

# AUSTSWIM ANNUAL REPORT 2015–2016

Educators in aquatics

We teach a skill for life



The Australasian Council for the Teaching of Swimming and Water Safety

## **AUSTSWIM VALUES**

Our values form the basis for our individual, team and organisational attitudes, behaviour and work at AUSTSWIM.

### **PASSION**

We will engage and communicate with our stakeholders with passion and purpose.

### **RESPECT**

We will respect the rights and responsibilities of each individual, organisation and community.

### **INTEGRITY**

We will operate with integrity and honesty in what we say and in all that we do.

### **DEDICATION**

We will remain dedicated to the highest quality of teaching swimming and water safety and to the cause of saving lives through drowning prevention.

### **EXCELLENCE**

We will excel in every part of our services and operate transparently, building trusting and mutually beneficial relationships.

# AUSTSWIM

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2015–2016

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# Chairman's Report



It is my pleasure to present the 2015–2016 AUSTSWIM Annual Report. It has been a particularly challenging but positive year.

Challenging in that, with the retirement of long term CEO Gordon Mallett in October 2015, the Board implemented its succession plan. This plan was developed for just such an eventuality and done to ensure a smooth transition and avoid any unnecessary loss of organisational momentum.

Having such a plan is one thing but its implementation is quite another and this required an additional and more intense commitment from the Board. Many thanks to my fellow Board Members, Floss Roberts, Gary Shaw and Bill Meaney for the time you have given, your diligence, foresight and support in both the governance of AUSTSWIM generally and this critical transition in particular.

We have immense confidence in Jennifer Schembri-Portelli as the new CEO. She has already shown the hallmark traits of commitment above and beyond, which is part of the AUSTSWIM Culture.

I have also, once again, had the opportunity and pleasure of attending a number of state and regional AUSTSWIM Conferences. At each event I was able to provide an AUSTSWIM update and highlight our progressive achievements and services to teachers of swimming and water safety.

The highlight of the year, of course, was the National Conference and Awards Dinner. It was wonderful to see the 2014 and 2015 Award recipients and their obvious pride in the recognition. The Council also recognised the commitment and long-term contribution of Meredith King, Rae Szulawa and Justin Scarr by awarding them the prestigious "Life Member of AUSTSWIM". Congratulations.

Hot on the heels of the National Conference, I attended the biennial World Conference on Drowning Prevention in Malaysia. This was a great opportunity to learn from others and showcase AUSTSWIM's achievements with a number of highly appraised AUSTSWIM presentations delivered.

Continuous improvement and pursuit of excellence has increased qualitative outcomes in course delivery, professional development and accreditation. As a result, AUSTSWIM has been successful in being the first and, to date, only aquatic organisation to gain ISO 17024 recognition. This followed a rigorous four year "quality" journey and lengthy JAS-ANZ Audit process. AUSTSWIM Teachers now carry ISO 17024 certification as a recognition of their quality teaching.

Finally, to the Councillors representing the states, territories and member organisations, thank you for taking time out of your busy lives to help make AUSTSWIM the leader in the teaching of swimming and water safety.

... and to the CEO(s) and staff of AUSTSWIM and our sub-agent representatives, our presenters and our wonderful AUSTSWIM Teachers, thank you for your service, loyalty and commitment to making Australians safer in and around water.

John Rigby



Together with the new CEO, Jennifer Schembri-Portelli, it is my pleasure to begin the CEO's message for the AUSTSWIM Annual Report 2015–2016.

Upon my retirement on 5 October 2015, I handed over the reins to Jennifer. I did so in the knowledge that I had done my best in leading the organisation through a period of significant growth and development. I thank the Chairman, Board, Council, and State Advisory Committees and Presenters for their support, friendship and, above all, passion for water safety and pursuit of excellence. It has been an amazing journey for all of us.

I also wish to note the ongoing support of AUSTSWIM Council Member Organisations, SLSA, RLSSA, SAL, YMCA, ALFA and WSNZ, which has been of great importance to AUSTSWIM's success.

During my watch, there has also been significant support from various government agencies:

A special thanks to the Australian Government Department of Health

Sports Division, NSW Government Ministry of Police and Emergency Services, NSW Sport and Recreation, Tasmanian Department of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts – Sport and Recreation and Office for Recreation and Sport South Australia and the various state Departments of Education.

I hand over to Jennifer with great confidence that she will continue to drive the development and passionate commitment for water safety and assisting Australians to be safer in and around water.

Finally, to the over 32,768 accredited and licensed AUSTSWIM Teachers – you are the ones that keep us going and drive us to continually improve the quality of our service, programs and resources. My sincerest thanks to you all.

Over to you Jennifer with my congratulations on your appointment and best wishes for success in the future ...

Gordon Mallett

# CEO's Report

Together with the Chairman, John Rigby, it is our pleasure to present the 2015–2016 AUSTSWIM Annual Report to the Board and Council representatives.



For 38 years, AUSTSWIM has been a world leader in the Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety accreditation, setting the bar to teach a skill for life. In this, my first report as CEO, I want to reflect on the organisation and the continuous quest to deliver on our vision of quality and the Key Result Areas outlined in the 2014–2017 AUSTSWIM Strategic Plan.

#### **Standards, Training, Accreditation and Registration**

Raising government, industry and community awareness and knowledge of ISO accreditation was a major focus this year. Departments of Education, across most states and territories, have recognised the value and importance of this quality standard resulting in the expansion of services for teachers employed in their swimming and water safety school programs.

Reviewing AUSTSWIM Guidelines, with industry and stakeholder consultation across Australasia, resulted in a current set of guidelines that reflects the industry in the 21st century. Appreciation is extended to SAC members and stakeholders for their contribution and input.

#### **Research, Development and Education**

Active reframing of the Toward Competitive Strokes course was another major undertaking in 2015/16 as the manual, online learning elements and associated resources

were improved and updated. Sincere appreciation is extended to Carol Veldhuyzen and Leigh Nugent for their tireless contribution.

AUSTSWIM's collaborative relationship with stakeholders continued to strengthen. In April 2016, AUSTSWIM, together with RLSSA and SLA representing the **Australian Water Safety Council**, joined Sussan Ley, Minister for Health, Aged Care, Sport in launching the 2016–2020 National Water Safety Strategy at Coffs Harbour.

Further industry collaboration continues as AUSTSWIM contributes to the ongoing development and reframing of the industry's Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation (GSPO).

#### **Governance, Leadership and Management**

An organisational review and re-focus was a central feature for Board and Senior Management throughout the year, resulting in clearly defined personnel roles and functions for each area of the business. Sincere appreciation is extended to the Board and Senior Management team for their tireless support and commitment during this period of transition.

Working with the SACs highlights their vital and unique contribution to AUSTSWIM programs, service and advocacy. I thank them for their on-going support and look forward to continued collaboration.

#### **Product and Service Development and Delivery**

Quality improvement continued to be an operational focus in enhancing AUSTSWIM services and professional development. The expansion of online systems for conference enrolments, together with thorough planning, resulted in increased attendance at each conference. This successful outcome was made possible by the dedication and cohesive work of staff, SAC members and conference

speakers. I am proud of what our team has accomplished and grateful for their contributions.

#### **Brand Image and Position**

Our human face, brand and position continued to advance as we expanded the circulation of Australasia wide editorial items in newsprint, magazines, journals and website blogs. The focus was our skilled and valued AUSTSWIM workforce.

AUSTSWIM's interactive presence on social media continued to attract teachers, industry professionals and community members to our aquatic network providing connection, information sharing and feedback. Representation at industry conferences, forums and working groups has been an important milestone in cementing the AUSTSWIM brand and position.

Lastly, but by no means least, I would like to acknowledge that, through Gordon Mallett's leadership, AUSTSWIM now stands proudly on the world stage with engaged participation and representation alongside world aquatic leaders. He has been the cornerstone of all things AUSTSWIM for a great many years. Gordon has led with enthusiasm, drive, commitment and passion. All this and more he imparted to his "family" of staff, volunteers, colleagues, government and industry representatives and, most important of all, to dedicated AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers who pass on this aquatic knowledge, skill and understanding through their teaching each and every day. Gordon, on behalf of everyone at AUSTSWIM, we say – *Thank you*

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JSP'.

Jennifer Schembri-Portelli

# National Council

## CHAIRMAN

John Rigby

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Gordon Mallett (July-October 2015)

Jennifer Schembri-Portelli (October 2015 onwards)

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Rebecca Kelley

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Bill Meaney

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

Floss Roberts

## QUEENSLAND

Brad Lowe

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Rae Szulawa

## TASMANIA

Ceri Weeks

## VICTORIA

Kath Thom

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Gary Shaw

## AUSTRALIAN LEISURE FACILITIES ASSOCIATION (ALFA)

Roz Neville

## ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY – AUSTRALIA

Penny Larsen

## SWIMMING AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Graeme Stephenson

## SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA

Sarah Anderson

## YMCA AUSTRALIA

Melinda Crole

## WATER SAFETY NEW ZEALAND

Andrew Leslie

## PATRON

His Excellency Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd),  
26th Governor-General  
of the Commonwealth  
of Australia

## LIFE MEMBERS

### QUEENSLAND

John Kane  
Gwen Welford  
Colin Purdy

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Kirk Marks  
Justin Scarr

### TASMANIA

Bill Stewart

### VICTORIA

John Gregson  
John Kilpatrick  
Len Willmer  
Ted Tullberg  
Meredith King

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Ken Richter  
Rae Szulawa

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Geoff Hayes  
Brian Blanksby  
Iain MacWilliam

## FELLOWS

### QUEENSLAND

Pat Hallagan

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Pam Barrie  
Kirk Marks  
Dawn Prowse  
Ruth Arnold  
Jon Donohoe  
Phil Vanny

### TASMANIA

John Rigby  
Betty Parssey

### VICTORIA

Peter Meaney  
Clive Patrickson  
Helen Wheatley

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

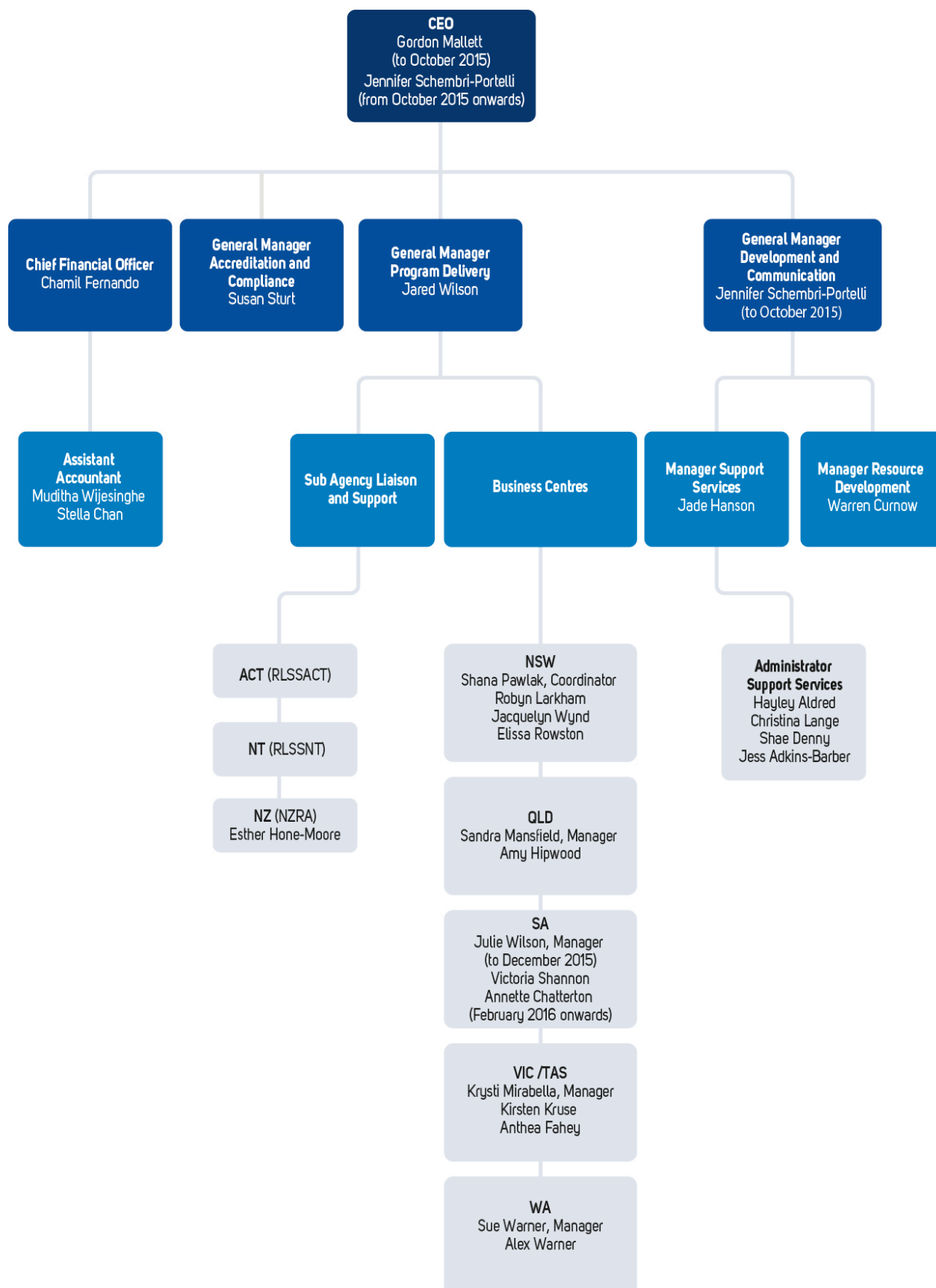
Graeme Lange

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Peter Conochie



# Organisation Structure



# National Conference 2015

"Soak It Up" 2015 saw the AUSTSWIM National Aquatic Education Conference & AquaSummit establish itself as a "not to be missed" event on the aquatic industry calendar. A strategic change ensured one consistent AUSTSWIM message across all AUSTSWIM Conferences and this proved to be a major success on both a state and national level. With each passing State Conference, momentum built towards the National Conference, which, held on a biennial basis, was again showcased as the pinnacle event for swimming and water safety education.

As the theme suggested, there was much to "Soak Up" at the AUSTSWIM 2015 National event. The new venue, Twin Towns of Coolangatta and Tweed Heads, accommodated 362 delegates from across the globe. They were treated to a variety of innovative and exciting sessions and keynote presentations that challenged thinking, toyed with emotions, lifted spirits and inspired delegates to be the best aquatic professionals possible. The venue, staff and location (five minutes from the airport) proved a major attraction, with accommodation, entertainment and dining options that had something for everyone.

A new format ensured the standard of presentations was exceptional. A mixture of practical pool based



**Gordon Mallett and Keynote Peter Baines**

and theory presentations were delivered by high calibre local and international speakers from diverse backgrounds of water safety and aquatic education disciplines. Aquatic education themes included:

- Innovation, research and development
- Program service and coordination
- Swimming and water safety
- Access and Inclusion
- Leadership and Management
- Aqua class formats.

Without a doubt, one of the highlights of the conference was the "coming of age" of the Leadership and Management stream, with delegates able to participate in a range of highly interactive and thought provoking sessions aimed at marketing, HR management, leadership, and innovation.



**James Gillard, Laurie Lawrence, John Rigby at the National Conference**

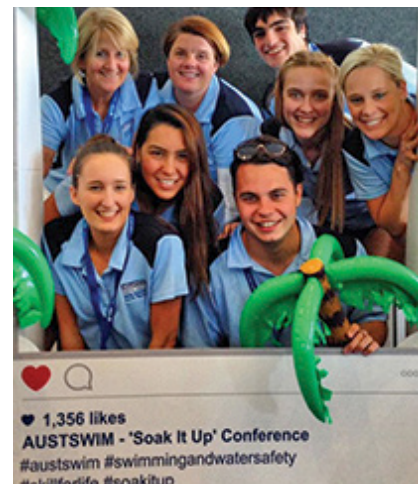
Keynote speakers included:

- Peter Baines OAM, Hands Across the Water – a charity promoting water safety at orphanages in Thailand
- Laurie Lawrence, worldwideswimschool – master motivator of infant and preschool aquatics
- Sasha Goodwin, Bravehearts – educators and advocates for keeping children safe
- Craig Harper – presenter, educator, coach and commentator on health, fitness and personal development.

A conference of this size would not be possible without the involvement of our Platinum Supporters – Hyclor, Debit Success and Insurance Made Easy, seven Award Sponsors and 23 Trade Exhibitors. AUSTSWIM is grateful for their support and contribution to swimming and water safety education.

Country	State	# Attendees
Australia	Australian Capital Territory	9
Australia	New South Wales	88
Australia	Northern Territory	3
Australia	Queensland	86
Australia	South Australia	8
Australia	Tasmania	6
Australia	Victoria	83
Australia	Western Australia	16
International*		63

\*China, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, United Arab Emirates



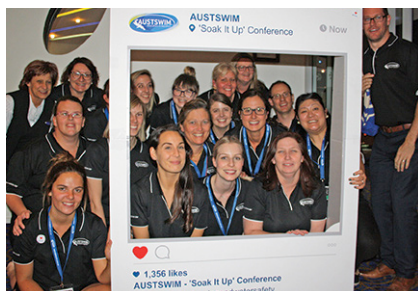
Soaking Up team spirit



Practical session at National Conference



Skills development session



AUSTSWIM staff



Ambassador Brooke Hanson and happy conference delegates

In 2015, AUSTSWIM National Awards recognised excellence and outstanding contribution to swimming and water safety. Congratulations are extended to these worthy recipients.

2015 AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety™  
Supported by Royal Life Saving Society Australia



Jacqui Taylor – VIC



Lesley Richardson – NSW

2015 AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics™  
Supported by Belgravia Leisure



2015 AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion™  
Supported by The Rainbow Club Australia



Roslyn Laurie – VIC



Karen Martin – NSW

2015 AUSTSWIM Teacher of Adults  
Supported by Insurance Made Easy



## National Awards 2015



Lisa Rolls – QLD

2015 AUSTSWIM Presenter  
of the Year  
Supported by HYCLOR



2015 AUSTSWIM Recognised  
Swim Centre of the Year  
Supported by the YMCA Australia



The Swim Centre – NZ



Maureen Summerhayes – NSW

2015 Most Outstanding Contribution  
to AUSTSWIM  
Supported by Clark Rubber



2015 Life Member Induction



Meredith King



Justin Scarr



Rae Szulawa

# Awards

## AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety™

**ACT** Kailee Tindale, Megan Eastman  
**NSW** Melissa Corby  
**NT** Roz B Stuart  
**NZ** Louise Collings  
**QLD** Mikhaley Brandenburg  
**SA** Ryan Bennett (2015)  
 Deborah Williams (2016)  
**TAS** Nikki Heathcote  
**VIC** Paul Dew  
**WA** Cathy Burbridge

**ACT** Alena Sarri  
**NSW** Robyn Larkham  
**NT** Swim Dynamics for their outstanding work in the Northern Territory Water Safety Awareness Program  
**NZ** Tracey Lyon  
**QLD** Sandra Parrish  
**SA** Natalie Borlase (2015)  
 Laura Saegenschnitter (2016)  
**TAS** Julie Squires  
**VIC** Michelle McInnes  
**WA** Louise Schmidt

## AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics™

## AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion™

**ACT** Lisa Dunlop  
**NSW** Jacqueline Cole  
**NZ** Alis Russel  
**QLD** Susan Ninnette  
**SA** Karen Johnson (2015)  
 Megan Stubberfield (2016)  
**TAS** Tracey Rowell  
**VIC** Jill Heffernan  
**WA** Guy Bird

**NSW** Joanne Mansion  
**QLD** Kristy Brown  
**TAS** Donald Keating  
**WA** Yvonne Piachniarski

## AUSTSWIM Teacher of Adults™



The number of AUSTSWIM award nominees continues to expand as the dedication, passion and expertise of swimming and water safety professionals is recognised. This years recipients demonstrated excellence as they collectively imparted the essential learning elements of knowledge, skill and understanding for safer aquatic participation and the reduction of drowning.

They are shining examples of AUSTSWIM's international quality standard ISO 17024; our congratulations are extended to them all.

<b>AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centre</b>	<b>ACT</b> AIS Swim School <b>NSW</b> Shoalhaven Swim & Fitness <b>NZ</b> YMCA Onehunga War Memorial Pool <b>QLD</b> Shut The Gate Learn to Swim <b>SA</b> Blackwood Fitness Swim School (2015) iSwim, Novar Gardens (2016) <b>TAS</b> LA iSwim School (City of Launceston) <b>VIC</b> Echuca War Memorial Aquatic Centre <b>WA</b> Wanneroo Aquamotion Swim
<b>ACT</b> Amy Foran <b>NZ</b> Karla McCaughan <b>QLD</b> Leesa Langdon <b>SA</b> Helen Bickers <b>VIC</b> Neesha Bateson <b>WA</b> Jeannette Hooper	<b>AUSTSWIM Presenter of the Year</b>
<b>Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM</b>	<b>NSW</b> Melissa Rickwood <b>NZ</b> Denice Gasson <b>QLD</b> Judy Dickinson <b>SA</b> Barry Daniell (2015) Ann Price (2016) <b>TAS</b> Denise Palmer <b>VIC</b> Meredith King
<b>NSW</b> Kerrie Taylor <b>NZ</b> Sonya Robinson <b>QLD</b> Amanda Feddersen <b>TAS</b> Stacey Aldous <b>VIC</b> Sandy Heyen	<b>AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor</b>
<b>AUSTSWIM Melissa van Poppel Presenter of the Year</b>	<b>NSW</b> Florence Errington
<b>NSW</b> Fiona Fisher and Karen Martin	<b>AUSTSWIM Melissa van Poppel Presenter Scholarship</b>



Through the support of the Australian Government Department of Health, Sports Division, AUSTSWIM was able to develop and implement Operation Outreach – a program designed to improve access to a skilled work force of accredited teachers of swimming and water safety.

# Projects and Initiatives

## Operation Outreach

Under its equity of access charter, AUSTSWIM has a reputation for being able to do “a lot with a little” within regional and remote, indigenous and Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. To date, however, cost factors have been a major barrier to sustainable success.

Significant and impacting cost factors included, but were not limited to:

- distance and associated costs: transport, accommodation and venue access. These cost factors impact on both AUSTSWIM as the course provider and course attendees.
- low population density leading to courses being conducted to low enrolment numbers, which are below the normal financial viability threshold.

## Operation Outreach – Four Elements Towards a Solution

The first three elements of Operation Outreach aimed to overcome barriers to success by delivering affordable, culturally and socially specific AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety courses in regional and remote areas that in turn delivered highly trained and accredited AUSTSWIM Teachers to communities most in need.

The fourth element, AUSTSWIM Tech, assisted AUSTSWIM in providing enhanced opportunities online:

- learning and professional development
- support
- assessment
- webinars
- resources
- networking and communication

## Element 1 – Regional and Remote

A key feature of this element was implementation of the AUSTSWIM “Developing the North” project, which saw replication of a program across WA, NT and QLD. The project helped address issues associated with training AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety in regional and remote areas by supporting candidates through the entire accreditation process. Additional mentoring and support not only increased short-term access to swimming and water safety lessons for the local community, but also assisted in creating a long-term sustainable swimming and water safety program for the communities involved.

Outcomes from this project also included delivery of additional health and safety programs such as Royal Life Saving Society – Australia (RLSSA) Bronze Medallion courses and CPR.



**“Developing the North” project – Thursday Island candidates**

## Element 2 – Indigenous Communities

The nationally recognised AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course was modified to suit indigenous learning, enhancing both theory and water based components into relevant experiential learning.

This project provided indigenous AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety to communities and improved the safety, health and wellbeing of children in these communities through educational water safety awareness and swimming programs.

The project further extended to encourage sustainability by identifying AUSTSWIM Licensed

Teachers from the indigenous communities to be mentored through AUSTSWIM Presenter Accreditation, thus enabling them to ensure future water safety awareness and skilled workforce sustainability.

## Element 3 – Diversity

People from CALD communities form a significant and expanding statistic in drowning and aquatic accidents in Australian society. Research indicates that:

- CALD communities often demonstrate that awareness of the importance of swimming and personal lifesaving skills is significantly less than the general population

- CALD communities are underrepresented in swimming and water safety education programs barely totalling 2.6% of total enrolments
- Ethnic origins of recent cases of child drowning were from Asian, Middle Eastern and African communities.

In this element, the career pathway for CALD community members and aquatic program sustainability was addressed. Candidates from CALD communities around the nation successfully completed the AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course. They were then mentored and guided to gain further skills as Teachers of



**AUSTSWIM Teachers – a diverse and skilled workforce in action**

Infant and Preschool Aquatics and Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion. Success was heralded as venues had access to the skilled workforce to introduce sustainable CALD programing options across the lifespan.

The third step of the project identified, encouraged and supported a group of CALD community AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers to gain the AUSTSWIM Presenter accreditation. This was a vital element to:

- enhance the sustainability of ongoing AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety to deliver effective classes in their communities and focus on the framework, “from segregation to integration through progressive staged timeframes”

- provide specifically formulated community information sessions for parents from CALD backgrounds to raise awareness of swimming and water safety hazards and risks in the home and the natural world, while featuring and emphasising the importance of supervision and education of children in swimming and water safety education.

#### **Element 4 – AUSTSWIM Tech**

Training teachers of swimming and water safety will always require physical contact with the essential element, water. Nevertheless, much visual, interactive and integrated learning was delivered via electronic mediums.

AUSTSWIM is renowned for quality delivery and quality outcomes; our trained professionals are in demand



**Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion**

throughout Australasia. The scope of AUSTSWIM as a national training provider can at times provide challenges, particularly in regional, remote and CALD communities where access to appropriate trainers and quality assessors can present challenges for course candidates.

During 2015/16, AUSTSWIM continued to develop the online learning platform to address these training needs and included:

- Diversity awareness webinars
- Pre-course candidate assessment tasks
- Increased options for online course completion
- Tips and Techniques for Teachers
- Aqua class activities for lifespan
- Stroke development PD
- Presenter support learning.

In addition to the online learning, AUSTSWIM compliance requirements are complex and detailed. Updated technology was required with the introduction of mandatory recording of specific personal candidate details such as a Unique Student Identification (USI) number, current CPR statement and Working With Children Check (WWCC). We thank AUSTSWIM Licence holders for working with us to readily supply additional information and to providers and staff for working towards more efficient processes and procedures to update all records.

Once again we appreciate the support of the Australian Government Department of Health Sports Division, in warranting updated technology to train, upskill and maintain a current register of our skilled aquatic Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety and Aqua workforce.

# Quality, Standards, Accreditation

Our commitment to quality standards and innovation enhances the professionalism of industry personnel, who impart swimming and water safety education for safer participation in healthy lifestyle options in, on and around water.

## Standards

AUSTSWIM highlights in standards and accreditation include:

- International recognition and accreditation of quality standard ISO 17024. Every AUSTSWIM Licensed Teacher is ISO accredited through Joint Accreditation System – Australia and New Zealand (JAS-ANZ).
- AUSTSWIM's Learning Pillars Framework is mapped and aligned with the Federal Government National Curriculum framework.
  - Safer aquatic participation and essential swimming and water safety education is now clearly defined and articulated within this framework where knowledge, skill and understanding form the foundation
  - Curriculum Principles within the framework encourage a “think, explore, develop, do” approach to learning
  - Activity Principles provide essential elements to assist teachers of swimming and water safety in the development of lesson activities that foster learning knowledge, skill and understanding.

## Department of Education Interaction

Engagement and support with Education Departments continued as AUSTSWIM supported training, accreditation and professional development for primary and secondary school teachers. In Western Australia, 108 teachers completed the Access and Inclusion course, while in NSW, 200+ teachers took part in a professional development session that featured AUSTSWIM's Learning Pillars Framework. Meanwhile, work in South Australia's education sector continues as a new curriculum approach to teaching swimming and water safety features AUSTSWIM Learning Pillars.

## Working With Children Check (WWCC)

AUSTSWIM provides an open, welcoming and safe environment in training, professional development and industry services and has taken the lead with the WWCC as a standard requisite for candidates undertaking AUSTSWIM teacher and aqua instructor education and training. The protection of children is paramount and despite there

# 32,768

## AUSTSWIM LICENCE HOLDERS



being no single national framework it is imperative that staff, presenters, licensed teachers and, of course, candidates hold a WWCC in their state or territory. A WWCC is not foolproof; it is, however, a positive and helpful initiative in protecting children. AUSTSWIM's position is deter, detect and protect.

### Wonderful World of Aqua

WETS Aqua Instructor training is now a feature in AUSTSWIM's training suite. On successful completion of the skill set as defined by Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), candidates also receive an AUSTSWIM WETS Licence and insurance at no extra cost. This innovation presents additional career pathway options

for AUSTSWIM teachers and other aquatic professionals. Relationships with the fitness registration bodies continue to flourish as we work towards addressing the skill shortage in this area.

### International Focus

AUSTSWIM continued its international presence at the **World Drowning Prevention Conference** in October 2015. Presentations from three AUSTSWIM representatives highlighted the impact the organisation is having on education, safer aquatic participation and drowning prevention in the Australasia region. Appreciation is extended to our Board Chair, John Rigby, for his continued representation at this international level.

### Education and Training

Conference and professional development sessions were presented throughout Australasia; consistent themes across keynote areas saw participation numbers increase as industry professionals took the time to "Soak It Up" throughout the year. A new standard in delivery featured:

- Leigh Nugent and Laurie Lawrence Masterclass sessions
- Dr Alan Pearce challenging our approach to teaching as we explored the world of neuroplasticity
- James Gillard demystified and provided informative details of AUSTSWIM Insurance
- AquaSummit sessions related to children and fit and frail adults.

### AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centres

Access to standards, accreditation and professional development was enhanced as our E- Learning platform continued to expand. Program managers and individual teachers (as well as whole teaching teams) access our Tips and Techniques (mini five minute videos) platform and online professional development as part of the recognition scheme. Distance and locality are no longer barriers to staying abreast of all that is happening in the world of aquatic education.



# State Operations

# Australian Capital Territory

## State Advisory Committee

The Australian Capital Territory State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

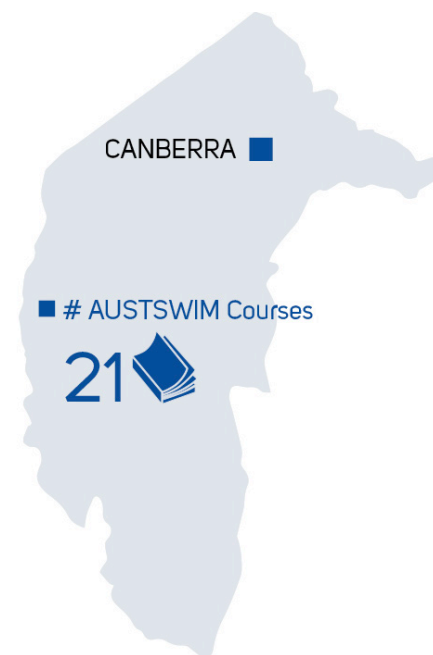
**Ben Cuttriss**  
AUSTSWIM Presenter

**Alison Green**  
AUSTSWIM Teacher

**Rebecca Kelley**  
Department of Sport and Recreation

**Joy Terry**  
Industry Consultant

- An AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor course was held at Gungahlin for the first time in March 2016. Delegates were energised and re-invigorated, and we look forward to conducting another course next year.
- AUSTSWIM ACT Speaker, Ben Cuttriss, delivered a session at the “Soak It Up” 2015 National Aquatic Education Conference & AquaSummit at Tweed Heads. A number of AUSTSWIM Teachers from ACT attended the event, taking the opportunity to network and share their aquatic experiences and knowledge.



## Education and Training

- AUSTSWIM ACT Speakers, Amy Foran and Ben Cuttriss, and AUSTSWIM Teacher, Alexander Timms, delivered interactive sessions at the Dubbo Regional SplashOut! Conference in April 2016.
- AUSTSWIM ACT continues to enlarge its network of AUSTSWIM Presenters. Presenters are being trained across a number of AUSTSWIM courses to assist in providing more courses in ACT and surrounding regions.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

In conjunction with Aquatic & Recreation Institute (ARI) NSW, Royal Life Saving Society – Australian Capital Territory (RLSSACT) held an industry forum in April 2016, with managers and coordinators from centres across the ACT in attendance. AUSTSWIM NSW presented an introduction to the Aquatic Service Officer (ASO) course to garner future interest and ensure future AUSTSWIM ASO courses in ACT.

## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### AUSTSWIM Courses

Number of courses conducted comprised of:

- Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
- Teacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics
- Teacher of Aquatics – Access an Inclusion
- Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes
- Teacher of Adults
- WETS Aqua Instructor

# New South Wales

## State Advisory Committee

The New South Wales State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Bill Meaney (Chair)**  
Independent Chair

**Roz Neville**  
Aquatic Recreation Institute (ARI)

**Phil Benoit**  
AUSTSWIM Presenter

**Peter Tomlin**  
Department of Education and Communities

**Neil Sherring**  
Industry Consultant

**Paul Kelly**  
Office of Sport; Sport & Recreation

**Kaye Wood**  
Royal Life Saving Society – New South Wales (RLSSNSW)

**Louise Cooke**  
Surf Life Saving New South Wales (SLSNSW)

**Mark Heathcote**  
Swimming New South Wales

We would like to thank Michael Ilinsky, RLSSNSW, for his contribution over many years as a member of NSW SAC.

## NSW SplashOut! '16 Regional Conference

The AUSTSWIM NSW team brought the annual regional state conference to Dubbo in the Central West region of NSW on 10 April 2016. The Dubbo RSL Aquatic and Health Club was an excellent venue to host this event for over 100 eager delegates. Delegates

attended from far and wide, all excited to make the most of this opportunity to network and share their aquatic experiences and knowledge. In conjunction with the conference, AUSTSWIM also delivered training courses in the region which included:

- AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics course
- AUSTSWIM Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes course.

Many thanks to all staff at the Dubbo RSL and Dubbo RSL Aquatic and Health Club for their efforts and support to ensure the conference and courses ran smoothly. Sincere thanks to all conference speakers who generously contributed their expertise and knowledge to the event.

## 2015 NSW Water Safety Awards and NSW AUSTSWIM Awards of Excellence

Without a doubt, the NSW Water Safety Awards and NSW AUSTSWIM Awards of Excellence is one of the most anticipated events of the year, and this year was no exception. Over 180 industry members gathered on 18 September 2015 at Le Montage Bayside Events Centre to recognise and celebrate individuals and organisations that have made a significant contribution to water safety and education in NSW.

Once again, television personality Tim Gilbert joined us as Master of Ceremonies and ensured the night ran smoothly and successfully. On behalf of the staff team and the NSW SAC, congratulations are extended to all nominees and award recipients.

Sincere appreciation and thanks is extended to the Office of Sport; Sport & Recreation for their continued support of AUSTSWIM.

## Education and Training

### Laurie Lawrence Masterclass

In August 2015, AUSTSWIM was thrilled to host the first Laurie Lawrence Masterclass in NSW at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club. Laurie, daughter Emma and young grandchildren Evie and Harper, inspired over 70 passionate AUSTSWIM Teachers. The teachers were challenged to think outside the box and gained a new focus and practical recommendations when teaching young children in an aquatic environment. The longstanding relationship between AUSTSWIM and Laurie under his worldwideswimschool has enabled Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety to recognise the importance and significance of the AUSTSWIM Infants and Preschool Aquatics extension course and further professional development in this area.

### Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Professional Development Workshops

AUSTSWIM NSW Business Centre announced a series of professional development workshops specifically designed to enhance the knowledge, skill and understanding in providing swimming and water safety education for students from CALD communities.

The workshops were delivered with generous support from the New South Wales Government. AUSTSWIM



## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

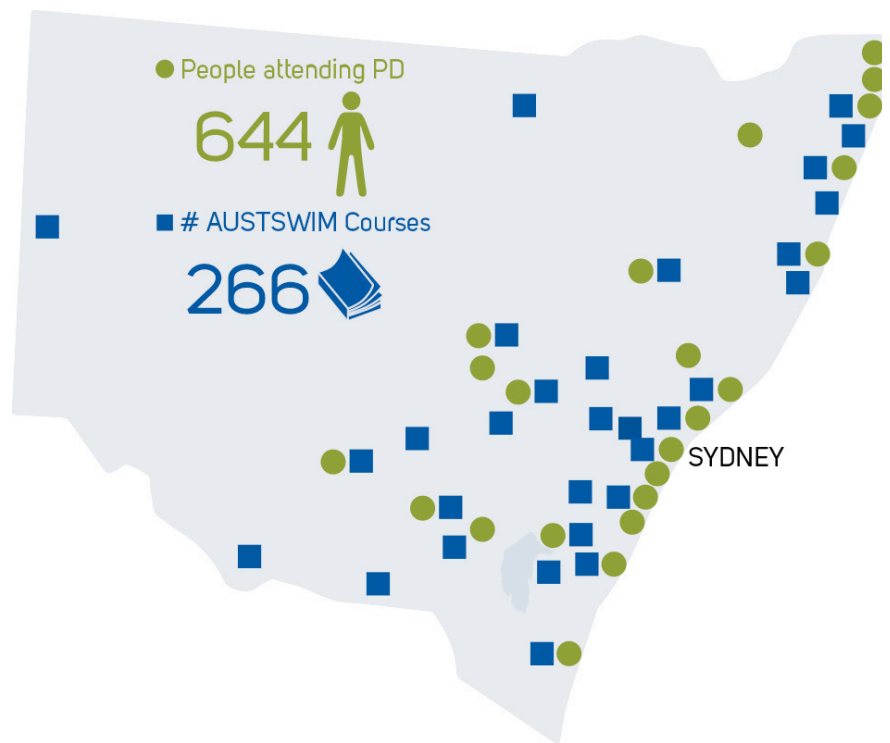
Number of delegates attending:

- Aquatic Service Officer (ASO)
- Making Aquatics a Terrific Experience (MATE)
- Masterclass
- Conference
- Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD)
- Online Professional Development
- Presenter training / update
- Education Department training

### AUSTSWIM Courses

Number of courses conducted comprised of:

- Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
- Teacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics
- Teacher of Aquatics – Access an Inclusion
- Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes
- Teacher of Adults
- WETS Aqua Instructor



NSW Business Centre conducted a total of 21 workshops across the state, providing access to 212 AUSTSWIM Teachers, Centre Managers, Team Leaders and Program Coordinators. Since the delivery of these workshops, an online version has been developed and to date has been offered to more than 120 AUSTSWIM Teachers from metropolitan, regional and remote NSW.

## AUSTSWIM and YMCA NSW Join Forces

A new strategic partnership between AUSTSWIM and YMCA NSW will boost water safety in NSW. The partnership will see the organisations work together to advocate for and promote swimming and water safety across NSW and the ACT.



CALD Workshop

AUSTSWIM will provide swimming and water safety teacher training and staff development in YMCA NSW's 22 swimming centres to ensure that all participants are taught by teachers who are accredited to the highest quality aquatic education standards.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

AUSTSWIM is active and engaged in the NSW aquatic industry and wider community. This year, the connections for AUSTSWIM NSW included:

- ARI NSW Conference, Hunter Valley
- Pregnancy Babies & Children's Expo
- Western Sydney Careers Expo
- HSC & Careers Expo
- Northern Beaches Career Expo
- Western Sydney Apprenticeship & Traineeship Expo
- Western Sydney Taste of Trades & Careers Market
- Jump! Swim Schools Campbelltown & Bella Vista Open Day



Hornsby – enthusiastic WETS candidates

## AUSTSWIM Industry Support

AUSTSWIM would like to take this opportunity to thank RLSSNSW and the NSW Department of Education and Training for their ongoing support, promotion and delivery of AUSTSWIM courses. A collaborative approach ensures high quality education and a professional and skilled workforce across NSW.

# Northern Territory

## State Advisory Committee

The Northern Territory State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Petina Franklin**

Central Australia (Chair)

**Jared Wilson**

AUSTSWIM

**Rebecca Johnson**

Northern Territory – Department of Education

**Annette (Floss) Roberts**

Royal Life Saving Society – Northern Territory (RLSSNT) (Secretary)

**Wayne Van Sambeek**

Royal Life Saving Society – Northern Territory (RLSSNT)

**Samantha Farrow**

Surf Life Saving Northern Territory (SLSNT)

**Peter Tonkin**

Swimming Australia – Remote Indigenous

**Crystal Callaghan**

YMCA Northern Territory

**Michael Robinson**

YMCA Northern Territory

## Education and Training

A total of 113 participants attended 13 AUSTSWIM courses throughout the Northern Territory. This included regional and remote areas of Katherine, Tindal, Borroloola, Yulara and Nhulunbuy. AUSTSWIM's Regional and Remote courses enable training to occur in remote locations with low course enrolments. This in turn contributes positively to the wider community.

Traditionally, June is a quiet month but in 2016 AUSTSWIM NT planned and conducted courses and masterclasses which included:

- AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor course
- AUSTSWIM Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes
- Leigh Nugent Teaching Competitive Breaststroke Masterclass
- Laurie Lawrence Infant and Preschool Aquatics Masterclass
- Strokes Development Masterclass.

Twelve enthusiastic participants completed the first ever AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor course held in Darwin. The course was well received and impacted on ensuring sustainability for local aqua programs.

It has been a while since AUSTSWIM NT hosted an AUSTSWIM Teacher of

Towards Competitive Strokes course, however, this year 11 eager students participated to upskill their knowledge and skills as well as extend their AUSTSWIM Licence for a further three years.

AUSTSWIM's Master of Competitive Strokes, Leigh Nugent, delivered a very well attended (28 participants) Masterclass.

AUSTSWIM NT's connection with Laurie Lawrence, AUSTSWIM's Master of Infants and Preschool Aquatics, continued to grow. In June, we hosted Laurie, daughter Emma and granddaughter Harper for an Infants and Preschool Aquatics Masterclass in Darwin. The session was both theory and practical based.

## Operation Outreach

### Element 1 – Rural and Remote Delivery – Case Study

In collaboration with the Borroloola community, the AUSTSWIM "Developing the North" Project initiated a "start up" Swim School. The project involved an AUSTSWIM Presenter travelling to the Gulf of Carpentaria (954km south east of Darwin) to deliver an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course to seven eager and enthusiastic students.

## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

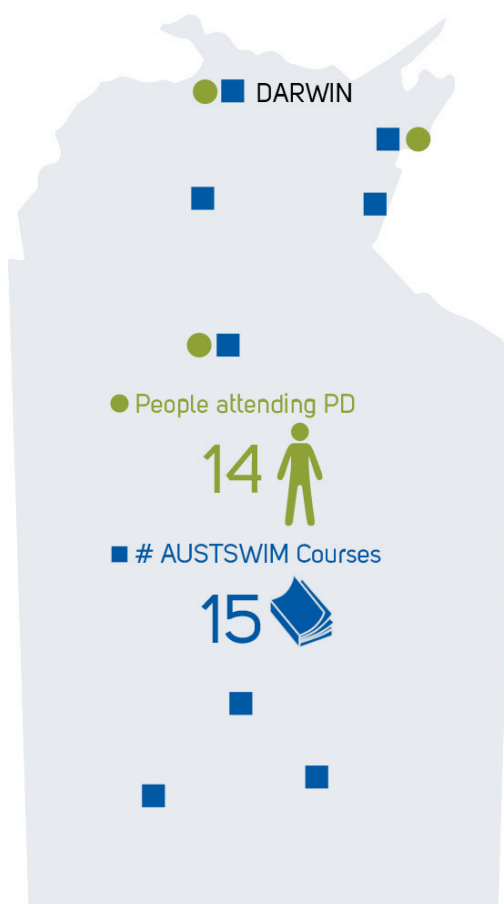
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- Presenter training / update
- Education Department training

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Number of courses conducted comprised of:

- Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
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**Regional and Remote – PD Training**

This tailored training project incorporated the “full package” for a week of aquatic education. The students participated in the course and were then mentored by Licensed AUSTSWIM Teachers while experiencing genuine industry training providing local school children with quality swimming and water safety lessons.

One participant, Bertha Cochrane, travelled to Katherine to participate in the AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics course. A follow-up trip to Borroloola in May 2016 allowed Bertha to be assessed.

The project proved to be a win win for all involved – students, community and licensed teachers.



**Laurie Lawrence visits NT**

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

This year AUSTSWIM NT took AUSTSWIM to the NT Show Circuit, enabling families to discover the benefits of attending swimming and water safety lessons conducted by a Licensed AUSTSWIM Teacher. AUSTSWIM information booths were seen in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Darwin.

# Queensland

## State Advisory Committee

The Queensland State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Bradley Low**

Independent Chair

**Ken Chandler**

Australian Leisure Facilities Association Queensland (ALFA)

**Alina Graham**

AUSTSWIM Presenter/Coordinator

**Marcelle Renforth-Frederick**

AUSTSWIM Presenter/Coordinator

**Steven Murray**

Department of Education, Training and the Arts

**Col Purdy**

Life Member

**Gwen Welford**

Life Member

**Michael Darben**

Royal Life Saving Society Queensland (RLSSQ)

**John Brennan**

Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ)

**Tamara Price**

YMCA Queensland

## State Conference

Having outgrown the previous location, 2016 saw the AUSTSWIM Queensland "Soak It Up" Conference move to a new venue. The Chandler Aquatic Centre proved to be the ideal aquatic facility for another relaxed, informative, jam packed day of sessions.

With over 20 quality sessions offered throughout the day, the 180 delegates and speakers in attendance were given plenty of opportunity to learn, share and network. The Aquatic Conference and AquaSummit are truly reflective of the aquatic industry in Queensland. Topics included social media, industry guideline information, aqua sessions in both deep and shallow water, land based activities, team teaching techniques, infants, access and inclusion and adult upskilling sessions. One of the most popular sessions proved to be the Drill Masterclass which was conducted over two timeslots and involved a number of speakers, swim school coordinators, Olympians and coaches sharing their most effective teaching drills and tips. It was a great example of the aquatic industry working together.

Once again, thank you to our Queensland Conference speakers for so kindly sharing their knowledge, skill and experience.

## Education and Training

Under its equity and access charter, AUSTSWIM contributes to the training of regional and remote communities in an effort to provide affordable training and enhance aquatic employment opportunities for the AUSTSWIM Teacher.

### Operation Outreach

#### Element 1 – Rural and Remote Delivery – Case Study

The 2016 Queensland Rural and Remote Project involved AUSTSWIM delivering training in Longreach and Thursday Island.

Thursday Island is approximately 40kms north of the tip of Queensland and has a population of just over 2,500 people. The tyranny of distance has a significant impact on associated transport and accommodation costs for the AUSTSWIM candidate to travel to a major city to gain training as an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety.

The success of the project was evident in the sustainable outcomes achieved in ensuring continued swimming and water safety lessons for community members in the Longreach and Thursday Island areas.

#### Element 2 – Indigenous Communities – Case Study

The first phase of the Indigenous Project was the delivery of AUSTSWIM's:

- Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course
- Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics course

in Normanton and Karumba, far North Queensland. Course candidates, including local school teachers, community and club members took full advantage of the knowledge our AUSTSWIM Presenter was able to share with them.

#### Element 3 – Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities – Case Study

With society continuing to become more diverse throughout Queensland, we were thrilled to be able to offer subsidised training in the form of AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion courses and Embracing Diversity Workshops in the

## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

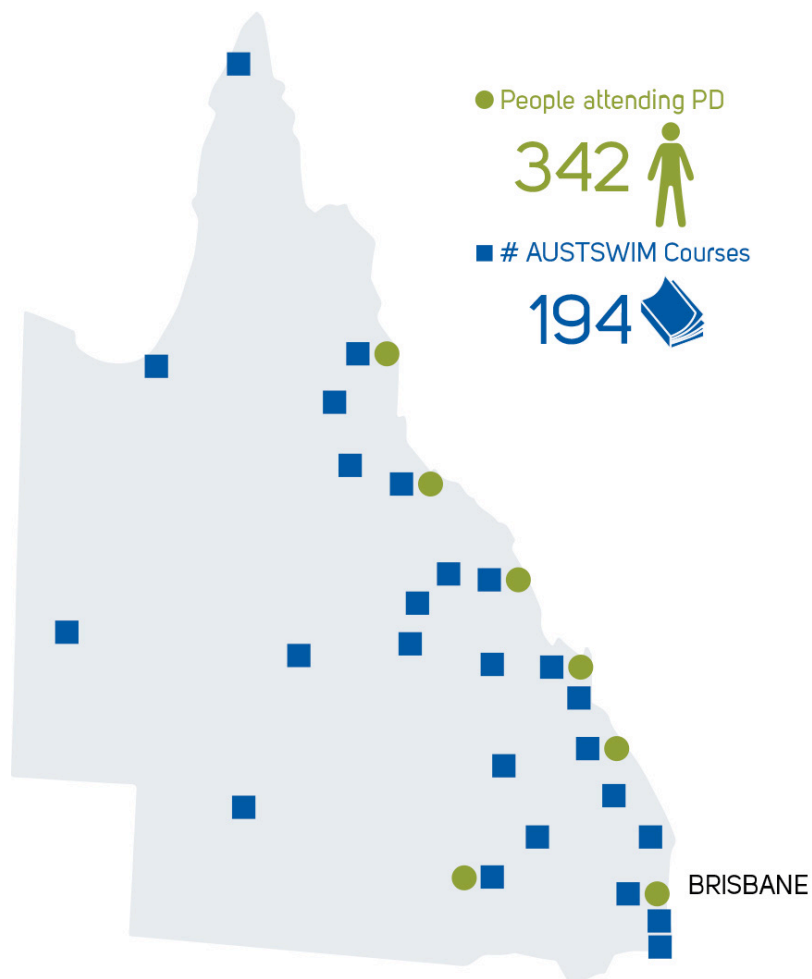
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regional areas of Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton and Mackay, providing access to quality training for AUSTSWIM regional teachers.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

- Muller College Expo
- RLSSQ Aquafutures Conference
- YMCA Qld Swimathon
- Brisbane Careers & Employment Expo
- Brisbane Pregnancy, Baby & Children’s Expo.

Throughout the year AUSTSWIM Queensland Business Centre had the opportunity to visit many AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centres in Brisbane, Cairns, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville and the Sunshine Coast.



Conference presentation – Chandler Aquatic Centre



CALD case study



North Queensland TSW

# South Australia

## State Advisory Committee

The South Australia State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Rae Szulawa**

AUSTSWIM Chair

**Ray Martin**

ALFA Representative

**Ann Price**

AUSTSWIM Presenter

**Peter Roberts**

Department for Education and Child Development (DECD)

**Anita Blackmore**

Masters Swimming and DECD  
Instructor in Charge

**Robyn Stansfield**

Retired AUSTSWIM Presenter

**Lesley Bartlett**

Royal Life Saving South Australia  
(RLSSA)

**Lee Patterson**

Surf Life Saving South Australia  
(SLSSA)

**Carol Veldhuyzen**

Swim School Manager and  
AUSTSWIM Presenter

**Samantha Wharton**

YMCA South Australia

## New direction for the AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre

2016 saw the AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre take a new direction with the departure of Julie Wilson who had worked for AUSTSWIM in the Business Centre Manager role for more than four years. Victoria

Shannon now coordinates the Business Centre operations in her role as AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre Administrator.

AUSTSWIM welcomed a new staff member to the AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre team, Annette Chatterton. As Engagement and Education Officer, Annette focuses on growing SA's position in the industry through the management of funded projects and industry engagement. Annette's expertise in the health, fitness, sport and aquatic industry as a speaker, administrator and contact person will be an asset for AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre. Annette was welcomed as a guest AUSTSWIM conference speaker at Victoria and New South Wales State Conferences and is currently undertaking training to become an AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Presenter.

## Education and Training

### Adults Aquatic Programs

A successful funding application to the Office for Recreation and Sport (ORS) contributed to AUSTSWIM SA's:

- subsidy of the Teacher of Adult extension course to all Licensed AUSTSWIM Teachers in SA
- development of promotional resources highlighting the importance of providing high quality aquatic programs for adults aged 55+. These resources were distributed to teachers via their personal e-learning platform.

Forty-four AUSTSWIM Teachers participated in the Adults Aquatic program.

## Regional Champions Project

### Subsidised Online Training for Regional Teachers

One of the barriers facing regional AUSTSWIM Teachers is access to regular professional development opportunities. With the assistance of Regional Champions funding from ORS, the AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre offered AUSTSWIM Teachers living in regional and remote South Australia access to subsidised online professional development training. Introducing the subsidised online training has been successful in providing accessible and cost-effective professional development opportunities for regional teachers looking to renew their AUSTSWIM licence. The program will continue to be offered to regional teachers seeking professional development training in 2016–17.

## Riverland Community Engagement Program

The Riverland Community Engagement Program was developed to raise water safety awareness and target key drowning issues in the Riverland region. The AUSTSWIM program, held in conjunction with the Berri Rotary Club, was launched at a Drowning Prevention Forum. The forum, led by AUSTSWIM Life Member Rae Szulawa and State Advisory Member, Robyn Stansfield, was attended by the general public. Both facilitators used AUSTSWIM resources and aquatic lectures to educate participants on strategies to reduce the risk of drowning in children under five years of age and junior primary students. Sincere thanks are extended to Rae

## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

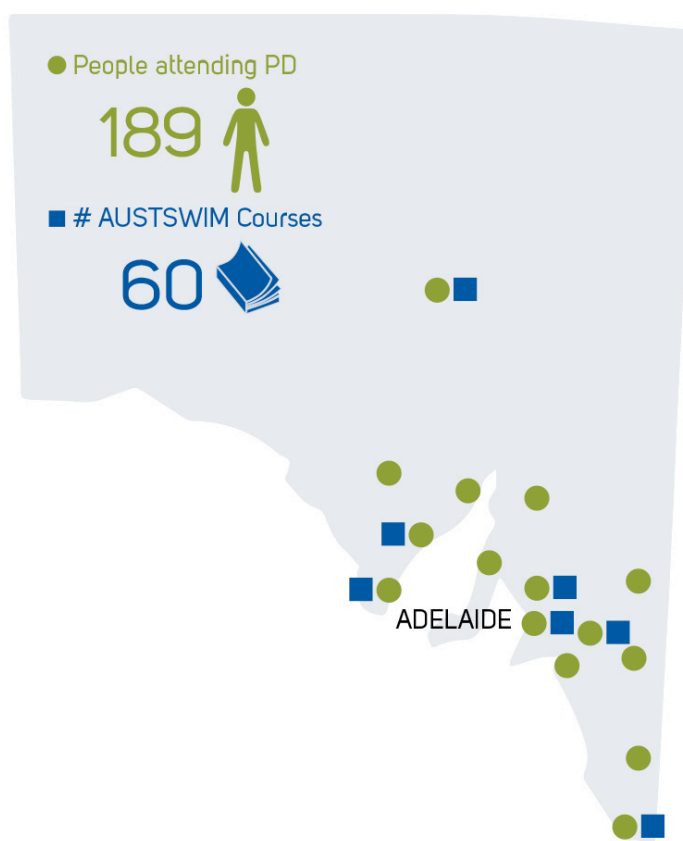
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- Teacher of Adults
- WETS Aqua Instructor



and Robyn for their enthusiasm, support and professionalism in delivery of community talks at local kindergartens and primary schools.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

The AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre sits on a number of Industry Committees and in 2015–16 was involved in the following projects and campaigns:

### Office for Recreation and Sport Stakeholder Feedback Survey – 2016

The 2016 results demonstrated AUSTSWIM’s commitment to continuous improvement and industry consultation, highlighted by an improved performance compared to the previous 2013 survey. The

360 Review Action Plan for 2017 and beyond reviewed and identified increased opportunities for further diverse professional development to be offered to AUSTSWIM teachers via more accessible communication methods.

### Recreation SA Aquatics Committee

AUSTSWIM SA regularly attends these Committee meetings with the key objective of contributing and sharing vital aquatic information and knowledge to be used in:

- SA Aquatic Code of Practice
- Watch Around Water Campaign
- South Australian Water Safety Committee

AUSTSWIM SA is a member of the South Australian Water Safety Committee and contributes to South

Australia’s Water Safety strategies including the SA State Water Safety Plan 2017–19.

AUSTSWIM SA Business Centre continued to provide training support for VACSWIM providers as well as the DECD in metro and regional South Australia.

The SA Business Centre attended the following trade exhibitions:

- Adelaide Careers Expo
- Pregnancy, Babies and Children’s Expo
- Mount Gambier Rotary Careers Expo
- Department for Education and Child Development Regional Conference
- Marryatville High Careers Expo
- Launch of the 2015-2016 Water Safety Promotion.

# Tasmania

## State Advisory Committee

The Tasmanian State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Ceri Weeks**

Chair

**John Rigby**

National Chair

**Wendy Cracknell**

Department of Education

**Stacey Aldous**

Freedom Health & Wellness

**Lindy Crack**

Launceston Swim School

**Mel Bush**

Royal Life Saving Society Australia  
Tasmania (RLSST)

**Paula Robertson**

Royal Life Saving Society Australia  
Tasmania (RLSST)

**Rachel Rickards**

St Michael's Collegiate

**Jamie McIntyre**

Surf Life Saving Tasmania (SLST)

**Melissa Carlton**

YMCA Hobart (Proxy Philip Venables)

## State Conference

The weekend of 14–15 November 2015 was abuzz with activity in Launceston with an AUSTSWIM Presenter Workshop, Awards Dinner and Conference held over two days.

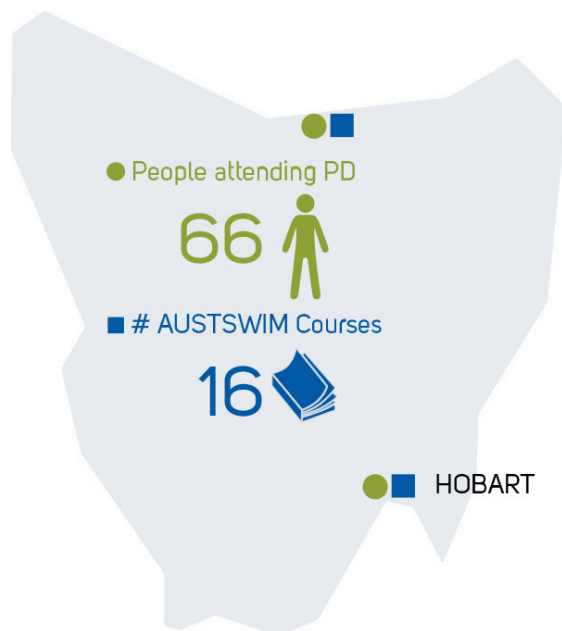
The AUSTSWIM Presenter Workshop was attended by both presenters and trainee presenters. Topics covered included:

- AUSTSWIM course updates
- presenting skills
- aquatic skill assessment.

The 2015 Tasmanian AUSTSWIM Awards Dinner was a celebration of aquatic education through the vital roles of teacher and swim centre.

All nominees were recognised and recipients announced on the night in the presence of their families, colleagues and industry representatives.

The first Aquatic Conference held since the establishment of the Victorian & Tasmanian AUSTSWIM Business Centre proved to be a popular event for local AUSTSWIM Teachers. More than 60 delegates travelled to Launceston from the north



## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

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and south of Tasmania to attend the Conference at Launceston College.

Delegates enjoyed both theory and practical sessions presented by Tasmanian and Victorian speakers and AUSTSWIM Presenters. Sessions focussed on a wide range of topics including water safety, stroke development, infant, preschool and access and inclusion programs.

We sincerely thank the Tasmanian AUSTSWIM SAC and RLSST for their support and leadership on the day of the Conference.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

The Victorian & Tasmanian AUSTSWIM Business Centre is actively engaged in aquatic industries and the wider community in each state. Networking, working towards

drowning prevention and enhancing aquatic safety remains a priority.

Connections were explored to increase and develop AUSTSWIM Teacher and AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor opportunities in 2015/2016. These included:

- Belgravia Leisure
- RLSST – AUSTSWIM Course Provider
- Tasmanian State Advisory Committee Meetings
- YMCA

Swim Centre visits and regular engagement in Victoria and Tasmania provide support and assistance to AUSTSWIM Teachers, AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructors and Aquatic Management Teams. These visits are conducted in collaboration with AUSTSWIM, RLSST and the Tasmanian SAC.

# Victoria

## State Advisory Committee

The Victorian State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Meredith King**

MaKquatic Consult, Chair (Resigned September 2015)

**Katherine Thom**

Yarra Leisure (Chair 2016)

**Karen Franceschini**

AUSTSWIM Presenter

**Michelle Young**

Belgravia Leisure

**Debbie Gill**

Geelong Aquatic Centre (Course Provider)

**Jean Kemp**

Kemp Aquatics (AUSTSWIM Presenter and Regional Coordinator)

**Lauren Parkins**

Life Saving Victoria (LSV)

**Kate Simpson**

Life Saving Victoria (LSV)

**Carol Crofts**

Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre

**Kaye Garner**

Nunawading Swimming Club

**Kirsteen Farrance**

School Sport Victoria

**Ted Tullberg**

Tullberg Aquatics (Course Provider)

**Liz Tesone**

YMCA Victoria

## State Conferences

STREAM 2016 Regional Victorian Aquatic Conference was held in October 2015.

More than sixty delegates travelled from across Victoria to Gippsland for the Conference. Both theory and practical sessions were offered. Many local speakers featured on the conference program and a highlight of the day was the session delivered by the Centre for Multicultural Youth Morwell.

STREAM 2016 Metropolitan Victorian Aquatic Conference & AquaSummit was held in May 2016 with an attendance record of 225 delegates.

This educational event commenced with a highly informative keynote address from Dr Alan Pearce on the subject of neuroplasticity and was followed by a range of speakers sharing their knowledge and experience in both theory and practical pool sessions.

## Education and Training

### Leigh Nugent Freestyle Masterclasses

Following on from last year's well received Teaching Competitive Breaststroke Masterclass, AUSTSWIM's Master of Competitive Strokes, Leigh Nugent, once again brought fresh energy and knowledge to his Teaching Competitive Freestyle Masterclass.

Held in both Geelong and Melbourne in February 2016, the attendance figures said it all when more than 200 AUSTSWIM Teachers attended and gained the latest information on:

- how to best teach freestyle with logical and simple progressions

- the forces at work – a deeper understanding of freestyle biomechanics
- appropriate drills from the beginner to advanced stage of learning.

## AUSTSWIM Aquatic Education Forums

Aquatic Education Forums are well attended events on the Victorian calendar. The 2015/16 year highlighted three engaging forums where attendees were encouraged to question, explore and reflect at each session.

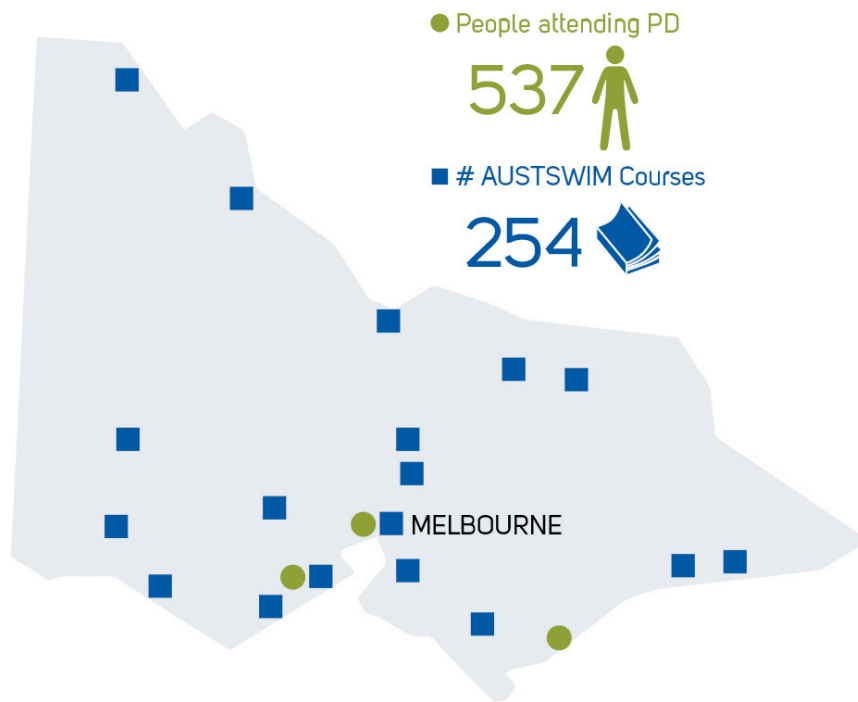
Forum topics included:

- Super Supervised Teaching Experience – Mentoring AUSTSWIM Trainees; this session featured a panel showcasing processes, success and challenges for the AUSTSWIM trainee
- Informed and Understood – essential elements provided in an information pack to explain the three phases of the supervised teaching experience
- Mentoring AUSTSWIM Trainees – creating a template to use at Swim Centres.

## Operation Outreach

### Element 1 – Regional and Remote – Case Study

The Victorian & Tasmanian AUSTSWIM Business Centre is committed to providing a minimum of one AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course per year in Mildura. Whilst a remote location, Mildura attracted candidates from metropolitan and country



## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

Number of delegates attending:

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**Delegates at the STREAM 2016 Regional Victorian Aquatic Conference, Gippsland**

Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

During AUSTSWIM's most recent visit to Mildura, Victoria & Tasmania Business Centre staff took the opportunity to meet and present a gift in recognition to octogenarian Jill Mazzini who has been AUSTSWIM accredited for many years and is still teaching. Along with her extended family, three generations now contribute to swimming and water safety in the region.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

The Victorian & Tasmanian AUSTSWIM Business Centre is actively engaged in aquatic industries and the wider community in each state. Networking, working towards drowning prevention and enhancing aquatic safety remains a priority.

Connections were explored to increase and develop AUSTSWIM Teacher and AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua

Instructor opportunities in 2015/2016. These included:

- Play It Safe By The Water Committee Meetings
- Victorian Aquatic Agencies – Victorian Water Safety Strategy focus
- Watch Around Water Advisory Committee
- Collaboration with Life Saving Victoria
- Victorian State Advisory Committee Meetings
- AUSTSWIM Aquatic Education Forums
- Camp USA Information Sessions Melbourne
- Pregnancy Babies Children Expo Melbourne
- ACHPER Vic Conference
- Belgravia Leisure
- YMCA
- JUMP! Swim Schools

Swim Centre visits and regular engagement in Victoria and Tasmania, both regionally and in metropolitan areas, provide support and assistance to AUSTSWIM Teachers, AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructors and Aquatic Management Teams.

# Western Australia

## State Advisory Committee

The Western Australia State Advisory Committee (SAC) is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

**Gary Shaw**  
Chair

**Noelene Usher**  
AUSTSWIM Teacher Association

**Fran Wood**  
Department of Education

**Kay Cox**  
Masters Swimming WA

**Trent Hotchkin**  
Royal Life Saving Society – Western Australia (RLSSWA)

**Josh Drummond**  
Surf Life Saving Western Australia (SLSWA)

**Julie-Anne Plummer**  
Swim School Coordinators Association of WA

**Andrea Maeda**  
Swimming WA

**Nat Benjanuvat**  
Tertiary

**Travis Doye**  
YMCA Perth (Vacated position Dec 2015)

## State Conference

The AUSTSWIM King Neptune Aquatic Conference Soak It Up 2015! was held at Chisholm Catholic College, Perth in July 2015. The WA Business Centre was committed to delivering a comprehensive and diverse conference program to the 126 delegates. A variety of state and national presenters delivered a range of interactive sessions designed

to update, inform and challenge delegates. Highlights included:

- Keynote Speaker Laurie Lawrence set the tone by engaging, educating and entertaining the audience
- Contaminants and bugs delivered by the Government of Western Australia, Department of Health
- AUSTSWIM Learning Pillars
- Efficient stroke development sessions.

Pre and post conference sessions included teachers participating in the:

- Laurie Lawrence Infants and Preschool Aquatics Masterclass
- AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics course
- AUSTSWIM Presenter Update.

New techniques, revised knowledge and refreshed approaches to teaching were shared and demonstrated throughout the conference.

## Education and Training

AUSTSWIM, supported by the Department of Education WA, conducted professional development courses for AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety to further enhance their skills, understanding and knowledge in teaching aquatics to students with functional limitations. A total 240 teachers attended the Professional Development day with a large majority opting to complete further post course assessment tasks to gain the AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion accreditation. These teachers are now sharing their newfound knowledge, skill and understanding with students, parents and colleagues in metropolitan and regional and remote WA.

The tyranny of distance and size of Western Australia did not deter the WA Business Centre from attracting an increased industry engagement presence and providing education and training to AUSTSWIM teachers. Presenters diligently travelled to many regional and remote areas.

## Operation Outreach

### Element 1 – Regional and Remote Delivery – Case Study

#### *Warburton Community*

This interactive education and training program was conducted with the support of the Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku. Courses delivered included:

- Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
- Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics.

More than 40 enthusiastic students participated in the courses including:

- youth workers from the Shire
- female youth from the local indigenous community
- older community members.

Success of the program has resulted in:

- further engagement with the Department of Education to provide ongoing swimming and water safety lessons for students at the local school
- engagement with the local community to teach swimming and water safety skills in inland waterways
- future sustainability of ongoing training by AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers who reside in the local community.



## LOCATION AND TRAINING LEGEND

### Professional Development (PD)

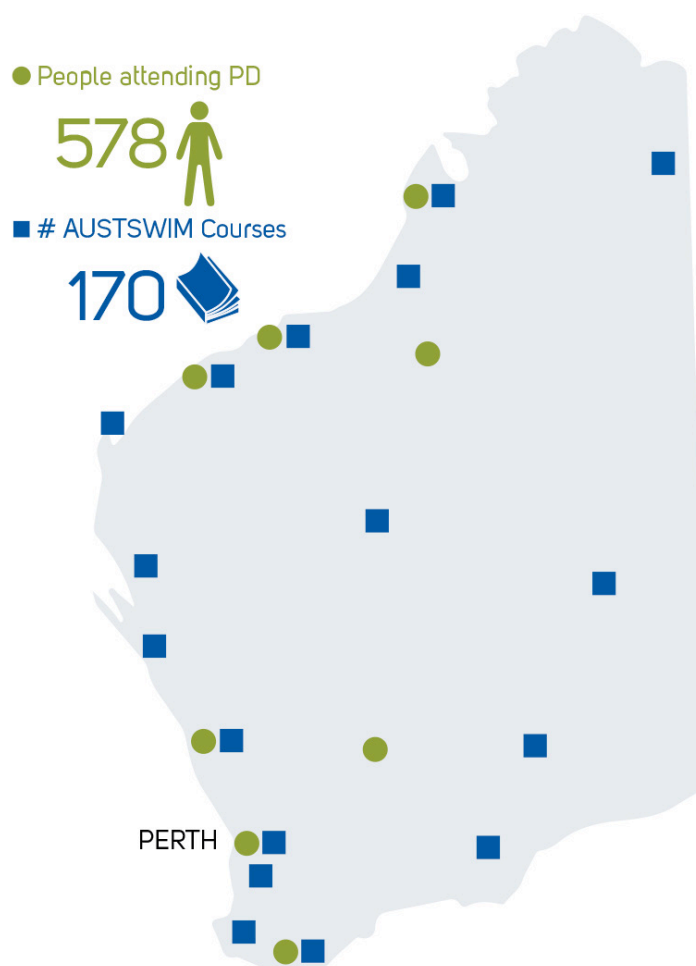
Number of delegates attending:

- Aquatic Service Officer (ASO)
- Making Aquatics a Terrific Experience (MATE)
- Masterclass
- Conference
- Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD)
- Online Professional Development
- Presenter training / update
- Education Department training

### AUSTSWIM Courses

Number of courses conducted comprised of:

- Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
- Teacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics
- Teacher of Aquatics – Access an Inclusion
- Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes
- Teacher of Adults
- WETS Aqua Instructor



## Element 2 – Indigenous Communities – Case Study

### Marble Bar Aquatic Project

This aquatic project was gratefully supported by Telfer Mining and Ngurra Kujungka Inc Community and involved delivery of the Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course to primary teachers in Marble Bar and Warralong. Once again the project resulted in increasing a skilled workforce for students to enjoy and benefit from swimming and water safety education in the local communities.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

Expo exhibits at:

- Pregnancy, Children and Toddler Expos
- Careers Expo
- Every Woman Expo

Seminar/Conference exhibits at:

- Edith Cowan University Meet and Greet Careers Day
- Leisure Industry of Western Australia (LIWA) State Conference
- LIWA Regional Seminar, Albany
- LIWA Regional Seminar, Kondinin
- LIWA north West Regional Seminar, Exmouth



Leigh Nugent Masterclass



Keen conference delegates

## AUSTSWIM Industry Support

AUSTSWIM WA would like to take this opportunity to thank RLSSWA/ LIWA and the Department of Education WA for their promotion and delivery of AUSTSWIM courses. A collaborative approach ensures high quality education and a professional and skilled workforce across WA.



Regional and remote TSW Training

# Statistics

## Strengthening Standards and Accreditation

In alignment with Australian Water Safety Strategy 2016–20, AUSTSWIM continues to reach regional, remote and metropolitan communities through the training of Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety and Aqua Instructors. We thank our dedicated AUSTSWIM Presenters and Assessors for their commitment to reduce drownings by strengthening the aquatic workforce.

In 2015/16 AUSTSWIM is proud of the number of committed candidates who enrolled in an AUSTSWIM course.

## TOTAL ENROLMENTS

COURSE	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
TSW	178	2248	84	1028	446	131	2318	1403
INF	60	306	18	236	53	29	379	207
TAI		122	14	91	17	12	110	274
TCS	10	181		135	45	15	104	41
ADULT		46		16	44		55	26
WETS AQUA	17	52	12	41	5	21	52	10

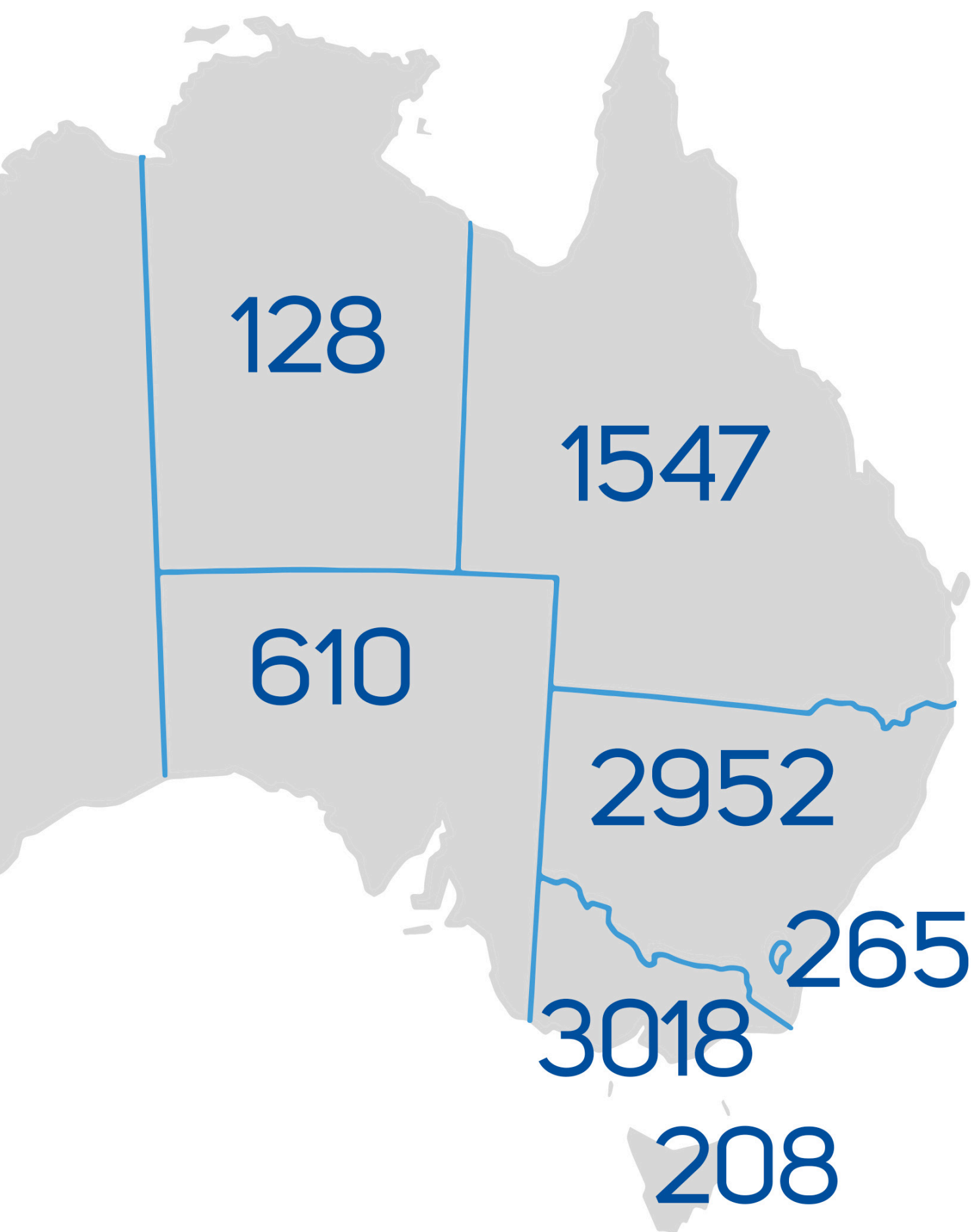
### LEGEND

TSW	Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
INF	Teacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics
TAI	Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion
TCS	Teacher of Competitive Strokes
ADULT	Teacher of Adults
WETS	AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua



1961

## Total Enrolments





# AUSTSWIM Aotearoa



Professional Development



AUSTSWIM TSW

In 2015–16, New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) is the sole agency for AUSTSWIM aquatic education programs in New Zealand. NZRA is also committed to effective advocacy on behalf of the sector to affirm recognition of safer aquatic participation in, on and around water for all New Zealanders – a sustainable partnership.

## AUSTSWIM Aotearoa Conference

The AUSTSWIM Aotearoa Conference continues to build on our capability to deliver aquatic education that is of world class standard. With over 97 delegates attending the 2015 New Zealand Soak It Up! Conference, the scope of the program was wide and varied with speakers from Australia and New Zealand delivering sessions directed at:

- middle managers
- teachers of swimming and water safety
- aqua instructors
- the access and inclusion community
- infant and preschool programs.

We would like to thank the Advisory Committee, volunteers and presenters for their assistance at the event. Special thanks go to Rob Hewitt for the way he weaved his words to inspire and motivate us to focus on the skills that make us safer in, on and around water.

## Advisory Committee

The New Zealand Advisory Committee is supported through representation and commitment of a group of dedicated aquatic professionals from across the industry:

Matt Claridge  
Water Safety New Zealand (Chair until February 2016)

Horst Mieke  
HPK Swim Club and Swim School (Chair from April 2016)

Sally Dobson  
AUSTSWIM Presenter

Mark Blake  
Belgravia Leisure NZ

Judy Tipping  
Belgravia Leisure NZ

Nicholas Heyworth  
Halberg Disability Sport Foundation

Tracey Prince  
New Zealand Recreation Association

Rob Hewitt  
WSNZ, Maritime, Coastguard,  
Engaging Maori & Pacific Island  
Communities

Karla McCaughan  
YMCA Auckland

AUSTSWIM Aotearoa was established in 2014 as the New Zealand branch of the Australasian Council for the Teaching of Swimming and Water Safety (AUSTSWIM Ltd) and continues to develop the culture and sustainable platform to provide industry qualifications aligned with the New Zealand qualifications framework.





Stroke Development



Aqua MATE class



Denice Gasson

### All Kinds of Water Activity (AKWA) Making Aquatics a Terrific Experience (MATE)

Funded by Halberg Disability Sport Foundation, this unique aqua interval activity program provides safe and achievable “huff and puff” activities for people with a disability aged under 25 years.

Entering into a two year funding agreement with Halberg Disability Sport Foundation has resulted in a project with social value outcomes. Skilled staff at venues are now able to provide quality aquatic programs for the access and inclusion community.

As is the case in every community, the aquatic environment is sometimes the ONLY safe and effective setting in which to exercise and remain physically active. The results of people remaining physically active have long term effects on the health and wellbeing of the community. Increasing the pool of accredited and licensed AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructors will assist in offering additional aqua programs for the New Zealand community.

## Education and Training

The AUSTSWIM Whanau (family) continues to grow with improved strategies to cater for delivery over our expansive land.

We value and recognise AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers and encourage opportunities for professional development to create and advance a skilled New Zealand aquatic workforce. Workshop topics presented included:

- Presenter Training
- Water Safety development
- Infant workshop for New Zealand Careers College (Nanny Training)
- Stroke Development

## WETS Off the Block

AUSTSWIM's delivery of the WETS Aqua Instructor course in NZ has grown in popularity and structure and provides practical knowledge, skill and understanding directly applicable to delivering physical activity in an aquatic environment. The working relationship with NZ Register of Exercise Professionals (REPS) and Skills Active is helping to address the skills shortage of confident and competent aqua instructors working at NZ pools.

## Industry Engagement – AUSTSWIM “We Connect”

- Belgravia Leisure
- Community Leisure Management
- YMCA
- JAWS Conference
- New Zealand Swim Coaches & Teachers Conference
- Halberg Disability Sport Foundation
- Infinity Foundation
- AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centres
- FITEX conference
- Marketing kit sent to all facilities and private swim schools nationally
- Jump Swim School

# International

Over the past 12 months, AUSTSWIM has continued to develop and foster current international partnerships whilst also developing new ones.

AUSTSWIM continues to be recognised internationally for quality training and accreditation and extends its thanks to all providers. Their continued support, passion and promotion of AUSTSWIM in each country ensures communities are educated in safer aquatic practices and reduced drowning rates. We sincerely thank them.

## **The creation of shared value is not about an end goal – but rather a means to an end**

### **China**

AUSTSWIM, together with Mookey Swim and Aquatic Education International (AEI), continues to work with local communities and venues throughout China. This year AUSTSWIM courses were conducted in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Guangdong. Training courses offered included Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety, Infant and Preschool Aquatics and Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes.

### **Hong Kong**

AUSTSWIM course delivery in Hong Kong continues to grow through collaboration with local and Australian presenters. These courses would not be possible without the

on-the-ground support and advocacy provided by Stanford Swim Schools. This year's training included Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety and Infant and Preschool Aquatics courses in addition to Professional Development Workshops to support teachers in furthering their aquatic knowledge, skills and understanding.

### India

AUSTSWIM has continued to grow and develop in India through the partnership with Winning Matters and the Australia India Council through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This year focused on developing the skills of local presenters, under the expert guidance of AUSTSWIM Presenter, Ceri Weeks.

This year, India was privileged to host Leigh Nugent, AUSTSWIM Master of Stroke Development, for a series of professional development sessions that highlighted efficient and effective ways to teach the strokes of swimming. A large number of participants benefitted from Leigh's expertise and insights in this area.

A contingent of enthusiastic AUSTSWIM Teachers from all over India benefitted from a subsidised study tour of "Aquatics in Australia". The full itinerary took them to Tasmanian and Victorian venues where they were able to experience hands-on teaching opportunities, no doubt taking home a large array of new ideas and skills.



**AUSTSWIM International Licensed Teachers**

### Korea

Now established with local Korean presenters, we were able to continue the delivery of AUSTSWIM courses in South Korea. AUSTSWIM continues to work with Korean Swim Advisors in the local Korean aquatic industry to enable growth and development of courses.

### Malaysia

AUSTSWIM continues to work with D Swim Academy and Tullberg Aquatics to assist in the delivery of training in Malaysia. AUSTSWIM, in collaboration with its providers, embraces the sustainable approach to train AUSTSWIM teachers in Malaysia to also gain Presenter accreditation and be qualified and skilled to eventually deliver the full AUSTSWIM suite of courses.

### Singapore

AUSTSWIM continues to provide a range of training for the aquatic industry in Singapore. Through a coordinated approach, Singaporean and Australian presenters delivered an increased number of courses throughout the year.

### United Arab Emirates (UAE)

AUSTSWIM continues to provide training throughout the UAE through a coordinated approach with Australian International Swim Schools (AISS). This year training courses provided the full suite of AUSTSWIM Teacher training opportunities for many local candidates, ensuring water safety and swimming is a focus for the UAE community.



AUSTSWIM working abroad

### Vietnam

Drowning is one of the leading causes of mortality among children over the age of one in Vietnam; up to 30 children drown every day. Reasons for the increasing number of child deaths from drowning include unsafe environments, limited awareness, inadequate adult supervision and a lack of water safety and swimming skills.

AUSTSWIM is committed to the shared value of enhancing drowning prevention strategies in Vietnam. AUSTSWIM continues to provide training through both self-funded and charitable programs in Vietnam for local communities, universities and schools.

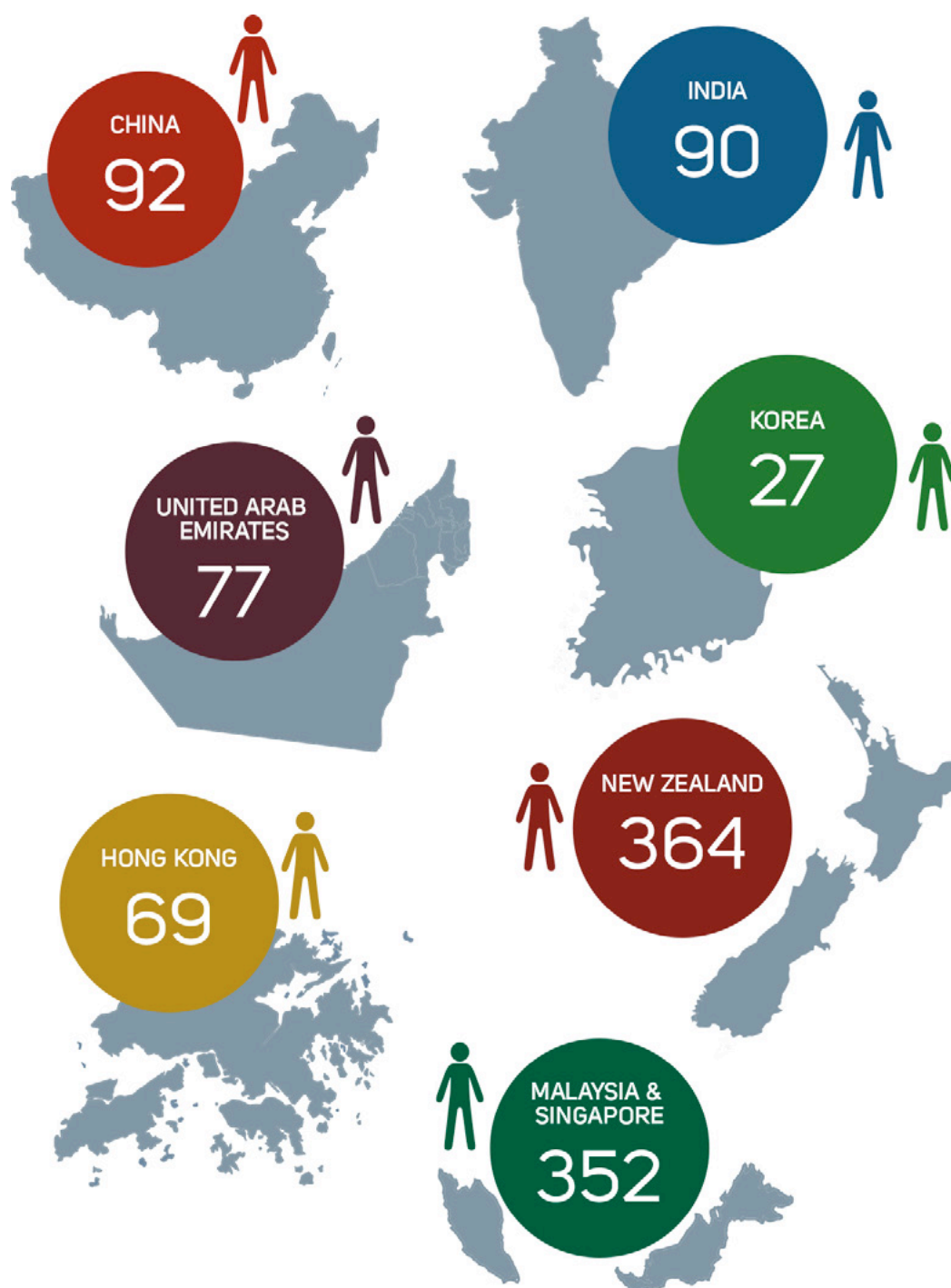
Together with Swim Vietnam and Water Safety Vietnam, AUSTSWIM

financially contributes to the subsidy of training resources for the Teacher of Swimming and Safety Vietnamese candidate. AUSTSWIM also provides additional administration and presenter support to ensure the accreditation is successfully completed to the AUSTSWIM standards.



AUSTSWIM – enhancing drowning prevention strategies internationally

## International – Total Enrolments



COURSE	COUNTRY						
	China	Hong Kong	India	Korea	Malaysia & Singapore	New Zealand	United Arab Emirates
TSW	55	55	53	27	251	222	49
INF	31	14			55	35	11
TAI					8	6	5
TCS	6		37		38	48	7
ADULT							5
WETS AQUA						53	

# AUSTSWIM Partners

With ISO 17024 accreditation, AUSTSWIM consolidated its reputation as the leader in the training of teachers of swimming and water safety and aqua instructors. We acknowledge the continuing support of our government, industry and commercial partners.

## GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



**Australian Government**

Supported by the



**Government of South Australia**  
Office for Recreation and Sport

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



## NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS



## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS



Including: AQUATIC EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL TULLBERG AQUATICS

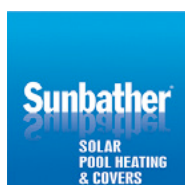
## INDUSTRY PARTNERS



## PLATINUM SUPPORTERS



## EVENT SUPPORTERS



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