



MARCH 2014: ST CLAIR BEACH



SOUTHERN WINNER



RESCUE OF THE MONTH

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING RESCUES

In it for life

Date/time:	18th March 2014
Location:	St Clair
Lifeguards involved:	Perry Farrell and callout squad (Stefhan Brown, Cam Third, Max Corboy, James Rolfe, Rowan Leak, Scott Weatherall)

Perry Farrell was in the right place at the right time on March 18 when he went to the beach to study.

A woman near the rocks of St Clair had got caught in a rip and needed rescuing. A policeman approached Perry and asked if the Surf Club was open. It wasn't but he had a key so he opened it up and grabbed a kneeboard, as he wasn't a qualified IRB driver.

He rushed out to help a lady who was on a surfboard and carefully brought her through the break and back to the safety of the beach.

Perry, a member of the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service, noticed she had very blue lips and looked fatigued. He sat her down and realised she needed treatment for hypothermia. He took her to the surf club and by this time, the callout squad had arrived.

They applied first aid treatment and tried to warm her up. They then realised she also had a mental illness and when the ambulance arrived, they took over.

Had Perry not have been there that day, the woman had a fair chance of drowning as she was very tired and hypothermic.

