

# **Annual Report**

2017-2018



2017/2018 TOTAL **TOTAL TRAINED TEACHERS** TRAINED TEACHERS **SINCE 1979 CURRENT LICENSED TEACHERS FEMALE MALE AGE OF TRAINED TEACHERS 6**% 25-39 17-24 40-59 60+ **COURSES TOTAL TRAINING HOURS RECOGNISED SWIM CENTRES** 



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## **Cultural Focus**

AUSTSWIM'S ENGAGEMENT PAYING DIVIDENDS



Following the tragic drowning of two young Kenyans at Glenelg beach in Adelaide in January 2016, AUSTSWIM's South Australian Business Centre rolled out their swimming and water safety initiative for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The project was designed to encourage, train and mentor individuals of multicultural communities to become teachers of swimming and water safety; these teachers subsequently instructing CALD children who may respond better to being taught by people of similar background.

The success of the project speaks for itself, and AUSTSWIM are proud to have assisted in coordinating such a vital community program.

Twenty-four candidates from nations as diverse as Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, Myanmar, China and Vietnam gained their AUSTSWIM accreditation in early 2018. After attending AUSTSWIM courses they are now educating members of their own community at Immanuel College in Novar Gardens.



The West Beach Surf Lifesaving Club also welcomed graduates of the program, who are now watching over beachgoers as accredited AUSTSWIM Teachers.

Given that most of the 24 trailblazing teachers began their aquatic journey less than two years ago, the program has been an outstanding success. According to Annette Chatterton, AUSTSWIM South Australia Education and Engagement Coordinator:



Along with training teachers, the project aimed to help break down the barriers of unfamiliarity with water and culture that many of these ethnicities currently have

"We applied for the grant in the middle of last year through the South Australian Office of Recreation and Sport, so that people from communities could attend and train to become teachers and not have to pay for their course

We ran one full course with 12 candidates, and a few others attended our other mainstream Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety courses.

They have all been so successful and are now seeking employment so that they can be role models and ambassadors, and teach children and adults from their own cultures," Chatterton said.

AUSTSWIM presenter Carolyn Veldhuyzen (Manager at iSwim) and West Beach Surf Lifesaver Peter Taylor, have garnered media recognition as key members assisting in leading the charge to educate CALD communities.

Arash Rezaei, a 21 year old Iranian, is just one example of how quickly the course produced accredited and valuable teachers.

Arash came to Australia from Iran in 2015. He was a swimmer over there and his goal was to help everyone enjoy the beach and learn to swim.

"He's now fully accredited through our CALD program and is employed by Carolyn at iSwim," Chatterton said.

Rezaei said that although many of his students held an initial fear of swimming, most grew to embrace the water and enjoy their new surroundings.

"I would love to teach everybody how to swim, I don't want anyone to drown at the beach. Everyone (needs to) learn how to swim, especially refugee people," Rezaei said.

#### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Along with training teachers, the project aimed to help break down the barriers of unfamiliarity with water and cultural barriers that many of these ethnicities currently have.

"Carolyn is very good as our presenter for multicultural groups. She understands that some candidates are afraid of the water. She works hard to gain their confidence and build skills up before even beginning with the teaching component.

"We are trying to be proactive — if I was a young Muslim girl, I might not feel comfortable with a young man with an exposed chest as my teacher. However, if I had a covered Muslim woman as my teacher, I might feel much more comfortable and want to gain those skills," Chatterton said.





## Chairman's Report

It is my pleasure to present the 2017-2018 AUSTSWIM Annual Report. This year was a transition year for AUSTSWIM as it continues its prominent progression as a peak body for the teaching of swimming and water safety both nationally and internationally.

In the second half of the year the CEO, Jennifer Schembri-Portelli departed. I would like to thank her for her service to AUSTSWIM from 2013 to March 2018. As an interim measure, Colin Organ, General Manager acted as CEO. I wish to thank Colin and the AUSTSWIM staff for stepping up during this time to ensure that the organisation continued to operate both effectively and efficiently and also continue its forward momentum.

This support enabled the Board to take the time to initiate its planned governance review and to recruit an experienced CEO who will commence early in the 2018-2019 financial year. The new CEO will both guide and lead the organisation through its next stage of development. He is experienced in strategy development and implementation, corporate governance, product development and in delivering an exceptional customer experience and developing high performing teams. This augurs well for our future.

#### Earlier on I mentioned AUSTSWIM having maintained its forward momentum. Highlights include:

- The securing of a multi-year funding from the Federal Government for the Water & Snow Safety Program
- Participation in National Swimming and Water Safety Education and Non-Fatal Drowning Symposiums and Queensland Government Water Safety Roundtable
- · A successful financial outcome for the year
- Key event successful National Conference at Tweed Heads in September 2017
- Attendance and numerous successful presentations at the World Conference on Drowning Prevention in Vancouver, Canada

- State and regional conferences with greatly increased attendance
- The initiation of an Information Communication & Technology (ICT) Plan
- Commencement of a governance review process
- Representations at each state round of the Labor Party water safety roundtables conducted by The Hon. Matt Thistlethwaite MP
- Continuous improvement of resources and development of a new Competitive Strokes course
- Continuation of the joint project with Edith Cowan University, reviewing presenter training and course delivery.

In presenting this report I wish to thank my Board colleagues, Floss Roberts and Melinda Crole (outgoing in March) and Bill Meaney, Gary Shaw and Jonty Mills for their ongoing support and for giving their time so freely.

I also thank member organisations RLSSA, SLSA, WSNZ, ALFA, YMCA and SAL for their enthusiastic support and the continued guidance, advice and support of the staff of the Department of Health.

Finally, AUSTSWIM would not exist without the enormous support, commitment and contribution by you. To our Councillors, State Committee members, teachers, presenters and their friends and families, my sincere appreciation.

I commend the 2017-2018 Annual Report to you and trust you will be proud of your part in these achievements.

JOHN RIGBY

CHAIRMAN, AUSTSWIM



NATIONAL CONFERENCE



#### 2017 AUSTSWIM 'SOAK IT UP' NATIONAL CONFERENCE

What a setting, what a program and what an ideal forum for the 2017 AUSTSWIM 'Soak It Up' Conference.

'Soak It Up' 17 brought together a rich network of practitioners to work with delegates to achieve best practice teaching techniques, create opportunities to expand health and wellness programs and develop robust businesses that truly connect with communities.

AUSTSWIM's Learning Pillars of knowledge, skill and understanding remained the main focus for this immersive learning event.

Our "bilateral thinking" theme aimed to stimulate delegates to be willing to adopt, adapt and evolve as a skilled workforce and to implement effective drowning prevention strategies.

An unrivalled program of speakers, activities and events promised to deliver the pinnacle event for the 2017 swimming and water safety education calendar and it certainly didn't disappoint.

Thank you to all our speakers for their preparation and professionalism in building a platform where we all came together to investigate possibilities as a teaching workforce collective.

Huge appreciation goes to our keynote presenters -Glenn Manton, Dr Alan Pearce and Lisa McInnes-Smith who built their individual messages into our "AUSTSWIM space" and set us on the path to being the best.



'Soak It Up' 17 stood out for its delivery of cutting edge topics in water safety, swimming, aqua, business and personal development.

In 2019, we invite you to dive into our smorgasbord of world-class sessions – celebrate, learn and leave with a renewed focus and enthusiasm for the jobs you do so well!

### Never too Old

PROVING AGE IS NO BARRIER



#### ADULTS TAKING THE PLUNGE AND LEARNING WATER SAFETY

AUSTSWIM Teacher, Petrina Liyanage is well aware of the need for water safety campaigns for adults with more than two adults drowning in Australian waterways for every child.

Petrina says adults don't take to swimming like ducks to water. Scared or stigmatised adults, many of them immigrants who have never learnt to swim, are being urged to take the plunge and learn how.

"You need more patience teaching adults than children, simply because I'm teaching people with a lifetime fear, tackling the water after years of avoiding it," Petrina said.

Having taught adults whose jobs require a basic mastery of freestyle, the majority of her students are people who have always shied away from the water. Some don't even tell their immediate family they can't swim because they are ashamed they don't know a basic skill people are expected to have in Australia.

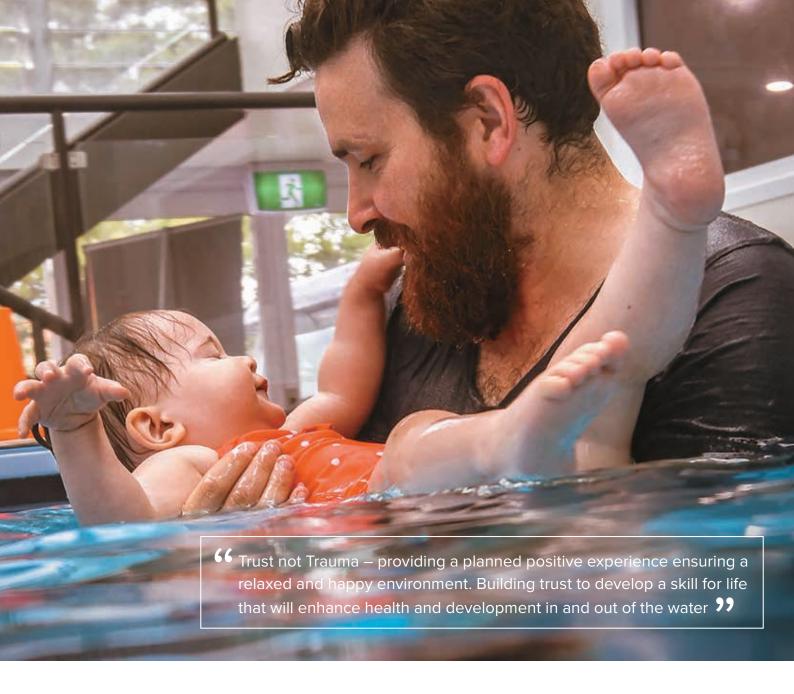
One who has conquered her fear is Lara Solomon.

Growing up in Britain, the thought of getting water on her face kept her beach visits to a quick splash in shallow water. Within two years, thanks to working with Petrina, Lara has gone from being in tears at the thought of putting her head underwater to enjoying open water swimming every day, in the ocean at Manly in NSW.

"Most people I teach just want to be able to enjoy the water and survive, but some people go on to learn freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke," Petrina said.

AUSTSWIM Teachers play an important role in the community and help ensure everyone has the opportunity to obtain a skill for life – in, on and around water.





## **Best Practice**

SETTING THE STANDARD

#### AUSTSWIM TAKES A STANCE ON FORCEFUL TEACHING TECHNIQUES

Following a thorough review, AUSTSWIM announced its opposition to the controversial forced back floating and submersion techniques. These were found to be in direct contravention to the AUSTSWIM Code of Conduct and Best Practice Standards which clearly define the rationale, standard and best practice approach to teaching swimming and water safety. As a result, we urge avoidance of programs and teaching practices that do not conform with best practices.

AUSTSWIM's role is to educate teachers to the highest international standards by teaching people to respect water and provide a positive, fun and memorable

experience. In maintaining the highest industry standards, we have confirmed that teachers and recognised swim centres must abide by the AUSTSWIM Code of Conduct to maintain their accreditation and recognition. Those who do not follow the Code of Conduct will face potential suspension of their AUSTSWIM accreditation.

All swim centres and teachers have been advised of this policy, and where appropriate, have the opportunity to commit to these best practice guidelines in line with community expectations. An education program on the endorsed teaching methods is being conducted through until the end of January 2019.

**AUSTSWIM** THE JOURNEY For most of us our AUSTSWIM journey starts as a child when we become familiar with water, learn about water safety and learn to swim. For some, this will lead to a career in water activities including teaching or becoming a life saver or enjoying competitive swimming. For all of us it is the start of a safer journey where we can enjoy activities in, on and around water. Activities such as fishing, boating, water exercises, a day at the beach and so much more. As we become parents the cycle commences again as we provide our children with the same opportunities to enjoy these activities. AUSTSWIM PROVIDING YOU WITH A LIFE OF ENJOYMENT IN. ON AND AROUND WATER AUSTSWIM **TEACHERS** TEACH A SKILL **FOR** LIFE



## Water and Snow

SAFETY PROGRAM

In April 2018, the Federal Government made a pre-budget announcement of a three-year funding commitment to Australia's Water Safety Sector through the Water and Snow Safety Program.

The Federal Minister for Sport, Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie, made the announcement at Quinn's Rocks in Western Australia along with representatives from the recipients.

The funding is targeted for activities including awareness raising and education, policy advice, surf lifesaving activities, surf patrols, swimming lessons and swim teachers' training and education.

AUSTSWIM, along with Surf Life Saving Australia, Royal Life Saving Society Australia, Laurie Lawrence Enterprises



and the Australian Ski Patrol Association, will deliver a range of activities and interventions aimed at reducing the incidence of water and snow-related injuries and deaths. This provides critical medium term funding for AUSTSWIM and enables planning with a high level of stability.

Federal Government recognised AUSTSWIM's promotion of access to quality and accredited swimming and water safety teachers. The focus of this funding is amongst targeted population groups, including remote, migrant and disadvantaged communities and people with a disability.





### **Brooke Hanson**

AUSTSWIM AMBASSADOR



I've always been proud to bring greater awareness to AUSTSWIM and 2018 is a special year for me as I'm proudly celebrating 10 years as an AUSTSWIM ambassador.

Swimming, water safety and the importance of water awareness in, on and around all aquatic environments needs to be an integral part of living in Australia. Although I'm an Olympic champion swimmer, I know the importance of learning to swim after almost drowning twice as a baby. It's those two almost tragic incidents that provide me with so much inspiration to spread the message.

Being taught to swim by an AUSTSWIM Licensed Teacher and learning a skill for life has become part of my passion and purpose. I'm fortunate to spread the AUSTSWIM messages through my media roles and work at community, sport, school, charity and corporate levels.

Learning lifesaving water safety skills gives every person a chance to enjoy the water and feel the freedom and contentment that comes with participating in water-based activities.

I'm a big believer in finding purpose, showing passion and in giving back. My passion for learning to swim and water safety is more important than ever as a mother.

#### AS A MUM...

I'm a mum of three water babies who are all at different levels of their learn to swim journey. This year, after many years in the mum's and bubs lessons, I'm finally staying dry. The kids have all moved up levels and I'm able to see my children enjoy their swimming lessons from the pool deck.

Cooper, my 8-year-old, has made it to the highest level of learn to swim and loves his AUSTSWIM Teacher so much he doesn't want to move to the next stage which is the development squad.

Matilda, my 3-year-old, is super confident, spends most of her lesson smiling and sometimes talking but is a great student as she listens to every instruction.

My 4-year-old Billy has a chronic health condition but no matter how tough a week he's had medically, he can't wait to get in the water and swim. The thirty-minute swimming lesson with his access and inclusion AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics is the highlight of his week and mine.

As a mother I can see the joy that water brings to all three of my children but in particular the confidence and happiness Billy gets from being in, on and around water. I also witness how incredibly patient his teacher is as you never quite know how he will be medically and emotionally week to week.

The way his AUSTSWIM Teacher communicates with him and connects with him is so important for him to feel a sense of belonging and provide the connection of happiness to

Billy's specialists have told us that swimming is helping him developmentally, psychologically and physically. It's wonderful to know how much his lessons are helping improve his overall health.

I'm inspired by the work that everyone at AUSTSWIM does; from accreditation and support services to the state managers, presenters, assessors, sponsors, partners and, most importantly, our valued teachers.

I've been proud to be involved in many events over the last year; the conferences are always a highlight for me as it gives me an opportunity to meet so many wonderful teachers.

The campaigns I'm proud of over the last year include the Water Watcher Campaign, the stance AUSTSWIM took on forceful teaching techniques and the great support AUSTSWIM gave to successfully securing funding for the Queensland school swimming and water safety program.

To the entire AUSTSWIM family I'm honoured to be your ambassador. Continue to shine, be the very best that you can be and remember passion, purpose, belief and commitment are the keys to success.

Keep Smiling, Yours Swimmingly

**BROOKE HANSON** 

**AUSTSWIM AMBASSADOR** 





**TOTAL TRAINED TEACHERS SINCE 1979** 



2017/2018 TOTAL TRAINED TEACHERS









**FEMALE** 

**MALE** 

#### **AGE OF TRAINED TEACHERS**



17-24



25-39



40-59



60+



**COURSES** 



**TOTAL TRAINING HOURS** 



**RECOGNISED** 

**SWIM CENTRES** 





**INSTAGRAM** 

## Paying it Forward

A SKILLED WORKFORCE IN VIETNAM

Helping beat the "silent epidemic" that sees up to 10 children a day drown in Vietnam is resulting in a growing relationship between Australia's national organisation for the teaching of swimming and water safety, AUSTSWIM, and Swim Vietnam.

With the rainy season over, Swim Vietnam began its 2017 program aiming to teach up to 5,000 children in Quang Nam province to swim and provide water safety education for 40,000 children across Quang Nam and Danang City.

It also planned to train 100 AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers and 200 water safety educators.

AUSTSWIM provides financial and administrative support for the training resources and AUSTSWIM volunteer presenter program. AUSTSWIM's ongoing commitment ensures teacher accreditation is successfully completed to internationally recognised standards.

AUSTSWIM is committed to enhancing drowning prevention strategies in Vietnam by working with recognised charities, Swim Vietnam and Water Safety Vietnam.



The contribution of AUSTSWIM aligns with the World Health Organisation and Australian Water Safety Council objectives towards an international approach to strengthening a sustainable skilled aquatic workforce to address the drowning statistics.

Swim Vietnam is a charity that provides free swimming and water safety lessons to children and trains local adults as swimming and water safety teachers. With up to 10 children a day drowning in the country, international aid agencies have described the shocking figures as a silent epidemic.





#### AUSTSWIM AQUA MAKING WAVES





The AUSTSWIM Aqua Instructor course is part of AUSTSWIM's extensive suite of training designed to expand the vibrant aqua industry. The WETS system involves moves that follow these principles: Weighted, Energetic, Turbulent and Suspended.

Christine Naysmith, who has been part of the WETS program since 2010 and since aligning with AUSTSWIM, Christine has become our AUSTSWIM dedicated Aqua Education Coordinator. Originally from Scotland, Christine became deeply entrenched in the aquatic industry when she moved to Australia and has embraced her new role to develop and promote AUSTSWIM Aqua fitness education, while continuing to deliver the Aqua Instructor course far and wide.

"I did my Aqua Instructor course in 2010, when I was coming to the end of my working holiday in Australia, (she had a one-year visa). With a background in teaching drama and having some experience with dance, I found it a great combination of teaching and performance skills that was right up my alley," Christine said.

In 2011 Christine was sponsored to become the WETS Educational Project Development Officer which led to her staying in Australia and eventually becoming part of the

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{AUSTSWIM}}$  team when the WETS program aligned with  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{AUSTSWIM}}.$ 

"There is a performance element to teaching a group fitness class and my drama training has definitely helped me feel comfortable in front of groups of people," Christine added.

As well as her weekly aqua classes across the Gold Coast, Christine is involved in the development of AUSTSWIM's WETS training and delivers AUSTSWIM courses across Australia on a monthly basis.

"I am so pleased to be part of the AUSTSWIM team. I absolutely love teaching this course and I keep meeting passionate and inspiring people with their own stories of adventure and bravery from every corner of the country."

AUSTSWIM has been in the aquatic industry for 39 years and recognises the value of aqua. We are committed to assist, guide and direct the promotion of this unique and effective physical activity to the industry, government and the general public.

In 2019 we aim to expand our team of presenters, enabling us to continue delivering quality aqua instructor courses and professional development and keep up with demand. A number of states have begun this process and we are excited by the range of possibilities that comes with having more passionate and knowledgeable presenters to share our message.

Passion for her role is something that Christine Naysmith certainly has, and her enthusiasm is sure to excite others to be part of a growing industry.

"I still feel very lucky to have a career that is so rewarding, fun and keeps me fit."









#### TEACHERS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

The Swim 4 Life holiday program provides AUSTSWIM Teachers with an opportunity to educate students throughout the school holidays in the ACT. Supported through the Federal Government funded 'Inland Waterways Drowning Prevention Project', there is no cost to participate in the program for children aged 4 to 12.

As well as sessions in the pool, the program includes sessions that are delivered in open water environments to provide children with a practical understanding of the risks associated with local lakes and rivers. The sessions focus on developing vital swimming and water safety skills such as safe entries and exits, breath control, floating, sculling, survival and lifejacket skills, basic rescues and safe behaviours in a range of aquatic environments.

Teachers Renee and Nora wanted to be involved in the program because it caters for the children who really need it. "This is why we completed the AUSTSWIM course, we wanted to be swim teachers and help those who are in real need."

"It really is so rewarding. It sounds cliché but every day when I walk away from that program I know we've made a difference in a few more lives."

AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

**Royal Life Saving ACT** 



Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety **ARTUR VASCONCELLOS** 

Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics YVONNE COURT

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion YOHANN FABRICE GOPAUL

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion – Adults

**TREVOR METTAM** 

**AUSTSWIM Agua Instructor KATHRYN JARVIS** 

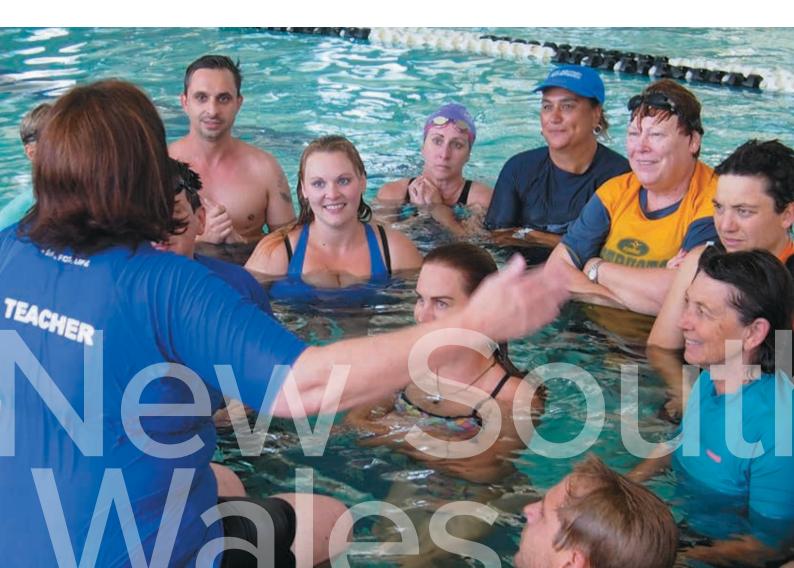
Recognised Swim Centre CISAC - CLUB SWIM











#### SWIM TEACHER MAKES AN ART OF BALANCING LIFE AND DISABILITY



On the face of it Carly Marchment-Supple has perfectly balanced life teaching swimming and water safety to youngsters in the warmer months and nurturing her artistic talents in the winter.

She is fulfilling two of her passions in life - but with a dedication and drive that cannot

fail to inspire. The mother of two – eight-year-old daughter Frankie and five-year-old son Cassidy – is doing it all as she battles the degenerative condition, Muscular Dystrophy.

"I have massive loss of movement in my arms and can be unstable on my feet," Carly said. "You never know when the wastes are going to occur. I know I'm going to continue to get worse as time goes by, but it's just a matter of adapting my life around it."

Carly's family has run the Crescent Head Aquatic Centre in the small northern New South Wales town since she was a child. She grew up watching and absorbing information as her father taught the town's youngsters to swim. "Because I'd been around the water most of my life, when I did my AUSTSWIM course when I was 19 I felt super confident and comfortable with it all. It really came naturally to me."

At that time, Carly was studying fine arts at Griffith University on the Gold Coast and teaching swimming was a holiday job for her. Now she teaches infants and children at the pool most afternoons in the warmer months and is also involved in school swimming programs with the Education Department.

"It's such a buzz teaching kids to swim, giving them something that they're going to have for the rest of their lives. It's such a good thing to do, especially if you're living in any kind of coastal town."

For Carly, the drive for swimming and water safety education comes from a personal near-drowning experience when she was about four years old. With her family she was visiting an unfamiliar pool – the water was deeper than the Crescent Head pool and the distance to the side was different.

"I just panicked and I nearly drowned," she said. "My brother pulled me out of the water, not knowing it was me until he got me out...although I could swim, when I was taken out of the environment I knew so well I forgot everything.

I still tell that story to kids, and teachers – it really shows you can never be complacent around water. The more information and education people have the better."

Returning to her teaching at the end of winter also improves Carly's health and wellbeing. "The water is really great, it's a kind of therapy for me, so I'm super fortunate that my job is what it is," she said.

After her father retired, her brother Mason took over the running of the Crescent Head Aquatic Centre and Carly's

children are continuing the family commitment to swimming and water safety education.

This includes helping Carly make the adjustments that enable her to live life to the full. A shining example of how she deals with her disability, Carly said daughter Frankie was at the pool when she taught and was often called on to help out with demonstrations.



#### AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

**Royal Life Saving NSW Department of Education NSW NSW Government** 



Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety LYNETTE WOODEN

Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics **HOPE DAWSON** 

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion **ALISON FEILEN** 

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion – Adults **PETRINA LIYANAGE** 

> AUSTSWIM Agua Instructor LESLEY RICHARDSON

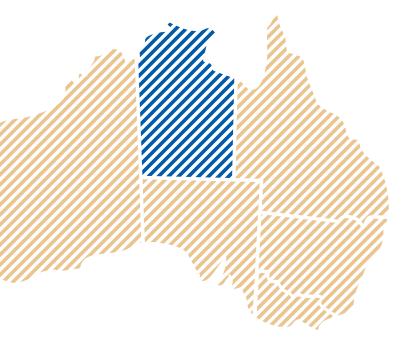
Presenter of the Year

**MONIQUE SNEDDON** 

Recognised Swim Centre

**AQUATICS DOWN UNDER** 

Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM **DIANE GRAY** 



## Northern **Territory**











#### TRAVELLING TADPOLE TOP OF THE TREE!

Travelling Tadpole Swim School's (TTSS) admirable contribution to water safety has seen them justifiably named as a joint recipient of the 2017 National AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centre Award.

The mobile swim school, based in Nhulunbuy, employs seven passionate individuals who work tirelessly to teach swimming and water safety to people of all ages in the remote East Arnhem region.

TTSS works with schools and community groups across the top end of Australia, undaunted by logistical complications, such as covering large distances and lack of resources/facilities.

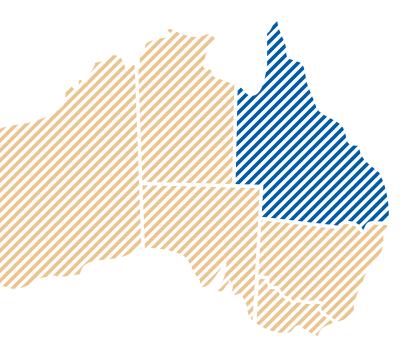
The importance of providing an AUSTSWIM presence in such a remote area cannot be understated, and TTSS go above and beyond by delivering culturally sensitive and relevant programs, while ensuring staff training and professional development is always available.

AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

**Royal Life Saving NT** 







## Queensland









#### **AUSTSWIM MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT IN FAR NORTH** QUEENSLAND

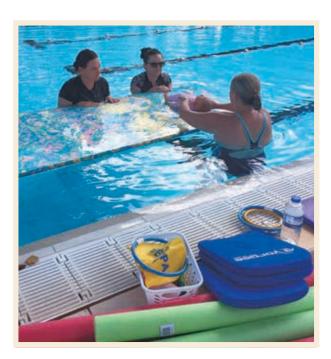
The presence of an AUSTSWIM Presenter in small remote communities is immediate, everyone knows there is a new person in town and for Lisa Rolls this meant being greeted as the "Lady from AUSTSWIM" in the grocery store in Weipa, North Queensland.

"It is amazing in these small remote towns, even before getting into a pool, there is an incredible welcoming feeling and you honestly feel very special and are treated so well," Lisa said about her visits to Weipa and Cooktown in FNQ.

While the immediate impact is more personal, the lasting impact on the community has been incredible. From the initial visit in Weipa an AUSTSWIM Teacher from the local community has started a Swim School at the local aquatic centre.

"This swim school has given the teacher a real purpose and chance to use her experience and has also provided the local mums with an opportunity to contribute and teach children water safety. The community is working together to help save lives," Lisa said.

Some of the locals have continued their aquatic learning and have become pool lifeguards and agua instructors, providing employment opportunities and adding to



the impact the AUSTSWIM Presenter visit had to the community.

It was a similar experience for Lisa in Cooktown which included her first experience in a 6-seater plane. Several candidates were from up to an hour away, being even more remote than Cooktown, further highlighting AUSTSWIM's work with rural and remote communities.

"A lot of the candidates in Cooktown were local school teachers who had not had the opportunity to receive aquatics training, so they were very appreciative of the fact that AUSTSWIM had made the effort to go to a remote area and provide industry leading qualifications and training," Lisa said.

While the local hospitality was incredible, Lisa had challenges to overcome as a presenter in these remote areas. This included windy and cool weather which required the teaching of some skills on dryland.

"I was also introduced to some of the local indigenous culture and language during my time in Weipa and Cooktown. The locals found my pronunciation of some of the words very entertaining," Lisa said with a smile.

The visits to these remote centres provide accredited AUSTSWIM Teachers for more schools and communities with tailored programs to meet the needs of the regions in remote FNQ. They have also added to the experience and enjoyment of being a part of the AUSTSWIM team for Lisa

"Thank you AUSTSWIM, in particular the QLD Business Centre, for the exposure to our country and the opportunity to deliver such a great product to the remote areas of our State and the wonderful characters that live there."



Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety
SHELLY CLARKE

Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics
SARAH NOBELIUS

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion
BELINDA STEPHENS

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion – Adults **LEESA LANGDON** 

AUSTSWIM Aqua Instructor
JULIE HUNTER

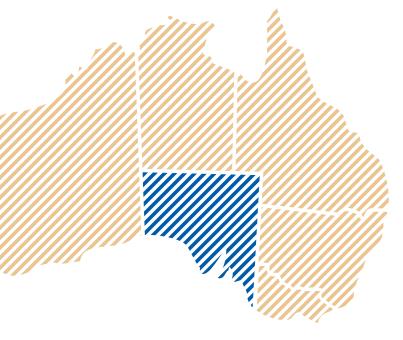
Presenter of the Year

CHRISTINE NAYSMITH

Recognised Swim Centre LOVE2SWIM SCHOOL

Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM
LYN O'BRIEN





## South **Australia**









#### iSwim INSPIRES IN 2017

Adelaide's Immanuel Sports and Aquatic Centre garnered the acclaim of the aquatic industry in 2017, deservedly named as a joint recipient of the 2017 National AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centre Award.

Sporting 52 teaching and coaching staff, iSwim work with AUSTSWIM to ensure all staff continually upskill their knowledge, skill and understanding of the teaching of swimming and water safety and also host AUSTSWIM courses and trainee teachers throughout the year.

All staff hand in hand selflessly align with local surf lifesaving clubs to improve water safety outside the lane rope. A nippers program to help surf swimmers develop open water skills was successfully run with youngsters

from West Beach, Henley Beach, Glenelg, Somerton and Seaford surf lifesaving clubs attending.

Additionally, the centre is generously sponsoring a party of Congolese girls from the West Beach Surf Lifesaving Club to receive swimming and water safety classes, following the tragic drowning of a Congolese family of three in Glenelg in 2016.

AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

SA Government -Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing **SA** Department of Education







### Tasmania









#### WHO KNOWS WHERE YOUR **AUSTSWIM LICENCE CAN TAKE YOU**

Amongst the sunshine, the children's laughter and the then unknown crazy camp songs, stood a very excited, very ambitious Australian AUSTSWIM Teacher, Nell Kay. She had finally arrived in America to start her job as a swim teacher at Camp Ton-a-Wandah in North Carolina. A job that would see her living and working with campers and fellow counselors from around the world for some 9 weeks.

Nell, now 22, who first attended camp in 2016 and returned this year, is a strong advocate of the summer camp cultural exchange experience and swim teaching in general. Camp Counselors USA recently met up with Nell and she was more than happy to boast about her summers abroad by taking us back to where it all began.





"Becoming an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety was a natural progression for me as I always had a strong passion for water activities and working with children and swim teaching was a job that I could fit around my schooling".

Starting out as a swim teacher at "Friends Health & Fitness" in Hobart, she never thought it would lead her all the way to the USA where she worked her way up to be the Head of Waterfront at her camp.

"My AUSTSWIM training and experience has been invaluable during my work at camp! It enabled me to help maintain an engaging and safe waterfront environment for over 200 campers each session. Camps love hiring AUSTSWIM Teachers because our accreditation is recognised by the American Camping Association (ACA) as equivalent, if not better, than the American WSI!"

"I was in charge of lifeguard rostering and overseeing the swim, canoe, paddleboard and kayaking programs, running camp swim meets as well as other staff responsibilities related to water front activities."

"During the summer I was able to add to my Australian qualifications by gaining the American Red Cross (ARC) Lifeguard Certificate".

Nell highly recommends this experience to anyone who loves working with kids, is up for a challenge and wants to experience the USA in a unique way and make new lifelong friends from around the world. She vouches for AUSTSWIM Teachers by saying, "they are generally the exact type of person who excels in a summer camp environment."

Why not join Nell and hundreds of fellow Aussies at camp for the summer of 2019?

CCUSA work with 1000 camps across the USA where there is a very high demand for water front staff. As such AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers are eligible for a special 5% discount off the Camp Counselors USA 2019 program fee.

### AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

**Royal Life Saving TAS** 



Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety
STACEY BENSON

Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics **EMMA LAWRANCE** 

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion – Adults **DON KEATING** 

Recognised Swim Centre
LAUNCESTON SWIM SCHOOL













#### WORKING WITH FELLOW PEAK BODIES

AUSTSWIM continues to work with aquatic facilities, peak industry organisations and partners throughout the state, setting the industry standard for swimming and water safety. While displayed every day through AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers throughout the state, the impact of this work extends well-beyond Victoria.

Victoria was the location for an extensive two-week Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Fellowship Program with Lifesaving Victoria (LSV) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for 13 female leaders from Sri Lanka. An important element of this internationally recognised training program included an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course.

AUSTSWIM was invited by Lifesaving Victoria to deliver the two-day AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety course which was completed at the Dandenong Oasis Swim Centre.

The 13 female leaders were from several organisations including community aquatic centres in Sri Lanka and the two-days with AUSTSWIM played a key role in the goal to increase female representation in community aquatic education and employment in Sri Lanka.

Returning home, the leaders have a confirmed pathway, an increase in swimming and water safety knowledge, skills and understanding and an incredible drive to make a difference to help prevent drowning and improve water safety in Sri Lanka.

#### AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

Tullberg Aquatics
Geelong Aquatic Centre



Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety **EMMA PENDLEBURY** 

Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics
KARINA PALMER

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion

AMANDA MAHER

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion – Adults

MONA MUSTAFA

AUSTSWIM Aqua Instructor

Presenter of the Year

SIMONE GRIFFIN

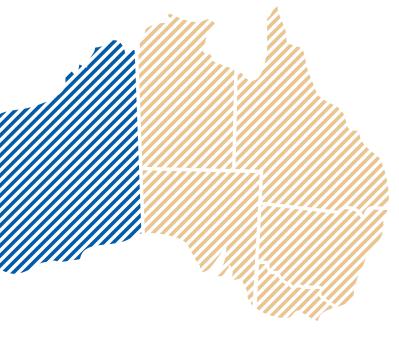
Recognised Swim Centre

JUMP! SWIM SCHOOLS PAKENHAM

Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM

CAROL CROFTS





## Western **Australia**









#### REGIONAL RENDEZVOUS IN THE WEST

AUSTSWIM is proud to have made their presence felt in Western Australia over the last 12 months, offering a diverse range of courses and workshops throughout the state

In October 2017, masterclass specialist Leigh Nugent made his first appearance in regional Western Australia, running a successful AUSTSWIM Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes course and masterclass over a weekend in Karratha.

It was great to see candidates from around the region taking part in the joint effort offered by AUSTSWIM and Swimming Western Australia.

#### **ROCKING THE REGIONS**

As part of their Indigenous funding, AUSTSWIM were also able to make an appearance in Marble Bar to work with the Warralong community, teaming up with Ngurra Kujungka to continue teacher training in the north.

AUSTSWIM visited Nullagine in March of this year to assess and investigate water safety in local waterways. AUSTSWIM offered training to community members, educating them on water safety and survival skills in their local area.

AUSTSWIM was also extremely excited to make its first presence in Onslow, a small coastal community in far north Western Australia. Using regional and remote funding, AUSTSWIM ran its first course in Onslow in December 2017.

Following this, AUSTSWIM put on a showcase in Kununurra, offering Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety, Infant and Preschool Aquatics and Adults courses as part of the same funding scheme.

#### COLLABORATION

AUSTSWIM collaborated with a range of aquatic groups to deliver a roadshow to regional communities across the state throughout 2018. Planning started in October 2017 with assistance provided by Swimming Western Australia, Royal Life Western Australia, the Department of Education, Water Polo Western Australia, Diving Western Australia, Triathlon Western Australia and Synchro Western Australia.

Planning and preparation of the roadshow was supported by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

#### AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

**Royal Life Saving WA Department of Education WA Edith Cowan University** 











AUSTSWIM is an active member of International Life Saving, and in October 2017 this involved supporting and presenting on a global stage at the World Drowning Prevention Conference in Vancouver, Canada. This provided a platform to highlight AUSTSWIM's best practice in swimming and water safety education as well as outlining our international programs and strategic alliances with global volunteer, private and not for profit organisations around the world.

It is a devastating statistic that 372,000 people die every year from drowning and that 90% of these deaths occur in low and middle-income countries.

AUSTSWIM is committed to working with the World Health Organisation (WHO), International Life Saving (ILS) and other world water safety organisations to impact on the reduction of fatal and non-fatal drowning on an international platform. The WHO Global Report on Drowning identifies 10 actions to prevent drowning, one of

66 Drowning rates in low and middle-income countries are over three times higher than in high-income countries >>

which, "Teach school age children basic swimming, water safety and safe rescue skill", is a focus for AUSTSWIM in the international program which enables school children to gain vital water safety education from AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers.

Through the recognised world class courses, AUSTSWIM course delivery and presenter training continued in eight countries outside Australia. As part of this international program, a partnership has been established with a local provider in each country.

COUNTRY	PROVIDER
China	Aquatic Education International (AEI) and Mookey Swim China
Hong Kong	Aquatic Education Hong Kong
India	Winning Matters
Malaysia	Tullberg Aquatics
New Zealand	New Zealand Recreation Association
Singapore	Tullberg Aquatics
United Arab Emirates	Australian International Swim Schools (AISS)
Vietnam	Swim Vietnam and Water Safety Vietnam

In India, New Zealand and Vietnam we have established many local AUSTSWIM Presenters who are working with the next generation trainees.

In addition to this support, AUSTSWIM helps address skill shortages for travel work/volunteer holiday opportunities, including Camp USA and Vietnam Volunteer swimming and water safety programs.

#### **KEY RISK FACTORS**

Poor swim skills and low awareness of water dangers are a drowning risk, as well as lack of barriers controlling exposure to water bodies and lack of adequate, close supervision for infants and young children.





### The Difference

#### AUSTRALIAN TECHNIQUES TO PAVE THE WAY IN INDIA



The concept of life saving and water safety go hand in hand with Australian culture, but in places such as India, this isn't always the case.

However, there potential for this to change, thanks to the actions of trailblazers such as Niroop and Satya. The two Indian nationals have this

vear completed their surf bronze in Coogee, NSW and also a two-week tour of Tasmania in order to bolster their coaching and water safety experience.

Ceri Weeks. AUSTSWIM Presenter and Indian correspondent, worked with both men back in India in 2013, and believes their trip to Australia has greatly improved their abilities to make a difference back home.

"They are really keen to keep developing Indian swimming, they have taken it upon themselves. The idea of them coming down here (Tasmania) was to gain some more teaching experience, view some of the programs that we have here, both large and small," Weeks said.

After working with surf lifesaver Doug Hawkins in Coogee, the two worked with the South Esk Swimming Club, Launceston Aquatic Club, as well as the Launceston Swim School

#### 66 Males are twice as likely to drown as females ??

After that, Niroop and Satya travelled to Hobart, and then to the east coast, to experience different conditions and teaching methods.

"These guys have instigated a nippers club over in India, but they need some more guidance. Doug Hawkins has been once before and given them some guidance, but it's better for them to come here and see how it's done in practice, then they can gain that experience and take that back."

Already establishing a surf lifesaving presence in Bangalore, developing skills is only half the battle.

Creating a culture in which surf lifesaving and water safety are respected, as well as raising traditional standards, are the next big steps, according to Weeks.

66 Globally over half of all drowning deaths are among those aged under 25 vears ??

"They are getting the opportunities to see how things can be done differently, so that they can try to change the culture about how things are done.

Even me running courses over there, I noticed that it's nearly all men, and coming here, they've noticed that there are lifeguards, life savers and coaches that are women.

It's not a very well respected industry over there, and not many people want to do it, because it's a poorly paid job.

The other thing they noticed was the standard, just doing the bronze course, they said it was really hard, it's just hard compared to the standard over there," Weeks said.

Among her many responsibilities, Weeks runs AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety courses and also trains presenters.

With five AUSTSWIM recognised swim centres already operating in India, the next initiative is to create greater flow and access between India and Australia.

"We are looking at getting AUSTSWIM Teachers and Presenters to volunteer over there (India), and get some exchanges going.

We want to be welcoming presenters over from India, and vice versa, there could be any number of Australian teachers that are happy to volunteer and go over, that's something we really want to get going," Weeks said.

"It was great for me to be able to experience their country, and it's great to be able to have them here, because they really want to come. It's nice for me because they want to come and to see me, and to have that two-way communication "





#### NEW PARTNERSHIP IN NEW ZEALAND

AUSTSWIM and Swimming New Zealand have joined forces to provide a single training qualification for people wanting to become a teacher of swimming and water safety in New Zealand.

Having previously worked with the New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) for the delivery of AUSTSWIM courses in New Zealand, the partnership will ensure a wider coverage of courses will be available across New Zealand, opening up opportunities for the swimming and water safety community.

AUSTSWIM thanks NZRA for their ongoing support in the delivery of courses on behalf of AUSTSWIM and for their role in working with AUSTSWIM and Swimming New Zealand to develop the new partnership that is designed to benefit the New Zealand swimming community.

#### AUSTSWIM acknowledges the continued contribution from:

**New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA)** Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) **Swimming New Zealand (SNZ)** 



Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety **JENI TAMBOER** 

Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics **KIRSTIE NASH** 

Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion **HELEN VANN** 

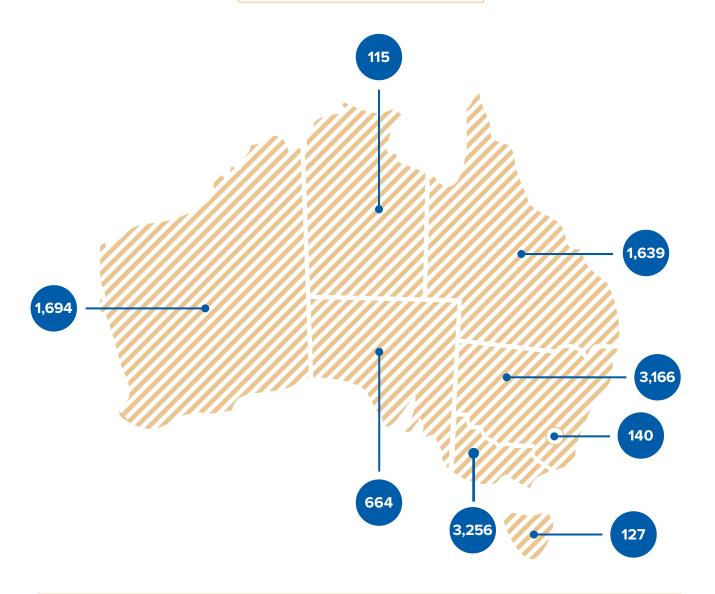
> Presenter of the Year **LISA STOVE**

Recognised Swim Centre YMCA AUCKLAND

Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM KARLA MCCAUGHAN

## **Australian Statistics**

TOTAL ENROLMENTS



TOTAL	3,166	664	1,694	1,639	3,256	127	115	140	10,801
WETS	66	17	17	31	82	0	11	0	224
TCS	223	47	81	106	166	0	13	5	641
ADULT	30	0	21	23	17	0	0	0	91
TAI	147	33	29	71	155	12	11	4	462
INF	433	85	137	245	456	19	15	13	1,403
TSW	2,267	482	1,409	1,163	2,380	96	65	118	7,980
	NSW	SA	WA	QLD	VIC	TAS	NT	ACT	TOTAL

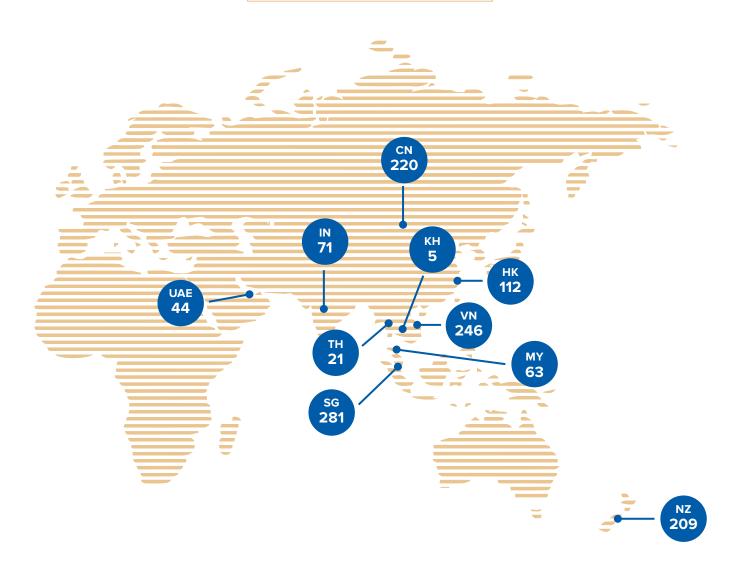
TSWTeacher of Swimming and Water Safety™INFTeacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics™TAITeacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion™

**ADULT** Teacher of Adults

TCS Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes
WETS AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor

# **International Statistics**

TOTAL ENROLMENTS



	New Zealand	Singapore	Malaysia	India	Vietnam	Dubai	China	Hong Kong	Cambodia	Thailand	Total
	NZ	SG	MY	IN	VN	UAE	CN	НК	КН	TH	
TSW	159	200	57	65	218	37	126	82	5	21	970
INF	13	51	6	6	9	3	89	19	0	0	196
TAI	10	13	0	0	19	4	0	0	0	0	46
ADULT	Г О	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
TCS	0	14	0	0	0	0	5	11	0	0	30
WETS	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
TOTAL	. 209	281	63	71	246	44	220	112	5	21	1,272

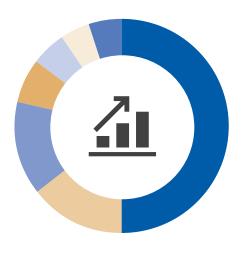
Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety™ INF Teacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics™ TAI Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion  $^{\scriptscriptstyle{\text{TM}}}$  **ADULT** Teacher of Adults

TCS Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes WETS AUSTSWIM WETS Aqua Instructor

# **Funding Our Work**

# INCOME

Other		5%
Sales of Education Resour	ces & Merchandise	4%
Conferences		5%
Course Provider Levy Fee	S	7%
Teacher Renewals		14%
Government Grants		15%
AUSTSWIM Delivered Cou	ırses	50%



- AUSTSWIM Delivered Courses
- Government Grants
- Teacher Renewals
- Course Provider Levy Fees

- Conferences
- Sales of Education Resources & Merchandise
- Other

# EXPENDITURE

TOTAL	\$4,923,035
Other	21%
Marketing	3%
Depreciation & Ammortisation	4%
Information Technology	4%
Conferences	7%
Insurance	8%
Presenters & Coordinators	14%
Employment	39%



- Employment
- Presenters & Coordinators
- Insurance
- Conferences

- Information Technology
- Depreciation & Ammortisation
- Marketing
- Other

# **Meeting Demand**

#### LEADING WOMEN TO LOVE THE WATER

AUSTSWIM Teacher Fadila Chafic is struggling to keep up with demand for the ladies only swimming and water safety classes she has recently started in South West Sydney.

Earlier this year Fadila featured in an SBS news story about a European Human Rights Court ruling that a Muslim family in Switzerland must allow their two daughters to attend mixed swimming lessons. The SBS news crew identified her for the story when they found her shopping for Muslim swimwear.

But she said segregation was not a big issue in her usual five days a week teaching schedule at the Blue Water Swim School and Roselands Aquatic Centre.

"The children have no issues about being in mixed classes and everyone realises we are living in Australia, surrounded by water, so swimming and water safety is really important."

However, older women do prefer segregated classes so Fadila decided to set up Saturday evening classes for them. At the moment she runs two classes with five participants, both Muslim and non-Muslim, in each.

"A lot of the older ladies (in Arab communities) weren't allowed to swim when they were children," Fadila said. "It's really great to see them in the water and gaining confidence."

Fadila, 26, who has been an AUSTSWIM Licensed Teacher for 10 years, developed her love of water as a child.

"We would do squad training as children. Mum would always send us to three lessons a week, and that's where my love began."

As well as her ladies only classes Fadila teaches children of all ages, including her daughter Taaleen, 4, and son Ibrahim, 3.

"I love when you have a student that doesn't quite get something, and you work on that skill and they finally get it and it just lights up in their face," she said. "It just brings absolute joy that you've actually brought that to them."

Although not part of an official CALD program, Fadila's work is a great testament to the success of truly inclusive teaching for all groups in the community.

Fadila is planning to continue her professional development and complete the AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics – Access and Inclusion course.





# **Education Departments**



AUSTSWIM acknowledges and congratulates our national education departments for their ability to adapt and structure swimming and water safety education within a crowded school curriculum. Regardless of delivery methodology we are proud that AUSTSWIM with our ISO 17024 accreditation is acknowledged and recognised as an appropriate quality teacher training provider for the education sector. We look forward to continuing our interaction, engagement and support within the sector.

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES (NSW)**

The longstanding joint commitment between NSW Department of Education and AUSTSWIM has continued to grow with over 500 AUSTSWIM Teachers delivering classes to 115,000 children in 1,410 schools as a part of the Department's program.

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA (SA)

The South Australian Department of Education and Child Development employs approximately 450 AUSTSWIM Teachers annually.

More than 85,000 students from Department schools access the general swimming based water safety program, with over 125,000 students accessing the total program which includes surf education and aquatics.

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA (WA)

The Western Australian Department of Education's Swimming and Water Safety Interm and VacSwim programs continue to be highly effective, and both of which are well regarded by schools, parents and the general community.

The Interm school program utilised the professional services of 2.172 AUSTSWIM Teachers to enhance learning outcomes for 177,878 students across 300 sites.

The VacSwim program appointed 1,310 AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety who presented lessons to 56,072 children in 389 locations throughout Western Australia.

We congratulate the Department as it approaches 100 years of delivering water safety programs in Western Australia.

The AUSTSWIM 'Soak It Up' King Neptune Conference was a buzz in 2017 with the WA Department of Education supporting 200 AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers with their ongoing professional development by subsidising their attendance. Many of the DoE attendees had never been to an AUSTSWIM conference and found the experience to be extremely beneficial.

# TASMANIA (TAS)

Each year a two week swimming and water safety program is presented to middle and senior primary school students. Lessons are provided by 118 AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety.

The mandatory program is organised centrally with 15,000 students many subsidised through government support, across 159 schools.

# **NORTHERN TERRITORY (NT)**

The NT Department of Education promotes safer aquatic participation and structured school swimming and water safety programs based on skill development and assesses student ability. Schools are strongly encouraged to provide opportunities for all early childhood, primary and middle year students to participate in a Swimming and Water Safety Program.

The NT Department of Education values the high-quality training and licensing of AUSTSWIM Teachers who deliver the RLSSA Swim and Survive Program.

# Research

## DRIVING INNOVATION WITH EDITH COWAN

Leading Higher Education Provider Edith Cowan University (ECU) is well known in terms of conducting educational research so it was no surprise when they were chosen by AUSTSWIM to collaborate and strengthen the teacher training process and quality assessment system in a joint research project.

The 18-month research project is led by ECU Professor Dawn Penney who believes that "If we are looking to reduce the drowning statistics, quality education is an important issue, and ensuring that it starts with teacher training." Professor Penney says "The focus of the research is to assist AUSTSWIM achieve excellence in their training of teachers of swimming and water safety. AUSTSWIM understands that parents who entrust their children's tuition to an AUSTSWIM Licensed Teacher expect the highest level of quality and are committed to delivering on this."

The research project has completed the first 2 phases over the past 12 months, being a full review of existing practices and evaluation as well as extensive stakeholder consultation by surveys, interviews and focus groups to ensure current and future needs of industry are being met.

#### PHASE 1

Focuses on the strengths and limitations of: AUSTSWIM's current presenter training (online and practically based) and assessment; and AUSTSWIM's current systems and processes to support ongoing appraisal and professional learning and assure sustained quality across the presenter network – from the perspective of presenters and other stakeholders.

#### PHASE 2

Involves the presenters and stakeholders exploring targeted changes to training, assessment, appraisal and professional learning to enhance system-wide quality of teaching. It reflects a shared commitment to empowering practitioners and supporting professional learning through research.

All aspects of course training and delivery have been considered with some innovations and enhancements to the program trialled in a Presenter Training program in Sydney in February. There are further trials scheduled for Auckland in September 2018 and in Australia in early 2019.

The research program will have broader implications on aquatic education training with Professor Penney presenting the interim findings at the International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education (AIESEP) annual conference being held in Edinburgh, Scotland in July 2018 on behalf of AUSTSWIM.

Achieving a new and improved training model backed

by sound research and decision making underpins AUSTSWIM's commitment to quality education for generations to come.







# Quality

#### COMMITMENT STANDARDS

AUSTSWIM is committed to maintaining the highest industry standards, educating teachers to teach people to respect water and provide a positive, fun and memorable experience. This commitment extends to the private, commercial and local government pools who apply to become an AUSTSWIM Recognised Swim Centre.

Ongoing research, and additional research in conjunction with the aquatics industry and tertiary institutions, ensure AUSTSWIM retains the position of a leader in the industry with best practice guidelines in line with community expectations.

This position is supported by independent assessments by the Joint Accreditation Scheme-Australia & New Zealand (JAS-ANZ) against the ISO 17024 standard. This accreditation followed an ISO audit and confirmed AUSTSWIM is a professional body that acts with integrity

when training, assessing and certifying teachers of swimming and water safety.

ISO 17024 acknowledges that AUSTSWIM undertakes its business in an authoritative and impartial way in all areas including:

- · Staff structure
- Governance
- Strategic Planning
- Industry consultation.

AUSTSWIM is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) working within and complying with federal government legislative requirements. The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) ensures compliance within this sector through regular reporting, reviews and independent auditing.



AUSTSWIM and Royal Life Saving NT partner to provide increased AUSTSWIM services to regional and remote areas of the Northern Territory. The project aims to ensure that courses are run in regional and remote locations for small numbers throughout the territory. Running courses in more locations saves participants in transport and accommodation costs.

The courses can be customised to assist indigenous people to become AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety to assist in the local communities. In 2017/18 the number of rural and remote courses represented 50% of all AUSTSWIM courses conducted in the Northern Territory. This funding support has assisted in the success of the mentoring program which is important for the teaching of water safety in the communities.

#### AUSTSWIM DEVELOPING THE NORTH

The AUSTSWIM Developing the North funding aims to provide the opportunity for members of remote communities to be mentored through the AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety and AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics courses. Royal Life Saving NT has been working with local AUSTSWIM Licensed Teachers in Batchelor and Katherine to successfully establish swim schools in the community. This has been achieved through the Little Royal Swim School in both communities. Ongoing and consistent mentoring for the teachers of swimming and water safety has been a high priority in ensuring the successful development of the swim schools. Tennant Creek are in the progress of establishing a swim school.

# NATIONAL COUNCIL

**CHAIRMAN** 

John Rigby

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** 

Jennifer Schembri-Portelli (July 2017-March 2018)

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY** 

Rebecca Kelley

**NEW SOUTH WALES** 

Bill Meaney

**NORTHERN TERRITORY** 

Floss Roberts

**QUEENSLAND** 

**Bradley Low** 

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA** 

Rae Szulawa

**TASMANIA** 

Ceri Weeks

**VICTORIA** 

Kath Thom

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA** 

Gary Shaw

**AUSTRALIAN LEISURE FACILITIES ASSOCIATION** 

(ALFA)

Graeme Stephenson

**ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY -AUSTRALIA** 

Penny Larsen

**SWIMMING AUSTRALIA** LIMITED

Kym McMahon

**SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA** 

April Ryan

YMCA AUSTRALIA

Melinda Crole

WATER SAFETY NEW ZEALAND

Jonty Mills

LIFE MEMBERS

**QUEENSLAND** 

John Kane Gwen Welford

Colin Purdy

**TASMANIA** 

Bill Stewart

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA** 

Ken Richter Rae Szulawa **VICTORIA** 

John Gregson (dec.) John Kilpatrick

Len Willmer

Ted Tullberg

Meredith King

**NEW SOUTH WALES** 

Kirk Marks Justin Scarr **WESTERN AUSTRALIA** 

Geoff Hayes (dec.) Brian Blanksby lain MacWilliam (dec.)

F E L L O W S

**QUEENSLAND** 

Pat Hallagan

**VICTORIA** 

Peter Meaney Clive Patrickson Helen Wheatley **NEW SOUTH WALES** 

Pam Barrie Kirk Marks Dawn Prowse Ruth Arnold Jon Donohoe

Phil Vanny

**TASMANIA** 

John Rigby Betty Parssey

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA** 

Graeme Lange

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA** 

Peter Conochie

# **National Board**

#### **JOHN RIGBY**

has been chairperson of the Board of Directors and National Council since March 2011. In his long and successful career with the Tasmanian Education Department, John notably headed up the department's highly regarded Swimming and Water Safety Program. He has been involved with AUSTSWIM since its inception and was an active contributor to our first resources, "Teaching Swimming and Water Safety the Australian Way". A keen sailor, John has also been a long term member and Commodore of the Montrose Bay Yacht Club. With his partner Lyn he is looking forward to travelling Australia in their fifth wheeler.

#### **BILL MEANEY**

is the National Council representative for New South Wales and a Board member. He has extensive knowledge of aquatic and fitness centre management. As Manager of Recreation Facilities at Leichhardt and Inner West councils, Bill has overseen the development of the local venue from a traditional council swimming pool to a vibrant and highly successful multi-purpose aquatic, swim and fitness centre. He brings to the Board a strong background in finance. Bill also actively works in a voluntary capacity with Surf Life Saving NSW.

#### **GARY SHAW**

#### Re-appointed March 2018

is the Western Australia representative on the National Council. Gary returned to the Board in March 2018 after previously being a director from 2006-2017. Gary's involvement with AUSTSWIM started in 1989 when he joined the WA Council as the WA Department of Education representative. Since 2002 he has been Chairman of the AUSTSWIM Advisory Committee in WA, successfully steering the organisation through challenging times. In 2017, Gary was awarded Life Membership of AUSTSWIM for his outstanding and selfless contribution to quality improvement, good governance and, above all, making Australians safer in, on and around water.

#### **JONTY MILLS**

#### **Appointed March 2018**

Chief Executive Officer of Water Safety New Zealand with a specialist background in strategic communications and stakeholder management. Previously the BP Oil New Zealand Senior Executive Communications and External Affairs, and with more than 20 years' experience in communications, leadership, operations and business development roles.

Jonty brings expertise in stakeholder management to CEO and ministerial level with a blend of private and public sector experience. An articulate presenter who has developed sound business and commercial acumen at strategic level through 21 years experience with one of New Zealand's highest profile, most forward thinking and successful organisations.

#### **ANNETTE (FLOSS) ROBERTS**

#### Retired March 2018

is the Northern Territory representative on the National Council. Executive Director of Royal Life Saving Society NT, she has a wealth of knowledge and experience in regional and remote training, indigenous communities and drowning prevention strategies. She has presented at the World Conference on Drowning Prevention, this being testament to her ongoing commitment to learning and sharing in this area. Annette has a broad understanding and appreciation of Vocational Educational Training and AUSTSWIM activities at all levels and contributed as a Director and continues as a Councillor, Presenter and Teacher.

#### **MELINDA CROLE**

# Retired March 2018

is CEO of YMCA Australia. Melinda has a long history with the YMCA, as a local Association CEO and as Executive Manager of Licensing and Movement Development. She is passionate about child protection and ensuring that children and young people have every opportunity to reach their full potential. Melinda provided the board with significant skills and experience in organisational development and corporate governance as well as the intricacies of a national, multi-facetted organisation.

# **Organisation Chart**





#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jennifer Schembri-Portelli (to March 2018) Colin Organ (Interim CEO)



**GENERAL MANAGER OPERATIONS** 

Jared Wilson

▶ QLD BUSINESS CENTRE

MANAGER - Sandra Mansfield CSO – Amy Hipwood **EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT** COORDINATOR - Tamara Price

NSW BUSINESS CENTRE

MANAGER — Shana Pawlak CSO - Connor Grant EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR – Robyn Larkham CASUAL CSO - Jacquelyn Wynd CASUAL CSO – Elissa Rowston

► SA BUSINESS CENTRE

MANAGER - Sarah Gale **EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT** COORDINATOR – Annette Chatterton

**► WA BUSINESS CENTRE** 

MANAGER - Sue Warner CSO – Alex Warner CASUAL CSO - Karin Kellu

▶ VIC/TAS BUSINESS CENTRE

MANAGER – Krysti Mirabella CSO – Darcy Hampton (to February 2018) Sheridan Wright (from February 2018) **EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT** COORDINATOR - Kirsten Kruse

**SUB AGENTS** 

ACT Royal Life Saving Society NT Royal Life Saving Society New Zealand Recreation Association International Providers

GENERAL MANAGER **BUSINESS & STRATEGY** 

Colin Organ

ACCOUNTANT

Stella Chen

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

Muditha Wijesinghe Grace Liu

**BUSINESS SYSTEMS** MANAGER

Warren Curnow

**▶** BUSINESS SYSTEMS COORDINATOR

Christina Lange Portelli

GENERAL MANAGER **EDUCATION &** COMMUNICATIONS

Craig Halliday

MARKETING & **EVENTS MANAGER** 

Jade Hanson

► CSO & ACCREDITATION Hayley Aldred

**CSO & RENEWALS** 

Shae Denny

► CSO & PROJECTS

Jessica Adkins-Barber

CASUAL CSO Rebecca Andrews

RTO COMPLIANCE

OFFICER Unnati Shah (from April 2018) NATIONAL COUNCIL

Chairman

Chief Executive Officer

Australian Capital Territory

New South Wales

Northern Territory

Queensland

South Australia

Tasmania

Western Australia

Australian Leisure Facilities Association (ALFA)

Royal Life Saving Society -

Swimming Australia Limited

Surf Life Saving Australia

YMCA Australia

Water Safety New Zealand



# Committees

#### AUSTSWIM ADVISORY & ACCREDITATION

AUSTSWIM's Advisory Committees reflect the collaborative approach the organisation takes in working with and for the aquatic industry.

The Advisory Committees are a forum of professionals bringing stakeholders together in a setting where sharing, advising and providing feedback helps shape AUSTSWIM to service, enhance, advocate and support skilled aquatic personnel in

We thank all the Advisory Committee members for continually volunteering their time to attend meetings and efficiently work on projects and events. Their dedication immeasurably improves and enhances AUSTSWIM's effectiveness.

#### **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

Nick Cox - Chair Lyn McDermott Lucette King Roz Neville Floss Roberts

#### **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

Rebecca Kelley - Chair Sport & Recreation,

Economic Development,

**ACT Government** 

Ben Cuttriss YMCA

Cherry Bailey Royal Life Saving ACT (RLSACT) Kathryn Blackman AIS Aquatic & Fitness Centre John Williams University of Canberra Emma Taber Education Directorate,

**ACT Government** 

Alison Green Independent Industry

Consultant

Nicole Lloyd Royal Life Saving ACT (RLSACT)

# **NEW SOUTH WALES**

We would like to thank Peter Tomlin, Department of Education & Communities and Louise Cooke, Surf Life Saving NSW, for their contributions as members of the NSW Advisory Committee.

Bill Meaney - Chair Independent

Roz Neville Aquatic & Recreation Institute

NSW (ARI NSW)

Department of Education & **Lucette King** 

Communities

**Neil Sherring** Industry Consultant Heidi Sinanovski Office of Sport:

Sport & Recreation

Royal Life Saving Society NSW Kaye Wood

(RLSSNSW)

**Andrew Chan** Surf Life Saving NSW (SLSNSW)

Mark Heathcote Swimming NSW

# **NEW ZEALAND**

**Horst Meihe** Swim Gym & Chairperson Davin Bray CEO DPA Auckland Judy Tipping Belgravia Leisure Mark Blake Belgravia Leisure Karla McCaughan YMCA Auckland Sally Dobson AUSTSWIM Aotearoa **Rob Hewitt AUSTSWIM Aotearoa** 

Tracey Prince N7RA

**Esther Hone-Moore** AUSTSWIM Aotearoa

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY

Petina Franklin – Chair Central Australia Representative

Annette (Floss)

Roberts Secretary RLSS Rep/National

Councillor

Jared Wilson **MIMSTSIIA** 

Infants NT Government Jill Dowd

Vouchers

Rebecca Johnson Department of Education/

**ACHPER** 

Samantha Farrow Surf Life Saving NT (SLS NT)

Jasmine Chick YMCA Nathan Bye YMCA

Daniel Gerlach Swim Dynamics Swim School/

Swim School member Access

and Inclusion

Wayne Van Sambeek Royal Life Saving Society NT

(RLSSNT)

(Retired - From December 2017)

Stephen Gazzola Remote Indigenous Teacher

Swimming and Water Safety

Rebecca Gawne Royal Life Saving Society NT

(RLSSNT) Rep Delivery

Agreement/ Secretary/Training

John Mitchell Swimming Northern Territory **Naomi Briggs** Alice Springs Aquatic Leisure

Centre Representative

#### **QUEENSLAND**

We would like to thank, Michael Darben, Royal Life Saving Society Queensland and Bradley Low, (Chair) Independent, for their contributions as members of the QLD Advisory Committee.

Bradley Low - Chair Independent

Ken Chandler Australian Leisure Facilities

Association Queensland

(ALFAQ)

Alina Graham AUSTSWIM Presenter/

Coordinator

Marcelle

Renforth-Frederick AUSTSWIM Presenter/

Coordinator

Department of Education, Steven Murray

Training and The Arts

Col Purdy Life Member **Gwen Welford** Life Member

Paul Barry Royal Life Saving Society

Queensland (RLSSQ)

John Brennan Surf Life Saving Queensland

(SLSQ)

YMCA Queensland **Sharyn Element** 

#### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

We would like to thank Anita Blackmore. Denise Power. Lee Patterson, Leanne Beames and Laura Chamings for their contributions as members of the SA Advisory Committee and Rae Szulawa for her contribution as Chair who remains as a member.

Rae Szulawa – Chair (Retired – From June 2018)

Maurice Phillips – Chair (From June 2018)

Royal Lifesaving SA (RLSSA)

Department of Education and **Peter Roberts** 

Child development

Belinda Schiphorst Surf Lifesaving SA (SLSSA)

**Ann Price AUSTSWIM Presenter** 

Carol Veldhuyzen AUSTSWIM Presenter / iSwim

School manager

Samantha Wharton YMCA SA

Anita Blackmore (Retired – From December 2017)

Denise Power (Retired – From July 2017) Lee Patterson (Retired – From July 2017)

#### **TASMANIA**

Ceri Weeks - Chair Independent

John Rigby

- National Chair Independent

Wendy Cracknell Department of Education Stacey Aldous Freedom Health & Wellness **Lindy Crack** Launceston Swim School Paula Robertson Royal Life Saving Society Australia Tasmania (RLSST)

Rachel Brennemo

(nee Rickards) St Michael's Collegiate

**Denise Palmer** YMCA Hobart Philip Venables YMCA Hobart

## **VICTORIA**

Katherine Thom - Chair City of Yarra

Kate Simpson

- Deputy Chair Lifesaving Victoria

**Carol Crofts** Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre **Debbie Gill** VIC Course Provider/Presenter/

Geelong Aquatic

YMCA Janelle Falkingham

Karen Franceschini **AUSTSWIM Presenter** Kirsten Kruse AUSTSWIM VIC & TAS -Education & Partnerships

VIC Course Provider/Presenter/ **Ted Tullberg** 

**Tullberg Aquatics** 

Kemp Aquatics/AUSTSWIM Jean Kemp

Regional Coord/Presenter

Michelle Young Belgravia Leisure Julia Wood Peninsula Leisure

# **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

We would like to thank Nolene Usher, AUSTSWIM Teachers Association and Fran Wood, Department of Education WA, for their contributions as members of the WA Advisory Committee.

Gary Shaw - Chair Independent

**Gaye Curtis AUSTSWIM Teachers** 

Association

**Liam Smyth** Department of Education WA Kay Cox Masters Swimming WA Trent Hotchkin Royal Life Saving Society -Western Australia (RLSSWA)

Surf Life Saving Western

**David Sommers** 

Australia (SLSWA)

Julie-Anne Plummer Swim School Coordinators

Association of WA

Andrea Maeda Swimming WA Nat Benjanuvatra Tertiary Sector

(University of Western Australia)

Rohan Gunton Belgravia Leisure



# RECIPIENTS

# **2017 AUSTSWIM TEACHER OF** SWIMMING & WATER SAFETY™ AWARD

**Proudly Supported by Royal Life Saving** 

#### **ROBYNE MAY - SA**

AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Aquatics - Access & Inclusion • Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes



How long have you been teaching? 17 years.

## Why did you become a swimming teacher?

I loved swimming myself and gave my children

lessons and thought that swimming teaching could be something I would enjoy doing.

# Do you have any tips for other teachers?

Keep on learning from those teachers who are your mentors in your work place. Ask guestions and learn different drills and ways of teaching swimming. Use those ideas yourself.

# **2017 AUSTSWIM TEACHER OF INFANT** & PRESCHOOL AQUATICS™ AWARD

**Proudly Supported by Belgravia Leisure** 

#### **KRISTA PALMER - NSW**

AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics • Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion

# How long have you been teaching?

11 years.

# Why did you become a swimming teacher?

I love teaching little

children, I only teach the under 5's, they are so enthusiastic.

#### What do you enjoy most about teaching swimming?

Seeing the pride they have in themselves when they do something they didn't think they could do.

#### Do you have any tips for other teachers?

Have fun. The more fun you have, the more they trust you, and then they will do anything you ask.

# **2017 AUSTSWIM TEACHER OF AQUATICS** - ACCESS & INCLUSION™ AWARD

Proudly Supported by MATTIOLI

#### **ANNA JARMAN - TAS**

AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics • Teacher of Aquatics – Access & Inclusion

How long have you been teaching? About 5 years.

#### Why did you become a swimming teacher?

It was an accident really. I fell ill 6 years ago and a big part of my recovery was in

the water, I figured if I had to spend so much time in the water I may as well do something with that time. I didn't know at the time how much I would love teaching and seeing kids/people achieve fantastic things in the water!

#### What do you enjoy most about teaching swimming?

Watching someone struggle with stroke or movement and then after breaking down the movements with them seeing their sense of achievement and how chuffed they are with themselves. I love finding the steps to make something that seems complex easier by putting it into steps to follow.

#### Do you have any tips for other teachers?

Yes!!! Research! Watch other teachers, videos, check out other swim schools, listen to others professionals in parallel industry - including "new to the game" people. Things change and it's amazing what knowledge and ideas a younger person may have if they get the chance to have a voice.

# **2017 AUSTSWIM TEACHER** OF ADULTS AWARD

**Proudly Supported by Insurance Made Easy** 

#### JENNIFER FUHRMEISTER - VIC

AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Adults • Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes

How long have you been teaching? 11 years.

#### Why did you become a swimming teacher?

Initially to volunteer at the local primary school teaching children swimming and water safety.



#### What do you enjoy most about teaching swimming?

I love the 'lightbulb' moments – when it all clicks for the student.

#### Do you have any tips for other teachers?

Enjoy what you do so the students enjoy it too. Encourage, encourage, encourage.

# **2017 AUSTSWIM AQUA INSTRUCTOR AWARD**

#### JAN CATON - VIC

AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics • Teacher of Adults • Teacher of Aquatics - Access & Inclusion • Aqua Instructor

# How long have you been teaching?

7 years.

#### Why did you become a swimming teacher?

Pre kids I caught a train and dressed up for a city job, now I love donning on bathers, going to work making a difference to people's confidence and quality of life.



#### What do you enjoy most about teaching?

Seeing progression and kids genuinely having a special bond with you. Hearing clients request to go in your class or go on wait list.

#### Do you have any tips for other teachers?

In half an hour you need to make a difference to them wanting to come back week to week. Would you like a warm greeting and a smile? Would you expect value for money in your child's swim lesson? Make your class creative, inviting, talked about - experiment outside the square.

# **2017 AUSTSWIM PRESENTER** OF THE YEAR AWARD

**Proudly Supported by HYCLOR** 

#### **TRYON FRANCIS - NSW**

Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Towards Competitive Strokes • Course Presenter

## How long have you been teaching? 17 years.



# Why did you become a swimming teacher?

I became a swimming teacher to address the needs of young children prevention of drowning

deaths in regional Western Australia where farm dams were presenting to be an issue for children under the age of 10. My first swimming teaching job was at RAAF Base Pearce (WA). Seven years later I was back there as an Officer in the Royal Australian Air Force.

#### What do you enjoy most about teaching swimming?

As an AUSTSWIM Presenter the best part of my job is imparting the knowledge that I have gained throughout my career in both the practical application and through global research to pre-service teachers. I do this in all facets of my life: AUSTSWIM, The University of Notre Dame Australia and the Australian Defence Force.

#### Do you have any tips for other teachers?

Teachers have to have a real passion, desire and love for teaching. This needs to be reflected within themselves and their dedication to learning. There has to be a desire for the greater good – without this, the career of a teacher is limited.

## **2017 MOST OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO AUSTSWIM AWARD**

**Proudly Supported by Clark Rubber** 

#### **VALERIE HENDERSON – WA**

AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety • Teacher of Infant & Preschool Aquatics • Teacher of Adults • Course Presenter

# How long have you been teaching?

45 years.

#### Why did you become a swimming teacher?

Already a Gymnastic Coach. Love working with children, love swimming and sports in general. Concern for safety and aquatic know how.

## What do you enjoy most about teaching swimming?

Interaction with children and like minded adults. Sharing of knowledge and safety.

# Do you have any tips for other teachers?

Get youngsters to be able to support themselves in water they cannot stand in, and teach them how to get back to safety.

# **2017 AUSTSWIM RECOGNISED SWIM CENTRE AWARD**

Proudly supported by YMCA

# iSwim @ IMMANUEL - SA TRAVELLING TADPOLE SWIM SCHOOL - NT





The joint recipients for this year's award are from opposite ends of the size spectrum, but both have an unrivalled commitment to providing first-class swimming and water safety education.

# **Supporters**

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS







# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION













#### NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS













# INDUSTRY PARTNERS









# PREFERRED PARTNERS

















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AUSTSWIM Aotearoa is administered by NZRA

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T 1300 885 666 - Training

2017/2018 TOTAL **TOTAL TRAINED TEACHERS SINCE 1979** TRAINED TEACHERS **CURRENT LICENSED TEACHERS FEMALE MALE AGE OF TRAINED TEACHERS** 17-24 25-39 40-59 60+ **COURSES TOTAL TRAINING HOURS RECOGNISED SWIM CENTRES INSTAGRAM FACEBOOK** 



We teach a skill for life.

