



RESCUE OF THE MONTH



1ST PLACE

DECEMBER 2007

CLUB: Papamoa Surf Life Saving Club
SURF LIFEGUARDS: Nathan Smith and Liam O'Toole

Nathan was out on a knee board when he was alerted to 3 young girls who had become caught in a rip.

He immediately paddled over and successfully assisted them back to shore. Once back on shore they informed him that more girls were further out in the rip. He immediately returned to the water and headed through the rip where he spotted one more female who was caught in white water and in severe difficulty.

Nathan got off his knee board and assisted the semi-conscious girl back to shore, where he was again told there was still one person in the rip. For a 3rd time Nathan returned to the water searching for the missing girl.

Thankfully Nathan spotted her and returned the unconscious and limp girl back to shore. Nathan then returned to the club house where Liam joined him to bring oxygen and other first aid equipment.

The patients were then transported back to the club where they were monitored until an ambulance arrived.

All patients were discharged the same day.

Both Nathan and Liam showed maturity and expertise beyond their years which in no doubt saved the lives of the five girls.