

PRESIDENT: MR LES MOLE  
DEPUTY PRESIDENT: MR ROD WELFORD  
SECRETARY: MRS CAROLYN ASHER

TREASURER: MR STEPHEN KAY  
DIRECTORS: MR COLIN HARRIS, DR SHAYNE  
BAKER OAM & MR RUSSELL GREEN

# NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018



## Royal Life Saving

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY QUEENSLAND



State President Mr Les Mole with trainer Debra O'Rourke (Manager of the Eidsvold Aquatic Centre)

### PRESIDENTS REPORT

During a recent road trip covering the length of the State, I could not help but admire the tenacity and mateship, evoked by us Queenslanders.

Driving up the A3 through the centre to Tiers, then off to Mackay and onwards to Townsville and Cairns, the fury of the catastrophic bush fires scared our expansive landscape, and blanketed the hazy sky. This was like nothing I had ever experienced.

In the face of massive tragic losses and community despair, the volunteers of the rural fire service ensured that all of those affected people, were professionally and expeditiously cared for. Sadly, one volunteer was tragically killed, during a tree clearing exercise.

Our volunteers have also stepped up to the plate, in the past few weeks. Mr John McClelland signalled a desire to retire from the Board of Directors, after a comprehensive stint covering several decades. More about John's contributions in this year's annual report. John's position as State Deputy President has been filled by Mr Rod Welford – an outstanding Royal Life Saving volunteer and both State and National Life Member.

I am also pleased to report that two volunteers have now been appointed as State Team Coaches for the National Life Saving Championships in January 2019 – Mrs Carolyn Asher and Mr Ashley Gordon. This follows the exemplary efforts of Mrs Jeannie Baxter Reid, who has been the State Team Coach for the past eight years. "Thank you Jeannie!".

**Finally, I would like to wish all of our volunteers and staff, the very best for the Festive Season – stay safe – and I look forward to catching up in the New Year.**

*Les Mole*  
State President

## Merry Christmas!



### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

We are now fast approaching the Christmas season which sadly is the peak time of year for drowning. In an effort to help educate the public, we have held two state wide media campaigns on drowning prevention over the last few weeks. The first was linked to the Keep Watch program, the second linked to Inland Waterways (as inland waterways is the location of the most drownings in Australia). Both campaigns received very good radio coverage on most radio stations in Queensland, we also did news slots on Channel 7, 9 and 10.

#### Deputy President

I wish to let members know that Mr John McClelland has announced his retirement from the office of Deputy President, which he has held since 2015. Mr McClelland is a life member (appointed 1995) of the society and has been very active over the years. He has held a number of positions on the State Board, over a 15 year period, until 1996. In 1996 John was appointed State President, which he held for 19 years. John is the longest serving President in the Society's history in Queensland. In recent times Mr McClelland was involved in guiding the restructure of the society in 2017.

John will still remain involved in the society, however, has decided to make way for new people to join the board.

With the retirement of Mr McClelland, I wish to announce that Mr Rod Welford has been appointed Deputy President. The role of Deputy President requires a person who displays strong character, presence, and has a history with RLSS, all qualities that Mr Welford displays.

As many members will know, Mr Welford is a life member and has been involved with Royal Life Saving from an early age. He has been actively involved in clubs and sport, but has also been guiding the society in his capacity as a Life Member.

Mr Welford completed a combined Arts-Law degree and was a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland and Barrister of the High Court of Australia. Mr Welford was a long term member of the Queensland Parliament and was Minister of Environment, Heritage and Natural Resources. He became Attorney General and Minister for Justice, followed by Minister for Education, Training and the Arts.



Some of the Administration Team: Sarah Boettcher, Amelia O'Connor- Comber, Azin Fard & Kate Forrester

Mr Welford's experience and qualifications will be a great assets to our board. I would like to thank Mr Welford for volunteering his time to help us continue our mission of drowning prevention.

### New Training Website

Our new training website ([www.lifesavingtraining.com.au](http://www.lifesavingtraining.com.au)) is now live and integrated with our learning management system (Axcelerate). We are still using our existing portal for student logging in and will switch over to our upgraded system as soon as formal communication has been issued to trainers.

Our online assessment system is presently a system known as moodle which is also being transitioned to Axcelerate, this will also be made live very soon.

### Please have a safe and Merry Christmas and New Year

On behalf of the President, Board of Directors and Staff, I would like to wish you all a safe and merry Christmas and happy new year.

Paul Barry  
Executive Director



Executive Director, Mr Paul Barry



New Deputy President, Mr Rod Welford



Royal Life Saving

### 125 Years of Saving Lives in Australia- Black Tie Ball

During 1892 and 1893, following a number of drowning events across NSW, meetings were held amongst a number of NSW swimming clubs to address the issue. It was unanimously decided at a public meeting to form an Australian Branch of the Life Saving Society of Great Britain on 8 February 1894.

To celebrate this anniversary, The Royal Life Saving Society Queensland are planning on holding a Black Tie Ball on **Saturday 6 April 2019** in Brisbane.

The event will cater for 150 attendees with numbers strictly limited. More details including how to purchase tickets will be available in January 2019.

Tickets and more details available January 2019.

### New Staff: Kate Forrester, Project Officer

Kate Forrester joined the team in December and will be responsible for Projects and the Swim and Survive program.

Kate has joined us from the Banking industry, is a keen open water swimmer and has recently completed a Solo Crossing of the English Channel in September this year.

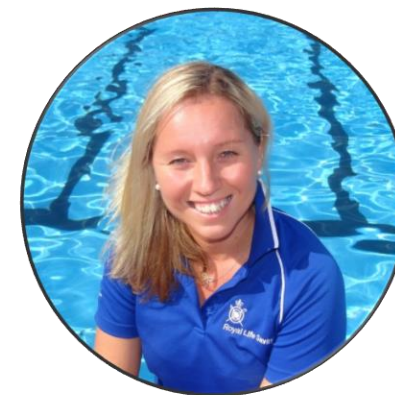
### Beach Day for Multicultural TAFE Students

On Wednesday the 28 November 2018 the Royal Life Saving Queensland team held a Beach Water Safety Day for overseas born students who attend the Loganlea TAFE .

Students participated in various water familiarity and water awareness activities followed by participating in a CPR session which took place in front of Neptune Royal Life Saving Club at Tallebudgera.

In the afternoon the group then braved the windy choppy conditions for some time in the surf under the supervision of Royal Life Saving staff, teachers and lifeguards on duty. For many students this was their first swim in the surf and first encounter with water were they were no longer frightened. Thank you to the amazing work of Royal Life Saving staff who organised and attended the day.

Loganlea TAFE staff sent a special thank you letter through to us for providing an informative and fun event which the students thoroughly enjoyed! Well done to Mel Robbins and Murrin Donegan for delivery of a fantastic event!



Miss Kate Forrester, Project Officer



## TRAINING REPORT

### Trainer's Qualifications

As of 31 March 2019, all competency based trainers and assessors must hold one of the following:

- **TAE40116** Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, or
- **TAE40110** Certificate IV in Training and Assessment plus the following units:
  - **TAELLN411** (or its successor) or TAEELN401A, and
  - **TAEASS502** (or its successor) or TAEASS502A or TAEASS502B
- A diploma or higher level qualification in adult education

Trainers can obtain an upgrade, or the additional units through a variety of training providers and we will soon be contacting trainers to ensure they have the required units before 31 March 2019 (if they wish to continue to be a trainer).

### RPL / Letters of Support for Trainers completing TAE upgrades

A number of trainers have contacted us seeking a letter of support for an RPL application for the above units. We can only issue letters for trainers for work that we have actually observed which may mean trainers will need to attend our office, deliver courses under supervision or design a training course for us, so we can verify such work.

### Lost / Misplaced Workbooks

On occasion we are contacted by trainers who have lost or misplaced assessment workbooks and request that a statement of attainment be issued. Even if workbooks are lost, we are still required to hold evidence that the relevant assessment tasks have been satisfactorily completed. We have on occasion be sent statutory declaration, however often these do not meet the required evidence standards.

The process for lost or misplaced workbooks is:

- If the workbook has been lost in a manner that personal information has been compromised, immediately report it to us so we can consider if a data breach report is required.
- Obtain another Assessment Workbook (you may need to purchase one).
- Mark the new Assessment Workbook clearly on the front as 'Replacement Workbook'.
- Complete the Assessment Workbook in the normal manner, have the student sign and date (must be the date signed, but course date will be earlier). Make comments in the book about why a replacement workbook is required.
- Send the completed Assessment Workbook to us with a Examination Report Form.

### WH&S eSafe Incident Alert

Workplace Health & Safety Queensland have issued an alert following the drowning of two people in Airlie Beach. The key message in this alert for Royal Life Saving is that adequately training life savers (sufficient on shift and trained by an Industry Body), life savers undertake regular in-service training and management of high risk conduct (diving, running, monitoring children, and use of flotation devices).

Download the eSafe Alert [here](#).

*Sarah Boettcher*  
State Training Manager



State Training Manager, Miss Sarah Boettcher



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

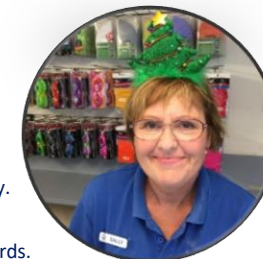
### October 2018: Cathy Parrott

The employee of the month for October 2018 is Mrs Cathy Parrot. Cathy works in training administration and the nomination states she always comes into the office happy, pleasant and ready to work. She works hard to get the job done, never complains and always makes the other staff smile. She is an absolute pleasure to have in the office!



### November 2018: Sally Bower

The employee of the month for November 2018 is Ms Sally Bower who works at Burpengary Aquatics and was nominated due to her work ethic being aligned to our core values (Safety, Teamwork, Respect & Integrity). The nomination states that Sally is respectful to all staff and clients, and that Sally looks out for everyone's safety.



On behalf of the board and members, I would like to thank and congratulate both Cathy and Sally on the awards.

Please remember that any person (customer, member, staff member) can nominate an employee of the month by filling out the online form on our website.

## JOIN A LIFE SAVING CLUB

Royal Life Saving has three beach patrolling life saving clubs which are looking for new members. You can use your life saving knowledge to help the community and we have a club on the Gold Coast (Neptune Royal Life Saving Club), Sunshine Coast (Ithaca – Caloundra City Life Saving Club) and North Queensland (Whitsunday Coast Life Saving Club)

For more information, refer to the website: [www.joinlifesaving.com.au](http://www.joinlifesaving.com.au)

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