



Awards of Excellence 2019 – full citations:

NZLGB Lifeguard of the Year

James Lloyd – Waihi Beach LS

James continues to provide a high level of service and lifeguarding support to Waihi Beach, the region and Surf Life Saving New Zealand. James has been invited to be part of a number of key leadership roles including being an Instructor at National Lifeguard School, the Coromandel Local Lifesaving Committee and Jet Ski team, assisting Surf Life Saving New Zealand achieve their goals and demonstrate a high standard of lifeguarding. It is these skills that makes James the winner of the NZLGB Lifeguard of the Year award.

Not only this year has James been involved in a range of projects and from the list detailed you can't measure the hours of commitment James made to the organisation. James is on the Waihi Beach Board as Director of Lifeguarding and is embracing the opportunity to support the members and committed to making a difference.

He has formed a very strong 12 member Lifeguarding Sub-committee and together they have achieved a significant number of goals that has resulted in some clever initiatives being introduced. The Club had 103 new or refreshing lifeguards and 24 rookies this season which confirms that the Club is in good health under his portfolio.

DHL Volunteer of the Year

Rachelle Bright – Whangamata SLSC

During the 2018/19 season Rachelle was Whangamata Club Captain. She was a key member of the club to develop their strategic outlook and club values that underpin the surf club. She has helped at a regional level, being on the examining team and taken on new examiners to train. At exams she runs the theory marking side of the exam and helps others to learn the examining process.

She has been on the Local Lifesaving Committee for a number of years, this season taking on Chairperson role. She has implemented new initiatives, particularly around peer support, designing a poster for all clubs. Rachelle works closely with all members in a surf lifesaving context, including junior surf.

With her teaching background Rachelle has offered guidance with teaching techniques that better enable coaches to develop their pedagogical techniques. Rachelle takes the time to welcome all new members into the club and upholds a well-respected role within the club at all times. She has been and always will be a great advocate for her surf club and surf lifesaving in general.

BP Rescue of the Year

Character Roofing Gisborne Emergency Callout Squad - Justin Martin, Matt Kemp, Andrew Shelton and Alan Thorpe.

On Christmas Eve, the Character Roofing Gisborne Emergency Callout Squad (ECOS) was mobilised to perform a daring rescue of passengers on a private boat in massive storm waves off the coast of Gisborne.

The ECOS was tasked by Police to help rescue a couple from their 12-metre boat, called Mazurka, after a mayday call in the early afternoon. So, with the help of two lifeguard coordinators on the beach at Wainui SLSC, the crew launched two IRBs with four crew. With deteriorating conditions, the rescue was "risky" and relied upon the skills and expertise of the highly-experienced crew.

Unfortunately, it was a bad day for the two passengers on the boat when its anchor line failed, followed by its engine, leaving only idling power. To make matters worse, the Mazurka was being

In it for life



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thrown around by the rough seas with waves as high as four meters and was drifting to nearby Monowai Reef at Whangara Beach, north of Gisborne.

The team was quickly put together and within a short timeframe, the two IRBs were headed for the stricken boat through the "treacherous" and "incredibly horrendous" waters. The two IRBs were the first to reach the Mazurka, with Thorpe bravely jumping into the water and boarding the heavily pitching boat to help the young Scottish couple on board.

The conditions had continued to worsen through the afternoon, and darkness was creeping in early because of the storm. At the time of the rescue, one of the squad members said "when we turned to go home, I could barely see land because of the swells, the sea mist and rain."

At the time of the incident, Constable Andrew

Trafford of Tolaga Bay Police told the Gisborne Herald that it was a "truly amazing rescue." "These guys were all dragged away from their families the day before Christmas to put their own lives at risk to save the lives of others. They worked tirelessly all afternoon and into the evening.

"It was a great result and could have very easily ended up as a double tragedy," he added.

TSB Surf Official of the Year

Jo Miller – Papamoa SLSC

Jo has shown outstanding commitment to developing her skills and knowledge as a Surf Official in recent years by actively seeking out, mentoring and making herself available for leadership roles in a host of local, regional, national and international events.

In her capacity as an Arena Referee, Jo is able to build a solid team atmosphere among the officials in her arena which allows the arena to run efficiently. This was evident throughout National events even when conditions were challenging for all.

In stepping up to Event Referee roles, Jo has brought her trademark calm, considered and professional manner to all aspects of the role. She is a thoughtful and athlete-centred official who has an excellent command of surf and pool rules and sport-related processes.

Jo was an official at Rescue 2018, Oceans, Nationals, Pool Champs, NZ Rep Challenge and most local events in the Bay of Plenty.

DHL Instructor of the Year

Kate Suter – Sumner SLSC

Kate is the Sumner SLSC Head Instructor and is responsible for organising and getting people involved in all courses at the club. She has coordinated, organised and instructed 15 IRB crewmen successfully, instructed 10 new IRB drivers and mentored two new IRB Instructors towards their IRB Instructors Awards. She has also led, organised and coordinated Surf Lifeguard Award Courses with 20 new lifeguards becoming qualified and five new instructors mentored through their SLGA Instructors Award.

Kate led, organised and ran Sumner Rock workshops, working on further strengthening the relationship with the Sumner Lifeboat Organisation in which over 24 participants took part. She also ran multiple other trainings on patrols for junior members involving board rescues and swimming and encouraged and put members onto first aid courses and VHF courses.

Kate coordinated whole club training sessions, focusing on board rescues, team work, surf swimming and tube rescues after recognising a weakness with surf swimming and board rescues in the club as well as club IRB workshops to improve gear maintenance and motor knowledge.

DHL Innovation of the Year

Wahine on Water - Phoebe Havill (Onemana SLSC), Julia Conway (Mount Maunganui LS), Philip Pirie (Mount Maunganui LS) and Paul Hardy (Piha SLSC)

Wahine on Water is a project that was created through the BP Leaders for Life program. The goal for this project was to improve the balance between genders in the IRB driving role.

The group surveyed many members to plan the best way to improve the number of women in IRBs and came up with a range of initiatives to make this happen. The group then developed and implemented a couple of these ideas.

The group developed a mentor programme that enabled mentors to be able to collaborate and explore ideas with other mentors across the region and New Zealand to reach the end goal of getting more females to participate in IRB's and improve the balance of genders in the role.

Another way they are increasing the number of female IRB drivers is through hosting IRB training days targeted at females. There has already been two of these days hosted successfully, one in

Whangamata which had approximately 20 attendees and 10 IRB mentors. The second in Omanu had approximately 40 attendees and 23 mentors.

This project also aims to improve retention of senior lifeguards as they can encourage to mentor and inspire younger guards and meet lifeguards from other clubs.

TSB Surf Coach of the Year

John (Spindles) Bryant – Mount Maunganui LS

As the head coach at Mt Maunganui LS, Spindles has a huge influence over all members of the club which has enjoyed outstanding success in the past 12 months. The club successfully won its 7th consecutive Allan Gardner Trophy at SLSNZ Nationals, second at Oceans, second at SLSNZ Masters and third at SLSNZ Pool Championships.

Spindles has a positive relationship with many other sports coaches in the area and uses these relationships to advocate and highlight the success of SLSNZ athletes. Spindles was a driving influence in the SLSNZ Junior Black Fins World Championships in his role as Assistant Coach. He also has 13 surf athletes in SLSNZ Surf Sports Squads.

Spindles is very much focussed on the development of young people and espouses the 'In it for life' philosophy - he is not driven to seek short term results, he wants young people to develop and flourish and become ingrained in the movement. It is this approach that has seen the club programme continue to grow and thrive year after year.

TSB International Performance of the Year

Zac Reid – Fitzroy SLSC

This year's winner is a member of the outstanding Junior Black Fins Team, delivering world-class results in both the pool and on the beach. Of the team's 37 medals Zac contributed nine, winning two individual golds and four team golds, which also included world records in the 200m Obstacles and Mixed Pool Lifesaver Relay races.

Individual Results:

Gold & World Record in 200m Obstacles

Gold Surf Race

Silver 100m Manikin Tow

Bronze 200m Super Lifesaver

Team Results:

Gold & World Record Mixed Pool Lifesaver Relay

Gold Rescue Tube Rescue

Gold Ocean Man Relay

Gold 4 x 25m Manikin Relay

Silver 4 x 50m Obstacle relay

These were outstanding achievements from a young man with a big future ahead.

BP Media Story of the Year

Breakfast, TV 1 - End of Season Wrap Up, 3R's of Rip Safety & What To Do When Surf Lifeguards Aren't on Patrol.

It was an in-depth education interview that highlights the importance of the role surf lifeguards plays in the community and gave valuable surf lifesaving advice to a wide audience.

Gudsell Trophy

Mairangi Bay SLSC and Mountt Maunganui LS

Awarded to the club who gains the most Surf Lifeguard Awards in a year. Mount Maunganui and Mairangi Bay qualified 48 new lifeguards each in the 2018-2019 season.

London Trophy

Ngati Porou SLSC

Awarded to the club who gains the most Surf Lifeguard and Surf Lifeguard Instructor Awards per number of members. Ngati Porou more than doubled their number of lifeguards by qualifying nine new lifeguards in the 2018/2019 season - an outstanding effort for such a small club.

2019 Service Award Winners

Warwick Aiken – Waimairi SLSC

Warwick has been a Waimairi stalwart since he joined as a 14 year old. Warwick has been a reliable patroller and 'Committee man' for many years. He competed in canoes and ski in his teens and twenties but has been more involved in fundraising, promoting and supporting club activities, organising social events, club functions and keeping reign on club finances, including running pub raffles through the 1970s. More recently he was part of the formal establishment of the North Christchurch Lifeguard Trust, has been Acting Chair and organised the purchase of a property on their behalf. Warwick also submitted proposals to the Christchurch City Council and Regenerate Christchurch for the creation of hot salt water pools at New Brighton for the benefit of locals and lifeguards (the proposal was taken over by CCC). Warwick's entire family were also Waimairi lifeguards.

Teri Anderson, Paekakariki SL

Teri has made an outstanding contribution to surf lifesaving. At club level Teri has been a Committee Member, Coach, Manager, Selector and Official, most of these roles continuously since her introduction to surf lifesaving in 2006. Her level of commitment is extraordinary - she has been present at practically every local, regional and 'Oceans' competition since 2012 as an official. She has officiated at Nationals for the past six years. She has been Capital Coast Official of the Year at least three times and named Volunteer of the Year at Sport Wellington Awards. Teri was awarded her Regional Service Award in 2014 and Distinguished Service Award in 2019.

Sandra Bednarek, Paekakariki SL

Sandra is a valuable member of Paekakariki Surf Lifeguards. Since her introduction to surf lifesaving 17 years ago Sandra has been readily available to assist in many areas of the club. She is a hard-working member of the Executive Committee and has been Club Registrar and Junior Surf Coordinator for the past 10 years. Her other roles have been in fundraising, communications, publicity, sports and social and she is on the Awards Committee, spending considerable time writing citations to ensure members are appropriately recognised in their various fields. She has successfully gained many grants for the club and is an administrator on Facebook pages. She also manages teams travelling away and for the past nine years being responsible for the accommodation and food of Nationals teams which covers some 75 people. Sandra is also Assistant Treasurer of the club, chiefly responsible for tracking subs and competition fees and is a club admin on the database, rolling over members from year to year and administrating club awards on the same. Sandra has made a significant contribution to Paekakariki Surf Lifeguards and to surf lifesaving.

Graham Buck, Mairangi Bay SLSC

Graham joined Mairangi Bay in 1996 and has been an active member and committee member since. He has been on the committee for nine years and has been Team Manager of the club for five years. Graham has been a local official for 12 years and NZ appointed Official for nine years. He has also been a member of the Local Sport Committee. Graham was awarded his Regional Service Award in 2010.

Cameron Burrow, St Clair SLSC

Cam has been an extremely active lifeguard since he qualified in 2009. He has been a club committee member for the past six years. He is an active member of the Otago Emergency Callout Squad and an event lifeguard. Cam has been a member of the Local Lifesaving Committee which he was the Chairperson for the past three years. He was awarded his Regional Service Award in 2018 and Regional Distinguished Service in 2019.

Kevin Campbell, Mairangi Bay SLSC

Kevin joined Mairangi Bay in 1969 and gained his Surf Lifeguard Award in 1976. He was an active patroller for 21 years and Instructor for 15 years. Kevin has also been on various club committees for over 20 years. Kevin has been a local and National Surf Sport Official for the past seven years. He gained his Regional Service Award in 1997 and Regional Distinguished Service Award in 2009.

Mark Cresswell, Waimairi SLSC

Mark has been an excellent 'clubbie' from his days as an U14 Cadet. He was recognised as an aspiring competitor and patroller and given a Club Encouragement Award in his first year as a lifeguard in 2003. He upskilled quickly, taking part in Patrol Teams competition, took to beach and craft events, and won U19 Competitor of the Year in 2006 and 2007. As a member of the successful Waimairi Men's Canoe Crew he was named Open Competitor of the Year from 2008-2015. Mark has won 17 gold medals in canoe at NZ Nationals. He has represented Canterbury and been recognised

as part of the Canterbury Team of the Year 2012-2015. Mark has also competed in Pool Champs, regularly in beach events (Beach Relay to Nationals finals), board/ski (ski and Taplin Relay to Nationals finals) and has gained his IRB Driver award. Not an avid 'Committee man', Mark has involved himself fully in club fundraising and social events, has driven the digger for renovations during working bees and found an ATV sponsor for Waimairi!

Steven Franich, Orewa SLSC

Steve (aka Lefty) has risen through the ranks from being a junior lifeguard, active lifeguard and coach. His service record is understated as he prefers to contribute to the organisation without holding formal job roles. He has been a mainstay of Junior Surf in the Northern Region for nearly 20 years as a coach and member of the regional Junior Committee, including a stint as Chairperson. Following his children into senior surf, he has retired from coaching and acts as a mentor to our club coaches. He is an "unofficial" Team Manager and is always towing trailers, fixing equipment, putting up tents at sport events. Steve has been on the building redevelopment committee for 10 years and leads the technical aspects of that project. As an athlete he has represented Northern Region and still pulls an oar in the Masters Surf Boat. Steve is well known and respected throughout the country.

Kim Hendrie, Waimairi SLSC

Kim has been an active lifeguard since qualifying in 2003 and has been a lifeguard, Patrol Captain and competitor for 16 years. Kim has taken various roles in the club and committee including 12 years as Regional Examiner. Also a keen sports woman Kim has won various National titles. Kim was awarded her Regional Service Award in 2012 and Distinguished Service Award in 2019.

Lynette Imrie, Paekakariki SL

Lynette joined Paekakariki in 2005 and immediately became a key volunteer. She has spent the past 14 years as Club Coach and Manager and the past 13 years on the Club Committee. Lynnie has been a Local Official for the past eight years and was on the Local Sports Committee for 8 years. Lynnie was a NZ Official for 4 years and gained her Regional Service Award in 2014 and Distinguished Service in 2018. She is ever present at every carnival in the Capital Coast area as a Coach, Manager and Official. In particular her running of Nipper carnivals is legendary - her calm, personable approach is without fault and at all times she remembers she is there for the competitors. Lynnette was awarded a Regional Service Award in 2014 and Regional Distinguished Service Award in 2018.

Hannah Laughton, Waimairi SLSC

Hannah gained her Surf Lifeguard Award in 2003 and completed 14 years as an active lifeguard, Patrol Captain for six years and Club Instructor for eight years. She has also had roles as Team Manager, Committee Member and Coach. Hannah was a District examiner for 11 years and Regional Committee Member and Auditor. Hannah was also selected to the Leaders for Life programme in 2014.

Anthony Nunnick, Taylors Mistake SLSC

Anthony gained his Surf Lifeguard Award in 1998 and has been actively patrolling at Taylors Mistake for 22 years and has been a patrol captain for 16 years. He has spent six years on the club committee and Coach for eight years. He has been a member of the Local Lifesaving Committee for six years and was awarded his Regional Service Award in 2016.

John O'Shaughnessy, Westshore SLSC

John joined Waimarama in 1973 and gained his surf bronze in 1974 later moving to Westshore. He was a lifeguard for 13 years and Patrol Captain for nine years. He has served on the club committee for 11 years, eight years as Chairperson. John spent 19 years as Club Coach and 11 years as Team Manager. John was a local Surf Sport Official and was Team Manager for Hawkes Bay Surf League for eight years. He received his Club Life Membership in 2018 and Regional Life Membership in 2019.

Carl Righton, Waimairi SLSC

Carl gained his Surf Lifeguard Award in 2003 and has spent the past 16 years as a competitor and lifeguard with 10 years as a Patrol Captain. He has been a member of Canterbury Representative Teams and has won a massive 18 gold medals at National Championships. Incidentally Carl was one of the first Police responders on the scene at the March 2019 Mosque Massacre - his courage and cool-headedness has been and will remain a strong attribute.

Mark Scheib, Red Beach SLSC

Mark joined Red Beach in 1987, having been a member of the Fitzroy club for six years. Over a period of five years with Red Beach he made his name as a top ski competitor, winning numerous National titles and went on to represent New Zealand at the Barcelona Olympics in 1982. Mark re-joined Red Beach in 2003 and for a period of nine years he was a Junior Surf Coach and committee member in 2008 for two years. For the next five years he served as Chairman of the Junior Surf Committee and was a Junior Selector for the same period of time. For three years he was a member of the club's Management Committee. It was during this time that he was appointed as Project Manager for the clubhouse redevelopment programme and, more recently Mark has served as the Club President for the past two years.

Lynn Smith, Waimairi SLSC

Lynn has been an enthusiastic parent helper and background worker from 2004 to 2019 as U8 coach. Lynn gained her Surf Lifeguard Award with her young daughter, encouraging her to become a lifeguard as well. Lynn was responsible for all Junior Surf newsletters, publicity, calendars and administration from 2004-2015, as well as club newsletters from 2006-2008 and all club administration from 2010-2018 as Administration Officer. Lynn and husband Chris were jointly recognised by Waimairi SLSC for Outstanding Service (several times), made Honorary Members, recognised jointly by Christchurch City Council for Community Service and by both Canterbury District and Southern Region for Service to SLS. The contribution of Lynn in her quiet, unassuming background work has been phenomenal.

Chris (Weta) Swain, Westshore SLSC

Chris joined Westshore in 1988 and has been a lifeguard and competitor for 31 years. He had regular stints on the management committee in various positions but coaching was the area he excelled. As well as being a good competitor himself he coached Westshore through a strong period with numerous national title holders and New Zealand team members coming from the club in his 22 years as club coach. Chris was a member of the Local Sport Committee for eight years and District coach of Hawkes Bay for seven years. He received his Regional Service Award in 2009 and Regional Distinguished Service Award in 2018. Chris was awarded Surf Life Saving New Zealand Coach of the Year in 2009.

Graeme Ward, Waimarama SLSC

Graeme joined Waimarama in 1973 and became a lifeguard the following year. He moved to Mairangi Bay and later became a member of Waimarama. Graeme was a lifeguard and Instructor and spent seven years on the Club Board. Graeme has spent 24 years as an official at both national and local level. In that time he has taken all roles including Arena Referee, Event Referee and Competition Committee. Graeme received his Club Distinguished Service Award in 2018 and Regional Distinguished Service Award in 2019.

2019 50 Year Badges

Warwick Aiken
Con Fraser
Rob Jones
Leon Munt
Carol Quirk QSM
Joan Wilson
Grant Morrison

2019 Distinguished Service Award Winners

Adam Fraser, Fitzroy SLSC

In the past 25 years Adam has been an extremely active lifeguard. He has been a coach, instructor, manager, patrol captain and committee member. In Taranaki, Adam has been a leader in all things lifesaving. He has been an active member of the Taranaki Rescue Squad for 16 years, regional examiner for 11 years and on the local lifesaving committee for seven years. At a national level Adam has been on the national examiners committee for six years, National Lifesaving Advisory for five years, two years as Chair. He gained his Regional Service Award in 2015 and Regional Distinguished Service Award in 2016. Adam gained his National Service Award in 2015.

Jackie Grant, Mairangi Bay SLSC

Jackie joined Mairangi Bay in 1990 and been a club committee member for 25 years. She spent 14 years lifeguarding at Mairangi Bay and 13 years as surf lifeguard instructor. Jackie was a regional examiner and has spent 26 years as local and regional surf sport official. She has also spent 22 years as a National Official. Jackie gained her Regional Service Award in 2015, Regional Distinguished Service Award in 2017 and SLSNZ Service Award in 2017.

Richard Whinham, Paekakariki SL

Richard (Richie) has been an outstanding volunteer at club, district/regional and national levels over the years. He has undertaken a number of roles within the club that saw him involved in many aspects. On top of admin roles involved with the positions he has held, Richie has undertaken mechanical repairs and servicing at the club ensuring IRB engines and quad bikes are suitable for use at all times. Richie has coordinated all event life guarding for the club including the Kapiti Women's Triathlon, NZ Surf Boats event, triathlons, Ocean Swims etc. Richie mentored young IRB drivers and crew in the club to a representative standard. Richie has also made contributions at the district/regional level and has been officiating at national events since 2011. Richie is a qualified lifeguard, patrol captain, lifeguard instructor, lifeguard examiner, IRB instructor and IRB examiner. He is an outstanding volunteer who has been almost omnipresent at the club and in service for surf lifesaving.

2019 Life Membership Award Winners

Colin Weatherall QSM, Brighton SLSC

While Colin was never a lifeguard, he has dedicated his life to Surf Life Saving. In doing so he has held many roles. It started back in 1980 when he took his then five year old son Mark to the Brighton SLSC, he never left! Colin has been an active coach, manager, administrator at club level ever since. Colin then went on to join Otago Surf Life Saving and become involved in the Junior Surf Programme. Colin continued in many role with Otago Surf Life Saving until Ground Swell in 2010. Colin was instrumental in getting Otago "across the line" with that project. Colin went on to be heavily involved at a New Zealand level with officiating and having 8 years on the Board of Directors. His involvement includes:

- 37 years on the club committee
- 14 years team manager
- 9 years Otago Board member, 3 years chairperson
- 25 years as a local official
- 17 years National official
- 7 years SLSNZ Board

Colin was awarded his Regional Service award in 1995 and Distinguished Service Award in 2007. Colin gained his SLSNZ Service Award in 1997 and Distinguished Service Award in 2014.

Jim Warwick, Maranui SLSC

Jim has been involved in Surf Life Saving for 45 years and has a passion for preventing injury and drowning and making our beaches safe for our communities. Jim has been involved in the organisation at all levels and still remains highly involved today. He has been a key volunteer in roles to the highest level becoming manager of the SLSNZ Representative Team and Chairman of the Board of SLSNZ. During this time Jim has maintained a high level of connection with the Maranui Club and the Wellington District. He has instructed 1000s of new lifeguards through their award and mentored many instructors. He is still heavily involved at the District Chief examiner and Chair of Maranui Club in Wellington. Jim is truly "In it for life". His involvement includes:

- 45 years Surf lifeguard, 43 years Lifeguard Instructor, 39 years Patrol Captain
- 23 years on the Club Committee, 14 as Chair, 9 years as President
- 37 years Club Coach and 14 years as Team Manager
- 18 years Board Member SLS Wellington, 4 years as Chair
- 27 years as Coach, Manager and Selector of Regional Teams
- 15 years District Chief Instructor
- 8 Years Manager of NZ team
- 8 years SLSNZ Delegate to ILS
- 6 years on SLSNZ Board, 2 years as Chairman

Jim was awarded his Regional Life Membership in 2009, SLSNZ Service Award and Distinguished Service Award in 2006.

Grant Morrison, Mairangi Bay SLSC

Grant has been involved in Surf Lifesaving in NZ for over 50 years. During that period he has been an important member of four clubs in roles from lifeguard right through to President. He has amassed every Club, District and National Level Service Award apart from the Life Membership award and 50 year badge which are both being awarded. Whilst Grant's contribution to his club Mairangi Bay SLSC has been immense over a number of years, his contribution to SLSNZ cannot be underestimated. For 40+ years Grant has been responsible for media and results and more recently over the past 10 or so years Grant dedicated his time to amassing a significant database of history. Grant has compiled results from the earliest recorded SLSNZ Regional, National and International Competitions - this piece of work is unparalleled in terms of completeness and will in the future be a major asset to SLSNZ. Grant also used to take responsibility for ensuring people were recognised and administered MBSLSC's award nominations over a number of years. His involvement includes:

- 40 years Club Committee, 7 years Chair
- 13 years Lifeguard and Competitor
- 18 years Local Official
- 10 years Local Advisory Groups
- Was a SLSNZ Board Member
- 51 years media and results at National Events.
- Club Life member 2004

Grant was awarded his Regional Life Membership in 2017, SLSNZ Service Award in 1998 and SLSNZ Distinguished Service Award in 2008.