Mr. John Tucker,
74 Coonong Road,
GYMEA BAY 2227 N. S. W.

Dear Mr. Tucker,

A small function will be held at the Wales on Wednesday, 26 September, to mark the launching of the Wales Helicopter Rescue Service. We hope that you, as one of the special rescue crew, can join us for this occasion.

The function is to be held on the 12th floor of the Bank's head office, 60 Martin Place, and will begin at 6 p.m.

This will give the Surf Life Saving Association the opportunity to tell other guests invited how the new service will operate, and how it will work in with the present surf life-saving operations.

Apart from S. L. S. A, people others attending will include representatives of Municipal Councils, Police, Ambulance, Hospitals, Volunteer Coast Guard, the Media and so on.

Would you be good enough to call us at 20350 ext. 604 or 516 and let us know if you can come along?

Yours sincerely,

Brian E. Chaseling
Executive Public Relations Manager
During the coming surfing season Radio 2UE will inform the people of Sydney of the work of the Wales Helicopter Rescue Service.

With the use of an exclusive radio link 2UE will be able to broadcast "live" communications from the helicopter rescue team -- that is we will bring Sydney's biggest radio audience a live coverage of major rescues from Sydney beaches.

2UE's involvement in the major public service project of the coming summer will enable the Surf Life Saving movement to keep its name before the public, and for the first time, Sydney people will become really aware of the sophisticated developments being made in the interests of their safety while engaged in activities along the coast line.

Every weekend until Easter 1974, 2UE will broadcast regular service reports for beach goers from the Wales Helicopter Rescue Service and during the seven holiday weeks from December 17, 2UE will keep Sydney informed of the helicopter's activities every day of the week.

2UE is involved in this major public service project of the summer because

2UE is First for Service.
2UE/WALES HELICOPTER REPORTS.

CONTENTS:
1. AREA COVERED.
2. WEATHER CONDITIONS (fine - sunshine, overcast, heavy cloud, rain etc.)
3. WIND (direction, strength).
4. WATER CONDITIONS (waves, rips, clear, clean, no bluebottles etc., safe, etc.)
5. BEACH (clean, untidy etc.)
6. CROWD (on the beach and in area).
7. BOARDS (number - no danger to body surfers etc.)
8. PARKING (available - where? not available)
9. TRAFFIC (roads to and from main beaches).
10. RESCUES (where carried out - if any, and nature of).
11. PREDICTIONS (improvement or otherwise in any of above).

WRITTEN REPORT:

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CLOSE: "THIS IS ....... FOR 2UE FROM THE WALES HELICOPTER RESCUE SERVICE."
GCW:mj

25th September, 1973

Mr. G.B. Staunton,
Hon. Secretary - Sydney Branch,
The Surf Life Saving Association of Australia,
335 Illawarra Road,
MARRICKVILLE, N.S.W. 2204.

Dear Sir,

WALES HELICOPTER RESCUE SERVICE

Airfast Helicopter Utilities Pty. Limited welcomes the opportunity to participate with the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia and the Bank of New South Wales in the provision of a helicopter rescue service in Sydney.

As the largest helicopter operator in Australasia, we are very pleased to extend our activities into this vital area of public service.

We congratulate the Bank on its public spirit in underwriting the Wales Helicopter Rescue Service and give our assurance of full co-operation in making this service a success.

Yours faithfully,

AIRFAST HELICOPTER UTILITIES PTY. LIMITED

[Signature]

F.N. MINJOY
General Manager.
WALEE HELICOPTER RESCUE SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

SWIMMERS IN TROUBLE CAN BANK ON THE WALES 'COPTER

The introduction of a helicopter to patrol the Sydney coastline marks a further addition to the range of Surf Life Saving Association equipment available to rescue those in trouble.

Through sponsorship by the Bank of New South Wales, the Sydney Branch S.L.S.A. helicopter will be on duty every weekend of the surfing season, and seven days a week during the school Christmas holidays.

The Wales Helicopter Rescue Service will link with surf club and S.L.S.A rescue boat patrols through the 'surf command' radio network being established this season.

Based at a number of central 'coastal pads' the helicopter will take only minutes to reach a trouble spot once notified by the 'surf command' radio. Whether it is a surf rescue, a boat in distress or a fisherman swept off rocks, trained assistance will be on hand.

The helicopter will effect the rescue and, if necessary, fly the patient directly to hospital.

Surf lifesavers in the Sydney metropolitan area last summer made 3,407 rescues. The Wales Helicopter Rescue Service cannot replace this work carried out by 36 clubs.

But it will remove much of the risk involved with dangerous rescues, and in conjunction with the SLSA's power rescue boats, increase the scope and efficiency of Surf Life Saving's service to the community.

G. B. STAUNTON,
HON. SECRETARY
S.L.S.A. OF A. SYDNEY BRANCH.
WALES HELICOPTER RESCUE SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

CHAMPION IN THE CREW

Former Australian Surf Belt Champion Leigh Emery is one of 28 Sydney surf lifesavers who have volunteered to crew the Wales Helicopter Rescue Service.

Emery, 22, is a member of Bondi Surf Club. A former NSW surf team member, Emery toured New Zealand in 1972 with the Australian representative surf team.

The 28 crew members have already prepared for their duties.

Earlier this month all attended a two-day 'live in' school at Burning Palms in the Royal National Park, and another one-day school at Maroubra.

At the schools, crew members made practice rescues in a variety of surf conditions, and were instructed in first aid and the latest oxygen resuscitation techniques adopted by the Surf Life Saving Association.

Crew members' ages range from 18 to 61. Many also make regular patrols with surf power boats.

One member, Peter MacCormick is the captain of Manly's Shelly beach jet boat unit, and is a former full-time Los Angeles lifeguard. Peter is an Alderman of Manly Council.

Crew members and their clubs are:

Ian Badham - Service Captain (Burning Palms), Cecil Bond (Manly) Paul Busch (Clovelly), Philip Carter (Clovelly), John Casey (Gare), Jim Connolly (Cronulla), Nick Dixon (Cronulla), Leigh Emery (Bondi), Robert and Stephen Ford (Gare), Peter Gard (North Steyne), Barry Grantham (Coogee), John Hill (Tamarama), Harry Klouzal (Coogee), Paul Langley (Manly), Ian McBeth (Wanda), Peter Mac Cormick (Manly), Garry McCormick (5th Maroubra), Lex McNab (Tamarama), Richard Mailey (Elouera), Alan Morris (5th Maroubra), Paul Neilson (Mona Vale), Frank Osborne (era), John and Peter Tucker (Burning Palms), John Walsh (Mona Vale), Eddie Westdorp (Manly), and Kerry Williams (Cronulla).

G. B. STAUNTON,
HON. SECRETARY.

S.L.S.A. OF A. SYDNEY BRANCH.
Special circular to crew members

Days to remember:

Radio procedure seminar: Wednesday 19th Sept at South Maroubra surf club 7pm.
All crew members invited. Members may be asked to help staff the "surf command" radio control room.

Helicopter training: Sunday 23rd Sept at Maroubra 9am
All crew members must attend. Report to the Maroubra surf club.

Wales seminar: Wednesday 26 Sept at the Bank of NSW head office, 60 Martin Place (cnr of Macquarie Street). Time - early evening. Invitations to be sent. All crew members requested to attend to meet the sponsors over a "working drink".

Radio reports:

Radio 2UE has confirmed that two reports will be made from the helicopter on patrol days. 2UE will hold a couple of training sessions at its North Sydney studios - dates and times to be advised.

Good Fishing:

When practicing your 100 word reports on beach and surf conditions, parking and "family fun and information" for the 2UE reports, don't forget to mention Cec Bond's brown trout.

Step, don't jump:

At the second training session at Maroubra, we'll be making more practice jumps from the 'copter. There will also be liaison work with the power boats. The news media will be invited, so don't forget to bring your smiles as you hit the water!

Roster allocation:

The roster for duty with the helicopter will be drawn up at the Maroubra training. Before you come, make a note of any days you will not be available for duty.

Thanks to the Palms and Purdy:

Those who survived the walk back up that hill, no doubt will appreciate the difference our service will make to emergencies in areas with difficult access. From everyone's comments it was a good weekend - thanks go to Burning Palms club members who looked after us, and also to Bruce Purdy who joined in to share his experience.

Radio tests:

Tests with the proposed SLSA radio network on the Sunday of our training session at the Palms proved the system will be highly effective - once the PMG allocates a suitable frequency. Tragically, the radio network wasn't in operation to link SLSA units and the police to try and save those two fishermen at Kurnell. Their deaths are a reminder of the value our Helicopter Surf Rescue Service will offer.
Crew circular No 2

CREW UNIFORM
As outlined on the attached screed, arrangements have been made to supply each member with a uniform valued at $41.00. Members must contribute $16.00 towards this.

CREW PARTY
Wales Helicopter Surf Rescue Service crew members all have more on their plate to be involved with regular monthly meetings and the like.

But it’s still a very good idea to get together at times to talk, pass on information and experiences — so there will be occasional parties or mee tings.

The first is at Barry Grantham’s house at 15 Higgs Street, Coogee. Please advise Ian Badham (phone message) if you will attend.

Date: Saturday November 17th from 8pm.

Drinks etc available. Bring your wife and/or girl friend.

2UE REPORTS
These are now under way. We are required to supply two reports from the helicopter crew for broadcast at 8.40am and 11.40am at weekends.

Each report is to be of about 100 words. Remember the style is to give "family" information in a relaxed, concise style. Reports will also be given from any rescues.

ROSTERED DUTY

A 100 per cent attendance to date. Great.

The meeting point for each day is at the Flight Facilities (Firfast) terminal, Eleventh Ave at Sydney’s Mascot Airport — the general aviation section — at 7am. Then head over to North Head in one vehicle.

If you live northside, you can report directly to the helicopter at North Head army base — at the football field — by 8am.

Lunches have been arranged at the army base.

SURF COMMAND

The SLSA radio network is now well under way.

Volunteers are required to help man the Sydney command base, soon to move to Maroubra. If you would like to assist please ring Ian Badham.

Very soon — I hope — a proper roster will be compiled to staff this central link post.

...OVER...
NATIONAL COUNCIL VISIT

Each Saturday and Sunday the helicopter has been visiting beaches to give club patrols first hand instruction of what it's all about.

At the visit planned for Maroubra on Sunday November 4th, National Council SLSA delegates in Sydney for their annual meeting will join the inspection, along with the Maroubra patrol boys.

If you'd like to join the float kickers at 10am (as George says, they all kick the floats) feel welcome. And any weekend members are welcome to visit the duty crew at North Head.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please note that Ian MacBeth's private phone number is: 587-1538

Phone numbers for Lex McNab are: 451-2941 (P)
630-6930 (B)

DCA TERMS

With assistance from the latest "Airfast News" the following may assist us laymen to understand the specialised language of Air Traffic Control — and that's useful when flying.

Air Traffic Controller: A cynic, subsidised by the railway and dedicated to the task of discouraging travel by air.

IFR Traffic: A concentration of numerous aircraft over a given point at the same time, each demanding the same route and each having the same priority.

IFR: Conditions under which pilots cannot see how closely they just missed colliding.

Holding Pattern: Laughable term applied to the dog fight in process over the radio facility serving an airfield.

Separation: That condition achieved when two or more aircraft fail to collide.

Control Area: Air space in which only one centre has the authority to disrupt the flow of air traffic.

Radar Control: The blind leading the blind.

See you at Barry Grantham's place on Saturday night, November 17th.

Ian Badham
Wales Helicopter Surf Rescue Service
Crew circular No 3 (January '74)

RESCUE COUNT

To date the service has made 13 rescues from the sea. On account of the unlucky number (according to some), it's about time for a few more to keep up the practice.

Additionally, a quick count shows 10 more accident cases flown to hospital. Then there have been all those searches for boats, skin divers for the police and surf club hunts for sharks.

In brief, everything is going well, so keep up the good work — and practice.

SHARK SPOTTING

About the only things not sighted to date have been sharks. It is unusual for this time of the year off Sydney not to have seen any.

A scientific officer attached to the Fisheries has asked us to make notes if sharks are spotted:
   The number seen
   The direction they are moving
   Approx size and, if possible, type
   The time spotted.

Please record this information on the duty log. There will be no prize for the first crew to land a shark.

"WALES" REPORT COVER

It was a great honour for our service to be chosen for the front cover of the Wales annual report — in full colour. It has created a tremendous amount of interest. The shot was taken during a demonstration at Dee Why, and features the Shelly Beach power boat duo of Peter MacCormick and Peter G ard.

NEXT MEETING

A meeting of all helicopter crew members will be held at Surf House — 62 Buckingham Street, Sydney (between Central railway and the Redfern mail exchange) on a Friday evening in February.

This will allow discussion on points raised by the operation to date, and general discussion. The date will be advised.

15th Feb 6.30 pm

over/
BEACH LANDINGS

The DOT (former DCA) is strict about beach landing safety. The rule is to have an area set aside during every patrol. It should be 150ft x 150ft back from the water's edge, with posts and a rope which can be put up in a hurry.

This will also serve as a landing site for jet rescue boats and a resuscitation "emergency" area for major rescues.

Members of the helicopter crew have a duty, as members of the crew, to help ensure club patrols are made aware of this requirement. It's best to have the area ready to be cleared at every patrol rather than wait for a rescue when it will be too late.

OXY VIVA

The helicopter is now carrying its oxygen resuscitator. The next step, when examination details are finalised, is for every member to gain his advanced resuscitation certificate.

As a starter, members should study the new Handbook No 2 Part 1, and if possible get some instruction at club level. Practice must certainly be maintained in expired air resuscitation. This topic, and plans for a central training group, will be discussed at the meeting in February.

RADIO 2UE REPORTS

There is still some concern about these reports. When possible, crew members will give them — at other times the pilot will.

Remember, raise your voice only slightly above the normal level. But it is important to speak clearly and with enthusiasm in your voice — if you do "act" slightly it will sound normal. If you give it without this it will always sound flat and dull.

Also, make the words tell listeners that you are up there looking down, i.e., say "the surf down below looks" or "we've just flown over" or "looking over Manly beach from".

We are the only surf life saving unit to give regular radio broadcasts so let's show that we are experts at it!

IT'S NOT A LOCAL CALL

For about 3½ weeks from Jan 17 to Feb 10, I will be away in South Africa attending the World Life Saving Congress. It is a bit far away for local calls, so Nick Dixon will look after any urgent matters. Nick may be contacted, or a message left for him to call back, at the following:

Home: Ph 523-4670 or the NSW State Centre office (9-3): Ph 699-1982
After Jan 27, during school hours, at: Ph 520-6261

—— Ian Badham
Captain
SURF LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY BRANCH

EMERGENCY RADIO ROOM ROSTER

TO: BRANCH OFFICERS
    BOARD OF EXAMINERS
    POWER BOAT CREWS
    HELICOPTER CREW

The Branch's emergency radio communication centre - Sydney Command - is now operating from a well-appointed room on the first floor of Maroubra Surf Life Saving Club.

Already the Surf Command Radio Network has proved its worth in co-ordinating rescue activities, providing other emergency services with a central point to contact the S.L.S.A., and making efficient use of Surf Club rescue equipment.

Although the radio centre is operating well, the staffing has been left to few too many operators.

Further applications are now called from senior-level members of the Association. It is expected that representatives from the above groups will volunteer for rostered duty - there are plenty of days and half days available - to assist this vital operation.

Members of the power boats and helicopter crews, Branch Officers and Members of the Board of Examiners have the experience needed to staff the Sydney Command Base. In return, they will be gaining experience in this latest extension of Surf Life Saving involvement.

Attached is the roster as it presently stands. Please nominate the days, or half days, you are available and return to Sydney Branch.

G. B. STAUNTON,
HON. SECRETARY - SYDNEY BRANCH.
RETURN TO: Surf Life Saving Association of Australia,
Sydney Branch,
335 Illawarra Road,
MARRICKVILLE. 2204.

NAME: .................................................................

ADDRESS: .................................................................

................................................................. Postcode

TELEPHONE NO: ........................................ (Business). .......................... (Private)

CLUB: .................................................................

POSITIONS IN CLUB: .................................................................

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Indicate on the roster attached the days you are available for duty,
(if a.m. or p.m., please indicate)
Saturday 1st
Sunday 2nd
Saturday 3rd
Sunday 9th
Saturday 15th
Sunday 16th
Monday 17th
Tuesday 18th
Wednesday 19th
Thursday 20th
Friday 21st
Saturday 22nd
Sunday 23rd
Monday 24th
Tuesday 25th
Wednesday 26th
Thursday 27th
Friday 28th
Saturday 29th
Sunday 30th
Monday 31st.

Ian Badham
Stephen Ford
John Tucker, Brian Woodward, Max Murphy
John Solomon

Stephen Ford

Brian Harvey, Barry Grantham (p.m.)
Craig Wood
Barry Grantham
Barry Grantham
Ian Badham (a.m.), Philip Carter
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FEBRUARY

Friday 1st
Saturday 2nd       Philip Carter
Sunday 3rd        John Tucker
Saturday 9th
Sunday 10th       Brian Woodward
Saturday 16th
Sunday 17th
Saturday 23rd
Sunday 24th

MARCH

Saturday 2nd
Sunday 3rd
Saturday 9th
Sunday 10th       John Tucker, Brian Woodward
Saturday 16th
Sunday 17th
Saturday 23rd     Stephen Ford
Sunday 14th       Max Murphy
Saturday 30th     Philip Carter
Sunday 31st       John Solomon

APRIL

Saturday 6th       Stephen Ford, Philip Carter
Sunday 7th
Friday 12th
Saturday 13th
Sunday 14th
Monday 15th