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Press Release

Patroller of the Month — January 2006

The Village Cinemas Patroller of the Month for January 2006 is Karina Hauenstein.

Karina, a recent graduate from the Nipper program, was competing in the Iron-Woman event at the recent Jan Juc Junior Club Championships when she spotted a swimmer in distress. Regardless of the fact that the prestigious club championship was on the line Karina quickly paddled her Racing Malibu Board to the distressed swimmer. Once on the scene she helped the Nipper onto her board and paddled him safely to shore.



“The waves were pretty big and bashing him round” said Karina after the rescue, “and I thought he probably needed a hand to get back to the beach so I paddled over.” When quizzed about the fact that she had already completed the swim leg of the Iron Woman race Karina just shrugged her shoulders, “I wasn’t that tired and he clearly needed help.”

Karina was one of sixteen Nipper graduates who successfully attained their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) in the middle of January. As holders of the SRC Karina and her friends are all qualified to patrol the beach and render assistance to swimmers in difficulty. The Nipper graduates all volunteered their time over the school holidays to attend classes in resuscitation, safety signals, first-aid and beach awareness. However, it was the classes dealing with patient recognition and rescue techniques that were in the forefront of Karina’s mind as she deftly saved the young swimmer in distress.

To all the potential Lifesavers in the ranks of Nippers Karina had only the following advice – “Do what feels right.”

For her actions Karina receives a twin pass to the movie of her choice at Village Cinemas in Geelong.

Village Cinemas Geelong is the proud sponsor of the Lifesaver of the Month award. The Lifesaver of the Month can be anyone who has gone above and beyond in the name of patrolling.

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Jan Juc SLSC has a proud history of lifesaving and has been providing patrols on the Jan Juc surf beach for over 40 years. For more information on the club surf the information super-highway to the Club's website www.janjucsurfclub.com.au.

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