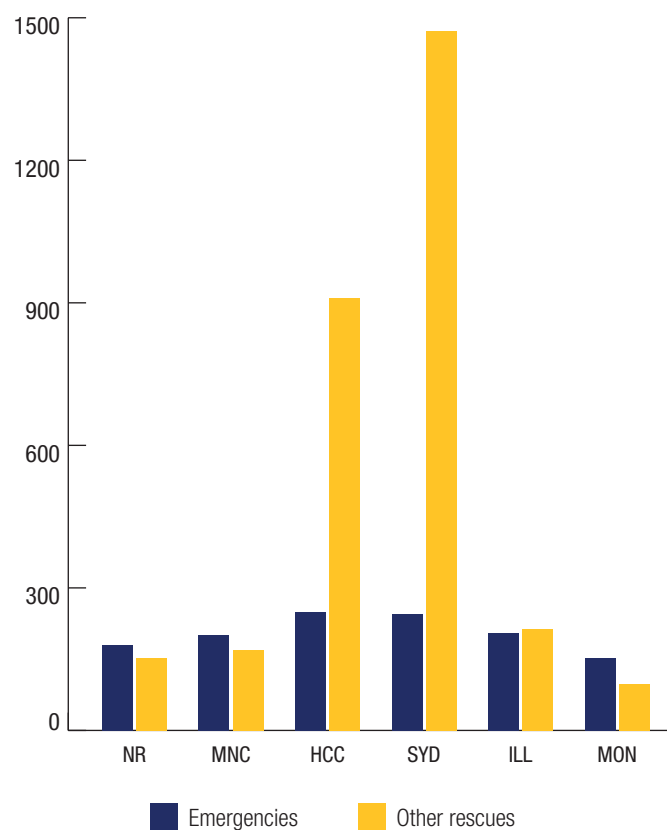
REGIONS



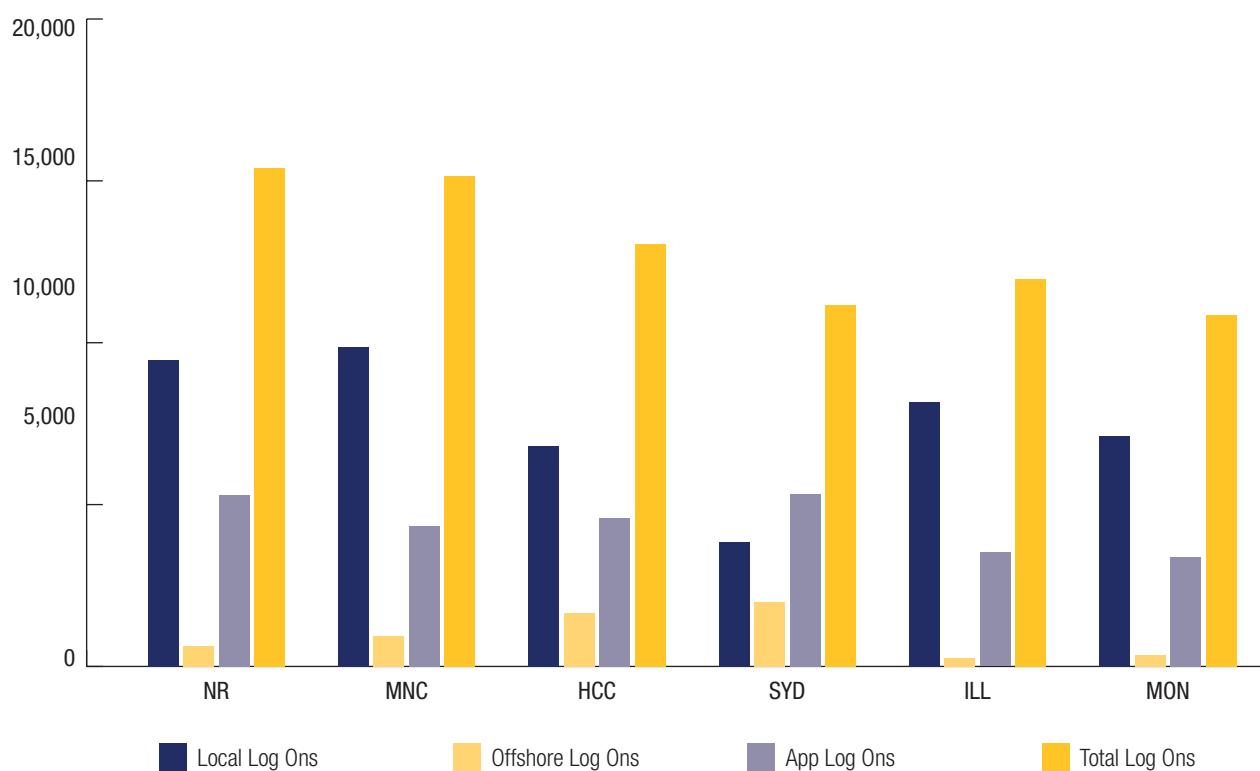
REGIONAL RESCUE WORKLOAD 2020-21



OPERATIONS IN EACH REGION



LOG ONS BY REGION



NORTHERN RIVERS

UNITS: Point Danger, Brunswick, Cape Byron, Ballina, Evans Head, Iluka Yamba and Woolli.

MISSIONS: 333 rescues, including 180 emergency responses and 153 other rescues. This represented eight per cent of all rescues for the year.

NEW & UPGRADED ASSETS:

- 10m Naiad, *Evans Head 31*, delivered in June, at a cost of \$556,000.
- Seabin pollution trap installed alongside MR Ballina waterfront facility.
- MR Point Danger relocates radio base to make way for repairs and upgrading of Captain Cook Memorial Lighthouse.
- New MR Woolli vehicle and generator to refuel rescue vessel *Woolli 30*.

ON THE WATER:

Members of two Northern Rivers units were awarded Commissioner's Citations for their skill and commitment in challenging rescue operations. Six members of MR Ballina were recognised for a mission to rescue a couple whose 45 foot cruiser hit an object and rapidly began sinking 6nm south of Ballina in the dark. Five members of MR Woolli received citations for saving a 43 foot ketch from crashing on to rocks on North West Solitary Island.

MR Ballina also responded when a yacht capsized just north of the Ballina bar in April, throwing a 90-year-old man and a teenager on board into the water. Respected sailor Peter Warner, who won three Sydney to Hobarts in the 1960s, lost his life.

In mid-June, a crew from MR Iluka Yamba headed offshore on a challenging overnight rescue mission when a catamaran was dismasted 12nm north-east of Yamba. The catamaran's skipper subsequently fell into the water as she was securing a towline and was pulled from the water by the *Iluka Yamba 30* team.

Crews from MR Evans Head spent two days in late November searching for a swimmer feared missing after reports a woman had been seen entering the water but not returning to land. A multi-agency search failed to find any trace of anyone.

The Northern Rivers Regional Search and Rescue Exercise was staged at Yamba in June.



RESCUES BY UNIT	
Point Danger	115
Brunswick	29
Cape Byron	10
Ballina	53
Evans Head	24
Iluka Yamba	74
Woolli	28
Total	333



MID NORTH COAST

UNITS: Woolgoolga, Coffs Harbour, Nambucca, Trial Bay, Port Macquarie, Camden Haven, Crowdy Harrington, Forster-Tuncurry and Lord Howe Island.

MISSIONS: 371 rescues, including 201 emergency responses and 170 other rescues. This represented nine per cent of all rescues for the year.

NEW & UPGRADED ASSETS:

- MR Lord Howe Island opened and *Lord Howe 40 (Fearless)* commissioned.
- New mobile barbecue van for MR Forster-Tuncurry.
- Major marine radio infrastructure works completed at Coolongolook to eliminate black spots in radio reception.

ON THE WATER:

Two fishermen were rescued after spending more than an hour clinging to each other 8nm off Nambucca after their boat sank during a fishing trip on August 5. MR Trial Bay located the men, returning them safely to shore (*right*).

On August 27, two off-duty members of MR Camden Haven pulled a man from the water after his 3.8m tinnie capsized on the Camden Haven Inlet bar.

Two days later, a man died when he was washed off rocks while fishing at Little Beach at Red Rock, 45km north of Coffs Harbour. Crews from MR Coffs Harbour and Wooli joined the search for the Malaysian man, in his 20s.

Emergency services were called to the Coffs Harbour breakwall about 6pm on January 21 in response to reports a man had disappeared while walking along the pathway. Crews from MR Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga joined the large-scale search for the 20-year-old, whose body was located by family members two days later.

Volunteers devoted three days to a search for a 53-year-old man who was washed off rocks while spearfishing with his son at Laggies Point at South West Rocks on February 4. *Trial Bay 30*, two Rescue Water Craft and *Port Macquarie 30* searched for three days before the operation was suspended.

Crews from MR Port Macquarie, Camden Haven and Crowdy Harrington joined local flood operations, evacuating isolated residents to safety.

The Mid North Coast and Hunter/Central Coast Regional SAREX was held in Forster in June.



RESCUES BY UNIT

Woolgoolga	6
Coffs Harbour	68
Nambucca	2
Trial Bay	55
Port Macquarie	100
Lord Howe Island	0
Camden Haven	19
Crowdy Harrington	28
Forster-Tuncurry	93
Total	371

HUNTER/CENTRAL COAST

UNITS: Port Stephens, Lemon Tree Passage, Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Norah Head, Tuggerah Lakes and Central Coast.

MISSIONS: 1,160, including 250 emergency responses and 910 other rescues. This represented 27.3 per cent of all rescues.

NEW & UPGRADED ASSETS:

- A riverfront site identified and \$2 million in State Government COVID-19 stimulus funding announced for a new base for MR Newcastle.
- \$30,250 Port Waratah Coal Services grant for a dry berth for *Newcastle 30*.
- \$1.8 million MR Lake Macquarie base officially opened.
- *Tuggerah Lakes 20*, \$355,000 8.5m Naiad commissioned.

ON THE WATER:

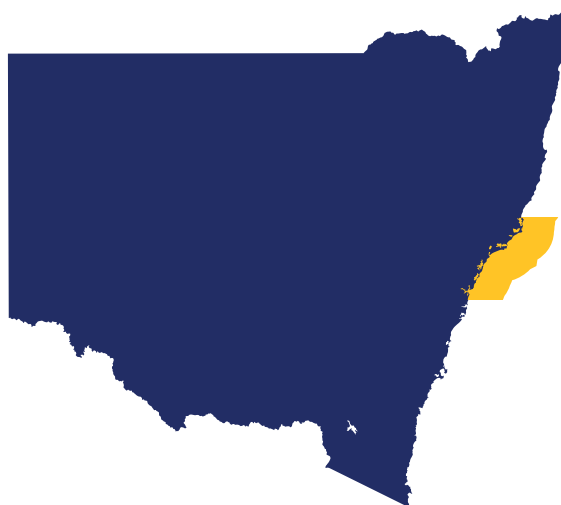
MR Port Stephens responded to a series of Mayday calls from boaters in trouble around Broughton Island this year. Crews were quickly under way to the island on July 4 and 8, before two weeks later a working boat with four divers on board capsized on the way to the island in the dark. On January 18, a working boat sank near the island leaving the four divers on board clinging to eskies. *Port Stephens 31* returned the men to shore. Another boat made a Mayday call in April when it was dangerously close to rocks at the island.

MR Tuggerah Lakes recorded an alarming increase in the number of people thrown into the water - 12 people in six incidents between December 6 and February 7. Four people suffering hypothermia (*right*) were rescued after they ran into trouble on a paddle boat and two kayaks on September 26.

An MR Central Coast crew headed offshore in the pre-dawn chill when an ailing solo sailor on a 26 foot yacht was becalmed in rough conditions 5nm east of Norah Head on May 16. When the boat was not at its reported position, the sailor activated his EPIRB, guiding the rescue vessel to his location. The boat was towed to shore by a NSW Police vessel.

MR Lake Macquarie and Newcastle crews performed two medivacs for an ill sailor and a crew member on board a large cargo ship in April.

MR Tuggerah Lakes deployed to support flood operations at Taree and Central Coast and Norah Head to Western Sydney.



RESCUES BY UNIT

Port Stephens	265
Lemon Tree Passage	44
Newcastle	55
Lake Macquarie	545
Norah Head	7
Tuggerah Lakes	54
Central Coast	190
Total	1,160

GREATER SYDNEY

UNITS: Hawkesbury, Cottage Point, Broken Bay, Sydney, Middle Harbour, Port Jackson and Botany Port Hacking.

MISSIONS: 1,671, including 245 emergency responses and 1,473 other rescues. This represented 39.3 per cent of all rescues.

NEW & UPGRADED ASSETS:

- Plans for new \$1.4 million base for MR Middle Harbour announced.
- \$1.3 million State Communications Centre begins operations.
- \$822,000 12m Naiad delivered to MR Botany Port Hacking.
- \$573,000 10.5m Naiad delivered to MR Port Jackson.
- \$500,000 10m Naiad rescue vessel *Broken Bay 30* commissioned (*right*).
- \$25,470 SOLAS Trusts grant to MR Middle Harbour for new outboards.
- \$10,000 IMB Community Foundations grant for MR Middle Harbour FLIR.

ON THE WATER:

MR Hawkesbury joined the response to a large structure fire at Bar Point on the river on October 6 and was on scene after a 28 foot Bertram exploded at Brooklyn, injuring up to eight people, on Easter Sunday. The unit's crews were on the water across three days in early May as part of a search for a 52-year-old man missing after his ocean ski was found on Lion Island. MR Cottage Point joined the search before the man was located safely on land.

Despite Covid restrictions impacting the major Sydney Harbour events, crews from MR Port Jackson, Middle Harbour, Broken Bay, Cottage Point and Botany Port Hacking provided a safety watch and maintained exclusion zones for the scaled-back fireworks on New Year's Eve.

MR Botany Port Hacking was quickly under way when an 8m motor cruiser ran on to rocks at Bundeena on May 31. An elderly man was found unresponsive on board and despite being winched to a nearby oval for treatment, could not be revived.

MR Terrey Hills was officially renamed MR Sydney, in keeping with its marine radio callsign. Throughout the year the unit's radio operators took over communication for units temporarily stood down as part of the organisation's Covid protocols, ensuring that no matter where they were, boaters calling for help could be assured that someone was listening and would respond.



RESCUES BY UNIT

Hawkesbury	139
Broken Bay	120
Cottage Point	148
Sydney	455
Middle Harbour	198
Port Jackson	241
Botany Port Hacking	370
Total	1,671

ILLAWARRA

UNITS: Port Kembla, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Jervis Bay, Sussex Inlet, Ulladulla and Kioloa.

MISSIONS: 419, including 205 emergency responses and 214 other rescues. This represented 10 per cent of all rescues.

NEW & UPGRADED ASSETS:

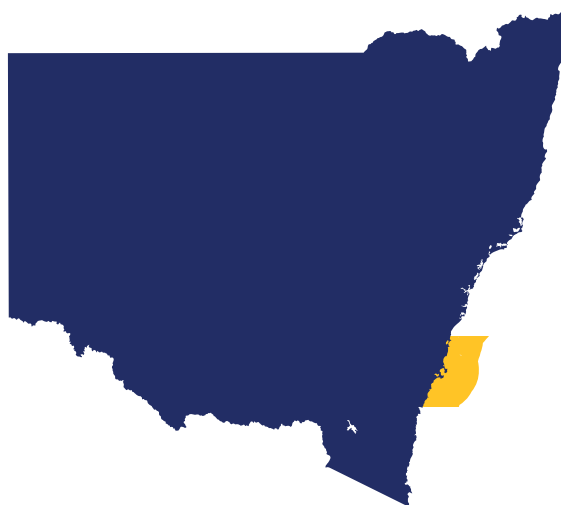
- \$870,000 13.5m *Jervis Bay 41* delivered.
- *Sussex Inlet 20* commissioned and two Rescue Water Craft redeployed from MR Narooma to MR Sussex Inlet.
- Former MR Merimbula vessel redeployed to MR Port Kembla.
- IMB Community Foundations grant for \$20,000 for new outboards for *Jervis Bay 20*.

ON THE WATER:

MR Ulladulla crews were rapidly under way when a kayaker's craft overturned offshore south of Ulladulla and he was being swept out to sea in very rough conditions on January 13. He was located by a rescue helicopter. A lone sailor called for help from his yacht (*right*), which was taking on water off Brush Island on January 29. *Ulladulla 30* responded in testing conditions to locate the stricken vessel and return the skipper to safety.

A major emergency response was mounted about 10pm on January 22 after several people were washed off a rock platform below the Hill 60 radio base at Port Kembla. The bodies of three men were recovered a short time later. Two others made it back to shore with minor injuries. With witnesses unsure how many people had been on the rocks, a search was launched at daylight the next day with crews from MR Port Kembla and Shellharbour (*below right*) searching up to 4nm out to sea. Another two men died on February 12 when they were swept off the same rocks.

An East Coast Low dumped 400mm of rain across the Shoalhaven over four days in August, resulting in some of the worst local flooding in 30 years. Crews from MR Shellharbour and Port Kembla earned praise for retrieving a 9m catamaran washed out of the Shoalhaven River and 40-50km north in "extraordinarily difficult conditions". Port Kembla, Shoalhaven, Sussex Inlet volunteers provided out-of-area support to Sydney flood operations.



RESCUES BY UNIT

Port Kembla	121
Shellharbour	15
Shoalhaven	85
Jervis Bay	89
Sussex Inlet	57
Ulladulla	51
Kioloa	1
Total	419

MONARO

UNITS: Batemans Bay, Tuross, Narooma, Bermagui, Merimbula, Eden, Alpine Lakes and Moama.

MISSIONS: 250, including 153 emergency responses and 97 other rescues. This represented six per cent of all rescues.

NEW & UPGRADED ASSETS:

- Major extensions to MR Batemans Bay completed at a cost of \$520,000, to provide a training facility, lift and space for the unit's RHIB. \$200,000 State Government Infrastructure Grant to the unit for this project.
- New roof and solar panels for the MR Narooma base.
- *Tuross 21*, a 7.5m Naiad, delivered at cost of \$334,000 (*below right*).
- Former MR Port Kembla vessel redeployed to MR Narooma

ON THE WATER:

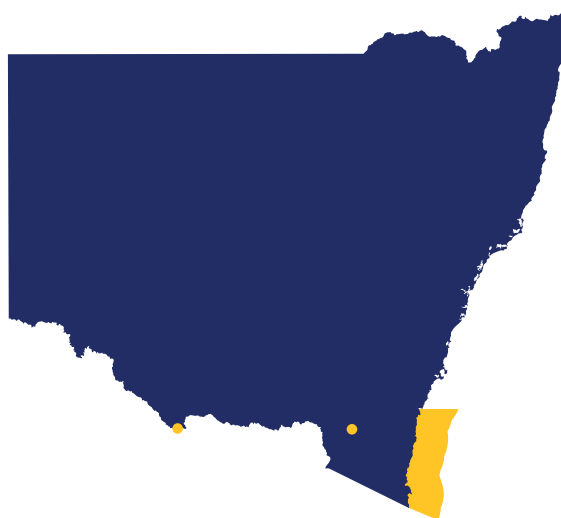
Crews from MR Batemans Bay searched over two days for a snorkeller who entered the water at Richmond Beach in the Murrumbidgee National Park on January 25 and was not seen again. The search was eventually suspended in poor conditions.

The summer ended with two Mayday calls to MR Eden from boaters in trouble up to 30nm offshore. On February 26, three men on board a 5m boat made the call when a wave punched through the windows of their boat and it was taking on water. This was followed two days later by a boater with a blown engine and smoke in the wheelhouse. Eden Water Police brought both vessels back to shore.

Crews from MR Merimbula, Tuross, Alpine Lakes and Batemans Bay joined the regional taskforce that deployed to Western Sydney to support flood operations in March.

Rescue vessel *Tuross 20* was taken off the water for urgent repairs after vandals threw a rock through the windscreen in August. Members were touched by the heartwarming gesture of two Canberra boys who raided their piggy banks to donate \$10 to help the unit fix their boat.

Volunteers from eight units assembled in Bermagui for the Monaro Regional SAREX in May (*below right*).



RESCUES BY UNIT

Batemans Bay	126
Tuross	8
Narooma	27
Bermagui	29
Merimbula	23
Eden	30
Alpine Lakes	4
Moama	3
Total	250

PEOPLE & RESOURCES



Jervis Bay 41 makes its Covid-safe debut on the sparkling waters of Jervis Bay. The 13.5m \$850,000 vessel was built by Harwood Marine on the NSW North Coast.
Photo: Brad Whittaker.

YEAR OF THE SUPERBOAT



Superboat ... *Botany Hacking 30* off Sydney's southern coastline. The \$822,000 12m Naiaid is one of six new vessels delivered this year.

The world-class Marine Rescue NSW fleet was this year reinforced with larger, stronger vessels providing greater operational capability and volunteer safety and endurance.

This was the year of the superboat, with a series of muscular new vessels developed and delivered under the accelerated Fleet Modernisation Program. This renewal program has now provided our volunteers with almost 110 new and refurbished vessels, at a total cost of more than \$27 million.

Six new vessels were added to the fleet in 2020-21, taking the total number of boats delivered to units to 107. These six were among 38 vessels to be funded under an accelerated fleet renewal package worth almost \$15 million over four years as part of a State Government investment of \$37.6 million in MRNSW from July 1, 2019.

This year's build program focused on the development of two new designs in the MRNSW fleet - the first 12m Naiaid to join the fleet and a new 13.5m monohull. These superboats, *Botany Hacking 30* and *Jervis Bay 41*, are distinguished by their solidity, stability and crew safety for extended offshore operations from two of the State's busiest waterways.

They join the first superboat in the fleet, the 16m ocean-going *Lord Howe 40*, a former NSW Police Force vessel, which this year began operations at its new island home.

BH 30 is a new model in the MRNSW fleet, specifically developed to provide more power, faster acceleration, greater range and a smoother

passage through the ocean chop and swell, along with more cabin and deck space. Four other Naiads of various sizes also joined the fleet this year, purpose-designed to meet local conditions on waterways from Sydney Harbour to the north and south coasts. The Evans Head and Port Jackson vessels replaced two ageing catamarans, providing crews with the challenge of adapting to operating on larger, single hulled vessels.

The first MRNSW vessel built by Harwood Marine, *JB 41* replaces the *Steber 40*, *Jervis Bay 40*, which spent a decade as an Australian Federal

NEW VESSELS 2020-21

	\$
<i>Broken Bay 30</i> , 10m Naiaid	550,000
<i>Botany Hacking 30</i> , 12m Naiaid	822,000
<i>Port Jackson 31</i> , 10.5m Naiaid	573,000
<i>Turross 21</i> , 7.5m Naiaid	334,000
<i>Evans 31</i> , 10m Naiaid	556,000
<i>Jervis Bay 41</i> , 13.5m Harwood	780,000
Total	3,615,000



Marine Rescue Brunswick members Gabe Wuyts and Ben Fitzgibbon, with Courtney Greenslade, from MR Point Danger, in the new RWC lifejackets.

New high-impact protection for Rescue Water Craft team

As part of its commitment to volunteer safety and innovation, MRNSW this year introduced new Personal Protective Equipment for Rescue Water Craft operators.

Marine Rescue Brunswick was the first in the State to receive a new style of lifejacket designed for comfort and high-impact protection.

The new lifejacket's advanced features won the approval of the trainee RWC operators at the unit, which is the first in the Northern Rivers Region to deploy the new PPE.

Fleet Manager Kelvin Parkin said the Forward WIP Impact jackets featured zipped accessory pockets for items such as personal locator beacons, sun protection, water and identification.

They also have a specific shoulder pocket for a radio, along with easy to adjust straps and removable bibs printed with the MRNSW roundel.

Mr Parkin said they were a more comfortable, less restrictive fit for all operators.

MR Brunswick Unit Commander Jonathan Wilcock said his members were delighted with the fit and usability of the new lifejackets, which were a welcome addition to the unit's equipment.

The new lifejackets are being rolled out across the State on a new for old replacement basis, with members in other parts of the State progressively receiving them as their existing equipment reaches the end of its operational lifespan and needs to be replaced.

The jackets are marketed as the preferred choice of the world's top sailing teams. Fitting close to the body, the jacket's neoprene grip strips, on the inside, grip the operator's wetsuit to prevent the vest from riding up. Wide arm openings enable good freedom of movement.

Mr Parkin said the RWC Operator helmets and inbuilt communication systems also would be reviewed to assess their ongoing functionality.



Police vessel and almost 20 years with the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol and MRNSW before its retirement from active service. The new vessel's varied hull, stepped bow and fine entry point enable it to tackle heavy seas forward while also reducing the risk of broaching in a following sea. This different set up allows a very dry ride even in heavy seas and provides a solid operational platform in the most trying of conditions. As the Jervis Bay unit works closely with the Royal Australian Navy base at HMAS Creswell, the vessel was designed to provide the capability not only to respond quickly and safely to emergencies in the worst of weather conditions but also reliably support the Navy's exercises.

On the South Coast, *Bermagui 30*, a Steber 38, underwent a major refurbishment this year, at a cost of \$90,000. The work included a full electronics upgrade, external structural repairs, hull work and antifouling, a complete main cabin fit-out, helm station modifications, repairs and improvements to the fire dampener system, new front covers for windows, additional cleats and bollards and livery replacement.

Plans are under way to expand the organisation's emergency response capability in the coming year by deploying the first MRNSW rescue vessel at Eden. This will complement the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command launch *Falcon* that operates from the State's southern-most port. The Fleet Modernisation Program will continue with the delivery of new vessels to MR Port Kembla, MR Hawkesbury and MR Point Danger before the end of 2021.

MRNSW remains a committed supporter of the NSW boat building industry, not only for ease of access during construction, maintenance and servicing but also to provide valuable skilled employment in regional centres.

ROAD FLEET

Regional Training Managers' vehicles were renewed this year.

A market review identified the 2021 Ford Ranger XLT 2.2 as the preferred vehicle to provide our staff with a combination of safety, durability and efficiency while comfortably functioning as a mobile office during their travels along the coastline and inland to the Alpine Lakes and Murray River.

The Fords, bearing our eye-catching MRNSW livery, are lower emission and offer greater fuel economy than the team's previous vehicles.

Safety features include secure rear compartment storage, sensors and cameras incorporated into the bullbars and canopy, reversing cameras and lane assist.



Start your engines ... Fleet Officer Sean Jewiss, Deputy Commissioner Alex Barrell, RTM Central Jane Shirriff and RTM South Stuart Massey with two of the eye-catching new vehicles.

TAKE A LONG LINE



Reel him in ... when a day's fishing doesn't go according to plan, Marine Rescue NSW crews are ready to respond in all conditions to return boaters safely to shore. Photo: Brad Whittaker.

AN INSPIRING TEAM

Marine Rescue NSW volunteers have continued to inspire through another challenging year, beset by the continuing scourge of COVID-19. When severe flooding swept along large areas of the coastline in March, our members again did not hesitate to answer the call for help, forming a state taskforce to assist their colleagues and hard-hit communities.

While Covid continued to impact on community life in 2020-21, particularly during the emergence of the Delta variant in mid-2021, Marine Rescue NSW has again recorded an increase in its membership. Lockdowns in various regions and subsequently statewide prevented recruitment activities taking place in person in many regions but members of the community continued to see the value in joining our ranks. The MRNSW volunteer workforce this year grew by 2.4 per cent to number 3,210 members by year's end.

WORKFORCE PROFILE

In a pleasing indication of our continuing attractiveness as a volunteering destination, new recruits again comprised the largest volunteer cohort this year, with 21.4 per cent in their first year of membership. This was a slight increase from 20 per cent last year and this membership again outstripped the experienced members who have been with the organisation for more than a decade (19.3 per cent).

The average tenure of current members is 5.89 years. Recruitment and retention are essential to maintaining critical operational numbers, skill and experience to ensure the organisation's future sustainability. The lengthier an individual's tenure, the more likely they will progress along the training pathway to more senior qualifications, gaining the skill and knowledge essential to safely and surely fulfilling our mission. A new recruitment effort was launched in late 2020 with the distribution of a series of postcards, accompanied by complementary generic and unit-specific social media, aimed at helping units attract new members, including to particular roles such as radio operators and vessel crew members.

Each MRNSW unit benefits from a Radio Club of boaters whose regular presence on the water and raised safety consciousness makes them an auxiliary asset that can be used to support search operations and to provide initial assistance to another boater in trouble while rescue crews are under way to the scene. This year, the number of Radio Club members totalled 15,409 and we thank each of them for their support for our volunteers.

WORKFORCE CHARACTERISTICS

VOLUNTEERS

Male	2,388 (74.4%)
Female	822 (25.6%)

Membership category

Regular	2,495
Provisional	599
Other	42

Total volunteers 3,210

Radio Club members 15,409

STAFF

Regional Operations Managers	6
Regional Training Managers	3
Headquarters-based	23
Stores	1

Total staff 33

DIVERSITY

Our people come from different cultural and community backgrounds and all walks of life. They have a range of life and career skills and interests. Diversity - be it in age, gender, race, ethnicity, disability or sexuality - produces great benefits for MRNSW and our shared commitment to being respectful, inclusive and welcoming makes us stronger. Enhancing our ability to attract the best people makes us more vibrant, representative of the communities we serve and ultimately, successful, both now and into the future.

We are fortunate that 25.6 per cent of our members are women, who are active at every level of the organisation. This is one of the highest proportions of female volunteer membership across the emergency services.

We continue to attract volunteers across various age ranges. The average age of new members is 52 years and of all members is almost 61,



3,210
Volunteer
Members



15,409
Radio Club
Members



703
Medals &
Awards

RECOGNITION

MRNSW Long Service Medals

5 years	118	590
10 years	83	830
20 years	19	380
30 years	4	120
40 years	2	80

Total	226	2,000
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National Medal

15 year medal	32	480
25 year 1st clasp	8	200
35 year 2nd clasp	4	140
45 year 3rd clasp	1	45

Total	45	865
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Bushfire Emergency Citation	400	
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Totals	862	2,865
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with the median age 64. The life and operational experience of our older members - many of whom are devoting their retirement years to serving their communities after lengthy careers - is enhanced by the fresh viewpoints and drive of our younger cohort, who are still working, studying and some even at school. Again, this safeguards our future, ensuring we have an experienced team at the helm now with a clear succession path to these younger volunteers, on whom we will rely to take our service forward.

On March 6, the MRNSW team again took part in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, sending a powerful - and colourful - message of our commitment to respect, diversity and support for our LGBTIQ+ colleagues, family and friends. This is not a hollow gesture but a lived experience in our ranks.

A number of our people also live with disability, as well as the abilities that add to our strength; again, reflecting the broader community. A new project that was begun this year will help us to communicate more effectively with boaters and other water users who have hearing impairment to help them stay safer. This project will continue in 2021-22.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

Our members have again been recognised for their service and contribution to the safety of the NSW community. Marine Rescue Port Stephens Coxswain



MRNSW Senior Chaplain and 2020 Life Member, Reverend Richard Wrightson, leads prayers at the 2020 Emergency Services Volunteers Memorial Service, livestreamed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Jervis Bay volunteer dies while serving the community

Marine Rescue Jervis Bay Radio Operator John Gallimore, 76, became the first volunteer to die while serving the community since the formation of MRNSW in 2009.

Mr Gallimore suffered a medical episode while on shift at the unit on February 11, 2021. Despite the very best efforts of a fellow volunteer and NSW Ambulance paramedics, he was unable to be saved.

Mr Gallimore had been a member since January 2010, holding the senior qualifications of Coxswain and Watch Officer. He also was the unit's Membership Officer.

The unit's members unanimously agreed to name their new vessel, *Jervis Bay 41*, in their colleague's memory.

Mr Gallimore's name will be added to the Roll of Honour inscribed on the NSW Emergency Services Volunteers Memorial in Sydney, joining three members of the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association and Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendance at the 2020 Emergency Services Volunteer Memorial Service was strictly limited. The service was live-streamed for the first time for those unable to attend.

Police and Emergency Services Minister David Elliott said emergency services personnel had taken on the stature of the new ANZACs.

"That spirit of service and sacrifice, of doing what is right, putting your life on the line without thought of recognition or reward on behalf of your fellow Australians ...

"I don't think there would be a time in living memory where the people of Australia owed such a debt of gratitude to the emergency services," he said.

The service was the last for Senior Chaplain Reverend Richard Wrightson, who led prayers on behalf of our service, before his retirement from the role.



Vale ... MR Jervis Bay member John Gallimore.

Laurie Nolan was awarded the prestigious Star of Courage for saving the lives of two of his crewmates during a harrowing operation to rescue the yacht *M3* in 2016.

Fourteen other members of the unit were awarded national Bravery Medals for their service to the community during the *M3* mission and a series of other operations in wild conditions on January 6 and 7, 2016, including responding to give Maydays and searching for a lost yachtsman.

Two volunteers were this year awarded the Emergency Services Medal: Marine Rescue Shoalhaven vessel Master and Coxswain Michael Boadle and Marine Rescue Tuggerah Lakes Unit Commander and Coxswain Anthony Younglove.

A total of 389 volunteers across all regions and 11 staff were presented with the Bushfire Emergency Citation announced by NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian to recognise the outstanding contribution of volunteers and service agency personnel who played a significant role in the emergency response to the unprecedented Black Summer bushfire crisis.

Our personnel responded where needed, evacuating those in harm's way, carrying our resupply missions for firefighters, impacted communities and their own colleagues and working in evacuation centres, emergency operations centre, at the NSW Rural Fire Service Headquarters and in recovery communications.

MR Crowdy Harrington was named the local Volunteer Group of the Year on Australia Day and the unit's youngest member Tyler Blake, 18, was recognised as the Young Volunteer of the Year in the awards, presented by the Harrington Crowdy Head Chamber of Commerce.

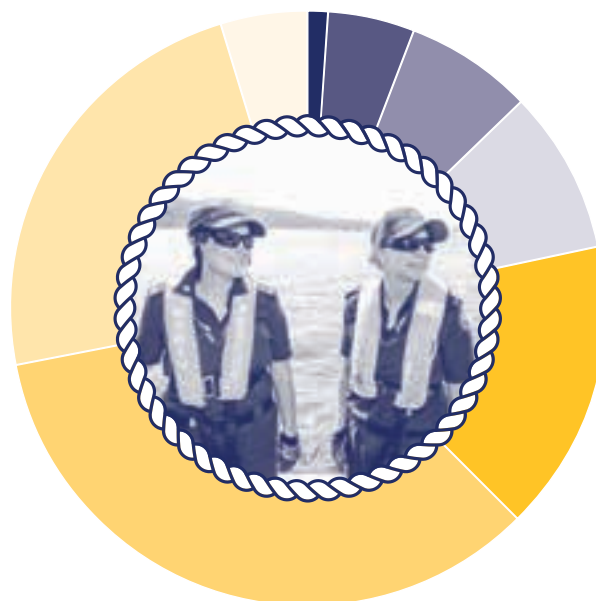
Our members' remarkable service to the community was honoured with a Special Commendation in the 2020 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards.

Alec Percival, from MR Bermagui, was named the MRNSW Officer of the Year in a Volunteer Capacity in the 2020 Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards, announced on October 30. The awards recognise the Service Above Self of members of the emergency services. The other MRNSW finalists were Steve Angelo, also from MR Bermagui, Allan Brook, from MR Ulladulla and Danielle Carter, from MR Shoalhaven.



MRNSW Rotary Award winner Alec Percival with finalists Danielle Carter, Steve Angelo and Allan Brook and (rear) Monaro Regional Director Glenn Felkin, Illawarra Regional Director Keven Marshall and Commissioner Stacey Tannos.

AGE PROFILE OF OUR VOLUNTEER WORKFORCE



Up to 20 years	1.3%	51 to 60 years	16%
21 to 30 years	4.8%	61 to 70 years	34.3%
31 to 40 years	6.8%	71 to 80 years	23.3%
41 to 50 years	8.8%	81 years & above	4.7%

MEDALS & AWARDS

Senior Chaplain Reverend Richard Wrightson was awarded Life Membership of MRNSW in recognition of his contribution to the organisation and care for its people.

Reverend Wrightson, a member of MR Lake Macquarie, said he was so surprised by the honour that he had been rendered unusually speechless. The award, the pinnacle of MRNSW membership, was announced at the opening of the unit's new Search and Rescue Coordination Centre in November. Reverend Wrightson has since stood down from his role as Senior Chaplain.

A total of 271 service medals were presented to members this year, representing an incredible 2,865 years of volunteer commitment. These included 226 MRNSW Long Service Medals and 45 National Medals and clasps.

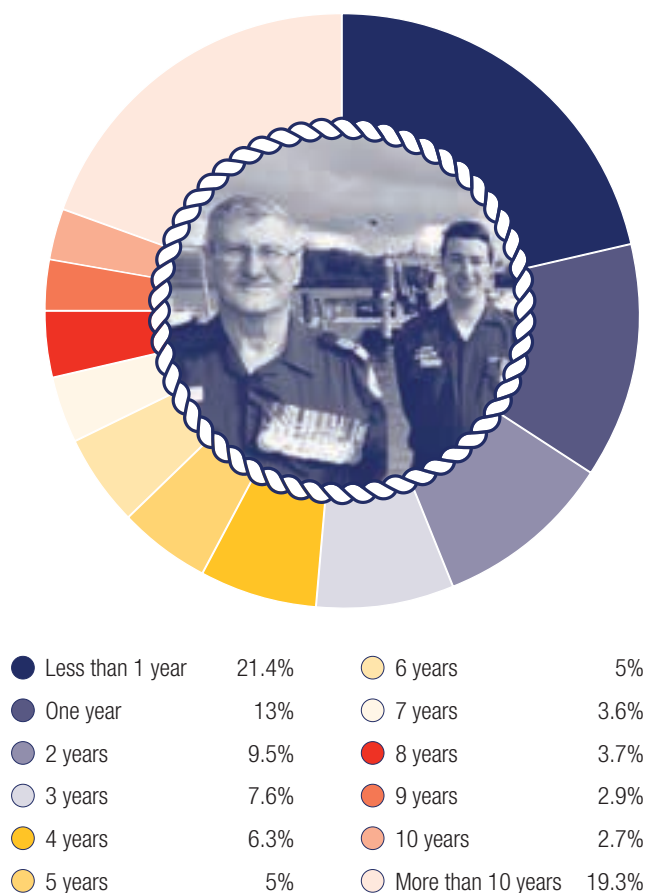
The Board this year approved the presentation of an insignia pin to members receiving a Commissioner's Citation or Commendation. The first pins were presented to members of MR Woolli for the *SV Mystic* operation.

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

MRNSW personnel and their families can now take advantage of a new service to support their wellbeing and help build their mental fitness under a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with Fortem Australia.

Commissioner Stacey Tannos and Fortem General Manager of Service Delivery Darrin Lincoln signed the MOU at Headquarters on March 18, 2021.

VOLUNTEER WORKFORCE TENURE



A not-for-profit organisation established to help support frontline workers in the emergency services and national security personnel, Fortem develops activities, community engagement and psychological support services to assist participants' mental health and wellbeing.

Its services are freely available to MRNSW volunteers, staff, their families and households.

Wellness activities include bushwalks, gym classes, lawn bowls, surfing lessons, barbecue classes, craft activities, ten pin bowling and online activities such as a monthly trivia competition.

Under the MOU, Fortem also offers clinical services (psychology support and care coordination) free of charge for volunteers (and their families). This clinical service is in addition to Marine Rescue NSW's existing Critical Incident Support Service (delivered by the NSW Rural Fire Service).

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The 2021 MRNSW Leadership Conference was postponed due to continuing uncertainty in relation to COVID-19 restrictions in the Greater Sydney area.

The conference, to be held at the Bankstown Sports Club in October, will instead be held in 2022, should circumstances allow.

COMMISSIONER'S CITATIONS

MARINE RESCUE SHOALHAVEN

Michael Boadle and Brian Earsman
(*Shoalhaven 30*)

Mr Boadle and Mr Earsman quickly activated *Shoalhaven 30* when tasked to locate a boat with two ill passengers somewhere on the river between Greenwell Point and Nowra in the dark on May 17, 2020. The skipper had called police to report his wife was unconscious but was unable to provide his location. The crew located the cruiser on rocks near the Comerong Island ferry. It emerged that the couple had suffered carbon monoxide poisoning and the skipper had sustained a serious burn to his left arm. *Shoalhaven 30* pulled the 28 foot cruiser free of the rocks and took it under tow to a waiting NSW Ambulance at Greenwell Point. The skipper was airlifted to a Sydney burns unit and his wife transferred to Shoalhaven Hospital.

MARINE RESCUE WOOLI

Richard Taffs, Marten Hutchings, Matthew McLennan, Kathryn Farrar (*Wooli 30*)
Jacquelyn Taffs (*Wooli Radio Base*)

When the unit's Watch Officer took a call for help from the skipper of the 43 foot ketch, *SV Mystic*, the crew of rescue vessel *Wooli 30* responded, finding the vessel in a perilous situation close to rocks on North West Solitary Island. The ketch's anchor was only just holding 50 metres off the rocky shoreline in a confused sea state. The crew of *Wooli 30* skilfully towed the vessel into clear water before heading south to transfer the vessel to a NSW Police launch out of Coffs Harbour. The success of this life-saving operation demonstrated the professionalism and flawless teamwork of the unit's Watch Officer and vessel crew members.

MARINE RESCUE BALLINA

Glenn Sanders, Ian Grimwood, Phil Causley, Bill Ewen
(*Ballina 30*)

Ray Tennent, Tony Hensley (*Ballina Radio Base*)

A couple issued a Mayday just after 2am on June 12, 2020 when their 45 foot cruiser hit an object and rapidly began to sink 6nm south of Ballina. The crew of *Ballina 30* responded in the dark, crossing the hazardous Richmond River bar on a large swell in challenging conditions. The Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter guided the rescue vessel to the scene, where the pair was retrieved from the ocean. With the helicopter illuminating the crossing, *BA 30* again made the crossing safely and transported the pair to a waiting NSW Ambulance.

KNOWLEDGE & CAPABILITY

A blended program of flexible online resourcing and a return to face-to-face training within the bounds of intermittent Covid restrictions led to a substantial expansion of MRNSW operational capability and readiness in 2020-21.

A concerted effort to accelerate training activities as COVID-19 risk management restrictions progressively eased in late 2020 and early 2021 resulted in a rewarding increase of almost 40 per cent in the number of training qualifications earned by our members this year.

Escalating Covid risk management procedures, including social distancing requirements, had earlier interrupted training activities, expediting the roll-out of the organisational E-Learning online platform in order to maintain skills development.

While online learning continued to offer flexibility, health benefits and self-paced learning in 2020-21, members also embraced the return to practical, face-to-face training activities, which were accelerated wherever possible to compensate for opportunities lost to pandemic lockdowns.

The outcome was a significant growth in the service's capability and skill pool, with members attaining 1,105 new and upgraded qualifications, up from 791 the previous year.

The greatest growth was in first aid and resuscitation, providing our members, who are often first responders on scene, with the skill to assist in medical emergencies: up 46.56 per cent from 625 to 916.

This was followed a 42.85 per cent increase in crew ratings, with the number of on-water qualifications gained jumping from 91 to 130. The introduction in 2020 of the Senior Crew rating as an optional mid-way point between the Crew and Leading Crew ratings, proved a popular choice for volunteers, with the number of members gaining this qualification almost doubling from 14 to 26.

These numbers were achieved despite the Northern Beaches outbreak over summer and the onset of the Delta strain of COVID-19 as the year drew to a close, again restricting in-person training for units in Sydney, the Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour.

LORD HOWE ISLAND

The new MR Lord Howe Island unit has been built on the members' solid seamanship, necessitated by the isolated community's dependence on the sea. Nevertheless, members were required to add to their existing skills base by undertaking MRNSW training to ensure their competency as rescue

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	2020-2021
TRAINING QUALIFICATIONS	
Provide First Aid	444
Provide Advanced Resuscitation	472
Radio Operator	50
Watch Officer	9
Crew	69
Senior Crew	26
Leading Crew	13
Coxswain	9
Rescue Water Craft Operator	13
Total	1,105

operators before the unit could begin operations.

A dedicated training program was established with Headquarters training personnel working around the island's COVID restrictions to deliver a suite of courses, including first aid, advanced resuscitation, Crew, Leading Crew and Coxswain.

By year's end, five Coxswains and two Crew members were qualified, with another 28 members continuing their training. As a service to the island community, MRNSW and Surf Life Saving NSW ran a public course for islanders who needed to renew their first aid certificate.

On-site training activities will continue in the coming year, as renewed Covid travel restrictions permit.

EXERCISES

More than 200 volunteers from 25 units took part in the major training exercises on the 2021 education calendar. Three Regional Search and Rescue Exercises were staged in mid-2021 to build rescue capability and agency inter-operability. Personnel from the NSW Police Force Marine Area Command, Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Surf Life Saving NSW and the Westpac Rescue Life Saver Helicopter also took part.

This year's exercise scenario saw crews deployed to search for multiple



1,105
Qualifications
2020-21



200
Exercise
their skills



916
New first aid
responders



Participants in the Mid North Coast and Hunter/Central Coast Search and Rescue Regional Exercise, hosted by Marine Rescue Forster-Tuncurry, in June. Photos: Brad Whittaker.

victims of a large-scale aircraft emergency offshore.

The Monaro SAREX was staged at Bermagui, the Mid North Coast-Hunter Central Coast event at Forster-Tuncurry in May and the Northern Rivers-Mid North Coast exercise in June. The last SAREX on the 2021 calendar, planned off Sydney's Northern Beaches, was postponed due to the outbreak of the Delta strain of COVID-19.

The SAREX program was extensively revised this year to incorporate the new Search and Rescue Desktop Exercise (SARDEX), providing equal focus on building emergency management skills as well as on-water ability.

The SARDEX was held in parallel with the offshore search activities at each event, simulating the functions of an Emergency Operations Centre. Participants rotated through the four functional area taskings - incident control, communications, logistics and navigation - that collectively support crews taking part in a search operation. Each 'station' was led by a volunteer Subject Matter Expert, supported by an Incident Controller (Regional Operations Manager) and Exercise Controller (Regional Training Manager).

Real-time interjections providing operational updates from the search scene maintained realism, requiring participants to adapt to changing information and requirements throughout the SARDEX.

Media training also was introduced for the first time. All participants assembled on the second day for a debrief and Q&A session with representatives of the various agencies taking part.

MRNSW TRAINING ACADEMY

MRNSW plans to develop Australia's first dedicated Marine Rescue Training Academy, to be co-located with its Headquarters on the Hungry Point Reserve at Cronulla.

Throughout 2020-21, extensive work has continued on architectural designs, planning approvals, stakeholder consultation, course mapping and

projected educational outcomes.

This information has been fed into a Detailed Business Case submitted to the State Government seeking financial support for the Academy's development. The Business Case comprehensively outlined the need for the Academy to drive better safety outcomes by improving the quality and consistency of training outcomes across our volunteer base and encourage a 30 per cent increase in volunteer numbers to achieve 4,000 members by 2030.

Discussions are continuing with State Government Ministers and agencies in relation to investigating potential funding sources and models to enable the development of this major project to begin in the 2021-22 financial year.



MRNSW has developed specific training aids to help volunteers working to attain new qualifications, including a set of 58 flash cards based on the International Collision Regulations, used for Leading Crew and Coxswain courses.

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

The first dedicated Marine Rescue NSW construction program is expanding our capability and ensuring more of our volunteers have modern, safe, fit-for-purpose facilities for their emergency operations.

Four major projects worth a total of \$4.3 million were completed as part of the landmark capital works program this year, with planning advanced on a string of new unit facilities on which work will begin in the coming year. The building boom is being funded by the four-year State Government funding package of more than \$13 million from 2019. The internal Facilities Development Program (FDP) developed in 2018-19 continues to guide the strategic allocation of this capital funding to ensure expenditure is efficient, accountable and provides maximum benefit for both units and the community.

BUILDING WORKS

The new \$1.8 million Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie unit base and Search and Rescue Coordination Centre opened in November 2020. The base provides the latest marine communications technology, dedicated operational command and control facilities, training and meeting space, storage, offices and kitchen facilities, a viewing platform and lift access.

The development of the new \$1.3 million State Communications Centre at Belrose in Sydney's north was completed this year, providing the organisation with upgraded emergency communications and coordination capability. The service's major 24/7 communications hub, which is the new base for MR Sydney (formerly MR Terrey Hills), began operations on schedule on June 25.

This year we built our first offshore base, for the new MR Lord Howe Island. The \$408,000 building incorporates a radio room, Unit Commander's office, change room and storage. An Admiralty Catenarchy anchor system for *Lord Howe 40* was installed in line with the strict controls imposed under the island's World Heritage listing, at a cost of \$37,000. The base was opened on June 4.

Work on a large-scale extension to the MR Batemans Bay base at Hanging Rock were completed, at a cost of \$520,000, to provide a training facility, lift and space to keep the unit's RHIB vessel permanently attached to its launch vehicle. A new \$84,000 MR training and meeting centre built last year for MR Brunswick was officially opened in November.

Repairs to serious damage to the MR Port Macquarie radio base caused by a large fire that started in public toilets beneath the base in 2019 were completed. MR Point Danger temporarily relocated its radio base to its Durambah Beach base to enable Tweed Shire Council to carry out major structural repairs and renovations to the 50-year-old Captain Cook Lighthouse.

THE YEAR AHEAD

The second stage of the capital works program, worth more than \$8 million, will see work begin on a series of projects in 2020-21, including new bases for MR Newcastle, Middle Harbour, Hawkesbury, Central Coast and Broken Bay and a \$600,000 over-water crew room for MR Narooma to help reduce response times on the hazardous Narooma bar.



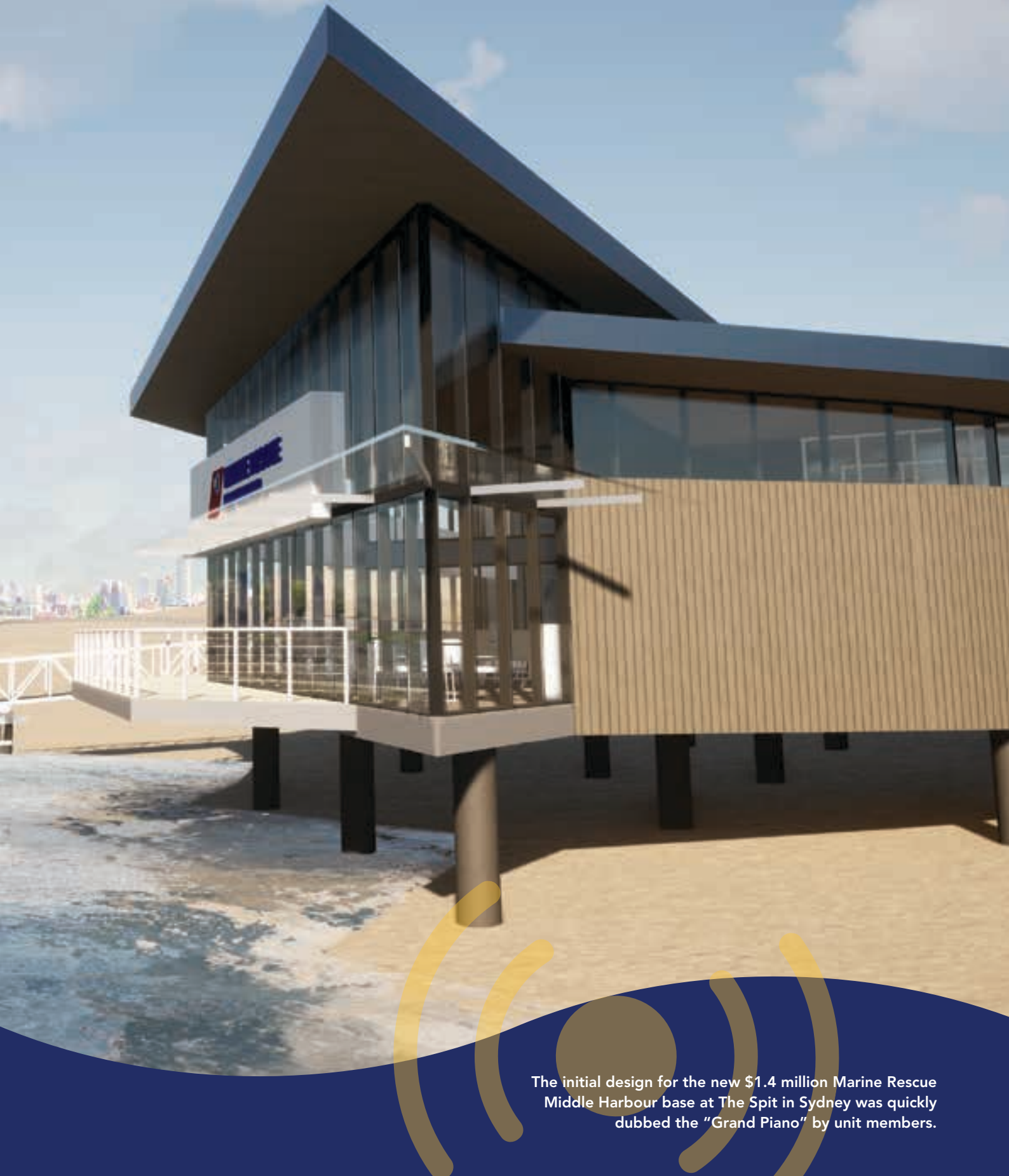
The landmark \$1.8 million MR Lake Macquarie Search and Rescue Coordination Centre opened in November. Photos: Brad Whittaker.



Commissioner Stacey Tannos, Emergency Services Minister David Elliott, Port Macquarie MP Leslie Williams and Unit Commander Jim McFadyen at the opening of the MR Lord Howe Island base.

In July, Newcastle City Council announced a site had been found for a new home for MR Newcastle on the Hunter River at Stockton, five years after its Shepherds Hill base was damaged in the 2015 East Coast Low storms. The State Government announced in November that \$2 million in COVID-19 stimulus funding would be allocated to the development of the 700sq/m base, co-locating the unit's vessel and radio operations on one site for the first time. This announcement freed up funding to enable the rundown MR Middle Harbour base at The Spit to be replaced, at a cost of \$1.4 million. A new \$900,000 base will be built to replace MR Broken Bay's small demountable building in Rowland Reserve at Bayview and MR Central Coast's 46-year-old facility at Point Clare will be replaced at an estimated cost of \$1.4 million. Planning also is under way to relocate MR Hawkesbury to a new site next to Deerubun Reserve in a \$1.6 million project, to shift MR Port Kembla into larger premises on the harbourfront and to provide a crew room for MR Eden.

BUILDING FOR OUR NEEDS



The initial design for the new \$1.4 million Marine Rescue Middle Harbour base at The Spit in Sydney was quickly dubbed the "Grand Piano" by unit members.

CRITICAL RADIO & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A new centralised communications centre, the roll-out of superior radio technology and ongoing infrastructure improvements have improved boating safety.

Reliable and effective communications systems, anchored by a solid infrastructure backbone, are essential to the safety of boaters on the NSW coastline. MRNSW has this year completed an inter-connected suite of important projects to enhance our communications security and capability. This work has targeted the remaining blackspots in coastal marine radio reception, providing consistent coverage along the coastline and offshore on Lord Howe Island. An advanced centralised communications centre has been developed and the most up-to-date radio technology on the market installed to provide our radio operators with the tools they need to coordinate rescue missions. This investment means boaters can have the confidence of knowing that when they call for help in an emergency, MRNSW will answer and send help fast.

STATE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE

The centrepiece of the organisation's operational communications effort this year was the development of the new \$1.3 million State Communications Centre, which began operations ahead of schedule at 6am on June 18. The state-of-the-art facility is located at Belrose on Sydney's Northern Beaches and operated by MR Sydney (formerly MR Terrey Hills) and represents a significant upgrade to MRNSW emergency communications and coordination capability. The centre is the organisation's major 24/7 communications hub, monitoring marine radio for distress calls from boaters in trouble on the water and coordinating rapid rescue responses. The centre's radio operators cover northern Sydney waterways during daylight hours and then manage communications to the majority of radio bases along the coastline overnight.

The new centre effectively integrates a number of features to provide radio operators with a sophisticated communications capability. It is equipped with six radio operator stations, the ability to add an additional station as required and a command duty operator station. It incorporates a high-tech video array that provides the operators on shift with advanced situational awareness and assists them in tasking resources in response to emergencies on the water. They have a direct line of sight to essential marine rescue data and information, Open CPN, statewide Seahawk coverage, the MRNSW Status Board and Bureau of Meteorology feeds, rather than having to toggle between various tabs on a computer for the details they need when coordinating an operation.

MISSION-CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY

Leading communications technology employed in mission-critical control centres worldwide has been selected as the new marine radio call taking and dispatch system for MRNSW. Frequentis technology was chosen to enhance Marine Rescue's emergency communications and response, providing marine radio personnel with the most up-to-date equipment to handle emergencies and feel confident that they have crucial information at hand.

The Frequentis system was initially trialled in the MR Sydney radio base



MR Sydney radio operator Helen Manifold on duty for the first shift at the new \$1.3 million State Communications Centre.

over summer before its installation at the new State Communications Centre and MR Botany Port Hacking's Solander radio base. It will be progressively rolled out to other bases throughout the coming year.

The technology allows radio operators to maintain situational awareness and effectively manage complex and busy periods using a single, intuitive console, enabling them to access and communicate critical information quickly and easily. The system provides a range of additional features, including an audio delay function to reduce echo from multiple radios relaying a single call, mapping and radio display coverage.

REINFORCING OUR RADIO SAFETY NET

Boating safety on the NSW Mid North Coast was this year boosted with the commissioning of new marine radio infrastructure at Coolongolook, inland from Forster-Tuncurry. A new VHF radio installation 430 metres above sea level has eliminated a black spot in reception for boaters along the coastline, 20 to 30 nautical miles out to sea and particularly over Wallis Lake, a popular location for boating and water skiing and the scene of numerous emergency response operations. The extended VHF Channel 16 coverage provided by the new infrastructure is an investment that provides boaters with improved reception and greater range. It has improved the reach of the MR Forster-Tuncurry radio base over a greater area of coastal waters and the lake, which significantly improves the likelihood that the radio operators in the base will hear a call for help from a boater in trouble. The Coolongolook VHF radio and repeater infrastructure was one of a series of upgrades funded by a State Government \$750,000 Blackspots Program grant to help secure the marine radio safety net on the Mid North Coast and North Coast.

Vital marine radio infrastructure also was installed on Lord Howe Island as part of the establishment of the first MRNSW offshore unit. It incorporates a VHF repeater and VHF remote radio that are controlled from the mainland for emergency and search and rescue communications via a satellite link.

TECHNOLOGY FOR SAFETY

Marine Rescue NSW is committed to leading the development of innovative technology to support our volunteers and underpin our operational success.

Marine Rescue NSW is continuing to design and roll out new and upgraded technology to support its members in their work to save lives on the water. A suite of new systems was introduced in 2020-21 to assist units in operational and volunteer management tasks. The major project was the new Incident Management System, which was introduced to the Seahawk vessel logging and tracking network in September 2020. This was followed by a revamped member records system in mid-February and a new rostering system for our 45 units.

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Incident Management System is a groundbreaking advance in MRNSW operational coordination and the deployment of rescue resources, improving safety outcomes for boaters caught in emergencies on the state's waterways.

Developed by MRNSW IT and Operations personnel in consultation with units, the system provides increased visibility over ongoing incidents and enhanced situational awareness for operational managers at all levels.

The system provides a live and ongoing record of each stage of an operation from the initial call for help through the eventual conclusion. This ensures Regional Operations Managers and units have the information they need to ensure the effective coordination of available and appropriate resources in response to an emergency on the water.

The upgraded system provides more detailed incident reporting, recording information such as sea conditions, injuries sustained, whether lifejackets were being worn, clearer details on who reported an incident and the perceived age and experience level of recreational skippers. The visibility provided by this data helps guide the allocation and deployment of rescue resources to ensure people and assets are located where needed to address identified risk and need. It also supports community engagement activities to help better prepare and educate boaters on safe boating behaviour.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The Otter membership management system originally introduced in 2013 was revamped this year. Otter records a range of important information on volunteers, including their service records, qualifications, personal contact details and positions they hold in their unit. Otter is the cornerstone of our suite of integrated IT tools. Data is drawn from the system to authenticate the identity of members logging in to use all our other applications, such as Seahawk, the MRNSW e-shop and the Radio Club member system.

The updated Otter system now holds additional details about members, such as relevant health information, their ratings, licences, first aid certificates and uniform sizes and preferences. It consolidates an individual's total length of service, even if they have left and returned to the organisation, to help ensure they receive appropriate MRNSW and national service recognition and enables training certificates to be easily downloaded and printed.

Data from the original Otter was migrated to the updated system over 24



The new MRNSW Incident Management System provides a live and dynamic record of operational coordination, providing upgraded data to guide resource allocation.

hours from February 18. This was followed by a new online roster system to simplify the task of rostering volunteers for vessel, radio and other duties. The new system saves rostering officers time and effort in cross-referencing members' availability and qualifications for various duties, enabling members to indicate their availability - or absence - for a designated period and once a roster is published, to take on additional shifts to fill gaps or seek someone to swap shifts they may no longer be able to perform.

The rostering system also is integrated with Otter so that if an individual does not have the required qualifications for a specific duty, they cannot be assigned that role.

TECH FOR BOATERS

The redeveloped *MarineRescue* App, launched in 2015, is due to be released for beta testing in the first quarter of the 2021-22 year. The App is the only one that enables boaters to Log On and Log Off with MRNSW and also provides a range of safety information and tools. The updated version will be built on newer technology and incorporate increased safety features and functionality for users, including real-time navigation warnings and safety information, such as boat ramp closures, speed limits and emergency information.

VOLUNTEER INPUT

The IT Steering Committee was established in February, comprising seven volunteers from units across the six operational regions, a representative of App development company Sublime and the three IT personnel from Headquarters. The committee meets once a month online to discuss any upcoming projects, high-level IT issues and project updates. This is an important opportunity for volunteers to provide input into any specification documents, become involved in software testing and help steer the direction for any future IT projects.

SUPPORT FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

COVID-19 restrictions and severe flooding this year impacted opportunities to attract financial support through organisation's grants, donations and fundraising activities.

The organisation relies on these sources of finance to supplement its annual income received from the State Government and boating community, which this year totalled \$18.7 million. While the amount collected in 2020-21 is less than in the previous year, this reflects the immediate priorities of funding organisations in assisting communities coping with the medical, economic and social effects of an enduring health pandemic and a major natural disaster, along with the continuing need to support residents, businesses and communities impacted by the Black Summer bushfires.

GRANTS FUNDING

Marine Rescue NSW this year received \$1.3 million in grants from a range of government agencies, NSW Clubs and other funding bodies.

The NSW and Commonwealth governments were responsible for the majority of the grant funding received across the year, announcing more than \$1.24 million to assist units with a number of capital works, equipment, training and recruitment activities and resources.

The largest allocation of funding came in the form of a \$600,000 grant as part of the NSW Government's Stimulus Package to support regional economies to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. \$600,000 of a total \$2 million grant was received this year. The ClubGRANTS Infrastructure Grants program, administered by the State Government, provided almost \$300,000 to help MR Jervis Bay extend its base (\$200,000), MR Woolgoolga to purchase a new launch tractor (\$81,000) and MR Brunswick to acquire a new Rescue Water Craft (\$16,455).

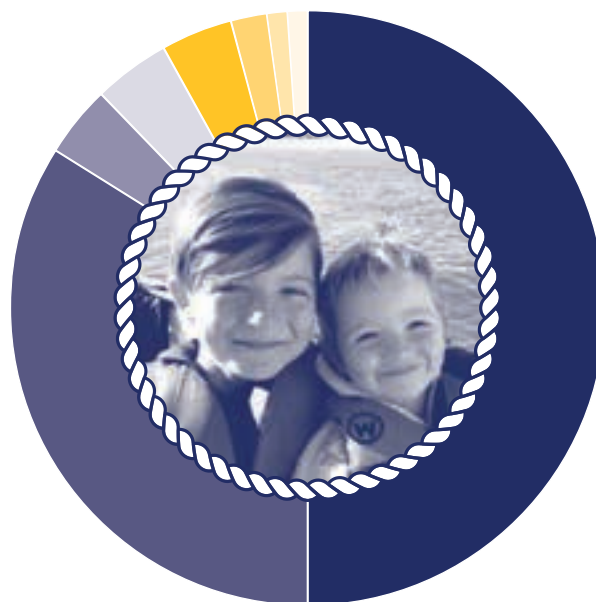
The State Government allocated Community Building Partnership 2020 grants worth almost \$180,000 to MR Broken Bay, Central Coast, Hawkesbury, Lake Macquarie and Tross for new and upgraded buildings and other facilities and training equipment.

MR Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens were allocated funding worth more than \$88,000 under the State Government's Crown Reserve Improvement Fund, which provides financial support for the development, maintenance and improvement of Crown reserves.

The Federal Government allocated \$65,000 to MR Sydney, Lemon Tree Passage, Brunswick, Ulladulla and Lake Macquarie for equipment including training laptops, solar panels, two new Rescue Water Craft and an emergency generator. The Commonwealth Department of Social Services assigned \$15,295 to MR Ballina, Brunswick, Lemon Tree Passage and Port Kembla for small items of IT equipment, a public access Automated Electronic Defibrillator and furniture.

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's Safety of Life At Sea Trusts contributed \$25,470 to Middle Harbour for two new outboard engines for its vessel *Middle Harbour 20*. The IMB Community Foundations provided MR Jervis Bay with \$20,000 for new motors for *Jervis Bay 20* and MR Middle Harbour \$10,000 for a Forward Looking Thermal Imaging Camera. The Port

MARINE RESCUE NSW REVENUE



Marine Rescue NSW is grateful to receive 34% of its revenue from the NSW Government and the boating community, through the levy on recreational boating licences and registrations.

Waratah Coal Services awarded a \$30,250 grant to MR Newcastle to supply a dry berth for *Newcastle 30*.

FUNDRAISING

A total of \$1.72 million in revenue was generated from fundraising activities and donations this year. Our units again faced the financial impact of dual crises, with the combined effects of the Coronavirus pandemic and flooding stretching from the Mid North Coast to Western Sydney eliminating many opportunities for fundraising to support local operations.

Despite these challenges, units still managed to fundraise \$837,351, representing a 13 per cent decrease over last year. Donations rose 24% from 2019-2020 to \$880,694.

We thank the businesses, individuals and community groups who continued to support our volunteers in their mission to save lives on the water.

HIGH PROFILE LOCATIONS



When he's not on duty as a Marine Rescue Cape Byron Radio Operator, Emiliano Cataldi lives the high life as a hot air balloon pilot. He rates his flight over the neighbouring Brunswick unit's rescue vessel and radio tower as his favourite of 2020. Photo: Taylor Miller

STRONGER TOGETHER

Marine Rescue NSW engages with a range of operational, community and commercial partners who share our mission to save lives on the water.

PATRON

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales is the Patron-in-Chief of Marine Rescue NSW, continuing his long association with the volunteer marine rescue sector in NSW as the Patron of the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol.

REPRESENTATION

Commissioner Stacey Tannos continues his tenure as Chair of the State Rescue Board, which oversees rescue service policy development and delivery on both land and water in NSW.

The Commissioner also is a member of the State Emergency Management Committee. Units contribute to the safety of their communities through their representation on Local Emergency Management and Rescue Committees. MRNSW personnel were based at the NSW State Emergency Service Headquarters and local Emergency Operations Centres during the March flood crisis. At a national level, MRNSW is a member of the Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum, National Volunteer Marine Search and Rescue Committee and Enterprise Registered Training Organisation Association. We also are a member of the International Maritime Rescue Federation, which represents marine search and rescue agencies.

OPERATIONAL & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

MRNSW works closely with the State's network of emergency service, rescue, marine and medical organisations to protect and assist our boating community. Cooperation and collaboration are the basis of the NSW emergency management arrangements, ensuring an "agency blind" response to emergencies, whether on land or water.

The NSW Police Force Marine Area Command (MAC) is responsible for the coordination of rescue delivery on the water in this State. The MAC and MRNSW work cohesively in emergency operations, coordination and training. We also work with agencies including the Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter service and Toll Ambulance Rescue, both on emergency response and to support air crew winch training, and Surf Life Saving NSW at organisational and local levels. The Marine Area Command, Surf Life Saving NSW, Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopters and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority this year participated in three Regional Search and Rescue Exercises to help build inter-agency capability and collaboration. MRNSW units also support bodies such as Transport for NSW, NSW Maritime, sailing clubs and community groups by providing a safety net and on-water logistical and personnel support for numerous boating and community events.

WILDLIFE

As well as saving human lives on the water, MRNSW also works with agencies whose charter is to protect wildlife. Crews regularly join personnel from the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Primary Industries and ORCCA (the Organisation for the Rescue and Research of Cetaceans



Flood thanks ... NSW Governor Margaret Beazley meets MR Port Macquarie volunteers Natalie Welsh, Alison Cameron-Brown, Chris Condon and Dave Bigeni, who joined local flood support operations.

in Australia) for training and operations to free whales entangled in marine debris. A Memorandum of Understanding is being developed with the NPWS to guide these activities.

RADIO CLUBS

MRNSW units' Radio Clubs are a direct way to engage with their local boating communities and a valuable source of financial, safety and operational support. The 15,409 club members join our mission to save lives on the water through an annual subscription to support their local volunteers but their contribution is more than just financial. These boaters' raised safety awareness makes them a valuable auxiliary asset on the water, potentially assisting crews searching for a missing vessel or giving initial assistance to a fellow boater in trouble while a rescue crew is under way to the scene.

Each Radio Club member is provided a unique marine radio call sign that makes it quicker and easier to Log On when heading out on the water. Using the free *MarineRescue* App also is quicker and easier for Radio Club members, too. As a gesture of appreciation, Radio Club members receive a free e-edition of *Soundings* and new online newsletter each quarter and exclusive discounts on the range of safety, boating and fishing gear and MRNSW supporter merchandise available on the MRNSW online store at shopmrnsw.com.au

SAFE BOATING EDUCATION

Providing boaters with the skills and knowledge to stay safe on the water is an important way of engaging with our community of interest. MRNSW units offer recreational boat and Personal Water Craft licence courses under the NSW Maritime Approved Boat Driving Licence Training Provider Scheme. In 2020-21, 10 units conducted 77 Safe Boating and 16 Personal Water Craft (jet ski) licence courses and testing. Reflecting the booming popularity of recreational boating since the onset of the Covid pandemic, this was a significant increase from the 58 courses conducted last year. MR Forster-Tuncurry recorded the highest number of participants.



Inclusiveness ... MRNSW personnel engaged with a large and welcoming audience at the 2021 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade, this year held at the Sydney Cricket Ground instead of on Oxford Street as a Covid safety measure. Photo: Kate Woods.

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Marine Rescue NSW is committed to providing boaters with the safety and preparedness information they need to minimise their risk and enjoy their time on the water. A series of initiatives to engage with targeted sectors of the boating community were launched or under development this year.

MRNSW is now producing its own YouTube program, Marine Rescue TV. The program, produced in-house by Communications and Training staff, is released monthly to highlight the work of our volunteers, provide safety advice and encourage responsible boating.

A new project is in production to provide safety information to deaf and hearing impaired boaters. Videos covering various aspects of boating safety are being filmed with Auslan interpreter and MR Jervis Bay volunteer Sean Sweeney and supported by Deaf Australia. This project will come to fruition in 2021-22.

Another public safety initiative is directly targeting boaters along the NSW coastline with a series of Community Service Announcements produced for broadcast on local radio stations. These include a safety message in the key community languages of Mandarin, Cantonese, Arabic and Vietnamese. A total of 28 radio stations, including Arabic radio 2BACR, have signed on to air the messages to help improve boating safety.

MRNSW engages with boaters and the broader community through a range of public communications channels. Boating safety warnings and information, details of our volunteers' hard work and information on our organisational activities and development are communicated via media activities and on various social media platforms. There was extensive reporting of our rescue missions, particularly on our participation in searches for missing individuals,

both on our media sites and in the mainstream media this year.

MRNSW has a targeted strategy of reaching a wide audience through its activities on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and our own website. A new app was rolled out to encourage volunteers to take photos and videos to help promote their work through the media.

Despite the pandemic, more than 15,000 copies of *Soundings* magazine were distributed to volunteers, political and industry leaders and the wider community, helping to build understanding and interest in the service by showcasing our world class vessels, equipment and training and the achievements of our members in saving lives on the water.

A comprehensive suite of new Media and Communications, branding and social media resources was developed to help make our communication more professional across the organisation. Public Relations Officer training was conducted for members of four regions, helping to build media, social media and event management capability within our membership.

To support units' recruitment activities, a series of postcards on volunteering with MRNSW and boating safety was produced, with a QR code directing interested community members to our website for more information.

The Media and Communications team coordinated MRNSW participation in the 2021 Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade, sending a message of inclusiveness to both our membership and the community we serve.

We continued to work closely with our partners such as NSW Maritime, NSW Police Marine Area Command and AMSA in disseminating vital boating safety messaging, and with the Office of the Minister for Police and Emergency Services and local parliamentarians in showcasing new vessels and equipment and volunteer achievement.

STRENGTH & SAFETY



The Marine Rescue NSW Fleet Modernisation Program has bolstered our operational strength with 107 new and refurbished vessels since the service's establishment in 2009. This includes another six new vessels delivered in 2020-21. All have been funded, at a cost of almost \$28 million, with the financial support of the NSW Government and boating community and our units' dedicated fundraising, donors and sponsors. *Broken Bay 30*, a 10 metre Naiad, was delivered in late July 2020.



Point Danger 20 (PD 20)



Point Danger 30 (PD 30)



Brunswick 30 (BR 30)



Ballina 30 (BA 30)



Ballina 20 (BA 20) - formerly Port Kembla 20 (PK 20)



Evans Head 30 (EH 30) - Replaced



Evans 31 (EH 31) - replacement



Iluka Yamba 30 (IY 30)



Iluka Yamba 20 (IY 20)



Wooli 30 (WI 30)



Woolgoolga 30 (WO 30)



Coffs 30 (CO 30)



Nambucca 20 (NH 20) - replacement



Nambucca 11 & Nambucca 12 (NH 11 & NH 12) - replacements



Trial Bay 30 (TB 30)



Trial Bay 11 & Trial Bay 12 (TB 11 & TB 12)



Port Macquarie 30 (PM 30)



Port Macquarie 20 (PM 20)



Port Macquarie 11 (PM 11)



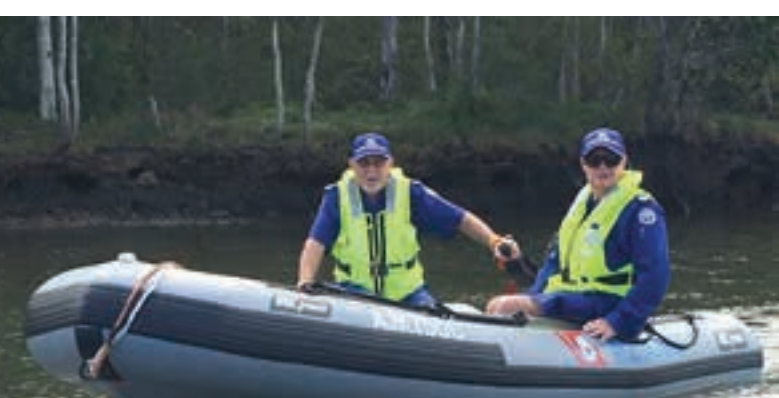
Port Macquarie 10 (PM 10) - replacement



Lord Howe 40 (LH 40)



Camden Haven 30 (CH 30)



Camden Haven 10 (CH 10)



Crowdy 30 (CB 30)



Crowdy 20 (CB 20) - replaced



Crowdy 20 (CB 20) - replacement



Forster 30 (FO 30)



Forster 20 (FO 20)



Port Stephens 31 (PS 31)



Port Stephens 30 (PS 30)



Lemon Tree 30 (LT 30) - replaced



Lemon Tree 30 (LT 30) - replacement



Newcastle 30 (NC 30) - replaced



Newcastle 30 (NC 30) - replacement



Lake Macquarie 30 (LM 30)



Lake Macquarie 20 (LM 20)



Lake Macquarie 13 (LM 13) - replacement



Norah Head 20 (NR 20)



Tuggerah Lakes 20 (TL 20) - replaced - & Tuggerah Lakes 21 (TL 21)



Tuggerah Lakes 20 (TL 20) - replacement



Central Coast 30 (CC 30)



Central Coast 21 (CC 21) - replaced



Central Coast 21 (CC 21) - replacement



Central Coast 20 (CC 20)



Port Jackson 31 (PJ 31) - replacement for Port Jackson 30 (PJ 30)



Central Coast 11 (CC 11)



Broken Bay 20 (BB 20) & Broken Bay 30 (BB 30) - replaced



Hawkesbury 21 (HW 21) & Hawkesbury 22 (HW 22) - replacement



Cottage Point 31 (CP 31) - formerly TG 30 - & Cottage Point 30 (CP 30)



Middle Harbour 30 (MH 30)



Middle Harbour 20 (MH 20) - formerly NH 20



Port Jackson 20 (PJ 20) & Port Jackson 30 (PJ 30) - both replaced



Port Jackson 20 (PJ 20) - replacement



Botany Hacking 31 (BH 31) - formerly Botany 30 (BY 30)



Port Hacking 30 (PH 30) - replaced



Botany Hacking 30 (BH 31) - replacement



Port Kembla 30 (PK 30)



Port Kembla 20 (PK 20) - formerly Merimbula 20 (MB 20)



Shellharbour 30 (SH 30)



Shoalhaven 30 (SA 30) & Shoalhaven 20 (SA 20)



Shoalhaven 10 (SA 10)



Jervis Bay 40 (JB 40) - replaced



Jervis Bay 41 (JB 41) - replacement



Jervis Bay 20 (JB 20) - replaced



Jervis Bay 20 (JB 20) - replacement



Sussex Inlet 30 (SI 30) - replaced



Sussex Inlet 20 (SI 20) - replacement



Sussex Inlet 11 (SI 11) - formerly Narooma 11 (NA 11)



Sussex Inlet 12 (SI 12) - formerly Narooma 12 (NA 12)



Ulladulla 30 (UL 30) & Ulladulla 20 (UL 20)



Ulladulla 10 (UL 10)



Kioloa 20 (KL 20)



Batemans 30 (BM 30)



Batemans 20 (BM 20) - replaced



Batemans 20 (BM 20) - replacement



Batemans 21 (BM 21)



Tuross 21 (TU 21)



Tuross 20 (TU 20)



Tuross 13 (TU 13) & X Ray 10 (X 10)



Narooma 30 (NA 30)



Narooma 20 (NA 20) - formerly Port Kembla 20 (PK 20)



Bermagui 30 (BG 30)



Merimbula 30 (MB 30)



Alpine Lakes 20 (AL 20)



Alpine Lakes 21 (AL 21) - replaced



Alpine Lakes 21 (AL 21) - replacement



Moama 20 (MO 20)



Moama 10 (MO 10)



X Ray 21 (X 21)



X Ray 22 (X 22)



X Ray 11 (X 11) & X Ray 12 (X 12)

MANAGEMENT



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



Continuing growth ... NSW Police and Emergency Services Minister David Elliott, Commissioner Stacey Tannos, Chair Jim Glissan, NSW Police Commissioner Michael Fuller, Port Macquarie MP Leslie Williams, Deputy Commissioner Alex Barrell, Deputy Unit Commander Keith Galloway and Unit Commander Jim McFadyen at the opening of the new MR Lord Howe Island unit in June.

Marine Rescue NSW takes pride in its strong corporate governance and management, with its strategic leadership democratically vested in its volunteer membership.

Our organisation has entered its second decade in a position of strength, well-placed to continue expanding our capability, service to the NSW community and support for our volunteers. The corporate governance provided by the Board of Directors and the managerial confidence of the executive provide the foundations for our members' operational success.

LEGISLATION

Unlike the majority of the state's emergency services, Marine Rescue NSW is not a government agency but rather, an independent, community-based service established by and for its volunteer membership. The organisation is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and registered charity, complying with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and the *Corporations Act 2001*. While fundraising activities have again been limited by Covid this year, these remain important in supplementing our base revenue, along with grants, donations and sponsorship opportunities.

Marine Rescue NSW has operated under the legislative auspices of the *State Emergency Management Act 1989* since its inception in 2009, with an amendment to provide it specific recognition as a legislated emergency service organisation passed by the State Parliament in November 2018.

Although Marine Rescue NSW sits outside the NSW Government, it reports to the Minister for Emergency Services, along with Resilience NSW in the Department of Communities and Justice. MRNSW also is required to comply with State rescue policies and its units are accredited by the Minister for Emergency Services on the recommendation of the State Rescue Board, of which Commissioner Stacey Tannos is the Chair.

The organisation's training, fleet and operational standards meet the requirements of the Commonwealth's *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012*, specifically Exemption 24, which took effect for the volunteer marine rescue sector on July 1, 2016.

BOARD

The strategic leadership of the company is exercised by the democratically-elected Board of Directors. The Board comprises nine Directors: three General Directors and six Regional Directors. General Directors are elected for three-year terms and Regional Directors for two. Regular and Life Members are eligible to vote in Board elections but not Provisional or Honorary Members.

The Chair is elected by the Board following each Annual General Meeting, routinely held on the last Saturday in November. The Board is advised by the Commissioner and staff, with detailed management papers and recommendations presented to assist its decision-making processes.

The Board met in August, October and November (the Annual General Meeting) in 2020 and February, April and June, 2021. These meetings have taken place both at Headquarters and on Zoom, in keeping with the relevant



Commissioner Stacey Tannos and MR Botany Port Hacking member David Fairlie show off our Volunteer of the Year Award Commendation.

Covid restrictions in place at the time. The Board's routine of holding informal meetings at unit bases in alternating months has also been disrupted by Covid but will resume when possible.

DIRECTORS 2020-21

Marine Rescue NSW Directors during all or part of 2020-21: James Glissan AM, ESM, QC (Board Chair and General Director); Patricia Fayes ESM (General Director); Robert Wilson (General Director); Darcy Henriksen (Northern Rivers Regional Director); John Lynch ESM (Mid North Coast Regional Director); James Wright (Hunter/Central Coast Regional Director); Ken Edwards (Greater Sydney Regional Director); Keven Marshall ESM (Illawarra Regional Director); and Glenn Felkin ESM (Monaro Regional Director).

MANAGEMENT

Marine Rescue NSW operates under the leadership of the Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer Stacey Tannos, who was to mark the 10th anniversary of his appointment on July 1, 2021. New Deputy Commissioner Alex Barrell took up his appointment in October 2020. Mr Barrell came to MRNSW after a long association with the organisation in his former role as the Acting Executive Director of NSW Maritime and throughout a 20-year career in the NSW Police Force, particularly the Marine Area Command and emergency management. Commissioner Tannos said Mr Barrell had been the standout candidate from a very strong field, bringing a mixture of skills and experience, including as a volunteer, that was keenly suited to the service's work.

No additional staff were hired in 2020-21, with 23 of the 33 employees, including the executive (the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Chief Financial Officer), based at the State Headquarters in a range of professional specialties, such as finance, grants, IT, fleet and emergency systems management, operational communications, training development and service delivery, volunteer support services and media and marketing. The MRNSW staff:volunteer ratio remains static at 1:97. This lean staffing underlines the

centrality of the volunteer workforce in the organisation's activities. Each of the six operational regions is overseen by a Regional Operations Manager. These personnel coordinate operational tasking, response and coordination, resource management, unit executive support and Headquarters/unit liaison. The North, Central and South Regional Training Managers guide training development, service delivery and assessment in two regions each.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Marine Rescue NSW is committed to the responsible and transparent management of the organisation and its finances. The organisation's consolidated accounts - those of Headquarters and units - are subject to annual independent audit. The financial statements and audit report are printed in the Annual Report, published online at mrnsw.com.au

State Government and boating community funding is managed under a four-year Operational Funding Agreement overseen by Resilience NSW and grants are expended and acquitted in accordance with each funding body's specific requirements.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Chief Financial Officer Todd Andrews

REGISTERED CHARITY STREET ADDRESS & PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

Marine Rescue NSW State Headquarters, Building 1, 202 Nicholson Parade, Cronulla, NSW 2230. PO Box 579, Cronulla, NSW 2230.

AUDITOR

Grant Thornton

BANK

Westpac

DIRECTORS' QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

Mr James Glissan AM, ESM, QC
CHAIR
General Director

Appointed Original Director
3 July 2009 – 11 December 2010

Elected

11 December 2010, 3 year term
23 November 2013, 3 year term
26 November 2016, 3 year term
23 November 2019, 3 year term



Mr Glissan is a member of Marine Rescue Botany Port Hacking, after joining the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association Botany Bay flotilla in 2008. He has been elected as Chair of the Board each year since 2010. He has been a Barrister since 1971 and a QC since 1985. With extensive practice in Company and Commercial law, Mr Glissan has served as a Public Defender NSW (1981-1984), Associate Judge, District Court of NSW (1989-1991) and on numerous Boards, including the Firearms Safety Awareness Council NSW. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2019.

Mr Robert Wilson
General Director

Elected

24 November 2018, 3 year term
Greater Sydney Regional Director
11 December 2010, 2 year term
24 November 2012, 2 year term



Mr Wilson is a member of Marine Rescue Botany Port Hacking. He joined the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association in 2007 and has held roles including Deputy Commander of the Botany Bay Coast Guard and MR Botany Bay and, since 2016, unit fundraising, public relations and events officer. Mr Wilson was MRNSW Company Secretary from 2011 until 2015 and Sydney International Boat Show and Trailer Boat Show coordinator for 10 years. A retired taxation agent and former staff member of the Australian Taxation Office, he holds qualifications in accounting, economics and taxation law.

Mrs Patricia Fayers ESM
General Director

Elected

29 November 2014, 3 year term
25 November 2017, 3 year term
21 November 2020, 3 year term



Mrs Fayers is a member of Marine Rescue Central Coast and the first woman elected to the MRNSW Board. She has served 23 years in volunteer marine rescue since joining the Central Coast division of the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol (RVCP) in 1998. She was appointed Divisional Commander from 2006 to 2010 and elected as Unit Commander from 2012 to 2014. A Skipper One, Mrs Fayers has participated in many rescue operations and has served in positions including Watch Officer, Assistant Quartermaster, radio invigilator and boat licence tester in MRNSW.

Mr Darcy Henriksen
Regional Director
Northern Rivers

Elected

23 November 2019, 2 year term



Mr Henriksen joined Marine Rescue Point Danger in 2007 and has held roles including Administration Officer, Project Officer and unit fundraising. He successfully completed his Radio Operator's licence in 2020. In addition to his volunteer commitment, he brings five years of executive level management from the civilian industry, along with 39 years in the Royal Australian Air Force. The last nine years of his career in Defence were focused on Leadership and Ethics education across the three Services. Mr Henriksen retired in June 2019, joining the Board the same year.

DIRECTORS' QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

Mr John Lynch ESM
Regional Director
Mid North Coast

Elected
3 December 2011, 2 year term
23 November 2013, 2 year term
28 November 2015, 2 year term
25 November 2017, 2 year term
23 November 2019, 2 year term



Mr Lynch is a member of Marine Rescue Forster-Tuncurry, after joining the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol in 1995. He is a Life Member of MRNSW and a qualified offshore skipper, Watchkeeper and Trainer and Assessor. He has held positions including Administration Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and Unit Commander, along with Senior Regional Officer North Coast, Member State Rescue Board Accreditation Team and Delegate Great Lakes Emergency Management Committee. He is a former member of the Royal Australian Navy and Company Secretary of a regional Australian bank and its subsidiaries.

Mr James Wright
Regional Director
Hunter/Central Coast

Elected
25 November 2017, 2 year term
23 November 2019, 2 year term



Mr Wright is a member of Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie. He joined the RVCP on Lake Macquarie in 2008 and was the Commander when the division agreed to merge with the Swansea Coast Guard flotilla in 2010, following the formation of MRNSW. Mr Wright served as Unit Commander from 2014 to 2016. A Radio Operator and Coxswain, he undertakes regular duties and participates in crew training. Mr Wright is a former investigator with the Office of Fair Trading and at the time of his retirement was in charge of the Licensee Investigations Team. He also is a Justice of the Peace.

Mr Ken Edwards
Regional Director
Greater Sydney

Elected
24 November 2018, 2 year term
21 November 2020, 2 year term



Mr Edwards joined Marine Rescue Hawkesbury in 2010 before transferring to MR Cottage Point in 2019. He has previously served as MR Hawkesbury Unit Commander (2016-2018), Deputy Unit Commander (2013-2016) and Administration and Stores Officer. Mr Edwards holds a Certificate III Marine Operations, a Master rating and a Certificate IV Training and Assessment and maintains his role as a regional Trainer and Assessor. A Justice of the Peace and licensed real estate agent, he has been the director of both a franchise and a family real estate agency for 34 years.

Mr Keven Marshall ESM
Regional Director
Illawarra

Elected
25 November 2017, 1 year term
24 November 2018, 2 year term
21 November 2020, 2 year term



Mr Marshall joined the RVCP at Ulladulla - now Marine Rescue Ulladulla - in 1998. He has held a number of positions including Deputy Unit Commander, Training Officer, Assessor and Operations Officer. Undertaking regular Radio Operator shifts, he assists with fundraising and has been instrumental in the maintenance of the unit's rescue vessels. A former skipper of an Australian Customs vessel, Mr Marshall holds a Master 5 marine qualification. Awarded the Emergency Services Medal in June 2017, he is a Justice of the Peace. Mr Marshall was originally elected for a one-year term to fill a casual vacancy.



The 2020 Annual General Meeting was the first held in person, on Zoom and live-streamed on YouTube.

Mr Glenn Felkin ESM
Regional Director
Monaro

Elected

28 November 2015, 1 year term
26 November 2016, 2 year term
24 November 2018, 2 year term
21 November 2020, 2 year term



Mr Felkin is a member of Marine Rescue Batemans Bay, after joining the RVCP in 2009. A Marine Master, he has held positions including Acting Deputy Unit Commander, Training Officer, Watch Officer, Crew Leader and maintenance controller. Mr Felkin was a crew trainer and assessor for the new MR Moama and an introductory trainer for the roll-out of the Seahawk vessel tracking system for units from Kioloa to Eden. He has a professional background in the aviation and motor industries, including more than 20 years with Qantas. He was awarded the Emergency Services Medal in 2019.

AGM ONLINE INNOVATION

The 2020 Annual General Meeting represented one of the many innovations MRNSW introduced in 2020-21 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 12th AGM was the first held jointly in person at State Headquarters and also via Zoom, enabling three Directors to attend remotely. It also was the first live-streamed on YouTube, which not only met Covid requirements but also helped engage more members in the proceedings. Thirty people watched online, exceeding the numbers able to attend the meeting in person in previous years.

The Board elections were again held online, resulting in an unchanged line-up in the organisation's strategic leadership.

The three Regional Directors due for re-election, Ken Edwards (Greater Sydney), Keven Marshall (Illawarra) and Glenn Felkin (Monaro), all were elected unopposed. Two nominations were received for the General Director's position, with Pat Fayers elected for her third term.

Only 11 per cent of about 2,500 eligible Regular and Life Members took part.

The Board again elected Mr Glissan as Chair after the AGM.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

To the Responsible Entities of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, as lead auditor for the audit of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW for the year ended 30 June 2021, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants



James Winter
Partner – Audit & Assurance

Sydney, 23 October 2021

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW (the "Registered Entity") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, and the statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the Responsible Entities' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Registered Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Declaration by the Principal Officer.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Responsible Entities for the financial report

The Responsible Entities of the Registered Entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Act 2012, and the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, and for such internal control as the Responsible Entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Responsible Entities are responsible for assessing the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Responsible Entities either intend to liquidate the Registered Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Responsible Entities are responsible for overseeing the Registered Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Registered Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Responsible Entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Registered Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants



James Winter
Partner – Audit & Assurance

Sydney, 23 October 2021

GOLDEN GIRL



Veteran Olympian Lorraine Crapp was one of the people evacuated to safety by crews from Marine Rescue Ulladulla, Broken Bay and Tuggerah Lakes providing support to flood operations at Taree. The medallist quipped she could swim faster than the rescue boat was travelling through the mud and muck.

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES' DECLARATION

In the opinion of the Responsible Entities of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW:

- a. The financial statements of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
 - i. Giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - ii. Complying with the Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.
- b. There are reasonable grounds to believe that Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Responsible Entities.

DECLARATION BY THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER

Declaration by the Principal Officer in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* on behalf of the responsible entities in respect of fundraising appeals:

I, Stacey Tannos, Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer of Marine Rescue NSW, declare that:

1. the attached financial statements give a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of all income and expenditure of the company with respect to fundraising appeals;
2. the attached statement of financial position gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs with respect to fundraising appeals;
3. the provisions of the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* (NSW), the regulations under the Act and the conditions attached to the authority have been complied with; and
4. the internal controls exercised by the company are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received.



James L. Glissan AM, ESM, QC
Director
Sydney, 23 October 2021




Stacey Tannos ESM
Commissioner
Chief Executive Officer
Sydney, 23 October 2021




John Lynch ESM
Director
Sydney, 23 October 2021



STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS & COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue and other income			
NSW recreational boat licence & registration levy		7,561,930	6,882,831
NSW Government funding		11,180,136	11,141,861
Other grant income		856,374	1,096,482
Donations		880,695	709,759
Activities income		441,718	390,496
Proceeds from insurance claims		-	253,440
Profit on sale of assets		359,144	42,621
Other income		1,255,451	1,460,267
Total revenue and other income	4	22,535,448	21,977,757
Expenditure			
Activities expenses		30,142	178,219
Administration		993,850	1,036,829
Depreciation		4,522,447	4,019,249
Grant expenditure		149,689	33,639
IT expenditure		258,102	294,882
Maintenance & development of assets		2,883,839	2,394,225
Marketing		143,063	124,906
Staff costs		4,419,596	4,173,932
Training expenses		225,463	264,920
Other expenses		1,796,777	1,781,367
Total expenses	4	15,422,968	14,302,168
Net surplus		7,112,480	7,675,589
Other comprehensive income			
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		7,112,480	7,675,589

The notes to the financial statements are on pages 71 to 87.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	15(a)	10,444,961	9,833,810
Trade and other receivables	5	1,378,676	1,543,817
Inventories	6	522,370	429,612
Total current assets		12,346,007	11,807,239
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	7	32,084,870	24,390,443
Right of use asset	8	302,655	443,818
Total non-current assets		32,387,525	24,834,261
Total assets		44,733,532	36,641,500
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	2,408,187	1,555,444
Borrowings from non-related entity	10(a)	246,255	425,627
Provisions	11(a)	680,690	524,010
Lease liabilities	14	40,402	137,269
Total current liabilities		3,375,534	2,642,350
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings from non-related entity	10(b)	651,888	418,969
Provisions	11(b)	311,564	257,712
Lease liabilities	14	280,780	321,183
Total non-current liabilities		1,244,232	997,864
Total liabilities		4,619,766	3,640,214
Net assets		40,113,766	33,001,286
Members Funds			
Transferred assets reserve		-	-
Accumulated funds		40,113,766	33,001,286
Total funds		40,113,766	33,001,286

The notes to the financial statements are on pages 71 to 87.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Accumulated funds \$	Total funds \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	25,325,697	25,325,697
Total comprehensive income for the year		
Net surplus for the year	7,675,589	7,675,589
Total comprehensive surplus for the year	7,675,589	7,675,589
Balance at 30 June 2020	33,001,286	33,001,286
Balance at 1 July 2020	33,001,286	33,001,286
Total comprehensive income for the year		
Net surplus for the year	7,112,480	7,112,480
Total comprehensive surplus for the year	7,112,480	7,112,480
Balance at 30 June 2021	40,113,766	40,113,766

The notes to the financial statements are on pages 71 to 87.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash received from levies, grants, donations & other income		22,447,800	21,654,575
Cash paid to suppliers & employees		(10,026,202)	(10,398,605)
Net cash provided by operating activities	15(b)	12,421,598	11,255,970
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from property, plant & equipment		600,602	164,471
Interest received		45,447	89,978
Payments for purchases of property, plant & equipment		(12,454,438)	(8,814,236)
Net cash used in investing activities		(11,808,389)	(8,559,787)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest on equipment loans		(55,604)	(94,407)
Repayment of capital on equipment loans		(425,627)	(497,768)
Repayment of borrowings		(8,327)	(8,000)
Proceeds of borrowings		487,500	-
Net cash proceeds from financing activities		(2,058)	(600,175)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		611,151	2,096,008
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		9,833,810	7,737,802
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	15(a)	10,444,961	9,833,810

The notes to the financial statements are on pages 71 to 87.

STORM FORCE



Power in the storm ... Lord Howe 40, the largest vessel in the MRNSW fleet, outruns bad weather on its way home to port. Photo: Stuart Massey.

1. CORPORATE INFORMATION

The financial statements of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW, operating as Marine Rescue NSW (MRNSW), for the year ended 30 June 2021 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on 23 October 2021. MRNSW is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

2. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Basis of Preparation

General Purpose Financial Statements

These General Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and the Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements. The company is a 'Not for profit' entity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and registered under the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*.

Historical cost convention and currency

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost, except for the revaluation of certain non-current assets and financial instruments. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

b. Significant accounting judgments, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements requires the Directors to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other various factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Significant accounting estimates and assumptions

The key estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities within the next annual reporting period are:

Make good provisions

Provisions for future costs to return certain leased premises to their original condition are based on the company's experience with previous premises and estimates of likely restoration costs determined by management. These estimates may vary from the actual costs incurred as a result of conditions existing at the date the premises are vacated. Management has estimated that the lease make good provisions will be negligible.

Provisions for employee benefits

Provisions for employee benefits payable after 12 months from the reporting date are based on future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service, as discussed in Note 2(m). The amount of these provisions would change should any of these factors change in the next 12 months.

Useful lives of depreciable assets

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date, based on the expected utility of the assets. Uncertainties in these estimates relate to technical obsolescence that may change the utility of certain software and IT equipment.

Inventories

Management estimates the net realisable values of inventories, taking into account the most reliable evidence available at each reporting date. The future realisation of these inventories may be affected by future technology or where they no longer meet the requirements of the company through changes in design or equipment redundancy. No provision for impairment has been recognised at the date of this financial report.

Long Service Leave

The liability for Long Service Leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

c. Revenue recognition

Revenue recognition policy for revenue from contracts with customers (AASB 15)

AASB 15 requires revenue to be recognised when control of a promised good or service is passed to the customer at an amount which reflects the expected consideration.

The customer for these contracts is the fund provider.

Revenue is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows:

1. Identify the contract with the customer
2. Identify the performance obligations
3. Determine the transaction price
4. Allocate the transaction price
5. Recognise revenue

Generally, the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however, where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the company have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

Revenue recognition policy for revenue streams which are either not enforceable or do not have sufficiently specific performance obligations (AASB 1058)

(i) Government funding

Under an agreement with the Office of Emergency Management (now Resilience NSW), the company's services are supported by funding received from the NSW Government in the form of a core Government grant, a biannual payment and through NSW Maritime as a portion of recreational boating registrations and licences. Grants received on the condition that specified services are delivered, or conditions are fulfilled, are considered reciprocal. Such grants are initially recognised as a liability and revenue is recognised as services are performed or conditions fulfilled. Revenue from non-reciprocal grants is recognised when the company obtains control of the funds.

(ii) Interest revenue

Interest revenue is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

(iii) Donations and fundraising

Donations collected, including cash, in kind donations, donations of vessels and equipment and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the company gains control, economic benefits are probable and the amount of the donation can be measured reliably. Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW, in common with most organisations dependent upon such contributions, is unable to establish control over voluntary donations prior to their initial entry in the accounting records.

(iv) Other grants

Grants received for a specific project not yet completed are only recognised as income when the project occurs or the terms and conditions are met as these amounts are repayable if not fully utilised on the specific project. Grants received for general operational funding and which are not repayable are brought to account as income when received. Revenue from sales of goods comprises revenue earned (net of returns, discounts and allowances) from the sale of goods purchased for resale and gifts donated for resale. Sales revenue is recognised when the control of goods passes to the customer. Grants received by the company have been accounted for under both AASB 15 and AASB 1058, depending on the terms and conditions and decisions made.

(v) Asset sales

The gain or loss on disposal of all non-current assets and available-for-sale financial investments is determined as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of the disposal and the net proceeds on disposal. Compensation from third parties for items of property, plant and equipment that were impaired, lost or given up shall be included in profit or loss when the compensation becomes receivable. The impaired or lost assets shall be written off. The cost of items of property, plant and equipment restored, purchased or constructed as replacements is capitalised as capital assets.



Marine Rescue NSW joined an emergency services campaign urging the community to wear masks to help stop the spread of Covid. Greater Sydney Regional Operations Manager Glenn Evans and MR Port Jackson's Thosh Chege and Commander Greg Urand took part.

(vi) Investment income

Investment income comprises interest. Interest income is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

d. Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular category they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions by donation and do not include costs of disseminating information relating to the activities carried on by the company.

Management and administration costs are those incurred in connection with the administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements. Other costs comprise investment management fees, information and education costs.

e. Income tax

The company is exempted from paying income tax due to it being a charitable institution in terms of Section 50-5 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, as amended.

f. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprises cash on hand and demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value or term deposits longer than three months in duration that may be broken without prejudice and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value at call.

g. Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except:

- (i) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense; or
- (ii) for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

Cash flows are included in the cash flow statement on a gross basis. The GST component of the cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

h. Financial Assets

Loans and receivables

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as loans and receivables. These are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those at fair value through profit or loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset the estimated future cash flows of the investment have been impacted. For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the amount of the impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate.

The carrying amount of the financial assets including uncollectible trade receivables is reduced by the impairment loss through the use of an allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the allowance account. Changes in the carrying amount of the allowance account are recognised in profit or loss.

The company's debt instruments carried at amortised cost (trade debtors) are subject to AASB 9's three-stage expected credit loss model. The trade debtors are considered low credit risk and therefore the impairment allowance is limited to 12 months' expected credit loss.

i. Impairment of long-lived assets

At the end of each reporting period the company assesses whether there is any indication that individual assets are impaired. Where impairment indicators exist, a recoverable amount is determined and impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss where the asset's carrying value exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purpose of assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Where it is not possible to estimate recoverable amount for an individual asset, recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

j. Inventories

Inventories comprise goods for distribution and goods for resale at no or nominal consideration as part of the company's charitable activities. Inventories may be purchased or received by way of donation. Inventories are carried at the lower of cost or net realisable value. The cost is the purchase price of the items. The inventory is made up of supplies purchased for members and units, consisting of uniform items, items for the vessels, promotional and educational materials.

Goods for resale

No value is prescribed to goods for resale that have been donated to the company where the fair value cannot be reliably determined. The cost of bringing each item to its present location and condition is determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

k. Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or deemed cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life, or in the case of leasehold improvements and certain leased plant and equipment, the shorter lease term, as follows:

- (i) Communications equipment – over 4 years
- (ii) Furniture and fittings – over 4 years
- (iii) IT and office equipment – over 3 years
- (iv) Motor vehicles – over 5 years
- (v) Rescue vessels and rescue vessel equipment – over 5-10 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. Gains and losses on disposals are calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the asset's carrying amount and are included in profit or loss in the year that the item is derecognised.

l. Trade and other payables

Trade payables are recognised initially at their fair value, which is the amount expected to be paid, and subsequently at amortised cost. These amounts represent liabilities for services provided to the company prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 60 days of recognition.

m. Employee benefits

Employee benefits comprise wages and salaries, annual, non-accumulating sick and long service leave and contributions to superannuation plans.

Liabilities for wages and salaries expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are recognised in other payables in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date. Liabilities for annual leave in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date which are expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related services are recognised in the provision for annual leave.

Both liabilities are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and are measured at the rates paid or payable.

The company pays contributions to certain defined contribution superannuation plans. Contributions are recognised in the income statement when they are due. The company has no obligation to pay further contributions to these plans if the plans do not hold sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in current and prior periods.

Other long-term employee benefits

The company's liabilities for annual leave and long service leave are included in other long-term benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within twelve (12) months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service. They are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees.

The expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the timing of the estimated future cash outflows. Any re-measurements arising from experience adjustments and changes in assumptions are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The company presents employee benefit obligations as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve (12) months after the reporting period, irrespective of when the actual settlement is expected to take place.

Post-employment benefits plans

The company provides post-employment benefits through defined contribution plans.

n. Economic dependence

The company is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of State Government grants and community and corporate donations to ensure the ongoing continuance of its programs. At the date of this report, management has no reason to believe this financial support will not continue.

o. Lease policy

The Company has leases over buildings.

Terms and conditions of leases

- The company has the right to use buildings in 3 locations in NSW.
- The company has a right to use buildings at Hungry Point Reserve, Cronulla for \$40,993 per year. The term of the lease is 3 years, however Management is currently negotiating a longer term. The buildings are required for the Marine Rescue NSW Staff Headquarters and the Marine Rescue NSW Botany/Port Hacking Unit.
- The company has a right to use a building at Chatswood for \$77,583 per year. The term of the lease is 5 years and the building is required to store Marine Rescue NSW uniforms and supplies.
- The company has a right to use a building at Newcastle for \$36,720 per year. The term of the lease is 2 years and the building is required for the Marine Rescue NSW Newcastle Unit.
- The company has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability.

Policies

At the lease commencement, the company recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the company believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised. The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy. The right-of-use asset is assessed for impairment indicators at each reporting date.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the company's incremental borrowing rate is used. Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the company's assessment of lease term. Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the re-measurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

The company has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for leases of low-value assets. For these leases, the company recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.



More than 1,130 entrants took part in this year's Mullum2Bruns Paddle on May 23. The annual event raised about \$33,000 for Marine Rescue Brunswick, Brunswick Surf Lifesaving Club and the Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre.

3. INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED UNDER THE NSW CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING ACT 1991

	2021 \$	2020 \$
(a) Details of Aggregate Gross Income & Total Expenditure of Fundraising Appeals		
Gross proceeds from Fundraising Appeals		
Donations	880,694	709,759
Market stalls, barbecues and functions	169,802	349,799
Bingo & raffles	298,224	317,327
Other fundraising	<u>369,325</u>	<u>292,478</u>
	<u>1,718,045</u>	<u>1,669,363</u>
Direct costs of Fundraising Appeals		
Donations	-	-
Market stalls, barbecues and functions	102,436	167,281
Bingo & raffles	107,055	126,315
Other fundraising	<u>33,209</u>	<u>34,712</u>
	<u>242,700</u>	<u>328,308</u>
Total Direct Costs of Fundraising as a percentage of gross income from fundraising appeals	<u>14%</u>	<u>20%</u>
Net Surplus from Fundraising Appeals	<u>1,475,345</u>	<u>1,341,055</u>

The surplus of fundraising is applied in the charitable purposes of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW, including the acquisition of vessels and other equipment. Fundraising Appeals include all individual fundraising activities at units and at Headquarters, across the company.

NEVER OFF DUTY



Marine Resue Sydney volunteers Stefano Amato and Giovanna Vorrath were the first responders on the scene of a boat explosion at Newport in March, helping the woman on board to safety.

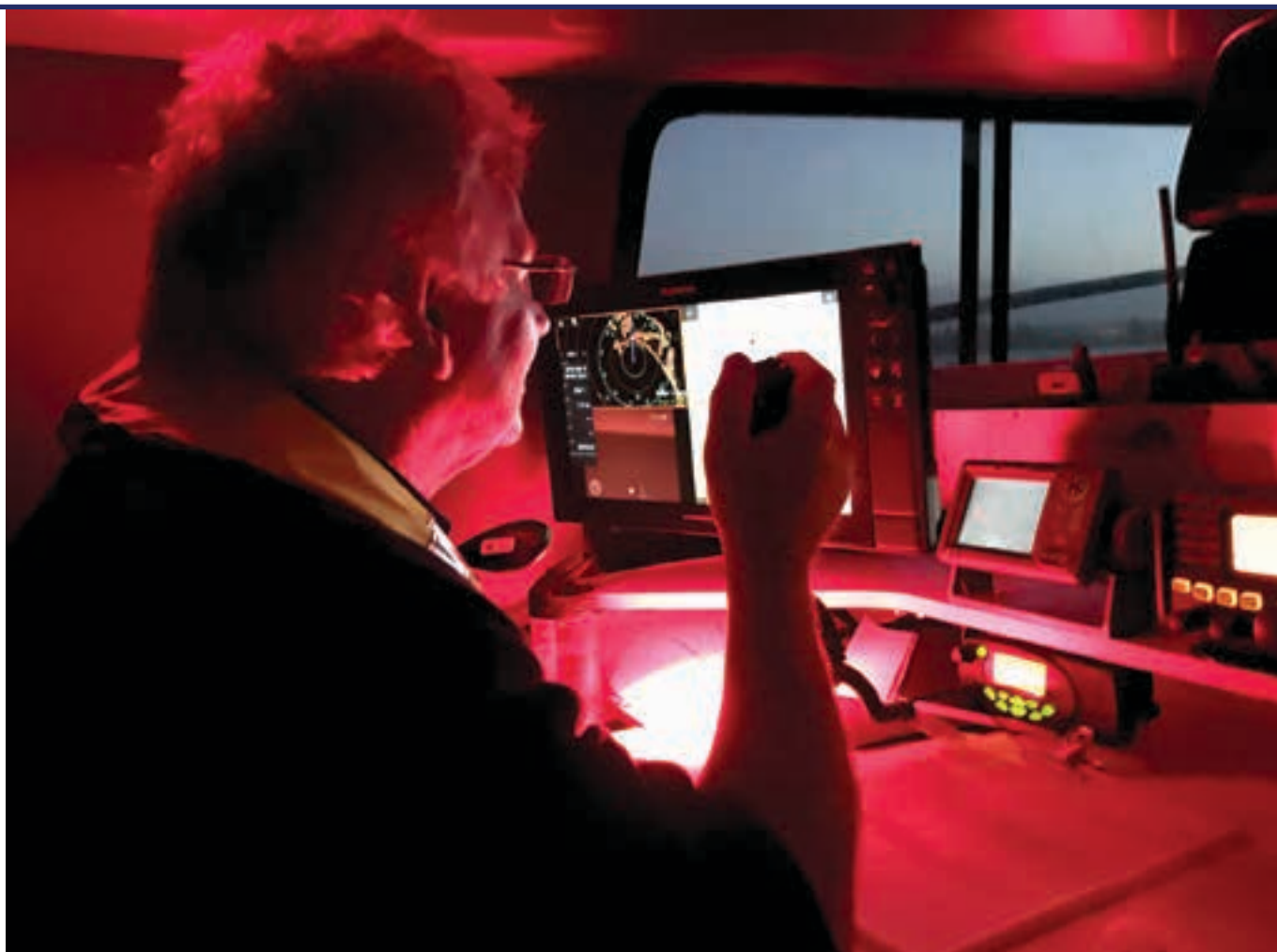
4. SURPLUS FROM REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSES

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<i>Revenue</i>		
Activities income	441,718	390,496
Donations	880,695	709,759
NSW recreational boat licence & registration levy	7,561,930	6,882,831
NSW Government funding	11,180,136	11,141,861
Fundraising & sponsorship income	539,126	642,277
Games of chance	298,225	317,327
Grants	856,374	1,096,482
Sales	181,299	208,866
Interest	45,447	89,978
Net insurance proceeds received	-	253,440
Profit on sale of assets	359,144	42,621
Other	191,354	201,819
	<u>22,535,448</u>	<u>21,977,757</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>		
Activities	30,142	178,219
Administration	993,850	1,036,829
Staff costs	4,419,596	4,173,932
Maintenance of assets	2,883,839	2,394,225
Cost of sales	361,603	356,889
Depreciation	4,522,447	4,019,249
Training expenditure	225,463	264,920
Grant expenditure	149,689	33,639
Fundraising expenditure	135,645	201,993
Games of chance expenditure	107,055	126,315
Interest expense	55,604	94,407
IT expenditure	258,102	294,882
Insurances	381,399	250,519
Marketing	143,063	124,906
Utilities	755,471	751,244
	<u>15,422,968</u>	<u>14,302,168</u>

	2021 \$	2020 \$
5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Trade receivables	869,419	1,116,336
Other receivables	<u>509,257</u>	<u>427,481</u>
	<u>1,378,676</u>	<u>1,543,817</u>
6. INVENTORIES		
Stock on hand - uniforms	335,562	323,842
Stock on hand - ratings & ranks	22,899	15,031
Stock on hand - unit items/equipment	<u>163,909</u>	<u>90,739</u>
	<u>522,370</u>	<u>429,612</u>
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Assets under construction - general	<u>3,661,608</u>	<u>1,696,064</u>
Buildings/leasehold improvements		
At Cost	11,369,587	6,579,702
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,191,846)</u>	<u>(924,071)</u>
	<u>10,177,741</u>	<u>5,655,631</u>
Communications equipment		
At Cost	4,853,234	4,512,865
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(3,488,553)</u>	<u>(2,832,855)</u>
	<u>1,364,681</u>	<u>1,680,010</u>
Furniture, fixtures & fittings		
At Cost	716,119	561,865
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(555,986)</u>	<u>(507,391)</u>
	<u>160,133</u>	<u>54,474</u>
IT, office, plant & equipment		
At Cost	1,957,735	1,541,493
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,519,452)</u>	<u>(1,325,588)</u>
	<u>438,283</u>	<u>215,905</u>
Motor vehicles		
At Cost	2,065,817	1,617,158
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,169,866)</u>	<u>(951,992)</u>
	<u>895,951</u>	<u>665,166</u>

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Rescue vessels		
At Cost	27,719,210	25,300,536
Under construction	1,887,201	1,465,320
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(15,098,558)</u>	<u>(13,410,033)</u>
	<u>14,507,853</u>	<u>13,355,823</u>
Rescue vessel equipment		
At Cost	2,352,124	2,222,242
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,473,504)</u>	<u>(1,154,872)</u>
	<u>878,620</u>	<u>1,067,370</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>32,084,870</u>	<u>24,390,443</u>
Reconciliations		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:		
Assets under construction		
Additions at cost	<u>3,661,608</u>	<u>1,696,064</u>
Buildings/leasehold improvements		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	5,655,631	4,485,447
Additions at cost	4,789,885	1,370,442
Depreciation	<u>(267,775)</u>	<u>(200,258)</u>
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>10,177,741</u>	<u>5,655,631</u>
Communications equipment		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	1,680,010	1,387,244
Additions at cost	340,368	958,734
Disposals	-	(66,348)
Depreciation	<u>(655,697)</u>	<u>(599,620)</u>
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>1,364,681</u>	<u>1,680,010</u>
Furniture, fixtures & fittings		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	54,474	60,860
Additions at cost	154,253	21,817
Depreciation	<u>(48,594)</u>	<u>(28,203)</u>
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>160,133</u>	<u>54,474</u>

	2021 \$	2020 \$
IT, office, plant & equipment		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	215,905	176,648
Additions at cost	416,139	163,868
Disposals	-	(5,851)
Depreciation	(193,761)	(118,760)
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>438,283</u>	<u>215,905</u>
Motor vehicles		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	665,166	691,296
Additions at cost	481,314	313,185
Disposals	-	(109,061)
Depreciation	(250,529)	(230,254)
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>895,951</u>	<u>665,166</u>
Rescue vessels		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	13,355,823	11,576,346
Additions at cost	3,732,967	2,844,228
Under construction	421,880	1,419,867
Disposals	(371,449)	(72,819)
Depreciation	(2,631,368)	(2,411,799)
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>14,507,853</u>	<u>13,355,823</u>
Rescue vessel equipment		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	1,067,370	1,047,368
Additions at cost	153,582	309,665
Disposals	(8,774)	(3,412)
Depreciation	(333,558)	(286,251)
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	<u>878,620</u>	<u>1,067,370</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>32,084,870</u>	<u>24,390,443</u>



Night operations training is essential to ensure crews have the skill and experience to navigate their local waters safely under darkness with the aid of the suite of electronic equipment on board our vessels. MR Bermagui Crew member Greg Jones was on board *Bermagui 30* for a training exercise in December. *Photo: Debbie Worland.*

	Buildings \$000	Total \$000
8. RIGHT OF USE ASSETS		
Balance as at 30 June 2020	443,818	443,818
Additions to right-of-use assets	-	-
Depreciation charge	(141,163)	(141,163)
Reductions in right-of-use assets due to changes in lease liability	-	-
Impairment of right-of-use assets	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2021	<u>302,655</u>	<u>302,655</u>

	2021 \$	2020 \$
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9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Trade payables	<u>2,408,187</u>	<u>1,555,444</u>
	<u>2,408,187</u>	<u>1,555,444</u>

The average period for payment of creditors is 14 days.

No interest is charged on the outstanding.

10. BORROWINGS

a) Current		
Bank loan (Westpac Equipment Financing Facility) - secured	<u>246,255</u>	<u>425,627</u>
	<u>246,255</u>	<u>425,627</u>
b) Non-current		
Bank loan (Westpac Equipment Financing Facility) - secured	<u>651,888</u>	<u>418,969</u>
	<u>651,888</u>	<u>418,969</u>

11. PROVISIONS

a) Current		
Annual leave	<u>680,690</u>	<u>524,010</u>
	<u>680,690</u>	<u>524,010</u>
b) Non-current		
Long service leave	<u>311,564</u>	<u>257,712</u>
	<u>311,564</u>	<u>257,712</u>

12. RELATED PARTIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Directors act in an honorary capacity and receive no compensation for their services. Directors may receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in fulfilling their roles.

The Directors also are members of units and participate in unit activities.

Key management personnel compensation

Key management personnel are those with authority for planning, directing and controlling the company's activities, directly or indirectly, including Board members, the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Operations, Director of Training and Education, Director of Corporate Services and Director of IT and Business Development.

The compensation paid to the key management personnel noted above is:	<u>1,303,543</u>	<u>1,422,327</u>
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No matter how fair or foul the weather, MRNSW crews are on the water responding to emergencies and training to build their capability to handle all conditions.

13. MEMBERS' LIABILITIES AND NUMBERS

The liability of the Members is limited. Every Regular and Provisional Member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of the same being wound up while s/he is a Member, or within one year after s/he ceases to be a Member, for payment of the debts and the liabilities of the company (contracted before s/he ceases to be a Member) and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding two dollars (\$2.00).

The numbers of Members were:

Regular Members	2,548
Provisional	614
Other	<u>48</u>
Total	<u>3,210</u>

	2021 \$	2020 \$
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14. LEASES

(a) Lease impact in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income

The amounts recognised in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income relating to leases where the company is a lessee are shown below.

Interest on lease liabilities	55,604	73,247
Expenses relating to leases of low value assets	66,416	47,285
Total cash outflow for leases	790,154	879,278

15. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	<u>10,444,961</u>	<u>9,833,810</u>
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(b) Reconciliation of surplus for the year to net cash flows from operating activities

Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	7,112,480	7,675,589
Interest income received & receivable	(45,447)	(89,978)
Depreciation charged	4,522,447	4,019,249
Profit on disposal of assets	(359,144)	(42,621)
Interest on finance leases	55,604	94,407
<i>Changes in net assets and liabilities</i>		
Movement in receivables	165,141	(315,637)
Movement in inventories	(92,758)	36,327
Movement in provisions	210,532	125,054
Movement in payables	<u>852,743</u>	<u>(246,420)</u>
Net cash from operating activities	<u>12,421,598</u>	<u>11,255,970</u>

16. REGISTERED OFFICE AND PRINCIPAL PLACES OF BUSINESS

The Registered Office of the company is:

Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW (Trading as Marine Rescue NSW)
Building 1, 202 Nicholson Parade, Cronulla NSW 2230
Phone: 02 8071 4848
Web: marinerescuensw.com.au
Email: admin@marinerescuensw.com.au

The Principal Places of Business are located at the following Marine Rescue NSW bases (from north to south):

1	Point Danger	16	Forster-Tuncurry	31	Port Kembla
2	Brunswick	17	Port Stephens	32	Shellharbour
3	Cape Byron	18	Lemon Tree Passage	33	Shoalhaven
4	Ballina	19	Newcastle	34	Jervis Bay
5	Evans Head	20	Lake Macquarie	35	Sussex Inlet
6	Iluka Yamba	21	Norah Head	36	Ulladulla
7	Wooli	22	Tuggerah Lakes	37	Kioloa
8	Woolgoolga	23	Central Coast	38	Batemans Bay
9	Coffs Harbour	24	Hawkesbury	39	Tuross
10	Nambucca	25	Cottage Point	40	Narooma
11	Trial Bay	26	Broken Bay	41	Bermagui
12	Port Macquarie	27	Sydney (formerly Terrey Hills)	42	Merimbula
13	Lord Howe Island	28	Middle Harbour	43	Eden
14	Camden Haven	29	Port Jackson	44	Alpine Lakes
15	Crowdy Harrington	30	Botany Port Hacking	45	Moama



POWER FOR THE TASK



*Evans Head 31, a 10 metre Naiad, was delivered to the Northern Rivers unit in early June 2021 after first attending the Regional Search and Rescue Exercise at Yamba.
Photo: Kate Woods*

Marine Rescue NSW Operational Regions and Unit locations





MARINE RESCUE NSW

Volunteers saving lives on the water

Volunteer Marine Rescue New South Wales

ABN 98 138 078 092

PO Box 579, Cronulla NSW 2230

Phone: 02 8071 4848 | Fax: 02 9969 5214

Web: marinerescuensw.com.au

Email: admin@marinerescuensw.com.au