

Everyone  
can be a  
lifesaver!



ANNUAL REPORT  
2015



**Royal Life Saving**

THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

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## OUR PATRON

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Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson, AO  
Governor of Western Australia

## OUR VICE PATRONS

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The Honourable Mia Davies, MLA  
Mr Laurie Lawrence  
His Honour Judge Denis Reynolds

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mr Ross Peters, President  
Mr David Cummins  
Mr Jeff Fondacaro  
Mr Mark Gubanyi  
Mr Colin Hassell

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

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Mr Peter Leaversuch	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Ian Brown	General Manager, Operations
Mr Allan Godfrey	General Manager, Marketing
Mr Greg Tate	General Manager, Community Relations

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON



**HER EXCELLENCY  
THE HONOURABLE  
KERRY SANDERSON, AO**  
GOVERNOR OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
PATRON OF THE ROYAL LIFE  
SAVING SOCIETY WA

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**IMAGES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** often refer to water based activity, an important part of our lifestyle. We benefit from safely enjoying the water, in large part due to the dedicated work of members of the Royal Life Saving Society.

Since 1909, The Royal Life Saving Society WA has been committed to raising community awareness of water safety.

In recent years, eliminating toddler drowning has been a key objective of the Society. The Society is providing strong leadership and collaborating with State and Local Government entities to ensure that children leave primary school with good water safety and survival skills.

Its work in remote Aboriginal communities has tangibly contributed to improving physical activity, education and health.

The Royal Life Saving Society WA has also given grants and support to four families with a child injured in water incidents.

The Western Power Royal Life Saving Bravery Awards were held in Government House Ballroom. Those who received the awards embody the characteristics that we would all hope to find in ourselves should the need arise.

*I congratulate all those who have played a part in the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia's achievements over the past year and wish them continued success.*

### OUR FOUNDATION

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Preventing drowning is the foundation of Royal Life Saving. While it's impossible to precisely calculate how many people Royal Life Saving Society WA has saved, we do know that if the drowning rate had remained what it was when we first began in 1909 hundreds of Western Australians would have drowned last year. In reality it was a small fraction of that, with 39 people losing their life to drowning in WA during the 2014-15 financial year; but even one person is still too many.

The ethos of Royal Life Saving Society WA is to look continually for ways to improve. In recent years we've grown to provide a diverse range of services across the fields of training, safety, health promotion, member support, workforce solutions and related support services. Even with this growth we have retained our roots as a member-based, community-focused, not-for-profit organisation.

### OUR AIM

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To prevent loss of life and promote safe participation in aquatic pursuits.

### OUR VISION

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A Western Australian community that values and encourages enjoyable, safe and healthy participation in the aquatic environment.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**ON BEHALF** of the Board of Directors I am honoured to commend this Annual Report as a reflection of the outstanding work Royal Life Saving has delivered to the Western Australian community.

This year we farewelled Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC as Governor and Patron of the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia. Royal Life Saving thanks you for your patronage. The Bravery Awards held at Government House was a special and memorable occasion. We are pleased The Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, has graciously accepted our invitation to become Patron of the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia.

During 2014/15 a number of functions and events were held to recognise Members who have made a significant contribution to furthering the objectives of Royal Life Saving. The presentation of honours to sixty two (62) Members was a highlight.

The Board has endeavoured to remain in touch with the needs and aspirations of our Members and the broader community. During the year the Board held one of its meetings in the Wheatbelt community of Northam.

The visit gave the Board a better understanding of the challenges facing regional WA which is over-represented in drowning statistics. I would like to thank Hon. Mia Davies MLA, Minister for Water; Sport and Recreation; Forestry for attending this event and for her continued support as Vice-Patron of the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia.

In December 2014, our long standing Chief Executive Officer Alex McKenzie retired after 24 years of dedicated service in the role. Alex's contribution to Royal Life Saving and the broader lifesaving movement was wide-ranging in breadth and is significant in terms of impact. He was instrumental in expanding the range of training, safety, health promotion, customer contact and related services delivered to the Western Australian community. Services which have touched the lives of many people from remote Kimberley communities through to the Great Southern coast.

The Board has appointed Peter Leaversuch as Chief Executive Officer. Peter has been with the organisation for over 23 years and has an excellent understanding of Royal Life Saving. We welcome Peter to the position of Chief Executive Officer and look forward to working together to continue the great work of Royal Life Saving in the community.

In closing I would sincerely like to thank my fellow Board members for their enormous contribution to the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia. Being awarded the Minister's Award for Excellence at the 2014 Sport and Recreation Industry Awards is testament to their dedication, generosity of time, support, diligence and leadership.

**ROSS PETERS**  
PRESIDENT, RLSSWA BOARD

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## RLSSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, L-R:

Mr Ross Peters (President),  
Mr David Cummins,  
Mr Jeff Fondacaro,  
Mr Mark Gubanyi,  
Mr Colin Hassell





## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

**THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WA, or more specifically its members, has worked extremely hard over the past year providing a range of services.**

This Annual Report highlights the difference we have made and our key achievements throughout the 2014-15 financial year. Our aim has been to take proven action in what is a highly preventable health challenge while urgently targeting vulnerable communities.

Drowning continues to place a significant burden on the Western Australian community. Last year 39 people drowned—28% were in inland locations, while many more were hospitalised following a non-fatal drowning; however, statistics can never truly describe the tragic impact that drowning has on families and friends.

In 2014 Royal Life Saving committed to addressing a concerning trend where many children will leave primary school with poor water safety skills. Regional Western Australia faces a number of challenges in respect to drowning and we have responded by delivering 785 regional training programs engaging 4,326 participants.

The work we have undertaken in remote Aboriginal communities has made a tangible contribution to improving physical activity, education and health outcomes.

Royal Life Saving Society WA was recognised for its efforts at the Institute of Public Administration Australia (WA) Achievement Awards where the partnership between Royal Life Saving Society WA and the Department of Housing won the Best Practice in Collaboration between Government and Non-Government Organisations.

Water safety intersects with a range of agendas including physical activity, health, education and transport. Royal Life Saving Society WA greatly values the support of the Western Australian Government and business community for many of our drowning prevention programs. While prevention remains at the core of our activities, Royal Life Saving Society WA has strengthened its focus on providing support for families and friends impacted by drowning and assistance to victims of non-fatal drowning.

I would like to thank our dedicated members, volunteers, staff and all of our committees for their contribution and in particular the Royal Life Saving Society WA Board of Directors for their ongoing guidance, stewardship and strategic direction.

**PETER LEAVERSUCH**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, RLSSWA

Principal  
Community  
Partner  
BHP Billiton





## Working Together to Create a Healthier Future for Western Australia

**ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WA** has shared a long and successful partnership with BHP Billiton delivering a range of water safety and drowning prevention programs for at-risk communities throughout Western Australia with a focus on the Pilbara region. Since 2003, through BHP Billiton's Social Investment Program, the company has invested over \$2.8 million towards delivery of the Water Safe WA program.

During the 13-year partnership, BHP Billiton has supported several programs all encompassed under the Water Safe WA program including: Swim and Survive, Infant Aquatics, Swim and Survive Access and Equity, Remote Aboriginal Swimming Pools Program, Watch Around Water and Indigenous Training. These programs aim to ensure that all Western Australians have the awareness, skills and knowledge needed to participate in a range of aquatic activities at all aquatic locations.

Throughout the delivery of the program there have been some significant achievements.

The partnership between Royal Life Saving Society WA and BHP Billiton has gone from strength to strength, which has resulted in BHP Billiton investing a further \$2.4 million over the next five years as the Principal Community Partner to support several community programs delivered both across the state and in the Pilbara region.

BHP Billiton is proud to continue being the Principal Community Partner of the Royal Life Saving Society WA and working together to create a healthier future for all Western Australians.

### SINCE 2003

**Over 1.2 million children** have participated in the Swim and Survive program, of which 75,000 children live in the Pilbara region.

**Each year, over 45,000 visits** are recorded across the six remote Aboriginal community swimming pools.

As a result of swimming regularly, reported skin infections among Aboriginal children has declined by 68% in Jigalong and 77% in Yandeyarra.

### SINCE 2012

**1,640 children** from socially disadvantaged communities have participated in subsidised swimming and water safety programs.

**739 Aboriginal people** gained qualifications in first aid, resuscitation, Bronze Medallion and Pool Lifeguard and 82 completed a traineeship in Sport and Recreation.



**Royal Life Saving**  
THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

Principal Community Partner





## ELIMINATE INFANT DROWNING

Drowning remains the leading cause of preventable death for children under five years of age and the tragic impact it has on the families and friends of the victims is impossible to quantify.

Not only are there more than 170,000 backyard swimming pools in Western Australia, but in every home there are potential dangers from bathtubs to laundry troughs; even a bucket of water can be deadly.

Royal Life Saving Society WA is determined to address this crucial issue and we're doing this by further strengthening public awareness and community support of our Keep Watch program, while also boosting participation in our Infant Aquatics water familiarisation classes. We're also working to ensure those with home pools understand the importance of safe pool use by providing a comprehensive pool barrier assessment service and training swimming pool owners in first aid.



**20963**

CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN THE INFANT AQUATICS PROGRAM

**7180**

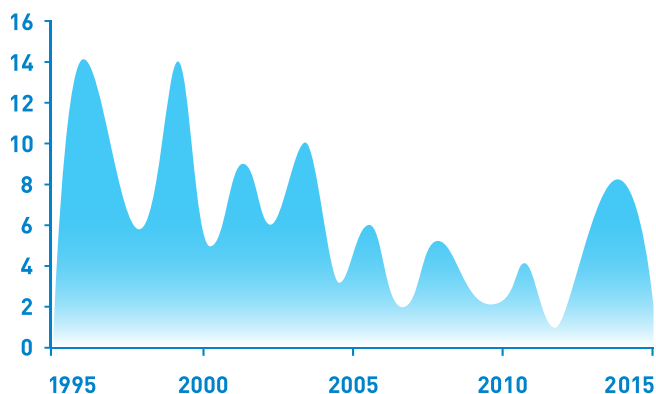
HOME POOL BARRIER ASSESSMENTS



**3138**

PARENTS AND CHILDREN ATTENDED FREE WORKSHOPS

INFANT DROWNING DEATHS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS



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PREVENT YOUR CHILD FROM DROWNING





**MARK GUBANYI**  
KEEP WATCH AMBASSADOR &  
RLSSWA DIRECTOR

**MARCH 1999**, one week before his daughter Kaitlin's 5th birthday, is a moment etched in Mark Gubanyi's mind. It's the day Kaitlin died after drowning in a friend's backyard swimming pool.

Her friend's mother had gone inside and left the two children alone in the pool unsupervised.

Mark could have responded to the tragedy in many ways; he chose to take action.

His daughter's death became the catalyst for Mark's crusade to eliminate toddler drowning in Western Australia; he simply didn't want any family to go through the grief of losing a child in this way.

After an inquest into Kaitlin's drowning Mark became an Ambassador for Royal Life Saving Society WA's 'Keep Watch' program. Since then we've seen a 50% decrease in these incidents; but it's a constant battle.

Despite a 30% increase in toddler drownings across Australia in the 2014-15 financial year, Western Australia saw a decrease with two drownings involving children aged 0-4, down from eight the previous year. But for Mark, two is too many.

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*"We need to aim for zero! Can we achieve that? Of course we can! Constant adult supervision and that supervision must be right there with them, not inside looking through a window."*

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Mark's message is simple; "Every parent and carer of a child needs to learn CPR; because it may not be your child, it may be another child you save.

We need to teach our children water familiarisation skills and we need to 'Keep Watch' ALWAYS!"



## WATER SAFETY SKILLS FOR ALL WESTERN AUSTRALIANS

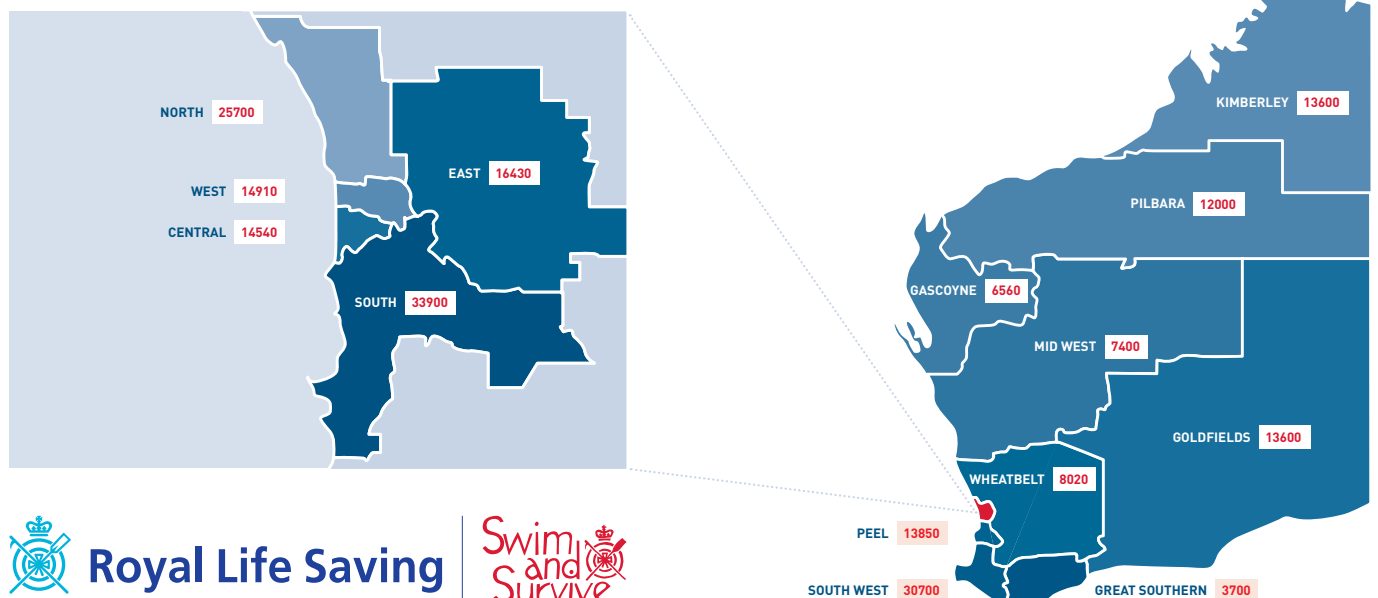
Royal Life Saving Society WA is committed to teaching every child to Swim and Survive and we recognise that this task is all the more important given Western Australia's climate and lifestyle, which encourages so much activity in and on the water. The challenge we face is to ensure each new generation acquires these skills and no one misses out. Currently, some children from diverse cultural backgrounds, disadvantaged circumstances and regional areas do not have this opportunity.

Teaching children personal survival skills and water safety is the most important investment the community can make to reduce drowning and it has proven to be effective with children now the least likely of all age groups to drown.

In the 2014-15 financial year, we've seen more than 190,000 children learn vital swimming and water safety skills through our Swim and Survive program. We've also spent hundreds of hours presenting first aid courses to parents, including those from at-risk communities; we've conducted research to further develop our Infant Aquatics, Swim and Survive and Bronze Rescue programs; and we've continued to ensure the instructors for these programs receive ongoing professional development.

This all-encompassing approach will continue to increase the swimming and water safety skills of the Western Australian community.

190,000 PARTICIPANTS IN SWIMMING, LIFESAVING AND WATER SAFETY PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT WESTERN AUSTRALIA





**SANDRA MURPHY**  
 COMMUNITY TRAINER &  
 AQUATICS SUPERVISOR,  
 KARRATHA LEISUREPLEX

**SANDRA MURPHY IS PASSIONATE** about all children learning to swim and survive. She's been working in the aquatics industry since 2000 and recently received a Royal Life Saving Society WA Companion Award for the promotion and delivery of Royal Life Saving programs.

Sandra began as a swimming teacher in Norseman after a lack of swimming teachers in the school system meant parents had to take turns teaching their children. She then became a qualified pool operator and eventually moved to Karratha in 2009 and currently manages the Karratha Leisureplex (Poolside).

Over the years Sandra has seen swimming and lifesaving education have a great impact on many families; "More awareness about water safety and survival for many, many children, and much more awareness for parents to supervise their kids." She says it's vital that all children have the opportunity to 'Swim and Survive'.

*"It's one of the most important skills a child will ever learn, because people do drown. It's like learning how to add up your bills, drive a car; it's an essential part of life."*

Sandra hopes access to swimming and water safety lessons remains open to everyone.

"Swimming and water safety lessons should always be taught at school. Every child deserves to have the right to learn to swim and survive as it is a life skill."

**ABOVE L-R:** Chloe Murphy (lifeguard), Sandra Murphy and Chevorn Melsom (lifeguard).



## PUBLIC AQUATIC CENTRES: A PROUD ACHIEVEMENT IN SAFETY

There are 130 public aquatic centres across Western Australia, and they provide significant benefits to our community through sport, recreation, health and fitness. These facilities are enjoyed by more than 10 million patrons each year, many of whom are children.

Royal Life Saving Society WA continues to lead efforts to ensure a safe aquatic experience for these patrons. These efforts have led to an impressive and important achievement, with no drownings recorded at any of Western Australia's public pools over the past 10 years.

This year we have trained and developed an outstanding workforce of 2,385 lifeguards and instructors.

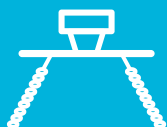
114 public aquatic centres were signed up to Watch Around Water encouraging parents to understand that, although lifeguards are there to provide supervision and respond when incidents happen, parent supervision is essential to ensure children are safe when attending centres.

We've also focused on completing safety and emergency care assessments at public pools. All of these initiatives have worked hand in hand to result in, not only zero drowning deaths, but also a 30% reduction in incidents at aquatic centres.



**30%**  
DECLINE IN  
INCIDENT RATES

**114**  
WATCH AROUND  
WATER CENTRES



**102**  
POOL OPERATORS  
ACCREDITED

**2385**

POOL LIFEGUARDS AND  
SWIM INSTRUCTORS TRAINED  
OR REQUALIFIED



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## MATTHEW MERRITT

COMMUNITY TRAINER &  
LIFEGUARD, BAYSWATER WAVES

**MATTHEW MERRITT HAS A PASSION** for the aquatic industry. Starting as a swim instructor nine years ago, he's been a community trainer with Royal Life Saving Society WA for seven years, leading a range of courses including First Aid, Bronze Medallion and Pool Lifeguard training.

As a lifeguard at the Bayswater Waves aquatic centre he's seen firsthand the impact the Watch Around Water program has had on improving safety for children attending public pools.

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*"Drowning can happen in the smallest amount of water and while lifeguards are there to take action when incidents happen it's the parents who are the first line of defence in preventing drownings."*

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Watch Around Water was implemented by the Leisure Institute of WA in 2004, after a number of young children drowned at public pools, and has been a real success story. Since commencement there have been zero drowning deaths at Western Australia's public pools and Matthew says that speaks for itself; "The Watch Around Water program has been amazing and I have no doubt it will remain in place. What we are doing at the moment is quite effective. We're obviously doing something right!"

Matthew also hopes more people across the community learn essential first aid and lifesaving skills; "I think it's really important because these skills can be applied anywhere that people go with kids around water; the ocean, lakes, dams, excursions. I think it's really important to get as much of the community involved as possible."



## SAFE PLACES: THE NEXT CHALLENGE

Strengthening the safety of aquatic destinations is a major challenge when considering the complexity and popularity of inland waterways in Western Australia.

The Swan River is the fourth most dangerous black-spot for drowning in Australia, while ornamental lakes and waterways are increasingly popular within residential developments. With improving technology in watercraft and water sports equipment, a greater number of Western Australians are also able to access more remote and challenging waterways than ever before.

We recognise that it's crucial for all Western Australians to understand how to stay safe in the full range of aquatic environments. In April this year Royal Life Saving Society WA conducted its first 'Swim and Survive on the Swan' program at the Matilda Bay foreshore. 25 children from Central Aquatic Swimming & Lifesaving Club learned essential swimming and lifesaving skills based on the Swim and Survive program. Rather than their usual environment of the local swimming pool the club's instructors, with the support of Royal Life Saving Society WA, conducted their regular Saturday morning lifesaving activities in the Swan River.

# 58

RIVERS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
STRETCHING OVER 9587KM



**640**  
INTERMITTENT  
AND PERENNIAL  
LAKES

**#4**

BLACK-SPOT IN  
AUSTRALIA IS THE  
SWAN RIVER



**28%**  
OF DROWNINGS IN  
WA OCCURRED IN  
INLAND WATERWAYS



**MITCH BURDAN**  
SWIM AND SURVIVE ON THE SWAN PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR

**MITCH BURDAN STARTED** his lifeguarding journey at just 12 years of age in a children's program at Central Aquatic. He then developed his skills through Royal Life Saving Society WA's Swimming Instructor and Pool Lifeguard courses and now, aged 21, is the Lifesaving Program Coordinator at Central Aquatics.

Last year Mitch played a key role in conducting the first 'Swim and Survive on the Swan' program for Royal Life Saving Society WA. "Royals approached me about the Central Aquatic kids doing a series of lessons in the Swan River and we jumped straight on the idea! It's an awesome experience to get the kids and instructors out of just the pool environment and teach them somewhere else; going into the unknown and doing something outside our day to day skills."

With the Swan River recently named the fourth most dangerous location for drowning in Australia, 'Swim and Survive on the Swan' was an opportunity to help children become more aware of the river's dangers.

By the end of the four-week program the children were confidently swimming out past the jetties and performing proper rescues in the river.

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*"The kids really got to develop some skills that aren't just text book. They could perform a lot of rescues in a pool, but this really showed them that lifesaving is something we can do anywhere."*

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## FOSTERING LIFESAVERS IN EVERY COMMUNITY

Over the past five years Western Australia's population has grown by about 270,000 people and that growth is set to continue over the next five years. With a growing population it's never been more important to build a strong, collaborative network of lifesaving people, working in their local communities, to share knowledge and deliver programs.

Royal Life Saving Society WA firmly believes that "Everyone Can Be a Lifesaver" and we've worked hard to make this a reality. In the 2014-15 financial year we maintained a network of 604 community trainers, 114 endorsed Swim and Survive schools and 39 Junior Lifeguard Clubs across the state.

To ensure all Western Australians receive this vital education, we conducted 785 regional training programs engaging 4,326 participants in locations from remote Kimberley communities through to the Great Southern coast. There were also 12 Junior Lifeguard Club events held across the state.

These development sessions and 'Have a Go' days are a great opportunity for children aged eight and above to further develop their swimming skills, while also learning new and challenging lifesaving skills.



**24594**

PEOPLE ATTAIN A LIFESAIVING, LIFEGUARD, INSTRUCTOR OR FIRST AID QUALIFICATION



**9783**

PEOPLE GAIN THEIR BRONZE MEDALLION

**9337**

YOUTH (16-25) PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING PROGRAMS



**502**

PARTICIPANTS IN JUNIOR LIFEGUARD CLUB EVENTS



## SALLIE WATSON

COMMUNITY TRAINER

AS A LONG-TIME ADVOCATE for Royal Life Saving Society WA, Sallie Watson is very keen to ensure the next generation learns lifesaving skills. She's been involved with Royal Life Saving Society WA since she was in school, then took her skills into the military after school, and has since spent the past 18 years teaching lifesaving and first aid to students at Lake Joondalup Baptist College.

Sallie believes our "Everyone Can Be A Lifesaver" motto is very achievable.

*"If we teach kids first aid at school, then they go home and speak to Mum and Dad, then Mum and Dad want to do a course; so it becomes a 'pay it forward'."*

For Sallie, a highlight of her work is seeing children realise that lifesaving can be a career.

Many of her students have done a pool lifeguard course to work part-time while they are studying at university, but then decide to take up pool supervising as a career.

Sallie has been instrumental in the delivery and development of our annual Pool Lifeguard Challenge, which saw 13 teams compete this year, responding to emergency scenarios and practicing essential lifeguard skills.

"I think it's one of the best things we've got in the aquatics industry at the moment. It brings a mateship and helps the lifeguards to be able to work as a team, challenging their skills."

BELOW: Sally Watson teaching lifesaving skills.





## SUPPORTING VULNERABLE AND AT-RISK COMMUNITIES

Recent research indicates that many people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) communities have relatively poor water survival and safety skills. During the 2014-15 financial year 15.4% of all fatal drownings in Western Australia were people from CaLD communities.

Royal Life Saving Society WA is committed to addressing this concerning trend by providing strong leadership and collaborating with local and state government and non-government entities.

In the 2014-15 financial year we conducted 26 programs targeting CaLD & at-risk communities, including 11 water safety presentations as part of our Keep Watch toddler drowning prevention program, across the metro area. Our Access & Equity Swim and Survive program also enabled children from CaLD and at-risk communities to take part in swimming lessons, while our Women's Only Swimming Lessons provided access for women who would otherwise have been unable to participate.

# 1112

**PARTICIPANTS ACROSS  
26 CALD PROGRAMS**



# 293

**WOMEN  
ATTENDED  
WOMEN'S ONLY  
SWIMMING  
LESSONS**

# 246

**CHILDREN PARTICIPATED  
IN THE ACCESS &  
EQUITY SWIM AND  
SURVIVE PROGRAM**





**SALLY BOWER**  
ISHAR MULTICULTURAL  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTRE

**SALLY BOWER**, from the Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Centre, wants to ensure those from multicultural and refugee families have an opportunity to learn to swim. Although she was born in Australia her Macedonian parents come from a refugee background.

"I know a little bit about how people are feeling when they come from another country; the sacrifices and losses. I just want to support them to have a better life in our community."

Sally has been involved with Royal Life Saving Society WA for six years, and received a Royal Life Saving WA Associate Award this year for the work she's done to pave the way for hundreds of women and children to have swimming lessons they would otherwise have missed out on.

When Sally realised many women from migrant backgrounds felt unable to get involved in swimming, particularly women from Muslim backgrounds due to the restrictions with clothing and modesty, she started offering women's only swimming sessions through Ishar.

As the classes grew a partnership began with Royal Life Saving Society WA.

The program expanded to Balga, Merriwa and Cannington and Sally has been amazed at the impact. "A lot of the women are single mums, new migrants or on humanitarian visas, so for them to be able to afford these fantastic lessons is really amazing."

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*"These women are very lonely and isolated so swimming gives them another aspect to their lives. The mums are the linchpins at home and if they feel good it's like a rippling effect to the rest of the family."*

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## REGIONAL AND REMOTE WATER SAFETY

There is a significant gap in health and life expectancy outcomes between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can expect to live 10–17 years less than other Australians, while also experiencing higher rates of preventable illness and infant mortality and lower levels of education and employment. Aboriginal children are also three times more likely to drown than other Australian children.

The Remote Aboriginal Swimming Pools project provides access to well-managed and maintained swimming pool facilities in six remote communities at Burringurrah, Yandeyarra, Jigalong, Bidyadanga, Warmun and Fitzroy Crossing. The project is primarily funded by the Department of Housing with additional contributions from BHP Billiton Iron Ore.

Royal Life Saving Society WA employs pool managers to live and work in these communities for nine months of the year, providing access to culturally appropriate swimming and water safety information, programs and services to reduce the risk of drowning.

The Telethon Institute for Child Health Research has measured the health of participants at some of these pools, and found a reduction in the incidence of skin sores and ear infections, with skin infections down from 62% to just 10%. Meanwhile, the 'No School No Pool' policy has seen children's participation in school increase significantly.



**44975**

PATRONS ATTENDED THE POOLS ACROSS THE 6 COMMUNITIES

**1952**

CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN SWIM FOR FRUIT SESSIONS ENCOURAGING IMPROVED NUTRITION

**36**

COMMUNITY MEMBERS GAINED THEIR BRONZE MEDALLION

**5**

LOCAL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS EMPLOYED AT THE POOLS

**3282**

CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN SWIM AND SURVIVE AND LIFESAVING CARNIVALS



**32%**

INCREASE IN THE 'GO FOR 2 & 5' REGIONAL AND REMOTE LAP SWIMMING PROGRAM



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## BERNIE EGAN

BIDYADANGA REMOTE POOL MANAGER

**BERNIE EGAN HAS BEEN** a Remote Pool Manager with Royal Life Saving Society WA for the past six years and currently manages the Bidyadanga pool on the remote Kimberley coast. Bidyadanga is the largest remote Aboriginal community in WA with about 750 residents.

Bernie says the pool is a focal point for the locals; "It's somewhere to go after school that's safe and clean. I like to refer to it as a 'G-rated' environment; no swearing, no fighting."

The pool provides significant health and social benefits, but for Bernie it's the individual impacts that are the highlight.

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*"Getting that kid who's scared of the water and actually seeing them progress through to being able to swim unaided across the pool and having that freedom to move around as they please."*

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For Bernie the future is in having locals take more of a role. This is already beginning at Bidyadanga, with a local indigenous woman, Rita, being trained to promote the Watch Around Water program.

Bernie says, "We want to increase the supervision of under-fives by the parents or guardians. With an indigenous person administering that program we're hoping it's going to be better received by the people using the pool."

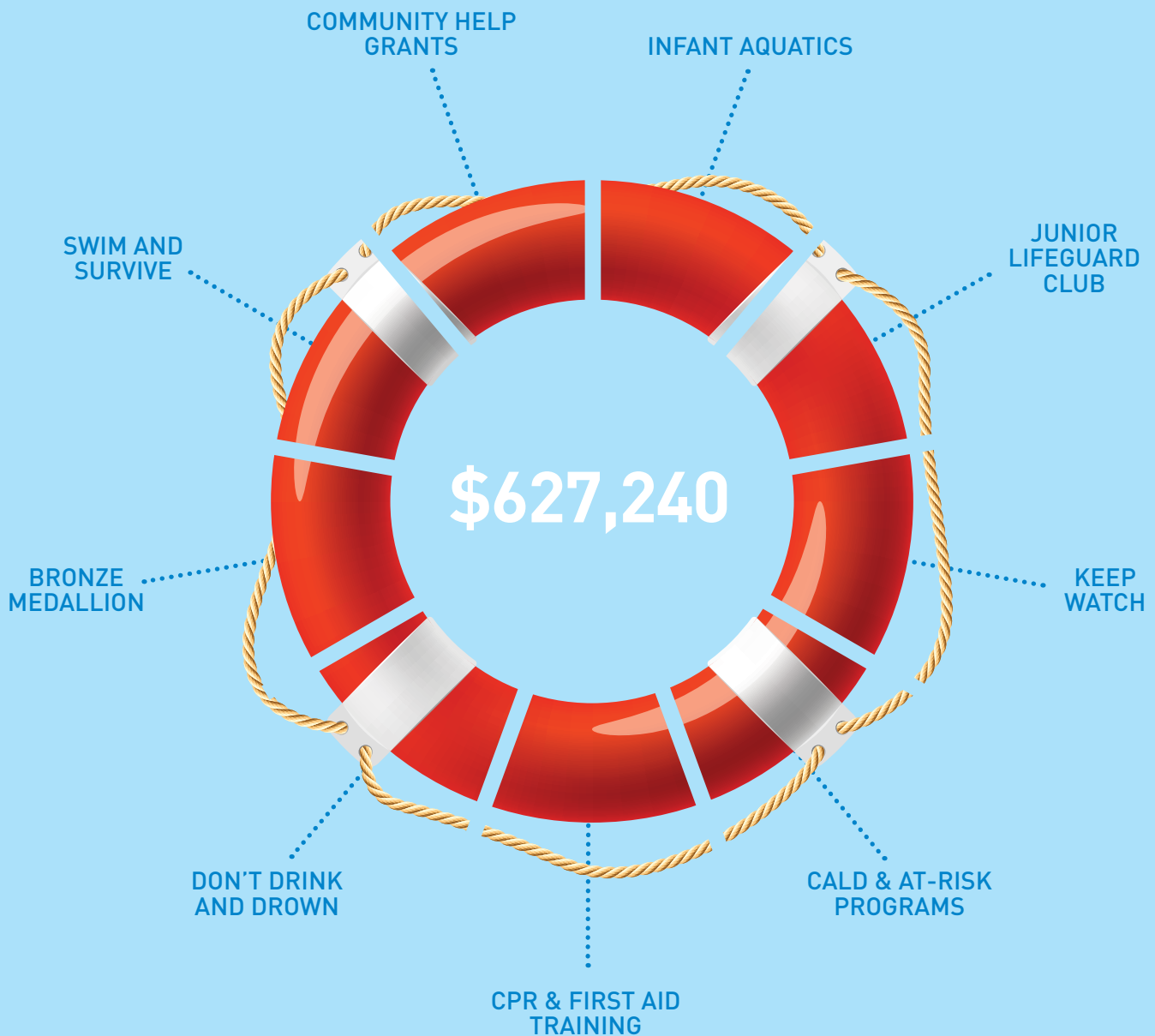
Bernie also has her eye on a few more locals; "Last season a couple of the high school students asked about work experience. Who knows where that may lead? They might become a swim instructor or a lifeguard!"

**BELOW:** Bernie Egan with Rita at Bidyadanga pool.



# PUBLIC AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FUNDS RAISED BY ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WA FOR OUR COMMUNITY SERVICES



While many of Royal Life Saving Society WA's programs are focused on drowning prevention strategies, it is alarming to know that for every child who drowns up to 10 are hospitalised; with as many as four having long-term health complications. The generous support of our members and the Western Australian community has enabled us to broaden our capacity to make a difference.

Through a range of fundraising programs, thousands of generous Western Australians have supported our fundraising campaigns during the 2014-15 financial year. These campaigns include raffles, donation appeals, Royal Life Saving Day, Quackers (point of sale donation containers) and our VIP program.

The proceeds of these campaigns, totaling \$627,420, have been reinvested back into our community water safety programs in Western Australia to reduce drownings, support those in need and build swimming and water safety skills across the broader community.

These proceeds have been critical to our support of at-risk and marginalised families with the delivery of programs and services to those who otherwise would have missed out.

In the 2014-15 financial year Royal Life Saving Society WA commenced our "Community HELP Grant" initiative which provides practical financial support to families who have suffered from a non-fatal drowning. Financial assistance may be given for purchasing specialised equipment; providing physical therapy services; and helping with general expenses incurred in caring for a severely disabled family member. We assisted four families living with the consequences of a non-fatal drowning incident and also established peer-to-peer and professional grief support services to help families through the tragedy of losing a child who has drowned.

These important programs would not have been possible without the generous support of the Western Australian community for our lifesaving programs.



**SIMONE SOTO-FLORES**  
KEEP WATCH AMBASSADOR

**THREE YEARS AGO** Simone Soto-Flores' life changed forever when her energetic, talkative three-year-old son Ari fell from a houseboat while holidaying with his father in the United States. Ari was not in the water for more than a minute, but was left with severe brain damage.

Late last year Simone became an Ambassador for our Keep Watch program, and passionately spreads the word.

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*"I want to make sure people realise the importance of being trained in CPR, water safety and water awareness. It has to be drummed in because sometimes you take it for granted, especially here in Perth where water is such a massive part of our culture."*

---

Ari is now six years old, is able to breathe on his own, smiles, laughs and is trying to talk. Thanks to Royal Life Savings Society WA's support of the Wheels For Ari fundraiser the family now has a wheelchair-accessible vehicle.

Our Keep Watch Community Grants provide financial assistance for families dealing with long term injuries from non-fatal drownings and Simone says that support is vital; "There are so many things that are necessary to make Ari's life more comfortable, because at the end of the day he's still just a little boy and we're trying to be a typical family."

Simone hopes Ari's story can have a positive impact. "I'd love to know that it's creating enough awareness that this doesn't happen to somebody else and also that the support is there if anybody should need it."



## WESTERN POWER ROYAL LIFE SAVING BRAVERY AWARDS

One of Royal Life Saving Society WA's major objectives is to ensure that all Western Australians invest time into learning rescue, resuscitation and first aid lifesaving skills. Western Power has been a valuable supporter of the Royal Life Saving Society WA since 1999 and their continued support of our programs assists us in achieving this objective, further benefitting the Western Australian community.

The Western Power Royal Life Saving Bravery Awards seeks to recognise Western Australians who have displayed exceptional courage, initiative, and empathy

toward fellow human beings by applying lifesaving skills in emergency situations and sometimes at risk to themselves. During the 2014-15 financial year 16 heroic individuals and two organisations were honoured for their outstanding acts of bravery.

The bravery and commitment of these individuals in saving lives is an excellent example to all Western Australians and deserves our highest recognition.

ABOVE L-R: Paul Italiano (Western Power CEO), Levi Brooks and Ross Peters.

### GOLD CROSS

Levi Brooks  
Emilio Gianoli  
Terence Kerr  
Ben Rickards

### GOLD MEDALLION

Kerenza Bristol  
Elena Damianopoulos  
Jake Dean  
Oliver Dean  
Ian Hughes  
Nick Kirkham  
Leeuwin II Team  
Angela Lewis  
Gold Medallion  
Chloe Marsh  
James Neubauer  
Gold Medallion  
South Headland Aquatic Centre  
Aspen Stuart-Cunningham  
Mark Wright

### GOLD STAR

Christopher Schroeder



## ELENA DAMIANOPOULOS

GOLD MEDALLION WINNER

**IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR**, at the age of just 14, Elena Damianopoulos unwittingly became a hero. She was sitting on the shore during a family holiday at Moore River when a young boy, Ben Gibcus, got swept out to sea. Elena swam out to him, hopped onto his boogie board and brought him back to shore.

At the time she didn't know how dangerous the situation was. "While I was in the water one of my friends ran up to the campsite to get our parents.

One of the parents tried swimming in with a board, but it snapped so he had to swim back to shore. When I came back in he said, 'You have no idea what you just did!' so it was a bit crazy!"

Elena received a Gold Medallion award for her brave act at last year's Western Power Royal Life Saving Bravery Awards.

She says her background in learning about water safety was crucial in the rescue. "I started surf club when I was seven, and I did swimming lessons in the pool before then. When we were doing training we always thought we'd never have to use those skills."

Elena encourages everyone to get involved in swimming and lifesaving training.

*"It's really, really important because what happened was a life or death situation. So if I didn't have those skills then the outcome could have been very different."*

**BELOW:** Ellie and Ben.



# RECRUIT, RETAIN AND RECOGNISE OUR LOYAL MEMBERS

Royal Life Saving Society WA has a proud history of serving the community. Our volunteer structure includes volunteer committees, project teams, junior lifeguard clubs, endorsed swim schools, award members, associated members, supporters and sport members.

In the 2014-15 financial year 63 members were recognised and celebrated for their contribution to the Royal Life Saving Society WA. All provided their time, energy and skills to advance lifesaving activities in Western Australia.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA HONOURS AWARDS

### PRESIDENTS AWARD

BHP Billiton Iron Ore  
Challenger TAFE  
Government of Western  
Australia Department of Health  
Kununurra Aquatic Centre  
Port Hedland Gratwick Aquatic  
Centre YMCA  
South Hedland YMCA

### HONORARY LIFE GOVERNOR

Neil Parsons

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE ORDER

Douglas Bell  
Tracey Boxall  
Marion Price  
Helen Sweeney

### COMPANION AWARD

Mark Lewis  
Sandra Murphy  
Andrew Price  
Debbie Webb  
Llew Withers

### FELLOW AWARD

Bryan French  
Mary Segond van Banchet

### ASSOCIATE AWARD

Sergeant Craig  
"Ando" Anderson  
Daphne Bailey  
Linda Beard  
Sallie Bowden  
Jeanette Hooper

### LONG SERVICE ORDER

Paul Delane  
Sabina Dempster  
Margaret Fraser  
Deryn Watson-Migllore

### SERVICE ORDER

Melissa Bezuidenhout  
Adele Caporn  
Trevor Caporn  
Alison Classen  
Sarah Edwards  
Ruth Gillies  
Denise Haggarty  
Christine O'Brien  
Elaine O'Brien  
Wayne Pozzi  
Kristine Scroop  
Tom Shalders  
Michele Steele  
Jodie Thomson

### CERTIFICATE OF THANKS

Rosie Barter  
Deanne Beech  
Meagan Bevan  
Leanne Blomfield  
Connor Burdan  
Mitch Burdan  
Michelle Colligan  
Henre De Wet  
Rob Fraser  
Grill'd Claremont  
Marlis Grosseholz  
Tanya Hansen  
Tracey Harris  
Jules Holliday  
Barbara Loh  
Megan Mason  
Kim Nichols  
Josephine O'Reilly  
ORICA Australia  
Helen Paton  
Maddelyn Rimmer  
Charlotte Saxon  
Genevieve Smith  
Sinead Spencer  
Karen Thompson  
Sonia Vivien-Thorpe  
Lee Watson

### ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Glen Bennell  
Nicola Pilkington

### LIFE MEMBERS

Phyllis McDaniel  
Daphne Anderson  
A. Frank Benson  
MA Hamilton  
FW Hammond  
Mdme RC de Mouncey  
Norman Collins  
Ross Ewen  
Fred Curran  
Ern Halliday  
M Edwards  
JG Fraser  
AE Middleton  
Cyril Glew  
Ernest Nancarrow  
Michen Nicholas  
Alf Peacock  
R Davies  
Lily Dale  
Vic Dennis  
Anita Eifler  
David Smith  
Fran Murphy  
Crystal Humphrey  
John Fussell  
Dave Roberts  
Margaret Davies  
Joan Kent  
Lester Marston  
Hilta Billstein  
Rae Blanchard  
Noelene Maciejewski  
Lilian Aiken  
David Millington  
Lydia Whittle  
Gill Murrish  
Greg McLennan  
Ross Peters  
Dr Heather MacGowan OAM  
Audrey Cahill  
Tom Ballantyne  
C Barnett  
Alex McKenzie  
Greg Tate  
Ian Brown  
Peter Leaversuch  
Jacqui Lamb  
Colin Hassell





**COLIN HASSELL**  
LIFE MEMBER

**IT'S BEEN 53 YEARS** since Colin Hassell, as a would-be swimmer, was told he wouldn't ever be a champion in the pool, but should look towards Royal Life Saving Society. It was advice that's seen him make a huge impact on thousands of people.

Colin became passionate about teaching children to swim after a spate of drownings in his home town in the UK.

"Drowning was going through the roof and we were sure we could do something about it. So Royal Life Saving Society in the UK formed a branch that looked at inland waterways and started patrolling those as volunteer lifeguards. That's how I really got involved."

Colin is currently on the Board of Royal Life Saving Society WA and a well-respected member of the Western Australian aquatics industry. In 1979 he formed an organisation to look after children with disabilities, many the result of a non-fatal drowning incident.

He says, "that's really why I'm so passionate about trying to reduce drowning, because the tragedy of losing a child is one thing, but the aftermath of somebody who's had a non-fatal drowning is quite significant for the rest of their life."

For Colin the Keep Watch message is crucial.

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*"There can be no substitute for supervision. You can put as many barriers in the way as you like but children will find a way. I can't imagine the impact losing a child would have on a family, so learn CPR skills and make sure you know where your child is."*

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Financial  
Reports





# THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

ABN 28 083 676 266  
FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

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# THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors present the financial report of the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia Inc. (RLSSWA) and consolidated group for the year ended 30th June, 2015.

### DIRECTORS

The name of directors in office any time during or since the end of the financial year:

#### **MR ROSS PETERS (1998–PRESENT)**

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Ross has over 25 years' experience within the Western Australian Government's Sport and Recreation portfolio in various roles including Aquatics Management, Venue Management and Contract Management of major sporting and entertainment venues. During this time he has amassed considerable experience in major commercial facilities and stadium operations, extensive project management skills, and discernibly relevant policy and governance knowledge and experience. Ross graduated from the Venue Managers Association Asia and Pacific (VMA), Public Venue Management School in November 2000, received Gold level recognition in the Sirius Professional Achievement Programme for professional venue managers in October 2007 and was recognised as VMA Accredited Venue Manager in 2013.

Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia Inc.

- Board of Directors; 1998 - Present.
- President; 2005 - Present.
- Life Member; 2009
- Lifetime Achievement Awardee; 2009

#### **MR COLIN HASSELL (1999–PRESENT)**

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Has worked in both the UK and Australia for over 35 years and is highly respected within the aquatics industry. He has a specific interest in activities for people with disabilities and has done considerable work in training indigenous people as water safety and swimming instructors.

#### **MR JEFF FONDACARO (2006–PRESENT)**

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Jeff has worked in the aquatics industry since 1976. He moved to WA in 1988 and has worked at numerous aquatic centres during this time. He is currently employed at the Beatty Park Leisure Centre as the Assistant Manager Aquatics and Operation Services. Jeff works closely with the Aquatic Industry through his involvement with the Leisure Institute of WA of which he has been a member since 1990.

#### **MR MICHAEL MCDERMOTT (2007–OCTOBER 2014)**

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Has been a passionate, dedicated lifesaving member for many years and has been a strong advocate for the Bronze medallion award and teaching lifesaving to Western Australian youth.

#### **MR DAVID CUMMINS (2007–PRESENT)**

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During a 40 year involvement in the aquatics industry David has served as President of Masters Swimming WA from 1987-1992 and been a member of Masters Swimming Australia's Board for 20 years over two terms. He served as Chairman of the 1999 Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships and has also chaired many State, National and Masters Games Championships. Acknowledgements received:

- 1989 - Life Membership to the Winter Swimming Association of Australia
- 1990 - Life Membership to the Cottesloe Crabs Winter Swimming Club Inc.
- 1993 - Life Membership to Claremont Masters Swimming Club Inc.
- 1993 - WA Citizen of the Year – Sport
- 1993 - Life Membership to Masters Swimming WA
- 2000 - Australian Sports Medal
- 2003 - Australian Centenary Medal
- 2007 - Life Membership to Masters Swimming Australia

#### **MR MARK GUBANYI (OCTOBER 2014–PRESENT)**

---

Mark has been an ambassador for the Keep Watch program since 1999, he has been dedicated and instrumental in educating parents of young children to think about ways in which they can reduce the risk of drowning in and around their home.

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

During the course of the year the principal activities of RLSSWA were to foster the promotion of drowning prevention and water safety through the teaching of swimming, lifesaving, first aid and resuscitation. Principal activities include:

- The development and publication of research, educational and instructional materials in the form of papers, books, brochures and electronic mediums.
- Promotional and public awareness programs, campaigns and advocacy designed to increase knowledge and understanding of key drowning prevention issues.
- Organisation of courses, classes, programs and lectures designed to increase understanding and education of key water safety issues.

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

## OPERATING RESULT

The profit after providing for income tax amounted to \$76,261.

## AFTER BALANCE DATE EVENTS

No matter or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the entity, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the entity in future financial years.

## MEETINGS

During the financial year 9 meetings of directors were held. Attendance by each director was as follows:

Name	Number of meetings eligible to attend	Number of meetings attended
Ross Peters	9	9
Colin Hassell	9	7
Jeff Fondacaro	9	9
David Cummins	9	7
Michael McDermott	3	0
Mr Mark Gubanyi	6	5

Signed on the 12th October, 2015 in accordance with a resolution of the Board by:



DIRECTOR  
**DAVID CUMMINS**



DIRECTOR  
**JEFF FONDACARO**

# THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC DECLARATION BY THE DIRECTORS

The Directors have determined that the Society is not a reporting entity, and that this special purpose report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the Board of Directors, the accompanying financial statements:

1. (a) The accompanying Income and Expenditure Statement gives a true and fair view of the surplus or deficit of the Society for the financial year; and  
(b) The accompanying Statement of Financial Position gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at the end of the financial year.
2. At the date of the statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed by and on behalf of the Board by:



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DIRECTOR  
**DAVID CUMMINS**



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DIRECTOR  
**JEFF FONDACARO**

Dated 12th October, 2015



# AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

NICK DEL POPOLO  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT  
9 CARRINGTON STREET  
NORTH PERTH WA 6006  
Ph: 0419 922 776

12th October, 2015

## TO THE MEMBERS THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

We have audited the financial statements of the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia Inc. (the Society) for the year ended 30 June 2015, pages 30-36. These financial statements have been prepared on the basis set out in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Society's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Society.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material respects the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards so as to present a view of the Society which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations.

The financial statements include fundraising receipts. It has not been practicable to determine whether pledged monies from external fundraising activities have been received and banked to the Society's accounts.

The Audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

## AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Royal Life Saving Society Western Australia Inc. (The Society) as at 30 June 2015 and the results of its operations for the year ended 30 June 2015 in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.



**NICK DEL POPOLO**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT  
REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR

Liability limited by a scheme approved under professional standards legislation.

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sales	351,189	310,960
Programs & Operations	8,644,905	8,621,491
Donations	197,576	262,832
Investment Income	60,381	21,342
Sponsorship / Grants (Note 9)	1,534,312	1,512,371
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$10,788,363</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,728,996</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Cost of Sales	279,808	183,445
Programs & Operations	9,660,294	9,776,016
Depreciation	142,517	140,721
Employee Costs	398,625	294,333
Provisions	121,104	(51,360)
Administration Costs	109,754	322,815
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>\$10,712,102</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,665,970</u></b>
Net Surplus / (Deficit) before tax	76,261	63,026
less Income Tax expense / (credit)	-	-
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) AFTER TAX</b>	<b><u>\$ 76,261</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 63,026</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
 AS AT 30TH JUNE 2015

	Note	2015	2014
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash	2	1,756,384	1,074,172
Receivables	3 & 5	604,831	1,524,858
Inventories	4	196,405	207,403
Investments		-	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 2,557,620</b>	<b>\$ 2,806,433</b>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property Plant & Equipment	6	2,606,404	2,542,715
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 2,606,404</b>	<b>\$ 2,542,715</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 5,164,024</b>	<b>\$ 5,349,148</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors & Borrowings	7	718,695	1,107,262
Provisions	8	644,158	516,976
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>\$ 1,362,853</b>	<b>\$ 1,624,238</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>\$ 1,362,853</b>	<b>\$ 1,624,238</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 3,801,171</b>	<b>\$ 3,724,910</b>
<b>RETAINED FUNDS</b>			
Accumulated Funds		2,828,117	2,765,092
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		76,261	63,026
Asset Revaluation Reserve		896,793	896,793
<b>TOTAL SOCIETY'S FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 3,801,171</b>	<b>\$ 3,724,910</b>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2015

### NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial reports are special purpose financial reports prepared for the members in order to satisfy the accounts preparation requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1987 and RLSSWA's constitutional reporting requirements. The Directors' have determined that RLSSWA is not a reporting entity.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report.

#### REPORTING BASIS AND CONVENTIONS

The financial reports have been prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values, or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non current assets.

##### (a) Income Tax

RLSSWA is exempt from income tax under the definition in S11-5 and S50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 as amended. Consequently "tax effect accounting" is not taken into account in the preparation of the financial report. RLSSWA has been endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as an Income Tax Exempt Charity (ITEC), Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) and Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR).

##### (b) Revenue Recognition

###### *Government Funding and Sponsorship Income*

Government contributions and sponsorship income is recognised as income as the funds are being expended on the relevant projects. RLSSWA does not recognise Government contributions as income when they are received or receivable in accordance with AASB 1004, but rather, continues to match the income with related expenses as and when they are incurred. As a special purpose reporting entity RLSSWA is able to choose this option.

###### *Interest Income*

Interest income is recognised as it accrues.

###### *Trading and Fundraising Income*

Revenue under this category is recognised as it is received or accrued.

##### (c) Income Received in Advance

Income Received in Advance is carried forward to the extent that it is to be earned in a future period and does not relate to expenditure which has already been brought to account.

##### (d) Receivables

Receivables to be settled within 30-60 days are carried at amounts due. The collectability of debts is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts.

##### (e) Non Current Assets

The carrying amounts of all Non Current Assets are reviewed to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amount at balance date. If the carrying amount of a Non Current Asset exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the lower amount.

##### (f) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held at call with banks at normal commercial rates, policies and terms regularly adopted by businesses in Australia.

##### (g) Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Depreciation, where applicable, has been charged in the accounts on property, plant and equipment, and motor vehicles, so as to write off each asset over the estimated useful life of the asset concerned. Either the diminishing value or prime cost method is used, as considered appropriate.

##### (h) Amortisation of Building

Leasehold buildings are measured on the fair value basis, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arms length transaction. An independent valuation was performed on the 16 June, 2011.

#### (i) Employee Benefits

RLSSWA provides for its Long Service Leave liability in respect of all employees with service in excess of five years. As RLSSWA is not legally bound to provide for long service leave until the employees' service exceeds ten years (subject to ill health etc.), RLSSWA's policy is to phase in its provision for Long Service Leave during the five to ten year period of service.

Annual leave has been provided for in the financial report on the basis of employee's accumulated net entitlements at year end.

#### (j) Accounts Payable

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods or services received, whether or not billed.

#### (k) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense of the item.

Receivables and Payables in the Balance Sheet are stated with the amount of the GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO, is included as a Current Asset or Current Liability in the Balance Sheet.

#### (l) Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Contingent Liabilities and Assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but are discussed in the relevant schedules and notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset, or represent an existing liability or asset in respect of which settlement is not probable or the amount cannot be reliably measured. Remote contingencies are part of this disclosure. Where settlement becomes probable, a liability or asset is recognised. A liability or asset is recognised when its existence is confirmed by a future event, settlement becomes probable (virtually certain for assets) or reliable measurement becomes possible.

#### (m) Trophies

The Society holds numerous trophies which have been purchased or donated. All are of a perpetual nature. The value of the trophies is indeterminable due to their nature therefore, have not been included on the Society Balance Sheet.

	2015	2014
<b>NOTE 2. CASH</b>		
Petty cash	800	800
Cash at bank - Head Office	1,702,675	931,730
Cash at bank - Program	562	688
Cash at bank - Fundraising	4,137	9,342
Cash at bank - Bonus Account	2,537	42,642
Cash at bank - CBA	45,673	88,970
	<b>\$1,756,384</b>	<b>\$ 1,074,172</b>

The amounts held in the Fundraising accounts are exclusively applicable to raffles not yet finalised.

#### NOTE 3. RECEIVABLES

##### CURRENT

Trade Debtors	485,053	1,229,476
Provision for doubtful debts	(12,057)	(26,821)
Security Deposit	31,150	198,016
	<b>\$ 504,146</b>	<b>\$1,400,670</b>

#### NOTE 4. INVENTORIES

Stock on Hand at Cost	<b>\$ 196,405</b>	<b>\$ 207,403</b>
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# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT

2015

2014

## NOTE 5. OTHER ASSETS

Prepayments and other debtors	<b>\$ 100,685</b>	<b>\$ 124,188</b>
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## NOTE 6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Building and Improvements (at independent valuation)	2,621,215	2,626,775
Less Provision for Depreciation	(448,879)	(396,995)

<b>2,172,336</b>	<b>2,229,780</b>
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Plant and Equipment at cost - Head Office	860,617	949,455
Less Provision for Depreciation	(426,549)	(636,520)

<b>434,068</b>	<b>312,935</b>
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Intellectual Property	-	-
Less Provision for Depreciation	-	-

<b>\$2,606,404</b>	<b>\$2,542,715</b>
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## NOTE 7. CREDITORS AND BORROWINGS

CURRENT		
Income in advance	401,814	728,405
Creditors - Trade	182,507	77,974
Creditors - Other	134,374	300,883

<b>\$ 718,695</b>	<b>\$1,107,262</b>
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## NOTE 8. PROVISIONS

CURRENT		
Annual Leave	246,569	223,542
Long Service Leave	275,827	177,750
Accrued Wages	121,762	115,684

<b>\$ 644,158</b>	<b>\$ 516,976</b>
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## NOTE 9. SPONSORSHIP / GRANTS

Grants received for operations or capital works purposes are included as income

Department of Sport & Recreation	225,000	334,678
Health Department of WA	456,793	357,218
Leisure Institute of WA	40,908	16,364
Healthway	64,000	49,500
WA Police Office of Crime Prevention	28,856	27,466
BHP Billiton Minerals Pty Ltd	543,211	517,450
Western Power	70,000	70,000
Dept of Families, Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs	-	67,000
Commercial Aquatics Australia	15,000	15,000
Royal Life Saving Society National	65,543	27,695
Office of Multi Cultural Interests	15,000	30,000
National Australia Bank Community Grant	10,000	-

<b>\$1,534,312</b>	<b>\$1,512,371</b>
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Sponsorship/Grants received in advance are carried forward to the extent that it is to be applied in a future period and does not relate to expenditure which has already been brought to account.

# LIFE SAVING UNIT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

	COMMUNITY SERVICES										SOCIAL ENTERPRISE				Head Office Operations
	Research	Health Promotion	Swimming & Water Safety	Community Education	Aboriginal Community Pools	Remote Aboriginal Community Venues	Safe Venues	Public Relations	Workforce Solutions	Vocational Training	Fundraising	Product Sales			
<b>INCOME</b>															
Sales			62,072				284					288,833			
Programs & Operations	2,056	75,442	94,597	38,413	1,286,508	526,100	2,213,164		857,344	1,839,748	1,699,431		12,102		
Donations						3,693			313	193,570					
Investment Income									11,248				49,133		
Sponsorship			257,275		73,275		35,000		60,000	60,987					
Grants (Note 2)	111,273	566,959	259,543			85,000							25,000		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>113,329</b>	<b>642,401</b>	<b>673,487</b>	<b>38,413</b>	<b>1,359,783</b>	<b>611,100</b>	<b>2,252,141</b>		<b>917,657</b>	<b>1,911,983</b>	<b>1,893,001</b>	<b>288,833</b>		<b>86,235</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>															
Cost of Sales			33,501				43,153			857		202,297			
Programs & Operations	191,829	646,731	535,553	264,947	1,060,365	674,063	2,405,420		828,626	1,719,147	1,264,904	68,709			
Depreciation & Amortisation	3,291	4,148	5,915	6,350	12,528	23,777	28,234		14,801	41,724		1,749			
Employee Costs													398,625		
Provisions	1,139	1,139	1,602	2,159	4,141	3,556	2,146		2,285	6,941		636	95,360		
Administration Costs													109,754		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>196,259</b>	<b>652,018</b>	<b>576,571</b>	<b>273,456</b>	<b>1,077,034</b>	<b>701,396</b>	<b>2,478,953</b>		<b>845,712</b>	<b>1,767,812</b>	<b>1,265,761</b>	<b>273,391</b>	<b>603,739</b>		
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(82,930)</b>	<b>(9,617)</b>	<b>96,916</b>	<b>(235,043)</b>	<b>282,749</b>	<b>(90,296)</b>	<b>(226,812)</b>		<b>71,945</b>	<b>144,171</b>	<b>627,240</b>	<b>15,442</b>	<b>(517,504)</b>		

Operating  
Model







## OPERATING MODEL

Royal Life Saving Society WA has developed a clearer separation and reporting of community service and social enterprise activities within the organisation.

Royal Life Saving Society WA invested \$5,955,687 to deliver our Community Services.

Funds were obtained from our Support Partners and Sponsors, Government and community Grants, and the program and operational surpluses generated by our Social Enterprise Life Saving Units.

Our Social Enterprise Life Saving Units generate surpluses which are invested directly back into the Community Service Life Saving Units.

- Vocational Training
- Workforce Solutions
- Fundraising
- Product Sales

### OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE LIFE SAVING UNITS DELIVER KEY MESSAGES AND INITIATIVES TO THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY.

- **RESEARCH** – to broaden parameters and ensure focused outcomes
- **HEALTH PROMOTION** – to expand education and message promotion strategies and reach
- **SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY** – to increase essential swimming and water safety skills in the Western Australian community
- **COMMUNITY EDUCATION** – so that everyone can be a lifesaver
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS** – to recognise our valued Members and to promote the activities of Royal Life Saving Society WA
- **SAFE VENUES** – to ensure safety systems and procedures are in place at all public and private swimming pools
- **REMOTE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY POOLS** – to provide improved health, social and educational outcomes

Everyone  
can be a  
lifesaver!



# OUR PARTNERS

## PRINCIPAL COMMUNITY PARTNER



## PROGRAM PARTNERS



## FUNDRAISING PARTNERS



## MEDIA PARTNERS





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