



# AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2024

## National Award Winners 2024

Media Link available here: <https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/news/2024/september/surf-life-saving-members-honoured-at-2024-slsnz-national-awards-of-excellence>

The Surf Life Saving National Awards of Excellence recognise the outstanding dedication and commitment of surf lifeguards and club members across Aotearoa. This year's winners and award recipients were announced at an ceremony at Te Pae in Christchurch on Saturday, 21 September.

SLSNZ CE, Steve Fisher, praises the unwavering resolve of lifeguards and club members across the country, who yet again rose to the challenges of tides, weather events and other serious incidents.

Fisher says, "I'd like to give a heartfelt thanks to the thousands of members who devote their time to keeping beachgoers safe, training and educating our lifeguards, and organising and participating in Sports events that help hone our lifeguards' skills. The spirit, dedication and generosity of these volunteers is something Surf Life Saving New Zealand is hugely grateful for."

"The National Awards of Excellence is a fantastic opportunity to acknowledge, honour and celebrate the exceptional achievements of lifeguards, officials, coaches, organisers, athletes and more," Fisher adds.

"Andrew McDowell of Pukehina SR is the worthy winner of the **NZ Lottery Grants Board Volunteer of the Year**. McDowell goes above and beyond to help others in the movement and to help keep our beaches safe," says Fisher.

The **bp Rescue of the Year Award** went to Bethells Beach SLSP. Their rescue of six men who went swimming on New Year's Eve was quick, competent and efficient, most definitely saving lives.

"This after-hours mass rescue was executed in a text-book fashion in challenging surf by SAR squad members, assisted by PLS guards. Two young men who were in very serious trouble were saved, and both the rescue and the resuscitation efforts on the third patient received unanimous accolades."

Our two surf lifeguarding winners - **DHL U19 Surf Lifeguard of the Year** Liam Shanahan, Mt Maunganui SLSC and **DHL Volunteer Surf Lifeguard of the Year** Kyran Gillespie, Baylys Beach, have both showed incredible lifeguarding skills and were popular winners of their awards.

## **National Awards of Excellence 2024 Winners**

### **Bp Rescue of the Year**

Bethells Beach SLSP: Kael Mead, Aurion Mead, Dean Maddaford, Andrew Carr, Leif Neilson, Natalie Neilson, Luci Marra, Jackson Hamilton

### **Bp Powercraft Contribution of the Year**

Natalie Wilson, United North Piha LS

### **bp Search and Rescue Contribution of the Year**

Jess Bennett, Ocean Beach Kiwi SLSC

### **TSB Surf Official of the Year**

Jo Miller, Papamoa SLSC

### **Surf Sports Team of the Year**

Sunset Beach Open Female IRB Team: Taylor Edwards and Abigail Chapman

### **Surf Sports Coach of the Year**

Jack Gavin, Midway SLSC

### **Surf Sports Person of the Year**

Fergus Eadie, Mairangi Bay SLSC

### **NZ Lottery Grants Board Volunteer of the Year Award**

Andrew McDowell, Pukehina

### **Instructor of the Year**

Per Tonascia, Sumner

### **Examiner of the Year**

Faron Turner, Ōrewa

### **Event Safety Contribution of the Year**

Sam Walters, Mairangi Bay

### **Junior Surf Contribution of the Year**

Edan Wilson, Waikanae

### **DHL Patrol Support of the Year**

Bradley Hopping, Maketu

### **DHL U19 Surf Lifeguard of the Year**

Liam Shanahan, Mt Maunganui SLSC

### **DHL Volunteer Surf Lifeguard of the Year**

Kyran Gillespie, Bayllys Beach

### **London Trophy**

Buller Community Surf Rescue

### **Gudsell Trophy**

Joint winners: Omaha SLSC and Red Beach SLSC

## **Life Membership**

- Adam Fraser, Fitzroy SLSC
- James Newell, Wanganui SLS
- Brad O'Leary, Maranui SLSC
- David Pontin, South Brighton SLSC
- Shaun Smith, Papamoa SLSC
- Craig Todd, Sumner SLSC
- Faron Turner, Ōrewa SLSC
- Jonathon Webber, Piha SLSC

## **50 Year Badges**

- John Campbell-Gibson, Maketu SLSC
- Rob Ferguson, United North Piha LS
- Mark Godwin, Waihi Beach SLSC
- Malcolm Heke, Fitzroy SLSC
- Kenneth Jones, Taylors Mistake SLSC
- Murray Munro, Waihi Beach SLSC
- Stephen Rodger, St Kilda SLSC
- Kevin Steele, Waihi Beach SLSC

## **Distinguished Service Awards**

- Steve Vaughan, Mairangi Bay SLSC
- Chase Cahalane, Bethells Beach SLSC
- David Clarke, Brighton SLSC
- Tom Denman, Sumner SLSC
- Phil Harman, Waimarama SLSC
- Joann Miller, Papamoa SLSC
- Danny Morrison, Mairangi Bay SLSC
- James Newell, Wanganui SLS
- Jason Pocock, Mairangi Bay SLSC
- David Pontin, South Brighton SLSC
- Blair Quane, Sumner SLSC
- Mark Robberds, Sumner SLSC
- Kate Suter, Sumner SLSC
- Matt Warren, Paekākāriki LS

## **Service Awards**

- Dennis Amooore, Raglan SLSC
- Sarah Bailey, Raglan SLSC
- Scott Bartlett, Omanu SLSC
- David Brookes, Waikuku Beach SLSC
- Duncan Campbell, Waikuku Beach SLSC
- Marco Cecioni, Paekākāriki SL
- Toni Charles, Nelson SLSC
- David Clarke, Brighton SLSC
- Felix Cook, St Kilda SLSC
- David Corrin, Midway SLSC
- Michelle Cossey, Whakatāne SLSC
- Jeremy Crowe, Ōtaki SLSC

- Jutta Crowe, Ōtaki SLSC
- Michael DeBique, Ōpunake SLSC
- Peter Drake, Waikuku Beach SLSC
- Beca Evans, Waikuku Beach SLSC
- Zac Franich, Ōrewa SLSC
- David Galuszka, Raglan SLSC
- Aaron Harris, Waikuku Beach SLSC
- Nicholas Harwood, St Kilda SLSC
- Phoebe Havill, Onemana SLSC
- Antony Jackson, St Kilda SLSC
- Jessica Larson, Spencer Park SLSC
- Aimee Leigh, Ōpunake SLSC
- Bruce Lomax, South Brighton SLSC
- Peter Macefield, Waikuku Beach SLSC
- Katrina Madill, Mt Maunganui LS
- Catriona Manning, Whakatane SLSC
- Andrea May, Ōrewa SLSC
- Emma Michel, Raglan SLSC
- Jody Mowat, St Kilda SLSC
- Victoria Mulrennan, United North Piha LS
- Hayden Munro, Waihi Beach LS
- Donna Pfefferle, Waihi Beach LS
- Jared Phelps, Midway SLSC
- Miah Phelps, Midway SLSC
- Shana Pohe, Brighton SLSC
- David Pontin, South Brighton SLSC
- Rod Salt, Mairangi Bay SLSC
- Rick Schreuder, SLS Kariaotahi
- Lucy Scown, Waihi Beach LS
- Maddie Scown, Waihi Beach LS
- Mary Seelen, Nelson SLSC
- Jack Sewell, Onemana SLSC
- Hogan Shrimpton, Sunset Beach LS
- Karen Simpson-Warren, Paekākāriki LS
- Luke Smith, Taylors Mistake SLSC
- Anne Snowden, Raglan SLSC
- Matthew Sutton, Midway SLSC
- Alex Taylor, Kariaotahi SLSC
- Fred Teaukura, Mairangi Bay SLSC
- Nick Tremewan, Sumner SLSC
- Gabrielle Trotter, Brighton SLSC
- Errol Verstegen, Whakatāne SLSC
- Nicholas Wagstaff, Waihi Beach SLSC
- Roderick (Jim) West, Mairangi Bay SLSC
- Dave Wells, Worser Bay LSC