



Mackay SLSC Media correspondence

31/01/2022

Little ripples in the ocean create big waves for Mackay SLSC

Who would have thought that a chance encounter over 10 years ago at the beach would have led to a lifetime of fun, friendship, fitness and career opportunities for Kate Born & Klara Close, both developing members of Mackay SLSC “Guardians of the Beach since 1950”.

Kate & Klara first joined MSLSC as a green cap aged 5 years old and have since progressed from there to take their experiences as best friends and to use their qualifications that they have learnt through Lifeaving to become lifeguards at the Blue Water Lagoon at the age of 17.

“A highlight of being involved with nippers was finding lifelong & loyal friends, being able to compete around QLD and learning valuable skills that could one day save a person’s life. I’ve been able to watch Klara grow and succeed as a person, which is awesome” said Kate Born.

Klara Close says “Some of our friends seem scared of the ocean, they have no experience in the sport and might have casual jobs that get in the way, which shouldn’t be a barrier. The good thing for teenagers like me, is I can get my Surf Rescue Certificate, First Aid and Bronze Medallion through the club as a member and this has now led to employment opportunities in the community, just by being involved in my local surf lifesaving club. There are so many opportunities for people my age. Friendship, fitness, qualifications and employment, it’s been such an awesome journey”

From their experiences in surf lifesaving, Kate is looking at studying teaching, whereas Klara wants to be a paramedic. Both careers they say have been inspired from their commitment to their community as well as the skills they have learnt from Surf Lifesaving.

Both girls progressed from green caps, through nippers & cadets, and are now patrolling members and hope to be involved for many years in this iconic sport.

If you would like to attain lifelong friendships, fitness, qualifications and contribute to your community, please contact admin@mackayslsc.com.au for further information. With sponsorship from Mackay Airport we are able to reduce your membership fees by \$100 if you become a patrolling member. We will see you at the beach!

Klara & Kate and attending one of their first Surf Lifesaving carnivals together.





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Klara & Kate getting ready for a morning at Nippers



Kate & Klara attending Pool rescue activities as cadets





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After completing their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC), Kate & Klara regularly provide water safety at Nippers on a Sunday morning.



Kate (Left) and Klara (right) with Orlando Corrie (Centre) after completing their SRC training and getting ready in their patrol gear.





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Kate & Klara competing at last year's North Australian Titles



Kate & Klara having some fun whilst on patrol at Harbour Beach



Kind Regards,

Josh Grant

Director of Surf Sports (DOSS)

Mackay Surf Lifesaving Club



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