

2/21 Montana Rd  
Mermaid Beach  
Gold Coast Q 4218.  
7<sup>th</sup> April 2006

Samantha Hughes  
G.C. Active & Healthy Activities  
Parks and Recreation  
Gold Coast City Council  
Evandale

Copy to Trudy Holt & Stuart Keay.

Dear Samantha,

Re: Active & Healthy Surf Safety Program.

I would like to record my positive experiences with your program conducted at Mermaid Beach each Saturday morning over the 2005 – 2006 season, by Trudy Holt and Stuart Keay.

As a long time resident of the Gold Coast, I appreciate the attraction of the Surfing beaches – my children, and now their children, have made it part of their lives. The program conducted at Mermaid beach for all ages, promoting good health and fitness, along with the essential safety needed to enjoy our beaches is an asset of immeasurable value.

I have four grandchildren, all of whom love the beach, and are members of the Nippers movement. My eight year old Grandson, Saxon, has had difficulty with gross motor skills and balance from birth, however, with help and attention from various specialists, has almost caught up to his peers with regards to his physical skills. His intellect has always been fine.

It was Saxon's wish to join in with what appeared to be a "fun activity" on Saturday mornings - it has proven to be much more than just fun. The games and exercises had great appeal, as they were not as competitive as in Nippers, and really provide fun, whilst the underlying activities of structured exercises are being imparted. The Surf Safety message is delivered in a very practical way, with almost a different type of surf each week, presenting the opportunity for the instructors to point out and maybe experience many different conditions.

There has been a marked acceleration in Saxon's development over this surfing season, and I have no doubt it is in no small way, the result of your program. The people you have delivering the program all seem knowledgeable, competent, and above all, pleasant.

It is not only the joy and development that is displayed by my Grandson that has prompted this letter, but equally, the very happy, active, and positive atmosphere that is evident within the group each Saturday morning.

The Gold Coast City Council is to be commended for providing this valuable service, and Trudy and Stuart for it's professional, and efficient delivery.

Yours Sincerely K.J.Dodds.

