

OPINION

BEACH NOT SO SAFE

WITH reference to Mr Steve Goodchild's letter (Daily, January 1) I wish to dispute the fact that Bulcock Beach is the "safest beach in south-east Queensland" Mr Goodchild also states that "no one has been drowned as a result of swimming there". Obviously Mr Goodchild is ignorant of the fact that two people have perished on this beach.

In the 1982-83 season the Ithaca Bulcock Beach Lifesaving Club performed more rescues and treated more first aid cases than did both Metropolitan Caloundra and North Caloundra Surf Lifesaving Clubs.

Over the Christmas break (December 22 to January 1) alone there were 23 rescues conducted and nine first aid cases treated by the Ithaca Bulcock Beach Lifesaving Club.

Bulcock Beach is not a safe beach except for the fact that the lifesaving club provides safety and protection for those swimmers on weekends and public holidays.

STEVE SKINNER
Club Captain

Ithaca Bulcock Beach Lifesaving Club

BEING a member of Met. Caloundra SLSC and Ithaca Bulcock Beach Royal Life Saving Club, I have to say that the beach is more dangerous than people think, due to the fast flow of water around during the changing of tides.

In a two-hour period during patrolling on New Year's Day, four people were picked up near the Caloundra Bar by Ithaca's in-sure rescue boat when they got into difficulties trying to get back to the beach from Bribie Island on their boogie boards.

When brought back to shore, they remarked that they wouldn't have made it back due to the outgoing tide which was stronger than they thought it was.

The moral of the story is: No matter how protected a beach is, whether it's surf or still water, there is always a danger there.

LES WAKEHAM
Little Mountain