

JULY TWENTY EIGHTEEN

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President's Report

I can't believe how quickly the year is passing, especially that we are now thinking about the next Aquafutures Conference, which we are planning to host around August 2019. This will be the fourth Aquafutures, and we are looking forward to another quality event incorporating a host of talented speakers and presenters. Any feedback or suggestions that Members can provide is always greatly appreciated.

Under the direction of Paul Barry, our intention is to continue to move around the State providing updates for accredited trainers and promoting the Society courses and programs.

Carolyn Asher and Michael Darben have provided exemplary efforts, delivering Royal Life Saving programs in both Vietnam and Macau, and the work of Alina Graham appearing at every AUSTSWIM state/regional conference nationally, shows real commitment. The recent successful cave rescue of the stranded soccer team in Thailand, highlights again how quickly an aquatic environment can turn into a challenging life threatening catastrophe. Our congratulations to everyone involved in that amazing rescue!

Both of our state-based headquarters, The Plantation and the Burpengary Aquatic Centre, are receiving well-earned attention during the winter break, and the Board has moved into new space, looking at short term and long-term projects, for both centres.

Yours in Life Saving,
Les Mole

Executive Directors Report

The end of the financial year is a busy period for Royal Life Saving. We have our membership renewals, ballots and annual reports to prepare, however it's also time to think about member and trainer's re-accreditations. Whilst this is occurring, we are releasing a new Pool Lifeguard workbook which involves changes for trainers and course participants.

As the society continues to restructure we are finding more and more activity is occurring. Which means I am looking for more staff, particularly in the training area and project delivery. For summer (within the next month or so) I expect to have another trainer and a training support role to need filling. This increased activity also means I will need more administration staff to support our service to our existing trainer network and customers. I plan to initially fill these roles on a casual employment basis with the possibility of full time/contract employment as our needs are worked through.

I have found that during peak periods, we have insufficient training rooms and our office area is already full. Last summer on many occasions that we had insufficient space. I would appreciate any suggestions from members of how we can solve our space and office problems.

I have had a number of long term members drop into the Plantation to have a chat and I would like to thank those members for taking time to visit us. There has been much work completed at the Plantation to the grounds and we are presently working on an upgrade to the pump room, which means our facility will be ready for summer with a reliable pumping system and high water quality.

As always, if any member has any questions or would like to provide feedback as to how we are going, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Paul Barry
Executive Director

We have your back

Did you know, Royal Life Saving backs all of its courses. What this means is that if you complete a Royal Life Saving Course (i.e. CPR, First Aid, Bronze Medallion or Pool Lifeguard), and you have a problem in an aquatic facility (such as a drowning), you can call us 24 hours a day for support and advice. We will be there to help you.

Royal Life Saving is the peak industry body for the aquatic industry. We are the organisation that provides advice to investigators when a drowning occurs. We regularly provide advice and assistance to local, state & federal governments and other agencies.

Our Pool Lifeguard course is certified to meet the requirements of the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation and is the only course that has this certification.

Hopefully you will never have to call on us, but our experience tells us that if you ever have a major incident that you are involved in, you will want the peak body right there behind you supporting you.

We will be distributing leaflets with our courses from this week. If you do have an incident and need help, you can contact us during business hours on (07) 3823 2823 or after hours on 0408 185 727.

Please contact us if you have any questions about this service.

Paul Barry
Executive Director

New Bronze Medallion & Pool Lifeguard Student Workbooks

I am pleased to announce that new training resources for Bronze Medallion and Pool Lifeguard are now available. The resources include:

- **A Pre-Course workbook:** This replaces the Formative Assessment materials and is to be provided to course participants before the face to face component of the course, with sufficient time for the participant to complete (we suggest about one week). One feature of the workbooks is that the pre-course workbook includes a number of QR* codes that participants can use with their mobile device, to access various online resources such as:
 - Video of CPR (adult, child and infant video resources are online)
 - PDF copy of resources such as induction checklist
 - *QR stands for Quick Response and consists of square grids on a white background, which can be read by an imaging device such as a camera. Most new mobile devices will read the QR code and open the resources that is linked.
- **An Assessment Workbook:** which replaces the Summative Assessment Workbook. This should be given to the participant at the face to face component of the course. The Assessment Workbook contains all the activities that the candidate is required to satisfactorily complete.



- **A Trainers and Assessor Guide (TAG):** The TAG contains information for the trainer and assessor including a detailed explanation of the standards required for each assessment. The TAG should be not be shown or distributed to a course participant.

Existing workbooks (i.e. version 17 with formative and summative sections) will cease to be available for purchasing from the end of August. We will be reasonable with workbooks and are prepared to swap v17 stock for v18 items, providing the returned items are in a condition that they can be re-used.

At the Trainers Workshop we will be going over the new resources in detail and given the amount of change it is strongly recommended that Trainers & Assessors attend a workshop to gain a detailed understanding of the materials.

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

Course Compliance Certificate

I would like to also mention that you will notice in the pre-course workbook for Pool Lifeguard on page 3 is a certificate of compliance. The certificate confirms that the training course is a suitable course for working as Pool Lifeguard and that the course meets industry guidelines (i.e. the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation [the GSPO]). As you will know, the GSPO is the industry standard and is published by Royal Life Saving. Royal Life Saving Queensland is the only organisation that contains such a certificate.

This certificate can be shown to an employer, so they have confidence in the validity of the training course as being suitable for employment.

We hope you enjoy the new training resources. If you do have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Sarah Boettcher
Training Officer

Life Saving Shop (Online Shop)

We are pleased to announce that we have launched a new online shop. The shop is called the Life Saving Shop, and website address is www.lifesavingshop.com.au. We are adding new products to the shop every day and are using it as an opportunity to clear some old stock, so there are some bargains online for anyone looking for one. Our first order has already come though and we look forward to you placing orders with us.

If any member is apprehensive about buying online, please feel free to ring us on (07) 3823 2823 and place your order over the phone. We can even send you a paper order form.

Link: <https://www.lifesavingshop.com.au/>

Employee of the Month

I would like to announce the employee of the month for July 2018 is Miss Melissa (Mel) Robbins. Mel works as a project office organising many of our projects and as the main point of contact for the Swim & Survive program. Mel was nominated due to her positive approach and teamwork. Whilst she works as a project office, Mel's teamwork is demonstrated by also working as a learn to swim teacher, helps with training, she constantly sits at reception and even makes coffee for customers. She lives our core value of Teamwork and I would like to congratulate her for this award.

Paul Barry
Executive Director

Yeppoon Lions Life Saving

Yeppoon Lions Club has completed its 49th year in conducting lifesaving courses as a club project, to train swimmers in all lifesaving levels from elementary to Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross and CPR. This year's lifesaving trainees were presented with their awards at a Yeppoon Lions dinner at Keppel Bay Sailing Club.

The squad of 16 trainees were coached by RLSS instructor Mrs Sharyn Black at the Yeppoon Aquatic and Fitness Centre. The swimmers ranged from the lowest level of water familiarisation and confidence for non-swimming up to advanced lifesaving.

Spokesman for Yeppoon Lions Club, Brian Dorey, who introduced the Lions lifesaving project in 1967 as an instructor and level 2 examiner and conducted the courses until 2015 when he retired, said "Yeppoon Lions are thrilled to be involved in such a worthwhile endeavour that provides people in our community with the skills to potentially save someone's life."

To date, the Lions lifesaving project had trained and qualified 1,691 swimmers. Sharyn joined the courses in 1974. She rose through the ranks to Award of Merit and returned a few years later to become an instructor in 1987, then a level 2 examiner for Lions lifesaving.

Executive Director Paul Barry stated that he is so pleased that Yeppoon Lions are continuing this program as a service to the community. He also stated that this program exemplifies what Royal Life Savers are all about, helping the community be safer. We are looking forward to Lions 50th year with Royal Life Saving next year.

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