



Photo of the Month:
A few of our wonderful swim
teachers!

KICKING BACK *September 2026*

EDITION #156



Welcome to the September edition of Kicking Back.



All the fun of
Splashfest!



RLSSA NT AGM
11/09/2026



Elliot Swim and Survive
Program

MISSION, VISION AND STRATEGY

MISSION: To prevent loss of life and injury in the community with an emphasis on the aquatic environment.

VISION: To build a healthy, strong and safe aquatic community through access to water safety education and training.

STRATEGY: Our People, Our Lifestyle, our Water

Patrons: His Honour the Honourable David Connolly and Ms Susan Brosnan OLY
President: Randall Cook

OUR PEOPLE



It's Membership renewal time, have you renewed yours?

Remember your membership is much more than a monthly newsletter, it's a commitment to making our communities safer around water! Every member makes a difference!

Membership RLSSA NT 2026/2027
[2026.2027-RLSSA-Membership-Form.pdf](#)



OUR PEOPLE



Do you know someone who has made an exceptional contribution to Lifesaving, Water Safety and Drowning Prevention in the Northern Territory?

Why not nominate them for the Northern Territory Administrator's Medal Award?

Nominations are now open for the NT Administrator Medal Award and can be made online by following the link below
[NT Administrator's Medal Award | RLS NT](#)

Nominations close 22 January 2027



OUR PEOPLE



We held our Annual General Meeting on 11 September and the following awards were presented at this wonderful occasion:
AGM Awards

2025/2026 Trainer of the Year – Lisa Burgan

2025/2026 Swim Teacher of the Year – Hannah Tait

2025/2026 Swim & Survive Partner – Forrest Parade School

2025/2026 Water Safety Awareness Program Provider of the Year – Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre

2025/2026 Media Making a Difference Award – Lottie Hood, NT News



OUR PEOPLE



Out Trainers came together from across the Northern Territory on 11 September to participate in our Annual Trainers Workshop. It was a great opportunity to connect, update their qualifications and exchange ideas. Thank you to you all for making this a priority each year and we value your contribution you make to not only to Royal Life Saving NT but also to drowning prevention in the NT!

OUR PEOPLE



Trainer Awards 2025/2026

First Year Trainers – Sharna Condran & Ahna Hawkett

Excellence in Course Admin – Laura Withers

Remote Excellence – Pam Dillon

School Excellence – Lisa Svava, Bernie Holland & Aaron Dalglish

Community Excellence – Ivan Key & Petina Franklin

Congratulations to all the recipients for the year, your commitment is appreciated!



OUR PEOPLE



First Aid training was delivered to Homeville Staff in Wadeye on 9 September. Congratulations to all the participants, ready to support their community!



UPCOMING COURSES - DARWIN



Bronze Medallion or Update

Darwin | 24 October 8.30am – 4.30pm
14 November 8.30am – 4.30pm
(update course 8:30am-12:30pm)

Pool Lifeguard

Darwin | 10 & 11 October 8.30am -5pm

Pool Lifeguard Update

Darwin | 3 October 8.30am – 5.30pm

In-house group training available on request

- Face-to-face First Aid
- Swim Teacher Rescue Award
- Hydrotherapy Rescue Award



Royal Life Saving NT
ABN 57 939 760 839 - RTO 0859
GPO Box 1229, Darwin NT 0801
RTO Provider #0859

Book Now



trainingmanagernt@rlssa.org.au



<https://nt.training.royallifesaving.com.au>



Royal Life Saving Northern Territory



8981 5036





UPCOMING COURSES - Katherine

LOCATION:

Katherine

Bookings close 15th October



ROYAL LIFE SAVING
NORTHERN TERRITORY

Bronze Medallion Update

6th November
12:30pm – 4.30pm
Cost: \$105pp

Bronze Medallion

6th November
8.30am – 4.30pm
Cost: \$189pp

First Aid Online + Practical

5th November
9.00am - 1:00pm
Cost: \$189pp

Online Learning Required prior to attending practical session

Resuscitation

5th November
9.00am – 11.00am
Cost: \$95pp

Pool Lifeguard

7th & 8th November
8.30am-5.30pm
Cost: \$430pp

Must attend both days and hold current
HLTAID011 Provide First Aid

Pool Lifeguard Update

8th November
8.30am-5.30pm
Cost: \$205pp

Must hold current Pool Lifeguard +
HLTAID011 Provide First Aid



WATER SAFETY EDUCATION

Free to all and subject to
bookings and your family's
annual water



**COME AND TRY
POOL LIFEGUARD**

Get hands-on and experience
what it's like to be a pool lifeguard!



FREE BBQ

Enjoy a BBQ with your family
and a chat with our team.



Community Event &

Pool Life Saving Come N Try

5th November
4.30pm-6.00pm
Free

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL AND
SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. CONTACT US AT:**

PHONE (08) 89815036

EMAIL trainingmanagernt@rlssa.org.au

VISIT nt.training.royallifesaving.com.au

SCAN TO
BOOK TODAY



Royal Life Saving Society (Australia) NT Branch Inc | RTO Provider Number 0859



Royal Life Saving NT
ABN 57 939 760 839 - RTO 0859
GPO Box 1229, Darwin NT 0801
RTO Provider #0859

Book Now



trainingmanagernt@rlssa.org.au



<https://nt.training.royallifesaving.com.au>



Royal Life Saving Northern Territory



8981 5036



UPCOMING COURSES - AUSTSWIM

AUSTSWIM TSW

90.5% of our graduates get jobs

ENROL NOW!

TEACHER OF SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY

- 📅 Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 November 2026
- 🕒 8:30am - 5:00pm
- 📍 Royal Life Saving NT Office

PARAP, NT

AUSTSWIM

Become a qualified swim teacher!

The AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course is the essential qualification for anyone wanting to teach swimming and water safety in Australia. It equips you with the practical skills, knowledge and confidence to deliver safe, effective swimming lessons and water safety education to students in a variety of aquatic environments.

Enrol today by visiting:

[Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety | SISSS00132 | AUSTSWIM](#)

OUR PEOPLE



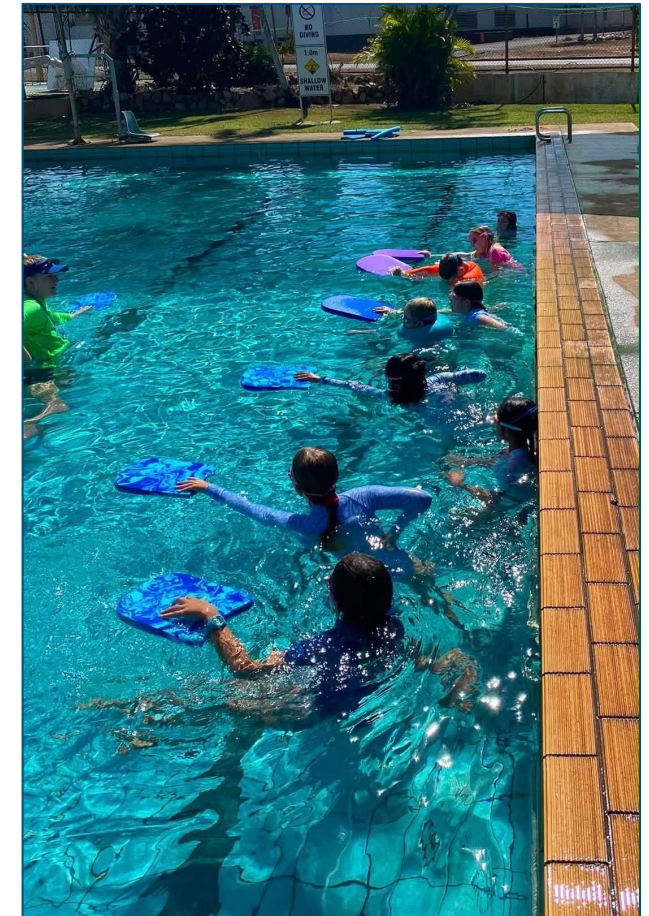
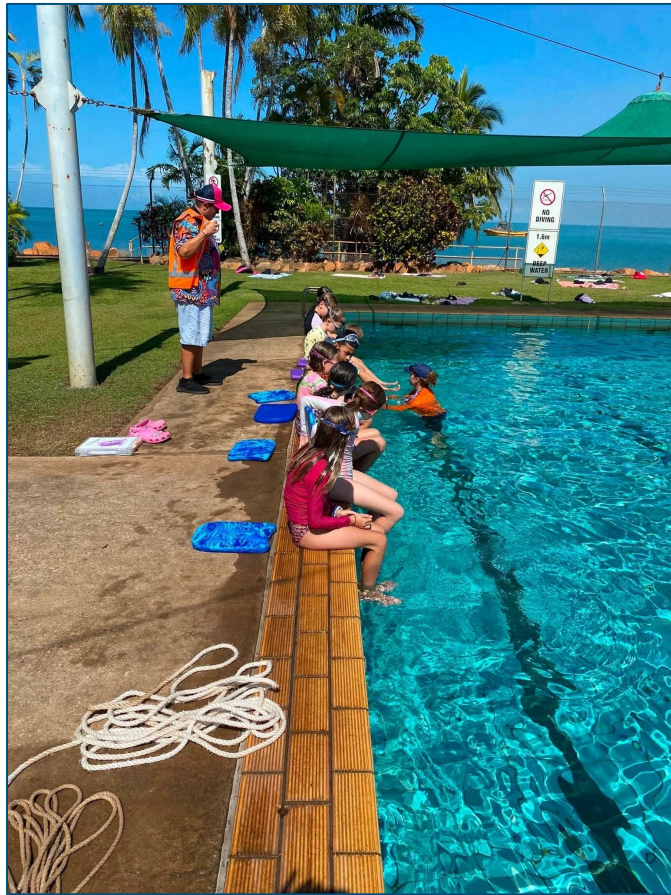
Students from Elliott School enjoyed their Swim and Survive Program at Parap Pool throughout September. Well done to the Staff and Students on a fun filled program with lots of achievements.



OUR PEOPLE



Staff travelled to Alyangula to deliver the Swim & Survive program to students.
The program ran from 1-4 September with lots of fun and new skills being achieved.





We were proud to assist with the deliver of the Katherine School of the Air Swim & Survive program from 14-18 September. The students and staff look forward to this program every year and it was wonderful to see the progress made throughout the week. Well done Katherine School of the Air!

OUR PEOPLE



We are very pleased to share with you that we have partnered with the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Australia to become a Duke 4Sport Partner. We look forward to working with this partnership to better equip young Australians to succeed and make positive impacts on their workplaces and communities.

Proud to support

**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD**

AUSTRALIA



WATER SAFETY WEEK 2026



Splashfest, the opening event of Water Safety Week was held at the Darwin Waterfront on September 13. Members of the community enjoyed stall holder's information, water slides, facepainting and the Water Safety Creek competition. Many thanks to the Darwin Waterfront Corporation and the Stallholders for their ongoing support of this fun, family event.

Congratulations to Harlem, the winner of our Water Safety Creek competition!

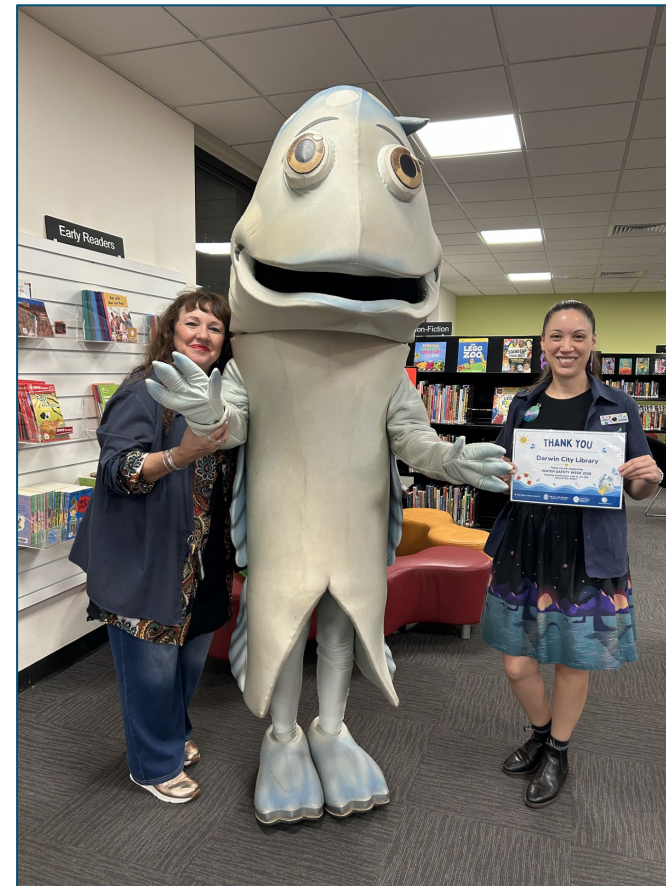
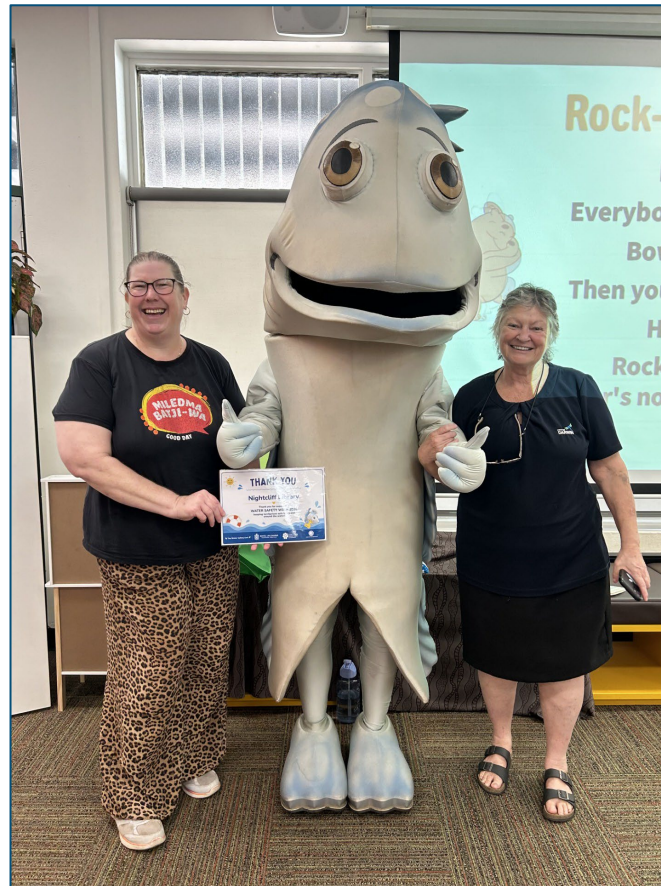
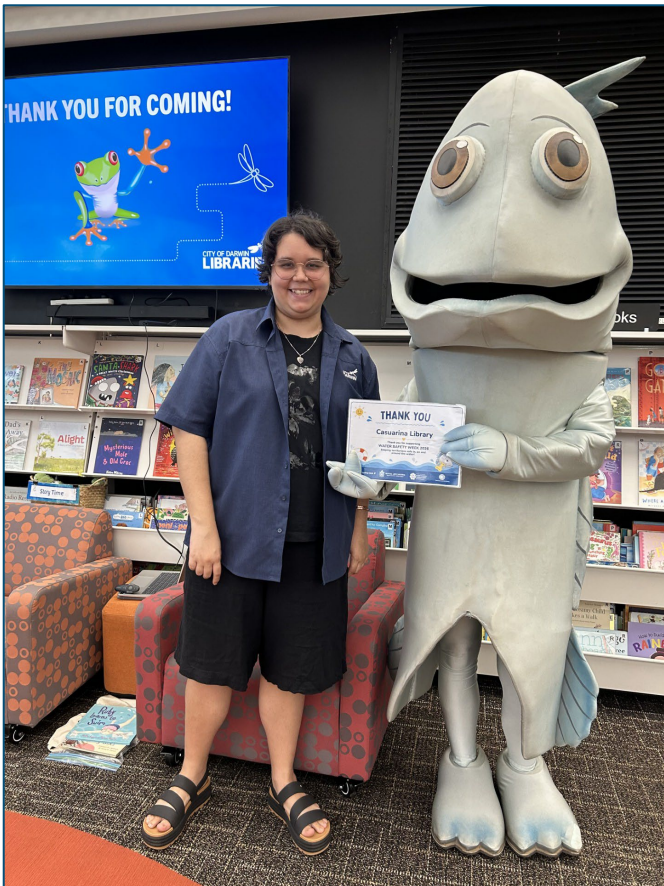


WATER SAFETY WEEK 2026



Many thanks to the City of Darwin Libraries Staff for supporting Water Safety Week 2026.

Visits were made to Casuarina Library on 14 September, Nightcliff Library on 15 September and Darwin City Library on 16 September. All the visits were well received with many young enthusiastic participants joining in dancing with Boof the Barra.

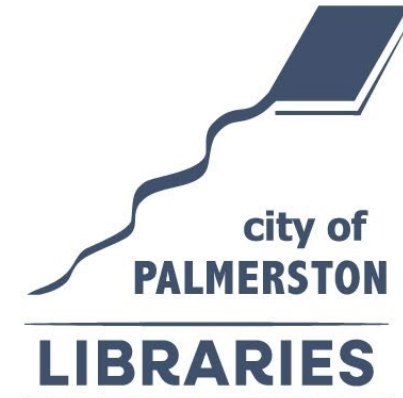
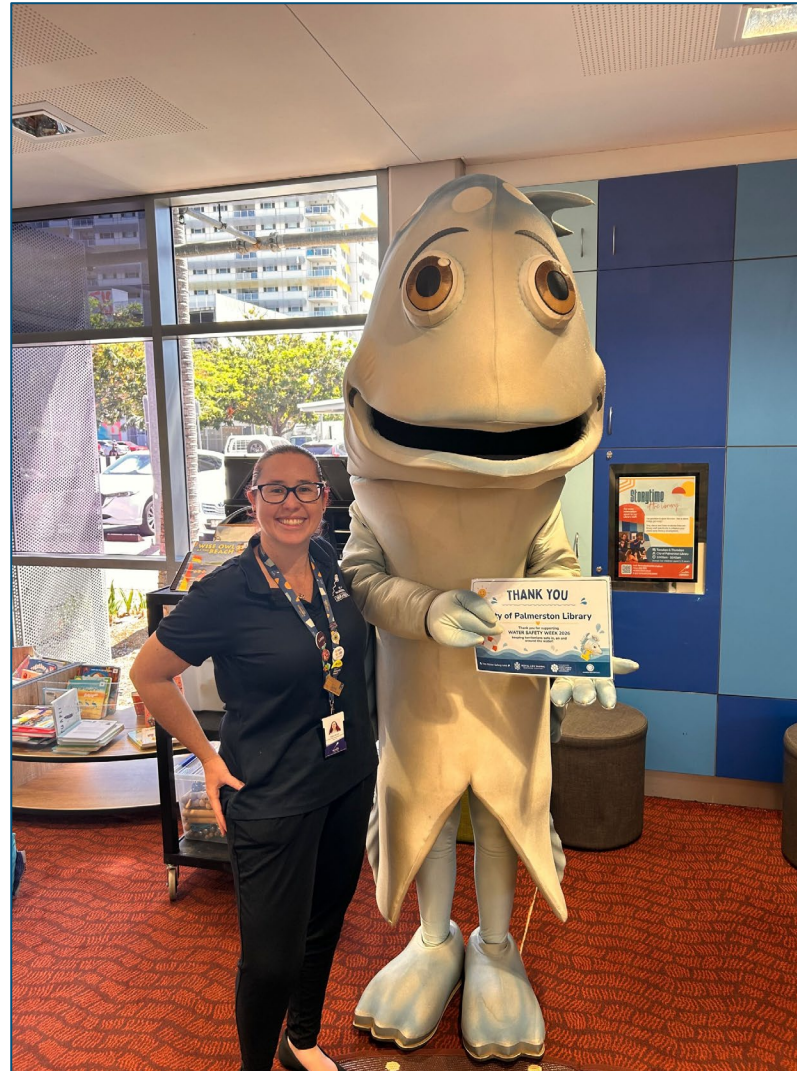


WATER SAFETY WEEK 2026



Many thanks to the City of Palmerston Library Staff for supporting Water Safety Week 2026.

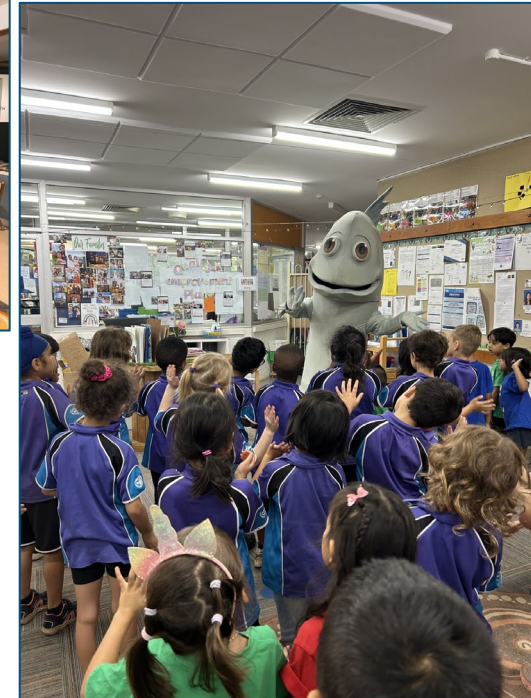
Boof and the Team visited Palmerston Library on 17 September to talk, sing and dance all things water safety.



WATER SAFETY WEEK 2026



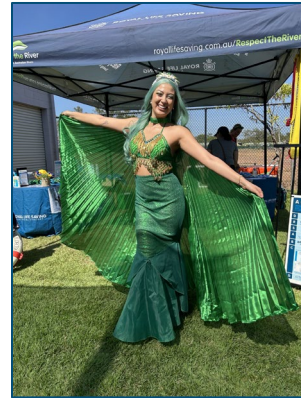
Water safety talks and Boof the Barra visits were held at Driver Preschool, Stuart Park Preschool, Parap Preschool, Millner Preschool, Wulagi Preschool, Ludmilla Preschool and Kentish Community Services throughout Water Safety Week. Many thanks to the Staff and students at these schools and organisations for supporting Water Safety Week.



WATER SAFETY WEEK 2026



Aquafest was the closing event of Water Safety Week 2026 held on 19 September at SWELL Palmerston. Many thanks to the Teams at SWELL Palmerston and the City of Palmerston for your support of Water Safety Week and Aquafest.





Goldfishbowl Swim School



Term 4 bookings are now open!

Term 4 runs from 5 October until 13 December.

Visit our website to make your booking or download our app!

[learn to swim darwin, swimming lessons Darwin](https://www.learntoswimdarwin.com.au/)



How to book in at the Goldfishbowl Swim School



<https://www.learntoswimdarwin.com.au/>



- 1 Download IclassPro**
You can download it using the App store or Google play

Create an account for yourself
Enter your details, not your child's.
The organisation is **goldfishbowl**

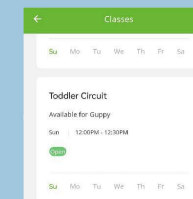
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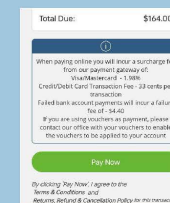
- 3 Create an account for your child/ren**
Make sure you read and understand the policies before accepting

Find an available class that suits you
Our staff are always happy to assist you with finding the right time or level

4



- 5 Pay lesson Fee**
If paying through the app, full payment is required. If using **vouchers** send them through to **gfish2@bigpond.com** before proceeding with payment so they can be taken off the total payment



Any enquires please contact us

Phone: 8931 1000
Email: gfish2@bigpond.com



POOL LIFESAVING

Pool Lifesaving will commence once again....

Come and join Georgia and Bella and make a splash with Pool Lifesaving this term.

Wednesdays 5.30pm – 6.30pm
commencing on 7 October at Parap Pool

New members are welcome!

NTG Sport Vouchers can be used for the session fees

Email sportnt@rlssa.org.au for further information

Pool lifesaving.
It's more than just a sport.





WATER SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM

Help your child build essential water safety skills.

Follow the steps below to obtain access to the government funded swimming vouchers – this program is for children under the age of five

Step 1 – Apply for the WSAP Program

Register your child online:

<https://nt.gov.au/leisure/sport/sport-and-swim-vouchers/learn-to-swim-vouchers-for-your-child/water-safety-awareness-program-registration-form>

Step 2 – Receive Your WSAP voucher Number

You will receive a unique WSAP voucher number.

📌 Keep this in a safe place — it stays the same for your child **until they turn 5.**

Step 3 – Complete the Emergency Care Session

Complete the online Emergency Care Session to receive a one-off \$50 Water Safety Awareness Program voucher. The link to this session will be emailed to you along with your child's Water Safety Awareness Program Voucher Number *(please allow five business days from submitting your application)*

Step 4 – Apply for Learn to Swim Vouchers

Families can apply for \$100 Learn to Swim vouchers twice per year until their child turns 5:

<https://grantsnt.nt.gov.au/grants/learn-to-swim-semester-1-jan-to-may-2026>

You will require your Water Safety Awareness Program Voucher Number to complete this application.

👤 These vouchers can be used to help cover the cost of children's swimming lessons and can be used in conjunction with the once off \$50 Water Safety Awareness Program Voucher.

Email wsap@rlssa.org.au for further information



NATIONAL DROWNING REPORT

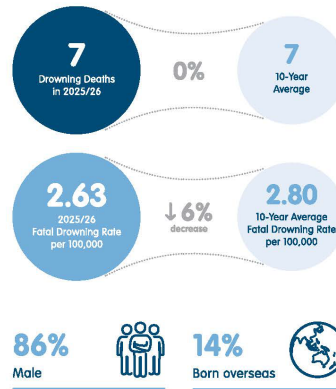
> NORTHERN TERRITORY

There were 7 drowning deaths that occurred in the NT between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026.

The 2025/26 fatal drowning rate of 2.63 deaths per 100,000 population decreased by 6% this financial year, compared to the 10-year average.

Highest number drowning deaths in NT occurred among those aged 35-44 years (29%). However, the highest drowning rate occurred in those age 65-74-years (6.08 drowning deaths per 100,000 population).

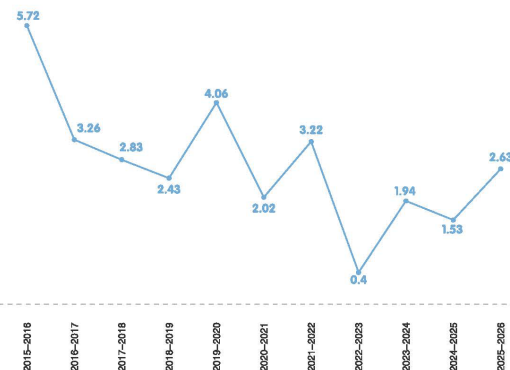
Drowning deaths in NT mainly occurred at rivers/creeks (57%), while swimming and recreating (71%).



29%

OF DROWNING DEATHS WERE AGED BETWEEN 35-44 YEARS

Northern Territory drowning deaths by rates per 100,000 population 2015/16 to 2025/26



The National Drowning Report was released for 2025/2026 on 10 September.

Sadly 7 drowning deaths occurred in the NT between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026. 86% percent of drowning deaths recorded were males.

Follow the link below to read the full report [National Drowning Reports | Royal Life Saving Society - Australia](#)



CONNECT WITH US



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@RoyallifeSavingAUST



royallifesaving.com.au

Splashfest Team 2026

EVERYONE