

DECEMBER 2012: OTAKI SLSC



RESCUE OF THE MONTH

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING RESCUES

CENTRAL WINNER

In it for life

Date/time: 17:30 Sunday 30 December 2012
Location: Otaki Beach approx. 500m south of the clubrooms
Lifeguards involved: Shenee Nicholson (PC); Peter Housiaux (IRB Operator);
Emma Andrews (IRB crew), Toia Temperton-Royal (tube swimmer);
Caleb Royal (tube swimmer)

It was an eventful first day as Patrol Captain for Shenee Nicholson when a group of swimmers got into difficulty at Otaki.

At around 5.30pm on December 30, as the patrol was in the process of shutting down, a member of the public notified her that several people were in trouble south of the clubrooms. Equipment was still at the ready and as Shenee coordinated the rescue, the other Surf Lifeguards proceeded south and the IRB was launched.

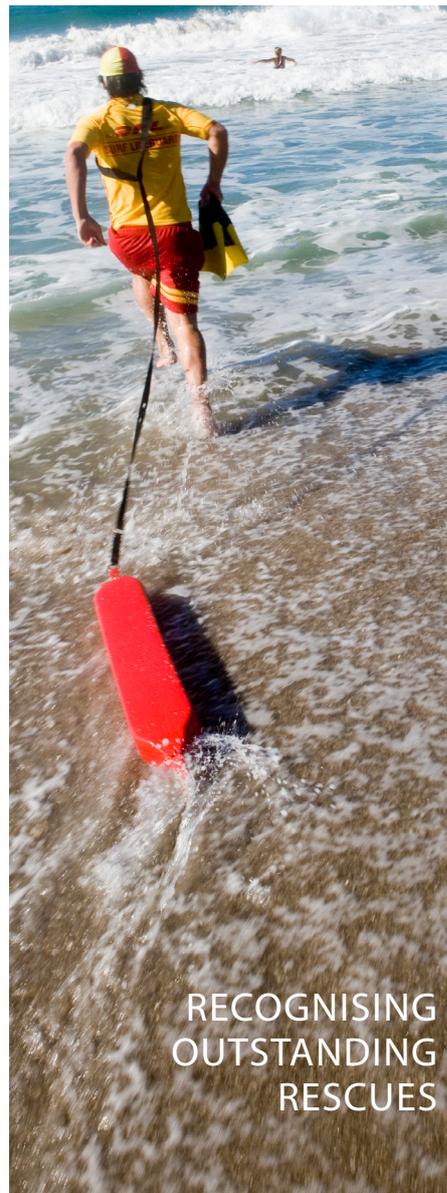
Two members of the public had entered the water to assist and it became apparent that one of those people were experiencing difficulty. The IRB located two males who were supporting one another in the water. Both were conscious but barely responsive to the IRB crew's reassurance and direction. One of the patients was clearly unwell and both were picked up by the IRB.

At the same time, father and daughter Lifeguards Caleb Royal and Toia Temperton-Royal swam out to the third individual. He initially resisted assistance but soon accepted their

help and was returned to shore. As the crew took the patients back to the clubrooms they administered oxygen to one of the patients until an ambulance arrived to assist with his care.

Shenee coordinated the patrol's actions smoothly and completed clear and effective communications with both the Surf Lifeguards and the emergency services. Senior club personnel were promptly notified of the incident.

Two of the Lifeguards involved, Peter Housiaux and Caleb, have decades of lifesaving experience and reported that without the intervention of club members, two of the three men would more than likely have drowned. Both credited Shenee with effective leadership in the face of a much pressured situation.



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