



# ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia  
is dedicated to turning everyday people  
into everyday community lifesavers.

[www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER



**Royal Life Saving**

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

## ABOUT ROYAL LIFE SAVING

Royal Life Saving is focused on reducing drowning and promoting healthy, active and skilled communities through innovative, reliable, evidence based advocacy; strong and effective partnerships, quality programs, products and services; underpinned by a cohesive and sustainable national organisation.

Royal Life Saving is a public benevolent institution (PBI) dedicated to reducing drowning and turning everyday people into everyday community lifesavers.

We achieve this through:

- Advocacy
- Education
- Training
- Health Promotion
- Aquatic Risk Management
- Community Development
- Research
- Sport, Leadership and Participation
- International Networks

We are guided by the values of: Safety, Quality, Integrity and the Humanitarian tradition and have been serving the Australian community for over 118 years.

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia  
is a Public Company Limited by Guarantee.  
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# ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

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# ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY – AUSTRALIA

## Patrons, Directors and Office Bearers

### Patron

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC,  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

### Vice Patron

Neville Bayfield OAM

## National Board of Directors

### President

The Hon Chief Justice Terence Higgins AO,  
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the ACT (until October 2011)

Les Mole (October 2011 – May 2012)

### Deputy President

Dianne Montalto ESM  
(Acting President from May 2012)

### ACT

The Hon Chief Justice  
Terence Higgins AO

### NSW

James Whiteside

### NT

Randall Cook

### QLD

Les Mole

### SA

Glenda Bowen Pain AM

### TAS

Alison McIntyre (to July 2011)  
Geoffrey Wieczorski (from July 2011)

### VIC

Dianne Montalto ESM

### WA

Greg McLennan

### Chief Executive Officer

Rob Bradley (Company Secretary)

## National Advisers

### Education and Training

Shayne Baker OAM

### Sport

Gray Parkes

### Medical

Professor John Pearn AO RFD

### Legal

The Hon Chief Justice  
Terence Higgins AO

## State and Territory Member Organisation Executive

### ACT

Sean Hodges

### NSW

David Macallister

### NT

Floss Roberts

### QLD

Michael Darben

### SA

Alistair Baird (to March 2012)  
Tony Taylor (from March 2012)

### TAS

Julia Fassina

### VIC

Sandra Vander Pal

### WA

Alex McKenzie

## National Sport Committee

### NSW

Mark McLennan

### NT

Karon Lamb

### QLD

Ashley Gordon

### SA

Glenda Bowen Pain AM

### TAS

Chris Wright

### VIC

Anni Gardiner

### WA

Greg McLennan

### NAT

Gray Parkes

## Honours Committee

### VIC

Dianne Montalto ESM (Chair)

### QLD

Les Mole

### QLD

John McDonald

### SA

David Dewar

### TAS

Alison McIntyre

## International Life Saving Organisations

### International Life Saving Federation (ILS)

#### President

Dr Steve Beerman, MD (Canada) (to March 2012)  
Dr Klaus Wilkens (Germany) (Acting President from April 2012)

#### Secretary General

Dr Harald Vervaecke, PhD (Belgium)

#### ILS Asia-Pacific President

Rob Bradley (Australia)

## ILS Membership – Royal Life Saving Society – Australia

### Chair, Equity and Diversity Committee

Rob Bradley

### Drowning Prevention Commissioner

#### Development Coordinator, ILS Asia-Pacific

Justin Scarr

### Ethics Committee, Medical Committee

Professor John Pearn, AO RFD

### Drowning Research and Information Committee

Dr Richard Franklin, PhD

### Rescue Committee

Les Mole

### Education Committee

Shayne Baker OAM

### Sport Commission, Events Management Committee, Chair Sport Development Committee

Greg McLennan

### Technical and Rules Committee

Anni Gardiner

### Athletes Committee

Gray Parkes

## Commonwealth Royal Life Saving Society

### President

HRH Prince Michael of Kent

### Deputy Commonwealth President

John C Barwick MBE

### Commonwealth Secretary

Francene Leaversuch

### Deputy Commonwealth Secretary

Emma Harrison

## Life Members

- 1995 Neville Bayfield (NSW)
- 1995 Gerald Brameld (QLD)
- 1998 Victor John Dennis (WA)
- 1998 Ian Mackie (NAT)
- 1998 Gwendolyn Welford (QLD)
- 1999 Alan B. Swinton (TAS)
- 2000 VJ Forde (SA)
- 2000 John McClelland (QLD)
- 2002 Heather MacGowan (WA)
- 2004 Theresa Leopold (SA)
- 2004 Faye Trevor (SA)
- 2005 Lesley Bartlett (SA)
- 2005 Professor John Pearn, AO RFD (QLD)
- 2005 Patricia Quick (SA)
- 2006 Jan Burton (SA)
- 2006 C Dedman (SA)
- 2006 David Dewar (SA)
- 2006 Raymond M Martin (SA)
- 2006 Vincent McStraw (SA)
- 2006 Mark Needham (SA)
- 2006 Ann Price (SA)
- 2007 John Kew (SA)
- 2007 Hayden Lamshed (SA)
- 2007 Faye Milham (SA)
- 2008 Dorothy Brown (NSW)
- 2009 Rod Welford (QLD)
- 2010 The Hon Chief Justice  
Terence Higgins AO (ACT)
- 2010 Dianne Montalto ESM (VIC)
- 2010 Barbara Morgan OAM (VIC)
- 2010 Karen Freak (SA)
- 2011 Robyn Pryce-Jones (TAS)

## IN MEMORIAM

Royal Life Saving Society Australia is sad to report that Vice Patron Neville Bayfield OAM passed away on 1 August 2012. Neville had been in deteriorating health over the past two years and died peacefully at his Sydney home surrounded by his family. Neville was one of the giants of Royal Life Saving. He served for over 40 years in many capacities including Deputy President of RLSS Commonwealth from 1995–2009 and was RLSS Australia National President from 1988–94. He was awarded the Order of Australia in 1997.

Neville was an outstanding example of a person who dedicated much of his career to the promotion of water safety and life saving at both the national and international level. He achieved this through an ongoing involvement with Royal Life Saving Society – Australia (RLSSA) and the Royal Life Saving Society Commonwealth.

### Service to RLSSA

Neville Bayfield served as National Treasurer of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia from the 1984 incorporation date of the National Branch up to October 1988. He progressed to being appointed National President on the 25th October 1988, holding this position for six years till October 1994. During his tenure as President, Neville was instrumental in the development of key water safety education strategies including the development of the Swim and Survive program which today teaches over 700,000 participants each year. With over 40 years of service to the society, Neville was Vice Patron of RLSSA where he remained firmly committed to raising the standard of awareness of life saving education in Australia and around the world.

As the Commonwealth Deputy President of the Royal Life Saving Society Commonwealth (1995–2009), Neville's role required enormous leadership and dedication. RLSS Commonwealth grew dramatically during Neville's tenure and now includes 40 National Lifesaving Federations as members. Neville was instrumental in directing the RLSS Commonwealth's attention on the needs of developing nations and was instrumental in raising the standards of water safety worldwide.

**On behalf of Royal Life Saving – thank you Neville!  
You will be sadly missed.**



## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with pleasure that I support this Annual Report.

Once again it has been a very busy year for both the national staff and our national board. This can be seen from the various reports included in this the Annual Report.

The Royal Life Saving Society – Australia has again shown great leadership in developing the fourth Australian Water Safety Strategy for 2012–15. The strategy was launched by the Minister for Sport, Senator the Honourable Kate Lundy at the Australian Water Safety Conference held in Sydney in June. The Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15 positions Royal Life Saving Society as lead agency in addressing four key goals to reduce drowning deaths: of children aged 0–4; of children aged 5–14; in inland waterways and in the older population.

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia has held the role of Convenor of the Australian Water Safety Council since its inception in 1998 and has contributed enormously to the co-ordination and cohesion of the water safety sector.

The statistics from our National Drowning Report, which was launched at Parliament House in Canberra, has again shown that we need to continually promote drowning prevention in all States and Territories by delivering our important programs and messages.

I think that it is essential that we recognise the outstanding work of our State and Territory Member Organisations. By working together we will achieve our objectives for the members of the public in all aquatic environments. I would like to thank all boards, CEO's and staff for their outstanding achievements and support.

In the sporting side of our organisation, Australia retained the number one position by winning the Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships 2011 held in Durban, South Africa last September. Two RLSSA teams competed in the National competition (the Aussie Barras) and the development competition (the RLSSA Development Team) and clinched the double championship – fending off tough competition from South Africa and England.

The team of seasoned international athletes and exciting young rookies embraced the opportunity to race on the world stage and stake their claim as the next generation of champion pool lifesavers. They secured six RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving records and five Commonwealth Lifesaving Championship records. Well done to all team members, we are very proud of you.

Congratulations to Gray Parkes and his dedicated team in their representation and training of our teams. Thank you to all our pool officials who again gave their time as volunteers to assist in the competition.

I would like to thank our CEO Rob Bradley and his dedicated national staff for the commitment and professionalism they show in their duties for our organisation and the support they have given to our board and to me personally.

In closing I would sincerely like to thank my fellow board members for their contribution to the organisation and attendance at board meetings. I believe we have an excellent working board that has dealt with many issues over the year and has shown passion, dedication and strong leadership for the benefit of all.

Yours in Lifesaving,  
**Dianne G. Montalto ESM**  
Acting National President



Dianne Montalto pictured with UNCLE TOBYS Ambassadors Cate Campbell, Olympic Gold Medallist and Matt Cowdrey, Paralympic Gold Medallist

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

After the huge effort to ensure that the ILS World Conference on Drowning Prevention was a big success in May 2011 it was extremely pleasing to see the significant achievements made by Royal Life Saving Society – Australia (RLSSA) domestically during the 2011–12 financial year.

As highlighted in last year's report, the impact made on global drowning prevention by our hosting of the World Conference on Drowning Prevention in Danang, Vietnam was arguably the greatest in our proud 118 year history. However, there was no time to rest on our laurels. In 2011–12 RLSSA showed great leadership by developing the fourth Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15 that was launched at the Australian Water Safety Conference held in Sydney in June. The AWS Strategy 2012–15 positions Royal Life Saving as lead agency in addressing four key goals to reduce drowning deaths: of children aged 0–4; of children aged 5–14; in inland waterways and in the older population.

Within Australia our challenge has never been greater. The National Drowning Report 2012 revealed that 284 people died from drowning in the 2011–2012 financial year. This is a reduction of just one per cent (three drowning deaths) on the five year average. Overall there has been no improvement in drowning in most age groups for five years. In some age groups the drowning toll is still rising. Public awareness of the dangers of water still appears to be very low. The number of drowning deaths in inland waterways is up 13 per cent on the five year average. It's clear that more work needs to be done in reducing drowning in Australia.

In pursuing greater public awareness and advocacy for our key issues last year, Royal Life Saving generated over \$18m in advertising value from our media work. The Keep Watch – toddler drowning prevention campaign, supported for the fifth year by PoolWerx, continues to be highly effective.

Federal Minister for Sport, Senator Kate Lundy continued to encourage her ministerial colleagues to support the introduction of best practice principles for Home Pool Fencing Legislation and Compliance. A meeting of State and Territory Government representatives hosted by RLSSA in June gained agreement in principle for the adoption of 10 Best Practice Principles for Home Pool Fencing and Compliance. The excellent progress made in Queensland over the past 3–4 years has been matched by commitments made by the Victorian, ACT and NSW Governments in recent months and we are hopeful of much more effective measures being in place across Australia in the near future.

RLSSA leads the crusade to ensure that all Australian children receive a swimming and water safety education and the multi-pronged advocacy and fundraising approach is proving extremely effective. With the assistance of UNCLE TOBYS, the Canberra Labor Club, Belgravia Leisure and other generous donors, we have now committed to provide free or subsidised Swim and Survive courses for over 7,000 children and we are on track to meet the Swim and Survive Fund target of 10,000 children in 2012.

Senator Kate Lundy also supported the initiative that 'No child should miss out – on learning to Swim and Survive', confirming project funding for the Pools for Schools initiative that will be rolled out in the coming year. This initiative will use the learnings of our SwimSafe Danang program in providing instruction for school aged children without access or resources for swimming and water safety lessons.

Securing the immediate financial future of RLSSA was a priority for the year and I am pleased to report that the Australian Government – Office of Sport has committed to a further three year agreement and also that UNCLE TOBYS has agreed to continue our strong partnership through to 2015.

Under the banner of 'Everyone Can Be a Lifesaver', Royal Life Saving State and Territory Member Organisations successfully trained over one million everyday community lifesavers this year – another outstanding effort!

The work of our dedicated staff in developing an exceptional range of programs, products, research reports, resources and tools is extremely impressive and is greatly appreciated. We have a very talented and dedicated team of professionals and Royal Life Saving has never been better placed to take the drowning prevention agenda into the future.

Building a strong, cohesive and sustainable organisation is one of the key goals within the RLSSA Strategic Framework 2009–12 and the implementation of the new Constitution and Board structure is working well. This year we welcomed Geoffrey Wiczorski from Tasmania to join with fellow directors: Acting President Dianne Montalto, retiring President Les Mole, Glenda Bowen Pain, Greg McLennan, Randall Cook, Jim Whiteside, and Terence Higgins as an outstanding Board.

Over recent years Royal Life Saving has succeeded in diversifying our income stream through the establishment of successful sponsorship, licensing and fundraising programs and has worked to assist State and Territory Member Organisations to access additional government funding. We work closely in partnership with the Australian Government Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport; internationally with the support of AusAID and with our valued sponsors and licensees – UNCLE TOBYS, PoolWerx, Laerdal, Sony Computer Entertainment, Elsevier Publishing, James Maxwell (Peter Maxwell & Associates), the Wiggles and GlassFX.

The generous support of our sponsors, licensees and partners is gratefully acknowledged.

My personal thanks go to our dedicated and talented staff of Justin Scarr, Rhonda Groneman, Monique Sharp, Penny Larsen, Penny Hodgers, Matthew Griffiths, Amy Peden, Richard Franklin, Kristal Grainger, Sunny Fung, Emma Macmillan, Jenny Orford, Sam Rodgers and Matthew Smeal.

**Rob Bradley**  
Chief Executive Officer

## CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER'S REPORT

The 2011–12 year has been a successful one for Royal Life Saving and the operations team, with many significant programs and projects delivered by the team. Some notable examples include:

The Swim and Survive program and Swim and Survive partner's pool program have grown rapidly over the past 12 months. The education team has done a tremendous job. Penny Larsen, from the perspective of leading projects such as a new Television Commercial, online promotional clips and the development of the Aquapak DVD, as well as Kristal Grainger through her support of the Swim and Survive Fund and its efforts to reach children who would otherwise miss out on Swim and Survive lessons, continue to ensure that our partners have the best possible resources and support.

Our presence and effectiveness in the media over the past 12 months has again grown substantially. Royal Life Saving is in a strong position to drive the drowning prevention debate in Australia and abroad due to the quality of our spokespeople, our well-developed positions and our perspectives on how we achieve a 50 per cent reduction in drowning by 2020. Again our campaigns have had a significant emphasis on local coverage using spokespeople from across State, Territory and Regional areas on issues such as removing barriers to children gaining access to swimming and water safety lessons, improvements in swimming pool legislation and analysis of drowning statistics.

From a research perspective, the Royal Life Saving Drowning Database is extremely important to our work. Over the past 12 months Amy Peden and Richard Franklin PhD have created a common set of drowning definitions and guiding principles. This ensures that this database is robust and effective in serving the policy needs of our organisation, as well as Government and industry partners. This work, along with the ongoing process of confirming the details of drowning cases extending back as far as 2002, puts us in a strong position to identify drowning patterns, and to provide the level of quality analysis required to inform and propose future drowning prevention measures. This is evidenced in the most recent National Drowning Report and the many high quality research papers listed in the report.

In the past year we have faced many challenges in the area of Vocational Education and Training (VET). Penny Hodggers worked very hard to support the Royal Life Saving Registered Training Organisations on a range of issues including improved learning and assessment resources, RTO compliance and the redevelopment of sections of the Capabiliti training administration system. In the future a key to our success in VET will be our ability to expand our services to meet genuine Industry needs particularly through full qualifications and using a range of Government funding programs such as the Workforce Development Fund success in NSW.

In late 2011 Royal Life Saving launched the Australian Lifeguard Network with website content for managers, social media aimed at increasing interaction and sharing information, and the Lifeguard Challenge Series to promote lifeguard fitness and skill development.

Feedback from Industry and our partners has been favourable, and we remain confident that by strengthening our relationship with lifeguards and facility managers we will in turn see greater contribution to and adoption of programs like the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation. The leadership of Matt Griffiths has been strong and allowed for the publication of the State of Industry Report, increasing numbers and robustness of Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments and risk management support to State and Territories.

Royal Life Saving's reputation for quality event management was extended by the World Conference on Drowning Prevention (WCDDP) in May 2011, and has again been showcased by the conduct of the Australian Water Safety Conference 2012 and seven Active Family Fun Days. Monique Sharp and the event team have also provided quality support to numerous board meetings and committees throughout the year. We are also looking forward to the completion of the new Royal Life Saving website in late October.

Our Sport Development area, which is coordinated by Emma MacMillan and led by the National Sport Committee, continues to grow. Events such as Skins Meets, Masters Games, Commonwealth Championships and our own Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships continue to provide significant opportunities for our athletes and officials, experienced and developing, to practice the sport of pool lifesaving.

We continue to work with the Australian Government through AusAID, our partners The Alliance for Safe Children (TASC), the Centre for Injury Prevention and Research – Bangladesh (CIPRB) and with international agencies to ensure that the impact of World Conference on Drowning Prevention 2011 and our other initiatives, result in an increase in drowning prevention efforts in Low and Middle Income Countries. Our work and achievements have been published in the extensive report titled *Child Drowning: Evidence for a newly recognized cause of child mortality in low and middle income countries in Asia and its prevention*. This publication, led by TASC Technical Director Dr Mike Linnan reports a reduction in child drowning as a direct result of our programs in Bangladesh of between 83-93 per cent. Whilst not a surprise, Royal Life Saving should be proud of the staggering number of lives this work has saved. It is being considered by potential donors, and we are hopeful that our work will result in a fully funded regional approach to reducing drowning in the poor countries in our region.

The operational team has worked extremely hard over the past year and is proud of our results. The following pages outline some of the key achievements, case studies, facts and figures. We thank all our program partners and contributors to the networks, committees and projects, and the Board and CEO Rob Bradley for ongoing guidance.

**Justin Scarr**  
Chief Operating Officer

## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2012–15

### Positioning Statement/Statement of Purpose

Royal Life Saving is focused on reducing drowning and promoting healthy, active and skilled communities through innovative, reliable, evidence based advocacy; strong and effective partnerships, quality programs, products and services; underpinned by a cohesive and sustainable national organisation.

### Organisational Overview

Royal Life Saving is a public benevolent institution (PBI) dedicated to reducing drowning and turning everyday people into everyday community lifesavers.

**We achieve this through:** Advocacy, Education, Training, Health Promotion, Aquatic Risk Management, Community Development, Research, Sport, Leadership and Participation, and International Networks.

**Our guiding values:** Safety, Quality, Integrity, Humanitarian tradition



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The National Board of Directors for Royal Life Saving Society – Australia continues to maintain a sound and secure financial position.

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2012

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
Income	4,010,750	4,552,294
Fundraising	871,327	958,081
Other income	7,246	8,739
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$4,889,323</b>	<b>\$5,519,114</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Management and administration	824,733	799,652
Fundraising	447,009	487,451
Media and promotional expenses	428,494	383,919
Programs and program support	2,988,272	3,660,970
Provision for doubtful debts	20,000	0
Amortisation and Depreciation	62,476	62,601
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,770,984</b>	<b>\$5,394,593</b>
Net Profit for the year	\$118,339	\$124,521
Other Comprehensive Income	0	0
<b>Total Comprehensive Income attributable to members of RLSSA</b>	<b>\$118,339</b>	<b>\$124,521</b>

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2012

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,398,929	1,180,747
Trade and other receivables	544,420	226,044
Inventories	178,057	227,621
Other	41,907	52,464
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,163,313</b>	<b>\$1,686,876</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	2,069,222	2,118,845
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,069,222</b>	<b>\$2,118,845</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,232,535</b>	<b>\$3,805,721</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors and borrowings	2,105,597	1,783,864
Provisions	605,313	623,204
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$2,710,910</b>	<b>\$2,407,068</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors and borrowings	26,830	22,197
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$26,830</b>	<b>\$22,197</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$2,737,740</b>	<b>\$2,429,265</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,494,795</b>	<b>\$1,376,456</b>
<b>RETAINED FUNDS</b>		
Retained surplus	959,019	840,680
Asset revaluation reserve	535,776	535,776
<b>TOTAL RETAINED FUNDS</b>	<b>\$1,494,795</b>	<b>\$1,376,456</b>

A copy of the audited financial statements for Royal Life Saving Society – Australia is available upon request.



## ADVOCACY

Royal Life Saving has a well-developed position on an extensive range of water safety issues facing the Australian community. Our challenge is to ensure that these issues and our positions are understood and supported by Government, Industry, the Corporate Sector and the Community.

Royal Life Saving is working hard to eliminate drowning. We believe that through nationally coordinated and locally driven campaigns we can reduce these statistics.

Our advocates are lifesavers!

Our staff have actively participated in water safety forums, including engaging in product testing for new swimming aids, presenting at the Australian Water Safety Conference 2012, providing expert witness testimony and advice to coronial inquests. In addition, our staff members serve on the following Standards Australia committees:

- Pool Fencing
- Water Safety Signs
- Flotation Aids for Water Familiarisation and Tuition
- Personal Flotation Devices

Royal Life Saving volunteers and personnel sit on a range of boards and advisory panels of various not-for-profit organisations. These organisations include the Australian Council for the Teaching of Swimming and Water Safety (AUSTSWIM), Australian Amusements Leisure and Recreation Association (AALARA), Service Skills Australia (SSA) and the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC).

### National Home Pool Fencing Legislation

Alongside the Australian Water Safety Conference 2012, Royal Life Saving conducted a National Home Pool Fencing Legislation and Compliance workshop. In attendance were representatives from every State and Territory in Australia (except for South Australia) and key Australian government officials. The workshop reflected upon the QLD experience in implementing pool fencing legislation and discussed topics such as the role of Australian Standards, compliance with legislation, a registration system for home pools and strategies for the education of pool owners and parents / carers on measures to prevent drowning in home swimming pools.

With a commitment to work towards a higher standard in pool fencing legislation and compliance from all attendees, Royal Life Saving will continue its advocacy and lobbying activities in 2012–13 on this important issue.

## Australian Water Safety Conference 2012

Over 150 water safety and drowning prevention experts from across Australia, Singapore, Japan and New Zealand, attended the seventh Australian Water Safety Conference which was hosted at the Novotel Hotel Brighton Beach on 4–5 June 2012. The theme of the conference was 'From Strategy to Action' and provided a forum for those working in water safety and drowning prevention to share valuable water safety information, best practice and research.

The Australian Water Safety Council officially released the Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15 at the Conference, which aims to reduce drowning deaths across Australia by 50 per cent by 2020 with the ultimate aim of achieving a nation free from drowning.

Senator the Honourable Kate Lundy, Minister for Sport; Minister for Multicultural Affairs; Minister Assisting for Industry and Innovation – attended the conference and welcomed the release of the Strategy.

A major delegation of water safety experts involved with Japan's Water Safety Nippon took part in the conference, signing a special Memorandum of Cooperation with the Australian Water Safety Council. Japan currently has a high rate of drowning deaths and Water Safety Nippon was established in March 2010 as a partnership promoting a message of achieving zero water accidents. The campaign operates nationwide focusing on preventing children and adults from drowning.

The Conference looked at the most effective means of reducing drowning after the most recent National Drowning Report (2011) revealed 315 people drowned (between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011). It is the highest level of drowning seen in Australia since 2003. The numbers jumped by 11 per cent when compared to the five year average.

### Members of the Water Safety Council include:

- Royal Life Saving Society – Australia (RLSSA)
- Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA)
- The Australian Council for the Teaching of Swimming and Water Safety (AUSTSWIM)
- Australian National Sportfishing Association (ANSA)
- Swimming Australia
- Divers Alert Network (DAN) Asia Pacific
- The Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia (Kidsafe)
- Farmsafe Australia
- Australian Recreational Boating Safety Committee
- Surfing Australia
- Australian Leisure Facilities Association
- Australian Swimming Coaches and Teachers Association (ASCTA)
- Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport
- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).



**01** Official Signing, Memorandum of Cooperation with Water Safety Nippon - Rob Bradley, Convenor, Australian Water Safety Council and CEO Royal Life Saving Society - Australia; Gordon Mallett, CEO, AUSTSWIM and Australian Water Safety Council Member; Hideharu Hirowatari, Chairman of Water Safety.

**02** Conference Group Photo



## Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15: Towards a nation free from drowning

Released on 4 June 2012, the Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15 aims to reduce drowning deaths across Australia by 50 per cent by the year 2020, with the ultimate aim of achieving a nation free from drowning.

Rob Bradley, Australian Water Safety Council (AWSC) Convenor said, “Since 2008 Australia has experienced a concerning increase in the number of drowning deaths across a range of demographics, locations and activities. The 2012–15 Strategy focuses on prevention strategies to reduce drowning deaths in inland waterways, to reduce the number of people aged over 55 who are drowning and minimise the impact of disasters and extreme weather.”

- In the 2008–11 Australian Water Safety Strategy, the AWSC introduced an overarching goal of reducing drowning deaths by 50% by the year 2020
- This would bring drowning deaths down to no more than 153 in 2020
- The table calculates the reduction needed to achieve the 2020 target against this year’s figures (Figure 2).

The Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15 (AWSS 2012–15) can be downloaded from [www.watersafety.com.au](http://www.watersafety.com.au)

AWSS 2012–15 Goal Areas	Drowning Deaths in 2011/12		Target Reduction	No More Than
1. Reduce drowning deaths in children aged 0–14 years	Children 0-4 years	21	19%	17
	Children 5-14 years	13	38%	8
2. Reduce drowning deaths in young people aged 15–24		45	60%	18
3. Reduce drowning deaths in people aged 55+		97	47%	51
4. Reduce drowning deaths in inland waterways		104	48%	54
5. Reduce surf beach drowning deaths		55	62%	21

Please note: A drowning death could be included in more than one goal area in the table above.

**Figure 2:** Progress of AWSS 2012–15 Revised Goals and Estimated Required Reduction



## Community Keep Watch Ambassadors

Keep Watch Ambassador Sam Riley, Olympic swimmer and mother of three young boys, understands the need for water safety education to combat the tragic drowning rates in Australia. "I am very proud to be working in partnership with Royal Life Saving as the Ambassador for the Keep Watch Program," she said.

Royal Life Saving has more than 180 Community Keep Watch Ambassadors (Members of Parliament and State Parliament) who help promote water safety to the community by agreeing to act as community contact points and distribute information on preventing toddler drowning in their community. Royal Life Saving thanks the ambassadors for their support and the work they do to help prevent drowning.

Keep Watch is a program aimed at drowning prevention of children in the 0–5 age group. Tragically, this is the age group which has the highest rate of drowning in Australia. On average one young life is lost every week in Australia, with children drowning in swimming pools, dams, rivers, lakes, bath tubs, and nappy buckets and fish ponds.

**Please do not hesitate to contact your local Community Keep Watch Ambassador for further information on the Keep Watch program.**



Keep Watch Ambassador Sam Riley, Olympic swimmer and mother of three young boys

## Community Keep Watch Ambassadors Grouped by State / Territory (to 30 June 2012)

### Australian Capital Territory

Mr Andrew Barr MLA, Member for Molonglo  
Ms Joy Burch MLA, Member for Brindabella  
Dr Chris Bourke MLA, Member for Ginninderra  
Mr Alistair Coe MLA, Member for Ginninderra  
Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Member for Molonglo  
Mr Steve Dospot MLA, Member for Brindabella  
Mrs Vicki Dunne MLA, Member for Ginninderra  
Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, Deputy Chief Minister  
Mr Jeremy Hanson CSC MLA, Member for Molonglo  
Senator Gary Humphries, Senator for the ACT  
Ms Meredith Hunter MLA, ACT Greens  
Parliamentary Convenor  
Mr Andrew Leigh MP, Member for Fraser  
Senator Kate Lundy, Senator for the ACT  
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Speaker, Legislative Assembly  
Mr Zed Seselja MLA, Leader of the Opposition  
Mr Brendan Smyth MLA, Member for Brindabella  
The Hon. John Stanhope MLA, Chief Minister

### New South Wales

Hon Tony Abbott MP, Member for Warringah and Leader of the Opposition  
Hon Bob Baldwin MP, Member for Paterson  
Ms Sharon Bird MP, Member for Cunningham  
Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP, Member for Mackellar  
Hon Chris Bowen MP, Member for McMahon  
Hon David Bradbury MP, Member for Lindsay  
Senator Doug Cameron, Senator for New South Wales  
Hon John Cobb MP, Member for Calare  
Hon Justine Elliot MP, Member for Richmond  
Hon Warren Entsch MP, Member for Leichhardt  
Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP, Member for Hunter  
Hon Peter Garrett AM MP, Member for Kingsford Smith  
Mrs Joanna Gash MP, Member for Gilmore  
Ms Sharon Grierson MP, Member for Newcastle  
Ms Jill Hall MP, Member for Shortland  
Mr Luke Hartsuyker MP, Member for Cowper  
Mr Alex Hawke MP, Member for Mitchell  
Mr Chris Hayes MP, Member for Fowler  
Senator Hon Bill Heffernan, Senator for New South Wales  
Hon Joe Hockey MP, Member for North Sydney  
Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP, Member for Eden-Monaro  
Hon Sussan Ley MP, Member for Farrer  
Mrs Louise Markus MP, Member for Macquarie  
Hon Robert McClelland MP, Member for Barton  
Mr Scott Morrison MP, Member for Cook  
Hon John Murphy MP, Member for Reid  
Senator Fiona Nash, Senator for New South Wales  
Mr Robert Oakeshott MP, Member for Lyne  
Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Member for Sydney  
Ms Michelle Rowland, Member for Greenway  
Hon Philip Ruddock MP, Member for Berowra  
Ms Janelle Saffin MP, Member for Page  
Mr Alby Schultz MP, Member for Hume  
Senator Hon Ursula Stephens, Senator for New South Wales  
Mr Craig Thomson MP, Member for Dobell  
Hon Malcom Turnbull MP, Member for Wentworth  
Senator John Williams, Senator for New South Wales

## **Northern Territory**

Hon Jane Aagaard MLA, Speaker of the NT Legislative Assembly  
Ms Alison Anderson MLA, Member for Macdonnell  
Mr Ross Bohlin MLA, Member for Drysdale  
Dr Chris Burns MLA, Member for Johnston  
Mr Peter Chandler MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Matthew Conlan MLA, Member for Greatorex  
Senator Trish Crossin, Senator for the Northern Territory  
Mr Johan Elferink MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mr Adam Giles, Member for Braitling  
Mrs Natasha Griggs MP, Federal Member for Solomon  
Mr Michael Gunner, Member for Fannie Bay  
Mr Karl Hampton, Member for Stuart  
Hon Paul Henderson MLA, Chief Minister  
Hon Rob Knight MLA, Member for Daly  
Ms Robyn Lambley MLA, Member for Araluen  
Hon Delia Lawrie MLA, Deputy Chief Minister  
Hon Gerald McCarthy MLA, Member for Barkly  
Hon Malarndirri McCarthy MLA, Member for Arnhem  
Mr Terry Mills MLA, Leader of the Opposition  
Ms Kezia Purick MLA, Member for Goyder  
Ms Marion Scrymgour MLA, Member for Arafura  
Senator Hon Nigel Scullion, Senator for the Northern Territory  
Hon Warren Snowdon MP, Federal Member for Lingiari  
Mr Peter Styles MLA, Member for Sanderson  
Mr David Tollner MLA, Member for Fong Lim  
Hon Kon Vatskalis MLA, Member for Casuarina  
Ms Lynne Walker MLA, Member for Nhulunbuy  
Mr Willem Westra van Holthe MLA, Member for Katherine  
Mr Gerry Wood MLA, Member for Nelson

## **Queensland**

Ms Karen Andrews MP, Member for McPherson  
Senator Sue Boyce, Senator for Queensland  
Senator Hon George Brandis SC, Senator for Queensland  
Mr Steven Ciobo MP, Member for Moncrieff  
Hon Peter Dutton MP, Member for Dickson  
Hon Dr Craig Emerson MP, Member for Rankin  
Senator Mark Furner, Senator for Queensland  
Mr Ewen Jones MP, Member for Herbert  
Hon Bob Katter MP, Member for Kennedy  
Mr Andrew Laming MP, Member for Bowman  
Senator Hon Ian Macdonald, Senator for Queensland  
Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, Member for Groom  
Senator Hon Jan McLucas, Senator for Queensland  
Mr Shane Neumann MP, Member for Blair  
Mr Paul Neville MP, Member for Hinkler  
Mrs Jane Prentice MP, Member for Ryan  
Mr Stuart Robert MP, Member for Fadden  
Hon Kevin Rudd MP, Member for Griffith  
Hon Bruce Scott MP, Member for Maranoa  
Hon Peter Slipper MP, Member for Fisher  
Hon Wayne Swan MP, Member for Lilley  
Hon Warren Truss MP, Member for Wide Bay  
Mr Ross Vasta MP, Member for Bonner

## **South Australia**

Senator Cory Bernardi, Senator for South Australia  
Senator Simon Birmingham, Senator for South Australia  
Mr Jamie Briggs MP, Member for Mayo  
Hon Katherine Ellis MP, Member for Adelaide  
Mr Steve Georganas MP, Member for Hindmarsh  
Senator Annette Hurley, Senator for South Australia  
Senator Anne McEwen, Senator for South Australia  
Senator Hon Nick Minchin, Senator for South Australia  
Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Member for Sturt  
Ms Amanda Rishworth MP, Member for Kingston  
Dr Andrew Southcott MP, Member for Boothby  
Senator Dana Wortley, Senator for South Australia

## **Tasmania**

Senator Guy Barnett, Senator for Tasmania  
Hon David Bartlett MP, Member for Denison  
Senator Catryna Bilyk, Senator for Tasmania  
Senator Carol Brown, Senator for Tasmania  
Senator David Bushby, Senator for Tasmania  
Senator Hon Richard Colbeck, Senator for Tasmania  
Hon Julie Collins MP, Member for Franklin  
Hon Michael Gaffney MLC, Member for Mersey  
Hon Bryan Green MP, Member for Braddon  
Hon Will Hodgman MP, Tasmanian Leader of the Opposition  
and Member for Franklin  
Mr Geoff Lyons MP, Member for Bass  
Hon Michelle O'Byrne MP, Member for Bass  
Hon Douglas Parkinson MLC, Leader of the Government  
Senator Stephen Parry, Senator for Tasmania  
Senator Helen Polley, Senator for Tasmania  
Hon Michael Polley MP, Member for Lyons  
Hon Tania Rattray MLC, Member for Apsley  
Mr Sid Sidebottom MP, Member for Braddon  
Hon Lin Thorp MLC, Member for Rumney  
Mr Andrew Wilkie MP, Member for Denison

## **Victoria**

Hon Kevin Andrews MP, Member for Menzies  
Mr Russell Broadbent MP, Member for McMillan  
Ms Anna Burke MP, Member for Chisholm  
Hon Anthony Byrne MP, Member for Holt  
Mr Darren Chester MP, Member for Gippsland  
Senator Hon Jacinta Collins, Senator for Victoria  
Hon Simon Crean MP, Member for Hotham  
Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Member for Isaacs  
Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP, Member for Batman  
Senator Mitch Fifield, Senator for Victoria  
Mr Steve Gibbons MP, Member for Bendigo  
Hon Julia Gillard MP, Member for Lalor and Prime Minister  
Hon Alan Griffin MP, Member for Bruce  
Hon Greg Hunt MP, Member for Flinders  
Hon Catherine King MP, Member for Ballarat  
Senator Helen Kroger, Senator for Victoria  
Mrs Sophie Mirabella MP, Member for Indi  
Hon Andrew Robb AO MP, Member for Goldstein  
Senator Hon Michael Ronaldson, Senator for Victoria  
Hon Nicola Roxon MP, Member for Gellibrand  
Mr Mike Symon MP, Member for Deakin  
Mr Dan Tehan MP, Member for Wannon  
Mr Kelvin Thomson MP, Member for Wills  
Senator Hon Judith Troeth, Senator for Victoria  
Mr Alan Tudge MP, Member for Aston  
Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP, Member for Calwell

## **Western Australia**

Senator Judith Adams, Senator for Western Australia  
Hon Julie Bishop MP, Member for Curtin  
Senator Mark Bishop, Senator for Western Australia  
Senator Michaelia Cash, Senator for Western Australia  
Senator Hon Christopher Evans, Senator for Western Australia  
Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Member for Brand  
Mr Barry Haase MP, Member for Durack  
Mr Steve Irons MP, Member for Swan  
Dr Dennis Jensen MP, Member for Tangney  
Ms Nola Marino MP, Member for Forrest  
Ms Melissa Parke MP, Member for Fremantle  
Senator Louise Pratt, Senator for Western Australia  
Mr Don Randall MP, Member for Canning  
Senator Rachel Siewert, Senator for Western Australia  
Mr Luke Simpkins MP, Member for Cowan



## EDUCATION

Royal Life Saving's water safety education programs have been developed so all Australians can have the skills and knowledge to safely participate in a range of aquatic activities.

Our programs build awareness of dangers in aquatic environments, teach essential water safety skills and develop lifesaving skills that may one day save a life; reflecting Royal Life Saving's mantra that 'Everyone can be a Lifesaver'.

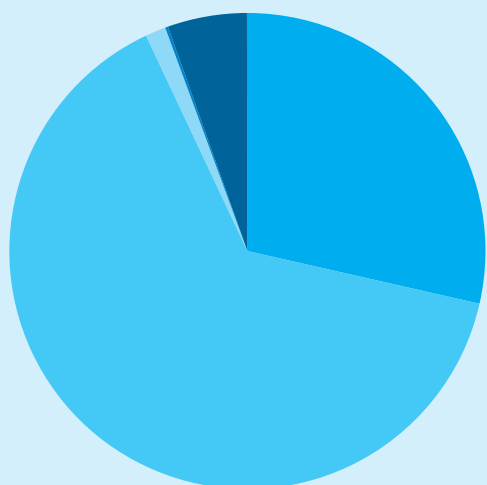
The range of programs allows individuals to continually develop their skills and knowledge as they move through different life stages, reflecting the unique challenges that are specific to each age group. These challenges include: water familiarisation for young children, foundation skills for primary aged children, essential survival and lifesaving skills for teenagers, and water safety for older adults.

### Our key education programs include:

- Swim and Survive:
  - Wonder (6–36 months)
  - Active (3–5yrs)
  - Courage (5–14yrs)
- Bronze Medallion
- Junior Lifesaving
- Grey Medallion

### Education Awards

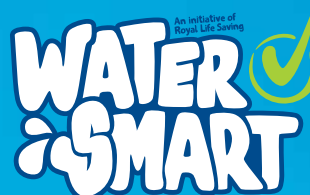
682,691 Awards Issued by Royal Life Saving in 2011–2012



- Water Safety Education Classroom - 201,496 (29.5%)
- Swim and Survive - 446,989 (65.5%)
- Junior Lifeguard Club Participants - 2,602 (0.4%)
- Rescue Strand - 972 (0.1%)
- Bronze - 30,301 (4.4%)
- Adv Lifesaving - 133 (0.02%)
- Grey Medallion - 198 (0.03%)

## Water Smart

Water Smart is a Royal Life Saving award for primary school children in years 4, 5 and 6. To increase the participation in this award as well as encourage water safety education in the classroom to commence from the Foundation years and continue to Year 10, an updated classroom resource is being developed. This will be available for teachers to download from the Swim and Survive website once they have registered. The registration of schools provides information such as how many schools have accessed the resource, what types of schools and what year they are currently teaching.



### Teachers Notes, Unit Outlines and Activity Sheets

The Kids Media educational group has been engaged to update our classroom resource to ensure it is in line with current teaching practises and the new Australian Curriculum. Although the Health and Physical Education national curriculum has not yet been completed, progress is being followed. The resource will have background information for teachers on the course material, unit outlines for teachers to use to deliver a unit of water safety and activity sheets to aid the learning process. These documents will be available in PDF and electronic whiteboard formats.

### 'Be Water Smart' Video Clips

Four video clips were also produced to provide a fun way to learn key water safety messages. In the clips, Lochie the Lifeguard joins with UNCLE TOBYS Ambassadors Eamon Sullivan and Emily Seeböhm to view a number of scenarios at the Home, Local Pool, at the Beach and Rivers and Lakes. The scenarios show unsafe behaviours at a venue and then replay the scene demonstrating safer behaviour and highlighting the water safety message.



## Swim and Survive

This year's activities have focused on strengthening the relationships with our Swim and Survive partners and continuing to develop the support resources for the delivery of the Swim and Survive program. UNCLE TOBYS has continued to support the Swim and Survive program and provide opportunities for increasing awareness of water safety in the community.

### Swim and Survive Partners

Swim and Survive promotes water safety throughout local communities by working with preferred, quality providers of the Swim and Survive program. To support and promote these partners, a Swim School Locator and an exclusive Partners Zone on the Swim and Survive website have been developed. Registered and approved partners are promoted on the locator to assist parents and carers seeking Swim and Survive programs.

Two hundred Swim and Survive Partners have already registered on the website giving them access to the exclusive Partners Zone. This zone provides additional resources such as an implementation guide, assessment checklists, media guide and a lesson plan template.

### Promotional Clips

One-minute promotional clips were produced for each of the Swim and Survive programs—Wonder, Courage and Active—as a tool for Swim and Survive partners to promote the program and encourage enrolments at their facilities.

### Aquapak DVD

A comprehensive instructional DVD was added to the Swim and Survive Aquapak resource providing a visual demonstration of the progression of skills within the Swim and Survive program. Participants graciously volunteered their time for four days of filming at the Knox Grammar School Aquatic Centre prior to its opening.

### Media Campaign

This year's Swim and Survive media campaign focused on the outcomes of our research that found that one in five children (approximately 50,000) leave primary school every year without the ability to swim 50 metres or stay afloat for two minutes. Please see page 41 for more details.

The campaign was launched on the 24 November 2011 and received widespread media coverage that included Channel Nine's Today Show, Channel Ten's Morning News and The Project; and many radio stations across the country and print media.

To highlight the issue and support the campaign, a Community Service Announcement (CSA) featuring Olympic Swimmer and UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador, Eamon Sullivan, was produced. The CSA continues to be broadcast across Australia.



05



06

Website – [www.swimandsurvive.com.au](http://www.swimandsurvive.com.au)

No. of Visits	<b>33,939</b>
No. of Unique Visitors	<b>25,763</b>
No. of Page Views	<b>161,613</b>
Pages per Visit	<b>4.76</b>
Average Visit Duration	<b>00.04:17</b>
Top 5 pages	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Swim and Survive Homepage</li> <li>2. Swim and Survive Kids Zone (landing page)</li> <li>3. Swim and Survive Program Information</li> <li>4. Games Zone Landing Page (Kids Zone)</li> <li>5. Water Safety Landing Page (Kids Zone)</li> </ol>



## Swim and Survive Active Family Fun Days

With the support of UNCLE TOBYS, seven Swim and Survive Active Family Fun Days (AFFD) were hosted across New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia during 2011–2012.

Over 5,000 school children in the 5–14 age group and their families participated in the fun program of water safety activities. The Active Family Fun Days provided parents with an opportunity to get into the water with their children to practice water safety techniques in a fun and safe environment.

UNCLE TOBYS Ambassadors Eamon Sullivan, Grant Hackett, Emily Seebohm and Cate Campbell were on hand during these events, sharing water safety tips and advice, and being available for photos and autographs. One of the most popular activities during the Active Family Fun Days has been the Resuscitation Demonstrations. This activity has had a positive impact for families and the community with an increased awareness for the importance of both First Aid and Resuscitation skills.

Sony Computer Entertainment has been a strong supporter of the Active Family Fun Days since its inception in 2004. Children who participated during the AFFDs were given the chance to win great Sony prizes including a Sony PSP.

## Location Schedule

### Sunday 20 November 2011

Pathways Leisure Centre North Lakes QLD  
Cleveland Aquatic Centre Cleveland QLD

### Sunday 27 November 2011

National Centre of Indigenous Excellence Redfern NSW

### Sunday 4 December 2011

Waves Fitness and Aquatic Centre Baulkham Hills NSW  
Leisurelink Aquatic & Recreation Centre Warrn Ponds VIC  
Long Tan Aquatics Heatley QLD

### Sunday 29 January 2012

Adelaide Aquatic Centre North Adelaide SA

- 01 The swimandsurvive.com.au home page
- 02 UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador Cate Campbell - Pathways Leisure Centre North Lakes QLD
- 03 UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador Eamon Sullivan - Waves Fitness and Aquatic Centre Baulkham Hills NSW
- 04 Leisurelink Aquatic and Recreation Centre Warrn Ponds VIC
- 05 UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador Emily Seebohm - Adelaide Aquatic Centre
- 06 Resuscitation Demonstration - Long Tan Aquatics
- 07 UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador Cate Campbell - Cleveland Aquatic Centre Cleveland QLD
- 08 UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador Eamon Sullivan - National Centre of Indigenous Excellence Redfern NSW



## TRAINING

Since 1894 Royal Life Saving has been training Australians to be lifesavers.

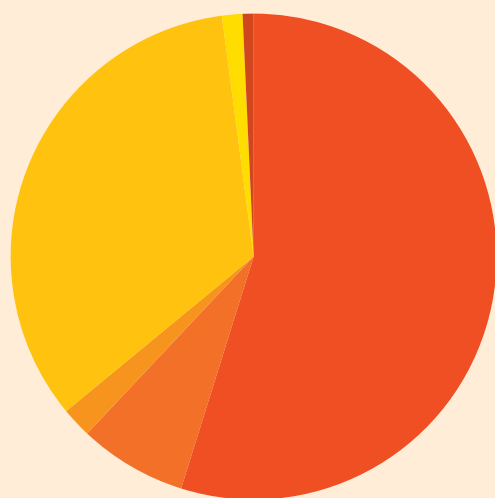
While the principles have not changed, we are now training people to use these lifesaving skills in a wide range of workplaces and communities.

### Our key training programs include:

- First Aid and Emergency Care
- Resuscitation (CPR)
- Pool Lifeguarding
- Bronze Medallion
- Swim Teaching (AUSTSWIM)
- Pool Operations
- Professional Development

### Training Awards

224,781 Awards Issued by Royal Life Saving in 2011–2012



- Resuscitation - 123,239 (54.8%)
- Pool Lifeguard - 16,162 (7.2%)
- Pool Operations - 4,511 (2.0%)
- First Aid - 76,168 (33.9%)
- Instructor/Trainer Assessor - 3,069 (1.4%)
- AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety - 1,632 (0.7%)

## Vocational Education & Training (VET)

The national Vocational Education and Training (VET) system continues to respond to industry, and individual and community needs while striving to provide clear and high quality standards within a nationally consistent framework. Royal Life Saving Society – Australia (RLSSA) Training programs support a cohesive and sustainable organisation by supporting branch capacity and enhancing vocational training programs in the aquatic industry.

The National Training Regulator, the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), is now responsible for the registration and audit of most of our registered training providers at a State and Territory Member Organisation level and the accreditation of courses across the majority of states and territories (excluding Victoria and Western Australia). This national approach will now allow us to develop a national training resource pool and common State and Territory Member Organisation compliance support and quality improvement strategies. This will be an ongoing project over the next few years to provide State and Territory Member Organisations with the compliant and high standard training resources for them to remain the leading providers of training to the Aquatic and Recreation Industry.

The second version of the SIS10 National Sport, Recreation and Fitness Training package is due for implementation later in 2012. All RLSSA State and Territory Member Organisations are continuing to extend their respective scopes of registration to include the new Units of Competence and Qualifications including the Certificate III in Aquatics.

An extensive review and update of the RLSSA Learning Management System (Capabiliti) was undertaken as part of an overall evaluation of RLSSA Vocational Training products. The evaluation was to ensure that all State and Territory Member Organisations currently using the system had a greater understanding of the product and were able to utilise the system to its full capacity, facilitating the ongoing development and support of quality RLSSA VET programs. The outcomes of this project support one of the main projects for 2012–2013 – the redevelopment of the RLSSA Website.

The 2011–2012 year has been an exciting one full of initiatives that will renovate and transform the way RLSSA services and training programs are delivered. We are looking forward to this continued and progressive improvement to our Training Department in partnership with all of our stakeholders.



02



03

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- 01 First Aid response
- 02 First Aid response
- 03 Pool Lifeguard training
- 04 Royal Life Saving flexible training options

## Training Courses

Royal Life Saving believes that everyone can be a lifesaver. Whether as a responsible member of the community or for a lifesaving career, the skills you learn are skills for life. Courses include:

### First Aid

RLSSA First Aid training courses are compliant with Workplace Health and Safety requirements and provide participants with the knowledge and skills to administer first aid to a victim of illness or injury until professional medical help arrives. Anyone—parents, workers, passersby—irrespective of job or background, may have to give first aid at some time giving credence to Royal Life Saving's belief that "Everyone can be a lifesaver".

Royal Life Saving provides both traditional and flexible training delivery methods including First Aid in a Box – a self-paced, flexible training program. Candidates receive their own learning manikin and DVD and complete the theory and online assessments at their own pace. Upon completing the online content and learning CPR, candidates are required to attend a two hour practical workshop to refine their first aid skills and be assessed for their first aid qualification.

### Resuscitation

Resuscitation—the actions taken to keep a casualty alive after their own breathing and heartbeat has stopped—can mean the difference between life and death. Early intervention with Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) can and will save lives. Royal Life Saving Resuscitation courses give participants training and knowledge in Basic Life Support, CPR, Defibrillation, Oxygen Resuscitation and Emergency Care.

All Royal Life Saving resuscitation training is delivered in accordance with the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) Guidelines and gives both theoretical and practical experience in CPR and associated emergency care.

### Pool Lifeguard

Australian Lifeguards are world-renown for their high levels of skill and knowledge in accident prevention and rescue response. The minimum industry requirement for employment as a Pool Lifeguard in a swimming pool or aquatic facility is the RLSSA Pool Lifeguard Certificate.

This entry-level qualification is recognised across Australia and in many other countries and provides a gateway into an exciting lifeguarding and aquatics career. The course covers essential modules such as accident prevention, administration, public relations, education, rescue response and basic technical operations.

Royal Life Saving provides further professional development courses and opportunities, building a stronger aquatics industry.

## Campaign for Compulsory CPR in Schools

With the help of The Daily Telegraph and Royal Life Saving Society – NSW, students at Hills Sport High at Seven Hills were taken through a CPR training session – with immediate results.

After Joel Tinker had watched lifeguards resuscitate a tourist on Bondi beach, he was not sure he would have been able to do it. But after he undertook the CPR course, he was soon confident he could do it in a real life emergency.

Joel, 15, was among 25 students who took part in the session – the first time any of them had learned about resuscitation. “Watching the lifeguards in action was pretty full-on,” Joel said. “I wouldn’t have known what to do back then, but I do now.”

Royal Life Saving gave each student a CPR In A Box™, a \$49.50 kit that includes a lifelike mannequin and DVD to take home to learn the basic skills.

During the session, they learned resuscitation skills in different scenarios on babies, children and adults. Head PE teacher Rob Murie agreed, saying it was essential for students to learn the skills.

While CPR is part of the curriculum in some Year 11 electives at the school, Mr Murie said it would be great if it was taught to all students in Year 7. “Not all schools are fortunate to have it,” he said. “But the earlier they learn it, the better.”

Royal Life Saving Society – NSW CEO David Macallister said while many schools were formally educating students in CPR skills, some had no resuscitation training or water safety education. “The Society believes it would be a great contribution to the community to have this added to the national curriculum as standard practice,” Mr Macallister said.

“The benefit for the community is that for every CPR In A Box™ issued to an individual, there is the potential to have other family members or friends also being educated about CPR.”

The Daily Telegraph launched a campaign and online petition calling on the Federal Government to make CPR lessons compulsory in high schools. To sign the petition to support this important initiative, go to <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/telegraph-campaign-for-certified-cpr-training/>

Article “Life saving is sure a class act” by Samantha Townsend courtesy of The Daily Telegraph. February 15, 2012.



## Case Study: Certificate III in Aquatics

Approximately 70 candidates from the Aquatic Industry in rural and metropolitan NSW began their Certificate III in Aquatics in February 2012. The project was part of the National Workforce Development Grant and Leadership Initiative providing them with a defined and sustainable career pathway in the Aquatic and Recreation Industry.

### From Laps to Lifeguard – Kirrily Hillier

Moving from nursing to the aquatics industry may seem like a big change, but lifeguard and occasional swim teacher, Kirrily Hillier, is right where she wants to be.

Kirrily works at the YMCA swimming pool at Batemans Bay in NSW. But her interest in the aquatics industry goes back to the late 1990s when she began swimming regularly at Manly and then at Cooma after she moved south. "The pool was short-staffed and they knew me from swimming laps there every day, so the pool manager asked if I would be interested in working there."

Kirrily never looked back. She attained her Bronze Medallion, Pool Lifeguard certificate, AUSTSWIM Bronze Examiners qualification, and Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment, giving Kirrily the qualifications to enjoy a career path that is full of variety.

"I mainly work as a lifeguard but also teach the Learn-to-Swim program, run First Aid and Lifeguard courses for Royal Life Saving, do staff training and re-certifications and run the Bronze Medallion course for the Batemans Bay High School Year 12 PDHPE class," she said.

Kirrily's latest qualification is the Certificate III in Aquatics which she is completing under the mentorship of RLSSA NSW, Illawarra Regional Manager Ian Kennerley.

"Ian's a big reason why I enjoy what I do so much. I have known him for about 12 years and he has been a great mentor throughout my aquatics career. He has certainly helped me get where I am today," Kirrily said. Kirrily is fast being recognised as a leader in the aquatics industry herself and she is happy to speak about the positive changes she has seen since she first started.

"The industry is certainly heading in the right direction as far as qualifications are concerned. There never used to be much recognition for skills outside the industry but that's changed since the Certificate III in Aquatics was introduced. This is great, especially for young people entering aquatics and may encourage them to consider it as a career and not just as casual employment," Kirrily said.

"I love what I do. I feel like I have an opportunity to share my knowledge with the community and I really can't see myself doing anything else," Kirrily said.





## HEALTH PROMOTION

Royal Life Saving's commitment to reducing drowning and water-related incidents is best seen through the creation of water-safe communities.

Royal Life Saving has achieved this through a proud history of promoting safe aquatic recreation and by developing health promotion programs that target special needs groups such as:

- Children under five (Keep Watch)
- Remote Indigenous Communities
- Rural and Regional Communities
- Refugees, Recent Arrivals and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities
- Older Australians (Grey Medallion)
- Others including alcohol related drowning deaths

## Keep Watch

Keep Watch continues to be Australia's most comprehensive drowning prevention and water safety program for children under-five. The program has a wide variety of resources and sub-programs targeting parents and carers that are designed for specific locations such as bath time, the farm and public pools.

With over 190 public pools across Australia participating in the Keep Watch @ Public Pools program, and hundreds of thousands of resources distributed across Australia, Royal Life Saving continues to work towards ensuring all children under the age of five are safe when in, on, or around water.

The Keep Watch website ([www.keepwatch.com.au](http://www.keepwatch.com.au)) provides an invaluable source of information for parents/carers, grandparents, child care workers, swim teachers, community health workers and others interested in preventing child drowning. The website includes information on all the resources available including a series of fact sheets available to download and print.

These regularly reviewed and updated fact sheets are designed to help people keep themselves and others within their care safe when at aquatic locations or while undertaking aquatic activities. The 27 fact sheets cover a range of topics from the four Keep Watch actions of: Supervise, Restrict Access, Water Awareness and Resuscitation; to farm water safety, water safety around the home, watercraft safety and hypoxic blackout among others.

**The following Keep Watch resources were distributed across Australia during the past year to support Keep Watch:**

- 110,000 Keep Watch Fridge Magnets
- 100,000 Keep Watch Brochures
- 60,000 Keep Watch @ The Farm Brochures
- 3,000 Close the Gate Signs
- 60,000 Keep Watch @ Bath Time Brochures
- 5,000 Keep Watch @ Bath Time Tap Hangers
- 10,000 Home Pool Safety Checklists
- 4,000 A2 / 4,000 A3 Keep Watch Posters
- 1,000 Keep Watch Information Manuals

To continually improve programs and services, Royal Life Saving seeks regular feedback from people who use Keep Watch and its resources to ensure it meets the needs of parents and carers of children under five. A Keep Watch evaluation survey can be found on the home page of the Keep Watch website.

### Keep Watch Website

The Keep Watch website ([www.keepwatch.com.au](http://www.keepwatch.com.au)) provides an invaluable source of information on drowning prevention strategies and water safety tips. Key statistics for the website are summarised below.

Keep Watch and Home Pool Safety Websites	Total
Months with most views	<b>November &amp; December</b>
Home Pool Safety Checklist Downloads	<b>3627</b>



## Keep Watch Home Pool Safety Campaign

Royal Life Saving launched their Keep Watch Home Pool safety media campaign in October 2011 with the announcement that 28 children under the age of five drowned in the previous 12 months. This brought the number of child drowning deaths close to 300 within a nine-year period.

Research showed that 60 per cent of these drowning deaths occurred in the child's home and also showed that 85 per cent of home pools did not meet safety standards.

Royal Life Saving with the support of PoolWerx encouraged home pool owners to use the home pool safety checklist to check, fix and maintain their pools and surrounds. **The checklist can be downloaded from [www.homepoolsafety.com.au](http://www.homepoolsafety.com.au).**

Keep Watch Ambassador and former Olympian, Samantha Riley, supported the campaign and featured on Channel Seven's Sunrise program, ABC News, and Channel Ten's The Circle and Morning News programs. PoolWerx, Royal Life Saving and various metro/regional newspapers worked together to promote the campaign with a Keep Watch Prize pack giveaway. More than 350 packs were allocated to winners across Australia.

To further support the campaign, a Community Service Announcement (CSA) was developed for all major TV stations. The CSA continues to be aired nationally on all major networks including Channel 7, Channel 9 and Channel 10. The CSA can be viewed via: [youtube.com/RoyalLifeSavingAust](http://youtube.com/RoyalLifeSavingAust)

## Keep Watch Promotion at Community Events

Royal Life Saving New South Wales promoted Keep Watch and Keep Watch @ Public Pools at their 2012 Community Lifesaver Breakfast in June 2012.

The Breakfast showcased a range of new initiatives and programs including Project Community Lifesaver. Keep Watch information and resources were also distributed at the 2011 Teddy Bear's Picnic at Rosehill in October 2011 and at DFO Shopping Centre in Homebush over the 11/12 Summer period.

PoolWerx, also distributed Keep Watch resources including CPR fridge magnets and home pool safety checklists, and raised awareness of child drowning prevention strategies whilst conducting their annual van run in cities across Australia.

## Keep Watch Ambassadors

Royal Life Saving would like to thank the 160 Keep Watch Community Ambassadors that promote the Keep Watch program and its four key strategies for reducing child drowning across Australia. A full list of the Keep Watch Community Ambassadors is on page 14 of this report and can be found on the Keep Watch website.



02

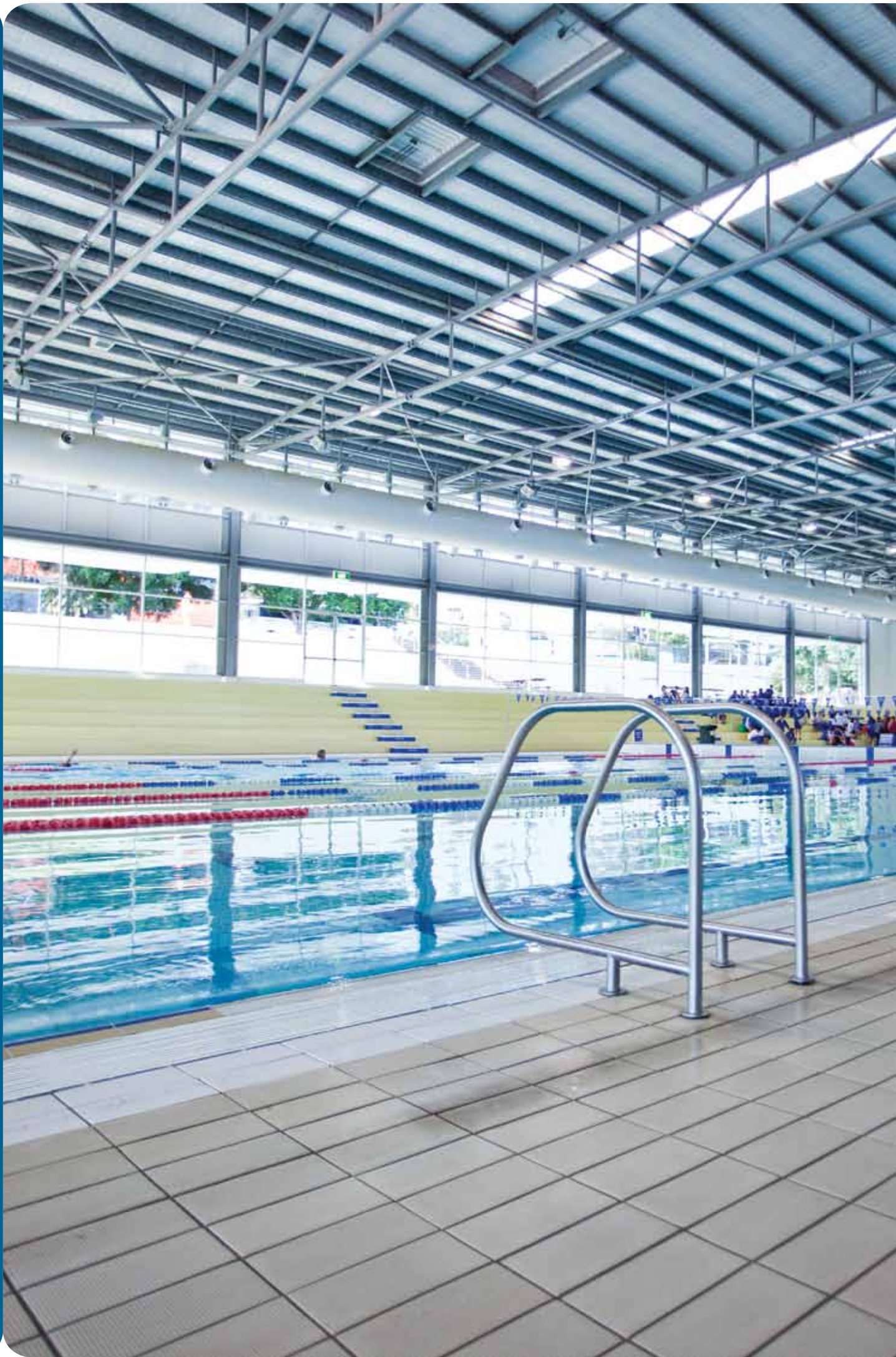


03

01 Keep Watch Home Pool Safety Checklist

02 Keep Watch NSW Community event

03 Keep Watch focuses on locations with specific hazards through the Keep Watch @ Public Pools, Keep Watch @ The Farm and Keep Watch @ Bath Time programs.



## AQUATIC RISK MANAGEMENT

Developing safety guidelines and risk management systems for all aquatic environments is essential for supporting water-safe communities.

**Royal Life Saving works to improve industry safety and risk management standards through key activities including:**

- Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation
- Guidelines for Water Safety
- Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments
- Lifeguarding training systems
- Management consultancy



### Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation

The Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation (GSPO) was first published by Royal Life Saving in 1991. The Guidelines bring all necessary requirements together into a single, easy to read and interpret document to assist facility operators. Additionally, the GSPO provides accepted industry practice recommendations to facility operators when no legislation, guideline, standard or practice note exists to cover a facet of aquatic facility operation.

In 2012, Royal Life Saving completed a review of the Programs Section of GSPO which provides guidance in the areas of: swim teacher training and licensing; teacher/student ratios for safety; aquatic program delivery, and equipment. The provision of safe aquatic programs is a key pillar in drowning prevention in Australia and these updates better reflect the standards expected of facility operators.

The new Program Section of GSPO is scheduled for release to industry in late 2012.

## Australian Lifeguard Network

The Australian Lifeguard Network (ALN) was launched in late 2011 as a knowledge sharing initiative designed to strengthen and develop lifeguarding and the aquatics sector.

The aim of the Australian Lifeguard Network is to benefit its members by:

- Supporting Lifeguarding as a genuine career opportunity;
- Raising the standard of Lifeguarding in Australia by supporting training and professional development;
- Providing opportunities for the aquatics industry, and Lifeguards in particular to come together and share ideas and experiences;
- Providing better access to industry leaders/experts;
- Improving the level of safety in our aquatic facilities by ensuring our people are highly trained and well-equipped to deal with the challenges they face every day; and
- Engaging in conversations with industry about what they want and need from their Network.

Current Lifeguard training programs provide the foundation of knowledge and skills needed to begin working as a Lifeguard. However, the growing diversity in aquatic facilities and the different demands on Lifeguards specific to their workplace heightens the need for regular training specific to the facility's needs.

The Australian Lifeguard Network supports Lifeguard training by providing a range of resources to be used by employers and managers to deliver in-service training. These include training program overviews, session plans, assessments and activity guides.

[australianlifeguardnetwork.com.au](http://australianlifeguardnetwork.com.au)  
[Facebook.com/AusLifeguards](https://www.facebook.com/AusLifeguards)  
[Twitter.com/AusLifeguards](https://twitter.com/AusLifeguards)



## 2012 State of the Industry Report

Each year Royal Life Saving Society – Australia produces the State of the Industry report to provide an important measure of safety standards in aquatic facilities across Australia.

Based on the results of Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments (AFSAs), the State of the Industry report provides the opportunity to benchmark the performance of the industry standard – RLSSA's Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation (GSPO).

The AFSA has twelve sections. Each section consists of a number of criteria directly relating to the application of the GSPO in an individual aquatic facility. Depending on the varied infrastructure at each aquatic facility, different sections and assessment criteria are activated or deactivated as they apply.

The sections of the AFSA are:

1. Administration
2. First Aid
3. Technical Operations
4. Facility Design
5. Spa Pools
6. Dive Pools
7. Water Slides
8. Wave Pools
9. Rivers
10. Water Features
11. Supervision
12. Programs



### STATE OF THE INDUSTRY 2012

A Royal Life Saving report on the state of the Aquatics Industry in Australia in 2012

www.royallifesaving.com.au



### Key findings

- Safety standards across Australia have continued to improve with mean compliance of 84.3% in 2012
- Since 2008 Royal Life Saving has assessed 408 aquatic facilities across Australia. More than half (57%) of those facilities have undertaken an assessment only once
- The administration of aquatic facilities has reported a 9.1% increase in mean compliance over the last five years
- Compliance in requirements for pool water quality and pool plant operations (Technical Operations) has remained relatively consistent over the past five years with mean compliance of 79.9% in 2012 highlighting the need for additional focus from aquatic facilities for improvement
- Mean compliance for remote facilities was 14.7% below the five year average (83.2%) for all facilities at 68.5%

### Recommendations

- Regular training for lifeguards covering emergency procedures; initiatives; resuscitation; oxygen equipment; first aid and rescue skills are likely to have the most significant contribution to increasing compliance of aquatic facilities in the AFSA
- All aquatic facilities should prepare a risk assessment for the storage and handling of chemicals and review every 12 months.
- All facilities should undertake an AFSA annually to ensure continual improvement of management standards and practices as part of a strategy to reduce risk and prevent drowning in Australian aquatic facilities

Figure 1: Number of Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments conducted, by State



The full report can be downloaded from [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

## Lifeguard Challenge Series

The Lifeguard Challenge Series is a collaboration between Pool Lifesaving Sport and the Australian Lifeguard Network. The series is designed to build a base of athletes who will be offered the opportunity to join a RLSSA Club and encouraged to take part in Pool Lifesaving events such as the Australian Pool Life Saving Short Course Championships and the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships.

The inaugural ACT Lifeguard Challenge was held at the Dickson Aquatic Centre in February 2012. Twenty-eight lifeguards participated in the Lifeguard Challenge with members of the ACT State Pool Lifesaving team demonstrating the Pool Lifesaving events.

Given the success of the inaugural ACT Lifeguard Challenge event in motivating lifeguards to undertake ongoing training, Royal Life Saving has identified the Lifeguard Challenge series as an important initiative. Planning is currently underway to host Lifeguard Challenges across Australia, incorporating regional and State events and working towards a future National Lifeguard Challenge.



Figure 2: Mean compliance (%), by Section

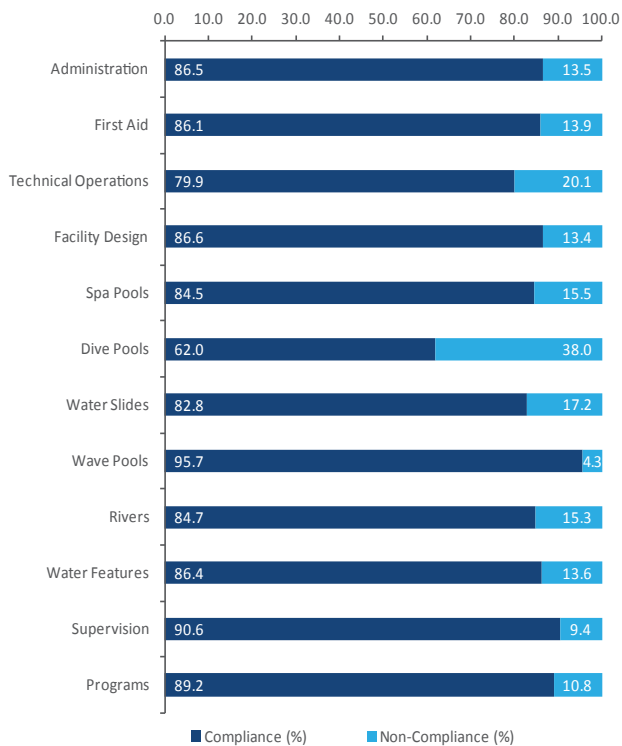
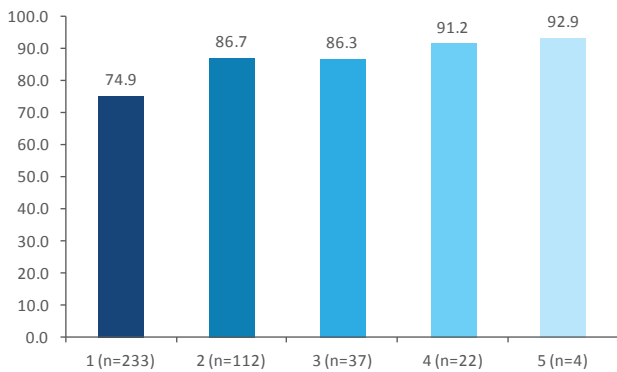
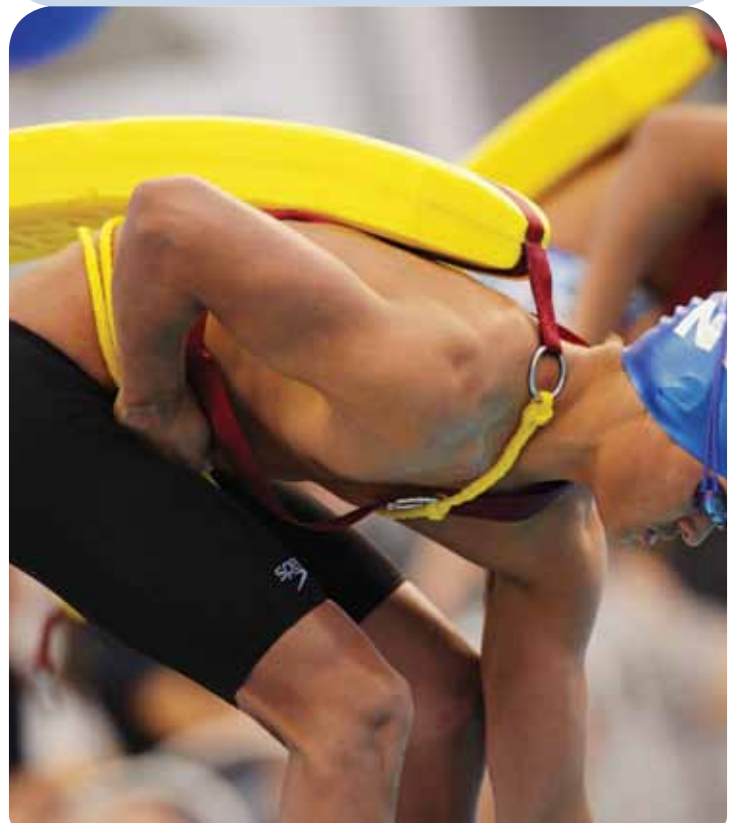


Figure 7: Mean Compliance (%) by Frequency of Assessment



# 84.3%

MEAN COMPLIANCE TO SAFETY STANDARDS ACROSS THE AUSTRALIAN AQUATICS INDUSTRY IN 2012





## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Royal Life Saving actively implements a community development model that focuses on:

- Community engagement and communication
- Community participation and programming
- Training, employment and leadership development
- Sound project management and evaluation methodologies

Community projects aim to build local opportunities for local people and target a range of health, social and economic issues. These issues have included:

- Populations at risk of drowning
- Use of aquatic facilities
- High levels of chronic disease
- Youth diversion
- Employment and training pathways

We are active in a range of communities including: Indigenous communities, rural and remote communities, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities, refugee communities, second and third generation arrivals.



### Above

Triathlete Paula Cruden raised money for the Swim and Survive Fund. "We have such a big water culture in Australia and it's so important that all kids learn how to swim. But there are many children who just aren't getting the same opportunities that I got," she said.

## Swim and Survive Fund

Many children miss out on learning swimming and water safety skills, placing them at a much higher risk of drowning. The Royal Life Saving Swim and Survive Fund provides free or subsidised swimming and water safety courses to disadvantaged children or those that do not have easy access due to living in rural and remote locations. Each 10 lesson course is conducted as either an intensive two-week program or a weekly program for 10 weeks (i.e. school term).

Royal Life Saving has worked tirelessly on fundraising initiatives for the Swim and Survive Fund including SWIM KIDS Operation 10,000.

A total of \$19,587 has been raised to date. Individuals, community organisations and businesses are encouraged to donate online or set up their own peer-to-peer fundraising activity to support the Swim and Survive Fund by visiting: <http://royallifesavingonlinefundraising.org.au/event/swimandsurvivefund>

A community partnership has been established with Barnardos Australia who utilise their networks to access communities in need of assistance. Barnardos Australia is one of the largest children's charities in Australia, caring for children at risk of or suffering the effects of abuse and neglect. Barnardos believes in working in partnership to support programs geared towards greater inclusion and reducing inequity to create a more inclusive environment for all Australian children.

A total of 8,856 children will have benefited from the Swim and Survive Fund by 2013 including:

- 5,280 children have completed a course of swimming and water safety lessons
- 1,476 donated courses have been allocated for late 2012/2013
- 2,100 subsidised courses have been allocated for late 2012/2013

Many of these children are from Indigenous, multicultural and refugee communities in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria and the Northern Territory.

We would like to thank all the aquatic facilities that have kindly donated in-kind or subsidised courses to the Swim and Survive Fund. We would encourage more facilities to join us in supporting this fantastic initiative.



## SWIM KIDS Operation 10,000

SWIM KIDS Operation 10,000 was launched at Customs House in Sydney in February 2012 as a fundraising initiative in support of the Swim and Survive Fund. A swimming pool was erected and Royal Life Saving conducted a range of water safety and emergency care demonstrations for the general public and was on hand to provide information and collect donations and UNCLE TOBYS Ambassadors provided water safety advice and participated in the activities. The event received a high level of national media interest including Channel Nine's 'Today Show', Channel Ten's 'The Project' and Channel Seven's 'The Morning Show', as well as radio interviews, print and online media articles.

The Federal Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth, Peter Garrett AM MP supported the event by addressing the media and participating in lifesaving demonstrations.



UNCLE TOBYS continues to increase awareness through their SWIM KIDS online community, raising important issues and encouraging discussion on the importance of swimming and water safety education.

## Case Study: Swim and Survive Fund Participant – Matilda, NSW

One day during a hospital visit, Mary recognised a former work colleague – and came face-to-face with the importance of swimming and water safety education. Her colleague's son had been found face down in a neighbour's swimming pool. Attempts to resuscitate him were unsuccessful and the boy drowned at just three years of age.

"Everyone was inconsolable," Mary said. "It was horrific to witness. You hear about it and read about it, but to be that close and see all that grief had a huge impact on me." At the time Mary did not feel confident that her own daughter Matilda had the skills to swim to the side of a swimming pool if she accidentally fell in. "I just knew that from that night on learning to swim needed to be a major priority," she said.

Matilda has Down Syndrome and was given the opportunity to learn swimming and water safety skills through the Swim and Survive Fund. "It seemed perfect and we were very happy to accept," Mary said. Matilda started with weekly lessons at a Royal Life Saving partner facility in July 2011. She was a little unsure about getting in the water at first, but flourished as she adapted to her new routine and became more familiar with her environment.

The achievements soon started coming. "Floating was a huge achievement because we had been trying to teach her to float for years but she didn't have the confidence to let go. It was such a big milestone when she learnt to float."

Matilda then progressed from basic over arm freestyle to freestyle with bilateral breathing – again, another milestone. "Matilda always struggled with her breathing but it has really improved," Mary said.



But the Swim and Survive Fund has given Matilda much more than the ability to swim. "One of the best things about Matilda and her swimming lessons is that she can do everything that all the other kids can do, which is really important for her self-esteem and confidence," Mary said.

Matilda's muscle strength has also developed, better enabling her to participate in new activities and play with her friends. "One of the things that we will work on this summer is to translate her swimming skills from the pool to the beach. With Down Syndrome, there is low muscle tone so she gets tumbled quite a lot in the waves".

And there have been other benefits. "She normally has preventative treatment for her asthma during winter, but her asthma is improving and she actually hasn't needed any this year," Mary said.

Mary recently enrolled Matilda in her first camp where she will participate in aquatic activities unaided. "I am normally very nervous about anyone else looking after her in the water. But on the enrolment form I was able to write that Matilda could swim without floaties. I am so proud of her!"

Thanks to the Swim and Survive Fund, Matilda now has swimming and water safety skills. They are skills she will have forever and skills that may one day save her life.



## RESEARCH

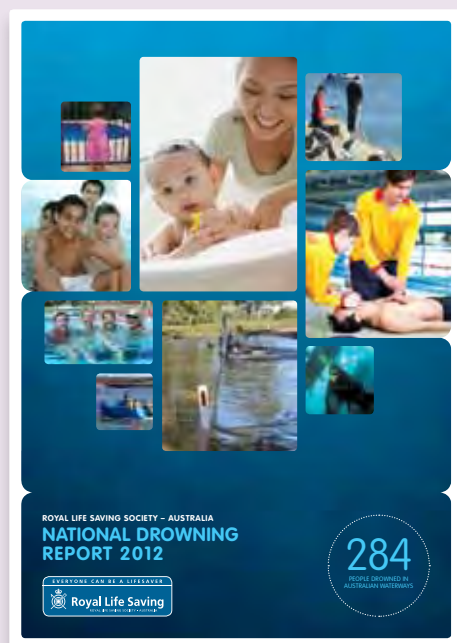
Royal Life Saving programs, products and services are underpinned by research and a commitment to continual improvement. They are constantly evaluated, improved and benchmarked against world's best practice.

### Our research capacity includes:

- Drowning and injury related research
- Program effectiveness and evaluation
- Management of internal research activities and maintaining a research database
- Partnering in research projects both domestically and internationally

Reports were completed and several articles were published in peer reviewed journals over the course of 2011–12. These include:

- National Drowning Report 2012
- The Forgotten 50: Analysis of Drowning in Children Aged 5–19 Years in Australia
- No Child to Miss Out: Basic Swimming & Water Safety Education – The right of all Australian children
- Northern Territory Nine Year Drowning Report – A Call for Change



The production of this report is made possible by the National Coroners Information System (NCIS) and State and Territory Coronial Services.

The full report can be downloaded from [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

## Research Published

### National Drowning Report 2012

The Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report 2012 reveals 284 people drowned in Australian waterways between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012 – a reduction of one per cent (three drowning deaths) on the five year average. This year's report found that people aged 55 and over are now the biggest single age bracket for drowning deaths. Ninety-seven people aged 55 plus drowned between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012 representing 34 per cent of all drowning deaths. Inland waterways are the location with the largest number of drowning deaths, 104 or 37 per cent of all drowning deaths.

Males continue to drown at a phenomenal rate. Two hundred and thirty-two males drowned in the 2011–12 financial year, representing 82 per cent of the total number of drowning deaths. Men are now drowning at 4.5 times the rate of women. Ninety-eight men aged 18–44 years drowned last year and Royal Life Saving believes it is highly likely that many of the people in this age group missed out on an adequate water safety education during their younger years.

### Snapshot of Findings

#### Overall

- 284 people drowned in Australia between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012.
- This is a reduction of 3 drowning deaths (1%) on the five year average of 287 drowning deaths
- This is a reduction of 26 drowning deaths (8%) on the 310 drowning deaths in 2010–11

#### Sex and Age

- 232 (82%) drowning deaths were males
- 52 (18%) drowning deaths were females
- 21 (7%) drowning deaths occurred in children aged 0–4 years
- 13 (5%) drowning deaths occurred in children aged 5–14 years
- 45 (16%) drowning deaths occurred in young people aged 15–24 years
- 97 (34%) drowning deaths occurred in people aged 55 years and over

#### State and Territory

- 105 (37%) drowning deaths occurred in New South Wales
- 75 (26%) drowning deaths occurred in Queensland
- 37 (13%) drowning deaths occurred in Victoria

#### Location and Activity

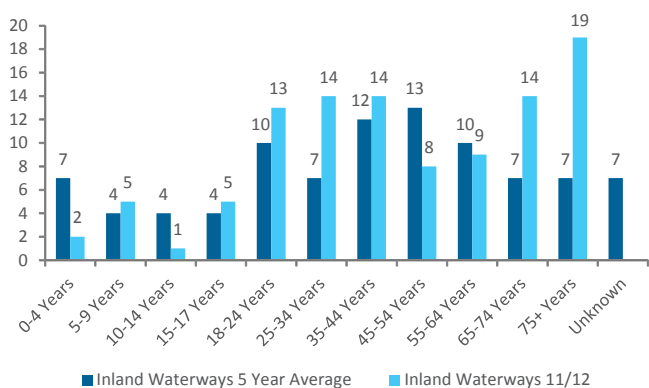
- 75 (26%) drowning deaths occurred in River / Creek / Stream locations
- 55 (19%) drowning deaths occurred at Beach locations
- 43 (15%) drowning deaths occurred in Ocean / Harbour locations
- 55 people (19%) were Swimming and Recreating immediately prior to drowning
- 53 people (19%) were using Watercraft immediately prior to drowning

### Location in Focus: Inland Waterways

There were 104 drowning deaths in inland waterways (rivers, creeks, streams, lakes, dams and lagoons) in 2011–12. Of these, 75 drowning deaths occurred in River / Creek / Stream locations and 29 in Lake / Dam / Lagoon locations.

People aged 75+ were the age group with the largest number of drowning deaths in inland waterways (19) which is an increase of 171 per cent on the five year average. Falls into water (19%), Swimming and Recreating (17%) and using Watercraft (16%) were the most common activities being undertaken immediately prior to drowning in inland waterways.

**Figure 01:** Inland Waterway Drowning Deaths by Age Group, 5 Year Average, 2011–12

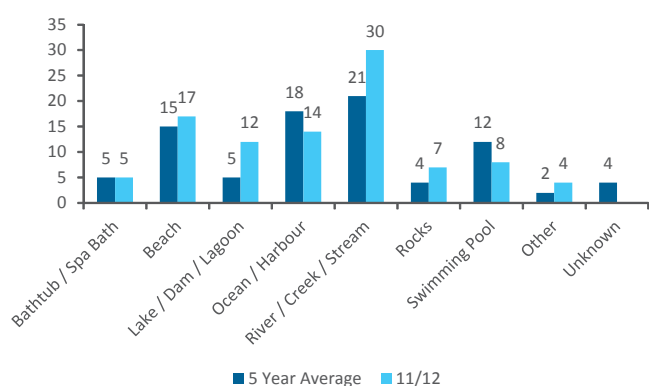


### Drowning Deaths of Older Australians

There were 97 drowning deaths of people aged 55 years and over in Australian waterways between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012. This is an increase of 11 (13%) on the give year average of 86 drowning deaths. Males account for 74 per cent of all drowning deaths in this age group.

River / Creek / Stream locations had the highest number of drowning deaths (30), followed by Beach locations (17). Ocean / Harbour and Swimming Pool drowning deaths in 2011–12 were down on the five year average. There are a diverse range of activities being undertaken immediately prior to drowning in this age group. Falls into water (22%) and Watercraft (13%) are the two most common activities being conducted.

**Figure 02:** Drowning Deaths of People Aged 55+ Years by Location, 5 Year Average, 2011–12



### The Forgotten 50: Analysis of Drowning in Children Aged 5–19 Years in Australia

Children under-five account for over 50 per cent of all child drowning deaths and has been described as a national disgrace. However, the question remains of how preventable drowning is among the other 50 per cent, children aged 5–19 years. While politicians, community members, educators and parents have all expressed concern, promoted the importance of swimming and water safety education, and called for more common sense in its provision to all Australian children, regrettably, much less is known and understood when it comes to preventing drowning in these later age groups.

‘The Forgotten 50: Analysis of Drowning in Children Aged 5–19 Years in Australia’ study provided a comprehensive analysis of fatal drowning in children aged 0–19 years in Australia over the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2011 (nine financial years). The study provided a detailed analysis for the age groups 5–9, 10–14 and 15–19 which covers school aged children and through adolescence.

### No Child to Miss Out: Basic Swimming & Water Safety Education – The right of all Australian children

Royal Life Saving believes that in order to prevent drowning every Australian child has the right to a basic swimming and water safety education. That education should include skills such as general swimming techniques and treading water, survival techniques and strategies, floating and rescue skills. Currently in Australia not all children access this swimming and water safety education. Royal Life Saving believes that a large percentage of children will leave primary school this year without the swimming and water safety skills and knowledge they will need to be safe around water for the rest of their lives.

To better understand how children are participating in or missing out on swimming and water safety skills; which water safety skills are currently being achieved and how best to ensure swimming and water safety education is accessible by all primary aged children, Royal Life Saving undertook comprehensive research to benchmark swimming and water safety education in Australia.

### Northern Territory Nine Year Drowning Report – A Call for Change

Drowning is a significant and long-term health, recreation and community issue in the Northern Territory. There are more drowning deaths per capita in the Northern Territory than in any other State or Territory in Australia.

Despite reductions in the number of drowning deaths in some age groups during the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2011, the Territory still lags behind the rest of Australia in reducing the incidence of drowning.

### Snorkelling-related deaths in Australia 1994–2006

A recent study that analysed snorkelling-related deaths between 1994 and 2006 has made recommendations regarding common causes of snorkelling related deaths in Australia. The study, conducted by the Divers Alert Network’s John Lippmann and Royal Life Saving’s National Medical Advisor Professor John Pearn, showed that the most common cause of death for snorkelers was from cardiac or suspected cardiac causes and those who died were typically sober, middle aged or older males who were undergoing the activity as part of a supervised group.

Other causes of death in snorkelers included surface drowning (occurring in relatively inexperienced snorkelers who aspirated water from their snorkel due to a lack of skill) and hyperventilation in experienced divers before extended breath-holding with subsequent blackout before or shortly after surfacing.

The study recommended that snorkelling operators pay careful attention to participant’s health and fitness, level of anxiety, swimming ability and fitness. Better supervision and training of supervisors in rescue and resuscitation techniques will also go a long way in providing a safer environment for those who snorkel.

This study was published in Volume 4, Issue 197 of the Medical Journal of Australia.

### Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia researchers have contributed content to the Australian Water Safety Council’s Australian Water Safety Strategy 2012–15 which was launched in June 2012. This Strategy continues to aim for a 50 per cent reduction in drowning by the year 2020, with the ultimate aim of achieving a nation free from drowning. The 2012–15 strategy has expanded the life stage of children 0–4 years to include children 5–14 years and has elevated the issue of alcohol and illegal drug related drowning deaths to a goal in their own right.

### Peer Reviewed Articles

‘Where the Evidence and Expert Opinion Meet: A review of Open-Water Recreational Safety Messages’, Moran K, Quan L, Franklin R, Bennett E (2011). *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* 5: 251–270.

‘Drowning for Love. The Aquatic-Victim-Instead-of-Rescuer (AVIR) Syndrome: Drowning fatalities involving those attempting to rescue a child’, Franklin RC, Pearn JH (2011). *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health* 47 (1-2): 44–47

### Research Partnerships

Royal Life Saving has been involved in a number of research collaborations over the past year in areas such as Keep Watch, Keep Watch @ Public Pools and Grey Medallion.

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia has collaborated with Royal Life Saving Society – NSW on a nine year study of drowning deaths in NSW inland waterways and an evaluation of the Keep Watch @ Public Pools program.

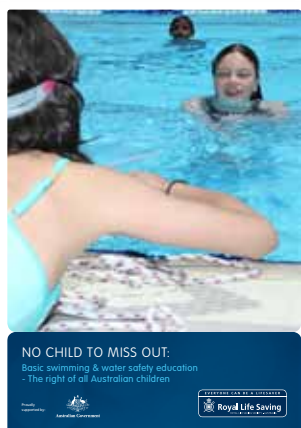
Royal Life Saving Society – Australia has also collaborated with Royal Life Saving Society – Northern Territory of a nine year study of drowning deaths within the Northern Territory, resulting in the release of a report entitled “Northern Territory Nine Year Drowning Report – A Call for Change”.

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia has also contributed funds to the Queensland Social Survey which surveyed 1200 people in Queensland on their opinions around pool safety.

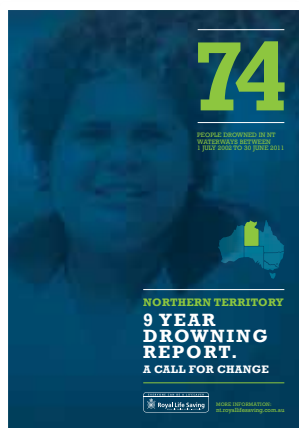
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02



03



- 01 The Forgotten 50% Report
- 02 No Child to Miss Out Report
- 03 Northern Territory Nine Year Drowning Report

The full reports can be downloaded from [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)



## MEDIA AND MARKETING

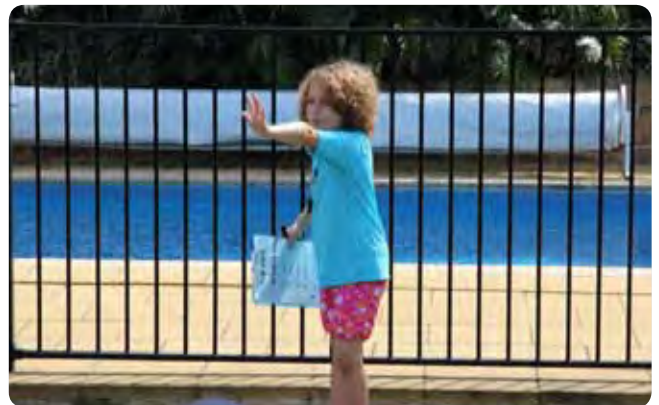
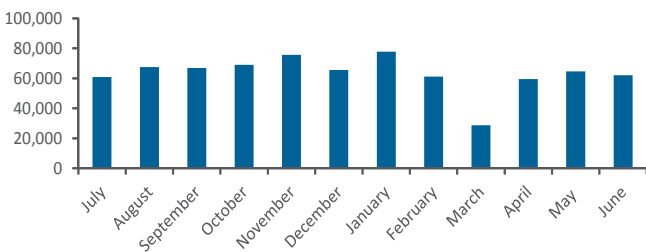
Royal Life Saving Media and Marketing campaigns support our advocacy activities to increase RLSSA visibility to stakeholders.

### Website

The Royal Life Saving website is a valuable resource with a wealth of water safety and training information, designed to keep the community safe when in, on and around the water.

Website visitation and downloads have continued to increase steadily each year, with website traffic at its peak during November through to January.

#### Website Monthly Visits



	2007 / 2008	2008 / 2009	2009 / 2010	2010 / 2011	2011 / 2012
<b>Visits</b>	<b>462,299</b>	<b>460,853</b>	<b>626,860</b>	<b>725,410</b>	<b>802,540</b>
<b>Page views</b>	<b>3,815,285</b>	<b>4,293,177</b>	<b>4,394,009</b>	<b>4,913,017</b>	<b>4,217,592</b>
<b>Average page views per visit</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>6.96</b>	<b>6.76</b>	<b>5.28</b>
<b>Average time spent per visit</b>	<b>8:24</b>	<b>8:23</b>	<b>8:13</b>	<b>6:20</b>	<b>5:53</b>
<b>Downloads</b>	<b>329,750</b>	<b>436,341</b>	<b>501,344</b>	<b>571,228</b>	<b>684,255</b>

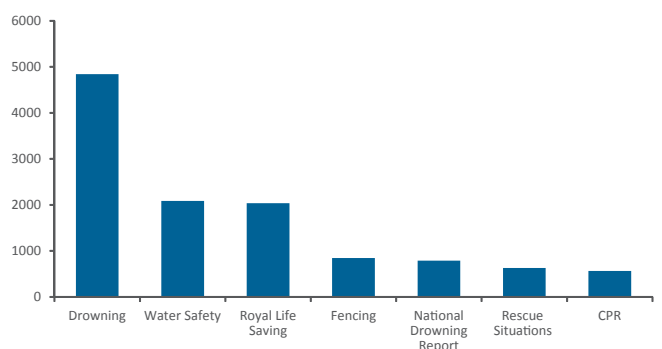
### Print and Broadcast Media

Royal Life Saving monitors media impact via numerous media outlets including Media Monitors.

Both Broadcast and Print Media items have been recorded over the last financial year identifying key media issues related to water safety and drowning with the following results:

**Total Media Items = 9,025**  
 Broadcast 4,836 (53.5%) / Print 4,189 (46.5%)

#### Key Media Issues



## Keep Watch Media Campaign

PoolWerx has been working in partnership with Royal Life Saving for the last five years, promoting to parents and carers the importance of Supervision, Home Pool Safety, Restricting Access, Water Awareness and the Keep Watch Program to reduce the number of toddler drowning deaths.

This year's media activities included: the launch of the Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report 2011; the Keep Watch Home Pool Safety Media Launch and Prize Pack Giveaway; the release of the Keep Watch Home Pool Safety Instructor Community Service Announcement.

Media included broadcast, print and online sources, with media figures/statistics reported from 1 July 2011 to 12 March 2012 as part of the following media snapshot.

### Campaign Media Snapshot

**Overall media value achieved was \$10,568,088** (in equivalent advertising dollar value) a figure derived from 1,327 media articles. The greatest dollar value was derived from Broadcast Media (TV/Radio):

Broadcast (TV & Radio) = \$ 7,539,692 (72%)

Print Media = \$ 1,945,228 (18%)

Community Service Announcements = \$1,083,167 (10%)

The **Media Reach achieved 25,681,574** contacts via Print and Broadcast media, with Print Media the largest contributor (63%).

Capital City Daily accounted for the largest proportion of Print Media at 36%.

TV generated 97% of Broadcast Media Value with the national television coverage attributing a large % of this value.

Keep Watch Home Pool Safety Media Launch with Ambassador Samantha Riley on The Circle.



## Swim and Survive Media Campaign

UNCLE TOBYS has been working in partnership with Royal Life Saving for the last three years, promoting the importance of Water Safety, Swimming Lessons and the Swim and Survive Program to reduce the number of accidental drowning deaths in children.

This year's media activities included: the launch of the Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report; the Swim and Survive Media Launch ('Half a million young Australians at risk of drowning'); and Swim and Survive Active Family Fun Days.

Media included broadcast, print and online sources, with media figures/statistics reported from 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 as part of the following media snapshot.

### Campaign Media Snapshot

**The overall media value achieved was \$7,647,567** (in equivalent advertising dollar value) a figure derived from 492 media pieces/articles (319 Broadcast/173 Print). The greatest dollar value was derived from Broadcast Media (TV & Radio):

Broadcast Media (TV & Radio) = \$6,831,796 (89%)

Print Media = \$815,771 (11%)

The most media value was generated by **National Television Media: \$6,006,000 (78%)**

Broadcast media provided greater media reach contributing to 54.5% (8,442,000) of circulation contacts. In terms of print media the circulation reach was 7,046,463 – representing 45.5%.

Swim and Survive Media Launch - 'Half a million young Australians at risk of drowning'.





## SPORT, LEADERSHIP & PARTICIPATION

Royal Life Saving has an established sport participation pathway for lifesavers to compete in regular events from community to elite level.

### Lifesavers can compete at:

- Club and School Competition
- Regional Competition
- Junior Provincial/State Competition
- Senior Provincial/State Competition
- National Competition
- International Competition

The sport of pool lifesaving tests a lifesaver's skills in rescue, accident prevention and emergency care. By using variations of simulated emergencies, lifesavers compete using the same skills they require for real-life situations.

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## Pool Lifesaving Events

### Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships 2011 – Durban, South Africa (September 2011)

RLSSA's top Pool Lifesavers, the Aussie Barras and the RLSSA Development Team, travelled to Durban, South Africa in September 2011 to compete at the Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships. Against tough competition from South Africa and England, Australia managed to clinch the double championship title for the first time in the National Team and Development Team competitions.

Five Commonwealth Lifesaving Championship and six RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving records were broken with outstanding record-breaking performances from Alisha Ellwood, Pamela Hendry, Tim Schofield and the Aussie Barras relay teams.

Thanks to the seven RLSSA Officials who proudly represented Australia and congratulations to Roz Grey and Anni Gardiner who were appointed as Chief Referee and SERC Coordinator respectively at the Championships.

### 13th Australian Masters Games 2011 – Adelaide, South Australia (October 2011)

The 13th Australian Masters Games was held at the new South Australia Aquatic and Leisure Centre in October. Thirty-one athletes and a number of RLSSA Officials from South Australia and across Australia participated in the Pool Lifesaving competition.

### Australian Pool Life Saving Championships 2012 – Adelaide, South Australia (January 2012)

The Australian Pool Life Saving Championships 2012 were held at the South Australia Aquatic and Leisure Centre in January 2012. NSW took out the Interstate Overall Championship for the ninth time in the past ten years.

There were 164 competitors from Interstate teams and clubs and the individual competitors who broke 18 individual and relay records and showed excellent sportsmanship and enthusiasm in an outstanding three-day Pool Lifesaving competition.

### RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving Skins Meet 2012 – Runaway Bay, Queensland (April 2012)

The RLSSA National Pool Lifesaving Skins Meet was held in April 2012 at Runaway Bay, QLD. Thirty athletes from across Australia battled inclement weather to participate in the event with \$100 up for grabs for first place in every individual open event.

**Congratulations to all teams, officials and individuals who participated in the above Pool Lifesaving events.**

01 Aussie Barras

02 RLSSA Development Team



## Leadership and Participation

### Officials Course and Sport Participation Workshop – Starplex, Gawler, South Australia (September 2011)

Starplex, Gawler hosted a Level 1 Pool Lifesaving Officials Course and Sport Participation Workshop in September 2011. The course and workshop were designed to further develop Pool Lifesaving at their Centre which had received Pool Lifesaving equipment as part of the FAHCSIA Volunteer Grants Program.

Thank you to Anni Gardiner and Glenda Bowen Pain for assisting with the Officials Course and thank you to the SA State Team members and Team Coach who assisted with the Sport Participation Workshop.



### Officials Training Workshop – China Life Saving Association – Ningbo, China (September 2011)

Former RLSSA National President and current Education and Training Advisor, Shayne Baker travelled to Ningbo, China in September 2011 to conduct an Officials' Training Workshop. The workshop followed a request by China Life Saving for officials to be trained by RLSSA. Fifty-four officials attended the workshop which focused on the structure of lifesaving competition and lifesaving events conducted at the World Lifesaving Championships.

The Officials' Training Workshop provided China Life Saving officials with the necessary skills to officiate at a lifesaving event. The trainees took part in a practical assessment at the 2011 Asian Pool Life Saving Championships where competing teams included Singapore, Hong Kong, Iran and Macau.



03

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### Officials Workshop – Philippine Life Saving Society – Bacolod City, Philippines (April 2012)

In April 2012, Royal Life Saving representatives Shayne and Di Baker, Roz and Geoff Grey, Sing Ma, Blake McCrindle and Chris Veal, travelled to Bacolod City, Philippines to attend the Great Titan Lifesaving Sports Festival.

RLSSA representatives took part in a two-day official's workshop, which was facilitated by Roz Grey, and also assisted with sport workshops and Swim & Survive water safety activities for more than 400 children. Blake McCrindle and Chris Veal then took part in the festival as equipment handlers, instructors and invitational competitors alongside competitors from Korea and three regions of the Philippines – Luzon, Visayas & Mindanao.

A Symposium on Drowning Prevention was facilitated by the Philippine Lifesaving Society (PLS) for resort owners and provincial/local government representatives including a presentation by RLSSA's Shayne Baker on Collaboration on Drowning Prevention. At the request of PLS, Shayne Baker, Roz Grey and Blake McCrindle also facilitated a Water Safety Workshop for faculty members from the Technological University of the Philippines, Visayas.

04

- 01 Officials Workshop – Philippine Lifesaving Society
- 02 13th Australian Master Games 2011 – Adelaide – Pool Lifesaving Athletes and Officials
- 03 Australian Pool Life Saving Championships 2012
- 04 Great Titan Lifesaving Sports Festival – Philippines



## INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

Royal Life Saving is a member organisation of the International Life Saving Federation, a network of lifesaving agencies from across the world who share a commitment to drowning prevention.

Increasingly our skills and expertise are being utilised to assist the international communities in most need. Drowning rates in the Asia-Pacific region are frighteningly high and largely unnoticed.

Royal Life Saving continues to work with the International Life Saving Federation and partners, The Alliance for Safe Children (TASC), the Centre for Injury Prevention and Research of Bangladesh (CIPRB), Hanoi School of Public Health and others in the development of interventions to prevent drowning in countries in Asia.



The full report can be downloaded from [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)

## International Drowning Prevention

In the twelve months since hosting the World Conference on Drowning Prevention (WCDP) 2011, Royal Life Saving has continued to provide leadership across the region to reduce the burden of drowning. In the months following, and as a direct result of WCDP, the Australian Government commenced planning to increase its support for the child drowning issue in countries such as Bangladesh, Vietnam and Cambodia. While this review is underway, Royal Life Saving has continued to build upon its partnership, research and advocacy aimed at establishing a regional drowning prevention strategy. Some examples follow:

### Child Mortality – A Report into Child Drowning in Asia

In June, a report titled: *Child Drowning – Evidence for a newly recognized cause of child mortality in low and middle income countries in Asia*, was released by Royal Life Saving partners The Alliance for Safe Children (TASC) and UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre. The report reinforces the notion that child drowning is a hidden epidemic across many countries in Asia. It provides evidence that drowning is a bigger problem than official records show, that there are now proven interventions in the low and middle income country (LMIC) context that dramatically reduce child drowning, and outlines the challenges of raising national, regional and global action.

Key points include:

- Drowning is a leading killer of children after infancy in many countries in Asia
- Drowning deaths are heavily concentrated in early childhood; for children aged 1–4 years, drowning is responsible for 25% of deaths from all causes
- Research shows that two key intervention are highly effective at reducing drowning
- New research into prevention interventions in an operational research programme called PRECISE (in Bangladesh) shows startling results
- As a result of having adequate supervision and protection from drowning hazards, drowning death rates in children aged 1–5 attending village crèches were 82% lower than among children who did not attend
- Drowning death rates in children four years and older who participated in SwimSafe (water safety, survival swimming and safe rescue training) were more than 90% lower than among children who did not attend

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia has been a partner in this ground breaking research since its inception in 2005. "We are pleased that evidence supports SwimSafe and the crèche program in reducing child drowning in rural communities in Asia. Our challenge now is to rapidly increase the scale of programs in countries such as Bangladesh, Vietnam, Philippines, Cambodia and Thailand," said Royal Life Saving's Justin Scarr, one of the report's co-authors. Royal Life Saving is extremely proud to have contributed to global drowning prevention research in this way. We wish to pay tribute to all of the volunteers and staff who have contributed in various ways though long term Australian Youth Ambassador Assignments, short term train-the-trainer mission and ongoing technical input and advocacy.

### Model Drowning Prevention Centre, Bangladesh

In March 2012 Royal Life Saving partners at the International Drowning Research Centre – Bangladesh launched a purpose-built Model Drowning Prevention Centre in the remote village of Raiganj. Bangladesh suffers greatly at the hands of child drowning. It is believed as many as 50 children will drown every day and usually within metres of their homes.

The centre is a working example of the latest in child drowning prevention, research and practice. Central to its operation are the results of a four-year pilot program that trialled drowning prevention interventions in Bangladesh, Vietnam, and Thailand. The results showed how a simple crèche where children aged 1–4 could be supervised during busy times, and teaching basic swimming and water safety techniques to children aged five and above dramatically reduce the number of drowning deaths. The same results are highlighted in the report mentioned above.

The centre is set up as a functioning crèche, and includes training rooms where teachers, parents and others can be taught CPR, first aid, and drowning prevention theory. Outside is a pond and portable swimming pool where children are taught to swim via the SwimSafe program.

Justin Scarr, Royal Life Saving's Chief Operating Officer, facilitated much of the drowning prevention strategies for the region including the establishment of the Model Drowning Prevention Centre. "It is estimated that 50,000 village crèches will be needed to effectively reach most of the children at risk in Bangladesh. A vast amount of funds will be required to accomplish this and the Model Drowning Prevention Centre provides a window into what can be accomplished at village level," he said.

### The Global Drowning Fund

In March 2012, Royal Life Saving launched the Global Drowning Fund website and associated Facebook and Twitter social media platforms.

The website and social media platforms are being used to advocate drowning in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) as a global public health issue, provide resources, news and information about the issue, and act as a central fundraising location. Funds raised through the Global Drowning Fund will help provide training, education, and research, while increasing local skills and capacity for the prevention of drowning in the region.

The Global Drowning Fund can be found at:  
<http://www.globaldrowningfund.org.au>  
<http://www.facebook.com/globaldrowningfund>  
<https://twitter.com/GlobalDrowning>



### SwimSafe Vietnam

The SwimSafe program in Danang, Vietnam has run again this year with Australian Government support. SwimSafe Vietnam is a demonstration program that helps the Government of Vietnam, as well as local partners including the Department of Education, run a large scale survival swimming program. Since its inception in 2009, SwimSafe has taught over 25,000 children between the ages of six and 12 years.

The program is managed by The Alliance for Safe Children and led by a management committee consisting of master trainers, principals and district offices in and around Danang. An external review is scheduled for September 2012, and we are hopeful that the program will receive further funding for an expansion into other provinces.



01 Model drowning prevention centre Bangladesh



02 Global Drowning Fund



03 SwimSafe Vietnam training

## OUR STATE AND TERRITORY MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

### Our Network

Royal Life Saving is active all over Australia. Our State and Territory Member Organisations, volunteers, members, trainers, employees and lifesavers are found in almost all communities.

Our approach is inclusive and some of our biggest achievements occur away from large capital cities. During the past year Royal Life Saving has supported activities in partnership with State and Territory Member Organisations across Australia.

These activities include the provision of seed funding, resources, project management support and mentoring. Workshops have also been facilitated in the areas of water safety, training, health promotion, aquatic risk management, sport and lifeguarding.

### Our People

Not only do we know lifesaving but our team has expertise in:

- Program design, development, implementation, management and evaluation
- Community and stakeholder consultation and engagement
- Fundraising and finance
- Communications, media and events
- Health promotion, research and risk management

### State and Territory Member Organisations

<b>ACT</b>	Ph: 02 6260 5800 Email: act@rlssa.org.au
<b>NSW</b>	Ph: 02 9634 3700 Email: nsw@royalnsw.com.au
<b>NT</b>	Ph: 08 8981 5036 Email: nt@rlssa.org.au
<b>QLD</b>	Ph: 07 3823 2823 Email: admin@rlssq.com.au
<b>SA</b>	Ph: 08 8234 9244 Email: training@royallifesavingsa.com.au
<b>TAS</b>	Ph: 03 6243 7558 Email: tas@rlssa.org.au
<b>VIC</b>	Ph: 03 9676 6900 Email: mail@lifesavingvictoria.com.au
<b>WA</b>	Ph: 08 9383 8200 Email: info@rlsswa.com.au

### National Office

PO Box 558, Broadway NSW 2007  
Suite 6, Level 4, 173-179 Broadway  
(Cnr Mountain St), Broadway NSW 2007  
Telephone (02) 8217 3111  
Fax (02) 8217 3199  
ABN 71 008 594 616  
Email info@rlssa.org.au  
Website: www.royallifesaving.com.au

### Chief Executive Officer

Rob Bradley

### Operations

Chief Operating Officer  
Justin Scarr

National Manager Aquatic Industry Services  
Matt Griffiths

National Manager Education and Training  
Penny Larsen

National Manager Vocational Training  
Penny Hodggers

National Manager Events and Marketing  
Monique Sharp

National Sport and Events Officer  
Emma MacMillan

Senior Project Officer – Programs and Policy  
Amy Peden

Senior Research Fellow  
Dr Richard Franklin PhD (P/T)

Senior Project Officer – Education  
Kristal Grainger

Communications Manager  
Matthew Smeal (P/T)

National Manager Research  
Dr Kim Alexander (Nov 2011 to June 2012)

Marketing and Events Officer  
Helen Khoudair (to Sept 2011)

### Finance and Administration

National Manager Finance  
Rhonda Groneman

Administration and Accounts Officer  
Sunny Fung

Fundraising Officer  
Jennifer Orford

Fundraising and Administration Officer  
Sam Rodgers

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Royal Life Saving Society – ACT is extremely proud of the significant contribution it has made to the ACT community during 2011–12. The efforts of the Royal Life Saving staff, volunteers, instructors and examiners during this time have made the following fantastic results possible.

### Training

Training continues to be a major strength of our organisation with more than 2,500 participants completing our accredited training courses over the past 12 months. We have had a strong focus on increasing the number of qualified Pool Lifeguards this year to help elevate the declining trend of available lifeguards in the local industry. Royal Life Saving Society – ACT has worked closely with pools and schools across the Territory to ensure that participation in lifeguarding courses increases and that newly trained Lifeguards receive the on-the-job support they need.

The Royal Life Saving Society – ACT Teacher Training program runs every year and offers free Instructor and Examiner training to ACT school teachers. This program aims to build capacity in our local high schools and colleges for teachers to offer students accredited VET training and outcomes in Basic Water Rescue and/or First Aid. Students can then use these outcomes towards future learning for employment. This year we introduced seven new Instructors from various schools and updated the skills of 12 more examiners.

These fantastic results would not be possible without the knowledge and expertise of our volunteer and paid training staff. Our core trainers come from a wide range of professional backgrounds including teachers, ambulance officers, firefighters and lifeguards. Our approach to utilise industry professionals as our core trainers has helped to build our reputation as one of the leading RTOs in the ACT.

### Education

The 2011–12 ACT Primary Schools Swim and Survive program was a huge success and involved 3,396 public school students from across 30 ACT public schools. These numbers are a 16 per cent increase on 2010–11.

A key highlight for the 2011 ACT Primary Schools Swim and Survive program were visits from Alicia Coutts and Grant Hackett, both Commonwealth games and Olympic Gold medallists. Grant attended the Active Leisure Centre in Term 3 and Alicia attended the CISAC pool during Term 4. Both were a hit with our local students. Alicia provided some valuable swimming instruction lessons and even participated in water safety lessons with one class.



### Community Development

The Ngadyung program started in 2007 and has continued to be a huge success for the Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. The Ngadyung Program is a family connection initiative that brings local Aboriginal families together to improve health based outcomes through participation in aquatic recreation and water safety education.

### Advocacy

Royal Life Saving ACT continues to work closely with the ACT Government to advocate the importance of swimming and water safety in the ACT. With the assistance of the Safe Waters ACT working committee, the ACT Government has recently conducted a full review of Home Pool Fencing Legislation. We look forward to these positive changes being implemented in the not too distant future so that we can work towards eliminating toddler drowning deaths in the ACT.

On behalf of Royal Life Saving Society – ACT, I would like thank everyone involved for another outstanding year and I look forward to continued success in the year to come.

### Sean Hodges

Executive Officer  
Royal Life Saving Society – ACT

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Royal Life Saving Society – NSW had a busy year with community/recreational lifesaving courses, vocational education and training, health promotion and public awareness campaigns, aquatic risk management, lifesaving sport, research and of course advocacy. We also had many significant and innovative programs and projects being developed and/or delivered throughout the 2011–12.

With a concerted effort from our National Office and input from most State and Territory Member Organisations, we released the latest edition of the Swim and Survive Aqua-Pak in July 2011. This was warmly received by the aquatic and recreation industry and provided newly developed resources and material for children 6–36 months (Wonder), 3–5 years (Courage), and 5–14 years (Active).

The Community Lifesaver in a Box initiative was launched in early 2012. The program is a combination of DVD and online training that provides a self-paced, flexible and cost-effective way to attain a qualification in accordance with industry and legislative requirements.

Royal Life Saving Society – NSW continued to actively promote drowning prevention messages and comments in the media, allowing us to engage large sectors of the community and tailor drowning prevention programs and messages to meet local conditions.

The compilation of the Royal Life Saving Society – NSW Drowning Report, as well as the ongoing expansion of our drowning database, has been extremely important to our work. Among the newly recognised challenges is the issue of river drowning which accounts for nearly one third of all drowning deaths, and people aged over 55 who now represent 41 per cent of all drowning deaths.

Water Safety Education continues to play a vital role in advocating the prevention of drowning and promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. Our education scope provides opportunities at each age group or life stage from water familiarisation for young children, developing foundation skills for primary school children, arming teenagers with essential survival and lifesaving skills and water safety for older adults.

The 2011 NSW State of Industry Report provided a number of recommendations intended to strengthen safety in aquatic facilities in NSW. The Report showed the compliance of Sydney facilities were well above the national mean yet conversely regional facilities reported results below the national mean – a consistent national trend.

The continuation of our development and expansion of vocational training and education agendas resulted in the review of units of competency contained within the Community Recreation Training Package. The lengthy review included all sectors from the Community Recreation, Sport, Outdoor Recreation and Fitness Industries coming together into one package called the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training Package (SIS 10).



The new training package also included the Certificate III in Aquatics, which has brought the aquatic and recreation industry a much needed career pathway through a full qualification specific to the skill sets of Lifeguarding, Learn-to-Swim Teacher, Technical Operations and Customer Service. Additionally, Royal Life Saving is currently developing a range of blended and flexible learning strategies that will provide a new means of acquiring vocational qualifications. Keep Watch continues to be Australia's most comprehensive drowning prevention and water safety program and targets specific locations such as bath time, the farm and public pools. I am pleased to report that Royal Life Saving Society – NSW has partnered with over 170 public swimming pools across NSW during the 2011–12 year to become 'Keep Watch @ Public Pools' facilities.

2011–12 included a strong commitment to community development in regional and remote locations. The focus was to engage local communities with training, participation and leadership development opportunities. A range of programs were successfully implemented including the School to Pool initiative in the Shoalhaven, Swimathon at Lake Cargelligo, Water Safety day at Narromine, Grey Medallion at Coonabarabran, Water Smart program in Newcastle, Learn to Swim for underprivileged families in Queanbeyan, River Safety program for schools in Gladstone and Kempsey, Water Rescue program in Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour and Demonstrations at the Slow Summer Festival in Orange to name a few.

I would like to conclude this report by sincerely thanking the Royal Life Saving volunteers, members and stakeholders, all of whom have had a great influence on assisting Royal Life Saving Society – NSW reach its objectives of reducing the State's drowning and near drowning numbers. The Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister for Sport and Recreation and their respective departments must also be thanked for their continued and increased support throughout 2011–12. I look forward to reporting on the operations of the New South Wales Branch in next year's report.

### **David Macallister**

Chief Executive Officer  
Royal Life Saving Society - NSW

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

Royal Life Saving Society – NT continues to strengthen in every facet of its operation. This year 14,872 certificates were issued, including 9,876 from the Swim and Survive program and 4,996 training certificates.

We participated in 94 community events, and over 11,740 Territorians received a direct community benefit from these activities. Services were increased to regional and remote communities enhancing the quality of life for all Territorians.

Sadly, eight people drowned in this reporting year and the Northern Territory maintains the highest drowning rate, per capita, in Australia.

This year, 9426 from 72 primary schools participated in the Swim and Survive program. Just over 1000 of those students achieved Level 4 or above, meaning that of the nearly 24,000 primary students currently enrolled in the NT, only four per cent have adequate swimming and water safety skills – an alarming statistic.

More than 1500 indigenous children from 18 remote communities participated in the Remote Swim and Survive program and a pool lifesaving carnival. Three hundred and eight local community people also participated in training provided from this project.

Three hundred and fourteen training courses were conducted over the NT, with 4,996 training certificates issued. Forty-six per cent of this training was conducted in regional and remote areas and 1324 statements of attainment were issued under Vocational Education and Training.

Royal Life Saving Society – NT maintained a workforce of 10 full time staff and up to 70 casual staff as Trainers, Examiners and Swimming Instructors, who commit to the highest quality of service delivery throughout the Northern Territory.

The NT Government-funded Water Safety Awareness Program provides five free water safety lessons for families with children under-five years of age. In 2011–2012, 1191 enrolments were received with 13 providers operating across the NT. Nearly 9,600 children have participated in this program since its inception.

The Sport of Pool Lifesaving achieved increased participation with more than 3,000 children participating in carnivals in Darwin, Katherine, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and 18 remote communities. Royal Life Saving Society – NT sent a team of eight lifesaving athletes to the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships in Adelaide and placed sixth overall – a fantastic achievement.



Royal Life Saving Society – NT is currently facing two ongoing challenges: establishing a Royal Life Saving Society – NT facility and securing ongoing operational funding for remote swimming pools. Royal Life Saving Society – NT is concerned for the overall sustainability of our remote swimming pools and we continue to work with all levels of Government and Communities to seek funding.

I am pleased to complete my report by advising members, stakeholders and supporters that Royal Life Saving Society – NT is in a strong position and looks forward to the ongoing challenges. I would like to sincerely thank our devoted volunteers including the Executive Management Team led by Randall Cook, our trainers, instructors, examiners and our members.

I would like to thank Royal Life Saving Society – Australia and all the State and Territory member organisations who have assisted the Northern Territory in operations and resources. Finally I would like to thank our fantastic staff for their continued dedication and commitment. I am proud and honoured to be part of a dynamic team that is strengthened by and committed to our values of: Integrity, Respect, Quality, Leadership, Innovation and Transparency.

Yours in Lifesaving

**Floss Roberts**

Executive Director  
Royal Life Saving Society – NT

## QUEENSLAND

The 2011–12 year has been an extremely successful and productive year for the Royal Life Saving Society – Queensland (RLSSQ), although the underlying reality is that drowning is still a major cause of death for Queenslanders of all ages.

The past 12 months have seen the activities of RLSSQ reach the far ends of the state with members and staff delivering more than 121,000 awards, certificates or statements of attainment through affiliated clubs, schools, aquatic centres and workplaces. The majority of the awards issued (85,000) are from the Swim and Survive award structure that is promoted through the Love 2 Swim and Water Safety Week Projects. The Water Safety Week program, which encourages schools and swim schools to dedicate one week to water safety, has been very successful where it has been adopted and we will be looking to expand the program in 2012–13.

The Junior Lifeguard program had a rebirth in 2011–12 through the efforts of staff and volunteers. This has resulted in the formation of two Lifesaving Clubs in regional areas. The Airlie Beach Lifesaving Club has been built around the successful Junior Lifeguard Program at the Airlie Beach Lagoon. Under the guidance of Lifeguard Manager Stu Casey, they will commence a volunteer patrol on Boat Haven Beach during the summer months in addition to maintaining the Junior Lifeguard Club at the Lagoon.

The Birdsville Lifesaving Club, which is in its infancy, will have the honour of being the furthest distance from the ocean than any other lifesaving club in Australia. They will perform their water safety and lifesaving activities in the local pool and Billabong, which is filled by water from the Diamantina River and Great Artesian Basin. Ithaca Caloundra City Life Saving Club and Neptune Life Saving Club have continued their outstanding service to the community.

Over the past 12 months, the combined clubs' committee has developed a new line of policy, procedures and training protocols to standardise and improve the quality of service to the community. It has been reported that some members of the clubs have performed over 300 hours of patrols during the season which is an incredible effort and demonstrates their commitment to the community.

Facility management remains a key part of the Society's business activities, which raises money for the Society that can be channelled into water safety activities, program development and support. The Plantation remains the flagship of the organisation and is base for the majority of the Society's activity's as well as being the home of the professional operations.



Our regional office, Burpengary Aquatics has seen a surge in activity over the past 18 months with increased participation rates in Learn to Swim, aqua aerobics, school swimming and lifesaving courses. The facility is an ideal venue for various workshops conducted by the Society and is additionally well utilized by our north side Lifesaving Clubs. Supplementary to the RLSSQ owned and operated facilities, the Society currently provides Lifeguard services at Settlement Cove Lagoon (Redcliffe) and Airlie Beach Lagoon in the Whitsundays Region. By providing these services we are raising the profile of the Society and creating water safety education opportunities for the visitors to the venues.

All that the Society has achieved over the past 12 months could not be possible without the dedication and vision of the Board of Directors, the support of our members and commitment of the professional staff. Additionally, our aim to prevent loss of life and injury in aquatic environments has been greatly assisted by the Queensland Government through grants from Sport and Recreation Services and Emergency Management Queensland, which provides the Society with the resources to deliver RLSSQ programs throughout the State.

### **Michael Darben**

Executive Director  
Royal Life Saving Society – QLD

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Royal Life Saving South Australia tackled one of its most significant challenges during 2011–2012 by undertaking a complete organisational review, restructure and renovation of its state-based headquarters, whilst continuing to increase the delivery of water safety, education and training programs to the community.

This period of change has included the implementation of a new management and staffing structure, an overhaul of every administrative and financial process, the commencement of a Quality Management System (QMS) certified against ISO9001 in addition to preparation for the organisation's 5-year re-registration audit as a Registered Training Organisation. These key projects all commenced whilst we continued to provide services, monitor waterway patrols, deliver training courses up to seven days a week and renovate our headquarters' building interior and exterior.

We have continued to see growth in participation numbers across most of our program areas including First Aid, Pool Lifeguard, School Swimming and water safety education. We have had more swim schools partner with us this year to provide the Swim and Survive program, and our Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments have gained popularity with demand for this service increasing significantly.

Recent higher-level engagement with our key stakeholders, some of which include the Office for Recreation and Sport, YMCA, Service Skills SA, Austswim, Sport SA, The Adelaide Aquatic Centre, Recreation SA, DECS/DECD, Public Pools and our interstate counterparts has reinforced just how important the Royal Life Saving Society's role is to the South Australian business, regional and general community as both a service provider and a key industry representative advocating for improved water safety.

Royal Life Saving, in partnership with the Adelaide City Council and the Adelaide Aquatic Centre, hosted a Swim and Survive Active Family Fun Day during January. Families enjoyed the chance to meet Olympic swimming star and UNCLE TOBYS Ambassador Emily Seebomh while enjoying fun games and activities at the pool. It was a great opportunity for caregivers to get into the water with their children to practice water safety techniques in a fun and safe environment.



Another successful event held in South Australia this year was the prestigious Australian Pool Life Saving Championships that occurred in January. Around 170 champion lifesavers from around Australia gathered in Adelaide to compete in many events including obstacle swims, manikin tows, rescue medleys, the line throw and the super lifesaver event. The championships celebrate the vital role lifesavers play whilst encouraging participation in the sport, branded with "Everyone can be a Lifesaver."

We look forward to the challenge of the coming year as we expand our services to ensure that our high quality training and our water safety message is reaching every part of remote, regional and metropolitan South Australia. Every person involved with Royal Life Saving in South Australia deserves to feel proud with what we have achieved this year and our sincere thanks goes out to them all. None of these improvements would have been possible without the outstanding contributions from our new staff team, trainers, examiners, members, volunteers and our Board of Governance. This dedication has enabled our services to consolidate and expand during a period of significant change. We look forward to reporting future achievements of what we can further offer the community in which we serve.

**Tony Taylor**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Royal Life Saving Society – SA

## TASMANIA

Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania has had another successful 12 month period, continuing to see growth across the board in all training activities.

We were extremely grateful to receive a \$10,000 donation from the Commonwealth Bank who were celebrating 100 years of service and wanting to support other organisations also approaching the same milestone. We thank them for their support.

Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania participated in the 2012 Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships in Adelaide. It was a wonderful opportunity for our young team who learnt a lot from the experience. Thanks to Chris Wright and Amanda Mayes for their ongoing coaching, promotion and support of Pool Lifesaving. Without their dedication Tasmania would not be able to participate.

The bequest from the Allport Trustees continued in 2011–12 allowing us to provide one-on-one CPR training to families of premature babies staying at the Royal Hobart Hospital. We have received excellent feedback from the program and are pleased to be able to send these families home with a new found confidence.

In the AUSTSWIM area, Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania were excited to launch the new MATE program in Tasmania. Many AUSTSWIM teachers have been very keen to up-skill to presenters in this new program, which aims to increase participation in aquatic recreational activities by people with a disability. Tasmania has had an excellent take up of the training from disability support organisations and family and friends of people with a disability.

Tasmania was once again very proud to have National Award Winners at the Australasian AUSTSWIM Conference. Ceri Weeks was named Presenter of the Year; Lindy Crack, Teacher of Aquatics for People with a Disability; and Launceston Aquatic Centre was announced AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centre of the Year.

These are outstanding results for such a small state. Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania has continued to be an active member of the Tasmanian Water Safety Council with a highlight being the successful Industry breakfast organised as a part of Water Safety Week.

The Keep Watch Program continued to be an early education focal point in Tasmania. This activity fits well into the 'Launch into Learning' program which is being well received at a local level. Schools are funding the program themselves which is an excellent indicator that they understand the importance of our key messages.



We have been excited to offer Learn to Swim and Rescue Strand awards within the Catholic school system. This has been a great success and has seen an increased focus on water safety within the Primary School system and the schools involved.

The CALD Community was again a focus for Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania with programs being run in the north and south of the state. The project was made possible through funding from the Tasmanian Water Safety Council and the Department of Premier and Cabinet. These water safety sessions helped migrants to develop confidence in the water, learn safety and rescue techniques and basic CPR skills. We aim to continue this work in coming years. Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania appreciated the support and participation of Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) and Surf Life Saving Tasmania.

Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania would like to thank their staff and council members for their hard work throughout the year. We also appreciate the support from RLSSA National Office and the other State and Territory Member Organisations. Special mention should also be made to Sport and Recreation Tasmania, the Tasmanian Water Safety Council, the Commonwealth Bank, UNCLE TOBYS, PoolWerx and the Allport Trustees for their support and commitment to Royal Life Saving Society – Tasmania.

**Julia Fassina**  
General Manager  
Royal Life Saving Society – TAS

## VICTORIA

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) has had an exciting year, having made significant progress towards a number of long-term goals, implementing a new online learning strategy and achieving steady growth in face-to-face participation in aquatic and education programs.

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) released the updated Victorian Water Safety Master Plan for 2012–2015 in November 2011. The plan aligns with the Australian Water Safety Council's Australian Water Safety Strategy, providing a blueprint for Victorian industry and Government to further strengthen and sustain Victoria's strong position in water safety program delivery and drowning prevention.

In November 2011, LSV delivered its annual drowning report for the July 2010 to June 2011 period. The report included a retrospective study—conducted jointly with Coroner's Prevention Unit—of alcohol related drowning deaths from 2000–2008. The study identified that alcohol was present in over 20 per cent of adult drowning cases in Victoria and the evidence is now being used for campaigns, Government and for a new education program targeting secondary school students.

LSV has advocated for increased regulation of backyard pool fencing through its role as chair of the Victorian Swimming Pool and Spa Safety Committee. Together with the Building Commission and the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors, the committee proposed to increase the safety of swimming pools in Victoria, which led to the establishment of the Kids and Pools Safety Summit in July 2012.

Strong and effective partnerships with Government, industry and the community have achieved:

- Leadership of the Victorian Water Safety Council, overseeing the Victorian Water Safety Master Plan and continuing to evolve and improve water safety initiatives and programs in Victoria
- A record number of participants (more than 10,000) in the Open Water Learning Experience program, supported by the Victorian State Government's 'Play it Safe by the Water' campaign. A secondary partnership with YMCA Victoria camps contributed over 1600 participants to this total figure
- More than 190 Swim and Survive Licensees in Victoria, including private providers, management groups and schools
- An increased number of courses being delivered by LSV licensees
- Participation at the Royal Melbourne Show, exhibiting in the Government Pavilion alongside other emergency services
- Participation at the Regional Victoria Living Expo, to promote water safety messages to urban dwellers considering a move to regional Victoria.



Life Saving Victoria Multicultural Services has worked closely with the Karen (Burmese) community in Wyndham since 2007, giving hundreds of children free learn to swim classes.

We also received funding for a three-year rock fishing safety communications campaign, following a number of drowning deaths occurring in a concentrated area in recent years. LSV continues to deliver quality programs to the Victorian community, including delivery of RLSSA's Swim and Survive program. More than 150,000 people took part in Swim and Survive this year, up by 8000 on the previous year continuing the success of the program's revamp in 2009.

LSV has also achieved strong growth in face-to-face contacts for its education programs, with more than 200,000 participants in LSV water safety programs and initiatives.

The new online Learning Management System enables delivery to be a mix of online and face-to-face components for courses including CPR and Senior First Aid. The benefits meet the needs of increasingly time-poor participants, give a more streamlined process for enrolment and processing, and reduce face-to-face contact hours.

LSV recognises the importance of learn to swim and water safety skills for children and will continue to work with Government and the Aquatics Industry to provide input into future guidelines, program development and services. The relaunch of the Premier's Water Safety Certificate during the year has also re-established the swimming and water safety ability benchmark for Victorian students exiting primary school.

LSV's Education Department continues to support Swim and Survive licensees through industry engagement and marketing opportunities, while also working to grow the number of licensed providers of RLSSA's national swimming and water safety initiative. The team continues to improve Victoria's education programs such as 'Resuscitate a Mate' and 'Meet a Lifeguard', and is investigating new delivery methods to incorporate IT and new delivery options for delivery in regional and remote Victoria.

**Report provided by Life Saving Victoria (LSV)**



# HONOURS

## SENIOR AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

### Meritorious Service Medal

	C.M. Calnan (SA)	1991	Daphne Read (NT)
	R.W. Moyle (SA)	1992	Gerald Brameld (QLD)
	B. Roberts (QLD)	1992	Nigel R. Carins (TAS)
	John Robertson Spender (QLD)	1992	John Coles (SA)
1959	Bruce Clifton (NSW)	1992	John Kew (SA)
1959	D. Ebsworth (TAS)	1992	Philip Marquet (NSW)
1959	E.C.S. Meldrum (SA)	1992	K. L. Milne (SA)
1959	A. Park (TAS)	1992	Janice Oates (SA)
1959	R. Penwright (TAS)	1992	Robyn Pryce-Jones (TAS)
1959	B. Plaister (TAS)	1992	Barry J. Stanton (SA)
1959	Douglas Robert Plaister (TAS)	1993	Dr Mervyn Allen (SA)
1959	C. Webb (TAS)	1993	Keith Draper (NSW)
1960	M. Church (TAS)	1993	John McClelland (QLD)
1960	H.L. Dowding (TAS)	1994	G.H. Krueger (SA)
1960	Lady Harris (TAS)	1994	Margaret Krueger (SA)
1960	J. Liptrot (TAS)	1994	Vincent McStraw (SA)
1960	M. Plaister (TAS)	1995	John W. Harvey (SA)
1960	N.J. Ruddock (TAS)	1995	Christopher Planeta (SA)
1960	L.W. Salmon (TAS)	1996	Alan B. Swinton (TAS)
1960	V..J Shaw (TAS)	1996	Robert G. Yule (SA)
1960	S. Thyne (TAS)	1997	Theresa Leopold (SA)
1960	D.N. Wicks (TAS)	1997	Ann Price (SA)
1961	R.S. Collins (TAS)	1998	Edward Cross (NSW)
1961	J. Ingles (TAS)	1998	Anita Eifler (WA)
1961	Basil Osborne (TAS)	1998	Faye Milham (SA)
1961	V.B. Plaister (TAS)	1998	Warwick Twigg (NSW)
1963	Francis John Henry (NSW)	1999	Margaret Clayton (VIC)
1963	George Turnbull (NSW)	1999	Rex Hopkins (VIC)
1964	B. Brain (TAS)	1999	John Law (QLD)
1971	Cam Fitzgerald (VIC)	1999	Heather MacGowan (WA)
1972	Dennis Brian Colquhoun (NSW)	1999	Ian Mackie (Nat)
1977	K.J. Shields (VIC)	1999	Dr Gerard Meijer (QLD)
1978	Bruce Campbell (QLD)	1999	Frances May Murphy (WA)
1978	M.L. Eddey (VIC)	1999	Barbara Richards (VIC)
1978	R. Firkin (NSW)	2000	David Bennetts (NSW)
1978	J. Smith (NSW)	2000	Mark Needham (SA)
1978	Ken Southgate (QLD)	2000	Faye Trevor (SA)
1978	R.S. Veale (VIC)	2001	C. Dedman (SA)
1979	W. Blakeney (NSW)	2001	Professor John Pearn (QLD)
1979	Stanley Blanks (VIC)	2002	Dr Mel Bergin (NSW)
1979	Justin Bradley (NSW)	2002	Audrey Severn (QLD)
1979	N.R. Collins (TAS)	2002	Albert Trevenar (NSW)
1979	J. Conabere OBE (VIC)	2003	Lesley Bartlett (SA)
1979	V.J. Forde (SA)	2003	Terence Higgins (ACT)
1979	D. Johannes (NSW)	2003	Harold James Hird (ACT)
1979	Brian Prideaux (NSW)	2003	David J. Mourant (TAS)
1979	Phillip Rice (VIC)	2003	Patricia Quick (SA)
1981	D. Bateman (VIC)	2004	Jan Burton (SA)
1982	Kevin N. Burrowes (SA)	2004	David Dewar (SA)
1982	Sir Walter Leonard (NSW)	2005	Hayden Lamshed (SA)
1982	Gwendolyn Welford (QLD)	2005	Faye Milham (SA)
1984	Raymond M. Martin (SA)	2006	Gaynor Power (SA)
1984	Ailsa Nicholson (QLD)	2008	Karen Freak (SA)
1985	Sheena Dyason (QLD)	2008	David Grant (VIC)
1985	Lester Vivian Marston (WA)	2008	Gary W. Kearney (TAS)
1986	Victor John Dennis (WA)	2008	Les Mole (QLD)
1986	J. Eyles (NSW)	2009	Ernita McGrath (NSW)
1986	C. Heckenberg (NSW)	2009	Jane Minear (SA)
1986	P. Neenan National	2009	Anne Rule (SA)
1986	E.D. Vass (NSW)		
1990	Ken G. Richter (SA)		

## SENIOR COMMONWEALTH HONOURS CONFERRED

### Honorary Life Member

1977	Francis John Henry (NSW)
1977	George Turnbull (NSW)
1983	Margaret P. Stevens (VIC)
1988	Stanley Blanks (VIC)
1988	Cam Fitzgerald (VIC)
1990	Jack Farmer (VIC)
1993	James Burrowes (VIC)
1994	Norman Farmer (VIC)
1995	Kevin N. Burrowes (SA)
1995	Phillip Rice (VIC)
1995	Ken Southgate (QLD)
1995	Barry J. Stanton (SA)
1999	Dr Mervyn R. Allen (SA)
1999	John Coles (SA)
1999	V.J. Forde (SA)
1999	Raymond M Martin (SA)
2000	John Kew (SA)
2000	G.H. Krueger (SA)
2000	Margaret Krueger (SA)
2001	Ann Price (SA)
2003	Gerald Brameld (QLD)
2003	John McClelland (QLD)
2004	Bruce Campbell (QLD)
2004	Anita Eifler (WA)
2004	Ross Williams (QLD)
2005	Alan B. Swinton (TAS)
2006	Theresa Leopold (SA)
2006	Faye Trevor (SA)
2007	Lesley Bartlett (SA)
2007	Theresa Leopold (SA)
2007	Patricia Quick (SA)
2007	Faye Trevor (SA)
2008	David Dewar (SA)
2011	Faye Milham (SA)

### Honorary Life Governor

1977	B. Pattinson (SA)
1981	W. Blakeney (NSW)
1981	George Turnbull (NSW)
1984	Francis John Henry (NSW)
1986	Leon Leis (QLD)
1999	Kevin N. Burrowes (SA)
1999	Barry J. Stanton (SA)
2004	Ann Price (SA)
2004	Raymond M Martin (SA)
2004	John Kew (SA)
2011	Lesley Bartlett (SA)
2011	Theresa Leopold (SA)
2011	Patricia Quick (SA)
2011	Faye Trevor (SA)
2012	Alan B. Swinton (TAS)

### Vice President

1981	Robert Stinson (QLD)
1988	Neville Bayfield (NSW)
1994	Heather MacGowan (WA)
1997	Terence Higgins (ACT)
2003	Shayne Baker (QLD)

## OUR PARTNERS

Royal Life Saving Society – Australia would like to thank the following organisations for their continued support.

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### AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT



Funded by the  
Department of Regional Australia,  
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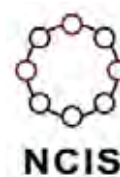
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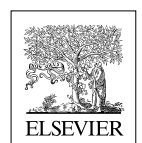
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ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

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