



ROYAL LIFE SAVING

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Annual Report



2024 / 2025

Proudly sponsored by



Northern Territory
Government

ABN 57 939 760 839

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia – NT is an Incorporated Entity (A 1328) and a Public Benevolent Institution

RTO Provider Number 0859

This annual report covers the financial year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Royal Life Saving Society (Australia) NT Branch is located at:
77 Ross Smith Avenue, Parap, NT 0820

Postal: GPO Box 1229, Darwin NT 0801

Telephone: (08) 8981 5036

Email: nt@rlssa.org.au

Web: www.royallifesaving.com.au/nt

Professional Memberships

Chamber of Commerce NT

Australian Institute of Company Directors

Australian Resuscitation Council

Vocational Education Learning Group (VELG)

ACHPER



Celebrating 60 years of service in the Northern Territory

1965-2025

Our Diamond Jubilee

“Our People, Our Lifestyle, Our Water”

THANK YOU TO OUR PATRONS	3
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT	4
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF ROYAL LIFE SAVING NT – OUR DIAMOND JUBILEE	4
REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	7
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2024/2025	9
OUR ORGANISATION	10
OUR PURPOSE.....	10
OUR VISION.....	10
OUR VALUES.....	10
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	10
TARGET 2028.....	10
OUR PEOPLE	11
EXECUTIVE BOARD AND GOVERNANCE	11
OUR BOARD	11
EMPLOYMENT- OUR STAFF - OUR TEAM	14
MEMBERSHIP	15
ROYAL LIFE SAVING NT MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY 2024/2025	15
ROYAL LIFE SAVING NT LIFE MEMBERS	15
<i>Table 3: Royal Life Saving Australia Honours Royal Life Saving Commonwealth Awards</i>	16
<i>Table 4: Northern Territory Administrator’s Medal for exceptional contribution to lifesaving, water safety and drowning prevention</i>	17
OUR LIFESTYLE	18
OUR COMMUNITY.....	18
OUR VOLUNTEERS.....	19
<i>Table 5: Volunteer of the Year Award for outstanding commitment to the community</i>	19
<i>Table 6: Trevor Cawthorne Memorial Award</i>	20
TRAINING AND AQUATIC SERVICES	20
<i>Table 7: Aquatic Services courses and participants</i>	21
<i>Table 8: Trainer of the Year Award for highest standard of excellence in training</i>	22
SAFER AQUATIC LOCATIONS.....	22
AQUATIC FACILITY SAFETY ASSESSMENTS.....	23
ALICE SPRINGS AND CENTRAL AUSTRALIA	24
<i>Table 9: Alice Springs WSAP Enrolments</i>	24
<i>Table 10: Alice Springs Training Statistics</i>	24
<i>Table 11: Participation in Pool Lifesaving</i>	25
SWIM AND SURVIVE	25
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CERTIFICATE FUNDING	26
SWIM AND SURVIVE PARTNERS.....	26
<i>Table 12: Swim and Survive Partners</i>	27
INFANT AQUATICS.....	28
ADULTS LEARN TO SWIM	28
ROYAL LIFE SAVING NT SWIM AND SURVIVE SWIM TEACHER OF THE YEAR.....	28
<i>Table 13: Swim & Survive Teacher of the Year</i>	29
AUSTRALIAN POOL LIFESAVING CHAMPIONSHIPS 16-18 JANUARY 2025	29
POOL LIFESAVING IN SPORT AND RECREATION	30
THE GOLDFISHBOWL SWIM SCHOOL	30
NORTHERN TERRITORY DROWNING REPORT 2024/2025	31

NT DROWNING DEATHS BY LOCATION	33
TOP 10 DROWNING LOCATIONS IN AUSTRALIA	34
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ADDRESSING NT DROWNING RISKS	35
NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT WATER SAFETY UNIT	36
<i>Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council 2024/2025</i>	36
WATER SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM	37
<i>Provider of the Year</i>	38
<i>Remote Access</i>	38
WATER SAFETY WEEK 2024	39
PIPES AND DRAINS CAMPAIGN 2024/2025	40
<i>Water Safety Talks in Schools 2024/2025</i>	41
KEEP WATCH	41
GRANTS	42
INDIGENOUS ADVANCEMENT STRATEGY	42
“REMOTE SWIM, SURVIVE AND STRIVE”	42
2024.2025 KEY FACTS AT A GLANCE	43
INLAND WATERWAYS AND DROWNING PREVENTION PROGRAM.....	44
COOL SENIORS & GREY MEDALLION	46
CBF GRANT MAJOR – UPGRADES TO THE GOLDFISHBOWL.....	46
ROYAL LIFE SAVING NT IN THE MEDIA	47
<i>Table 14: Royal Life Saving NT Media Award for making a difference in Lifesaving</i>	47
APPENDICES – STATISTICS	48
TRAINING CERTIFICATES ISSUED	48
SWIM AND SURVIVE – CERTIFICATES ISSUED.....	49
AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS	50

Thank you to our Patrons

Members of Royal Life Saving Society (Australia) Northern Territory Branch are so very grateful to His Honour Professor the Honourable Hugh Heggie PSM, Administrator of the Northern Territory and Ms Ruth Jones for being our Patrons.

His Honour hosted the 2024 Administrator's Medal and Royal Life Saving Awards ceremony at Government House on 22nd July 2025.



Message from the President



Our People, Our Water, Our Lifestyle has underpinned all that we have done this year. In the context of our expanded operational commitments at the Goldfishbowl and challenging resourcing/staff shortages we have continued to demonstrate commitment and resilience in delivering a healthy and safe community for all Territorians through water safety, education and awareness.

We measure these achievements through a number of strategic and operational indicators. This year some key 2024/2025 highlights we can be proud of include:

- Had a touchpoint with 45% of our NT population, exceeding our strategic goal of reaching over 40% of our population.
- 16,589 children participated in the Swim and Survive Program.
- The Indigenous Advancement Strategy - Remote Swim, Survive and Strive was delivered in 21 remote communities, with 714 participants in the program.
- 13 schools visited by the Water Safety Unit.
- Water Safety Week in Sept 2024 included 10 events to over 15,000 people including Splashfest.
- Since 2003, 35,881 children have enrolled in the Water Safety Awareness program with 70% completing all five sessions.
- In sport we have 87 active pool lifesaving members with a team of athletes, coaches and officials proudly representing the NT at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships in Sydney in January this year.
- Successful community engagement in the Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Campaign and collaboration with Royal Life Saving Australia
- Employed 12 permanent staff, 28 registered trainers and 35 casual swim teachers
- Goldfishbowl Swim School, purchased in January 2022, achievements include: 904 infants and toddlers per term, 34 Seniors through Fit Frogs, 106 Aqua participants, 10 participants from Helping People Achieve(HPA) , 67 Adults, 1,003 Learn to Swim and 41 Squad members

In sobering news however, we continue to have the highest fatal drowning rate per population in the country. This statistic continues to motivate us deliver on our purpose “To prevent drowning and injury in the Northern Territory with an emphasis on the aquatic environment and that “We turn everyday people into community lifesavers.”

We would also like to thank our joint Patrons - His Honour Professor the Honourable Hugh Heggie AO PSM, Administrator of the Northern Territory and Ms Ruth Jones . We are honoured to be able nominate members of our community for the Administrators Medal for exceptional contribution to Lifesaving, Water Safety and Drowning Prevention in the Northern Territory and are very grateful to His Honour and Ms Jones for hosting this Award Ceremony at Government House.

In April 2024, Royal Life Saving NT formed an alliance with Surf Life Saving NT, Swimming NT, Kidsafe NT, the Y NT, NT Triathlon and AFANT , asking Government to mandate and fund School Swimming and Water Safety Education for all Northern Territory students from Year 1 to 6. The annual cost of this initiative is estimated at \$3,000,000. The CLP committed to this as an election promise and our children benefited from this policy commencing 1st January 2025. The Department of Education and Royal Life Saving NT have collaborated to roll out the program with over 20 Swim and Survive Providers delivering the program to Primary school students across the Northern Territory. This is a landmark achievement and in the first 6 months of the program, participation has increased by 54% and our Darwin, Palmerston and Alice Springs swimming pools are booked out!

I look forward to continuing to work together to prevent loss of life and injury in the aquatic environment and promoting safe participation in water related pursuits for the benefit of all Territorians.

Yours in Lifesaving



Randall Cook



Celebrating 60 years of Royal Life Saving NT

In 2025 we celebrated 60 years of Royal Life Saving NT- our Diamond Jubilee. Thank you to our founding Members Daphne Read AO, Harry Giese AM MBE, our Life Members, our Members and our staff past and present for making Lifesaving important and accessible for all Territorians. Thank you Lottie and the NT News for our feature story with Daph, Asheton and Michael.



Lottie Hood

In her time as the Royal Life Saving Society NT's longest serving member, Daphne Read AO has witnessed a lot of change.

The 86-year-old has drunk tea with the Queen, met Princess Diana, witnessed team members rescue society records from a random skip after Cyclone Tracy, and held swimming lessons in the dark for self-conscious mums.

But one of her highlights happened this year – just in time for the society's 60th anniversary.

"For years and years, my aim was to get every schoolchild compulsory swimming," she said.

"And it finally happened this year."

In 2025, the Territory government invested \$3m in making swimming lessons free for all children in Years 1 to 6, and even introduced land-based lessons.

When asked how the moment felt, Ms Read, who has been a member with Royal Life Saving Society NT for 59 years, said: "Oh wonderful."

DAPHNE READ: FROM SOFTBALL TEAM TO PLAYING HARBOR BALL FOR YOUNGSTERS FUTURES

Ms Read vividly recalls the day she and her husband, a helicopter technician, first landed in Darwin.

"I landed on decimal currency day, which is the day we changed over from pounds and shillings, the 14th of February, 1966," she said.

It was not long before she was employed as a Grade 6 teacher at Darwin Primary and through joining the local softball league, met teacher and public servant Harry Giese, who invited her to join the newly formed Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) NT branch.

At first, her role was to recruit new people to their tiny committee but after Cyclone Tracy hit in 1974, Ms Read said they started to grow.

As was on the national board



Royal Life Saving Society NT members (from left) Asheton Bayard-Hewitt, Daphne Read and Michael De Silva meet to talk about the organisation's history, goals and incredible successes on its 60th anniversary. Picture: Lottie Hood

NT's first female school principal said.

"So we wanted to do something about it.

"We got the funding from the government to pay people to teach swimming to little kids."

Throughout her years at the society, Ms Read said she built a reputation for being a bit of a closer and was often called into situations which called for a strong voice.

"This included "going after" schools who decided to buy computers instead of paying for buses to swimming lessons or pleading with the City Council to use a certain building for their headquarters.

"And apparently I did a good job (on that last one), and they got that whole building," she said, sitting in the Darwin headquarters at the Parap Recreation Facility.

The building, which opened in 2017, is used to train staff and volunteers and as staff offices as the society has grown from one employee to nearly 90.

Throughout her various impressive roles with RLSS, such

ber, Ms Read said she has shared afternoon tea with Queen Elizabeth II, meeting the royal three times along with other family members such as Princess Diana and Prince Michael of Kent.

In 2002, Ms Read was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for service to the community and later was named NT Senior of Excellence in 2015.

“For years and years, my aim was to get every schoolchild compulsory swimming. And it finally happened”

Looking back at the society's history, the now-retired member said: "We've gone from strength to strength."

NEWEST RLSS BOARD MEMBER REMEMBERS NEARLY DROWNING AS A CHILD

According to the latest statistics, the metro region of Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield remains the spot with Australia's highest drowning rates.

The 238 drowning cases per 100,000 people puts the region way ahead of Queensland's Sunshine Coast, which claims second place at 137.

These figures from 2024-25 include the tragic death of three-year-old Dion Robbins, who drowned in a residential pool in Palmerston in June.

One of the RLSS's newest board members, Michael De Silva, knows how damning these stats are considering he nearly became one himself.

The Territorian was six years old when he found himself in the deep end of the pool during a mandatory swimming lesson in Darwin.

"Next thing I remember was being resuscitated on the side of the pool.

"Ever since then, if my feet can't touch the ground and water is above my nose, it's just fight or flight. I haven't had a lot of confidence in water ever since then."

"ROYAL LIFE SAVING PROGRAM CHANGED MY LIFE"

The lawyer said since that experience, he has struggled to go into water and would often sit on the sidelines during trips to Litchfield with friends.

Then last year, Mr De Silva was asked by RLSS executive director Annette "Floss" Roberts if he would like to join the board, given his story.

"I wanted to help out in contributing to the organisation, which really closely aligns with my passion and views, progressing the mission of the organisation to prevent the loss of life or injury in water, which I've personally experienced," he said.

Since joining the board in February 2024, the 28-year-old

erston, which was acquired by RLSS.

Mr De Silva said the lessons, and meeting other adults in the same boat, has helped him to gain confidence in the water and properly enjoy NT camping and day trips.

"I found that attending these programs – it's really, really changed my life," he said.

"The only way to actually overcome (the fear of drowning) was to actually get in the water in a controlled environment that was supervised.

"These programs – they're not just there for the sake of it, they're essential.

"I'm actually really grateful to be around at the time of their 60th anniversary.

"I just look forward to seeing the next 60 years of Royal Life Saving pan out."

16-YEAR-OLD SWIM TEACHER AND MEMBER: 'IT ONLY TAKES A SECOND FOR SOMEONE TO DROWN'

On top of swimming lessons, the society helps to train staff and volunteers in lifesaving skills such as CPR, lifeguarding and first aid, and hosts championships to keep these skills sharp.

Asheton Bayard-Hewitt, 16, has competed three times for the NT.

The Surf Life Saving volunteer and member of RLSS for seven years said the training and competitions helped to make what would otherwise be a stressful situation something fun.

"It helps you remember things like how to rescue people," he said.

"And because I've done this before, I can just go for it and it takes the stress out of it."

A year ago, Asheton wanted to take things further and began to take his water safety qualification before starting to teach swimming once a week.

"It's good to know that you're doing something good," he said.

"I think everyone should learn how to swim.

"I think everyone should

Report from the Executive Director



In 2024/2025 we celebrated 1,560 active members. We conducted 48 community events engaging with 85,384 people. Throughout the year, Royal Life Saving NT provided a community benefit and services to 45% of our population.

Our focus is drowning prevention strategies relevant to the needs of our community. Despite our committed actions and advocacy, the Northern Territory maintains the highest drowning rate, per capita, in Australia.

16,589 primary school aged children participated in the Swim and Survive program, with 462 achieving the national benchmark of level 7. Participation numbers have increased by 54%, with a massive thank you to the Finocchiaro Government for their leadership and commitment to ensure our Primary School Children will participate in a NT Government funded school swimming and water safety program – Swim & Survive! Thank you to all the Swim Schools who became Swim and Survive Partners so we can deliver one program and map the children’s competencies to the National Swimming and Water Safety Framework. ONE Focus – Our Children – with massive results!

752 children from 13 remote schools participated in the Remote Swim, Survive and Strive project and 42 students achieved the national swimming and water safety benchmark of a Level 7 and above. The project enabled children to learn to swim and participate in a Pool Lifesaving carnival. The project includes Royal Life Saving training and Swim Teacher mentoring to assist local people in obtaining employment or volunteer services at their community swimming pool. 343 local community people participated in training, with a total of 1,714 people in 21 remote community locations participating in the program.

8,732 training certificates were issued with 43% of this training conducted in regional and remote areas. 3,811 statements of attainments were issued under Vocational Education and Training. 287 Training courses were conducted across the Northern Territory to 1,995 Participants.

The NT Government funded Water Safety Awareness Program provides a fantastic opportunity for families to access free water safety lessons for their child. This year 1,856 enrolments were received with 12 providers operating across the NT. 35,881 children have participated in this program since inception. The NT Government have extended the program with the Learn to Swim Vouchers and this has been positively received by families across the Northern Territory.

The Sport of Pool Lifesaving maintained participation with over 2,000 children participating in carnivals in Darwin, Katherine, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, and remote communities. Royal

Life Saving NT sent a team of four lifesaving athletes and three officials to the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships in Sydney. Thanks to our coaches, volunteers, and officials whose ongoing commitment and contribution to the sport makes a huge difference for our community.

The purchase of the Goldfishbowl in January 2022 was a significant strategic milestone for the Organisation. We have completely integrated the Swim & Survive Program withing the Swim School and look forward to providing more services to the community and further our cause of drowning prevention. Royal Life Saving NT were successful in receiving a Major Grant from the Community Benefit Fund that enabled us to complete critical upgrades and improve access for the community at the Goldfishbowl.

Royal Life Saving NT were successful in receiving an NT Government Grant to collaborate with the Barkly Regional Council in creating a Tennant Creek Workforce Development Plan for the Swimming Pool, including Aquatic Risk Management. This enabled Council to operate the pool over January, with free entry for everyone for the school holidays. Needless to say it was action stations at the Pool for the whole time. We were also funded to do a review of the remote swimming pools, starting with the recommendations from the 2010 report and understanding the status of our pools now. The report will be published.

Sadly, several remote pools have closed over the past few years, for a range of reasons. NT Government through the Department of Sport, People and Culture funded Royal Life Saving NT to conduct a review of the Remote Pools in the Northern Territory. This is following on from the 2010 Remote Pools Report and to assess the status quo in relation to the 19 recommendations in this report. The aim of this review is to inform stakeholders of the potential for a new plan, to assist in delivering quality facilities, programs and services to ensure communities have access to water safety education, training and the health and social benefits pools provide.

I am pleased to complete my report by advising members, stakeholders and volunteers that the NT Branch is in a strong position and looks forward to the ongoing challenges and opportunities. I would like to sincerely thank our devoted volunteers including the Executive Management Team led by Randall Cook our trainers, swim teachers and our members. I would like to thank Royal Life Saving National Office and all the State and Territory Branches of Royal Life Saving. A Massive THANK YOU to our fantastic staff for their continued dedication and commitment. I am so very grateful and honoured to be part of an inspiring team who are strengthened by and committed to our values of Quality, Respect, Leadership, Innovation and Collaboration.

Yours in lifesaving

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Floss Roberts

Highlights of the Year 2024/2025

- Provided a community benefit and services to 105,824 people across the Northern Territory, achieving our strategic goal of reaching over 40% of our population (reached 45% of population).
- 16,589 participated in the Swim and Survive program with 462 Students achieving the National Water Safety Competency Benchmark of a level 7 or above.
- 57 children participated in our “Little Royals Swim School” Program run in Tennant Creek, Yulara and Alice Springs.
- 1,714 people participated within the Indigenous Advancement Strategy - Remote Swim, Survive & Strive. The project ran within 21 remote communities. This includes 752 students in remote locations with 42 achieving the national swimming and water safety benchmark of a level 7 or above. 343 people were trained and now qualified with range of qualifications.
- 287 Training courses were conducted across the NT for 1,995 participants, with 8,732 certificates issued including 3,811 statements of attainments. 43% of training courses were delivered in regional and remote area of the Northern Territory.
- The Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council was administered on behalf of the Northern Territory Government with 4 meetings conducted, published the Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy 2030.
- 5 Schools participated in Pipes and Drains education sessions which reached 690 students..
- A total of 13 schools were visited by the Water Safety Unit to deliver water safety talks to 610 students across the NT.
- Water Safety Week 15-21 September 2024 with 10 events to over 15,000 people, including Splashfest.
- 35,881 children have enrolled in the Water Safety Awareness Program since 2003, with 70% of children completing all five sessions.
- There was a total of 1,856 enrolments for July 2024 – June 2025 in the Water Safety Awareness Program with 12 Providers of the program.
- Conducted 48 community events, engaging with 85,384 people
- Reviewing the Keep Watch Ambassadors program with all levels of Government to highlight the importance of water safety and drowning prevention.
- 1,560 Active Members, with 73 Voting Members.
- Sport: 87 active pool lifesaving members, represented NT in the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships in Sydney January 2025, 5 lifesaving carnivals with 383 participants and 4 Active Family Fun Day Sporting Events

- Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Campaign has engaged with over 20,000 children and adults through 10 community events, 5 swimming and water safety programs and an Adults Learn to Swim program
- Employed 12 Permanent staff: 28 registered Trainers and 35 casual Swim Teachers.
- Goldfishbowl Swim School, purchased in January 2022 patronage statistics are: 34 Seniors through Fit Frogs, 106 Aqua participants, 10 participants from Helping People Achieve (HPA), 67 Adults Learn to Swim, 1,003 Children Learn to Swim, 41 Squad swimmers.
- Sadly 4 people drowned in 2024/2025 in the Northern Territory

Our Organisation

Our Purpose

To prevent drowning and injury in the community with an emphasis on the aquatic environment. We turn everyday people into community lifesavers.

Our Vision

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

Our Values

- Respect
- Quality
- Leadership
- Innovation
- Collaboration

Based on the values of the organisation Royal Life Saving NT is a performance culture dependent on a strong, committed team.

Strategic Objectives

1. To prevent drowning and injuries in our aquatic environments.
2. Increase access to and participation in water safety education, training and sport in urban, regional & remote communities.
3. Maintain a sustainable and effective organisation and supported membership base.
4. Maximise the role of RLSSANT through fostering collaborative partnerships and community engagement.
5. Fully funded primary school swimming and water safety programs.

Target 2028

A sustainable business that increases Royal Life Saving NT services across the whole of the Northern Territory, providing a community benefit to at least 40% of Territorians.

Our People

Executive Board and Governance

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia – NT has an entirely volunteer Board, who provide their skills, insights, time and commitment to the organisation. The Board of 9 people meets a minimum of eight times annually and is elected by the membership at the annual general meeting. This meeting is open to all members of the organisation and is held on the first Friday in September at 6pm, advertised in the NT News, our Kicking Back newsletter and emailed to all members. The Board is aware of their role and the prescribed governance standards for not-for-profit organisations and is focussed on the Strategic Plan: Our People, Our Lifestyle, and Our Water 2023-2028.

Our Board



Randall Cook

B.Ed., Grad Dip in Educational Mgmt.

President

Foundation member of the Board of the Katherine Regional Community Bank. Extensive experience as a Principal serving on School Councils. Served on numerous AUSTSWIM committees. Member of the Board since 1998.



Penny Hart

BA, Grad Dip in Teaching, Cert IV Governance & Risk

Vice President

Background in swimming, teaching, governance and administration. Previous NT Pool Lifesaving as a sport Team member. Member of the Board 2013-2015. Member of Board from 2017.



Rodney Cremona

B.Ed, AUSTSWIM TSW

Secretary

Ten years commitment as a volunteer to Royal Life Saving NT as a Trainer and Teacher
Member of Board from 2/9/2015



Joe De Luca

Bachelor of Business (Acc), Grad Dip Management, FCPA, JP.

Treasurer

Extensive experience in audit, accounting, quality assurance and treasury management. Treasurer or Executive Board member on several non-profit organisations and/or charities with the NT as well as National Peak Bodies. Member of Board from 1/11/2017



James Sheridan
B.Bus, MTechMgt(RiskMgt). ANZIIF(AFF) CIP
Committee Member

Risk management, strategic planning & governance Background
 Member of Board from 7/9/2018



Alice Doyle
B.HealthSc, Grad Dip Teach, C IV Youth, C IV TAA and TAE Dip Auditing
Committee Member

Executive Board member of many sporting organisations, including responsibilities as Secretary, Treasurer /Returning Officer.
 Member of Board from 16/3/2010



Annette Roberts AM
Dip MMT, Dip HR, WHS, Dip TAE, GAICD
Public Officer

Extensive experience in Aquatic Industry. Sport and management background
 Member of Board from 12/7/2006



Michael De Silva
Solicitor –Commercial/Property and Youth Justice. Committee Member

Mick nearly drowned as a youth and this experience has fostered a profound, personal interest in aquatic safety. This experience not only enhances his passion for the cause but also provides a unique perspective in advancing the vision and objectives of the Association.
 Member of Board from 4/3/2024



Zoe Malone
 Senior Director, Department of Corporate and Digital Development NT Government 2020-current, including member of the department’s risk management and audit committee
Committee Member

Zoe grew up in regional Victoria and learnt to swim through programs offered by the Royal Life Saving, all the way through to completing her Bronze Star. At university Zoe taught swimming as a part-time job to help others learn how to enjoy the water safely. Member of Board from 4/3/2024



Steph East
B.Ed, AUSTSWIM TSW and Infants
Committee Member

Steph re-engaged in swimming instruction in Katherine, establishing the Little Royals program to address gaps in infant lessons. She is passionate about delivering engaging, developmentally appropriate teaching and building strong community relationships. Steph seeks to contribute to Royal Life Saving Society NT, bringing experience as an educator and parent to support its mission and strategic goals.
 Member of Board from 1/9/2023.

Table 1: Record of Management Committee Meetings and Attendance

✓ Attended A Apology X Did not attend N/A – i.e. not on Board at time S/L – Sick Leave

#	Date	Penny	Joe	Rod	Alice	Randall	Floss	James	Zoe	Michael	Steph
1	8/7/2024	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	12/8/2024	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
AGM	13/9/2024	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
3	5/11/2024	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓
4	13/11/2024	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Xmas Party Alice Springs 4/12/24 4-6pm											
Xmas Party Darwin at the Goldfishbowl 23/11/24 1-3pm											
		Penny	Joe	Rod	Alice	Randall	Floss	James	Steph	Micheal	Zoe
5	10/2/2025	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	17/3/2025	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
7	14/4/2025	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓
8	2/6/2025	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓

Elected Position and notes:

- Randall Cook Chairperson/President
- Penny Hart Vice-Chairperson / Vice-President
- Rod Cremona Secretary
- Joe De Luca Treasurer
- Randall Cook Staff Liaison and Mediator of grievances or disputes, as per section 58 of the constitution
- James Sheridan National Director RLSSA

Employment- Our Staff - Our Team

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia – NT is an equal opportunity employer. All staff adhere to our Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct and Code of Practice. Staff are employed under a certified enterprise agreement.

During 2024/25 RLSSA NT employed 10 full-time staff, 2 part-time, 35 casual swimming teachers and 28 registered trainers as valuable members of our workforce team.

As we work closely with families, all staff must undergo a police check and have a Working with Children Clearance (Ochre Card) as per Northern Territory legislation. We also verify they hold current, relevant qualifications. All staff complete the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations developed by the Australian Human Right Commission.

Our TEAM work and volunteer together as collaborative Leaders in various areas such as Swim Teachers, Trainers, community development and events.



Membership

Royal Life Saving NT Membership Summary 2024/2025

Summary of Voting Members

Membership Type	Number
Life	12
Individual	33
Trainer	28
Total	73

Summary of Non-voting Members

Membership Type	Number
Patron	2
Award	1516
Corporate	4
Pool Life Saving – Alice Springs	5
Pool Life Saving – Darwin	15
Friends of Lifesaving	0
Seniors	5
Schools	3
Swim & Survive Partners	10
Total	1560



Royal Life Saving NT Life Members

Kath Midgley
Fritz Risler
Randall Cook
Alister Lear
Jenny Verrall
Daphne Read AO
Petina Franklin
Margaret Morris
Alice Doyle
Penny Hart
Sarah Dowd
Rodney Cremona

Summary of Royal Life Saving Northern Territory Members as at June 2025

1560

Each year Royal Life Saving Society – Australia, Royal Life Saving Commonwealth and Royal Life Saving Northern Territory are committed to recognising the efforts of their dedicated volunteers and the role they play in educating people throughout Australia in water safety, survival, rescue, resuscitation and first aid techniques in an effort to reduce injury and loss of life through drowning. Royal Life Saving NT takes great pride in acknowledging these contributions.

Table 3: Royal Life Saving Australia Honours Royal Life Saving Commonwealth Awards

Royal Life Saving Australia	
Kate Conway	Associate
Anita Newman OAM	Fellow
Penny Hart	Fellow
Jill Dowd	Aust. Meritorious Service Order
Floss Roberts AO	Outstanding Service
Fritz Risler	Life Member
Randall Cook	Life Governor
City of Darwin Received by Simone Saunders	RLSSA Presidents Award -Outstanding community service a
Nhulunbuy Corporation Received by Mike Rogers	RLSSA Presidents Award - Outstanding community service
Royal Life Saving Australia – Commonwealth	
Pam Dillon	Service Medal-5 years service
Petina Franklin	Bar to Service Cross – 21 years of service
Daphne Read AO	Life Membership – 50 years of service
ACHPER	Outstanding community service
Melaleuca Refugee Centre	Outstanding community service
Royal Life Saving NT Presidents Awards	
for Outstanding Community Service in water safety & drowning prevention	
Barkly Regional Council, received by Mayor Sid Vashist	Outstanding community service in Lifesaving
Justine Glover	Outstanding community service and leadership in water safety and drowning prevention
for representing the Northern Territory at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships in Melbourne January 2024	
Peta Knyvett Asheton Bayard- Hewitt Laura Withers- Coach/ Team Manager	Emily Gillis Sean Deutsch Carly McLuckie - Coach



2024 NORTHERN TERRITORY ADMINISTRATOR'S MEDAL AWARD

For exceptional contribution to Lifesaving, Water Safety and Drowning Prevention in the Northern Territory is awarded to **Floss Roberts AM**



Floss Roberts is an amazing person and an inspirational leader who sets an outstanding example for her staff, members and the community. She is known to everyone in swimming and water safety across the NT and is well-respected and loved. She brings energy, unwavering determination and a make-it-happen attitude to her work.

Executive Director and Public Officer since 2006, Floss demonstrates exceptional commitment to RLSSANT’s mission of preventing loss of life and injury in the aquatic environment and promoting safe participation in water-related pursuits. Floss strengthens RLSSANT’s operations, ensuring a sustainable business and respected

community organisation. She shows commitment above and beyond the call of duty, volunteering hundreds of hours annually to support community events, pool lifesaving clubs, fundraising activities and the management committee.

She attends the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships annually with the NT team and volunteers as an official. Floss also travels to over 21 remote communities to train and run carnivals, held from the Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek, Yuendumu and everywhere in between.

Floss volunteered on the national board from 2008–2018, and is a volunteer member of the NT AUSTSWIM Advisory Committee (2004–2020). Her unwavering support and dedication to swimming and water safety across Australia was recognised in 2019: recipient of the Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM Awards at a Territory and national level; and made a Life Member.

In 2022, Floss was inducted as a Member of the Order of Australia

Table 4: Northern Territory Administrator’s Medal for exceptional contribution to lifesaving, water safety and drowning prevention

2020	Petina Franklin
2021	Marianne Yuen
2022	Alister Lear
2023	Alice Doyle
2024	Floss Roberts

Our Lifestyle

Our Community

A crucial element of Royal Life Saving Northern Territory's activities is working with all Territorians to raise awareness and share water safety skills and knowledge, specifically to prevent drowning. As a public benevolent institution (PBI), public education and advocacy are at the core of our purpose.

In the past financial year Royal Life Saving Northern Territory has had an active involvement in 48 community events at schools, shopping centres, parenting groups, remote communities and major Northern Territory events including Water Safety Week, Children's Week, Alice Springs Show, Tennant Creek Show, Katherine Show, Royal Darwin Show and the Defence Expos.

Over 85,384 members of the community directly interacted with Royal Life Saving Northern Territory at these events.

Over the past year many of the community events have involved promoting and educating families about the Make the Right Call message and the Water Safety Awareness Program. These two programs are designed specifically to reduce drowning risks which affect all Territorians.

Participation in the show circuit which started at the Alice Springs Show then onto Tennant Creek, Katherine and the Royal Darwin Shows, were once again fantastic opportunities for Staff and Volunteers to connect directly with the community and to raise the profile of the organisation. Thank you to all the volunteers who were involved with the Shows and helped make our attendance at these events a success.



Our Volunteers



Pool Lifesaving values our volunteer assistance throughout the year with Carly McLuckie and Laura Withers continuing to support Pool Lifesaving as coaches and volunteers.

In addition to community events, board members also donated their time to provide strategic assistance; their time was dependant on their specific responsibilities. Over 100 hours were donated to the Organisation to ensure the operations plan aligned to the budget and strategic plan.

As a volunteer organisation, Royal Life Saving Northern Territory is very fortunate to be associated with amazing people who are willing to donate their valuable time to spread the water safety message. Since 2010 an individual has been recognised for their outstanding commitment to the community.

The 2024/2025 Volunteer of the Year is awarded to Laura Withers. Laura is a full time staff member for Royal Life Saving NT and volunteers for Pool Lifesaving and community events. Laura volunteers over 200 hours

Table 5: Volunteer of the Year Award for outstanding commitment to the community

2010/2011	Jill Dowd
2011/2012	Alister Lear
2012/2013	Karon Lamb
2013 / 2014	Trevor Cawthorne
2014/2015	Bradley Mortimer
2015/2016	Petina Franklin
2016/2017	Elizabeth Durnin
2017/2018	Fritz Risler
2018/2019	Belinda Lawton
2019/2020	Steve Whiteside
2020/2021	Claire Morton
2021/2022	Marylou O'Gallagher
2022/2023	Carly McLuckie
2023/2024	Asheton Bayard- Hewitt
2024/2025	Laura Withers



The Trevor Cawthorne Memorial Award was established in 2017 in memory of Trevor and the outstanding volunteer service he provided to Royal Life Saving NT.

This year the recipient of this valued award is Asheton Bayard-Hewitt in recognition of his outstanding service to our lifesaving community.

Asheton is an inspiration to us all. He is a pool lifesaving athlete and has represented the Northern Territory at the Australian Pool Life Saving Championship, he is a swim teacher and he volunteers for our community events (often with his wonderful Mum Trish, who is also a valued volunteer). Asheton is an amazing young person who is kind, professional and fun. He

helps new Lifesavers at training and his positive and friendly disposition welcomes people to our stands at community events. Thank you Asheton for all you do for Royal Life Saving NT.

Table 6: Trevor Cawthorne Memorial Award

2016/2017	Kate Dowd
2017/2018	Chloe Sein
2018/2019	Steve Whiteside
2019/2020	Cieran New
2020/2021	Emily May
2021/2022	Kate Conway
2022/2023	Joe De Luca
2023/2024	Carly McLuckie
2024/2025	Asheton Bayard-Hewitt

Training and Aquatic Services

Registered Training Organisation – RTO Provider Number 0859

Royal Life Saving Society (Australia) NT Branch stands as the leading authority and provider of vocationally aligned education and training programs aimed at servicing the aquatic industry in the Northern Territory. As a Registered Training Organisation, Royal Life Saving NT is committed to delivering high-quality, sector-specific training and assessments systems and processes.

Each year, Royal Life Saing NT ensures all Territorians have access to essential vocational training, delivering programs across urban, regional and remote areas. The key out comes from 2024-2025 include:

- 287 Course conducted engaging 1995 participants of which 348 participants are First Nation People
- Training was conducted in 19 Remote Indigenous Communities with 43% of all training being conducted in regional and remote areas
- 8732 certificates issued, including 3811 Statements of attainments
- 83 participants trained in Pool Lifeguard
- 342 participants trained in Bronze Medallion
- 433 participants trained in First Aid
- 215 participants trained in Swim Teacher Rescue Award
- 53 participants trained in Hydrotherapy Rescue Award

The Training and Workforce Development Committee has achieved significant milestones, including the development and launch of a series of professional development products tailored for the aquatic industry. These products are designed to enhance workforce skills and compliance with industry standards.

Additionally, the committee has actively collaborated on the creation of training resources to support the implementation of the updated SIS Sport, fitness and recreation training package, ensuring that the workforce is well-equipped with the latest skills, knowledge and competencies. Moving forward, the committee’s priorities include continuing to foster industry collaboration to meet evolving training needs.

The 20th Annual Trainers workshop, held on the 13th September, saw an impressive 90% trainer attendance. This workshop is pivotal in ensuring quality training and consistent practices across the board. Emphasising quality and compliance with relative legislation and industry needs, the workshop ensures that participants received professional and concise training. The Trainer’s workshop underscores the commitment to maintaining high standards in training delivery, aligning with both regulatory requirements and industry expectations.

Table 7: Aquatic Services courses and participants

Course Name	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
Education and Care Setting First Aid	1	2
Education and Care Setting First Aid Online + Practical	6	26
First Aid	26	249
First Aid Online + Practical	25	156
Resuscitation	77	419
Bronze Star	2	7
Bronze Medallion	42	342
Bronze Medallion Update	38	289
Pool Lifeguard	13	83
Pool Lifeguard Update	15	88
Junior First Aid	0	0
Work Shops (PD)	14	66

Hydrotherapy Rescue Award	5	53
Swimming Teacher Rescue Award	5	16
Swim Teacher Rescue Award + Resuscitation	18	199
Total	287	1995

Since 2009, Royal Life Saving NT has recognised one trainer each year for their outstanding commitment to training.

Matilda Stones has been recognised as the Trainer of the Year for 2024-2025. Although Matilda has only been a trainer for a short period of time, she has made a significant impact. She has shown strong commitment to professional growth, expanding her knowledge and skill, researching new approaches and questioning the norm to drive continuous improvement in the quality of our training programs.

Participant feedback reflects her excellence:

“I have done this course for many years and this course was the best delivered course. Matilda was very knowledgeable, answered questions respectfully and I’m sure many people will appreciate her expert delivery.”

Matilda’s dedication and professionalism make her a worthy recipient of our Trainer of the Year award.

Table 8: Trainer of the Year Award for highest standard of excellence in training

2009/2010	Alice McDonald
2010/2011	Rebecca Gawne
2011/2012	Mark FitzSimons
2012/2013	Petina Franklin
2013/2014	Rodney Cremona
2014/2015	Tom Cannavan
2015/2016	Joan Burns
2016/2017	Wayne Van Sambeek
2017/2018	Stephen Gazzola
2018/2019	Rebecca Brown
2019/2020	Pamela Dillon
2020/2021	Kate Conway
2021/2022	Naomi Briggs
2022/2023	Aaron Dalglish
2023/2024	Laura Withers
2024/2025	Matilda Stones



Matilda Stones
Trainer of the Year 2024/25

Safer Aquatic Locations

There is an increased drowning risk linked with the increased number of people seeking out remote waterways, day trips to isolated rivers and holidaying to unfamiliar locations.

Not all aquatic environments can be monitored by lifeguards, but all can be made safer with better guidelines, targeted action in black spots and greater community awareness of the risks. Safety in public pools remains a key focus. We undertake detailed research to measure the types of injuries and incidents that occur and established safety benchmarks.

Royal Life Saving NT has a strong commitment to strengthening safety and risk management in all aquatic venues facilitate and/or locations within the Northern Territory. Which is achieved through risk management, industry development and training initiatives.

Highlights:

- NT representative on the National Aquatic Industry Committee whose focus is to strengthen the health, safety and viability of the aquatic facilities operating in the Northern Territory.
- Contributed to the review and update of Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation.
- Contributed to the development of the National Aquatic Workforce Framework
- Actively engaged with the greater public in promotion of educational initiatives such as the Pipes and Drains, Respect the River and Make the Right call campaign.

Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments



The Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment (AFSA) provides an expert and comprehensive assessment of the operations of an aquatic facility against the provisions of the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation, Australian Standards and relevant State and Territory legislation.

The AFSA is the easiest and most effective way to gain a true assessment of the level of safety and compliance within an aquatic facility and for pool owners and operators to ensure that their facility is being managed in line with current expectations and standards. It is recommended that an AFSA is conducted at least annually.

Over the last 12 months, Darwin Water Front Wave Pool and Lagoon, Nightcliff

Aquatic Centre, Parap Aquatic Centre, Casuarina Aquatic Centre, Batchelor Pool, Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Acacia Hill School, Nhulunbuy Aquatic Centre, Borroloola Pool, Ngukurr Pool, Alyangula Pool, Yuendumu Pool, Ltyentye Apurte, Utju, Wadeye Pool and Tennant Creek Pool underwent an AFSA to ensure a high standard of risk management, prevention of serious incident management and compliance with standards, legislations, facilities, programs and community expectations.

Alice Springs and Central Australia

Royal Life Saving NT saw an exciting expansion of delivery of training and programs throughout the Central region. Delivery of training had a further reach within many remote communities where services have not been delivered for several years.

- Training: 45 courses were held with a total of 270 participants within Central Australia and included Bronze Medallion and updates, Pool Lifeguard and updates, First Aid, CPR and Swimming Teacher Rescue Award.
- WSU: There were 211 enrolments for the WSAP in the region which was 8.2% of the vouchers issued in the program. Emergency Care sessions were held in Alice Springs at Birth and Beyond, ASALC & Larapinta FaFT.
- Education: 6 Water Safety Education talks were conducted within the region reaching 271 students. Sessions were delivered at childcare centres, primary and middle schools.
- IAS: Swim, Survive and Strive programmes were delivered in the communities of Santa Teresa, Mutitjulu, Areyonga and Tennant Creek.
- Sport: There are 6 active Pool Lifesaving members in Central Australia. Despite low active membership within Alice Springs, Pool Lifesaving activities have been a highlight of many IAS trips with carnivals held in Mutitjulu, Yulara, Santa Teresa and Tennant Creek. Work continues to secure casual coaching staff to assist in delivery of the program in Alice Springs.
- Community Events: RLSSA NT was involved in the Alice Springs and Tennant Creek Show. Attendance at community events in Central Australia reached over 24,000 people.

Table 9: Alice Springs WSAP Enrolments

2019/2020	235	11.75% of total enrolments
2020/2021	239	11.92% of total enrolments
2021/2022	254	12.64% of total enrolments
2022/2023	212	10% of total enrolments
2023/2024	165	8.2% of total enrolments
2024/2025	211	9.4% of total enrolments

Table 10: Alice Springs Training Statistics

2019/2020	44 courses 157 participants
2020/2021	54 courses, 211 participants

2021/2022	90 courses, 598 participants
2022/2023	60 courses, 495 participants
2023/2024	57 courses, 501 participants
2024/2025	45 courses, 270 participants

Table 11: Participation in Pool Lifesaving

2019/2020	10 participants
2020/2021	17 participants
2021/2022	11 participants
2022/2023	5 Participants
2023/2024	6 Participants
2024/2025	6 Participants

ALICE SPRINGS



Water Safety Week festivities continued in Alice Springs with Boof the Barra visiting Larapinta Preschool and Alice Springs Library. Plus, there was plenty of pool lifesaving fun at Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre.



Swim and Survive

Swim and Survive is a comprehensive swimming and water safety initiative of Royal Life Saving that increases the swimming and water safety skills of Territorian children. It aims to prevent drowning and increase participation in safe aquatic activity. Through teaching essential components of personal survival, basic water rescue and water safety, in addition to a process of developing strong and effective swimming technique. Allowing children from 6 months to 17 years to progress through age specific award levels: Little Wonders Award & Active Award to achieve the National Swimming and Water Safety Framework benchmarks.

National Benchmarks:

1. SWIM AND SURVIVE LEVEL 03 - National Benchmark to be achieved by the age of 6 years.
2. SWIM AND SURVIVE LEVEL 07 - National Benchmark to be achieved by the age of 12 years.
3. BRONZE MEDALLION - National Benchmark to be achieved by the age of 17 years.

This year 16,589 children from urban, regional, and remote Northern Territory participated in the Swim and Survive Program. The community can access the program through our School Swim and Survive Program, Swim and Survive Partners, the Swim, Survive & Strive Program in remote communities or our Sunday Lifesaving and VACSWIM programs. We continue to work with stakeholders to increase the number of students to meet the National Benchmarks in Swimming and Water Safety through Swim and Survive. This year 3,353 children met SnS level 3 and 462 children reached Swim and Survive Level 7.

School communities, the Northern Territory Department of Education and our Swim and Survive Partners continue to play a fundamental role in the continued success of the Swim and Survive Program. 68 Government and Non-Government schools acknowledge the important life skills that the Swim and Survive program provides by having the program as part of their school curriculum.

Department of Education Certificate Funding

The Northern Territory Government, Department of Education continues to support Royal Life Saving NT and Government school students with its certificate funding.

This year 16,589 Government school students from 68 schools received certificates including 802 Remote students.

This year also saw 3,353 children achieve SnS level 3 and 462 children achieve Swim and Survive Level 7.

Swim and Survive Partners

Royal Life Saving NT are supported by 21 Swim and Survive Partners and Schools. They are recognised as a preferred deliverer of the Swim and Survive Program. Long-standing partners include Marianne's Swim School, Goldfishbowl Swim School in Palmerston, NT Swim School Coconut Grove and Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre. Government and independent schools in Darwin, Alice Springs and Katherine also deliver the program to their students as a part of their school programming.

Royal Life Saving NT would like to thank the new partners who have come on board to be a part of delivering a quality swimming and water safety program to Territory students.

This year saw 6,862 children participate in the Swim and Survive program through the 21 Swim and Survive Schools and Partners. We continue to work with our Swim and Survive Partners to assist them in providing the best quality program to their students and aim to increase the benefits to our partners into the future.

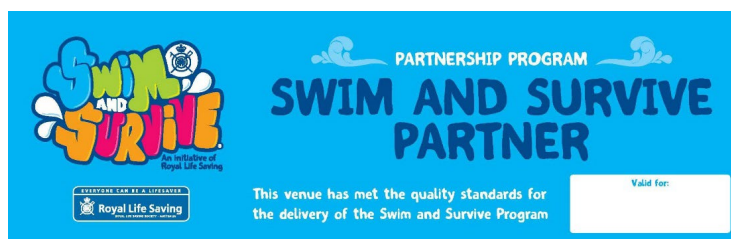


Table 12: Swim and Survive Partners

Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre
Coomalie Community Government Council
Marianne Swim School
NT Swim School
Swim Dynamics
Triple S Swim School
Goldfishbowl Swim School
Humpty Doo Aquatic Adventures
Haileybury Rendall School
Palmerston Senior College (PSEC)
Goldfishbowl
Katherine School of the Air
Swimming NT
SWELL Palmerston
Batchelor Outdoor Education Centre
Travelling Tadpoles
Y NT
Yipirinya School
Splash Academy
Acacia Hill School
Mataranka School
Nemarluk School
Little Royals Swim School

Multicultural Swimming & Water Safety Programs

14 international Students from the Outdoor Adventure club at Charles Darwin University participated in a swimming and water safety program at CAALC.

Chinese Water Safety Swimming and Water Safety program – DFAT / RLSS South Australia
 26 Chinese NT residents were given the opportunity to participate in their first water safety/swimming program in December 2024. This program comprised of swimming skills, survival skills, lifesaving skills and basic resuscitation information.
 The full day session was conducted at Parap pool.

100% of all participants had never experienced a structured swimming program previously. The program was well received by the participants with positive feedback, with all saying that they were grateful for the opportunity.

Infant Aquatics

Infant Aquatic lessons were conducted for children aged 6 months to 5 years by Little Royal Swim School infant qualified swim teachers.

Little Royals Swim School Alice Springs 2024/2025

Little Royals Swim School Alice Springs held 1 block of four lesson programs during October 2024/2025. The program was conducted at the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure centre. 24 children participated in the programs.

Little Royals Tennant Creek 2024/2025

Little Royals Swim School Tennant Creek held 1 block of four lesson programs during November 2024/2025. The program was conducted at the Tennant Creek Town pool. These programs were popular with the families of Tennant Creek. 19 children participated in the programs.

Little Royals Yulara 2024/2025

Little Royals Swim School Yulara held 1 block of four lesson programs during October 2024/2025. The program was conducted at the Yulara Recreation Centre pool. 14 children participated in the programs.

A special acknowledgement must be paid to the wonderful AUSTSWIM Infant qualified swim teachers who make these programs such an enjoyable experience for all involved.

Adults Learn to Swim

Royal Life Saving - NT will continue to engage with our adult population through targeted programs in Darwin, Palmerston, and Alice Springs. This included both new Australians and adults who were looking to improve their swimming and lifesaving skills.

Royal Life Saving NT Swim and Survive Swim Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Pam Dillon who has been recognised for her commitment to water safety and being an outstanding AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety. Pam has taught our Swim & Survive program for the past 5 years and has made the Barkly Regional Swimming Carnival a signature event for swimming and lifesaving in Tennant Creek. Pam is a full time sport education teacher and volunteers her extra swim teaching whenever she can. Pam is revered and renowned for making a positive impact for drowning prevention in regional and remote locations.

Table 13: Swim & Survive Teacher of the Year

2016/2017	Brogen Barrington
2017/2018	Steph East
2018/2019	Laura Withers
2019/2020	Gabby Sutton
2020/2021	Jane Davies
2021/2022	Kristy Mulhall
2022/2023	Belinda Lawther
2023/2024	Brooke O'Bryan
2024/2025	Pam Dillon



Pool Lifesaving

Darwin and Alice Springs training commenced in October 2024 and continued through to April 2025.

Participation: Athlete participation numbers in the Darwin and Alice Springs clubs remained steady throughout 2024/2025. 16 athletes in the Darwin squad and 6 members for Alice Springs.

Pool Lifesaving Carnivals: RLSSNT conducted 14 grassroots carnivals throughout the NT during the year. Alyangula, Alice Springs, Areyonga, Daly River, Darwin, Gunbalunya, Maningrida, Nhulunbuy, Palmerston, Tennant Creek, and all hosted pool lifesaving carnivals with over 750 community members participating.

Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships 16-18 January 2025

The Northern Territory sent a team of athletes compete at the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships 2025. The championships were held at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. The Northern Territory had a team of 4 athletes of varying age groups.

The team competed well with 2 first-time competitors attending their first championships.

The 2025 Royal Life Saving NT Pool Life Saving Team were:

- Asheton Bayard-Hewitt
- Peta Knyvett
- Sean Deutsch
- Emily Gillis

Laura Withers travelled as Volunteer Team Manager, Carly McLuckie as Volunteer Team Coach and Floss Roberts as Volunteer Event Official.

Volunteers

The volunteer coaches are the lifeline to our sport, and we would like to say a massive thank you to the consistent efforts of the following volunteers.

Darwin

Head/National Coach: Carly McLuckie

Assistant Coach/NT Sport Development Officer: Laura Withers

Development Coaches: Carly McLuckie and Alister Lear

Alice Springs

Alice Springs

Coach: Amy Stockwell

 <p>Name: Asheton Bayard-Hewitt</p> <p>Q: What song is in your head when practicing CPR?</p> <p>A: Stayin' Alive</p>	 <p>Name: Emily Gillis</p> <p>Q: What do you love about pool lifesaving?</p> <p>A: The Team, community and it's fun!</p>	 <p>Name: Peta Knyvett</p> <p>Q: What would you say to someone who wants to try out pool lifesaving?</p> <p>A: Go for it, it's lots of fun!</p>	 <p>Name: Sean Deutsch</p> <p>Q: What is your favourite pre-race snack?</p> <p>A: Dried mango</p>	 <p>Name: Laura Withers <i>Team Manager</i></p> <p>Q: What do you wish people knew about pool lifesaving?</p> <p>A: The fun factor!</p>	 <p>Name: Carly McLuckie <i>Coach</i></p> <p>Q: What do you love about pool lifesaving?</p> <p>A: It provides young people with the opportunity to build confidence while learning skills that could save a life.</p>	 <p>Name: Floss Roberts <i>Official</i></p> <p>Q: What would you say to someone who wants to try out pool lifesaving?</p> <p>A: Come along and try the only sport with a humanitarian purpose.</p>
--	--	---	---	--	---	--

Pool Lifesaving in Sport and Recreation

The NT Government fund Royal Life Saving NT as a Sport Service Provider to grow the sport of Pool Lifesaving in the Northern Territory, develop athlete and official pathways and provide community engagement activities and events.

Active Family Fun days and community events were held in Darwin, Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs with over 243 participants. Pool Lifesaving carnivals were conducted in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek, Nhulunbuy, Jabiru, Maningrida and Alice Springs with over 400 participants.

The Goldfishbowl Swim School



Goldfishbowl Swim School

Goldfishbowl student enrolments for 2024/2025

- Learn to Swim program 1003 participants
- Infant & Toddler program 904 participants
- Thunderbolts & Lightning strikes squads 41 participants
- Adults Learn to Swim program 67 participants

The Goldfishbowl conducts swimming lessons for Infants and Toddlers

- Monday – Friday 9am-10:30am
- Saturdays 8am-1pm

- Sundays 8:30am-1pm

School Swim and Survive programs conducted Monday -Thursday 10:45am-2pm

Learn to Swim lessons are conducted

- Monday – Thursday 3pm-6pm
- Saturdays 8am-1pm
- Sundays 8:30am-1pm

Adult lesson are held on Wednesdays from 6pm-6:45pm and Aquarobics Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-6.45pm.

We proudly support 34 Seniors through Fit Frogs and 10 participants from Helping People Achieve(HPA)

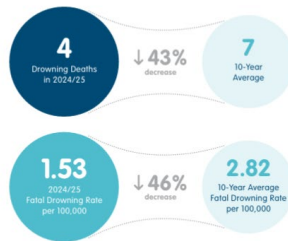
Northern Territory Drowning Report 2024/2025

> NORTHERN TERRITORY

There were 4 drowning deaths that occurred in the NT between July 1st 2024 to June 30th 2025.

The 2024/25 fatal drowning rate of 1.53 deaths per 100,000 population decreased by 46% this financial year, compared to the 10-year average.

Drowning deaths in NT mainly occurred at rivers/creeks (50%), while using non-aquatic transport (50%).

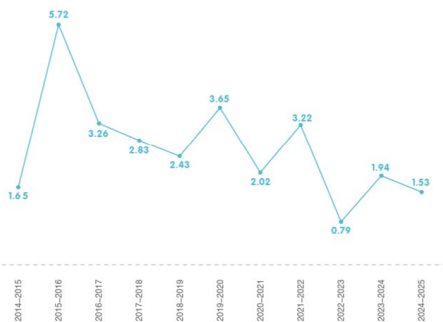


75%
OF DROWNING DEATHS WERE AMONG PEOPLE AGED 55+ YEARS



Sadly, the NT recorded 4 drowning deaths in the 2024/2025 period. The full drowning report is on the website

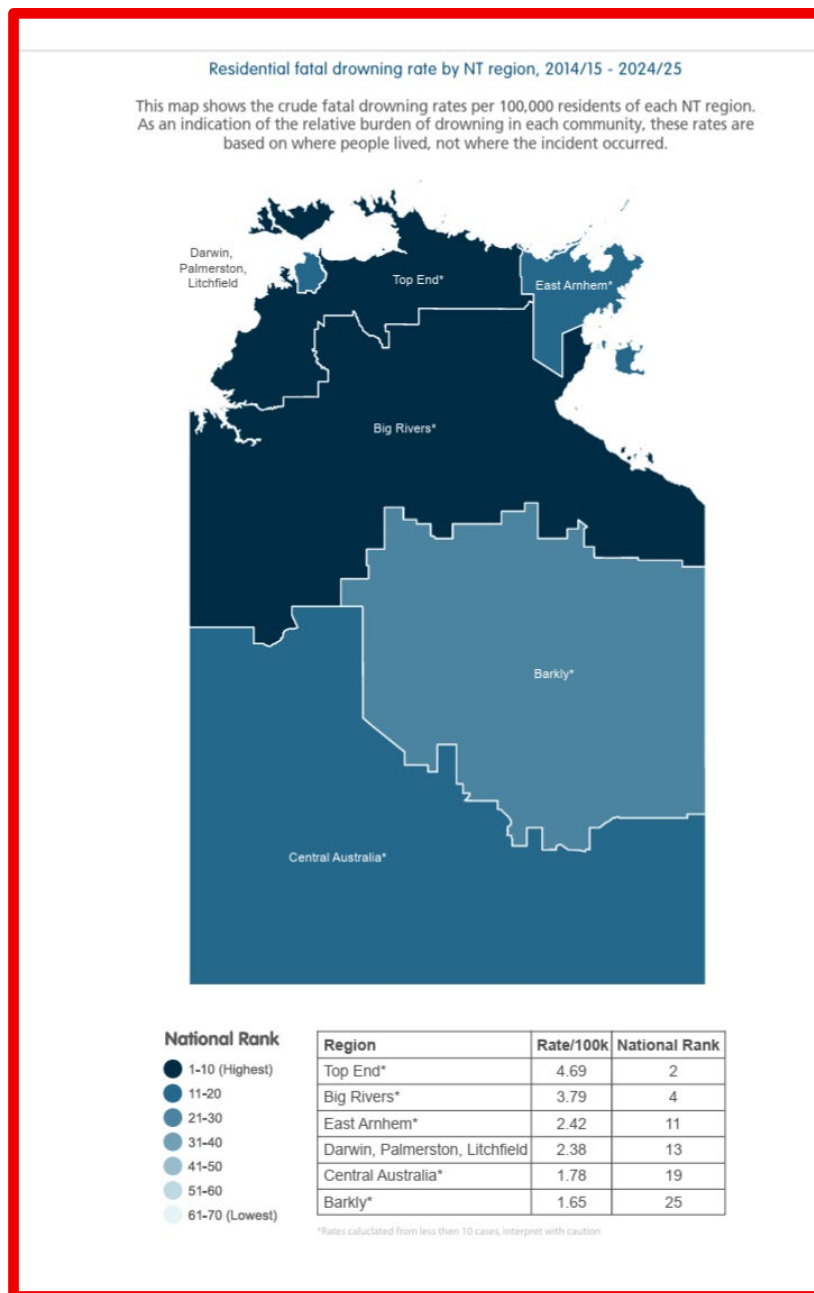
Northern Territory drowning deaths by rates per 100,000 population 2014/15 to 2024/25



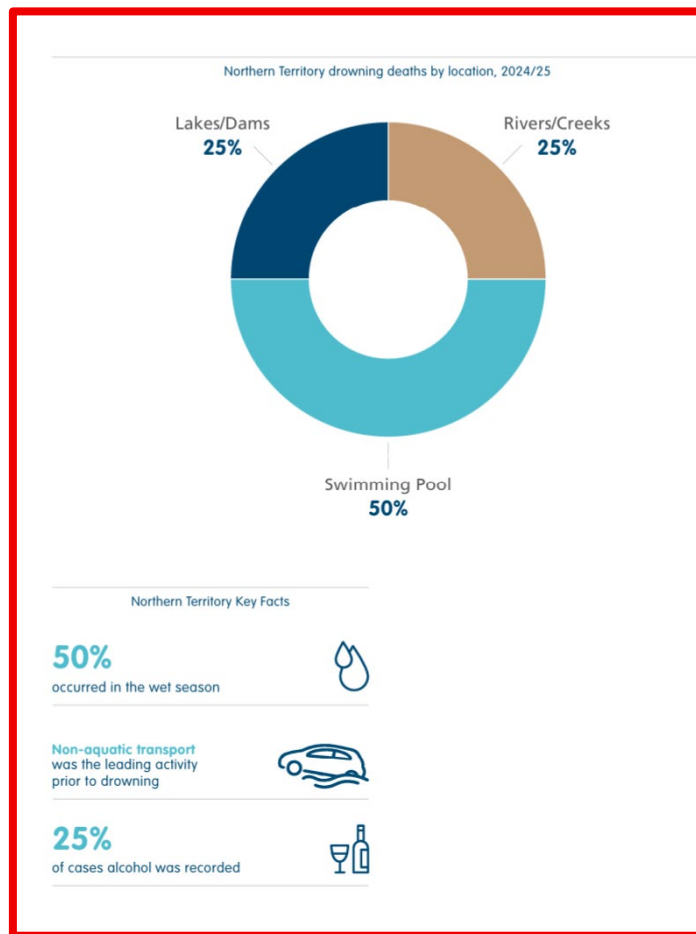
72

<https://www.royallifesaving.com.au/research-and-policy/drowning-research/national-drowning-reports>

Residential Fatal Drowning Rate by NT Region



NT Drowning deaths by location



Top 10 drowning locations in Australia

> DROWNING RATES AMONG AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS BY REGION, 2014/15 - 2024/25

Residential Drowning Rates

This map shows the crude fatal drowning rates per 100,000 residents of region in Australia. As an indication of the relative burden of drowning in each community, these rates are based on where people lived, not where the incident occurred.

Further details are provided in the following pages with breakdowns by each state.

See the Methods Section on page 96 for additional information.

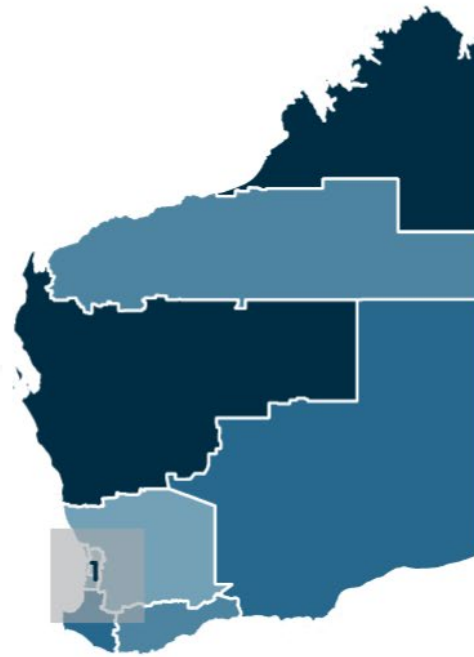
Top 10 regions with the highest drowning rates

Region	State	Rate/100k
Torres and Cape	QLD	4.95
Top End*	NT	4.69
Kimberley	WA	4.49
Big Rivers*	NT	3.79
South East TAS	TAS	3.42
Midwest WA	WA	3.09
North West QLD*	QLD	2.99
Cairns and Hinterland	QLD	2.95
Mid North Coast NSW	NSW	2.66
Far West NSW*	NSW	2.51

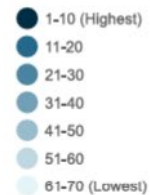
Top 10 metro regions with the highest drowning rates

Region	State	Rate/100k
Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield	NT	2.38
Sunshine Coast	QLD	1.37
Gold Coast	QLD	1.28
South Perth	WA	1.23
Hobart	TAS	1.18
North Perth	WA	1.13
Sydney	NSW	1.13
South Eastern Sydney	NSW	1.12
East Perth	WA	1.06
West Moreton	QLD	1.05

*Rates calculated from less than 10 cases, interpret with caution



National Rank



> NT CASE STUDY

Swimming and Water Safety in Northern Territory Primary Schools commitment – Addressing NT’s Drowning Risk

The Northern Territory records the highest per capita drowning rate in Australia. Research shows only 5% of NT Year 6 students meet the national benchmark for swimming and water safety, and fewer than half of NT primary schools currently provide swimming lessons. Families often bear the cost of private lessons, creating barriers to access.

In 2025, the Country Liberal Party (CLP) announced the Swimming in Schools program. This is the first compulsory swimming and water safety curriculum inclusion in the NT in 25 years. The program will be embedded in Health and Physical Education for all children in Years 1–6.

This program is endorsed by Royal Life Saving NT, Surf Life Saving NT, Swimming NT, AFANT, Triathlon NT, the Y Northern Territory, and Kidsafe NT. These organisations highlight the program’s potential to save lives by improving swimming ability and water safety knowledge.

“This funding will ensure our children are equipped with the necessary skills to stay safe in and around water... We will have a generation of water-safe children in the Territory.” **Randall Cook, President, Royal Life Saving NT**

Key Features

- > **Funding:** \$3 million annually.
- > **Coverage:** Lessons, pool entry, and transport – no cost to parents.
- > **Scope:** Urban and remote schools, with flexible program delivery through multiple providers.
- > **Start Date:** Term 1, 2025.
- > **Complementary Measures:** Remote schools can reallocate existing Remote Sports Voucher funding to other sports as swimming lessons will be fully funded.

Expected Outcomes

- > NT primary school students participate in the Swim and Survive program with the goal to achieve the National competency benchmarks.
- > The NT Swim & Survive partners collaborate across industry to ensure schools and children no longer miss out.
- > Reduced drowning and water-related injuries among children.
- > Increased water safety awareness in a region where aquatic activities are a core part of lifestyle.



Northern Territory Government Water Safety Unit

Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council 2024/2025

The Council has met on four occasions throughout the year, discussing improving community awareness of water safety and working collaboratively to develop solutions to emerging and ongoing issues.

The NT Water Safety strategy 2030 was released in Water Safety Week 2023.
(17-23 September 2023)

Vision

A safe and healthy lifestyle in, on and around water.

Aspirational Goal

Towards a nation free from drowning.

Stakeholders of the NT Water Safety Advisory Council

Member organisations are appointed to the Council as a Ministerial Appointment and are governed by specific Terms of Reference.

The Role of the NTWSAC is to provide advice to the Minister of Territory Families, Housing and Communities

- on water safety related matters.
- to identify gaps in existing provisions of water safety initiatives in relation to the services necessary for the prevention of drowning and near drowning in the Northern Territory.
- to proactively develop and recommend solutions to emerging and ongoing issues; and
- to develop and implement a Northern Territory Water Safety Strategy that focuses on Water Safety Education, Research and Data Collection and Standards.

<i>Members of the NT Water Safety Advisory Council</i>
Amateur Fisherman's Association of the NT
Department of Education & Training
Department of Health
Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Logistics – Pool Fencing Unit
Department of People, Sport & Culture
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics – Marine Safety
Kidsafe NT
Local Government Association of the NT
Local Government Association of the NT – Remote appointment
Northern Territory Water Police
Department of Environment, Water Security and Parks
Royal Life Saving Society NT Branch
Surf Life Saving NT
Water Safety Unit

Water Safety Awareness Program

Why was the Water Safety Awareness Program started?

The Water Safety Awareness Program was introduced in the Northern Territory at a time when it had a drowning rate of three times the national average. In the nine years prior to the Program's commencement 35 children aged less than five drowned in the Northern Territory. Children were drowning in backyard swimming pools, wading pools, lakes, storm water drains and other natural bodies of water. Tragically, one child even drowned in the rainwater left at the bottom of a dinghy.

2024.2025 Water Safety Awareness Program



A total of 1856 Enrolments for July 2024 – June 2025 was received with an 70% voucher usage since beginning of Program.

The NT Government Learn to Swim Voucher continues to be an excellent complement to the Water Safety Awareness Program. The Water Safety Awareness Program provides parents and carers with the initial valuable water safety education. Territory families can then access swimming lessons whereas previously they may not have been able to afford them using the Learn to Swim voucher.

Current providers of the “water sessions” across the Northern Territory

All Providers undergo a venue safety checklist, hold current qualifications, working with children's clearances and have a clear understanding of the deliverables for each session as per the guidelines agreed upon. During 2024/2025, 12 swim schools across the Northern Territory provided the Water Safety Awareness Program.

SESSION PROVIDERS 2024/2025
Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre – Alice Springs
Goldfishbowl Swim School – Palmerston
Howard Springs Swim School
Little Royals Swim School – Darwin, Batchelor, Katherine, Tennant Creek & Alice Springs
Marianne's Swimming School – Darwin
NT Swim School – Darwin
Royal Life Saving – Remote Delivery
Swim Dynamics – Darwin
Triple S – Sam's Swim School – Darwin
Travelling Tadpole Swim School – Nhulunbuy
YNT – Parap & Nightcliff
Elisha's Palmerston and Rural Swim School.

Provider's Workshop

The annual Provider's Workshop was held in Darwin on the 12th of September at Royal Life Saving NT's, meeting room. 7 providers of the Water Safety Awareness Program came together to share ideas, discuss water safety messages, and discuss the ongoing success and benefits of the Program.

Provider of the Year

The Water Safety Awareness Program Provider of the Year 2024/2025 is NT Swim School. Congratulations for a fantastic effort. Thank you to all our Swim Schools for providing the Water Safety Awareness Program to families.

2013/2014	NT Swim School
2014/2015	Anica's Swim School
2015/2016	Swim Dynamics
2016/2017	Splish Splash Mobile Swim School
2017/2018	Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre
2018/2019	Marianne's Swimming School
2019/2020	The Goldfishbowl Swim School
2020/2021	Baby Barras Swim School
2021/2022	Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre
2022/2023	Travelling Tadpoles Swim School
2023/2024	Tripple S Swim School
2024/2025	NT Swim School

Remote Access

The Water Safety Awareness Program is accessible to all Northern Territorians and every registration receives up to date information on "what to do in an emergency" and helpful information on "keeping watch" around the water. The program delivers high quality water sessions which are delivered by AUSTSWIM Teachers of Infant and Preschool Aquatics. This year the program was delivered in Yulara, Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek, Maningrida and Alyangula.

**Water Safety Awareness Program: Total 35,881 children registered
A partnership between the NT Government and Royal Life Saving
Society (Australia) NT Branch**

Water Safety Week 2024

Water Safety Week 2024 was conducted from 15-21 September, featuring a varied program of events and activities throughout the Northern Territory (NT). The slogan for Water Safety Week 2024 was 'Water Safety is 24/7!'. This year the focus was on water safety whilst recreating. The event was promoted through print, radio, television, digital billboard and social media. In addition to this, promotion was also undertaken by Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council member networks.

'Splashfest' was the opening event for WSW24 and took place from 9:00am – 12:00pm on Sunday 15 September at the Darwin Waterfront Precinct. Approximately 2600 community members attended.

Larrakia Nation's Aunty Mary Williams led the "Welcome to Country ceremony and the Chief Minister – Honourable Lia Finocchiaro officially opened Water Safety Week 2024.

There were 10 events and activities on the official 2024 Water Safety week calendar. These were conducted in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine, Wadeye and Alice Springs. Some of the highlights of the free events were:

- Community Pool Lifesaving carnivals held at Parap Pool and the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre. All were hosted by Royal Life Saving Society.
- Library visits with Boof the Barra to all City of Darwin libraries, and Palmerston Library were well supported by the community and Library Staff.
- Aquafest was held at SWELL Palmerston Aquatic Centre.

An estimated 15,000 Territorians received water safety messages throughout Water Safety Week in 2024.





Pipes and Drains Campaign 2024/2025

The Pipes and Drains campaign launched on December 1, 2024.

The Northern Territory's area-averaged rainfall total in October 2024 to March 2025 was 504.2 mm, 1% below the 1961–1990 average.

The same campaign was used as the previous year as the new “shock” campaign had proven to be successful.

The television and social media campaign were managed by Royal Life Saving NT, along with the City of Darwin and the City of Palmerston contributing to the campaign in the community. Water bottles, towels, snapback caps, pens & slap bands containing USBs, formed the collateral for the campaign.

A total of 5 schools with a total of 692 students receiving the Pipes and Drains messaging.

In addition to this, 5 community events were attended which directly targeted the Pipes & Drains message with an estimated reach over 50,000 members of the community. Channel 10 aired the Pipes and Drains TVC from November 2025 – March 2025. 2 banners were displayed across locations throughout the campaign.

A late onset monsoon saw the campaign extended into April with the wettest recorded day of the wet season - 2 April, 2025 with 115.4mm rain.

Messages conveyed to members of the community and students during the campaign included:

- During the Wet, water conditions can change quickly
- You can find yourself in a life-threatening situation in seconds
- Water can be dangerous

- No one can hear you scream when you drown
- Play it safe around water this Wet



Water Safety Talks in Schools 2024/2025

During 2024/2025, 13 schools were visited by the Water Safety Unit to deliver water safety talks to 610 students across the Northern Territory.

The water safety talks covered topics including supervision, safe swimming areas, marine creatures, safety signs, Pipes and Drains and boating safety. The format of the delivery of the talks was tailored to meet the different school’s needs. Some talks were delivered in an assembly forum whilst others were delivered in a classroom format. All talks were well received by staff and students at the school’s visited and they provided a great opportunity for students to interact with the Water Safety Unit Team around water safety.

The talks provided students with the opportunity to share their personal experiences, try on and use boating safety equipment, observe marine creatures up close and watch YouTube clips around Pipes and Drains safety messages. The diversity of the delivery ensured all students were able to receive a benefit from the water safety messages.

Keep Watch



Keep Watch is a public education program of Royal Life Saving Society - Australia, aimed at preventing drowning deaths of children under 5 years of age in all aquatic locations. The Keep Watch program has 4 key actions which parents and carers are encouraged to undertake to prevent their child from drowning. These actions are not to be used

in isolation and should form part of a web of prevention measures. Therefore if one line of defence fails there are more prevention measures working together to prevent their child from drowning. These actions are:

- Supervise
- Restrict Access
- Water Awareness
- Resuscitate

Keep Watch information is accessible through our MLA offices, the elected members act as a community contact point and distribution centre for information on preventing toddler drowning. Thank you to our NT Ambassadors for their commitment to drowning prevention strategies for parents and carers of young children. The Keep Watch Ambassador program will be re-launched in 2026.

Grants

Royal Life Saving NT could not provide services to our community without the commitment to water safety and support of the Federal Government, Northern Territory Government and Corporations. This year, our grants included:

Name	Funded
NIAA National Indigenous Australians Agency	Funding for the Indigenous Advancement Strategy Program – “Remote Swim, Survive and Strive”, teaching children in remote communities water safety and swimming skills and providing training and employment opportunities for local people in community
NTG Department People Sport and Culture	Management of the Water Safety Unit including the Water Safety Awareness Program
NTG Department People Sport and Culture	Support for providing opportunities for Territorians to participate in sport and active recreation.
NT Department of Education & Training	Certificates recognising the achievements of children in the Swim and Survive program
RLSSA – National	Inland Waterways – River Safety Project Swim & Survive for children who miss out
Office Senior Territorians	Cool Seniors Program for Seniors Month in August
CBF Major Grant	Community Benefit Fund major grant for upgrades to the Goldfishbowl

Indigenous Advancement Strategy

“Remote Swim, Survive and Strive”

Royal Life Saving Society Northern Territory receives annual funding to deliver and strengthen the Remote Swim, Survive & Strive Project. On behalf of Royal Life Saving Society Northern Territory and the communities who benefit, we thank the National Indigenous Australians Agency for their ongoing support of this project.

The Remote Swim, Survive & Strive Project delivers the Swim & Survive program, Indigenous employment, AUSTSWIM mentoring program, lifesaving education and recreation sporting programs, indigenous aquatic training, VET in schools and the establishment of learn to

swim business models in remote communities. It extends to 26 remote Indigenous communities, utilizing 21 locations.

2024.2025 Key facts at a glance

- 1714 people participated in the Remote Swim, Survive & Strive project.
- 13 remote schools accessed the program.
- 11 Rangers completed training for professional development or towards gaining employment
- 11 Indigenous people gained employment as a direct result of the project.
- 752 students participated in Swim and Survive
- 42 students achieved the national swimming and water safety benchmark of Level 7 or above through the Swim and Survive Program. This is 5.5% of the students who participated in the program.
- 44 training courses were provided in 12 communities.
- 343 people were trained and are now qualified in a range of qualifications such as Bronze Medallion, CPR, Pool Lifeguard and First Aid through the project.
- 191 Indigenous students and adults have gained training qualifications.
- 35 students are working towards gaining their NTEC through the project.
- 366 students participated in seven Pool Lifesaving carnivals.
- 158 activities were held during 2024.2025 including Swim and Survive, Bronze Medallion, CPR, Pool Lifeguard and First Aid training, Pool Lifesaving carnivals, Water Safety Awareness Program sessions and community BBQs.

The Year's Highlight

Maningrida 3-14 March 2025

189 students from Maningrida College, including the Homelands School, participated in Swim & Survive lessons across two weeks with 26 students achieving the National Benchmark of Level 7 or higher. 98% of the students who participated were Indigenous. During the two weeks of swimming lessons, classroom-based teachers commented on how the overall positive mood of students was noticed by the school community.





Australian Government
**National Indigenous
Australians Agency**



NIAA

Inland Waterways and Drowning Prevention Program

The Northern Territory boasts many beautiful inland waterways including rivers, creeks, lakes, waterfalls, and water holes; however, they can pose safety risks, and these can vary depending on the type of waterway.

Royal Life Saving NT is addressing these dangers by educating the public about inland waterway safety through the Inland Communities Water Safety Program. This program, along with the “Make the Right Call and Enjoy the Water Safety” campaign, operates extensively throughout the Northern Territory, focusing on public education and safety awareness.

The campaign is delivered in Katherine, Darwin, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. Highlights include:

- Increased public engagement through social media campaigns.
- Engagement with identified communities at an increase of drowning via attendance at 10 community events and a wider reach of the Northern Territory community through the Show Circuit. The events focused on promoting existing inland water safety drowning prevention initiatives and awareness campaigns reaching 78,054 Territorians.

‘Make the right call’ – Love the water, enjoy the water but do it safely while looking after yourself and your mates. This program / activity has been delivered by Royal Life Saving NT as part of Inland Communities Water Safety Program with the support of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia and the Australian Government

Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Program (IWDP)



The Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Program has to date successfully reached 58,554 Territorians across the Northern Territory, demonstrating its widespread impact and effectiveness in engaging communities in water safety activities and events.

Through targeted initiatives and events, the program actively engaged communities in building essential water safety skills and knowledge, empowering individuals to prevent drowning incidents in inland water bodies.

Collaboration with stakeholders, including Government Departments, schools and community organisations has enhanced the programs outcomes and maximized the reach and impact of water safety initiatives. While challenges remain, the program’s success underscores the importance of continued efforts and collaborative approaches to building safer aquatic environments for all Territorians.



Royal Life Saving urges men to 'make the right call'

to look after their mates to keep each other safe.

Cool Seniors & Grey Medallion

Senior Territorians have access to a variety of different activities during August's - Seniors Month. Royal Life Saving NT engage Senior Territorians through aquatic programs to increase water awareness, fitness, and social skills. This is done by offering the water exercise and introducing them to the Grey Medallion program.

The Cool Seniors program allows Senior Territorians access to swimming, aquatic exercise, and games. Aiming to increase fitness and water confidence. The program continues to be popular with a total of 16 participants over the 5 weeks of the program.

COOL SENIORS



CBF

Held every Thursday in August, Cool Seniors is Royal Life Saving NT's popular water exercise and Grey Medallion program for participants over 55 years of age.

Consisting of aqua aerobics, personal survival and life saving technique sessions, Cool Seniors equips participants with the knowledge and skills to assist in an aquatic emergency.

Congratulations to everyone who came along this year. We hope you enjoyed the sessions as much as we did!



This program is supported by the Northern Territory Government and Council Of The Aging NT.



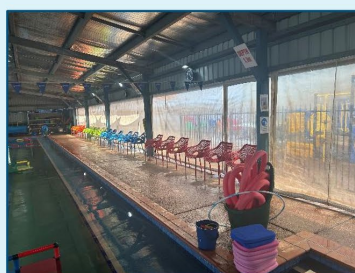
Grant Major – Upgrades to the Goldfishbowl

Royal Life Saving NT gratefully acknowledge the generous funding provided by the Department of Tourism and Hospitality through the Major Community Benefit Grant. This support enabled upgrades to the Goldfishbowl Swim School Facility at 44 Toupein Rd Yarrowonga. These upgrades included:

- Supply and installation of electronic pool cover winch
- Remove, supply and installation of boundary fence around the complex and pool fence around the pool with safety compliant fencing
- Supply and installation of privacy films to first aid room and office
- Supply of new tables and chairs
- Supply and installation of solar valves
- Remove old and supply and installation of new fire hose
- Removal of garden and rock beds around the complex and replace with concrete

The upgrades that have been completed have added new life to the Goldfishbowl facility, allowing Royal Life Saving NT the ability to maintain and increase equitable and sustainable programs to the community without the additional cost of the upgrade to the facility.

The upgrade started in December 2024 and was completed fully in June 2025



The Goldfishbowl Swim School has recently enhanced its outdoor area with brand new chairs and tables, thanks to the support of Community Benefit Funding.

The new furniture offers families a comfortable place to relax while children take part in swim lessons, making the space more inviting and user-friendly.

Whether it's enjoying a break between classes or catching up with other parents, the upgrade has been warmly welcomed by the community.

ENROL NOW

Splash into confidence.

Goldfishbowl Swim School is now taking Term 3 enrolments for all ages and skill levels. Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your strokes our expert instructors create a fun, safe and supportive learning environment.

-  Small class sizes
-  Certified, friendly instructors
-  Warm, fully covered pool
-  Lessons for all ages – from toddlers to adults

Spots fill fast! Reserve yours today.

Royal Life Saving NT in the Media

Throughout 2024/2025 RLSSA NT has been featured in local and Territory media. We are continually trying to lift our profile within the community and more importantly educate the community in water safety and drowning prevention. We participated in several radio chats and TV interviews.

In 2014 we introduced an award for a media person who we believed made a difference for Lifesaving. This year, the award goes to Jax Ward from Hot 100 for his outstanding coverage of water safety week and Splashfest

Table 14: Royal Life Saving NT Media Award for making a difference in Lifesaving

Media Award for making a difference for Lifesaving	
2014 / 2015	Kathleen Bruyn
2015 / 2016	Alice Burton
2016 / 2017	Dijana Damjanovic
2017/2018	Amy Hetherington
2018/2019	Monique Sharp
2019/2020	Katie Wolf
2020/2021	Mix 104.9/Hot 100
2021/2022	Boof the Barra
2022/2023	ABC Radio Alice Springs
2023/2024	Ross Woodward Media Key
2024/2025	Hot 100 Jax Ward

Royal Life Saving NT Social Media Profiles

RLSSA NT is actively using social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram to further promote not only our brand, but also our service products to the community with other

Territory organisations being able to share our information. Social media also allows us to gain community feedback and engagement through these platforms.



@RoyalLifeSavingNorthernTerritory
@WaterSafetyNT
#watersafetynt #beriversafe

Appendices – Statistics

Training Certificates issued

Training	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Award of Merit	3	3	3	3	0	0
Bronze Cross	0	0	2	0	0	0
Bronze Star	41	38	23	21	22	2
Bronze Medallion	301	441	373	323	389	316
Bronze Medallion Update	226	261	238	281	274	287
Bronze Medallion with Reasonable adjustment	0	0	0	13	27	0
Resuscitation	1483	2492	1960	1949	1909	1689
Resuscitation Awareness	36	48	25	21	47	1
Defibrillation Awareness	2645	2512	1982	1949	1901	1689
Oxygen Resuscitation	74	141	65	33	74	72
Oxygen Resus Update	113	141	114	89	52	65
Basic First Aid	35	0	0	0	0	0
Junior First Aid					25	0
First Aid	414	700	461	533	658	397
Child Care First Aid	35	151	583	157	102	27
Advanced First Aid	0	28	149	0	0	0
Pool Lifeguard	78	113	65	33	74	72
Pool Lifeguard Update	113	141	114	89	52	65
Swimming Teacher Rescue Award	186	307	222	215	247	189
Sea Rangers Bronze Rescue Award	0	2	0	0	0	0
Hydrotherapy rescue award	0	25	44	62	56	41
Trainers	3	3	3	1	3	9
Pool Operators	0	0	0	1	0	0
SISCAQU002	790	1018	880	708	426	0
SISCAQU006	224	278	201	131	108	0
SISCAQU007	199	251	184	131	108	0
PUAEME001B	210	96	0	0	0	0
PUAEME001	15	179	201	131	108	0
PUAEME003C	210	96	0	0	0	0
PUAEME003	15	179	201	131	108	0

SISCAQU001	0	0	0	1	0	0
SISCAQU003	0	0	0	1	0	0
SISCAQU004	0	0	0	1	0	0
SISCAQU005	0	0	0	1	0	0
SISCAQU019					58	172
SISCAQU020					465	800
SISCAQU021					58	172
SISCAQU022					58	172
BSBOPS403	0	0	0	1	0	0
HLTAID001	1268	2233	378	0	0	0
HLTAID002	36	149	29	0	0	0
HLTAID003	643	993	292	0	0	0
HLTAID004	36	149	29	0	0	0
HLTAID006	0	28	0	0	0	0
HLTAID007	0	28	0	0	0	0
HLTAID009			1509	1692	1691	1438
HLTAID010			587	630	678	428
HLTAID011			648	761	844	601
HLTAID012			142	157	105	28
AUSTSWIM	161	122	123	82	116	0
Total Training Certificates	9333	13071	11830	10322	10843	8732

Swim and Survive – Certificates Issued

The Swim and Survive swimming program is aligned to the National Swimming and Water Safety Framework. The Framework supports a structured and consistent understanding of swimming and water safety education across Australia. The Framework provides three benchmarks for children at age 6, 12 and 17 years.

Certificate Type	23/24	23/24 Remote		24/25	24/25 Remote
Little Wonders Total (Infant Aquatics)	446	47		349	70
Water Discovery - L1	1332	100		1856	308
Water Awareness - L2	982	84		2695	239
Water Sense - L3	599	100		1432	244
Water Wise - L4	371	85		919	262
Swim and Survive - L5	252	63		483	104
Swim and Survive - L6	116	42		309	38
Swim and Survive - L7	87	31		174	13
Swim and Survive – L8	73			157	1
Swim and Survive – L9	40			81	
Swim and Survive – L10	21			49	1
Swim and Survive – L11	16			48	
Swim Star Participation		301		4807	63
Bronze Star	12	22		65	31
Bronze Medallion		7			4
Junior Lifeguard Club					
Swim & Survive Level 7 & Above	249			574	50
Other Swim and Survive Statistics		159 TC BSC			71 TC BSC
Total Swim and Survive Certificates	5543	977		13424	1449
Total Participants Swim and Survive		977			1449

Audited Financial Reports

**Royal Life Saving Society (Aust)
NT Branch Inc.**

**Special Purpose Financial Report
for the year ended 30 June 2025**

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Contents

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	<u>Page</u>
Committee's Report	3
Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 60-40 of the Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012	4
Statement of Comprehensive Income	5
Statement of Financial Position	6
Statement of Changes in Equity	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9
Statement by Members of the Committee	23
Independent Audit Report	24

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Committee's Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

The committee members present their report on Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. ("the Association") for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

General information Committee members

The names of the committee members in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

Names	Position	Appointed/Resigned
Randall Cook	President	Member for full year
Penny Hart	Vice President	Member for full year
Joe De Luca	Treasurer	Member for full year
Rod Cremona	Secretary	Member for full year
Michael De Silva	Committee member	Member for full year
Alice Doyle	Committee member	Member for full year
Zoe Malone	Committee member	Member for full year
Stephanie East	Committee member	Member for full year
James Sheridan	Committee member	Member for full year
Annette Roberts	Public Officer	Member for full year

Committee members have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year was to act as a public benevolent institution (PBI) dedicated to the saving of lives. The Association attempts to turn every day people into every day community lifesavers. This is achieved through education, training, sport and participation, health promotion, risk management, advocacy and research. Royal Life Saving provides the platform for people to pursue aquatic based activities.

Significant changes

There were no significant changes in the operation of the Association during the year.

Operating results and review of operations for the year

The net deficit of the Association for the financial year amounted to \$70,879 (2024: net deficit of \$56,554).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee:

President: 
Randall Cook

Treasurer: 
Joe De Luca

Date: 2/9/2025

Date: 2/9/2025

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Committee Members of Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

In relation to our audit of the financial statements of Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. ("the Association") for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

PKF Merit

PKF Merit



MunLi Chee
Director

DARWIN

2 September 2025

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Statement of Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue	3(a)	2,516,065	2,200,302
Finance income		6	7
Other income	3(b)	6,205	14,774
Employee benefits expense	4(a)	(1,390,087)	(1,340,819)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	7, 9	(107,346)	(178,350)
Program expenses		(71,429)	(85,299)
Course expenses		(85,530)	(56,520)
Travel expenses		(227,983)	(180,641)
Motor vehicle expenses		(38,190)	(34,208)
Other expenses	4(b)	(667,990)	(384,932)
Finance expenses		(4,600)	(10,868)
Net Deficit for the Year		(70,879)	(56,554)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year		(70,879)	(56,554)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	116,479	111,890
Trade and other receivables	6	82,968	104,607
Other assets	8	22,597	20,729
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>222,044</u>	<u>237,226</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	1,132,924	1,216,502
Right-of-use assets	9	33,362	33,967
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,166,286</u>	<u>1,250,469</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>1,388,330</u></u>	<u><u>1,487,695</u></u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	71,632	64,690
Other financial liabilities		19,576	15,755
Lease liabilities	9	12,607	15,125
Employee benefits	11	186,176	164,847
Borrowings	7(c)	48,588	51,332
Unexpended grant liability		-	50,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>338,579</u>	<u>361,749</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities	9	15,584	19,645
Employee benefits	11	-	-
Borrowings	7(c)	63,016	64,271
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>78,600</u>	<u>610,238</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u><u>417,179</u></u>	<u><u>445,665</u></u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>971,151</u></u>	<u><u>1,042,030</u></u>
EQUITY			
Reserves	12	73,070	140,000
Retained earnings		<u>898,081</u>	<u>902,030</u>
		<u><u>971,151</u></u>	<u><u>1,042,030</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Retained Earnings \$	General Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2024	<u>902,030</u>	<u>140,000</u>	<u>1,042,030</u>
Net Deficit for the year	(70,879)	-	(70,879)
Total other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year	<u>(70,879)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(70,879)</u>
Transfer from reserves	<u>66,930</u>	<u>(66,930)</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at 30 June 2025	<u><u>898,081</u></u>	<u><u>73,070</u></u>	<u><u>971,151</u></u>
Balance at 1 July 2023	<u>958,584</u>	<u>140,000</u>	<u>1,098,584</u>
Net Deficit for the year	(56,554)	-	(56,554)
Total other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year	<u>(56,554)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(56,554)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2024	<u><u>902,030</u></u>	<u><u>140,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,042,030</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		1,173,451	1,035,654
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,454,806)	(2,057,831)
Donations received		5,000	5,000
Interest received		6	7
Interest expenses		(4,600)	(10,868)
Receipt from grants		1,315,458	1,132,622
Net cash provided by operating activities	14	<u>34,509</u>	<u>104,584</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Purchase of goodwill		-	-
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
(Payment)/Proceeds from borrowings		(3,999)	(131,641)
Payment of finance lease and other liabilities		(25,921)	(25,246)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		<u>(29,920)</u>	<u>(156,887)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents held		4,589	(52,303)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>111,890</u>	<u>164,193</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5	<u><u>116,479</u></u>	<u><u>111,890</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

The financial statements cover Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. (“the Association”) as an individual entity. Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. is a not-for-profit Association, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. is Australian dollars. Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Material Accounting Policies

(a) Statement of compliance

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Act Northern Territory* and *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The Committee has determined that Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. is not a reporting entity and is a not-for-profit entity because in the Management Committee’s opinion there are unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy all of their information needs.

In preparing the special purpose financial report, the following *Australian Accounting Standards* required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission* have been adopted:

- AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*
- AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*
- AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates & Errors*
- AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures*
- AASB 1048 *Interpretation of Standards*
- AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*

The special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the basis of preparation and accounting policies described below. Australian Accounting Standards Board, (AASBs) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (“AASB”), and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB have not been complied with except to the extent stated below.

(b) Basis of preparation

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and has been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. The preparation of a financial report in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the Association to make judgements, estimates and assumption that affect the application of policies and reported amounts as assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates. These accounting policies have been consistently applied by the Association.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Material Accounting Policies - continued

(b) Basis of preparation - continued

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. The special purpose financial report has been prepared on accrual basis.

(c) Income tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(d) Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association and specific criteria relating to the type of income as noted below, has been satisfied. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

Grant Income and Donations

Revenue from grants and donations have been recognised when any associated performance obligation to provide goods or services is satisfied, and not immediately upon receipt. Grants that have an enforceable agreement but no specific performance obligations but have restrictions on the timing of expenditure will also continue to be recognised on receipt as time restriction on the use of funds is not sufficiently specific to create a performance obligation.

Grants that are not enforceable and/or not sufficiently specific will not qualify for deferral, and continue to be recognised as revenue as soon as they are controlled. Grants that require the Association to perform services or provide facilities, or to meet eligibility criteria are recognised as income only to the extent that the services required have been performed or the eligibility criteria have been satisfied. When monies received have been paid in advance of performance or eligibility, a liability is recognised.

Any unexpended grants associated with performance obligations are recognised as a liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period. If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

Subscriptions

Revenue from the provision of membership subscriptions is recognised on receipt.

Interest income

Interest received from term deposits is accrued over the term of the investment.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Association is entitled to it.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Material Accounting Policies - continued

(e) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(f) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Items of property, plant and equipment acquired for nil or nominal consideration have been recorded at the acquisition date fair value.

Assets measured using the revaluation model are carried at fair value at the revaluation date less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Revaluations are performed whenever there is a material movement in the value of an asset under the revaluation model.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

Leased assets and leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or their estimated useful life.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Assets Class	Depreciation Rate
Building Improvements	5%
Plant and Equipment	10%
Motor Vehicles	20%
Leasehold Improvements	Remaining Lease Term

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

(g) Intangibles

An intangible asset is recognised only when its cost can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to it will flow to the Association. All intangible assets are recorded at cost. The intangibles held by the Association have finite lives and are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. They have estimated useful lives of between one and two years.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Material Accounting Policies - continued

(h) Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

(i) Initial recognition

The Association initially recognises loans and advances and deposits from members, on the date these transactions are originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities (including financial assets and financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit and loss) are initially recognised on trade date when the related contractual rights or obligations exist.

(ii) De-recognition

The Association de-recognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows on the financial asset in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred. Any interest in transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the Association is recognised as a separate asset or liability. The Association de-recognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled or when they expire.

(iii) Off-setting

Financial assets and financial liabilities are set off and the net amount presented in the Statement of Financial Position when, and only when, the Association has a legal right to set off the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. Income and expenses are presented on a net basis only when permitted by the accounting standards, or for gains and losses arising from a group of similar transactions.

(iv) Amortised cost measurement

The amortised cost of a financial asset or financial liability is the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition, minus principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the initial amount recognised and the maturity amount, minus any reduction for impairment.

(v) Identification and measurement of impairment

Refer below for details.

Application

(vi) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, unrestricted balances held in banks and highly liquid financial assets with original maturities of less than three months, which are subject to insignificant risks of changes in their value, and are used by the Association in the management of its short-term commitments. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at amortised cost in the Statement of Financial Position.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Material Accounting Policies - continued

(h) Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - continued

(vii) Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for expected credit losses (ECLs). Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

(viii) Trade and other payables

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Association.

(ix) Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities, which consisted of Association credit cards, are carried at amortised cost. These are expected to be paid within 30 days.

(x) Impairment on financial assets

The Association recognises an allowance for ECLs for trade and other receivables. ECLs are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Association expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate. The expected cash flows will include cash flows from the sale of collateral held or other credit enhancements that are integral to the contractual terms.

ECLs are recognised in two stages. For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12-months (a 12-month ECL). For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, a loss allowance is required for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default (a lifetime ECL).

For trade and other receivables, the Association applies a simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Association does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Association has a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

(i) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Material Accounting Policies - continued

(j) Right-of-Use Assets

The Association assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Association as a lessee

The Association applies a single recognition and measurement approach for all leases, except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets. The Association recognises lease liabilities to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets.

Right-of-use assets

The Association recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (i.e., the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of lease liabilities recognised, initial direct costs incurred, and lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received. Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets. The right-of-use assets are also subject to impairment. Refer to the accounting policies in section h for impairment of assets (excluding financial assets).

Lease liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the Association recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments include fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, and amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees.

In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Association uses its incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date because the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the lease payments (e.g., changes to future payments resulting from a change in an index or rate used to determine such lease payments) or a change in the assessment of an option to purchase the underlying asset.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Association applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to its short-term leases of machinery and equipment (i.e., those leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option). It also applies the lease of low-value assets recognition exemption to leases of office equipment that are considered to be low value. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Material Accounting Policies - continued

(k) Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

(l) Economic Dependence and Going Concern

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. is dependent on the support of various Northern Territory Government Departments for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Members of the Committee of the Association have no reason to believe this support will not continue into the future.

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the Association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the Association to generate sufficient cash flows from operations to meet its liabilities. The Members of the Committee of the Association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

(m) Comparatives

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified so as to be comparable with the figures presented for the current financial year.

2 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Those charged with governance make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates. The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

Key estimates – Trade receivables

The receivables at reporting date have been reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that any of the receivables are impaired. An impairment provision is included for any receivable where the entire balance is not considered collectible. The impairment provision is based on the best information at the reporting date.

3 Operating Revenue

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
(a) Revenue		
Grant and donation	1,365,458	1,129,753
Service income	1,135,751	1,053,329
Workshops, sales and other income	14,856	17,220
	<u>2,516,065</u>	<u>2,200,302</u>

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

3 Operating Revenue - continued

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
(b) Other Income		
Membership fees	2,973	3,164
Fundraisings	704	5,120
Others	2,528	6,490
	<u>6,205</u>	<u>14,774</u>

4 Operating Expenses

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
(a) Employee Benefit Expenses		
Salaries and wages	1,192,820	1,163,306
Superannuation	130,762	123,893
Contract employees	17,708	17,018
Other employee costs	48,797	36,602
	<u>1,390,087</u>	<u>1,340,819</u>

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
(b) Other Expenses		
Accounting fee	31,000	37,932
Audit fee	9,540	8,549
Consultant fees	41,627	7,918
Dues, Membership Subscriptions	32,810	38,277
Electricity	23,757	17,296
Insurance	23,377	22,910
IT Support	66,930	16,333
Marketing/Promotions	25,083	18,454
Meeting Consumables	11,581	7,541
Professional Development	8,745	5,545
Rates	6,920	6,820
Registrations & Conferences	12,092	9,487
Repairs & Maintenance	205,279	43,906
Stationery & Office Supplies	18,578	15,654
Stocks	8,696	13,692
Telephone & Internet Charges	12,038	12,212
Other Expenses	129,937	102,406
	<u>667,990</u>	<u>384,932</u>

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Petty cash	825	845
Cash at bank	115,654	111,045
	<u>116,479</u>	<u>111,890</u>

6 Trade and Other Receivables

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	82,968	104,607
Less expected credit losses	-	-
	<u>82,968</u>	<u>104,607</u>

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of receivables in the financial statements.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

7 Property, plant and equipment

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Land	900,000	900,000
Building	200,000	200,000
Accumulated depreciation	(30,000)	(20,000)
Net carrying value	170,000	180,000
Plant and equipment - at cost	55,455	55,455
Accumulated depreciation	(45,946)	(37,497)
Net carrying value	9,509	17,958
Motor vehicles - at cost	152,783	152,783
Accumulated depreciation	(152,783)	(143,974)
Net carrying value	-0	8,809
Leasehold improvements - at cost	312,299	312,299
Accumulated amortisation	(258,884)	(202,564)
Net carrying value	53,415	109,735
	1,132,924	1,216,502

- a. Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment between beginning and end of the financial year are set out below:

	Land \$	Building and improvements \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Leasehold Improvements \$	Total \$
As at 30 June 2025						
Balance at the beginning of year	900,000	180,000	17,958	8,809	109,735	1,216,502
Additions / (Disposal)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(10,000)	(8,449)	(8,809)	(56,320)	(83,578)
Balance at the end of the year	<u>900,000</u>	<u>170,000</u>	<u>9,509</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,415</u>	<u>1,132,924</u>
As at 30 June 2024						
Balance at the beginning of year	900,000	190,000	33,346	18,351	178,120	1,319,817
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(10,000)	(15,388)	(9,542)	(68,385)	(103,315)
Balance at the end of the year	<u>900,000</u>	<u>180,000</u>	<u>17,958</u>	<u>8,809</u>	<u>109,735</u>	<u>1,216,502</u>

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

7 Property, plant and equipment - continued

- b. In January 2022, the Association acquired the Goldfishbowl Swim School (GFB) property and the GFB business for a cash consideration of \$1,100,000 and \$200,000, respectively. The property consisted of Land and Building and improvements with market value amounting to \$900,000 and \$200,000, respectively. These are capitalised as part of the Association's property, plant and equipment.

The cash consideration paid for the GBF business is recognised as intangibles in the statement of financial position and is amortised over 2 years. The net movement of the intangibles are as follows:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Balance at beginning of year	-	150,000
Acquisitions	-	-
Amortisation	-	(150,000)
Balance at end of year	-	-

- c. In view of the above, the Association drew down the loan from Bendigo Bank for a period of 156 months and bears interest between 3.39% to 7.15% per annum. Borrowings as at 30 June 2025 are as follows:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current	48,588	51,332
Non-current	63,016	64,271
	111,604	115,603

8 Other Assets

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Stock on hand	5,904	8,129
Prepayments	16,693	12,600
	22,597	20,729

9 Right-of-Use Assets

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Office accommodation	118,611	118,611
Accumulated depreciation	(105,336)	(87,780)
Net carrying value	13,275	30,831
Office equipment	24,430	37,414
Accumulated amortisation	(4,343)	(34,278)
Net carrying value	20,087	3,136
	33,362	33,967

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

9 Right-of-Use Assets - continued

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of Right of Use Assets are set out below:

	Office Accommodation \$	Office Equipment \$	Total \$
As at 30 June 2025			
Balance at the beginning of year	30,831	3,136	33,967
Additions during the year	-	23,163	23,163
Depreciation expense	(17,556)	(6,212)	(23,768)
Balance at the end of the year	13,275	20,087	33,362
As at 30 June 2024			
Balance at the beginning of year	48,387	10,615	59,002
Depreciation expense	(17,556)	(7,479)	(25,035)
Balance at the end of the year	30,831	3,136	33,967

The corresponding lease liability recognised to record the carrying amount of Rights of Use Asset amounted to \$28,191 and \$34,770 as at 30 June 2025 and 2024, respectively.

10 Trade and Other Payables

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Trade payables	36,431	26,817
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	16,194	19,001
Accrued wages and superannuation	19,007	18,872
	71,632	64,690

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

11 Employee benefits

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current		
Annual leave provision	82,793	69,854
Long-service leave provision	103,383	94,993
	186,176	164,847
Non-current		
Long-service leave provision	-	-
	-	-

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

12 Reserves

The general reserve records funds set aside for operational and capital expenditure of Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. as below.

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Future IT expansion	<u>73,070</u>	<u>140,000</u>
	<u>73,070</u>	<u>140,000</u>

13 Contingent Liabilities

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. had the following contingent liability at the end of the reporting period:

Water Safety Awareness Program

The Association receives funding to provide the 'Water Safety Awareness Program (WSAP)'. The WSAP provides registered children, under the age of five years, with vouchers for the free attendance at five WSAP sessions. On the attainment of age five these vouchers expire. Each funded voucher has a face value of \$12.50.

The Association physically receives the funding for the entire year's program at the commencement of each financial year. At the conclusion of each financial year the Association reconciles the unrepresented, unexpired vouchers. At 30 June 2025 the number of unrepresented, unexpired vouchers were 52,135 (2024: 51,565 2023: 47,297, 2022: 40,745, 2021: 34,436, 2020: 28,743 2019: 23,638, 2018: 18,437). The funded face value of these vouchers is 2025: \$651,688 (2024: \$ 644,562, 2023: \$591,212, 2022: \$509,312, 2021: \$430,450, 2020: \$359,288, 2019: \$295,475, 2018: \$230,463).

On review of the total vouchers presented during the year, it was established that 2025: 5,363 (2024: 1,944, 2023: 3,793, 2022: 3,880, 2021: 4,633, 2020: 4,695, 2019: 6,010, 2018: 7,035) vouchers were utilised during the current year. Included in this balance were 2025: 2,257 (2024: 164, 2023: 1,056, 2022: 1,017, 2021: 1,195, 2020: 1,289, 2019: 1,154, 2018: 1,896, 2017: 360) vouchers which were written back as expired, being 2025: 42% (2024: 8.4%, 2023: 27%, 2022: 26%, 2021: 26%, 2020: 27%, 2019: 19%, 2018: 27%) of the total number of vouchers utilised.

Historically, there has been significant probability that a material number of these outstanding vouchers would expire without being utilised. As such, the recognition of this liability in the Statement of Financial Position has not been considered appropriate. This assessment will be reconsidered in the next 12 months as utilisation of the vouchers continues to fluctuate significantly year on year.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.,

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

14 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Net (Loss)/ surplus for the Year	(70,879)	(56,554)
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities:		
- Depreciation and amortisation expenses	107,346	178,350
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	21,639	(44,669)
- (increase)/decrease in prepayments	(1,868)	10,949
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(43,058)	8,501
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	21,329	8,007
Cashflows from operations	<u>34,509</u>	<u>104,584</u>

15 Related Party Transactions

Key management personnel of the Association are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of Association. These include the Committee Members and Executive Director as listed below.

Names	Position	Appointed/Resigned
Randall Cook	President	Member for full year
Penny Hart	Vice President	Member for full year
Joe De Luca	Treasurer	Member for full year
Rod Cremona	Secretary	Member for full year
Michael De Silva	Committee member	Member for full year
Alice Doyle	Committee member	Member for full year
Zoe Malone	Committee member	Member for full year
Stephanie East	Committee member	Member for full year
James Sheridan	Committee member	Member for full year
Annette Roberts	Public Officer	Member for full year

Total remuneration of \$139,693 (2024: \$137,579) was paid to the key management personnel for the year ended 30 June 2025.

- (i) Retirement Benefits
No retirement benefits have been made by the Association to key management personnel during the reporting year.
- (ii) Loans to Responsible Persons
No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Association to key management personnel during the reporting year.
- (iii) Outstanding Amounts
As at 30 June 2025, except for employee leave provision, there were no outstanding amounts receivable or payable to the Association's KMP.

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

16 Subsequent Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial period.

17 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of the Association is:

Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.
77 Ross Smith Avenue
Parap NT 0820

Independent auditor's report to the members of Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc.*Auditor's Opinion*

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. ("the Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Statement by the Committee.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the *Basis of Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Associations Act NT*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* and *Associations Act NT*.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable to establish an efficient system of internal control over fundraising income prior to its initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding such income was limited, our audit procedures with respect to fundraising income were restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore do not express an opinion on whether the income the Association received is complete, and we cannot determine the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had this limitation not existed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission Act 2012*, *Associations Act NT* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Committee's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the 'Code') that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Royal Life Saving Society (Aust) NT Branch Inc. meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission Act 2012*, *Associations Act NT* and the Association's constitution. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

The Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Association's Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission Act 2012*, *Associations Act NT* and the Association's Constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of

the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

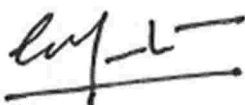
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2025 as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report. As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control, if any, that we identify during our audit.



PKF Merit



MunLi Chee

Director

DARWIN

2 September 2025