Of all the responsibilities that are undertaken by the Membership Sub-committee on an annual basis, my favourite task would have to be receiving and considering the nominations for Club Member of the Year. As a committee we are always overwhelmed when we delve into the huge contributions that some members make or have made to the Club over the years. Quite often so much of what these members do for the Club is done without most of us knowing the extent of their involvement. This award is used to highlight these special individuals.

This year the Board reflected on the nominations and it appeared to us that we were going to be looking at a unique outcome. It was unanimously decided that we in fact had 2 individuals that we would like to recognise as Club Members of the Year. These two individuals are very clear examples of members illustrating the Club’s vision statement.

The Club’s vision states: “Through sporting and associated activities the BBC strives to inspire vitality and cultivate friendships”. Vitality and Friendship - 2 words...for 2 Members!

Therefore we were pleased to announce at our Annual Presentation Night on the 23rd April, that our Club Members of the Year for 2017/18 are Clive Mancey and Charm Frend.

Clive has been a member of the Club since 2000. He is a well-known weekend swimmer who has dedicated hours to taking interviews for the Club’s archives and the Centenary Book. However, he is most recognised at the Club for his role as the Convenor of Storytellers. Storytellers has been running since 2007. At that meeting only 5 people attended but the numbers have grown enormously since then and we have had up to 100 people at some sessions. This December, Storytellers will celebrate its 10th year.

The success of Storytellers is greatly due to Clive’s dedication to consistently source interesting presenters that have provided some amazing tales for the members to enjoy over the years. He not only chairs the meeting, but he tapes it and circulates minutes to everyone. He also has been the transport for members unable to drive, to attend Storytellers. This popular activity provides a forum for developing and maintaining friendships whilst listening to a great yarn and it definitely enhances the enjoyment of the Club for all those who attend. Congratulations Clive.

Similarly Charm Frend is very well known around the Club. She has been an incredibly active member since she joined in 1995. She has served as Vice and Club Captain in previous years but she has been nominated this year for Club Member of the Year because of an initiative that she has embraced, fostered and developed....The “500 Club” or as it is commonly known “Charm’s 500”.

The 500 event was introduced in 2015 as a swim that would enhance the Club’s ability to incorporate a section of the membership which over many years had not been tapped into. This event involves and encourages interested members from as young as 8 years through to seniors in their 80’s. Charm, in her enthusiastic manner, has encouraged and embraced any interested, potential swimmer to come and have a go. Many previously non-active/social swimming members who have joined the 500 Club not only walk away with a sense of achievement and purpose but also walk away feeling fitter and more vital!

Congratulations Charm!

The Membership Committee extends our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Clive and Charm for all the passion, commitment and inclusiveness that they have illustrated over their years as members of the BBC. We celebrate you both as Club Members of the Year for 2017/18.
Unfortunately, for the first time in 26 years this year’s event was cancelled. We had sustained rain in the preceding weeks. In the days before the event we closely monitored beachwatch, the website of the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage which uses historic rainfall figures to predict the likelihood of pollution. On the day before the event it advised for Hunter Bay “Pollution is likely, avoid swimming today”. On this basis, our water safety crews were also instructed not to enter the water. Therefore, we had no choice but to make the responsible decision to cancel. Alternative dates were not possible for many reasons. Cancelling was a disappointment especially after all the hard work had been done. Even more so when the day itself was fine, but the danger to our competitors remained. Instead, many of the volunteers and the committee enjoyed the delicious sausages provided by Penny’s. Fortunately, we had already reduced the order to only 500. For all those already entered, the 2018 Balmoral Swim for Cancer will be free. Credit was given to our sponsors less a proportion to cover our fixed expenses. The cancellation impacted the monies raised however a remarkable total of $123,666 was donated to the Children’s Cancer Institute. Thank you for your generosity.

Swim Fundraisers $26,530
Schools Challenge $28,120
Corporate $47,751
Other including entries $29,265
TOTAL: $131,666

Congratulations to the Fundraising trophy winners for 2017. These are:
• Schools Challenge: Queenwood
• Corporate Challenge: JB Were Barracudas
• Alexander Patrick Hall Trophy:
  • Team-ACES-$13,230,
  • Individual-Karen Panaretto $2,010
The Balmoral Swim for Cancer is proudly supporting the Children’s Cancer Institute to raise funds to help cure childhood cancer. Curing Childhood Cancer. It’s not if. It’s when. To date, the swim has raised near to $1 Million Dollars in support of the Children’s Cancer Institute. A great effort from a volunteer organisation.

Everyone did a wonderful job assisting in many roles. There were significant changes planned to the organisation of swim in 2017. We were on target to launch an additional 5km swim event, have more community participation and raise more funds. I want to acknowledge the wonderful works of all the volunteers especially the members of the committee listed below:
• Andy Bremner - Chief co-ordinator.
• Jackie Bourne & Jan Davies – Registration & HMAS Penguin liaison
• Philip Thomas - Logistics
• Richard Mychalewycz-Transport &
Manpower
- Tony Arena - Fundraising
- David Hosking - Finance
- Tom R Fry - Sponsorship & Corporate Challenge
- Rob Angus - Corporate & Schools Challenges
- Karen Panareto - Media & Comms
- Cathy Mackay, Tina Brandon Cooper & Rob Angus - Schools Challenge
- John Bagnall - Starter
- Mark Simkins - Artwork & Design
- Libby Manuel - Cashier
- Vittoria Hall - Merchandise, T-Shirts, Sponsorship, Café liaison
- Charm Frend - Course Design & presenter with Michael Clifford.

Thanks to our sponsors for their ongoing support.
- Platinum - ALLIANZ
- Gold - Audi Centre Mosman
- Gold - URM
- Silver - Medlab
- Bronze: Edney Ryan Group, Jeckra, Mortgage Choice, Raine & Horne Mosman
HMAS Penguin continue to sponsor the HMAS Penguin Shield Relay and give much appreciated logistical support. Their Hydrology team set the course co-ordinates and another team lay the swim buoys early on event day. As they have for many years, a Detachment of the RAN Navy Band, had planned to perform in the Rotunda, adding to the atmosphere.

Of course, we also thank our fundraisers and those who planned to compete. We apologise for any inconvenience and disappointment caused by the cancellation and hope that you will join us next year. If you want to join the committee, please talk to us. We look forward to your participation on Sunday March 18, 2018.

- Peter Ellis
Event Director
ARUNDEL Humphrey Everard
Humphrey passed away 29 May 2016. Humphrey joined the Club in July 1993 along with his wife Janine. Condolences to his wife Janine and family.

BARRETT Patricia (Trish) Joan
Trish passed away on 8 March 2017. She joined the Club in 2000. Condolences to her husband, Robert, who is also a member of the club. Trish will be remembered as a remarkable lady who had a unique empathy with other people and a zest for life that inspired everyone.

BRADHURST Dorothy
Dottie passed away peacefully on June 12th, just 5 days short of her 99th birthday. She joined the Club back in 1924, and remained an active member until she moved away from Mosman at the beginning of 2012 at which time she was, I believe, the longest serving member of the club then alive.

CROUCH Paquita
Paquita passed away in July 2016. She joined the Club in March 1978 and will be well remembered for her adventurous spirit and love of the outdoors. When she joined she was one of a few female swimmers who braved the races each weekend. She swam every morning with the “A team” who swim before it is light. Although not a stylish swimmer, because of a shoulder complaint, she swam strongly and did the Palm to Whale Beach swim several times. Condolences to her daughter, Manuela and her family.

FINCH, Richard Tennant (Dick)
Richard passed away peacefully, Friday 9 June 2017, aged 93 years, surrounded by his loving family.

GREENBERG David
David passed away on 8 January 2017, aged 90 years. He served in the AIF 1945-46. David joined the Club on 24 October 1956 and was an active member, swimming every morning. His many years of service to the Club as the Saturday race starter were recognised in 2013 when he was appointed a Life Membership. A humorous man, he was always ready with a quip. The Club extends condolences to his wife Margrit and daughters Pixe and Lindy and to their families.

HARROP David George
David passed away peacefully on Tuesday 29th November 2016, aged 77 years. David joined the Club in July 2000 along with his wife Joanna. Condolences to his wife Joanna and children Simon, Georgina and Ben and his grandchildren, Charlie, Ned, Sam, Sofia and Tom.

HIGGINS Ross
Ross passed away on 7 October 2016. Ross joined the Club in 1937 was a member for more than 30 years. Ross was the first winner of the Jack Cox Memorial handicap held in 1947. He was the son of Doug and Monica Higgins. Doug was a Life Member of the Beach Club.
POWELL Noreen Mary
Noreen Mary.(née Carroll) passed away peacefully on Monday 18 July, 2016, aged 85 years. She joined the Club in May 2006 and was the daughter of Jack Carroll, who was a founding member, “Smuggler”, Club Captain, Secretary, President and Life Member of the club. Condolences to her husband, Frank, children, grandchildren and great grandson.

ROWE Gerry
Gerry passed away on 6 January 2017, aged 79 years. He had been a member of the Club since 2003.

RYAN, Robert (Bob) Terence
Bob died peacefully on 4 April, 2017, aged 90 years. He joined the Club in October 1951 and was Club Captain between 1968 and 1970. His dry humour will be missed by the early morning swimmers at the club. Bob’s wife, Jocelyn, predeceased him. The Beach Club extends condolences to his children Christine, Michael (a junior Club Champion) and Louise and their families.

SALISBURY Janis
Janis passed away on 6 August 2016. Janis joined the Club on 23rd March 1948. Many club members will remember her brightly coloured “flower” bathing caps that she loved wearing as she swam each morning. Janis was the daughter of a well know member Eric Hart who for many years took the temperature of the water each day. When Eric died in 1992, Jan and her mother Eileen made a very generous donation to the club in his memory. Janis was a well known philanthropist to numerous charities helping children, animals and the arts. May she rest in peace.

WOLF Gunter
Gunter Wolf passed away on 20 April 2017 aged 78. Born in Germany Gunter and his wife Brigitte, immigrated to Australia in 1961. Gunter joined the Beach Club in 1966 around the time that he and his family moved to Cremorne. Gunter was well known at the Club as an amicable, gentle person with a wickedly dry wit and a heart warming smile. He swam most afternoons until quite recently and favoured a parking spot directly at the front of the Club, which he would inform was always available if you were patient. He was a cherished friend to four generations of the Mather family. To his wife Brigitte and daughters Sylvia, Claudia and family, the Beach Club extends its deep sympathy.
Peter Brown winner of Bruce Beale trophy.

Lori Middlehurst winner of Anzac trophy.

Fast start for the ladies in weight for age

Weight for Age podium. Brian Davidson, Jon Attwater & Karen Panaretto

Officials Alison Maunder and Eve Bagnall at Erik Mather swim.

Karen Panaretto winner of Captains trophy with Cathy Mackay.

Michael Halmygi winner of Brian Rudd trophy.

Jimmy Arnold winner of Joe Guss trophy.

Karen Panaretto winner of Captains trophy with Cathy Mackay.
Gerry Elkan and Roger FitzSimons are the de-register team.

Susan Vuletich and Heather Kent both swam 6km in the Erik Mather swim.

Barry Feyder swims 4 km in Erik Mather swim. John Simmonds and Marg Carney after swimming 4km in Erik Mather swim.

Jack Rudd gets points for his SOF team.

First four home in SOF Swuddle race.

Toby Brandon-Cooper ahead of the pack.

Stalwarts (Most Consistant swimmer) trophy winner Duncan Adams.
Jack Jones winner of Peter Edmonds trophy.
Kate Mackinnon winner of Rex Hayhow trophy.
George and Felix Pal start in the boardshorts race.
Merri Mack finishes first in today's SOF race.
Pip Livingstone winner of Tim Anderson trophy.
Rob Angus winner of MacRobert Family Palm Beach to Whale beach trophy.
Rob Fitzpatrick winner of Chris Bolger trophy with previous winners.
Ros Skinner winner of Ben Remfry.
Jack Jones winner of Peter Edmonds trophy.
Adam Thompson wins Stewart & Maisie McNaughtan trophy.

The Ironman start

The Ironman competitors

Charm and the 500m swimmers celebrate New Year.
The Ironman winners L-R Jack Jones (2nd), Pip Livingstone (1st), Justin Rooney (3rd).

George Franki and Sandy Longworth.

Winner of Franki biathlon Jack McPhee with George Franki.

ranki Biathlon Podium (L-R Shann Warner (3rd), Jack McPhee(1st), Peter Thiel (2nd))

The three musketeers finish the Franki biathlon.

Jeanette Adams wins Higgins Sanderson trophy.

Checking handicaps for the Jack Cox race. Denise Elde, Tony Crosby and Marg Carney.
Ella Moffat starts Jack Cox race. Barry Rutter trophy winner Sandy Longworth.

John Chan winner of Saturday 500 trophy. Vin Morath trophy winner Dom Dwyer with joint second Megan Phelps.

Jimmy Arnold delighted to win Jack Cox trophy. Ladies swimming champion (L-R Tina Brandon-Cooper(3rd), Charm Frend(2nd), Pip Livingstone(1st).

Jacque and life savers after Gibbo’s swim. Life savers take Gibbo for a dip. The BBC at its best.

Photographs from the Balmoral Beach Club’s archives contributed by: Tim Anderson, Jackie Bourn, Fay Cochran, Tony Smuts, Mark Simkins and Noel Wilton.