



Royal Life Saving Society - ACT

ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

www.royallifesaving.com.au

EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER



Royal Life Saving

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

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THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY (Incorporated By Royal Charter)

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H.R.H Prince Michael of Kent

THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY- AUSTRALIA

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HONOURS

COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL HONOURS

Service Cross
Mr G.P McGibbon
Mr H. Hird
Mr L. Holley
Peter Granleese

Service Medal
Justice Terence Higgins
Mr Peter Granleese
Mr Kevin Graham
Mr Lyal Holley
Mr Tony Bandle
Mr Greg Bowler
Mr H. Hird

Bar to Service Cross
Mr H. Hird

AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

Fellow of the Royal Life Saving Society
Mr G.P McGibbon
Mr K. Graham
Mr I. Cocks
Mr Tony Bandle

Service Order of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia
Mrs C. McGibbon
Ms D. Cocks

Meritorious Service Award
Mr H. Hird

Royal Life Saving Society Commendation for Bravery
Mr P. Zori
Mr D. McCaskill
Mr G. O'Neill
Mr M. Gilet
Ms N. Ballenden
Mr N. Hansford
Constable Russ Quilty

Royal Life Saving Society Australia Rescue Medal
Elise Waser
Barton Waser
Jon Waser

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual report for the Royal Life Saving Society Australia, ACT Branch for 2011/12.

We have witnessed some outstanding results and achievements by our branch over the past twelve months. The theme of 'everyone can be a lifesaver' has been embraced and emphasised through increased community engagement with targeted activities, as well as through the increased level of education and training programs provided to the wider ACT community.

The ACT branch has been advocating on important water safety issues in the ACT, in particular for some time now, swimming and water safety skills for children and home pool safety reforms for pool owners have been at the top of our agenda items. This year we have seen an additional funding from the ACT Government to assist children from disadvantaged backgrounds attend swimming and water safety programs. The ACT Government has also announced new home pool safety reforms will come in the near future. These are both fantastic results and we commend the ACT Government for taking action on these important issues.

Finally on behalf of the Royal Life Saving ACT board I would like to thank the following;

- The dedicated volunteers and instructors who continue to spread the Royal Life Saving messages
- The Royal Life Saving Australia National office and board for their continued support
- The ACT Government for their ongoing support
- The Canberra Labor Club for their generous support and contribution to the Swim for Life Program
- Canberra Milk for supporting our community lifesavers

Without the support of our members, volunteers and sponsors we could not achieve our mission of prevention of drowning and public safety, particularly around water.

Chief Justice Terence Higgins AO
President



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

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

Training continues to be a major strength of our organisation with over 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 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 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 7 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 professional backgrounds including Teachers, Ambulance officers, Fire-fighters and Lifeguards. Our approach to utilise industry professionals as our core trainers has helped to build our reputation as one of the leading RTO's in the ACT.



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% 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.

The Ngadyung program which started in 2007 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.

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.

Sean Hodges
Executive Officer



ADVOCACY

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

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

Our advocates are lifesavers! Our staff have actively participated in water safety forums, including, hosting the Splash 2011 conference and presenting at the Australian Water Safety Conference 2012.

Royal Life Saving volunteers and personnel sit on a range of boards and advisory panels of various not-for-profit organisations. Some of these organisations include the Australian Council for the Teaching of Swimming and Water Safety (AUSTSWIM and the Australian Resuscitation Council, ACT Branch.

National Drowning Report Launch

Canberra played host to the launch of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia’s National Drowning Report in September 2011. Ambassador Grant Hackett was present at the event and took the time to speak to the audience which consisted of Royal Life Saving delegates, local and federal politicians, special invited guests and other key stakeholders. Grant shared his personal experiences and his view on the importance of learning to swim for all ages.



Keep Watch - Ambassadors

Royal Life Saving ACT has continued to involve local Members of the Legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament to act as Keep Watch ambassadors.

Royal Life Saving ACT would like to thank the following ambassadors:

- Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, Chief Minister
- Mr Andrew Barr MLA, Deputy Chief Minister
- Ms Joy Burch MLA, Member for Brindabella
- Mr Alistair Coe MLA, Member for Ginninderra
- Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Member for Molonglo
- Mr Steve Doszpot MLA, Member for Brindabella
- Mrs Vicki Dunne MLA, Member for Ginninderra
- Mr Jeremy Hanson MLA, Member for Molonglo
- Senator Gary Humphries, Senator for the ACT
- Ms Meredith Hunter MLA, Member for Ginninderra
- Senator Kate Lundy, Senator for ACT
- Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Speaker, Legislative Assembly
- Mr Zed Seselja MLA, Member for Molonglo
- Mr Brendan Smyth MLA, Deputy Can. Liberal Leader

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





HEALTH PROMOTION

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

Royal Life Saving has a proud history of developing health promotion programs that target special needs groups such as:

- Children under five (Keep Watch)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Members
- Refugees, Recent Arrivals and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities
- Older Australians (Grey Medallion)
- and others including alcohol related drowning deaths

Historically, Royal Life Saving's programs have targeted saving lives from drowning, and these have always been approached through the encouragement of safe aquatic recreation.



Keep Watch

Keep Watch continues to be a key drowning prevention and water safety program for parents and carers of children under five years of age in the ACT. The program has a wide variety of resources and sub-programs that target specific locations such as bath time, the farm and public pools.

With nearly all public pools across the ACT participating in the Keep Watch @ Public Pools program, and thousands of resources distributed across the Capital, 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 program now has 26 fact sheets that provide information to help people keep themselves, and those within their care, safe when at a variety of aquatic locations or while undertaking aquatic activities. The information in these fact sheets is regularly reviewed and updated to ensure the most relevant information is being communicated in the best possible way.

The fact sheets cover a range of topics from the four Keep Watch Actions of: Supervise, Restrict Access, Water Awareness and Resuscitate; to Farm Water Safety, Home Pool Safety, Watercraft Safety and Hypoxic Blackout among others.

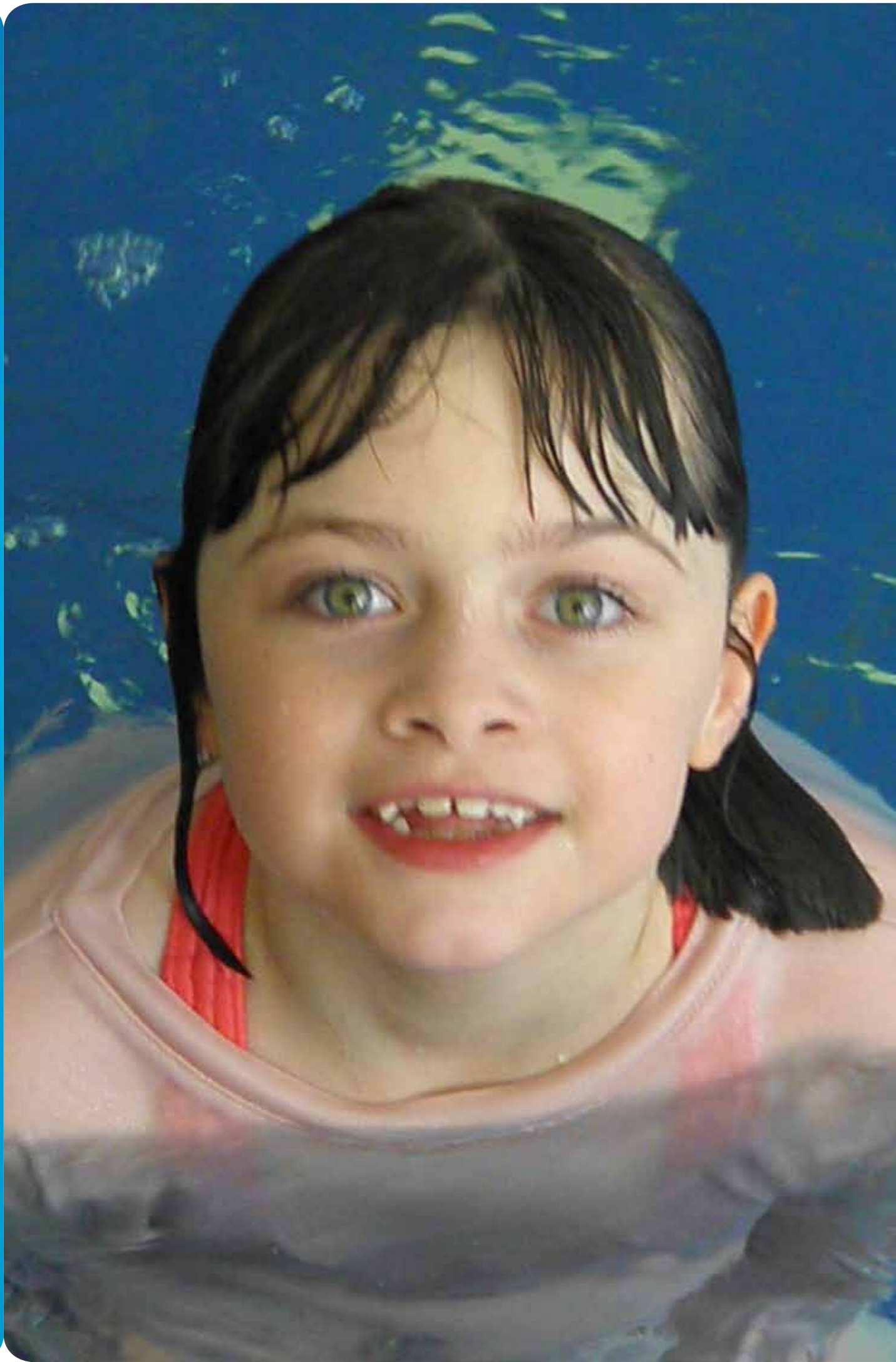
The Keep Watch website (www.keepwatch.com.au) provides an invaluable source of information for parents/carers, grandparents, child care workers, swim teachers, community health workers or others interested in preventing child drowning. The website has been recently refreshed to showcase the wide variety of resources the program has to offer and also includes a full list of the official Keep Watch community ambassadors.

Keep Watch – Home Pool Safety Checklist

PoolWerx, sponsor of the Keep Watch program for the past five years, continue to support Royal Life Saving in promoting not only the Keep Watch program and resources, but also the Home Pool Safety Weekend. Over the last five years, over 150 Australian children under the age of five have drowned. Half of these deaths occur in home swimming pools.

The Home Pool Safety Weekend campaign uses the slogan "Make this weekend your Home Pool Safety weekend" and encourages pool owners to use the Home Pool Safety Checklist. The checklist acts as a basic reminder to pool owners to check, fix and maintain their home pool and surrounds in order to eliminate child drowning. The checklist can be downloaded from www.homepoolsafety.com.au.





EDUCATION

Water Safety Education plays a vital role in advocating the prevention of drowning and promoting a healthy and active lifestyle.

Royal Life Saving encourages participation in aquatic activities and aims to develop skills, knowledge, positive attitudes and safe behaviours of our local community members in order to participate in a safe and enjoyable manner. The water safety education programs aim to build awareness of dangers in aquatic environments, teach essential water safety and swimming 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 education scope endeavours to provide 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.

Our key education programs include:

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

Swim and Survive Partners

The Royal Life Saving Society Swim and Survive program is research-driven and places an emphasis on incorporating survival skills into swimming lessons for children of all ages. This, along with the integrated approach that is based around the life stages of a child, sets Swim and Survive apart from other learn to swim programs.

The ACT boasts 3 great Swim and Survive Partners - Canberra Olympic Pool, Dickson Aquatic Centre and Lakeside Leisure Centre - who all agreed, once again, to provide the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia's Swim and Survive program to the community through core programs at their respective Swim Schools this year. Royal Life Saving ACT would like to thank these partners.



Proudly supported by



Schools Swim and Survive Program

The 2011-12 ACT Primary Schools Swimming and Water Safety program was a huge success and involved 3,396 public school students from across 30 ACT public schools. These numbers are a 16% increase on 2010-11.

The Minister's Swim and Survive Certificates has been implemented to create a localised brand to generate community awareness and profile within the ACT, as well as providing an aspiration goal for ACT students and families. Our aim is to use this to encourage schools, teachers and parents to ensure swimming and water safety programs are offered within their local schools. This year 424 Ministers Swim and Survive certificates were issued.

Another 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. The success of this year's program is a result of three years hard work in promoting a consistent message of the importance of swimming and water safety. In 2011 alone we had a total of 22 local media related messages for the program which included TV, radio and print. The use of media has played a vital role in getting our message out to the local school communities of the importance of the Swim and Survive swimming and water safety program. We had a total of 45 instructors and 6 on-deck Coordinators assist with the program during 2011. We recruited people from many different walks of life including university students, stay at home mums and dads, trained primary school teachers and child care workers. We also had a number of recruits from the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community as a result of our strong ATSI connections and programs.

All RLS Instructors undertook a range of training courses and professional development workshops to ensure they had a vast knowledge of swimming and water safety skills for teaching.

The training courses provided if necessary included:

- Austswim: Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety
- RLS Senior First Aid
- RLS Bronze Medallion
- Working with children with Autism/Aspergers syndrome





TRAINING

Royal Life Saving ACT's strong focus on training is evident with a high number of Pool Lifeguard participants this year, despite a declining trend of available lifeguards in the local industry.

Royal Life Saving ACT has worked closely with pools and schools across the Territory to ensure that participation in these courses remains consistent and that newly trained Lifeguards receive the on-the-job support they need.

In addition to the standard Pool Lifeguard training courses, the branch hosted the first ACT Aquatic Supervisors course. There was a great level of participation from Managers, Supervisors and Lifeguards alike who relished the opportunity to extend and/or formalize their current knowledge and skills. Experienced trainers from New South Wales travelled to Canberra to facilitate the course and guided learners on pre-arranged site visits which proved to be a crowd favourite. Participants were able to see how other facilities operate on these visits and then take practical skills back to their own workplace. The local Aquatics Industry received a great boost from this course and Royal Life Saving ACT will continue to offer this advanced level of training to ACT pool managers and supervisors.

First Aid participation has been at an all-time high for Royal Life Saving ACT and as our training team has expanded, so too has our capacity to accommodate more group bookings from local businesses, schools and community groups. In the past year we have facilitated close to 40 First Aid group training courses. The Royal Life Saving ACT Teacher Training program has offered free RLSSA Instructor and Examiner training to ACT school teachers for over 5 years now. 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. This year we introduced 7 new Instructors from various schools and updated the skills of 12 more Examiners. As a result, close to 250 school students across the ACT can now boast the achievement of their new certifications.

In addition to the free Teacher Training opportunities, Royal Life Saving ACT continues to support the delivery of lifesaving programs in ACT schools through other professional development courses for teachers and school staff, primary school WaterSmart programs and the provision of training resources and equipment when available. Royal Life Saving ACT provided an updated CPR chart to every ACT Primary School this year.

STAFF

Royal Life Saving ACT welcomed a new casual administration assistant, Stephanie Baker to the office team this year. Stephanie assisted with data management, for the growing ACT Swim and Survive Primary Schools program, and general course administration. Stephanie is currently studying Public Relations and International Studies at university.

Paula Robinson also joined our training team in 2011 as an experienced and knowledgeable First Aid and Resuscitation Trainer. Paula is currently a school teacher in the ACT with an extensive background in paramedics and training. Feedback from the training courses Paula facilitates is always positive and participants really enjoy the hands on approach, practical experience and real-life case studies that she offers.

Royal Life Saving ACT understands the importance of professional development for staff and trainers and was able to send four ACT representatives to the National Austswim Conference in July 2011. Nicole Lloyd, Ben Cuttriss, Cherry O'Connor and Sean Hodges were present to witness the AIS Swim School win AUSTSWIM Swim School of the Year for the second year running! Congratulations to Lyn McDermott and her team at the Institute for this exceptional result. Various other professional development opportunities were made available to training and office staff throughout the year including skills updates, team development sessions, national conferences and local guest speakers presenting on topics such as "Multiculturalism in Training".

In 2011, nine Royal Life Saving ACT trainers were enrolled for a qualification upgrade to the new Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, TAE10. This was a pro-active step taken by Royal Life Saving ACT to ensure quality training and assessment services. The branch aims to have all trainers qualified with the new Certificate by September 2012.

In December 2011 at the Royal Life Saving ACT end of year celebrations staff and trainers were excited by the introduction of some new 'in-house' award categories. We'd like to congratulate the following trainers and swim teachers who took out the inaugural titles:

- Trainer of the Year - Ben Cuttriss
- Swim and Survive Teacher of the Year - Trudi Watson
- Swim and Survive Appreciation Award - Jose Duardo
- Trainers' Encouragement Award - Tim Sedgwick

Below Left: Ben Cuttriss ACT Trainer of the Year 2011





SPORT

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.

Canberra Milk Seals

Training for the ACT Canberra Milk SEALS commenced in August 2011 and right from the beginning we could tell there would be difficulties with selections due to some fantastic talent. Having competed for the first time in over 20 years in 2010, the team now had a goal to benchmark their efforts and successes on.

Training continued throughout the year leading up to the National Australian Pool Life Saving Championships to be held in Adelaide in January 2012. Fundraising efforts including a Bunning's BBQ were successful and the ACT was able to officially register a team for the prestigious national event.

CANBERRA
MILK
As Fresh as it Gets!

2012 Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships

Overall the ACT Canberra Milk SEALS placed 5th in the Opens Category – a result equal to the previous year. The team did well in the 25m Manikin Carry relay events with both the Men's and Women's teams coming in 4th place. Some outstanding individual achievements include:

COMPETITOR	PLACE	EVENT
Matt D'Arcy	5th	Men's Open 200m Obstacle Swim
Hannah Miles	8th	Women's Open 100m Manikin Carry
Shane Hillier	8th	OVERALL Men's Open Category
Rhys Davies	9th	OVERALL Men's Open Category
Johnny Morris	10th	OVERALL Men's Open Category

The highlight of the competition for the ACT though was undoubtedly to unexpected result for Royal Life Saving ACT CEO, Sean Hodges, who competed in the Masters 100m Manikin Tow event and finished in 3rd place! Sean happily received his Bronze Medal in front of hundreds of cheering spectators! Congratulations Sean!

01 Sean Hodges with his Bronze Medal at the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships, Jan 2012

02 Hannah Miles and Luke Hinchcliffe volunteering at the ACT SEALS Bunning's Fundrasier BBQ, Oct 2011



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AQUATIC INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

ACT Water Safety and Austswim Awards

The ACT Water Safety and Austswim Awards were hosted by the Royal Life Saving ACT branch in December 2011 and presented by Royal Life Saving ACT CEO Sean Hodges together with Minister for Sport and Recreation Mr Andrew Barr. Mr Hodges and the Minister welcomed special guests and award nominees on the night to again celebrate the dedication of local individual and groups to Water Safety and Drowning Prevention.

Award Recipients include:

Award Category	Recipient
The Minister's Award for the most significant contribution to Water Safety by an individual	Margaret Roberts
Keep Watch @ Public Pools – Pool of the Year	Canberra International Sport and Aquatic Centre
Royal Life Saving ACT Rescue of the Year	Brendan Pollard Joel Rivers
Royal Life Saving ACT Lifeguard of the Year	Patrick O'Keeffe
Royal Life Saving ACT Lifesaving Educator of the Year	Ben Lynch
President's Commendation for Lifesaving	Ben Cuttriss
Ngadyung Award	Bradley Bell
Ken 'Chuck' Evans Award	Heidi Nairne
AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety™ (TSW)	Claire Griffiths
AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics™ (INF)	Yvonne Court
AUSTSWIM Presenter	Lyn McDermott
AUSTSWIM Recognised Swimming and Water Safety School	Active Leisure Centre

Left: Alison Green accepting Austswim 2011 ACT Swim School of the Year award on behalf of Active Leisure Centre - from Minister Barr

Right: Joel Rivers receiving Royal Life Saving ACT 2011 Rescue of the Year award – with Minister Barr



ACT Lifeguard Challenge Series

On the 9th February 2012 the inaugural ACT Lifeguard Challenge was held at Dickson Pool. The event was an exciting inclusion to the local industry calendar and was met with anticipation by ACT Aquatic Facilities.

Seven teams from 4 different pools competed in events such as:

- Obstacle Swim
- Manikin Carry
- Manikin Tow
- Relays
- Simulated Emergency Rescue Competition

The less-than-ideal weather conditions did not put the competitors off their game and the races continued through rain and chill. The end result was a particularly happy one for the hosts, Dickson Aquatic Centre whose number 1 team the "Juggernauts" claimed first place overall.

Special mentions go to Milly Brent – highest female point scorer, and Luke Hinchcliffe – highest male point scorer.



Below: The Dickson Aquatic Centre "Juggernauts" with their 1st place trophy – The Lifeguard Cup - and prizes at the ACT Lifeguard Challenge, Feb 2012.
Left to right: Jesse Kennedy, Alex Debeljakovic, Patrick O'Keeffe, Jack Matthews





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 / 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: Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander community members, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities, refugee communities, second and third generation arrivals.

The Canberra Labor Club Swim for Life Program

The Canberra Labor Club Swim for Life program aims to encourage greater participation in swimming and water safety programs for all ACT Children. This year the Canberra Labor Club Swim for Life Program directly involved over 5,000 ACT Children, with the Canberra Labor Club brand reaching 100% of all ACT Schools and 40% of all ACT primary school families.

The Canberra Labor Club's Swim for Life Program creates a localised brand to generate community awareness and profile for swimming and water safety within the ACT. We incorporate the Canberra Labor Club Swim for Life branding across a variety of programs which encourage participation and skill development in swimming and water safety. We know that not every child is going to be the next Ian Thorpe however we aim for every child to be able to Swim and Survive and we want them to continue to Swim for Life.

In 2011 the following programs were conducted largely thanks to the kind support from the Canberra Labor Club;

- ACT Primary Schools Swim and Survive Program
- Swim for Life Holiday Program
- ACT Junior Lifeguard Program
- Water Smart Program
- Active Family Fun Days

The success of this year's program is a result of three years hard work in promoting a consistent message of the importance of swimming and water safety. In 2011 alone we had a total of 22 local media related messages for the program which included TV, radio and print. The use of media has played a vital role in getting our message out to local school communities of the importance of the swimming and water safety program.





NGADYUNG

The Ngadyung program was developed to target local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) communities and involve them in aquatic recreation and safety focused activities.

The program implemented strategies to increase participation rates among local ATSI community members in swimming and lifesaving whilst improving self-esteem, skills and establishing and supporting employment pathways for ATSI people.

To date the Ngadyung program has reached over 40% of the local ATSI community and provided employment opportunities within the aquatic industry to over 20 community members.

A special thanks should go to Brad Bell and Heidi Narine for driving this program, Brad and Heidi were originally employed to run the program however funding run out during 2010/11 and Brad and Heidi have volunteered their time to continue to run the program to ensure local ATSI students don't miss out on their opportunity to participate in the program.

Ngadyung represents at local Zone Swimming Competition

On the 29 March 2012 Ruby Riley-Brown and Nakira Riley-Brown attended their school's Zone Swimming Carnival which groups local schools into a higher level of competition. Both the girls raced in the 50m Breast Stroke and 100m Breast Stroke events.

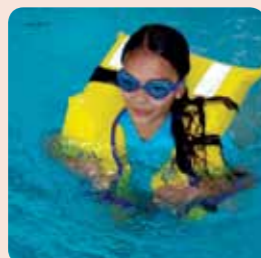
The girls have been attending Ngadyung Swim and Survive lessons with Royal Life Saving ACT at Canberra Olympic Pool on the weekends since 2008. Both Ruby and Nakira have a real interest in learning to swim and have always participated with a positive attitude in their lessons.

It is great that they each had the opportunity to participate in the Zone Swimming Carnival and enhance their confidence and self esteem.

Congratulations Ruby and Nakira, keep on achieving! We look forward to the results!



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01 Participating in the Ngadyung

02 Ngadyung Logo

03 Ruby Riley-Brown and Nakira Riley-Brown at Zone Swimming Carnival

04 Participating in the Ngadyung

AUSTSWIM

AUSTSWIM has maintained a strong presence in the ACT Aquatics Industry over the past 12 months. With some of the largest swim schools in Canberra choosing to partner with AUSTSWIM and become official "AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centres", the community has been able to witness the professional growth of our iconic organisation right on their doorsteps.

The course providers for AUSTSWIM in the Capital – Royal Life Saving ACT – have worked closely with the AUSTSWIM Head Office to improve systems and communication with Swimming and Water Safety Teachers who are new to the industry.

These new teachers form the future of our industry and it is important that we recognise their value early on and nurture the passions that each of them hold. With this in mind, Royal Life Saving ACT and AUSTSWIM have implemented a new Professional Development plan for local and regional Swimming and Water Safety teachers and hope to continue to offer a diverse range of opportunities throughout the Territory.

2012 State Advisory Committee

Sean Hodges	Royal Life Saving ACT
Cherry O'Connor	Royal Life Saving ACT
Lyn McDermott	AIS Swim School – BRUCE
Margaret Roberts	ACT Swimming

Royal Life Saving provided AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety (TSW) training for 160 trainee swim teachers this year and AUSTSWIM Extension training for 36 more.

The ACT Water Safety Awards, incorporating the State AUSTSWIM Awards were held on the 7th December 2011 and presented by Royal Life Saving ACT CEO Mr Sean Hodges. The event was particularly exciting for the staff at Active Leisure Centre who, this year, upset AIS' reign and took home the state award for 'AUSTSWIM Swim School of the Year'. Other deserving winners on the night were:

- Claire Griffiths - 'AUSTSWIM Teacher of the year – Swimming and Water Safety'
- Yvonne Court - 'AUSTSWIM Teacher of the Year – Infant and Preschool Aquatics'
- Lyn McDermott – 'AUSTSWIM Presenter of the Year'

As in previous years, AUSTSWIM hosted the National Water Safety Education Conference on the Gold Coast in July and representatives from the ACT were able to attend and witness the impressive standard of presenters, trades, and events over the 3 days.

The conference included the National AUSTSWIM Awards presentation dinner and representatives from the ACT were proud to see Active Leisure Centre nominated as a contender in the National Swim School of the Year category.

ACT Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety are looking forward to some exciting new developments for AUSTSWIM in the coming year including reviewed and refreshed programs, new Professional Development opportunities, and additional employment pathways within the local industry.

AUSTSWIM will continue to work collaboratively with key stakeholders in these areas to ensure the best possible outcomes for both teachers and learn-to-swim students across the Territory.



2011/12 Award Figures

ROYAL LIFE SAVING AWARD FIGURES JULY 11 – JUNE 12		PARTICIPANTS
Water Safety Education (classroom) incl: Water Smart		225
	Swim and Survive Active (5-14 years)	6,396
Bronze Star		11
Bronze Medallion	New Issue	302
	Statement of Attainment	302
Resuscitation	New Issue	305
	Reaccreditation	223
	Statement of Attainment	258
Pool Lifeguard	New Issue	109
	Reaccreditation	119
	Statement of Attainment	24
First Aid	New Issue	1,148
	Reaccreditation	138
	Statement of Attainment	1,203
Instructor/trainer Assessor		48
AUSTSWIM Instructor	Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety	143
	Extension Courses	36
RLSSA Partner Pools	RLSSA Partners	12
	Swim and Survive	3
Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments – Public Pool		6
Swimming Pool Safety Assessments - Home		2
TOTAL		11,045



EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER




Royal Life Saving

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