

# Maroochydore Surf Life Saving Club

## Shimoda Lifesaving Exchange Program



The Maroochydore – Shimoda Lifesaving Exchange Program was established 20 years ago, initially to assist Shimoda LSC develop strong Surf Lifesaving capabilities. In recent years, Surf Sports training has also become a key aspect of the program. There are excellent opportunities for all Maroochydore members to participate actively in this wonderful program.

### **Maroochydore Team Visit Shimoda – late July / August each year**

Each year around late July / August, a team of 6 Maroochydore members travel to Shimoda Japan to live, patrol and train with the Shimoda club members patrolling their local beaches for approximately 10 days. Most team members usually stay on for a personal holiday in Tokyo for up to a week where together with their Maroochydore team mates and new Shimoda friends, take in the sights of Tokyo and nearby areas.

Expressions of interest open around February each year, and the successful team is announced at the Annual Awards Night in June. Applications are open to all Maroochydore members who have a current Bronze Medallion Award and are current financial members.

Over 70 Maroochydore members have travelled to Japan with the Shimoda Program over the years, covering skills in patrolling, first aid, skis, rescue boards, surf swimming, beach sprints, IRB, etc. Whilst patrolling and training with Shimoda, the Maroochydore team members lead training sessions in their areas of knowledge and skills, and at the same time learn much from Shimoda members especially their commitment to lifesaving. Selection of the Maroochydore team looks at the broad range of knowledge of skills of the applicants, together with current and past interest and future commitment to assisting with the program.

### **Open Invitation to Participate in Shimoda Program**

All Maroochydore Members are welcome and encouraged to participate in this great exchange program. Our past-travellers to Shimoda and members who participate in the December program at Maroochydore all attest to the unique and invaluable experiences of the program, the wonderful cultural exchange, and lifelong friendships made.

### **For more Information**

For any information about the program please contact Peter Dun on 0450804443 or email [dunzo@optusnet.com.au](mailto:dunzo@optusnet.com.au)