



RESCUE OF THE MONTH

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING RESCUES

CENTRAL WINNER

In it for life

Date/time: Tuesday 20 July 2013
Location: Riversdale Road
Lifeguards involved: Jane Tiley

Off-duty lifeguard Jane Tiley was called to assist with a road accident and upon arriving on scene, she discovered a car had collided with a motorbike. The motorcyclist was lying on the road, deceased.

The elderly driver of the car was trapped in her vehicle which was in a ditch by the side of the road. She needed attention for chest pain and Jane also had concerns about her neck. The woman had breathing difficulties and pain when attempting to move.

Due to the car being stuck in the drain, Jane had to climb in through the back window of the car to get access to patient. In this position, she was able to give and maintain neck support.

A helicopter and ambulance were called and Jane directed the local volunteer fire service to set up a helicopter landing site. She utilized members of the public to help stop traffic and make the scene safe.

The patient said her pain levels were very high- around a 10. She had a number of allergies and she also

suffered from asthma. She wasn't given any pain medication out of concern that it might interfere with her medication.

Oxygen was administered at eight litres per minute, then reduced to six. It was not possible to take her blood pressure due to her position in the car. She said her neck was too painful to allow a neck brace to be put on. Her vitals were monitored until paramedics arrived.

The fire service arrived and cut the roof off the car. Paramedics were then able to give further treatment and apply a neck brace. The patient was further stabilised by paramedics and then transported to hospital by helicopter.

Jane displayed a vast array of skills from assessing the scene and organising the helicopter landing zone to explaining to non-trained personnel the equipment she needed to assist- all while monitoring and treating the patient in an awkward position.

She showed great leadership working with untrained personnel and giving ambulance staff a good patient evaluation and handover when they arrived on scene.



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