



Royal Life Saving ACT

2014 / 2015

ANNUAL REPORT

Officers of the Society

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY

Governed by Royal Charter

Patron

Her Majesty The Queen

Commonwealth President

H.R.H. Prince Michael of Kent

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

Patron

His Excellency The Governor General of Australia

National President

Ms. Dianne Montalto ESM

National Deputy President

The Hon. Terence John Higgins AO QC

Branch Director

The Hon. Terence John Higgins AO QC

ROYAL LIFE SAVING ACT

President

The Hon. Terence John Higgins AO QC

Vice President

Mr Sean Hodges

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Anthony Bandle

Elected Member to the Board of Directors

Mr Christopher Graham

Mr Peter Macaulay (retired May 2015)

Mr Tim Sedgwick

Mrs Joy Terry

Executive Director

Cherry O'Connor

Appointments

Auditor - RSM Bird Cameron

Medical Officer - Ben Lynch

Chief Examiner - Bruce McAslan

Head Trainer - Rachael Hogan

Officers of the Society

ROYAL LIFE SAVING ACT LIFE MEMBERS

The Hon. Terence John Higgins Ao QC
Geoff McGibbon
Christine McGibbon
Harold Hird
Lyal Holley
Peter Castle
Peter Macaulay
Michael Higgins
Anthony Bandle

COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL HONOURS

Service Cross

The Hon. Terence John Higgins Ao QC
Mr Geoff McGibbon
Mr Harold Hird
Mr Lyal Holley
Mr Peter Granleese
Mr Anthony Bandle
Mr Ian Cocks

Service Medal

The Hon. Terence John Higgins Ao QC
Mr Kenneth Applin
Mr Peter Granleese
Mr Kevin Graham
Mr Lyal Holley
Mr Tony Bandle
Mr Greg Bowler
Mr Harold Hird

Bar to Service Cross

Mr Harold Hird

AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

Fellow of the Royal Life Saving Society
The Hon. Terence John Higgins AO QC
Mr Geoff McGibbon
Mr Kevin Graham
Mr Ian Cocks
Mr Anthony Bandle
Mr Peter Granleese

Service Order of the Royal Life Saving Society - Australia

Mrs Christine McGibbon
Mrs Dianne Cocks

Meritorious Service Award

The Hon. Terence John Higgins AO QC
Mr Harold Hird

ACT BRAVERY AWARDS

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. Hnasford
Constable R. Quilty, Australian Federal Police

RRLSSA Bravery Cross

Mr Neil Maher
Miss Emily de Gier

RLSSA Rescue Medal

Miss Elise Waser
Mr Barton Waser
Mr Jon Waser

RLSSA Resuscitation Club Medal

Mr Neil Maher
Mr Paul Reynolds



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Royal Life Saving ACT

ANNUAL REPORT

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President's Report

It is a pleasure to present this years Annual Report for Royal Life Saving ACT.

Under the direction of a strong and skilled new Board of Directors, the branch has thrived this year. We welcome the new Committee members, in particular Ms Joy Terry who was successful in being elected as the first ever female Committee member for Royal Life Saving ACT.

The Inland Waterways Project has been a key focus for the staff and volunteers and the Society extends it's gratitude to all involved in pursuing effective outcomes in the area of river drownings.

The ACT Aquatic Industry has seen the review of outdated legislation over the past 12 months and Royal Life Saving ACT is pleased to have been involved in consultations with the ACT Government on safety standards for our Public Pools.

I look forward to the outcomes of the following year and thank Cherry O'Connor and her staff for the diligent work conducted in 2014/15



The Hon. Terence Higgins AO QC

Executive Director's Report

With a year of spectacular growth and achievement behind us we can reflect on the efforts of 2014/15 with a sense of immense pride and fulfillment. Royal Life Saving ACT has had a focus of developing partnerships and associations over the past 12 months and through this, has been rewarded with new opportunities in almost every area of operation.

The Canberra Labor Club's support has continued ensuring Swim and Survive is accessible and affordable for children at risk of missing out through their grass roots community contribution program. The Canberra Labor Club Swim 4 Life program enjoyed it's most successful year to date with over 150 Participants being nominated through Royal Life Saving ACT Community Partners; Barnardos Canberra, Marymead, and YWCA. Many thanks to RLSSA and the Swim and Survive fund who also contributed to these programs.

The ACT Aquatic Industry continued to recognize Royal Life Saving ACT as the peak industry body for Canberra and the region. Our professional Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment services assist all major leisure centres in the ACT with their continuous improvement of safety standards. These improvements and achievements were again celebrated at the annual ACT Aquatic Industry and Water Safety Awards. The awards were endorsed by Safe Waters ACT and proudly hosted by Royal Life Saving ACT with support from The Canberra Labor Club. Congratulations are due to the award winners –and a special mention for Florey Primary School on their 'Outstanding Commitment to Water Safety by an ACT Primary School' award.

Royal Life Saving ACT' has maintains a strong working relationship with the ACT Education and Training Directorate and is pleased at the Directorate's ongoing commitment to ensuring accessible Water Safety Education for all ACT public primary students.

This commitment was evident when the Directorate mandated Water Safety lessons, both pool and classroom based, for Year 2 students in 2015. Royal Life Saving ACT is proud to be developing and delivering these programs for the Education and Training Directorate in partnership with local aquatic centres.

At a national level RLSSA is leading the way in Drowning Prevention strategies and activities with the roll-out of the Australia-wide Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Project. The project, specifically funded by the Australian Government, is providing interventions across the country with a focus on communities around rivers, lakes, ponds, creeks and dams. Royal Life Saving ACT implemented various activities across Canberra including a Cold Water Awareness campaign that consisted of the RLSSA mascot, Lochie the Lifeguard, visiting local schools and providing free Water Safety talks to primary students of all ages. Our staff, volunteers, members and ambassadors continue to be the life-force behind all that we do and achieve. Without such a dedicated team working day to day to accomplish our goals, Royal Life Saving ACT's impact would be significantly reduced. We thank each and every individual who has been involved over the last 12 months from paid employees right down to members of the community who may have purchased a sausage sizzle at one of our many community fundraising events! Moving into the new financial year and warmer weather, we encourage every Canberran to think about what the phrase "Everyone Can Be A Lifesaver" means to them. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved with Royal Life Saving activities in the ACT and we welcome all participation and contributions great and small!

Cherry O'Connor

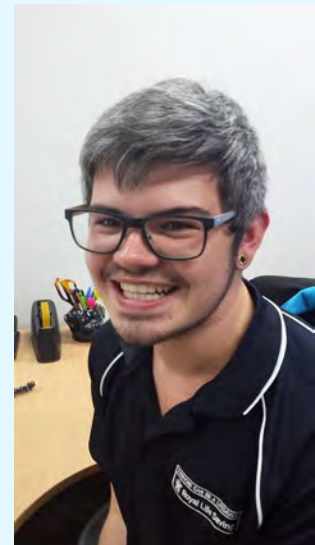
Our Team

Royal Life Saving ACT welcomed 4 new members to the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting in November 2014. Mr Sean Hodges, Mr Tim Sedgwick, Mr Chris Graham and Mrs Joy Terry replaced long standing members Mr Harold Hird, Mr Lyal Holley and Mr Peter Granleese, and filled the vacancy created by the earlier resignation of Mr Peter Castle. The historic addition of Mrs Terry as the first ever female director to be elected to the Royal Life Saving ACT Board was particularly well received.



Joy Terry
First Female Director

Nicole Lloyd is Royal Life Saving ACT's Education Manager. Nicole is responsible for the development and implementation of Swimming and Water Safety programs for ACT primary schools and community groups. Nicole's vast industry experience, originated in Sydney 17 years ago. As well as school programs Nicole also managed the ACT Community Services Directorate's Muslim Women's' Swimming Program between Jan and May 2015.



Dayne Garani
Administrator

Dayne Garani joined the Royal Life Saving ACT team in October 2014 and proven himself a valued team member and avid water safety advocate. As well as the duties within his Administrator role, Dayne has also taken responsibility for the organisation of community events for Royal Life Saving ACT, providing the organisation with various new fundraising opportunities.

Previous Compliance Officer Ben Cuttriss moved to a position with the Royal Life Saving Society - Australia National Branch in June 2015 making way for Alison Green in the position of Training and Development Officer. Ali's has a genuine love of the aquatic industry and passion for water safety. She has worked managing swim schools and lifeguard teams for over 8 years and brings, among many other things, her industry connections and business know-how to the role.



Alison Green
Training and Development Officer

Our Team

Jackie Rousseau came on board in January 2015 in the position of Project Officer for the nationally funded Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Project (IWDP). Working closely with RLSSA national branch Jackie liaises with community, schools and local government to identify concerns and implement strategies for water safety concerns within the ACT. Jackie's outside-the-box approach saw the introduction of a brand new 'Cold Water Awareness' campaign in April 2015.



Jackie Rousseau
IWDP Project Officer

The Swimming and Water Safety team of Program Coordinators, Swimming Instructors and Activity Leaders delivered lifesaving lessons to over 7000 primary school students this year. Skills taught from the RLSSA Swim and Survive program ranged from treading water to performing CPR. Water Safety talks in ACT schools were made more available through the IWDP with many staff members taking advantage of the opportunity to branch out from their typical roles in the organisation and explore the diverse range of employment opportunities available through Royal Life Saving ACT.

Royal Life Saving ACT Trainers are the best in the industry. The entire training team, consisting of both employed casual trainers, and 'offsite' trainers delivering in their own school/ workplace, is dedicated to the provision of excellent training and assessment services. As a result, Royal Life Saving ACT learners and their employers are performing at an excellent standard across the Territory. This quality is demonstrated in the consistently high-percentage results achieved by ACT aquatic facilities in their annual Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments.



Swimming and Water Safety Crew



HEALTHY SCHOOLS NETWORK ACT

Royal Life Saving ACT is proud of the relationships and partnerships it has developed across industry and the community. Our advocates exist in schools, pools, local business, government, and throughout the non-profit sector. This year the organisation has been heavily involved in the development of the local cluster group, 'ACT Healthy Schools Network'. The Network consists of various local non-profit organisations using a collective voice to advocate for the health and well-being of ACT school students. Royal Life Saving has assisted with the design and implementation of a website for the Network and partnered with Asthma ACT to officially launch the new site to ACT school teachers at the 2014 ACTIVate Conference in Canberra at the AIS.



healthyschoolsact.com.au

Asthma ACT CEO Danielle Dal Cortivo and Royal Life Saving ACT CEO Cherry O'Connor launch the HSN website at ACTIVate 2014

Advocacy

2014 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Active Leisure Centre

Asthma ACT

Arthritis ACT

ACT Community Services Directorate

ACT Education and Training Directorate

ACT Sports and Recreation Services

ACT Health Directorate

ACT Schools

Action Charters

Australian Defence Force Academy

Australian Federal Police

Australian Muslim Women's Association

Barnardos Canberra

Canberra Cavalry

Canberra Coaches

Cancer Council ACT

Dickson Aquatic Centre

Islamic Society of ACT

Kidsafe ACT

Marymead

Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services

Spanish Club Canberra

Swim and Fitness at the AIS

The Canberra Labor Club Group

The Club Group

TrophyLink

YMCA Canberra

YWCA Canberra

YMCA NSW





Aquatic Industry

Aquatic Industry



The Royal Life Saving Society's Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment (AFSA) is a well-respected process within the industry that serves to assist Aquatic Facilities in continuous improvement of safety standards. ACT Sport and Recreation Services currently require all ACT Government owned pool venues to undergo an AFSA annually. Other privately owned sites do the same as part of their own risk management processes. Royal Life Saving ACT issued a 5-star rating to 8 ACT public pool facilities in 2014/15.

2014/15 5-Star Facilities

Active Leisure Centre, Erindale

Australian Institute of Sport, Bruce

Canberra International Sports and Aquatic Centre, Belconnen

Canberra Olympic Pool

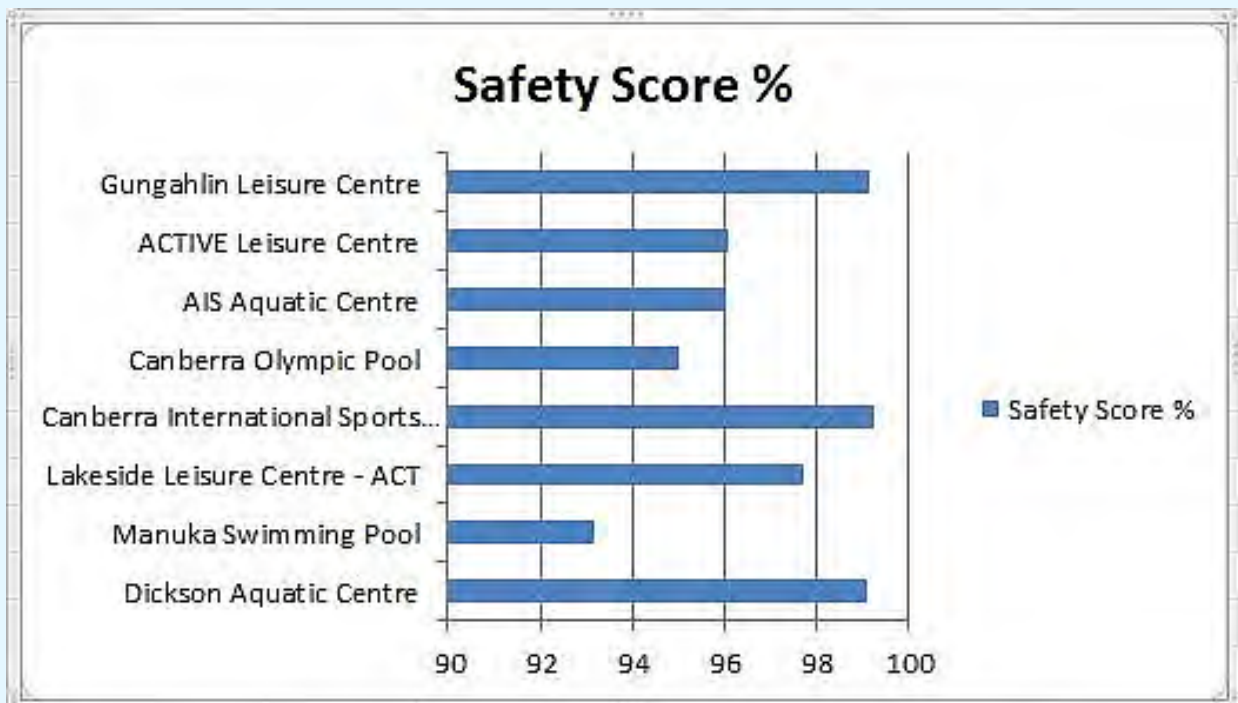
Dickson Aquatic Centre

Gungahlin Leisure Centre

Lakeside Leisure Centre, Tuggeranong

Manuka Swimming Pool

Assessment safety scores were impressive for all participating venues during 2014/15. All facilities scored above 90% compliance fairing exceptionally well against the last reported National mean score of 80.1% (RLSSA State of the Industry Report 2013).



Aquatic Industry

Legislation for the local aquatic industry is almost ready to change with the ACT's Public Baths and Bathing Act 1956 set to be replaced with the ACT Public Pools Act 2015 as of July 1st. Some of the criteria and standards within the new Act will reflect or supersede industry standards and recommendations set out by Royal Life Saving Society – Australia in the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations. Royal Life Saving ACT and ACT Public pools were consulted during the process of the legislation review and are preparing for implementation at the start of the new financial year.

As an extension service from the AFSA, Royal Life Saving ACT provided signage assessment consultation services to Townsend + Associates Architects as they built a brand new architecturally designed pool space at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Yarralumla, Canberra. The challenge faced by the builders was to provide an aesthetically pleasing and clutter free environment whilst still upholding the Australian Standards for water safety signage.



Photo c/o John Gollings Photography and Architecture and Design.

Aquatic Industry

Capacity Building for the benefit of Industry

Royal Life Saving ACT has worked continuously with aquatic industry stakeholders to ensure that products and services are current, valid and relevant to all who access them. In 2014/15 the partnerships that the organisation shares with ACT Public Pools were strengthened with newly available professional development workshops and initial consultation around the design, development and implementation of a new electronic industry network system. The web-based system would serve to offer Aquatic Facility managers, coordinators, and lifeguards a unique online hub with features such as:

- AFSA reports and results history;
- Learning resource library for both new and updating lifeguards;
- Automatic qualifications notifications;
- Unified industry incident reporting system;
- Links to Royal Life Saving ACT training history for individuals.

Royal Life Saving ACT hopes to explore the feasibility and concept of the system further in the New Year upon additional consultation with industry, government, and other relevant stakeholders.





ACT LIFEGUARD CUP TROPHY HISTORY

2012

Dickson Aquatic
Centre

2013

Australian Institute of
Sport

2014

Dickson Aquatic
Centre

2015

Australian Institute of
Sport

Aquatic Industry

ACT Lifeguard Challenge

This year Royal Life Saving ACT hosted the ACT Lifeguard Challenge with a new record number of participants. 40 local lifeguards and over 20 volunteers came together to enjoy the annual event which was held at the reigning champions' venue - Dickson Aquatic Centre.

Lifeguard Challenge events included obstacle swims, timed rescue races and specific rescue scenarios, however, the team relays and rope throw events were the standout favourites.

The ACT Lifeguard Challenge was first held in 2012 with just 20 lifeguards. Participation has doubled since and is not the only aspect of the event that is expected to grow next year. The rivalry between Dickson Aquatic Centre and the Australian Institute of Sport is also bound to reignite as teams begin training for next year's Challenge.

Special mentions go to Luke Hinchcliffe from the AIS who won his third Overall Male Title, and to Hannah Hobson for winning the Overall Female Title.



'The Hinchcliffes' - victorious for the AIS at the 2015 ACT Lifeguard Challenge

Aquatic Industry

Australian Pool Life Saving Championships

The ACT S.E.A.L.S. Lifesaving Team traveled to the Australian Pool Life Saving Championships in Hobart, Tasmania in January 2015 and returned victorious with a best ever overall team result of 4th in the opens category plus 2 outstanding individual medals.

Queensland took 1st place in the opens category on 369 points

NSW second on 366 points

Victoria in 3rd on 310 points

ACT S.E.A.L.S. were 4th with 253 points.



Ben Cuttriss - Bronze Men's Masters Line Throw
Olivia Columb - Gold Open Women's Line Throw



Open ACT SEALS: Hannah Hobson, Charlotte Packard, Katherine Bell, Olivia Columb, Johnny Morris, Kevin Dick, Shane Hillier, Ryan Goodall

2014 ACT Aquatic Industry and Water Safety Awards

On March 6th 2015 members and community came together at the Canberra Labor Club in Belconnen to acknowledge outstanding achievements within the ACT Aquatic Industry and in Water Safety. The Awards event is a great opportunity for celebrations but serves as a great reminder for the cause behind what we do at the Society.



Australian Institute of Sport - AUSTSWIM Swim School of the Year
Dickson Aquatic Centre - 2014 Gold Star Facility

2014 AUSTSWIM AWARD RECIPIENTS

ACT AUSTSWIM Swim School of the Year Award	Australian Institute of Sport
ACT AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety	Jordan Welch
ACT AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics	Charlotte Packard
ACT AUSTSWIM Teacher of Access and Inclusion	Amy Foran
ACT AUSTSWIM Presenter Award	Ben Cuttriss

2014 WATER SAFETY AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Ministers Award for the Most Significant Contribution to Water Safety by an Individual	Chanelle Lawley
Lifesaving Educator of the year	Ben Lynch
Aquatic Initiative of the Year	Bronze Star – Dickson Aquatic Centre
Keep Watch @ Pubic Pools Pool of the Year	Canberra International Sports and Aquatic Centre
Gold Star Aquatic Facility Award	Dickson Aquatic Centre
Outstanding Commitment to Water Safety by an ACT School	Florey Primary School
AT Lifeguard Cup	"The Hinchcliffes" - AIS
Lifeguard of the Year	Richard Kratzmann
Ngadyung Award	Melanie Reed
ACT S.E.A.L. of the Year	Katherine Bell
Swim and Survive Instructor of the Year	Belinda Fitzgerald



wim4Li
BERRA LABOR CLUB

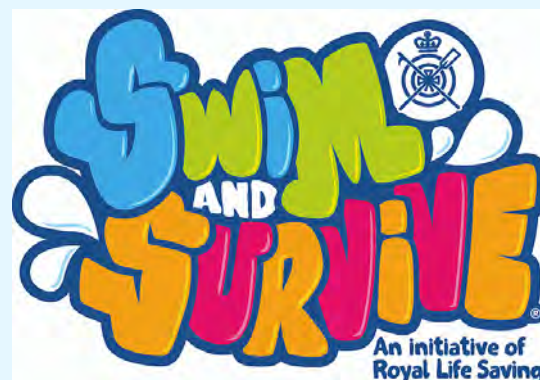


GADYUNG
al Aquatic Recreation Pr



Swimming and
Water Safety
Education

Swimming and Water Safety

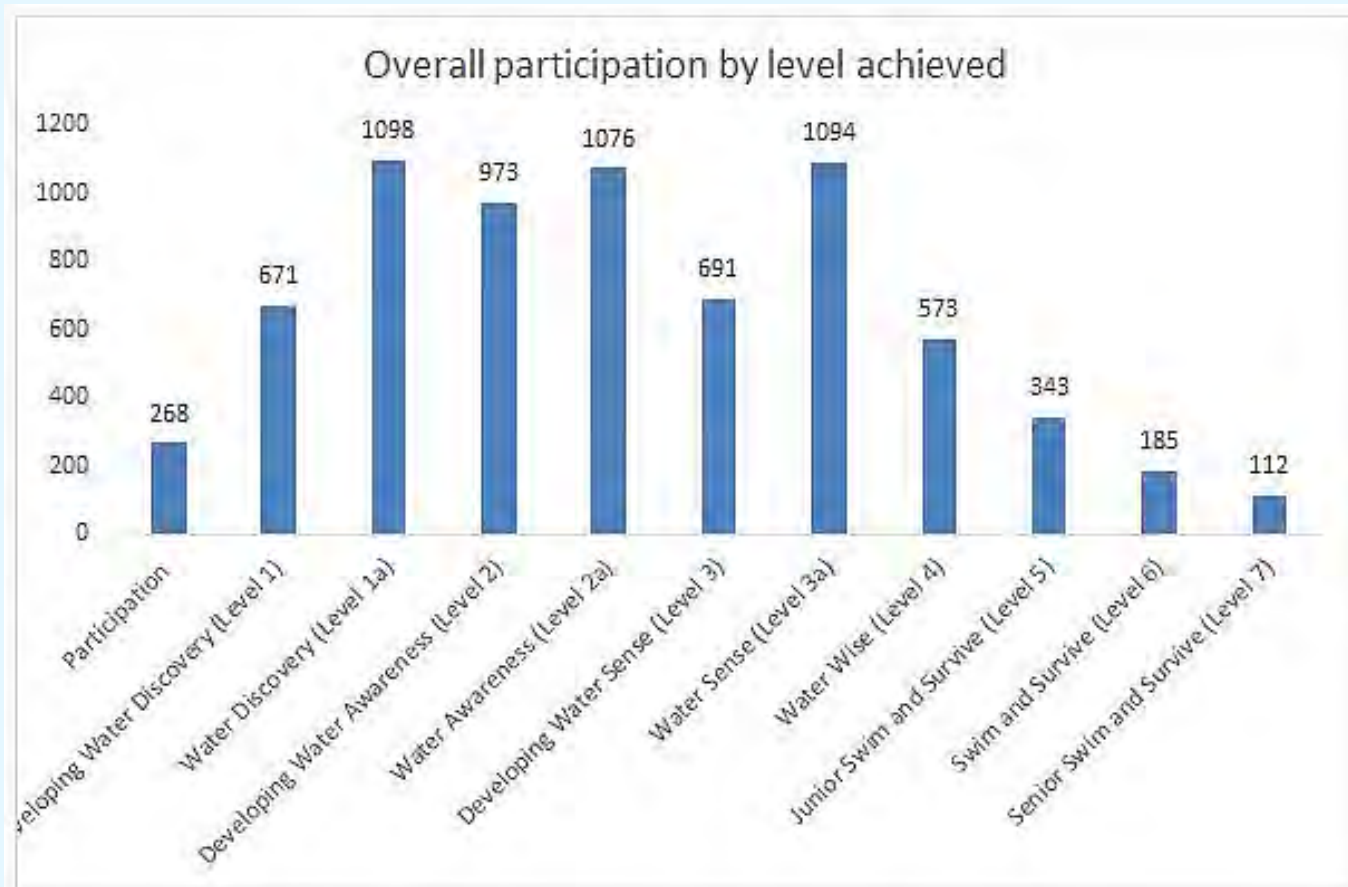


ACT Primary Schools' Swim and Survive

In 2014 Royal Life Saving ACT delivered Swim and Survive lessons to 4547 public primary school students through the ACT Primary Schools' Swim and Survive Program. The addition of another 2404 private school Swim and Survive participants saw a total of 7093 children receiving vital water safety and survival education.

Programs were held across multiple venues: Active Leisure Centre- Erindale, Lakeside Leisure Centre - Tuggeranong, Canberra Olympic Pool, Canberra International Sports and Aquatic Centre, and Gungahlin Leisure Centre.

Achievement results for students fell well below the Australian Water Safety Strategy target of Swim and Survive - Level 4. Only 1213 children were recorded to have achieved Level 4 or above, highlighting the need for school-based Swim and Survive programs in the ACT.



Swimming and Water Safety

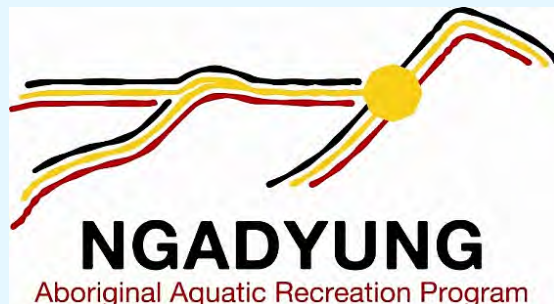
2014 was the last year of funding for the ACT Primary School's Swim and Survive program. The ACT Education and Training Directorate publicly announced the concept for the next phase of water safety education program in ACT Public Primary Schools via an open tender for the development and provision of a water safety and awareness program aimed specifically at Year 2 students. The concept was based on the ideal that every ACT public primary student would receive targeted water safety and awareness lessons before leaving primary school. Royal Life Saving ACT was successful in the bid for the tender and will commence delivery of the new Year 2 'AQUASAFE' program in July 2015. It is hoped that through observing the immediate benefits of the program for students that schools and parents will be reacquainted with the importance of maintaining water safety education within the curriculum, and continue to offer and advocate participation of every primary age group.



An anticipated increase in participation for school-based Royal Life Saving water safety education programs demands constant improvement and capacity building. Royal Life Saving ACT has this year designed a custom online enrolment application with local software developer Peter Ciceran from Naxikku. The online system will allow thousands of parents the ease of enrolling their child directly into their school's chosen Royal Life Saving ACT program. The direct enrolment process will make data entry a thing of the past, and reporting will be a breeze. Royal Life Saving ACT is looking forward to launching the new system at the start of the new financial year.

Swimming and Water Safety

Ngadyung



The continued expansion of Ngadyung this year enabled the registration of 20 new Ngadyung Swim and Survive participants and their families.



In February 2014 participants attended the first session at Kingswim in Deakin. The 3 hour designated timeslot offered free swimming, Swim and Survive lessons for adults and children, and Aqua Aerobics. The feedback for the program was overwhelmingly positive and due to the high demands for ongoing services and facilities, Royal Life Saving ACT, in partnership with Kingswim Deakin, continued to host sessions well after the 12 week funded period had ceased.

Royal Life Saving ACT is looking forward to assisting the community in finding a more sustainable model for the program so that sessions can continue in 2016.



Swimming and Water Safety

Swim 4 Life

In its fifth year, and again under the proud sponsorship of the Canberra Labor Club Group, the ACT Swim 4 Life program topped all previous participation levels and provided vital water safety and survival training for over 150 children. Swim 4 Life was expanded from one to two venues: Canberra International Sports and Aquatic Centre, and Lakeside Leisure Centre in Tuggeranong. .



Royal Life Saving ACT's Community Partners YWCA Canberra, Marymead, and Barnardos once again provided nominations for children and families at risk of missing out on structured aquatic education. Lessons were held in school holidays and ran for 10 consecutive days with children receiving Swim and Survive level certificates upon completion

Hydrotherapy Rescue Training

Royal Life Saving ACT continued to provide basic life support and emergency management skills training for various hydro/physiotherapists this year. The training is essential for staff in case of incident or emergency at their hydrotherapy pool venues. Therapists from both The Canberra Hospital and Hughes Hydro in Canberra were recertified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and basic water rescue and extraction techniques.

Training and Skills

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia, ACT Branch inc RTO ID# 88175



Lifeguards at the AIS demonstrate Spinal Injury Management techniques

Royal Life Saving ACT believes itself to be one of Canberra's most trusted Registered Training Organisations and a leading provider of training in first aid and aquatic safety. With only one minor transition between water rescue units 'SISCAQU307A - Perform advanced water rescues' and 'SISCAQU318 - Perform advanced water rescues' 2014, the organisation's scope remained relatively unchanged. The introduction of a brand new Training Management system - VM Learning's "AXcelerate", in January 2015, has offered new possibilities in the management of participants' learning histories. Customer contact and general efficiency in managing course administration have also improved since the implementation of "AXcelerate".

As the only RTO in Canberra delivering full employment pathways and accredited training for lifeguards, the organisation employs strict quality assurance processes to ensure that the aquatic industry receives the most relevant and up to date content. Aquatic rescue training increased this year seeing 122 newly trained lifeguards in the ACT (106 in 2014), and 155 existing lifeguard qualification renewals. Over 360 (288 in 2014) additional Bronze Medallion recipients also joined the lifesaving community with basic water rescue skills.

Training and Skills

Royal Life Saving Society - Australia, ACT Branch inc RTO ID# 88175



Royal Life Saving ACT was thrilled this year with the commitment demonstrated by local swim teachers towards professional development in the industry. A record number of participants (68) undertook training in various AUSTSWIM extension programs including the 'Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics', 'Teacher of Adults', 'Teacher of Access and Inclusion', and 'Teacher of Competitive Strokes' courses. Additionally, 156 new AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety completed their initial training through Royal Life Saving ACT, an approximate 9% increase.



Community education is just as much of a high priority as industry training for Royal Life Saving ACT. The number of Resuscitation course participants increased by over 16% with a total of 2243 CPR and/or First Aid qualified lifesavers graduating from these short courses in 2014/15. Many of these graduates completed their training via flexible and blended learning options that involved Royal Life Saving's unique First Aid product - First Aid in a Box. First Aid in a Box allows learners to commence the training in the comfort of their own home or workplace by completing online activities and quizzes prior to a shortened face to face assessment. First Aid in a Box continues to be the learning option of choice for some of Canberra's largest organisations and schools including Trinity Christian School and Burgmann College.



Training and Skills

In May 2015 Royal Life Saving ACT entered discussions with Royal Life Saving New South Wales about the use of the First Aid in a Box learning resource by the ACT Emergency Services Agency. The ACTESA hope to implement the resource into their standard in-service training program for all members of the ACT Fire Brigade and ACT Rural Fire Service at the beginning of the new financial year.

Other successful community training programs this year included ACT Emergency Services Agency Hydrotherapy Rescue conducted for staff at The Canberra Hospital, Hughes Hydro and Arthritis ACT; CPR Awareness – conducted for Scouts ACT; and Oxygen Resuscitation – provided for members of ACT Ambulance and Snowy Hydro South Care Helicopter Rescue Service.



Award Type	Number of Participants
Bronze Star	29
Bronze Medallion	490
Resuscitation	603
Reaccreditation Pool Lifeguard	339
Reaccreditation First Aid	122
Reaccreditation First Aid	155
Reaccreditation AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety	1147
Reaccreditation AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety	154
Reaccreditation AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety	156
Extension Courses	68



**Community
Activities**

Community Activities

2014 was a year of promoting partnerships and raising awareness for Royal Life Saving ACT and a lot of fun was had in undertaking these strategic pursuits. Staff members across the organisation volunteered for various community events, fundraising activities and formal occasions, donating their time, skills and energy to assist in ensuring success at every engagement.

Community Activity	Strategic Approach and Outcome
Quackers – Placement of Quackers fundraising moneyboxes	To broaden Royal Life Saving ACT’s fundraising capacities and increase income generated from donations. 8 ducks placed within the Canberra community throughout the year. Placements made at Crace Supabarn, Spence Supermarket, Chifley Supermarket, Dickson Aquatic Centre, and Manuka Swimming Pool. Funds raised: \$888.00
Inaugural FUNdraising event: TRIVIA NIGHT – Canberra Labor Club Belconnen	To promote the partnership with the Canberra Labor Club Group and to raise funds to support the ACT Swim 4 Life project. Supported by and hosted at the Canberra Labor Club, Belconnen in November 2014.
Active Family Fun Days- Pool based family fun days with various games and fundraising activities conducted throughout the day	To maintain Royal Life Saving ACT’s peak industry position through pool venue assistance and advocacy. Conducted at Dickson Aquatic Centre in November 2014 and at Manuka Swimming Pool in December 2014. Funds raised: \$1998.00
ACT Aquatic Industry and Water Safety Awards – Annual event	To maintain Royal Life Saving ACT’s peak industry position. To raise awareness and promote the cause and mission of the Society in the ACT. Supported by and hosted at the Canberra Labor Club, Belconnen in February 2015.
The Canberra Show – Marquee site co-placement with Kidsafe ACT and Playgroups ACT	To strengthen brand awareness and increase marketing list. Social media and lucky draw competition activities used to gather entrant details for promotion. February 2015
Community Fundraiser BBQ – Mawson Woolworths	To increase brand awareness for Royal Life Saving ACT and raise funds to support the ACT Swim 4 Life project. Held at in November 2014 at Woolworths Mawson. Funds raised: \$240.00

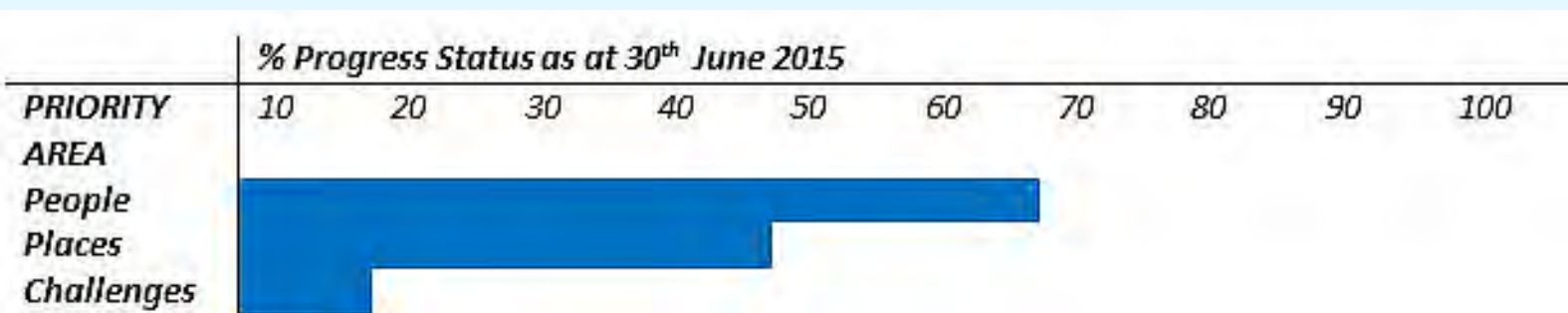


Community Activities

Royal Life Saving ACT chaired the ACT Safe Waters Committee with support from ACT Sport and Recreation Services throughout 2014/15. The Committee consists of local water safety stakeholders and advocates:

- Royal Life Saving ACT
- ACT Sport and Recreation Services
- Swimming ACT
- Kidsafe ACT
- National Capital Authority
- ACT Territory and Municipal Services
- ACT Education and Training
- ACT Policing

With the Safe Waters ACT Action Plan (2013-16) in its second year, the committee recorded progress in each of the Priority Areas, with particularly pleasing results in Priority Area 1- PEOPLE.



Community Activities

ACT Water Safety Week

ACT Water Safety Week is an initiative of Royal Life Saving ACT and endorsed by ACT Safe Waters. This year ACT Water Safety Week hosted a full calendar of activities, community engagements and special visits including a spectacular lake rescue training exercise by the crew at Snowy Hydro South Care!

Students involved with the ACT Primary Schools' Swim and Survive Program were excited when Lochie the Lifeguard showed up for a visit at Lakeside Leisure Centre and Royal Life Saving ACT gave up their weekend to host fundraiser BBQ at Woolworths Mawson.

Many thanks to all involved in ACT Water Safety Week this year!



Water Safety Week at Lakeside Leisure Centre

Community Activities

ACT Water Safety Week





DANGER
SHALLOW
WATER

WATER QUALITY
CONTROL POND

LAND

Be advised that there are **no lifesaving services, facilities or resources** available at this location. Visitors intending to swim are reminded that although your well-being is our concern, it is your responsibility. **PLEASE TAKE CARE.**

Existing HAZARDS MAY BE ENCOUNTERED at this location:

-  CURRENTS
-  SHALLOW WATER
-  SUBMERGED OBJECTS
-  DEEP WATER
- 
- 
- 

Special Projects

Special Projects

Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention

In early 2014 the Australian Government announced its commitment to Drowning Prevention and Water Safety through the provision of peak funding to the three key national Drowning Prevention and Water Safety organisations: Royal Life Saving Society – Australia, Surf Life Saving Australia, and AUSTSWIM. With 2 clear directives: ‘Prevent drownings in Inland Waterways’ and ‘Provide Swim and Survive access for children at risk of missing out’, Royal Life Saving ACT submitted a concept note to RLSSA for a share in the funds. Based on intervention activities to be conducted in the ACT with the collective goals in sight, the concept note was approved and Royal Life Saving ACT set about planning campaigns, activities and events to maintain a zero drowning rate.

The ACT Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Project is now currently underway addressing water safety and drowning prevention issues in and around Canberra’s lakes and rivers. The ACT project will continue to develop, implement and evaluate drowning prevention action plans for Lake Burley Griffin and the Murrumbidgee River Corridor, promote lifejacket use on vessels and watercraft on Lake Burley Griffin, assess the safety of community ponds, including those built in the urban environment, and facilitate water safety awareness and education at popular river-based recreation areas including community events.



PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Royal Life Saving Award Figures July 2014 – 30 June 2015		Participants
Swim and Survive	Swim and Survive Wonder (6-36 months)	397
	Swim and Survive Courage (3-5 years)	905
	Swim and Survive Active (5-14 years)	9672
Bronze Star		29
Bronze Medallion		490
Resuscitation		603
Reaccreditation		339
Pool Lifeguard		122
Reaccreditation		155
First Aid		1147
Reaccreditation		154
RLSSA Trainer/ Assessor		2
AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety		156
Extension Courses		68
RLSSA Partner Pools	RLSSA Partners	12
	Swim and Survive	3
Aquatic Facility Safety Assessments – Public Pool		10
Total		14264



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