



## MEMORANDUM

<b>To</b>	<b>Club Presidents, Secretaries, Captains, SLSS Rescue Services Operators</b>
<b>From</b>	<b>Michael Bonnici, Director Lifesaving and Rescue Services</b>
<b>CC</b>	<b>BOM, LSRS, EC</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Tuesday 22 April 2025</b>
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<b>Subject</b>	<b>Thank you for your dedicated service over the Easter Long Weekend</b>

Dear Members,

I am writing to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your unwavering dedication and service over the Easter long weekend. As you know, this period presented some particularly challenging circumstances, and your professionalism, resilience, and teamwork did not go unnoticed.

Tragically, we witnessed the loss of a rock fisherman at Wattamolla and the ongoing search for a 24-year-old male still missing after an extensive operation at Little Bay. These incidents have weighed heavily on our community, and our thoughts are with the families and loved ones affected by these tragedies.

In the face of such heartbreaking events, your efforts in responding to these incidents, providing support, and maintaining a high standard of care reflect the true spirit of Surf Life Saving. The search and rescue operations, especially in these difficult conditions, demonstrated not only your skill and expertise but also your profound commitment to saving lives.

It was incredibly pleasing to see that our operations were able to continue at such a high level of efficiency and effectiveness. The RWC service was staffed at over 80% of its rostering capacity, and I am especially proud to report that Surf Rescue 30 was fully rostered throughout the weekend. Additionally, our Duty Officer team went above and beyond in assisting with the searches, with many members rostering beyond their normal requirements to ensure that our response was swift and comprehensive. Not to mention the countless rescues and preventative actions conducted by our 15 Clubs in preventing further tragedies in such difficult conditions.

Your hard work and commitment did not go unnoticed, and I have received messages of thanks from several distinguished individuals, including Steve Pearce, CEO of Surf Life Saving NSW, Jihad Dib, NSW Minister for Emergency Services, and Peter Agnew, President of Surf Life Saving NSW. They have all expressed their appreciation for your outstanding contributions during this challenging time.

I would also like to take a moment to specifically acknowledge and thank the following members and volunteers who contributed (amongst others) to the operations during this period:

Our Branch Partners and Sponsors





#### **Maroubra SLSC**

- Brendan Wardrop
- Jack Heath
- Thomas MacKenzie
- Marius Thomas

#### **South Maroubra SLSC**

- Will Spear
- Isabella Garay
- Elisa Garay
- Michael Devlin
- Peter West
- Elliot Reeve
- Kirsten Newrick
- Sarah Ruse
- Darren Saunders
- Mark Lennox

#### **Duty Officers**

- Gerry Stephenson
- John Restuccia
- Nicole Cooney

- Simon Torsellini
- Marissa Saunders
- Ash Arundell
- Kane Hughes
- Jackson Towns
- James Caterson
- Michael Byrne

#### **SR30**

- Brad Taylor
- Tresne Chesher
- Rachelle (Coco) McCarthy
- Louis Wiart
- Steven Chesher
- Marie Bowen
- Tom Breen
- Will Davison
- Fiona Phelps
- Elena Cormac
- Noel Whitaker

#### **Rescue Water Craft**

- Laszlo-Tobias Szabo
- Dan Rosado
- Sarah Murray
- Julie Pritchard
- Tom King
- Glen Sheldon
- Simon Smith
- Daniel Matthews
- Garen Tcharlassian
- Mark Taylor
- Freddy
- Chris Chambers
- Tom Foote
- Tom Molomby
- Ludovic Catherine
- Benjamin H
- David Kowald
- Tom Dorahy
- James Lamb
- Ken Smith

Your dedication and hard work during these difficult moments have been nothing short of inspiring. Whether on patrol, in the water, or behind the scenes, every one of you played an integral role in ensuring the safety of the public during this critical period.

Once again, thank you for your extraordinary commitment to our mission. Your service makes a significant difference, and it is an honor to work alongside you.

Kind regards,

*MBonnici*

Michael Bonnici  
Director of Lifesaving and Rescue Services



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