

MAY
TWENTY EIGHTEEN

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Executive Directors Report

Officers from Royal Life Saving Queensland attended the National Swimming & Water Safety Education Symposium which was held on 9 and 10 May 2018. This was the second symposium (the prior one being last year) and the key focus was the consideration of swimming programs in various states (such as school swimming) and to review the National Swimming and Water Safety Framework.

Many state governments were present at the symposium, and Queensland Government, Department of Education provided an excellent presentation and summary of the position of school swimming in Queensland. In terms of school swimming, you will be pleased to know that Queensland is performing very well when compared to other states and territories.

A survey of State Schools in Queensland has revealed that 98% of State Schools have some form of school swimming program, which is the highest position in Australia. The next highest was Victoria with a participation rate of 90%, however some states and territories are well behind Queensland. We all know that the outcomes in Queensland are strong, we have very low number of school aged drownings and we have a very high participation in aquatic sport and recreation.

The vacation swimming programs were presented to the symposium which are implemented in Victoria and South Australia. Both these programs deliver lessons to approximately 12K children, which we consider to be a relatively small number of participants. These programs are generally delivered over one to two weeks at the start of January and cost about \$30.

The outcome of the symposium was that all state and territories have now been engaged in the symposium and the industry has a good understanding of the swimming and water safety across Australia. The National Swimming and Water Safety Framework has been reviewed and updated, however the overarching framework does not appear to be likely to change significantly.

As previously reported in our newsletters, Royal Life Saving is continuing to work with the Queensland Government, Department of Education as an active part of the Water Safety Round Table to help deliver a continued strong swimming and water safety outcome for Queenslanders.

Paul Barry
Executive Director

Link: <https://www.rlssq.com.au/Newsletters/Newsletter-2018-05.pdf>

Workshops

Royal Life Saving staff have been busy with workshops over the last month. Workshops have been held on the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba and Brisbane. Also, Swim & Survive workshops have been held on the Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba. This means that over the last month, we have held six workshops with five of those outside Brisbane. We have four more workshops in the present series to complete which are in North Queensland:

- **Cairns (Thursday 31 May 2018) – A trainer’s workshop in the morning with a Swim & Survive workshop in the afternoon.**
- **Townsville (Friday 1 June 2018) – A trainer’s workshop in the morning with a Swim & Survive workshop in the afternoon.**

Feedback from those that are attending the workshop is good. If you are interested in attending a workshop, you can register at our website homepage using the links below) or ring the office during business hours on (07) 3823 2823:

Trainer Workshop: <https://www.rlssq.com.au/?show=Form-Workshop-Trainer>

Swim & Survive Workshop: <https://www.rlssq.com.au/?show=Form-Workshop>

Royal Life Saving Athletes Spread the Water Safety Message

Athletes from Royal Life Saving Queensland were at Einbunpin Lagoon (Sandgate) on the May Day long weekend (5, 6 & 7 of May 2018). The athletes wanted to let people know that more drownings occur in rivers, creeks and dams (inland waterways), than in the oceans and drowning occurs more and more when people are doing recreational activities. The team provided free Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) sessions, using cutting edge electronic manikins, and water safety advice and education.

Athletes attending ranged from State Team Members and Australian National Team Members, past and present, who have decided to provide a free community service around drowning prevention in inland water ways. The team manned a tent from 9am to 3pm over the long weekend and engaged with the community as a public service.

State Team Coach Mrs Jeannie Baxter-Reid said that the athletes really enjoyed the activity and it helped build team work, whilst providing a service to the community. State President Mr Les Mole stated that it is such a wonderful thing that Royal Life Saving athletes are active in the community.

Royal Life Saving Queensland would like to thank all the athletes involved and those who have helped organise this project. We would like to acknowledge those athletes that drove from the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba to be involved.

This project was supported by the Australia Government to help reduce drowning in inland waterways.



National Volunteer Week

The week of May 21st to 27th 2018, was the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation's volunteers. We trust that you were able to thank a volunteer known to you for contributing their time to make a difference in their community.

Royal Life Saving has volunteers that are active in a number of parts of our organisation, including:

- **three very active Beach Patrolling Life Saving Clubs,**
- **our Trainers who often deliver community courses (i.e. free of charge), and**
- **volunteers that help our organisation run, from officiating at sporting events, coaching teams, serving on committees, and helping out on working bees.**



Royal Life Saving would like to sincerely thank all our volunteers no matter in which aspect they service the society and the community. You can find out more about National Volunteer Week on the Volunteering Australia website.

Link: <https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/>



Training

Did you know Royal Life Saving Queensland offers evening and weekend courses? We can also run courses at your club, business or workplace. Our prices are very competitive and importantly we pride ourselves on delivering high quality training that meets industry standards.

We can also design a course to your specific needs, and deliver Nationally Recognised Training unique for you. This could be by changing part of the course to better suit your needs, or by having workbooks which include your corporate logo.

Whilst the pools at our head office are closed we are only offering CPR & First Aid at Gumdale, however at Burpengary we are offering our full range of courses including CPR, First Aid, Bronze Medallion, Ocean Rescue and Pool Lifeguard courses.

Please feel free to ring us on (07) 3823 2823 or enquire about a course using the links below:

Gumdale: <https://www.rlssq.com.au/?show=Form-Course>

Burpengary: <http://www.burpengaryaquatics.com.au/?show=Form-Course>



Employee of the Month

I would like to announce Nicholas (Nick) Gray as Employee of the Month for May 2018. Nick works as a part of our team at Burpengary Aquatics as a learn to swim instructor and assistant coach.

Nick has been an integral part of the team at Burpengary since 2013 working on our swim school, school swimming programs, squad coaching and lifeguarding both at Burpengary and around the community, (even volunteering with the Special Olympic team and lifeguarding many of their carnivals).

Nick comes from a swimming background who swam competitively from a young age through our own Burpengary Aquatics. He is a big team player and only too happy to help out when needed, and assist fellow staff at any time.

Congratulations Nick.

Please remember to 'like' our Facebook page and share our posts. You can access our Facebook page at the link below:



Link: <https://www.facebook.com/RLSSQ/>

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