

# DECEMBER TWENTY SEVENTEEN

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## Executive Directors Report

On behalf of the President, Board of Directors and staff of Royal Life Saving, I would like to wish all our members and stakeholders a safe and Merry Christmas. Christmas is a time for being with family and I urge you to remember our water safety messages, particularly water and alcohol; don't let your mates drink and drown.

As you will recall in the November newsletter, I announced a review of our organisations needs to help determine how we can improve. Some of the progress is detailed below

### Revisit who we are:

Refreshed Core Values have been developed and are outlined below:

**Safety:** As a organisation whose mission is saving lives, safety is very important to us. That is our own safety, safety of our stakeholders (members, participants, etc), and safety of the community. This value is the core of our existence.

**Teamwork:** Our staff and members working together with common goals can achieve ambitious objectives.

**Respect:** Treating everyone with the upmost of professionalism and understanding.

**Integrity:** We will do the right thing, be honest, accountable and reliable

Also, the RLSS Australia membership policies and codes of conduct have now been made available online (refer our website under the 'Members' tab). I encourage all members to review these policies. As you would expect, trainers (being office bearers of the Society) have a higher level of expectation in respect to adherence to the policies, protecting our members and following our rules.

The new online member feedback tool to allow members to report praise and concerns has been used by a number of people and is working well. An internal complaints and compliance register has recently been implemented. This register will ensure compliance matters are being recorded and resolved in an effective and professional manner both in accordance with our regulatory requirements and to minimise member concern.

### Reviewing our Capability:

I am still to appoint a full-time trainer, however we do have weekly training course being facilitated at the Plantation including CPR, First Aid, Bronze Medallion and Pool Lifeguard. Also, on a monthly basis Pool Plant Operator Courses are scheduled. This is a pleasing outcome and for the week ending 17 December 2017, 47 people attended a course at the Plantation.

Another pleasing outcome is the Love-2-Swim (swim and survive) program has issued 55K certificates year to date, compared to 104K for 2016/17 year indicating a 5% increase.

## Strengthen our Organisation

I am progressively reviewing our financial and operational risks and implemented some loss control systems around stock and equipment. Unfortunately and disappointingly some of our training equipment cannot be located and will need to be replaced. As trainers will know this is very expensive to do. Prices on much of our services (such as lifeguarding and auditing, etc) will need reviewing to reflect the risks with those services.

The Society office will be closed for two business days over the Christmas period, Thursday 28 & Friday 29 December 2017. We are open all other business days, but with a skeleton level of staff.

Regards,  
Paul Barry, Executive Director

## Training Update – Management of a Diabetic Emergency

The Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) has released a new update (November 2017) for the management of a diabetic emergency. The recommendations of the ARC are as follows:

- **When available, and trained to do so, use a blood glucometer to check the victim's blood glucose level.**
- **When available, glucose tablets are preferred over other sugars for the first aid management of suspected hypoglycaemia in conscious victims.**
- **When available, and trained to do so, use a GlucaGen® HypoKit® glucagon injection to manage suspected hypoglycaemia in an unconscious or seizing victim.**
- **If unsure of the blood glucose, manage the victim as having suspected hypoglycaemia.**

Royal Life Saving Queensland will be considering training in the use of a blood glucometer at its trainers development workshops which will be announced in 2018.

Please click on the link to download the ARC Update: [https://resus.org.au/download/9\\_2\\_medical/anzcor-guideline-9-2-9-nov-2017.pdf](https://resus.org.au/download/9_2_medical/anzcor-guideline-9-2-9-nov-2017.pdf)



**AUSTRALIAN  
RESUSCITATION  
COUNCIL**



Andrew Chan, Carmen Wong, Victor Wong and Mr Wong

### Life Saving People: a wedding and an engagement

Royal Life Saving would like to wish Mr Victor Wong and his new wife Carman a lifetime of love and happiness. Victor Wong is currently the Vice Chairman of Long Tou Life Saving Club (Macau) which is one of our affiliated clubs. Their wedding ceremony was held in Macau early November 2017.

Since 2014 Royal Life Saving has been working with the local life saving association who not only provides quality life saving training but also manage a number of public swimming facilities in Macau. The beginning of this partnership saw us building local training capacity by delivering a series of Train the Trainer workshops to a group of experienced life saving trainers and health professionals. The mutual beneficial partnership gives the society the opportunity to introduce its vocational education programmes to the local lifesaving community.

On 17 December 2017 Mr Calum Docherty, Club Captain of Whitsunday Coast Life Saving Club became engaged with Ms Murrin Donegan. Calum is a passionate life saver and runs the club at Airlie Beach which has about 2-300 members. Most of the club's members are through the Royal Life Saving Junior Lifeguard program, which Calum runs at Boat Haven Beach, Airlie Lagoon and on Hamilton Island. In winter Calum has worked as a lifeguard in American Summer Camps and even volunteered as a paramedic in South America. It was during Calum's sojourn in USA that he met Murrin, and Royal Life Saving would like to congratulate Calum and Murrin on their engagement.



Calum Docherty Engagement

### Call for Nominations – Volunteer Position

I would like to call for nominations for the role of Club Liaison Officer. This is a volunteer role that reports to the Executive Directors and liaises between the affiliated clubs and the Society. The role would be ideal for a club member who wishes to be more involved in the Society. Nomination can be made online at the Society website.

Link to nominate: <https://www.rlssq.com.au/index2.php?show=Form-Nomination>



The Plantation 1970's

### The Plantation, 22 Years with Royal Life Saving

The Plantation was acquired by Royal Life Saving in 1995 with the intention of developing a self-sustainable facility as the home and headquarters of Royal Life Saving Society in Queensland.

The Facility was officially opened on the 9 December 1995 by Her Excellency the Governor Mrs. Leneen Forde and immediately became popular amongst locals and visitors to the area. During the winter season of 1996 a new activities pool which included two water slides, water features and a spa, was completed as well as improvements to the RLSSQ administration centre and the construction of two (2) new training rooms. The new training facility was branded the Asia Pacific Training College and was promoted internationally to lifesaving organisations throughout the world. By 1998, the Centre had hosted guests from China, Japan, Indonesia and Argentina as well as opening sister centres in China, Japan and Singapore.

An indoor learn to swim pool was built in 1998. Named after former President, the late Mr Jack Spender OBE, the pool was officially opened in October 1999. The pool provided an opportunity to expand the learn to swim and junior lifeguard programs at the facility, as well providing flexibility for the lifesaving and lifeguard courses conducted by the Society.



Bedourie Splash 'N' Arts Camp 2017

Over the following years, the facility has been the host to RLSSQ conferences and workshops, such as Aqualine 1998, Centenary Celebrations 2005, and many trainer and assessor professional development workshops.

In 2008, the Society welcomed AUSTSWIM Queensland headquarters, which has proven to be a valuable water safety partnership.

### Regional Activity – Bedourie Splash 'N' Arts Camp 2017

Bedouie, is a regional town in South West Qld on the boarder of the Northern Territory and 1,600 km from Brisbane. It has a population of 283 people (2011) and the local state school (Bedourie State School) hosts an annual Splash 'N' Arts Camp and has children from Birdsville and Windorah attending where they learn important swimming and life saving skills as part of the Camp. This year's camp was held from 13 November 2017 and trainers Helen Horner and Karen Gilcrest attended.

Helen and Karen took the 18 Children (plus adults) through the Love-2-Swim program followed by the Junior Lifeguard program. At the conclusion of the camp the children had a carnival (life saving pool competition) which was used as a tool to focus and Junior Lifeguards new skills.

### Royal Life Saving Welcomes Greek Lifeguards

Royal Life Saving hosted 17 Greek lifeguards (from the Lifeguard Academy of Northern Greece and the Hellenic Lifesaving Club) who are in Australia for professional development. They attend The Plantation in December for two intensive days of training leaving with a Bronze Medallion and Pool Lifeguard Certificate. They plan to be back next year for more training and we look forward to building an ongoing relationship with our new friends.



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