

Chronicle

Tuesday,
January 4, 1977.

NAMBOUR
ON THE SUNSHINE COAST
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FIGURE: Ithaca Royal Life Saving Club member Jim McClelland. "We tried everything but they were beyond help."

DOUBLE DROWNING SEQUEL

Sunday's double drowning near Bulcock Beach has brought renewed pleas from Caloundra lifesavers for bathers to observe basic water safety procedure.

At about 4 pm on Sunday afternoon two Brisbane men drowned while swimming with their wives about 100 metres from Bulcock Beach, south of Kings Beach.

They were Edward Kork-Noble, 24, sales representative of Indooroopilly and Alis Vikner, 33, vendor of Darra.

Although suffering from shock, their wives managed to make shore safely after 15-year-old holiday maker Scott Pearson of Blackwater, went to their aid on his surf ski.

Both men failed to respond to mouth-to-mouth resuscitation applied by lifesavers and members of the Caloundra ambulance.

Jim McClelland, a lifesaver with the Royal Ithaca Lifesaving Club, said yesterday both men were unconscious when brought to shore.

Mr McClelland played a major role in the rescue bid.

"We'd just finished our second daily patrol of the bar area when we noticed from the clubhouse a group of people in what is generally regarded as a turbulent stretch of water," he said.

"I scanned the bar with binoculars and

Take no risks bathers urged

spotted what appeared to be a body lying over a surf ski.

"People on the beach began to signal wildly it was then we realised what was happening."

Mr McClelland was the first lifesaver to reach the other male bather and immediately applied mouth-to-mouth while still on the ski.

A boat picked up the victim and further attempts at resuscitation were made.

Mr McClelland praised assistance given by the public.

Attempts to revive the men at Caloundra hospital also failed.

An Ithaca Club spokesman yesterday issued a warning to bathers to stay clear of the Caloundra bar.

He said the waters were often treacherous and always unpredictable.

Caloundra's recent record for drowning fatalities has not been good.

Several drownings occurred off Kings Beach last year — all victims were swimming in areas considered dangerous by surf life saving club.

In 1973 two young women drowned when a cabin cruiser overturned at the bar.