

Photo of the Month:
Welcome Goldie!!

KICKING BACK

October 2026

ROYAL LIFE SAVING
NORTHERN TERRITORY

EDITION #157

Welcome to the October edition of Kicking Back.



Swim & Survive fun at Parap Pool



Remote Programs come to Darwin



AquaSummit presented by Aqua Alliance in Sydney

MISSION, VISION AND STRATEGY

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

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

STRATEGY: Our People, Our Lifestyle, our Water

Patrons: His Honour the Honourable David Connolly and Ms Susan Brosnan OLY
President: Zoe Malone

Proudly sponsored by NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

OUR PEOPLE

Congratulations to Zoe Malone who has been elected as President of Royal Life Saving NT.
Zoe has been a valued member of the RLSSA NT Board since March 2024. We are delighted to have Zoe as our President and thank our outgoing, long serving President, Randall Cook for his tireless and ongoing commitment to Royal Life Saving NT.



OUR PEOPLE

Do you know someone who has made an exceptional contribution to Lifesaving, Water Safety and Drowning Prevention in the Northern Territory?
Why not nominate them for the Northern Territory Administrator's Medal Award?

Nominations are now open for the NT Administrator Medal Award and can be made online by following the link below
NT Adminstrator's Medal Award | RLS NT

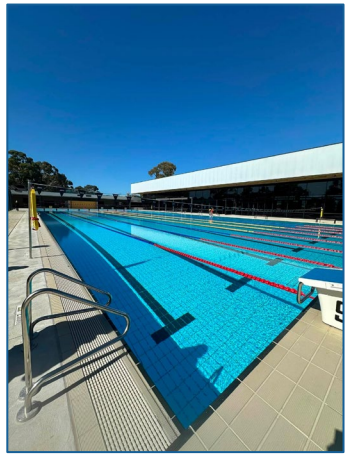
Nominations close 22 January 2027



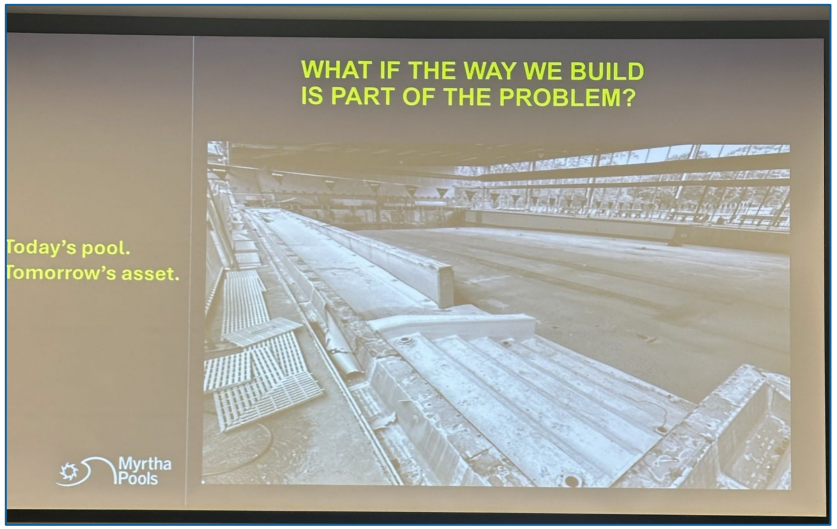
NATIONAL AQUATIC INFRASTRUCTURE SYMPOSIUM

The second National Aquatic Infrastructure Symposium was hosted by Royal Life Saving Australia in Adelaide from 7-8 October. Our Team were fortunate enough to attend the symposium which set the scene for reimagining investment planning & practices and included site visits to 3 amazing swimming pools. The culturally aligned design at one of the facilities was a particular favourite of the Team.











AQUASUMMIT 2026





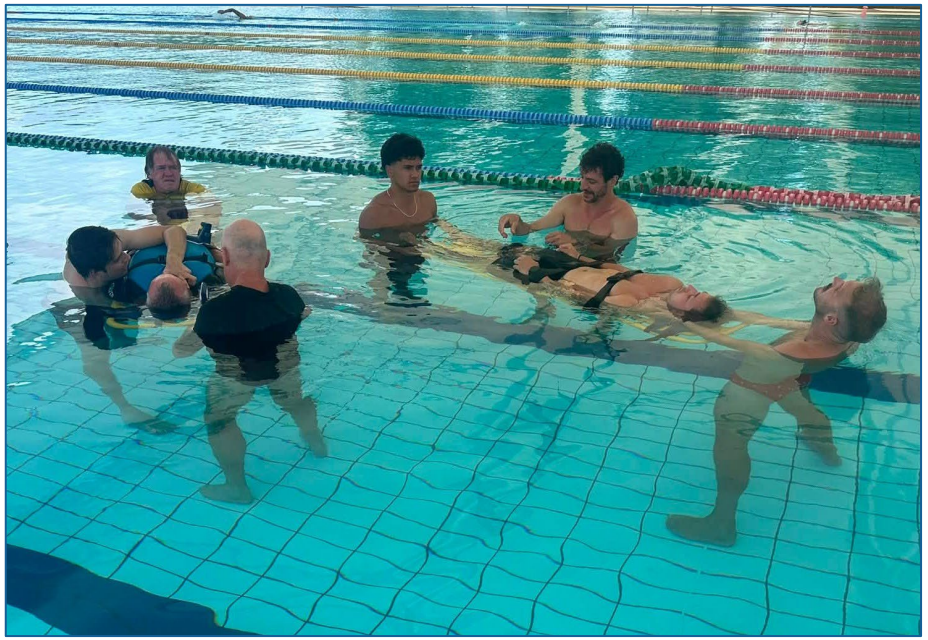


The Aqua Alliance Team hosted the National AquaSummit in Sydney from 23-25 October. AquaSummit is an event providing education for aqua professionals to learn and collaborate with skilled and dedicated local and international presenters. Some of our Team were fortunate to be a part of this year’ s event which they found enjoyable and beneficial. A fantastic opportunity to connect with like minded professionals!

Aqua Alliance

OUR PEOPLE

A Pool Lifeguard Update course was held in Darwin on 3 October at Parap Pool. Well done to all the participants on keeping their qualifications current.







OUR PEOPLE

Pool Lifeguard training was delivered in Darwin on 10-11 October at Parap Pool. Well done to all participants on completing their training successfully.





OUR PLACES

Training was delivered in Nhulunbuy from 12-14 October. Well done to all the participants who completed their training in Bronze Medallion and Pool Lifeguard, equipped and ready to support their community!







OUR PLACES

Sustaining Remote Swimming Pools in the Northern Territory

Remote swimming pools across the Northern Territory are not luxury amenities. They are essential community infrastructure, providing safe places to swim, improving health and wellbeing, supporting school attendance, and preventing drowning.

This new report, *Sustaining Remote Swimming Pools in the Northern Territory: A Strategic Imperative*, reveals that while these pools deliver profound social, health and safety benefits, years of underinvestment and unimplemented recommendations have left many at risk of closure - and communities are missing out as a result.

Led by Royal Life Saving Northern Territory, with support from Royal Life Saving Australia, the report draws on 15 years of safety audits, workforce reviews, and case studies across 19 remote swimming pools to present a compelling case for systemic reform.

Follow the link below to read the report in full



RLS_NTRemote_Report25_V2_highres.pdf

OUR PEOPLE

Our Team attended the VELG National VET Conference from 28 – 30 October, providing a valuable opportunity to connect with industry professionals, explore emerging trends and gain insights into the evolving VET sector. The conference offered an opportunity to strengthen our knowledge of RTO compliance, quality training and assessment practices, and bring back new ideas to support continuous improvement across our training operations.



UPCOMING COURSES - DARWIN



Bronze Medallion or Update

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

Pool Lifeguard

Darwin |5-6 December 8.30am – 5.30pm
27-28 February 8.30am – 5.30pm

Pool Lifeguard Update

Darwin |26 February 8.30am – 4.30pm

In-house group training available on request

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

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

RTO Provider #0859

Book Now

trainingmanagernt@rlssa.org.au
https://nt.training.royallifesaving.com.au
Royal Life Saving Northern Territory
8981 5036

UPCOMING COURSES - AUSTSWIM



Become a qualified swim teacher!

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

Enrol today by visiting:
Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety | SISSS00132 | AUSTSWIM

OUR PEOPLE

Swim and SURVIVE

Students from Milikapiti, Nganambala & Nitjpurr Schools enjoyed their Swim and Survive Program at Parap Pool throughout October. Well done to the Staff and Students on a fun filled program with lots of achievements.





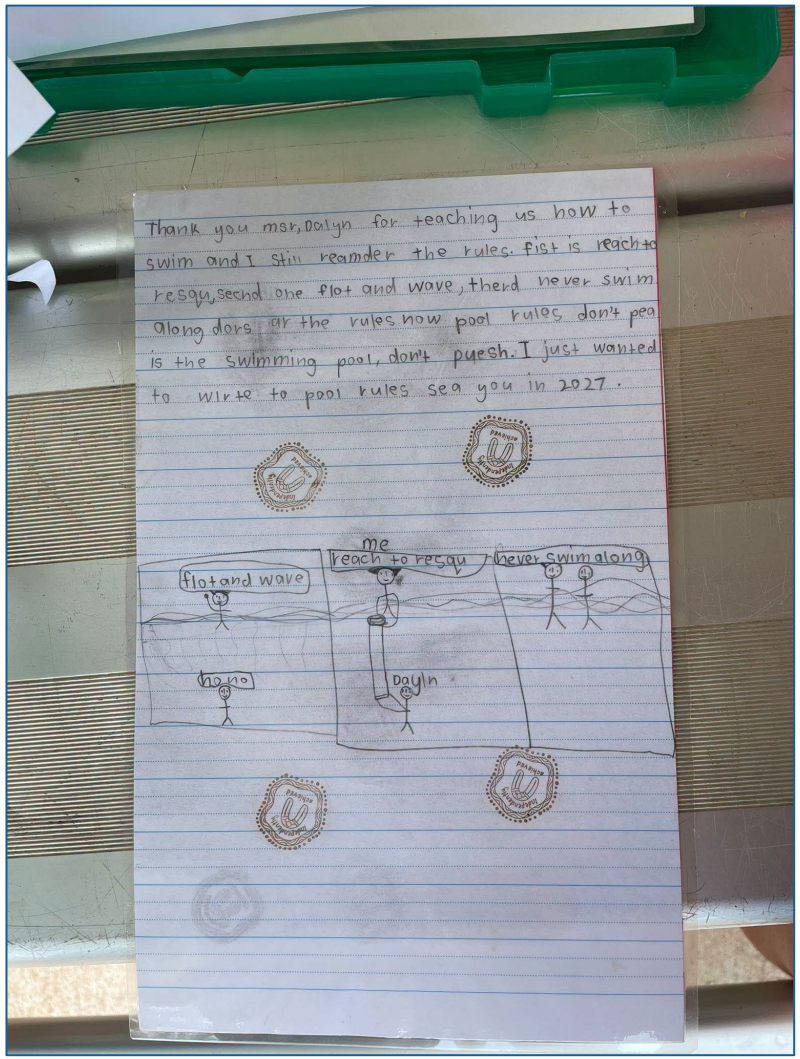


OUR PEOPLE

Swim and SURVIVE

Our swim teachers had a great time delivering swimming and water safety lessons to Moil Primary School students from 19-29 October, watching confidence grow both in and around the water every day. One of the highlights was receiving thank you notes from students, demonstrating their understanding of key water safety messages. Having the AQUACODE remembered and retold by students shows just how valuable these programs are. The Team were also spoilt with a few treats and kind words from the schoolteachers. Thank you to everyone who took the time to show our swim teachers appreciation for the work they do!





OUR PEOPLE

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



Goldfishbowl Swim School

Term 4 bookings are now open!
Term 4 runs from 5 October until 13 December.
Visit our website to make your booking or download our app!
learn to swim darwin, swimming lessons Darwin



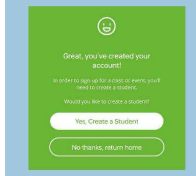
How to book in at the Goldfishbowl Swim School

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

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

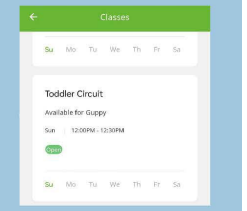


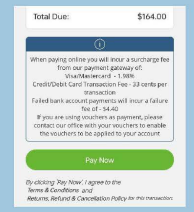
Create an account for yourself
Enter your details, not your child's.
The organisation is **goldfishbowl** **2**



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

Find an available class that suits you
Our staff are always happy to assist you with finding the right time or level **4**





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

Any enquires please contact us

Phone: 8931 1000
Email: gfish2@bigpond.com

POOL LIFESAVING

Pool Lifesaving commenced on 7 October at Parap Pool in Darwin.

Our athletes commented “It was great to back in the water again”

Come and make a splash with Pool Lifesaving this term.
Wednesdays 5.30pm – 6.30pm
Parap Pool
New members are welcome!
NTG Sport Vouchers can be used for the session fees

Email sportnt@rlssa.org.au for further information

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



WATER SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM

Help your child build essential water safety skills.

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

Step 1 – Apply for the WSAP Program
Register your child online:
https://nt.gov.au/leisure/sport/sport-and-swim-vouchers/learn-to-swim-vouchers-for-your-child/water-safety-awareness-program-registration-form

Step 2 – Receive Your WSAP voucher Number
You will receive a unique WSAP voucher number.
📌 Keep this in a safe place — it stays the same for your child **until they turn 5**.

Step 3 – Complete the Emergency Care Session
Complete the online Emergency Care Session to receive a one-off $50 Water Safety Awareness Program voucher. The link to this session will be emailed to you along with your child's Water Safety Awareness Program Voucher Number *(please allow five business days from submitting your application)*

Step 4 – Apply for Learn to Swim Vouchers
Families can apply for $100 Learn to Swim vouchers twice per year until their child turns 5:
https://grantsnt.nt.gov.au/grants/learn-to-swim-semester-1-jan-to-may-2026
You will require your Water Safety Awareness Program Voucher Number to complete this application.
🏊 These vouchers can be used to help cover the cost of children's swimming lessons and can be used in conjunction with the once off $50 Water Safety Awareness Program Voucher.

Email wsap@rlssa.org.au for further information

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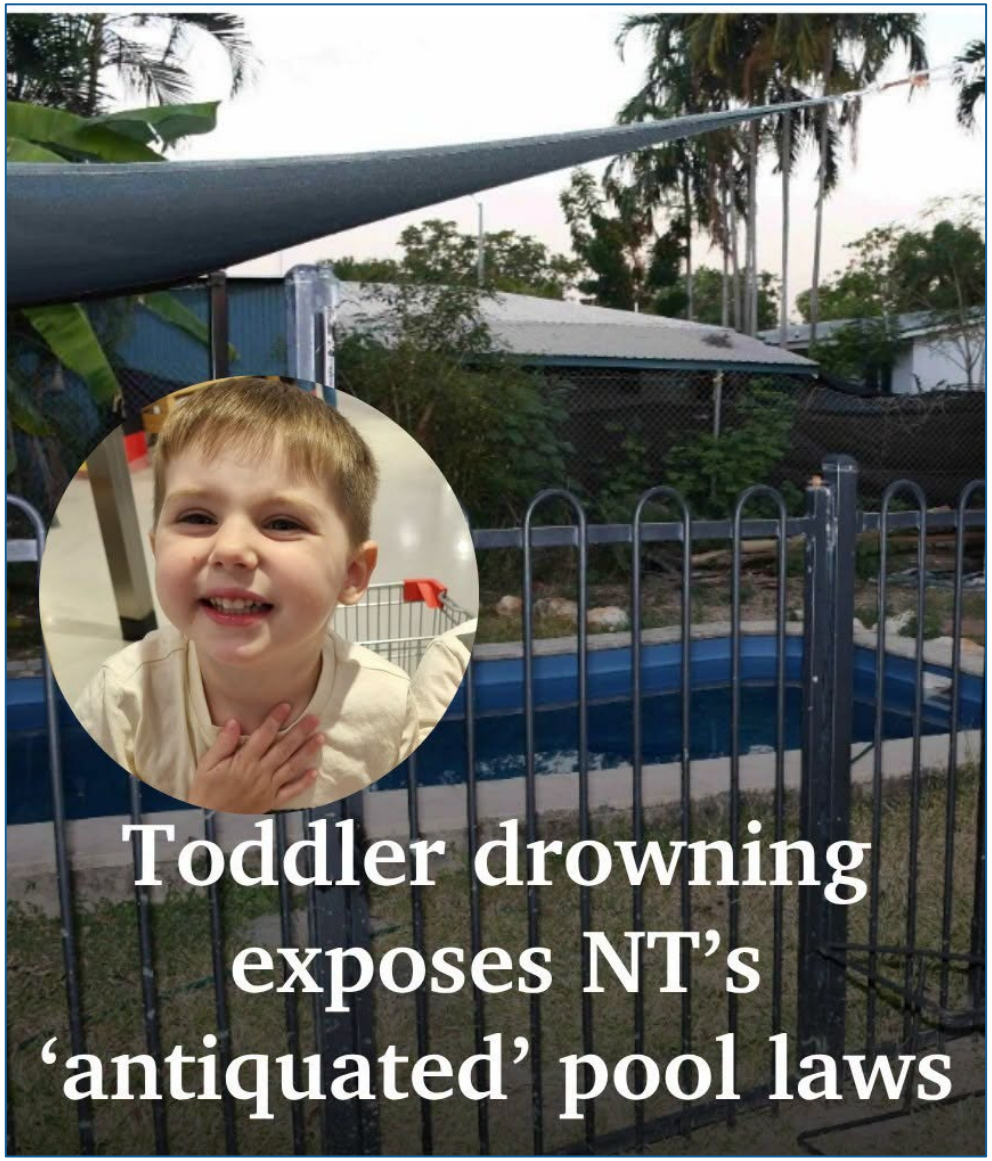
OUR PEOPLE

From the 14 October, Royal Life Saving NT was involved in the coronial inquest in to the drowning death of Dion Robbins.

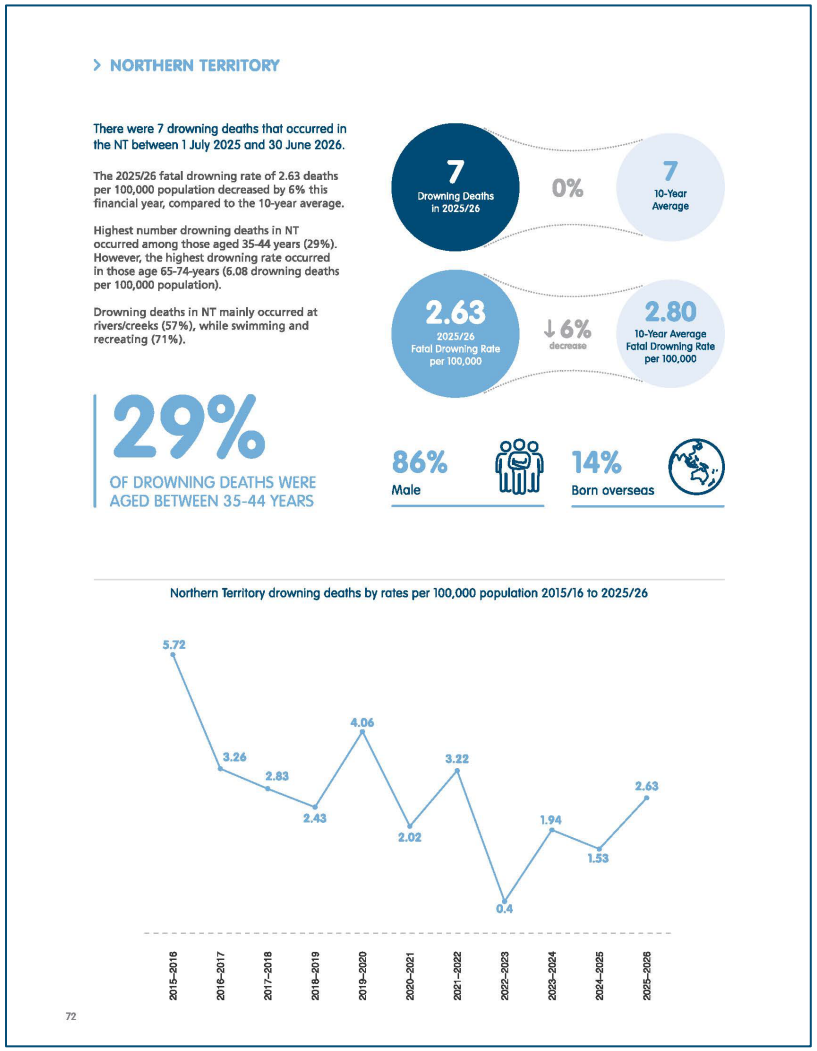
This was a tragic and sad story, and we send our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Dion.

The coronial process is an important way to review, examine and consider what changes need to occur to prevent drowning.

It’s time for our Swimming Pool Safety Act to be reviewed and updated to best practice.



NATIONAL DROWNING REPORT



> NORTHERN TERRITORY

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

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

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

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

7 Drowning Deaths in 2025/26

0%

7 10-Year Average

2.63 2025/26 Fatal Drowning Rate per 100,000

↓6% decrease

2.80 10-Year Average Fatal Drowning Rate per 100,000

29% OF DROWNING DEATHS WERE AGED BETWEEN 35-44 YEARS

86% Male

14% Born overseas

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

72

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

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

Follow the link below to read the full report
National Drowning Reports | Royal Life Saving Society - Australia



2026 Family Christmas Party

You and your family are invited to attend the

2026 Royal Life Saving NT Family Christmas Party

WHERE: Royal Life Saving NT
77 Ross Smith Ave Parap
WHEN: Friday 20 November 2026
TIME: 4pm-6pm

Dress code: Christmas Spirit and Royal Blue theme

Please RSVP by Wednesday 18 November 2026 as Santa will be dropping in with presents for the children

Email: financent@rlssa.org.au
RLSSA NT – Executive Committee

ROYAL LIFE SAVING
NORTHERN TERRITORY

CONNECT WITH US



Swim and Survive is the best!

Connect with us

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@RoyalLifeSavingNT

@RoyalLifeSavingAUST

royallifesaving.com.au