

## **Harold John Brown, OAM**

It is with great sadness that the North Cronulla SLSC advise the passing today (Monday 7/5/8) at 1.00 pm of Harold John Brown, OAM. Harry passed away peacefully with his loving family by his side.

We offer the club's deepest sympathy to Harry's daughter Suzanne, husband Mark, grand children Sarah, Kyle and Mitchell and great grandchild Archer and Harry's son Stephen, wife Julie and grand children, Dylan and Georgia.

Harry Brown was one of the true legends of the North Cronulla SLSC as well as Surf Lifesaving throughout Australia and indeed the world.

His contribution to Surf Lifesaving was incredible.

He was a Surf Lifesaver extraordinaire.

His personal leadership in the development and training of the Inflatable Rescue Boat was outstanding. The success today of this vital rescue equipment in Australia and indeed the world, is due to the efforts, direction and leadership of Harry Brown.

The design and development of Surf House at Bondi Beach as well as the previous Surf Lifesaving NSW Headquarters at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation in Narrabeen was Harry's responsibility.

Harry Brown held the most responsible position of Honorary Secretary of the National Council of Surf Life Saving Australia and was in fact the last honorary officer to hold this position.

Wherever you look inside the North Cronulla SLSC clubhouse, you see Harry Brown's footprint. Our 25 metre swimming pool (the first in any surf club) was designed by Harry along with two versions of our famous Harold Judd room, as well as the Club's Gymnasium, Nipper Room, Training Room and Administration centre. Harry was the pioneer of the new development at North Cronulla Beach which will be fulfilled in the years to come.

Harry was a leader in our club's Pool Survival Campaign where we reached out to the public and taught 600 parents the skill of Resuscitation at a time when there had been an increase in infant drowning in back yard swimming pools.

He was a Gold medallist as the sweep in the North Cronulla crew who won the Junior Surf Boat Race Championship of Australia at Scarborough Beach WA in 1958 - 60 years since.

Harry Brown led our Club over many years as our Patron, President, Treasurer, Chief Gear Steward and Boat Captain. In all these positions he displayed enormous energy and passion and by his leadership inspired so many members in our club.

Harry Brown was awarded Life Membership of the North Cronulla SLSC, Surf Life Saving Sydney, Surf Life Saving NSW and Surf Life Saving Australia.

He was voted into Surf Life Saving's Hall of Fame for displaying Excellence over a long period of time in the category of Surf Life Saving.

As well, Harry Brown was awarded with the Medal of the Order of Australia, OAM for his services to Surf Lifesaving.

The loss of Harry Brown OAM will have an enormous effect on the North Cronulla SLSC.

He will be missed by many in our Club let alone the entire Surf Lifesaving family nationwide and around the world.

May he rest in Peace

Warren A Rennie, AM – Patron, North Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club

The arrangements to celebrate the Life of Harold J Brown, OAM will be released in the coming days.