

APRIL 2015: PALMERSTON NORTH SLSC



SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW ZEALAND



## RESCUE OF THE MONTH

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING RESCUES

CENTRAL WINNER

*In it for life*

**Date/time: Saturday April 4, 2015**

**Location: Marton**

**Lifeguards involved: Cameron Batley**

It was a Saturday evening and 18 year-old Cameron met some friends at a local party and, on arriving, he found a 17 year-old girl unconscious on her back. She had vomit around her mouth and Cameron immediately responded, placing the girl in the recovery position. He assessed her status while trying to recruit others to help.

Once her airway was clear and her breathing established, Cameron organised for an ambulance to be called. The nearest ambulance was 30 minutes away, so the 111 operator directed Cameron to place the girl on her back and establish her breathing rate. She then began vomiting again so Cameron had to re-establish her airway.

When the ambulance arrived, Cameron helped the officers move the girl to the ambulance.

Cameron was able to apply his first aid skills acquired through his advanced lifeguard training under difficult circumstances. He knew the patient and also had to organise a group of intoxicated teenagers to assist him, indicating his great leadership skills.

The girl, who had consumed a lot of alcohol, had to have her stomach pumped and was kept overnight in hospital. Cameron was told that if she had been left in her original state, she would have likely died.

Incidents such as this one help highlight that the skills developed in surf lifesaving have many applications; not just with drowning prevention.