

SLSA WALES

Surf Life Saving Association of Wales



The early years ~ 1968 - 1973



Gwylidwriaeth a Gwasanaeth

Vigilance and Service



Cyflwynir y llyfryn hwn i holl wirfoddolwyr y gorffennol
a'r presennol am eu cyfraniad at hanes gwerthfawr
Achub Bywyd ar y Môr yng Nghymru

This booklet is dedicated to all the volunteers,
past and present, who have contributed to the rich
history of Surf Life Saving in Wales

Foreword by Peter Lake MBE, President SLSA Wales

In recognition of 50 Golden Years within SLSA Wales, it is my honour to pay tribute to the developments which are mentioned within this booklet. Starting from the very beginning where a handful of members and clubs set about organising the Welsh Region, each with a common aim, to train voluntary lifeguard patrols for the local Beaches throughout Wales.

We pay tribute to these pioneering members and to all the voluntary committee members who have followed in their footsteps to this present day.

We have updated our constitution throughout the years to keep in line with developments, such as:

-  National Youth Development Programme.
-  ILS Lifesaving Standards & IT Programme.
-  Education and International Sport Standards.
-  ILS International Inshore Rescue Boats Standards.

We work with and for the community and we offer challenges for all age and gender. All this work is done by committed hard working voluntary members.

It is both my pleasure and honour to thank all these magnificent members, for their service to both their communities and SLSA Wales.

Congratulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Peter Lake'.

Surf Life Saving Association of Wales ~ the Early Years 1968 - 1973

Year zero in Wales was 1961 when Solva SLSC affiliated to the Surf Life Saving Association of Great Britain (SLS GB). SLS GB was at that time, concentrated in the South West of England and was formed on the 27th February 1955 by **Alan 'Kanga' Kennedy**. Alan was a surf life saving enthusiast from the Queensland State Centre, who was working at the Australian Embassy in London.

The catalytic impulse for the development of surf life saving in Wales came with the opening of Atlantic College (AC) at St. Donats in 1962. Service, particularly Rescue Service, had a central role in the curriculum. The inspiration for this came from the founding Headmaster, **Admiral Desmond Hoare**. **Harry Potts**, a Science teacher, was appointed not only to teach science but also to be responsible for setting up a surf life saving unit. He had qualified, gaining the Australian SLSC Bronze through an association with a group of Australians in Jersey. He then went on to teach in Gordonstoun, where he set up a surf life saving unit, before his move to St Donats.

Harry Potts left after one year but in that year he had trained a bronze medallion squad which included **Roger Haslam**, the Head of Physics, who was in charge of surf life saving when **John David** joined the College staff in September 1963. At Easter, of that year, Roger Haslam had taken a small lifesaving team down West to make contact with the club at Solva.

With AC also now affiliated to SLS GB, Solva SLSC and AC, together with Gordonstoun and Brighton SLSC, were created as Area D, the outlying clubs, by SLS GB.

The setting up of an Extramural Department at AC under **Charles 'Chic' Thomson**, later to become the National Coastal Rescue Training Centre (NCRTC) at Aberavon, gave the structure needed to establish local interest in setting up lifeguard clubs. Initially, instruction was given by Roger Haslam and John David, assisted by second year students and fellow staff members **Chris Woodbridge** and **Eric Williams**, both of whom at various times ran the College Beach Rescue Unit. Later, following the move to Aberavon, instruction was given by NCRTC staff, mainly ex-AC students on summer contracts and members of the Aberavon Club.

The mid 1960s' were a time of dramatic development in South Wales with clubs starting up at Llantwit Major, Ogmere-by-sea (Penybont), Aberdare Churchmen (led by an ex AC student Julian Barge), Barry St John's and Aberthaw Power Station Lifeguard Team. There were also two clubs in West Wales, Solva, who later joined with a lifesaving club at Whitesands beach to become Porthmawr SLSC in 1967, and RNAS Brawdy. Wales was outgrowing its Area D status, at least in terms of the number of clubs.

In 1966/67 John David was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study the organisation and rescue techniques of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia. The 'know-how' acquired proved invaluable when, through 1967 into early 1968, pressure built up from a number of people, notably **Reg Whittle** of the Penybont club and **Frank Clark** and **Alf Thomas** of the Llantwit Major club, who asserted that Wales could 'go it alone' in establishing a Welsh Region of SLS GB. Chic Thomson gave these pioneers his full support, firstly with that of the AC Extramural Department and then with the NCRTC, which would be so influential in the formation of new clubs. 'Chic' saw that the Welsh Association which was being proposed would provide the organisational structure for the new clubs, whose formation he was encouraging.

The crucial meeting took place in the spring of 1968, at the Science Lecture Theatre at AC where John David was elected as the first Chairman, Reg Whittle as Secretary and **Margaret Whittle** as Treasurer.

Note. The creation of the Welsh Region of SLS GB in early 1968, is corroborated in the Annual Report from SLS GB covering 1969, where it is recorded and congratulations offered on the first birthday of SLSA Wales.

The first Surf Life Saving Championships of Wales were held in Aberavon in the summer of 1968. John David was the only Examiner/Judge in Wales, so without the support of **Owen May** and **Alan Wynd** from the Burnham club in Somerset, the competition would not have been able to go ahead. It was a highly successful Championship with six teams (two from the College) competing.







1968 AC Men's Lifeguard Team 1968

This was a great rehearsal for the SLS GB Championships at St. Ives that year when AC men's team took the Champion's Cup, ending the Bude/Perranporth dominance and creating history by taking the trophy out of England for the first time. Penybont SLSC took the Maiden Trophy, demonstrating SLSA Wales had grown up very quickly. The performance of the Welsh teams at St. Ives in 1968 was a decisive landmark in the history of SLSA Wales, providing

a confidence boost at just the right time. The championships at St. Ives gave real substance and presence for surf life saving in Wales for expansion in the following years.

A further 'first' that year was a tour, based at AC, by the surf boat crew from Palm Beach, Sydney, who sent their boat, Cabbage Tree 11, over ahead of them and then presented it to AC on the beach at St. Ives before their return home.

1968 also saw some other very important achievements by SLSA Wales and its clubs:

-  22 lives saved on 6 South Wales beaches
-  9 lives saved on 2 West Wales beaches
-  37 SLS GB Bronze Medallions awarded
-  11 SLS GB Instructors trained and qualified

One other significant factor in 1968, was the decision by AC to move their Extramural Department to Aberavon in early 1969, in order to create the NCRTC under the Directorship of 'Chic' Thomson. The subsequent development of voluntary surf life saving clubs in Wales owes a considerable amount to the progressive approach of 'Chic', together with his enthusiasm and advice, which was invaluable at the time.

In 1969 Aberavon, Aberystwyth and Rhoose affiliated to the Welsh Region for the first time and the Western Mail sponsored the Welsh Championships, which were again held at Aberavon. Llantwit Major, Penybont and Aberdare entered both men's and womens team, whilst AC entered a men's team who repeated their winning performance of the previous year. In the SLS GB National Championships, Aberdare won the Maiden Trophy and AC withdrew from the final day's events due to the inclusion of a South African team. The strong participation of Welsh Clubs at St. Ives in 1968 and at Bude in 1969 led to the GB Championships being held in Wales in 1970 for the second time. On the previous occasion, Porthcawl in 1967, sea events had to be cancelled due to weather conditions.



Another significant development in 1969 came about when Penybont SLSC approached Admiral Hoare of AC for advice on the construction of a mini Inshore Rescue Boat (IRB), which they felt would suit the requirements of their beach at Ogmores-by-sea. The Rescue Boat Service at AC had been designing, building and testing larger IRBs' since 1962, this work resulting in the production of the Atlantic 21, adopted for inshore rescue work by the RNLI.

In response to Penybont's request, Admiral Hoare drew up plans for a smaller version, for Reg Whittle to build in his school workshop at Cowbridge Grammar School, involving his Sixth Form students.

Pen-y-bont members launching their first IRB

The boat was taken to AC for Admiral Hoare to trial. He was very impressed and AC subsequently produced several additional mini-IRBs to these plans for use throughout Wales.

A total of 16 lives were saved by the Welsh Surf Lifesaving Clubs in 1969, although we lost one of our earliest clubs, RNAS Brawdy. New headquarters (HQ) were opened at Barry Island for Barry St Johns, Font-y-gari for Rhoose and at Llantwit Major for the Llantwit Major club. Penybont had a new slipway and new temporary HQ, with the permanent HQ expected to be completed by the end of the year. A total of 86 volunteers qualified with the Bronze Medallion together with 20 new Instructors.

A management structure, was now embedded in the SLSA Wales region it held meetings at which formal minutes were taken. Regular attendees at these meetings, were: Chairman J David, Secretary R Whittle, Treasurer and Minute Secretary M Whittle, Supt. Examiner C.Woodbridge, Cdr C Thomson NCRTC, **Dr K.Thomas** Regional Medical Officer, Mr F Clark Public Relations Officer, as well as representatives from the various clubs. Discussions in the August meeting, suggested Aberavon should host the 1970 SLS GB Championships and not Porthcawl as originally put forward.

The end of year minutes record a successful first full season of operation of SLSA Wales and its clubs.



1970 saw West Wales clubs Aberporth, Newport and Porthmawr affiliate and **Dr George Middleton MBE** from St Davids become the Hon. Medical Advisor. This year 115 Bronze Medallions were awarded and 27 new Instructors qualified. Aberdare SLSC were honoured by a visit from Prince Charles.

The Welsh Championships were held in Aberavon and again sponsored by the Western Mail. 7 clubs took part,

Prince Charles meets members of Aberdare SLSC

Aberystwyth, Aberavon, Aberdare, AC, Llantwit Major, Penybont and Barry St Johns. Two weeks after the Welsh Championships, won by AC, the GB Championships were held at Aberavon and AC won the Champion's Cup for the second time. It was the first time that a Championship had been televised by the BBC, giving good publicity to SLS GB and to the recently formed NCRTC.

1971 saw SLSA Wales with two new officials; **Mr Terry Seward-Jones** was nominated as the first President of SLSA Wales and would later become President of SLS GB in 1974. Dr Keith Thomas was elected as Chairman after John David left AC to set-up a new United World College in Singapore. For his immense contribution in forming SLSA Wales, John was honoured by being made the first Life Member for the Welsh Region and was successfully proposed by SLSA Wales for Life Membership of SLS GB.

The regional structure of the Management Board and clubs by now was taking on a familiar appearance and would serve Wales well for the future. New initiatives, were being created and one saw 'fair-haired **Dallas Robinson**, vice-captain of Penybont SLSC selected as the Welsh "Lifeguard of the year". His reward (and for the runner-up, **Roy Richards**, Captain of Llantwit Major SLSC), was a paid trip for lifeguard training to the USA. Dallas also became the first lifeguard for SLS GB to be awarded the 'Gold Medallion'.

Officials and Clubs of The Welsh Region

President Welsh Region S.L.S.A.
Mr. T. Seward-Jones, Seward Engineering Ltd., Factory Road, Newport.

Chairman Welsh Region S.L.S.A.
Dr. K. Thomas, 4 Oaklands Drive, Bridgend.

Secretary Welsh Region S.L.S.A.
Mr. R. Whittle, Maes-y-don, Ogmores-by-Sea.

Superintendent Examiner
Mr. J. Barge, 42 Manor Road, Blackwood, Monmouthshire.

Gear Steward
Cdr. C. Thomson, National Coastal Rescue Training Centre, Afan Lido, Aberavon.

Medical Officer
Dr. K. Thomas, 4 Oaklands Drive, Bridgend.

Public Relations Officer Welsh Region S.L.S.A.
Mr. F. Clark, M.I.P.R., The Priory, Voss Park, Llantwit Major.

Club Secretaries

Aberdare
Mr. M. Davies, 18 Ash Grove, Trecynon, Aberdare.

Aberavon
Mr. H. Worth, Afan Lido, Aberavon.

Aberystwyth
Mr. S. Sherran, The Oaks, 6 Elysian Grove, Aberystwyth.

Atlantic College
Mr. J. David, Atlantic College, St. Donat's Castle, Llantwit Major.

Aberporth
Mrs. P. Pattinson, Nantllan Farm, Blaenannerch, Cardigan.

Barry St. Johns
Mr. G. Adams, 12 Margaret Avenue, Barry.

Llantwit Major
Mrs. M. Clark, The Priory, Voss Park, Llantwit Major.

Newport
Mrs. M. E. Kenyon, Maes-y-Brenin, Newport, Pembrokeshire.

Penybont
Mr. R. A. Whittle, Maes-y-don, Ogmores-by-Sea.

Porthmawr
Mr. D. Thomas, 2 Portland Square, Solva, Haverfordwest.

Rhoose
Mrs. Bohun, 10 Church Road, Rhoose.



Left to right Roy Richards, Terry Seward Jones and Dallas Robinson

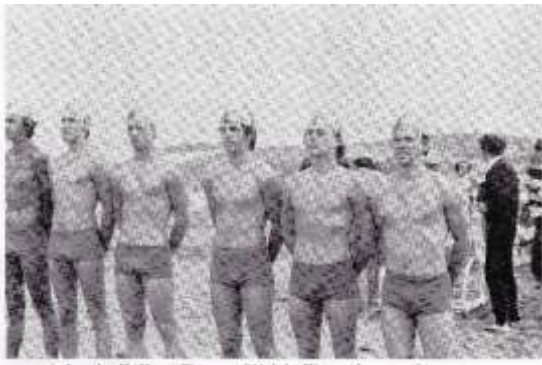
Also during 1971, 7 new SLS GB examiners were qualified in Wales and a new volunteer lifeguard, Essex Havard from Newport SLSC achieved his first Bronze Medallion at the young age of 53. Records show that in this year 29 lives were saved by the voluntary lifeguard clubs belonging to SLSA Wales and a new club, Aberdovey Outward Bound School affiliated for the first time, bringing the total number of Welsh clubs to 12.

Outside Wales, World Life Saving was formed and the countries involved would later sign a charter in Cardiff in 1994 to create International Life Saving, the World Governing Body.

For the first time at the SLS GB National Championships, Men, Women and Youth all competed at the same time and venue, St Ives. Aberavon Ladies celebrated this by winning the Beach Sprint, Belt Race, Relay Race and Surf Race, thus becoming the Ladies aggregate champions.

The 1971 Welsh Championships were held at Newport for the first time; the local club celebrated by winning the March Past. AC won the Championships, followed by 2nd Aberavon, 3rd Llantwit Major. Other clubs competing were, Penybont, Rhoose, Aberystwyth, Newport and Porthmawr.

With support from the NCRTC, lifeguard clubs in Wales were now taking a greater interest in the use of Inshore Rescue Boats (IRBs). By the end of 1971, five SLSA Wales clubs were operating IRBs.



The last major event of 1971, saw for the first time, the National Water Safety Conference held in Wales at the NCRTC, Afan Lido, Aberavon. The event was chaired by 'Chic' Thomson and in attendance were 14 Local authorities, as well as Senior Offices of HM Coastguard, RNLI, RLSS, SLS GB, Police and the Corps of Canoe Lifeguards. AC students gave rescue demonstrations in the Afan Lido swimming pool.

AC team Welsh Champions and National Runners up in 1971

In 1972 Welsh Surf Life Saving clubs rescued 19 people. A total of 126 volunteers qualified with the Bronze Medallion, 10 with the Silver Medallion, as well as 4 new Instructors trained. Interestingly, a young Jules Rilstone at Perranporth SLSC took his Bronze Medallion for the first time and some twenty years later he was one of the driving forces in the creation of Tenby SLSC.



Sker SLSC affiliated to SLS GB for the first time bringing the total number of SLSA Wales clubs to 13. Also, for the first time, Alf Thomas attended the World Life Saving meeting held at Huntington Beach, California, on behalf of SLS GB.

Porthmawr SLSC opened a new club-house. This was the fourth club-house, starting with a Red Cross First Aid tent, followed by a 6 ft * 8 ft wooden shed and then a railway van. Dr George Middleton MBE thanked Haverfordwest RDC for their unfailing support in providing a permanent building. The Doctor dealt with 18 of the most serious first aid cases that summer and

Porthmawr SLSC

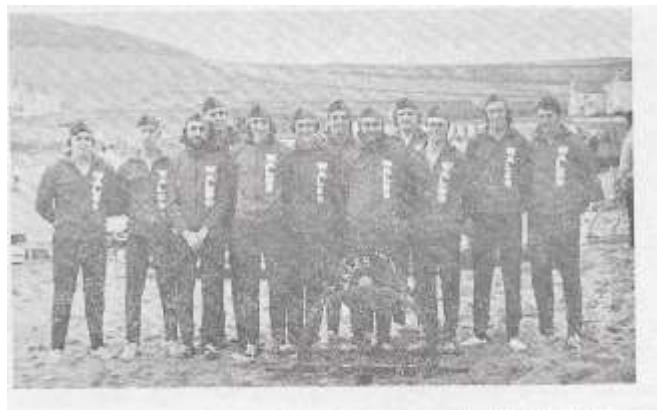
Left to right: Peter Jones, Peter Phillips, Brian Francis, Taffy Walsh, Ninian Davies, Roland Waters

also gained international recognition for his Middleton Beach Rescue Trolley, whilst being a Medical Officer for the RNLI. Over 33 years, George completed 90 missions for the RNLI, many involving helicopter rescue, provided by the base at RNAS Brawdy. He was later to become President of SLSA Wales. The current President Terry Seward-Jones also received recognition as a substantial benefactor of surf life saving, both for SLSA Wales and SLS GB.

Competition wise saw St Ives stage the SLS GB National Championships, with Aberavon finishing top Welsh club, 2nd in the Senior Men's aggregate and winning the Ladies aggregate. Three other Welsh Ladies team finished in the top 5 places, 3rd Penybont, 4th Atlantic College and 5th Llantwit Major. The 1972 Welsh Championships were held at Caswell Bay, Swansea, with nearly 400 entries and for the fourth year in a row, sponsored by the Western Mail. Aberavon were overall champions:

Men's Aggregate			Ladies Aggregate			Junior Aggregate		
1	Aberavon	93	1	Atlantic College	46	1	Penybont	38
2	Llantwit Major	62	2	Penybont	32	2	Aberavon	34
3	Atlantic College	56	3	Aberavon	26	3	Rhoose	4
4	Aberystwyth	40	4	Llantwit Major	23	4	Aberporth	3
5	Aberporth	38						
6	Penybont	33						

A new competition initiative introduced by SLS GB, was the Inter-Regional Championships between Wales, Devon and Cornwall held at Croyde. The Welsh Team was declared richly deserved winners, scoring 115 points to Cornwall's 73 and Devon's 60. The coaches (slavedrivers) of this team were Colin Morris, Welsh Regional Superintendent Examiner and Club Captain of Penybont, assisted by Julian Barge, ex-student of AC and founder member of Aberdare SLSC. Training took place at the NCRTC and Southerndown, with the majority of the team being selected from AC and Aberavon, who at that time were the strongest competition teams in Wales.



From left to right: Richard Gregory, John Illtydd Nicol Peter Thomas, Jorgen Latte, Phil Smith, Wayne Price Franco Miotto, Robbie Phillips, Steve Orrells Roy Richards, Colin Morris.

Team members were:-

Dave Fitzpatrick aged 19, student at AC, Richard Gregory aged 20, Aberavon SLSC, Jorgen Latte aged 19, student at AC, Franco Miotto aged 18, student at AC, John Illtydd Nicol aged 19, student at AC, Steve Orrells aged 17, Aberavon SLSC, Wayne Price aged 17, Aberavon SLSC, Team Captain, Robbie Phillips aged 23 Aberavon SLSC, Roy Richards, aged 24, Llantwit Major SLSC, Phil Smith aged 17, Penybont SLSC and finally, Peter Thomas aged 20, Aberavon SLSC.

The 1973 Welsh Championships were held at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island. There was an increase in the number of clubs taking part and Aberavon won the Western Mail Trophy. The results were as follows:

Men's Aggregate			Ladies Aggregate			Junior Aggregate		
1	Aberavon	83	1	Aberavon	69	1	Penybont	39
2	Penybont	73	2	Atlantic College	43	2	Llantwit Major	28
3	Atlantic College	59	3	Penybont	34	3	Rhose	26
4	Llantwit Major	57	4	Barry St John	29	4	Newport	18
5	Aberystwyth	23	5	Llantwit Major	2	5	Skер	4
6	Aberporth	16				6	Barry St John	2
7	Barry St John	8						

Welsh competitors selected to represent SLS GB in the 1974 World Championships being held in South Africa, were Mike Allen, Stephen Orrells, Robert Phillips (Robbie), Philip Smith, Wayne Price.

The 1973 SLS GB Championships were held in Aberavon. Welsh clubs taking part were placed as follows:

Men's Aggregate			Ladies Aggregate			Junior Aggregate		
3	Atlantic College	38	1	Aberavon	68	2	Penybont	44
3	Aberavon	38	2	Atlantic College	52	6	Skер	2
5	Penybont	23	3	Penybont	50			
8	Llantwit Major	18						

Boats were also high on the agenda in this year. The 'Jack Wilson' Jet Surf Rescue Boat' was presented to SLS GB at the Aberavon Championships by Allan Kennedy MBE. Jack Wilson was an Australian lifeguard who died while still a young man, but who had performed many rescues and done much good work for the cause of lifesaving. The craft was 17ft long, weighed 1 ton and was powered by a V8 5 litre Ford petrol engine. It was stationed at Ogmore-by-sea with Penybont SLSC.



The Jack Wilson Jet boat

The summer of 1973 saw the arrival of the champion Australian surf boat crew from Freshwater SLSC, Sydney who attended a Lifesaving Convention at AC. The contacts made led to the first overseas team tour from Wales to Australia by AC in 1974/75. Sponsorship was obtained for the AC boat crew and John Hemery, a history teacher, was awarded a Churchill Fellowship. They were hosted by Freshwater Club whose Sweep led them to highly successful participation in junior surf boat races. This early boat from Australia, was followed by several more in the 1970s' and soon Surf Boat racing in the U.K. was born.

Incidents and rescues reported in 1973, were as follows:

Club	Reel & Line	Rescue Board	Rescue Tube	Rescue Boat	Totals	First Aid
Aberystwyth	-	1	1	-	2	-
Barry St John	-	-	5	-	5	-
Llantwit Major	-	1	24	-	25	1
Penybont	-	5	7	8	20	-
Rhose	-	-	1	-	1	29
Totals	-	7	38	8	53	30

Foundations always play a critical role in any construction and so it proved, that these five early years set the path for surf life saving in Wales to follow throughout the subsequent decades. SLSA Wales has been very fortunate to have had so many dedicated and innovative volunteers over the years, resulting in so many lives being saved and so many medals won. We can be proud to recognise our achievements, setting us up, not just as one of the best lifesaving organisations in the UK, but up there, as one of the best lifesaving organisations in International Lifesaving.

From a handful of people and clubs five decades ago, SLSA Wales has now grown to 31 clubs from south to north Wales and almost 3,200 volunteers. Truly an outstanding record and achievement, particularly when you consider how many lives have been saved by these volunteers. Very sadly, a couple of office fires (no one hurt thankfully) destroyed most of the records from the 1970s/1980s. What we do know, is that over a thirty year period, **1,988 rescues** were performed and **4,646 lifeguards qualified**; can there be a better endorsement for the work of the Surf Life Saving Association of Wales, its lifeguard clubs and its volunteers?

A summary of some of our achievements and milestones are captured in Appendix 1 and 2.

APPENDIX 1 ~ MILESTONES

- 1968 ~ SLSA Wales formed
- 1974 ~ Inaugural Surf World Life Saving Championships, Durban, South Africa. Welsh competitors representing SLS GB, Mike Allen and Robbie Phillips won Gold in the Surf Boat Rescue race
- 1979 ~ Wilkinson Sword awarded to the Welsh Championships overall winners for the first time
- 1979/1980 ~ SLSA Wales first men's team overseas tour to Australia
- 1980 ~ New South Wales touring team, demonstrated and introduced deep water resuscitation on a Rescue Board for the first time in Wales
- 1981 ~ L'Oreal makers of Ambre Solair sun tan cream, sponsor the Welsh Lifeguard Championships.
- 1981 ~ SLSA Wales first ladies team overseas tour to New Zealand
- 1982 ~ Irish Water Safety Council representatives attend the Welsh Championships at Whitesands Beach, St Davids, with a view to starting up their own Lifeguard Championships in the sea
- 1982 ~ New Zealand ladies first overseas tour to Wales
- 1984 ~ Welsh Development Agency, sponsor and film the Welsh Lifeguard Championships
- 1986 ~ First overseas educational visit by SLSA Wales instructors teaching lifesaving skills in Tawain
- 1987 ~ Keep Wales Tidy sponsor the Welsh Lifeguard Championships
- 1989 ~ Queen's Jubilee Trust Fund awards major grant to SLSA Wales for club development
- 1994 ~ World Lifesaving Championships held in Cardiff and Newquay
- 1995 ~ 5 year commercial sponsorship agreed with Dwr Cymru and the Green Seas partnership
- 1996 ~ Aled Rees became the first GB competitor to win double-double gold for SLS GB and his club Poppit Sands in two consecutive World Life Saving Championships
- 1998 ~ Sportalot grant to purchase 5 Arancia IRBs' from New Zealand
- 1998 ~ First Nipper Camp held at Atlantic College
- 1999 ~ 4 Commissions established; Powercraft, Sport, Technical. and Youth
- 1999 ~ Membership, including Insurance cover introduced for SLSA Wales volunteers
- 2000 ~ SLSA Wales web-site created
- 2000 ~ SLSA Wales awarded Governing Body status by the Sports Council of Wales
- 2000 ~ Rebecca Rowe becomes the first swimmer to set a new world record in the Olympic Swimming pool in Sydney. She won Gold representing GB in the 100m saving a manikin with fins and rescue tube at the World Lifesaving Championships
- 2002 ~ Email communication for clubs created
- 2004 ~ SLSA Wales win the German Nivia Cup for the first time
- 2007 ~ SLSA Wales IRB Driver and Crew qualifications launched
- 2008 ~ SLSA Wales fully engages Self Governing Body status and ceases to be recognised as a region of SLS GB
- 2010 ~ SLSA Wales President awarded MBE
- 2010 ~ Management Information System (MIS) for online memberships created
- 2012 ~ Quizdom electronic testing introduced for beach lifeguard awards, believed to be a world first
- 2013 ~ Launch of ground breaking E-learning portal covering Nippers, Juniors, Beach Lifeguards and IRBs'
- 2013 ~ First professional publication of ten training manuals in support of teaching and learning
- 2014 ~ Electronic payments introduced into the MIS

APPENDIX 1 ~ MILESTONES cont.

- 2014 ~ SLSA Wales secured its first premise; the Vocational Learning Centre (VLC) at Port Talbot
 - 2014 ~ SLSA Wales converted to a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO), No: 1157762
 - 2015 ~ European Lifesaving Championships for clubs and countries, staged at Swansea and Aberavon
 - 2015 ~ Competition entries built into MIS
 - 2015 ~ National Vocational Beach Lifeguard Qualification (NVBLQ) developed by SLSA Wales, RLSS and SLS GB. First time one beach lifeguard award has been recognised by all three organisations, and it is endorsed by the RNLI and ILS
 - 2016 ~ Awards registration, payment and claiming built into MIS
 - 2016 ~ Membership of International Life Saving, the world governing body achieved
 - 2016 ~ SLSA Wales took a leading role in developing and producing the UK's first ever unified beach lifeguard training manual
 - 2017 ~ SLSA Wales purchased its first road vehicle with a grant from the Department of Transport, Maritime Section
 - 2017 ~ Electronic DBS checks and records introduced and updated to the MIS
 - 2018 ~ Development grant for north Wales received from the RNLI
 - 2018 ~ Fifty years old
 - 2019 ~ Golden Celebrations
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APPENDIX 2 ~ STATISTICS

SLSA Wales Wilkinson Sword Championship Winners					
Year	Club	Year	Club	Year	Club
1968	Atlantic College	1969	Atlantic College	1970	Atlantic College
1971	Atlantic College	1972	Aberavon SLSC	1973	Aberavon SLSC
1974	Aberavon SLSC	1975	Atlantic College	1976	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1977	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1978	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1979	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1980	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1981	Llantwit Major SLSC	1982	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1983	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1984	Rhose SLSC	1985	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1986	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1987	Porthcawl LGC	1988	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1989	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1990	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1991	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1992	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1993	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1994	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1995	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1996	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1997	Pen-y-bont SLSC
1998	Pen-y-bont SLSC	1999	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2000	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2001	Llantwit Major SLSC	2002	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2003	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2004	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2005	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2006	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2007	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2008	Mumbles SLSC	2009	Mumbles SLSC
2010	Rhose SLSC	2011	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2012	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2013	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2014	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2015	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2016	Pen-y-bont / Rhose	2017	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2018	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2019	Pen-y-bont SLSC				

SLSA Wales Doug Williams Sword Still-Water Championship Winners					
Year	Club	Year	Club	Year	Club
2003	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2004	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2005	Mumbles SLSC
2006	Mumbles SLSC	2007	Mumbles SLSC	2008	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2009	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2010	Rhose SLSC	2011	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2012	Mumbles SLSC	2013	Mumbles SLSC	2014	Mumbles SLSC
2015	Mumbles SLSC	2016	Langland Bay / Mumbles	2017	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2018	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2019	Pen-y-bont SLSC		

SLSA Wales Super-Club Winners					
Year	Club	Year	Club	Year	Club
2009	Rhose SLSC	2010	Mumbles SLSC	2011	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2012	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2013	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2014	Mumbles SLSC
2015	Rhose SLSC	2016	Rhose SLSC	2017	Pen-y-bont SLSC
2018	Pen-y-bont SLSC	2019	Pen-y-bont SLSC		

APPENDIX 2 ~ STATISTICS cont.

SLSA Wales Lifesaver of the Year					
Year	Volunteer	Club	Year	Volunteer	Club
1996	Aled Rees	Poppit Sands SLSC	1997	Gerald & Gloria Davies	Rest Bay SLSC
1998	Peter Lake	Penybont SLSC	1999	Glen Clatworthy	Skerr SLSC
2000	Karen O'Donoghue-Harris	Rhose SLSC	2001	James Marks	Skerr SLSC
2002	Tony Rees	Aberavon SLSC	2003	Peter Morgan	Penybont SLSC
2004	Lisa Pritchard-Evans	Aberporth SLSC	2005	Chris Parry	Porthmawr SLSC
2006	Nigel Martlew	Rhose SLSC	2007	Martin John	Aberavon SLSC
2008	Craig Robinson	Penybont SLSC	2009	Gary Pyke	Llantwit Major SLSC
2010	Andrea Pennell	Llantwit Major SLSC	2011	David Murphy	Penybont SLSC
2012	Craig Robinson	Penybont SLSC	2013	Phil Rees	Rhondda
2014	Lyle Bluck	Kenfig Sands SLSC	2015	Steve Chambers	Aberavon SLSC
2016	Julie Wisden	Penybont SLSC	2017	David Allen	Penybont SLSC
2018	Jennie Pitt	Llantwit Major SLSC	2019	Shan Parry	Porthmawr SLSC

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